



## Iron Horse Brigade Pushes Out Insurgents

By Sgt. Dan Purcell and Pfc. Erik Ledrew  
122nd MPAD  
CAMP EAGLE, Baghdad, Iraq-Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 5th

Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team (BCT), spearheaded a task force which included elements of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment and

the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment-both from the Iron Horse Brigade- when they kicked-off Operation Iron Fury August 17. Command offi-

cial characterizations of the operation as an all-out effort to root out the radical "Mahdi Army" forces that have been terrorizing the local civilian population in eastern Baghdad.

"The objective of Operation Iron Fury was to reduce the Mahdi Army's influence in Sadr City and provide a secure and stable environment for the people," said Capt. Anthony Martinez, the public affairs representative for 2-5 Cavalry.

Since insurgents launched a second wave of violence in Sadr City August 5, shops and government offices have been closed down in the heavily populated area. U.S. Army-sponsored humanitarian missions have also come to a standstill.

"This operation is a combined effort conducted by the 1st Brigade," said Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Battle, 1-12 Cavalry. "We

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By Pfc. Erik Ledrew, 122nd MPAD

Sgt. Eloy Garza, a Soldier with White Platoon, "Comanche" Company, 2-5 Cavalry, fires on a group of insurgents dressed in black and armed with AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

## USO Adds Heat to Forward Operating Base

By Spc. Jan Critchfield  
122nd MPAD  
FORWARD OPERATING BASE HEADHUNTER, Baghdad - It could have been just another hot day for the Soldiers of Task Force 1-9, but thanks to the 1st Cavalry Division's Morale Welfare and Recreation office, it was bound to get a whole lot hotter Aug. 13. Visiting FOB Headhunter on the

"Ambassadors of Hollywood" tour were models Tanya Ballinger and Kitana Baker, accompanied by the first title player of popular television show, "Joe Millionaire," Evan Marriott.

"I've been looking for gifts for my family," said Capt. John Dohnen of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, as he had two glossy prints of a grinning Marriott signed for his sis-

ters. "It's great that they came over here," Dohnen added, collecting his autographs as the next Soldier dropped his prints in front of Marriott.

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Evan Marriott, known for his role as the first "Joe Millionaire," hands a rose to a Task Force 1-9 Soldier during a visit to Forward Operating Base Headhunter.



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

## Joint Operation Helps Remove Insurgents From Sadr City

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 want the law abiding citizens [of Sadr City] to know that we are here and that we will do what it takes to support a legitimate government so that all Iraqis can live a normal life."

During the initial phase of the operation, Soldiers from 2-5 Cav. pushed into the center of the city to secure their company's objectives.

Capitalizing on the brigade's foothold in the city, 1-12 and 2-8 Cav. commenced their respective attacks the following day.

"This is the largest operation I've been on," said Spc. Thomas Jeffcoat, Headquarters Company



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD

Soldiers and their vehicles assemble along a main route in Sadr City, prior to moving out to their first objective during Operation Iron Fury. (Maverick), 1-12 Cav. "We should have done this a long time ago, because the Mahdi Army has just been running wild out here."

By day-three of Iron

Fury, the 1st BCT had exceeded its initial expectations for the mission, despite mounting opposition from the insurgent forces.

"The operation is going exceptionally well," said Battle. "The tempo has been very high and I have been very impressed with the way the Soldiers have conducted themselves."

In order to keep the front-line troops moving, Iron Horse Brigade's forward support elements gathered at a location several kilometers from the fighting.

"I think that that when this is all over we will get a lot of thumbs up from the civilian population," Battle said.

"The key thing here is we are bringing peace [back] to Sadr City, so that the people won't be afraid to walk down their streets."



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Tanya Ballinger, an actress/model from Chico, Calif., poses for Soldiers atop a gun truck mounted with an M240B machine gun.

## Hollywood Visits Headhunter

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"I would say they're doing a good job of improving morale. I see a lot of smiles and happy faces running around here," said Master Sgt. Steve Overby, "I think it's a great thing these guys are doing here."

Many Soldiers of TF 1-9 were surprised by the sheer height of Marriott, apparently much bigger than he looked on TV. Similar comments weren't

made of the ladies, who expressed their concern for the troops as well as their appreciation.

"I'm here to support the troops and let them know I appreciate everything they do," Ballinger said. "They're very cared about and loved. I'm very happy to be able to say 'hello' and 'thank you,'"

After signing promotional photos for troops, the trio were given a tour of the FOB.

### Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Bridge  
KOObri

Tuesday

High: 110  
Low: 81

Wednesday

High: 112  
Low: 82

Thursday

High: 112  
Low: 82

Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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## News Notes

### Kraft to Present Healthy Snacks

NORTHFIELD, Ill. (AP) - An eating revolution that has Americans seeking out healthier food, or at least trying to consume



less, has forced Kraft to rethink the way it markets its products and begin reshuffling its lineup away from Oreos and hot dogs toward healthier snack options.

### Union Grove Dedicates School

KILLEEN, Texas (Daily Herald) -- The past merged with the future Sunday as students of the original Union Grove School helped formally dedicate Union Grove Middle School, one of three new schools opened this year by the Killeen Independent School District.

### Troops Donate Blood for Anthrax



FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) -- The government plans to develop an experimental treatment for anthrax from blood of people vaccinated against it. In a Fort Campbell gymnasium when troops were told they would get \$60 for a liter of their blood plasma, many whooped and hollered.

## Seattle Downpour Nears Month Average

SEATTLE, Wash. (Seattle Times) -- The Seattle area lived up to its soggy reputation yesterday, with a downpour that deposited nearly an entire August's worth of rainfall in a 12-hour span.

Slick roads caused cars to spin out in some places, and deep puddles stranded several drivers, prompting two road closures yesterday morning.

Seattle received about a half-inch of rain yesterday morning, nearly equaling the August average of just more than a half-inch, according to Art Gaebel, a hydrometeorological technician with the National Weather Service in Seattle.

The official total at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in the 24-hour period ending at 5 p.m. yesterday was 0.57



Seattle Times

Linda Wilson uses her umbrella depicting the Disney character "Stitch" as she walks in the Magnolia area of Seattle Sunday.

In Bremerton the total was 0.25 inch, while Everett got 0.94 inch. And more is likely on the way. Scattered showers are fore-

cast through Wednesday and possibly into Thursday and Friday, with temperatures in the mid- to upper 60s.

## Arkansas Farm Produces Most Goldfish

LONOKE, Ark. (AP) -- There is a good chance that the colorful carp you won at the county fair or picked up at the local pet shop came from Pool Fisheries, which sits in the middle of an Arkansas field in Lonoke County, the self-proclaimed baitfish capital

of the world where more than 6 billion minnows and goldfish are bred each year. Florida produces high-end ornamental goldfish, some with colored lumps on their heads, flowing tails or bug eyes, but in terms of regular goldfish production, Arkansas is

king. The state had \$5.3 million in sales last year out of a total \$9.3 million for all states, said Nathan Stone, a fisheries specialist with the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Pool Fisheries is the center of that industry, producing 250 million goldfish each year in a warehouse that holds 28 huge concrete tanks full of the finicky fish.

Fish pathologist Eric Park grabs a net and skims it along the surface of a 1,500-gallon pool holding 10,000 goldfish, then picks through them to find the perfect specimen.

"Everything in here is going to be going to an aquarium store," Park says as the fish flip about in the net.



NHC



AP

Justin Gatlin, right, crosses the finish line first to win the gold medal in the men's 100-meter sprint. Gatlin's time of 9.85 seconds was a personal best.

## Gatlin Wins Olympic 100 in 9.85

ATHENS, Greece (AP) -- Justin Gatlin was overshadowed all weekend by a flamboyant training partner and an illustrious teammate. So he sped past both of them, outrunning the fastest Olympic field ever to snatch the 100-meter gold medal.

Gatlin ran the race of his life Sunday to become the youngest champion in 36 years, barely holding off Portugal's Francis Obikwelu and defending gold medalist Maurice Greene to win in 9.85 seconds.

"It's a new era for young athletes all over the world," said Gatlin, who at 22 is leading the changing of the guard in track and field. "Young guys, young women, all of us are taking over. Watch out, we're coming."

Obikwelu finished in 9.86 for the silver medal. Greene, trying to become the first man since Carl Lewis in 1984 and '88 to win back-to-back Olympic 100s, took bronze in 9.87.

A third American,

Shawn Crawford, was fourth in 9.89. Five runners broke the 10-second mark, and another - world champion Kim Collins - finished in exactly 10 seconds. It was the first time in Olympic history that five men broke 10 seconds in a race. Four did it at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

It also was the closest finish in an Olympic 100 final since the 1980 Moscow Games, when Allan Wells of Britain held off Silvio Leonard of Cuba as the two were timed in 10.25.

Gatlin's previous personal best was 9.92. He finished the race with his mouth wide open, then dropped to his knees and clasped his hands in prayer. Then he jumped into the stands.

"The race was magnificent. The only way I knew

the race was great is because I watched it on TV," Gatlin said. "I couldn't even feel the race. I felt that I was 100 miles in front of everybody. It was so close, but that's what I felt."

He is the youngest winner since Jim Hines at the 1968 Mexico City Games. Gatlin turned 22 on February 10; Hines had just turned 22 when he won.

Gatlin won six NCAA titles in his two seasons at Tennessee, then won the 60-meter title at the world indoor championships last year.

Gatlin, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native who now lives in Raleigh, N.C., said his victory was just the first of what he hopes will be many historic accomplishments.

"I said it was going to be the most exciting race in the world, and it was," he said.

"This is what I train for, that's why I shoveled the snow off North Carolina tracks. That's why I'm here. I'm here to win the gold medal."

Medals	G	S	B	Tot.
	21	22	15	58
	22	14	10	46
	6	14	17	37

## Sports Shorts



AP

### US Volleyball Showdown

ATHENS, Greece (AP) - America's two beach volleyball duos won Olympic quarterfinal matches Sunday to set up a showdown for a berth in the gold-medal match. Fourth-ranked Holly McPeak and Elaine Youngs defeated the eighth-ranked German team 21-17, 21-17 before top-seeded Misty May and Kerri Walsh ousted the No. 16 Canadian team 21-19, 21-14.

### Clink Cruises to Golf Victory

AKRON, Ohio (AP) -- Six days after U.S. captain Hal Sutton added him to the team, Stewart Cink completed the best performance of his career becoming the first wire-to-wire winner on the PGA Tour this year.



AP