

# The Daily Charge

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Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

August 27, 2004

## 2-14 Surges Into New Territory

By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin  
10th Mtn. Div. PAO

CAMP VICTORY,  
Iraq -- While the Iraqi gov-  
ernment worked to forge a

new chapter in the history  
of Iraq, Soldiers patrolled  
the streets non-stop to  
ensure the convention  
would provide fireworks of

celebration instead of  
explosions of tyranny.

Soldiers from the 2nd  
Battalion, 14th Infantry  
Regiment completed a

security "surge" in their  
Area of Responsibility  
(AOR) Aug 19. Combat  
patrols began Aug 14, as  
part of a 1st Cavalry  
Division-wide attempt to  
thwart anti-coalition efforts  
while the Iraqi government  
held their National  
Assembly to decide the  
future of Iraq, said 1st Lt.  
Thomas C. Overmyer of  
Headquarters Company, 2-  
14 Infantry.

"Our goal was to flood  
the section with security  
while the convention was  
being held to diminish any  
insurgent threats," he said.

Soldiers from the 2nd  
Brigade Combat Team  
(Commandos), 10th  
Mountain Division, recent-  
ly acquired their own a  
AORs after spending weeks  
learning the area from pre-  
vious occupants.

All 2-14 Infantry  
Soldiers are excited to be  
doing their job after  
months of preparation,

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By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin, 10th Mnt. Div. Public Affairs

First Lt. Thomas Overmyer, and Soldiers from 2nd Battalion 14th  
Infantry Regiment inspect a bridge for improvised explosive devices.

## Iron Horse Soldiers Keep Mission Moving

By Sgt. Dan Purcell  
122nd MPAD

CAMP EAGLE, Iraq --  
As the spotlight focuses on  
armored vehicles and  
ground pounding Soldiers  
moving through the streets  
of Sadr City, several kilo-  
meters down the road sup-  
port Soldiers are busily  
refitting and refueling the  
frontline equipment.

Marking a turning point  
in an on-going effort to  
bring security and stability  
back into Sadr City, the 1st  
Brigade Combat Team, 1st

Cavalry Division unleashed  
its might on Aug. 17 in  
Operation Iron Fury.

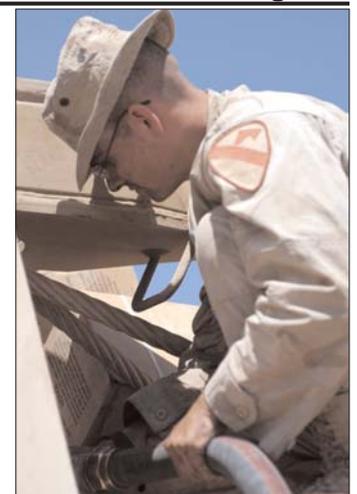
As the brigades' battal-  
ions advanced through the  
city, another base com-  
posed of mechanics,  
medics and logistics per-  
sonnel worked around the  
clock to help keep the oper-  
ation moving forward.

"We are the logistical  
element for Task Force  
Charger [1st Battalion,  
12th Cavalry Regiment]  
and our mission is to pro-  
vide the Soldiers with

beans and bullets ... just  
about everything they need  
to stay in the fight," Capt.  
Aaron Curtis, commander,  
Company C, 115th Forward  
Support Battalion  
explained. "Logistically,  
things are going very well  
for us because of the hard  
work and creativity of my  
Soldiers and NCOs [Non-  
commissioned officers]."

Maintaining and sus-  
taining a brigade-wide  
operation in a real-world  
environment is not an easy

**Continued on Page 2**



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD  
Spc. Jeremy Patterson  
refuels a Recovery Vehicle.

# Mountain Soldiers Move into Area of Responsibility

**Continued from Page 1** according to Staff Sgt. Jamie L. Dylong, HHC, 2-14 Infantry.

"It feels good to finally be doing what we're here to do," he said. "We took lessons learned from [ the 1st Cavalry Division] and now we're ready to work."

A large part of ensuring security is searching for Improvised Explosive Devices. Soldiers conducted numerous dismounted patrols over and around bridges, overpasses and fields. In one instance, 2-14 Infantry Soldiers discovered a potential IED in the form of an artillery round by a bridge and called in a Explosive Ordnance Disposal team to neutralize the threat,

Overmyer said. Soldiers from 2-14 Infantry also conducted counter-mortar and rocket operations over vast areas. The goal was to deter insurgent attacks on military and civilian locations, according to Cpt. Michael Anderson, 2-14 Infantry military intelligence officer.

"We're trying to catch mortar-firing insurgents so the Iraqi people can move freely through Iraq," he said.

The surge also served the second purpose of establishing his unit in the community, Overmyer said.

"Part of our mission is to interact with the civilian population," said Spc. Joshua Chaves, HHC- 2-14



By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin, 10th Mnt. Div. Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Jason H. Lopinto (left) and Pfc. Jacob P. Carl, both 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, converse with Iraqi children Aug 16. Infantry. "They help us get to know the area. We ask them if they need anything and if they've seen any suspicious characters."

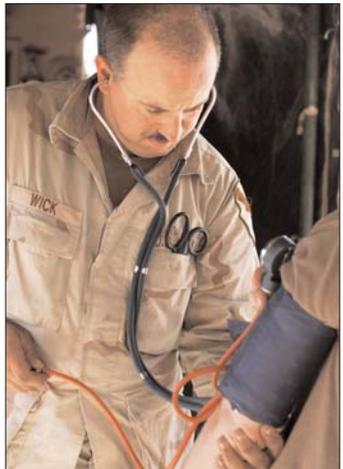
Many Iraqis that 2-14 Soldiers spoke with had a recurring message: they are thankful for the coalition forces but there is still much to be done.

## Support Unit Keeps Iron Fury Going

**Continued from Page 1** task.

"We basically have five missions here," Curtis said. In addition to the

Spc. Tal Wick, a medic with 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment checks the blood pressure of a Soldier showing signs and symptoms of dehydration during Operation Iron Fury.



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD

"beans and bullets" that keep the Army moving, other considerations include Soldiers' health and treatment of casualties. To do this, a forward aid station, composed of a doctor and a team of medics, is ready at any moment to meet medical emergencies as they arise.

"We take care of soldiers with urgent medical emergencies that might otherwise prevent them

from surviving if they weren't treated within 10 or 15 minutes," said Lt. Col (Dr.) Bob Gerhardt, the battalion surgeon with 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment.

"We also try to provide very basic sick call services to the elements down here that are providing the logistical support for the operation. By being close to the action, we can be more helpful."

**Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases**  
  
**This is mine.**  
**HAZa li.**

<b>Friday</b> High: 110 Low: 82 	<b>Saturday</b> High: 112 Low: 84 	<b>Sunday</b> High: 110 Low: 82 
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Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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## News Notes

### Education Reform in Little Rock

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (Democrat-Gazette) -- A local activist group Tuesday called on Little Rock School District leaders "to slow the train down" on developing a new student assignment plan for 2005-06 so officials can get more public input on a new plan and find ways to improve some neighborhood schools. The Concerned Citizens United, which formed earlier this year to advocate for students who organizers say are underserved, made the demands at a news conference outside the district's Student Registration Office.

### U.S. Prepares for Next Flu Outbreak

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The United States may have to close schools, restrict travel and ration scarce medications if a powerful new flu strain spurs a worldwide outbreak, according to federal plans for the next pandemic, obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press. There have been three flu pandemics in the last century, the worst in 1918, when more than half a million Americans and 20 million people worldwide died. Concern is rising that the next pandemic could be triggered by the recurring bird flu in Asia. "We're all holding our breath," Dr. Julie Gerberding, head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said in an interview Wednesday.



Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Ingred Resch, 16, of Germany, cools off as she explores the inside of a small ice tunnel with family and friends yesterday near the Table Mountain and Chain Lakes trailhead in the Mount Baker Wilderness in Washington state.

Larger ice caves can be dangerous, and park authorities warn against entering them because of possible collapse. Ice caves are formed as snowfields melt, often with water carving out the tunnel as it flows underneath

## Libraries Seek Help From Voters

SEATTLE, Wash. (Seattle Times) - King County Library System officials, who saw voters reject a bond measure 1-1/2 years ago to fund maintenance and improvements, say they have learned from that failure and are making sure voters know exactly what's at stake with the new proposal on the Sept. 14 ballot.

The \$172 million measure would provide money for what officials



Seattle Times

Parking is notoriously bad at the Bellevue Regional Library.

call necessary maintenance and expansion of the busy library system.

"About every 20 years, it seems the library needs to ask the public for help," said King County Library Director Bill Ptacek. "This bond measure will help us maintain and develop our infrastructure."

Voters last approved a bond measure for library-system construction and maintenance in 1988. That \$67 million measure will retire in 2011, and officials say the new measure is needed to maintain and improve the system.

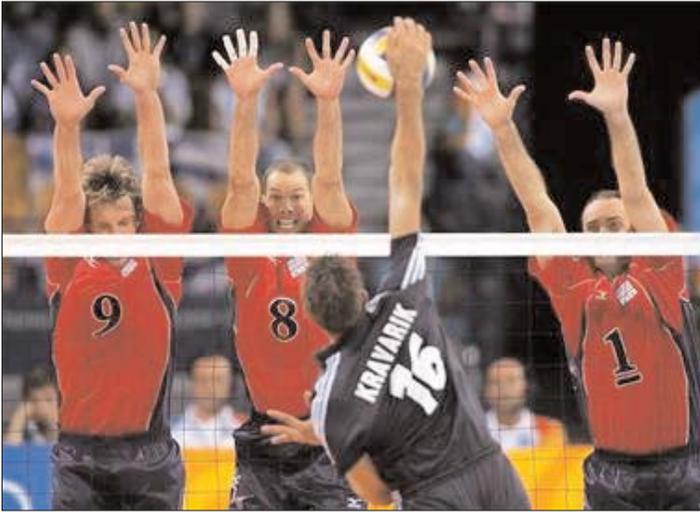
Passage of the measure would provide money to replace 16 libraries, expand 11 others and build new branches in Newcastle, Kent's East Hill and Park Lake in the next

10 years. All of the system's 43 libraries would receive money for maintenance needs, such as carpet replacement, heating and air-conditioning work, and roof repairs.

The new measure, which would expire in 2025, would cost property owners in the library's service area - which includes all of King County except Seattle, Enumclaw, Renton, Hunts Point and Yarrow Point - about \$8 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation.

Ptacek said the system projects it will need \$46 million over the next decade for basic repairs alone. The rest of the money would be used to expand cramped libraries, replace aging buildings and increase access to technology.

## Tremendous Rally Lifts U.S. into Semifinals



AP

(Left to Right) U.S. players Ryan Millar, William Priddy and Lloy Ball, try to block a spike from Greece's Antrei Kravarik Wednesday. The U.S. defeated Greece in the quarterfinals match, moving onto the semifinals

ATHENS, Greece (AP) -- Lloy Ball began reflecting on his career as if it were over, while his U.S. men's volleyball teammates wore the blank expressions of players just five points from elimination.

Trailing 2-1 in sets and 20-12 in points, the Americans were all but done. This quarterfinal match against Greece, however, was far from over.

Getting contributions from everyone on the ros-

## Gardner Bounces Back, Wins Bronze Medal

ATHENS, Greece (AP) - He left his shoes in the middle of the mat, maybe a piece of his heart, too. Rulon Gardner finally let his emotions out after trading Olympic gold for bronze, and the tears he cried weren't of sadness.

Gardner, so poised and dispassionate hours before, following the biggest loss of his life, became teary-eyed Wednesday after one of the most surprising gold medalists in Olympic history settled for a bronze on his return trip to the games.

His last one, too. After wearing down Iran's much-taller Sajad Barzi for a 3-0 victory and the Greco-Roman wrestling bronze at 264½ pounds, Gardner sat down on the mat, an American flag draped in his arms, and took off his

shoes in the traditional sign of retirement.

Then it all came out. Tears streamed down his cheeks as he carried the flag around the arena, escorted by the unmistakable cheers of a dozen family members who made the long trip from Afton, Wyo., to Athens to see if he was good for one more gold.

"I came back and won a medal. Even though it's bronze, I have no regrets because I gave 100 percent in every match," Gardner said. "I didn't leave anything on the mat."

Medals	G	S	B	Tot.
	25	29	22	76
	14	19	21	54
	24	16	12	52

ter, the United States snapped to life - rallying past the stunned Greeks to win in five sets and move into the Olympic semifinals for the first time in 12 years.

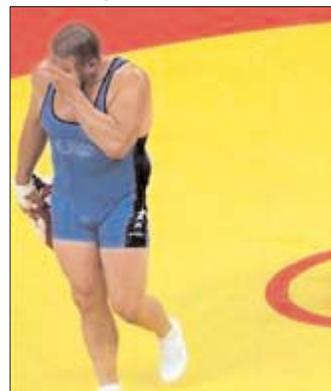
"I'm not going to lie and say I thought we had a chance to come back," Ball said, "because I didn't."

Kevin Barnett scored 20 points and Reid Priddy added 16 for the Americans in the 25-20, 22-25, 25-27, 25-23, 17-15 victory that guaranteed them a spot in one of the medal games for the first time since they earned a bronze at Barcelona in 1992.

They'll play Friday against Brazil, which swept Poland. Also, Russia eliminated defending gold medalist Serbia-Montenegro and Italy beat Argentina - both in four sets. Russia plays Italy in the other semifinal match.

Except his shoes, of course

"That's it," Gardner said. "When you step off the mat for the last time, it's a big deal."



AP

Rulon Gardner walks away from the mat after taking off his shoes to symbolize his retirement after defeating Sajad Barzi, of Iran, for the bronze medal.

## Sports Shorts

### Felix Sets Record for Silver

ATHENS, Greece (AP) - Allyson Felix set a world junior record

in 22.18 seconds, breaking the mark of 22.19 set by the Soviet Union's Natalya



Bochina in 1980. She won the silver, however, Veronica Campbell of Jamaica won the gold medal in a personal-best 22.05 seconds.



AP

### Warner to Start Against Jets

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - Coach Tom Coughlin for the New York Giants announced on Wednesday that two-time MVP Kurt Warner will start Friday against the New York Jets, but that Manning, the No. 1 pick in the draft, will get about the same amount of snaps with the first-team offense. "It's Kurt's turn," Coughlin said of the starting nod, adding that it was his plan all along to have the two quarterbacks alternate starting assignments in the first three preseason games. Coughlin said he will name a starter for the season opener at Philadelphia on Sept. 12 "at the right time".