



# The Old Ironsides Report



**Monday, December 29, 2003**

## Soldiers' Show brings Christmas spirit to Baghdad



**Members of the Soldiers' Chorus perform in the Task Force 1st Armored Division Soldier Show at the Iraqi Forum in Baghdad, Iraq, for soldiers of 1 Armored Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team. The members of the chorus, comprised of Task Force 1 AD soldiers, auditioned to earn a spot on the show.**

**Story and photo by Cpl. Todd Pruden, 372nd MPAD BAGHDAD, Iraq --** The holiday season wouldn't be the same without the sounds of caroling and the smiles on the faces of those celebrating the holiday season.

The 1st Armored Division Band and Soldiers' Chorus made sure that the soldiers of Task Force 1st Armored Division received their share of holiday tunes.

According to Chief Warrant Officer Matthew Morse, 1st Armored Division Band and Soldiers'

Chorus commander and conductor, soldiers from around the task force were invited to audition to join the show. The 14 soldiers that were selected were attached to the band as their assigned place of duty for the tour's duration.

They were detached and released back to their respective units Dec. 29th. These soldiers even had the opportunity to perform solo acts for the show.

The soldiers prepared for about a month before beginning their tour.

"We spent the entire month of November preparing for this," said Morse.

Morse said the main purpose for the Soldiers' Show is to help bring a little bit of holiday cheer to the soldiers here in Iraq.

"It's a morale activity that we are bringing to the soldiers of the task force," said Morse.

The show consists of songs ranging from traditional Christmas carols such as "Let it Snow" and "White Christmas" to more contemporary and pop titles such as "United Through it All" and "Freedom isn't Free."

Santa Claus also made a special guest appearance along with his armed security escort. He worked the crowd, throwing telephone calling cards to soldiers in the audience after stopping to check if Brig. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, Task Force 1st Armored Division commander, was on the "naughty" or "nice" list.

The show blitzed through a tour of Baghdad performing for soldiers pulling duty throughout the city.

The show made stops at Baghdad International Airport, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Brigade Combat Teams, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, the Division Support Command and 2nd Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division forward operating bases.

The Soldiers' Show performed more than 16 times during December to lift the spirits of deployed soldiers.

"It's the best job in the Army," said Morse. "Being able to boost morale, to get a soldier to tap his toes to the rhythm; that's what it's all about."

# The Old Ironsides Report

December 29, 2003

## News...

### Meat of Infected Cow Found in More States

WASHINGTON (AP) - Investigators disclosed Sunday that they have found meat cut from a Holstein sick with mad cow disease was sent to four more states and one territory. Dr. Kenneth Petersen, an Agriculture Department veterinarian, said investigators have now determined that some of the meat from the cow slaughtered Dec. 9 went to Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana and Guam.

### Foreign Teams Join Quake Efforts in Iran

BAM, Iran (AP) - Help from the United States and around the world poured into Iran on Sunday, two days after an earthquake reduced most of this ancient city to rubble and killed more than 20,000 people. Four U.S. planes were among the dozens of foreign aircraft to arrive with aid and workers to assist the stricken people of Bam, where rescuers still rushed to find survivors. There were reports of looting as hungry people raided shops for food and other supplies.

### Search Resumes for Seven Mudslide Victims

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (AP) - Emergency crews returned to the debris-covered site of a mountain church camp Sunday to search for seven people missing since a Christmas Day mudslide, while at the church many of the victims attended, members prepared for a memorial service. It was the third day of the search in the aftermath of a rainstorm that sent mud, boulders and uprooted trees sliding through Saint Sophia Camp in Waterman Canyon, an area of the San Bernardino Mountains devastated by wildfires just two months earlier.

### Many Signs Point to Strong 2004 Economy

WASHINGTON (AP) - For the U.S. economy, 2004 could turn out to be a banner year. Forecasters believe things are falling into place to produce the strongest economic growth in two decades. Consumer spending will be bolstered by tax refund checks early in the year. Businesses are beginning to invest in new plants and equipment and rehiring some laid off workers. Modest improvements in unemployment rates are expected.

## *Chaplain's thought for the day...*

### Separating the Men from the boys

We've probably all heard the expression, "This separates the men from the boys!" What kinds of things separate the men from the boys? Things that involve danger and risk. Things that take courage and a willingness to sacrifice. Things that are grueling and gut wrenching. Things that require maturity and perseverance, not just boyish enthusiasm and energy. -Mary Lewis

What does the Lord require of us, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Micah 6:8

## Sports...

### Muslim Football Tournament Under Fire

By CHELSEA J. CARTER, Associated Press Writer  
IRVINE, Calif. (AP) -- The idea was innocent enough: A group of young men organize a holiday football tournament and give their teams such innocuous names as "4th and Goal" and "1988'ers." It was some of the other team names that raised eyebrows: Intifada, Soldiers of Allah and Mujahideen.

The furor that followed has forced some teams to change their names and a handful of players to quit. It also sparked a debate that threatens to overshadow the tournament, which was planned primarily for young Muslims and scheduled for Jan. 4.

"This was really just supposed to be about the youth playing football. Now it's become so political that a part of me thinks we shouldn't even play," said organizer Tarek Shawky.

Those involved in the league said they never set out to upset or offend anyone. But critics say such names as Intifada and Mujahideen glorify terrorism.

Intifada, "uprising" in Arabic, is a term used by Palestinians for their revolts against Israeli occupation from 1987 to 1993 and over the past three years. Mujahideen, means "holy warrior," is associated with several Islamic groups that are on the U.S. list of terrorist organizations.

"The issue is these are words that are linked to real terrorists, real threats, real murders today," said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

"There shouldn't be young Americans chanting the name Mujahideen as American soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq are put in danger and attacked daily," Cooper said. "As for Intifada, it has been a disaster for the Palestinians."

Muslim leaders have asked the teams to reconsider the names.

"Sensitizing our youths is our role as adults," said Hussam Ayloush, the executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Southern California.

"In this case, the choices were totally innocent and meant for a small intra-Muslim tournament whose members all knew what the terms stand for," Ayloush said.

"Unfortunately, we are aware that a few of those terms are being tainted by the abominable actions of a few Muslims."

The uproar began about a month ago after 18-year-old Sabih Khan, who attends community college, began organizing a tournament for the New Year's holiday weekend.

Although the league was named "Muslim Football," Khan said it was not limited to Muslims.

He passed out fliers at an Orange County mosque and set up a Web site, inviting teams to register and submit names. Although most submitted names such as "4th and Goal" and "Muslim Football Allstars," three came under fire.

The tournament's founder has received hate e-mails. The team names also prompted a war of words in local newspapers and on talk radio.

Two teams - Soldiers of Allah and Mujahideen - agreed, Intifada has not. Shawky said the team was considering a name change before the tournament. The league also posted an open letter on the Internet, apologizing "if anyone took offense to what was intended to simply be a positive outlet for Muslim youth." The letter also defended the use of the word Intifada, citing the Palestinian movement.

Khan and others said they intend to continue with the tournament.

"Controversy comes and goes," he said. "Today it's about the tournament; tomorrow it will be something else."

# The Old Ironsides Report

December 29, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2003

As of: Sunday, December 28, 2003 9:19:06 PM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0	NFL - CAROLINA PANTHERS @ NEW YORK GIANTS	NFL - MINNESOTA VIKINGS @ ARIZONA CARDINALS	MAGNUM P.I. : - A SENSE OF DEBT	NFL - DENVER BRONCOS @ GREEN BAY PACKERS	CNN SUNDAY	0
0.042			FAMILY TIES : - A WORD TO THE WISE (PT. 2)		MEET THE PRESS	0.042
0.063			THE COSBY SHOW : - CAN I SAY SOMETHING PLEASE			0.063
0.083			CHIPS : - ONE TOO MANY		TIM RUSSERT	0.083
0.125	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	RUGRATS : - PRESCHOOL DAZE	DORA: THE EXPLORER	FOX REPORT	0.125
0.146	NFL PRIMETIME	SEINFELD : - THE CONTEST	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM / SQUID ON STRIKE	WHEEL OF FORTUNE		0.146
0.167		THAT 70'S SHOW : - HYDE'S CHRISTMAS RAGER	THE SIMPSONS : - TREEHOUSE OF HORROR XII	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	THIS WEEK	0.167
0.188	NFL - PITTSBURGH STEELERS @ BALTIMORE RAVENS	ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - LOOSE LIPS AND FREUDIAN SLIPS			0.188
0.208			BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER : - NEVER LEAVE ME	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	DATELINE INTERNATIONAL	0.208
0.229		WWE SMACKDOWN!				0.229
0.25			LAW & ORDER : - TEENAGE WASTELAND	HEADLINE NEWS	60 MINUTES	0.25
0.271		AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM		JUDGE JUDY		0.271
0.292		MEET THE PRESS	CRITICAL RESCUE : - HERO ON THE POTOMAC	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	CNN PRESENTS	0.292
0.309				GUIDING LIGHT		0.309
0.313	SPORTSCENTER					0.313
0.333		HEADLINE NEWS	AMERICAN CHOPPER		LARRY KING LIVE	0.333
0.342				GENERAL HOSPITAL		0.342
0.354		ESPNEWS				0.354
0.375	NFL PRIMETIME	SESAME STREET	HARVEY	ZOOBOOMAFOO : - JUMPERS	AT LARGE WITH GERALDO RIVERA	0.375
0.396				DIGIMON: DIGITAL MONSTERS (TV-7): - AND SO IT BEGINS ...		0.396
0.417	SPORTSCENTER	DORA: THE EXPLORER		CYBERCHASE	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	0.417
0.438		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		EVEN STEVENS : - EASY WAY		0.438
0.458	SPORTSCENTER	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	RUGRATS : - PRESCHOOL DAZE	JEOPARDY!	BELTWAY BOYS	0.458
0.479	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ACC: MARYLAND @ FLORIDA STATE		SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM / SQUID ON STRIKE	HEADLINE NEWS	FOX NEWS WATCH	0.479
0.49		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				0.49
0.494				PACIFIC REPORT		0.494
0.5			THE SIMPSONS : - TREEHOUSE OF HORROR XII	ESPNEWS	BULLS & BEARS	0.5
0.521			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - LOOSE LIPS AND FREUDIAN SLIPS	HEADLINE NEWS	CAVUTO ON BUSINESS	0.521
0.524		GUIDING LIGHT				0.524
0.536				PACIFIC REPORT		0.536
0.542			BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER : - NEVER LEAVE ME	60 MINUTES	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	0.542
0.553		GENERAL HOSPITAL				0.553
0.563	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ACC: VIRGINIA @ NORTH CAROLINA					0.563
0.583		HEADLINE NEWS	LAW & ORDER : - TEENAGE WASTELAND	NYPD BLUE : - I KID YOU NOT	DATELINE NBC	0.583
0.604		JUDGE JUDY				0.604
0.625		TODAY	CRITICAL RESCUE : - HERO ON THE POTOMAC	WITHOUT A TRACE : - PILOT	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	0.625
0.646	SPORTSCENTER					0.646
0.667			AMERICAN CHOPPER	HEADLINE NEWS		0.667
0.682				PACIFIC REPORT		0.682
0.688				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		0.688
0.708	NBA FASTBREAK	ZOOBOOMAFOO : - JUMPERS	HARVEY		HEADLINE NEWS	0.708
0.729	ESPNEWS	DIGIMON: DIGITAL MONSTERS (TV-7): - AND SO IT BEGINS ...		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	0.729
0.75	SPORTS SPECIAL - 2003 NASCAR YEAR IN REVIEW	CYBERCHASE			THE EARLY SHOW	0.75
0.771		EVEN STEVENS : - EASY WAY		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		0.771
0.792	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	RUGRATS : - PRESCHOOL DAZE	DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN: WOMAN: THE MOVIE		0.792
0.813		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM / SQUID ON STRIKE			0.813
0.833		ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - TREEHOUSE OF HORROR XII		FOX NEWS LIVE	0.833
0.854	NHL - DETROIT RED WINGS @ CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS	HEADLINE NEWS	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - LOOSE LIPS AND FREUDIAN SLIPS			0.854
0.865				HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER		0.865
0.875		60 MINUTES	BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER : - NEVER LEAVE ME		DATELINE NBC	0.875
0.917		NYPD BLUE : - I KID YOU NOT	LAW & ORDER : - TEENAGE WASTELAND		FOX NEWS LIVE	0.917
0.938	ESPNEWS			CINEMA SECRETS : - ANIMALS GONE WILD		0.938
0.958	NFL PRIMETIME	WITHOUT A TRACE : - PILOT	CRITICAL RESCUE : - HERO ON THE POTOMAC	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	0.958
0.979				HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	0.979

# The Old Ironsides Report, *the back page...*

December 29, 2003

	COLTS (12-4)	20		BROWNS (5-11)	22		FALCONS (5-11)	21
	TEXANS (5-11)	17		BENGALS (8-8)	14		JAGUARS (5-11)	14
	LIONS (5-11)	30		CHIEFS (13-3)	31		TITANS (12-4)	33
	RAMS (12-4)	20		BEARS (7-9)	3		BUCCANEERS (7-9)	13
	DOLPHINS (10-6)	23		TITANS (12-4)	33		PATRIOTS (14-2)	31
	JETS (6-10)	21		BUCCANEERS (7-9)	13		BILLS (6-10)	0
	SEAHAWKS (10-6)	24		EAGLES (12-4)	31		CARDINALS (3-12)	18
	49ERS (7-9)	17		REDSKINS (5-11)	7		VIKINGS (9-6)	17
	PACKERS (9-6)	31		CHARGERS (3-12)	21		PANTHERS (10-5)	37
	BRONCOS (10-5)	3		RAIDERS (4-11)	14		GIANTS (4-11)	24