



# Ironhorse Desert News



## Ivy Blizzard freezes Samarra



Photo by Spc. Benjamin R. Kibbey

A young boy looks around the corner of a wall as a member of A Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment provides security during a patrol in Samarra, Iraq, Dec. 16, as part Operation Ivy Blizzard.

**Story by Spc. Benjamin Kibbey**  
CAMP BRASSFIELD-MORA, SAMARRA, Iraq – Arriving with Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles and sticks of C-4 explosive, American soldiers began knocking down the doors of suspected insurgents throughout Samarra during the early morning hours of Dec 17.

The objective of the operation, known as Ivy Blizzard, was to root out terrorists and elements with loyalties to the former regime, deliver the city into the hands of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps and local police, and leave it in the control of the local governing council. The operation netted more than 70 suspects.

Packed into the back of their

Bradleys with room to do little more than breathe, the soldiers of 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment rolled into the city ready to pour out the hatches and face the unknown.

“We expect to get fired at every time we go in the city,” said Capt. Matthew Cunningham, A Company commander who hails from East Lansing, Mich.

The soldiers on the ground were focused, and kept their minds on the needs of the moment when they were out in the streets.

“I’m just trying to keep in my mind what my job is in the team and making sure my ‘battle-buddies’ are doing fine as well,” said Pfc. Elliot Allan Souza, a

--**BLIZZARD continued on page 5**

## Battalion MPs lead police reform in city

**Story by Spc. Jason Phillips**

SAMARRA, Iraq – Soldiers of the 720th Military Police Battalion and Samarra police officers conducted their first joint patrols Dec. 19, in Samarra, Iraq, a city that has been the site of violent opposition to coalition forces since May.

During the patrols, MPs and local police walked through the heart of Samarra, down crowded streets littered with trash and through markets full of shop owners and customers near the city’s large downtown mosque. It’s the same site where 720th MPs and 4th Infantry Division soldiers fought a fierce battle with hostile forces Nov. 30.

“I think the patrols went really well,” said Capt. Jennifer Knight, commander of 401st Military Police Company who accompanied one of the joint patrols. “The local police didn’t complain about going out with

us, they didn’t get tired and they stayed with us the whole time.”

The 720th was tasked by Maj. Gen. Ray Odierno, commander of 4th Infantry Division, to rebuild and reform the local police force in Samarra following the Nov. 30 battle, said Lt. Col. David Poirier, 720th commander.

“It was apparent that there was no effective police organi-



Photo by Spc. Jason Phillips

Cpl. Robert Pearson of the 401st Military Police Company leads two Iraqi policemen on a joint patrol in downtown Samarra, Iraq.

--**MP continued on page 5**



# Operation Magnolia blooms in Iraq



Photo by Spc. Bronwyn M. Meyer

Sgt. Tanya White, 223rd Engineer Battalion combat medic, holds a young girl with a teddy bear Dec. 23 as part of Operation Magnolia.

**Story by Spc. Bronwyn M. Meyer**

JUDAYDAH, Iraq – A seemingly empty, rundown neighborhood sprang to life as children ran from the small houses to meet a U.S. convoy parked in the dirt road.

Sensing something special, boys and girls rushed around the Humvees packed with stuffed

animals and treats. No one left empty handed.

While several large combat operations in northern Iraq have garnered headlines lately, Operation Magnolia is an initiative from the 223rd Engineer Battalion and 229th Engineer Company to bring school supplies, clothes, hygiene items and toys to needy children.

The Army National Guard units, from Mississippi and Wisconsin respectively, have worked with family members and organizations of their home states to bring in 1,000 boxes of supplies that are now being delivered to local Iraqi children, said Staff Sgt. Timothy Plunk, a 223rd intelligence section sergeant from Clarksdale, Miss.

The five-month effort began when the engineer units were assigned to rebuild schools.

“We reached back to the

National Guard families and asked for donations,” said Plunk.

Those back at home acted and flooded the units with boxes.

Mississippi residents posted ads in their newspaper asking for donations, said Staff Sgt. Sheryl Autrey, a 223rd reconnaissance sergeant from West Point, Miss.

“Whatever you give (the Iraqi children) they want it because they don’t have it,” she said. “We want them to know that we are here to help them, not hurt them.”

The rapid pace of donations has allowed the engineer units to expand their efforts.

Reaching out to the children through toys and needed supplies, the Guardsmen hope they will have a future effect.

“The children of Iraq are what will change this country,” Plunk said.

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Soldiers with a SIPRnet connection and valid user ID and log-on can access the Ironhorse Desert News.

Most SIPRnet computers have the 4th ID splash-page set as their homepage. From there, soldiers can select the **digital dashboard** link.

After entering their user-name and password, soldiers are presented with different section selections.

Click on the link, “**Division Staff**” and then “**PAO**”.

From there, a heading labeled “**News-paper**” will appear. By right clicking the link and opening the link in a new window, soldiers can read the latest edition.

## Steadfast and Loyal



Photo by Spc. Benjamin R. Kibbey

Spc. Cindy Lowery singles out 4th Infantry Division Command Sgt. Maj. Chuck Fuss while singing Mariah Carey’s “All I Want For Christmas is You,” as acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee looks on during the 4ID Band’s “Holiday Spectacular” Dec. 24, at the Ironhorse Resort Theater.



# City council weighs city's future

Story by Spc. Bronwyn Meyer & Sgt. Troy Chatwin

SAMARRA, Iraq – “When is the money coming?” an eager Iraqi councilman repeatedly asked an Army captain who was addressing the Samarra city council meeting Dec. 9.

Since forming, the new council is asking tough questions and trying to find solutions to problems that plague its city.

The regularly scheduled meetings are a drastic difference from four months ago when there was little governmental control.

Seeing the need for Iraqis to govern Iraqis, Coalition forces helped form a city council to represent the people of Samarra. It was no easy feat for U.S. troops to present a council that was acceptable to the Iraqi citizens.

“One of our biggest difficulties was how we would form a city council that was even remotely legitimate,” said Sgt. 1st Class Steve Butler, 418th Civil Affairs Battalion Direct Support Detachment.

Needing local support, the Coalition approached the 10 Samarra delegates from the Salah Ad Din governing council for help.

Delegates each recommended five people for the city council and then the Coalition interviewed people based on affiliations, experience, and background, said Butler.

To fully represent the people of Samarra, Coalition forces also solicited tribes in the area to help build the city council.

“We formed the city council around the tribal representation of the city,” said Butler. “We were primarily concerned with the seven major tribes and we wanted to include them in the city council because they wield quite a bit of influence.”

After a great deal of planning, it was decided that there would be 27 members on the city council, including seven tribal sheiks. The board also includes businessmen, teachers, engineers, school officials and



Photo by Sgt. Troy Chatwin

Col. Frederick Rudesheim (seated), commander of the U.S. forces in the city of Samarra, outlines the plan for the city council to lead their city out from under military rule and restore authority to Samarrans, Dec. 20.

police officers.

“What we wanted to do was form a city council that would be capable of not only identifying issues but figuring out solutions within the framework of the government,” said Butler.

The city council, chosen by the Iraqi delegation, has quickly grown independent, according to Butler.

“There will be a number of disagreements among the people on the city council because they don’t all share the same view,” he said. “If arguing isn’t good government, I don’t know what is.”

Coalition forces in the Samarra area have been dealing with the problems of the city for many months. Council members eventually want to replace Coalition forces so Iraqis are governing Iraqis.

“The city council is a very eager group of individuals,” Butler said. “They are experienced. They come from different walks of life and what they are very concerned about is taking initiative, and taking control of their situation.”

## Seeking independence

Over the past two weeks the Coalition forces laid siege to Samarra during Operation Ivy Blizzard. Dozens of people were detained as suspected anti-

--COUNCIL continued on page 4



**--COUNCIL continued from page 3**

Coalition forces and former regime elements. As areas were cleared, authority was handed over to the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps and the Iraqi Police. Nobody came or left without the city authorities' permission.

The 300,000 or so people living in the city of Samarra are now becoming accustomed to seeing Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles parked at major intersections and Humvees racing along side roads.

During the first city council meeting held since the Coalition forces moved into Samarra, the council learned what it will take to make the city self-ruling.

From the ideological need to choose sides, to the need for local men to volunteer for the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps and the Iraqi Police, the common thread running through the fabric that is the city's future is participation by the local citizens, according to Coalition officials.

"There is a time for choosing which side you are participating on," said Col. Frederick Rudesheim, the commander of 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, which oversees the city of Samarra.

**Hard choices required**

Coalition leaders have determined that for the Iraqis to embrace a new way of life, some young men of Samarra need to volunteer for positions in the ICDC and as local police officers. Rudesheim called on the city council to get volunteers from the local

tribes.

"The false choice is to choose Iraqis or choose the Coalition forces. The (real) choice is simple – choose a new Iraq over an Iraq like the old regime," said Rudesheim.

Although the call for support seems simple on the surface, the social ripples spread far through the community.

How such an idea is accepted depends greatly on how it is presented by the local leaders, said Rudesheim, who challenges the council to sell the idea to the people of Samarra.

Many of the young men who are eligible for these careers are currently jobless. More than 70 percent of the young men from 18-to-35 years old in the city of about 300,000 residents are unemployed, said Falah Al-Nakib, the deputy governor for the Salah Ad Din Province.

To spur change, the colonel acknowledged that the city's economy must improve. That is the reason the Coalition has invested almost \$200,000 in local contracts to upgrade the city's infrastructure and public services. At some point, city residents will take up the challenge.

"We talked about Samarra itself and the future of Samarra," said Al-Nakib. "Now the people of Samarra have to think about their future and their city."

With the plan laid out in front of the city council, Rudesheim has high hopes for the community.

"We had to conduct a significant military operation to rid the city of elements that would drag the city back to the former regime," he said. "I am a soldier, but I know not every solution is a military solution."

The simple plan, supported by the president of the council and local leaders, was summarized for anyone not clear about how the city will work under the new council.

"Of all the cities I have come in contact with, Samarra is the one with the most promise and most potential," said Rudesheim. "We need the honest, peace-loving Iraqis to come forward and say enough is enough."



Photo by Spc. Benjamin R. Kibbey

Sgt. Reggie Martinez, a team leader with A Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, leads his team in Samarra, Iraq, Dec. 16. The new Samarra city council is attempting to gain control of their government.



**--BLIZZARD continued from page 1**  
rifleman with 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, and Gardnerville, Nev. native, of his mindset during the missions.

"I just came here to do my job," said Pfc. Arturo Franco, a rifleman with 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon and Long Beach, Calif. native.

The first night on the job, A Company began netting bad guys.

"In A Company alone, we had 18 targets. In the span of about four hours, we picked up six out of our 18 targets—high-value targets mostly: planners, mostly financiers; backers for all the attacks that have been happening in Samarra and the outlying areas," said 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Adam Dykstra, a native of Plainfield, Ill. who leads 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon.

"Some of (the raids) were dead

ends, but some of them were pretty good leads," he said. "We caught six out of the 18, and I think our platoon alone caught, possibly, three—three out of the six. So, it was a good night for third platoon."

Those captures can be rolled over into more intelligence, improving the information available for the next raid, said Dykstra.

"We have people back at our (forward operating base) who handle that and try to get some more information out of them," he said. "Usually, they'll roll over pretty quickly on their buddies if you just show them a little bit of freedom. They'll roll over on anybody. They'll roll over on their mother if they could for money."

With every mission 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

undertakes, there are lessons that the soldiers try to take with them on the next mission.

"Like anything, you get better over time, and it's interesting to watch the guys that are just coming over here," said Dykstra. "I'm sure they'll pick up the same stuff we've picked up, but every raid we try to pick up something new, and we try to rehearse, and there's still stuff that goes wrong, I guarantee that."

He acknowledged that the thing to do when things go wrong is to continue until the goal is met.

"It's combat, things are guaranteed to go wrong, but we overcome," Dykstra said. "That's our biggest thing, no matter what goes wrong, we still find a way to accomplish the mission."

**--MP continued from page 1**

zation in Samarra," said Poirier. "There was no police chief, no leadership, no rapport between Iraqi police and American troops in the city, and there was no expertise within American forces to effect positive change in the Samarra police force."

The 720<sup>th</sup> MP Battalion, which has led successful reform efforts with the Tikrit and Salah Ad Din provincial police forces, has already made significant progress with the local police in Samarra, said Poirier.

"We are able to effect change so quickly because, as military police, we understand what policing is all about," he said. "We understand how critical it is to build rapport with those we work with and how important it is to identify and encourage strong leadership within the police ranks."

Iraqi police officers can also relate better as law enforcement officers with MPs than with other U.S. soldiers, said Poirier.

"Dozens of Iraqi police officers told me in the first week we worked with them that they notice a difference between working with us and other soldiers," said Poirier. "They tell me that we can relate better to their type of work, that we understand the complexities of police work better, and that we better identify their needs and help them set the right goals so they

can be successful."

The MPs are leading police reform in many ways, said Knight. They are overseeing the rebuilding and refurbishing of seven police stations in the city, as well as working with 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division engineers to provide adequate defensive fortifications for these buildings. They are providing new vehicles, radios, uniforms, and weapons, such as Glock 19 handguns, to the local police officers. They are training Iraqi policemen in classroom lectures and at weapons ranges, and they are leading them on joint patrols through Samarra, she said.

"Our main goal is to get them out onto the street actively policing their city," said Knight. "They are excited about the new equipment they are receiving, and we're working hard to get them motivated to go out into the city on their own without us."

Poirier said he hopes to see the local police in Samarra make dramatic progress toward this goal in a short time.

"We hope that by Feb. 1, 2004, the Samara police will be functioning in such a way that U.S. forces will not be required to control criminal or terrorist activity in the city," he said. "Gen. Odierno made the right choice when he selected us to lead police reform in Samarra."



# Band hits right note for Christmas

## Holiday show is spectacular

Story by Spc. Benjamin R. Kibbey

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – The acting Secretary of the Army and soldiers from Task Force Ironhorse took in the sights and sounds of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Band's "Christmas Spectacular," Christmas Eve.



Photo by Spc. Benjamin R. Kibbey

Spc. Brad Perkins of Rochester, N.Y., plays in the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Band's Holiday Spectacular at Forward Operating Base Ironhorse, Dec. 24.

Task Force Ironhorse commander Maj. Gen. Ray Odierno opened with a few words, followed by the acting secretary, Les Brownlee.

Odierno noted the bond of the military, and said at this time of the year when soldiers can not be with loved ones back home, they still have their military family to share the holiday with.

Brownlee noted that it was "a great honor to spend Christmas Eve with the gang that captured the Ace of Spades."

The show mixed traditional Christmas songs with popular songs, and featured an Army version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

The band moved through such traditional fair as "Sleigh Ride," "Swinging Drummer Boy," "And So This is Christmas," "Joy to the World" and "One Horse Open Sleigh."

In addition the audience was treated to adaptations like "You're a Mean One, Sergeant Major" and "Cold Man" (to the tune of "Soul Man"), as well as popular songs like "Sharp Dressed Man" (while Santa strutted with a woman on each arm), and "All I Want for Christmas is You."

## Merry Tuba Christmas to you

Story by Spc. Samuel A. Soza

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – What do tubas have to do with Christmas?

Everything, for eight musicians from the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Band. They held a Christmas concert at Forward Operating Base Ironhorse Dec. 23, honoring the late artist and teacher, William J. Bell.

According to Spc. T.J. Kurczewski, native of Hazleton, Pa. and a tuba player for the 4<sup>th</sup> ID band, more than 240 bands internationally will perform this year to honor Bell's teaching of the tuba to students worldwide.

"This is the 30-year anniversary," said Kurczewski. "It's the first Tuba Christmas in a combat zone."

Beginning with "Adeste Fideles" and ending with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," the 20-minute concert also featured other classic Christmas carols, such as "Silent Night" and "Jingle Bells."

Kurczewski, whose first Tuba Christmas concert was in 1996, wanted to continue the musical tradition.

He coordinated with the Harvey Phillips Foundation, Inc., a non-profit musical arts foundation, obtaining music for the concert, he said.

Harvey G. Phillips organized the first Tuba Christmas in 1973.

William John Bell, whom Tuba Christmas honors, was born in Creston, Iowa, on Christmas Day, 1902.



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Staff Sgt. L. C. Tolver (left), from Sylvester, Ga., and Sgt. Jeffrey Smith, from Satellite Beach, Fla., perform in the Tuba Christmas concert at Forward Operating Base Ironhorse Dec. 23.

# Local News

## Religious Services at FOB Ironhorse

Sunday:  
 0930 -- Protestant  
 1100 -- Gospel  
 1300 -- Catholic  
 1800 -- Praise and Worship  
 1800 -- LDS  
 Wednesday:  
 1900 -- Bible Study  
 1900 -- Family Home Evening (LDS in CMOC)  
 Friday:  
 1230 -- Muslim  
 1900 -- Bible Study (124th Signal Battalion palace)

## Sick Call Hours

Sick call is held every Monday through Friday, 0800-1000 and Saturday, 0800-1200 at the Aid Station.

The Aid Station is closed Saturday afternoon and Sunday, except for emergencies.

Dental appointments can be made during sick call on Mondays.

For emergencies, call 534-0161.

## Aerobics Classes

Aerobics classes being are offered at the Ironhorse Resort Sports Bar.

The classes will take place Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 0600-0730.

For more information, contact 1st Lt. Richardson at 534-9865.

## Weather Forecast

**Monday:** High: 79 F  
 Low: 55 F  
 Mostly Sunny  
**Tuesday:** High: 80 F  
 Low: 55 F  
 Mostly Sunny  
**Wednesday:** High: 81 F  
 Low: 56 F  
 Partly Cloudy  
**Thursday:** High: 83 F  
 Low: 59 F  
 Partly Cloudy  
**Friday:** High: 82 F  
 Low: 60 F  
 Mostly Cloudy

## AFRTS Radio

Armed Forces Radio and Television Service can now be heard on 93.3 FM, playing the hits of yesterday and today.

## Movie Schedule

Movies at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort are shown at 1100, 1400 and 2000.

**Movies listed below are for the 2000 showing only.**

29 Dec.: Once Upon a Time in Mexico  
 30 Dec.: Thirteen Ghosts  
 31 Dec.: Boat Trip  
 01 Jan.: Finding Nemo  
 02 Jan.: Signs  
 03 Jan.: Jeepers Creepers 2  
 04 Jan.: Serving Sara\*  
 \*Sunday's movies are shown at 1400 and 2000 only.

## Reunion/Suicide Prevention Briefs

Briefs will now be held once a

week, Wednesday at 1000 in the Chapel/Movie Theater at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort.

Briefs must be given before a soldier goes on mid-term leave.

Emergency individual briefings can be arranged through the chaplain's office.

## Sports Bar Happenings

Mondays: Country and Western  
 Tuesdays: Football  
 Wednesdays: Oldies but Goodies  
 Thursdays: Variety Night  
 Fridays: R&B  
 Saturdays: Latin Night  
 Sundays: Live Football

*Open Sun. - Thurs.: 2000-2400  
 Fri. - Sat.: 2000-0100*

## New Year's Eve at Ironhorse Resort

1000: Raffle Drawing Sign up (Information Desk) with a variety of prizes.  
 1745: Spades, Dominoes and Billiards Tournament with prizes (sports bar).  
 1800: DJ playing variety music  
 1900: Task Force Ironhorse "Desert Cafe" serving burgers and hotdogs (sports bar)  
 2000: Prime Mover performing  
 2100: Fierro Caliente (Latin band) performing  
 2100: Random raffle drawings begin  
 2200: DJ playing variety music  
 2300: Prime Mover performing  
 2400: Raffle drawings end



# World News

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan added its name on Monday to a list of countries joining a U.S. initiative to cut Iraq's debts, saying it was prepared to write off a vast majority of what was owed as part of an international agreement.

LOS ANGELES - During the biggest Christmas weekend in history, "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" retained its crown at the North American box office with an estimated haul of \$51.2 million.

The last film in New Line's epic trilogy, based on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and directed by Peter Jackson, has accrued an impressive \$223.7 million in 12 days.

SEOUL, (AFP) - Pyongyang and other participants want to hold six-nation talks on the crisis over North Korea's nuclear drive at the earliest possible date next year, a senior Chinese official said.

MOSCOW, (AFP) - Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev has called on the five Caspian Sea nations to unite in an organisation that could compete with the powerful OPEC oil consortium.

The nations have disputed the resource-rich sea since shortly after the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union.

Azerbaijan, Russia and Kazakhstan want to calculate in proportion to the countries' coastlines, while Iran and Turkmenistan have insisted that each country get an equal 20 percent share.

## Sports

### NFL Standings

**x-Clinched playoff spot**

**y-Division champ**

**z-Clinched home field**

**American Football Conference**

**East**

z-New England (14-2)

Miami (10-6)

Buffalo (6-10)

NY Jets (6-10)

**North**

y-Baltimore (10-6)

Cincinnati (8-8)

Pittsburgh (6-10)

Cleveland (5-11)

**South**

y-Indianapolis (12-4)

x-Tennessee (12-4)

Jacksonville (5-11)

Houston (5-11)

**West**

y-Kansas City (13-3)

x-Denver (10-6)

Oakland (4-12)

San Diego (4-12)

**National Football Conference**

**East**

z-Philadelphia (12-4)

x-Dallas (10-6)

Washington (5-11)

NY Giants (4-12)

**North**

y-Green Bay (10-6)

Minnesota (9-7)

Chicago (7-9)

Detroit (5-11)

**South**

y-Carolina (11-5)

New Orleans (8-8)

Tampa Bay (7-9)

Atlanta (5-11)

**West**

y-St. Louis (12-4)

x-Seattle (10-6)

San Francisco (7-9)

Arizona (4-12)

### NFL Sunday's Games:

Atlanta 21, Jacksonville 14

Cleveland 22, Cincinnati 14

Detroit 30, St. Louis 20

Miami 23, NY Jets 21

Kansas City 31, Chicago 3

Indianapolis 20, Houston 17

Tennessee 33, Tampa Bay 13

New Orleans 13, Dallas 7

Arizona 18, Minnesota 17

Carolina 37, NY Giants 24

San Diego 21, Oakland 14

Green Bay 31, Denver 3

Baltimore 13, Pittsburgh 10

Saturday, Dec. 27

New England 31, Buffalo 0

Seattle 24, San Francisco 17

Philadelphia 31, Washington 7

### NFL Playoffs

**Sat. Jan. 3**

Tennessee at Baltimore

Dallas at Carolina

**Sun. Jan. 4**

Seattle at Green Bay

Denver at Indianapolis

### National Hockey League

(Team, W-L-T-OTL, Pts.)

**Eastern Conference**

**Atlantic**

Philadelphia (18-6-8-4, 48)

New Jersey (19-6-8-1, 47)

NY Islanders (17-15-2-1, 37)

NY Rangers (13-13-5-3, 34)

Pittsburgh (8-19-5-3, 24)

**Northeast**

Toronto (21-7-6-3, 51)

Ottawa (16-10-5-3, 40)

Boston (13-10-9-4, 39)

Montreal (16-15-4-2, 38)

Buffalo (14-18-3-1, 32)

**Southeast**

Atlanta (19-14-3-1, 42)

Tampa Bay (15-12-5-1, 36)

Florida (12-16-7-2, 33)

Carolina (11-14-8-2, 32)

Washington (11-21-3-1, 26)

**Western Conference**

**Central**

Detroit (22-11-4-1, 49)

St. Louis (20-8-4-1, 45)

Nashville (16-13-4-2, 38)

Chicago (8-18-7-3, 26)

Columbus (9-19-4-3, 25)

**Northwest**

Vancouver (19-9-6-2, 46)

Colorado (17-9-7-1, 42)

### NHL Sunday's Games:

Ottawa 5, Atlanta 2

Chicago 3, Detroit 0

Calgary 2, Edmonton 1

### NBA Standings

**Eastern Conference**

**Atlantic**

New Jersey (16-13)

Boston (15-15)

Philadelphia (14-15)

Miami (12-18)

New York (12-19)

Washington (8-20)

Orlando (8-23)

**Central**

Indiana (21-10)

New Orleans (19-11)

Detroit (17-13)

Milwaukee (15-14)

Toronto (14-14)

Chicago (9-20)

Cleveland (9-21)

Atlanta (8-24)

### Western Conference

**Midwest**

San Antonio (21-10)

Minnesota (19-10)

Denver (18-11)

Dallas (17-12)

Utah (16-13)

Houston (16-13)

Memphis (15-15)

**Pacific**

LA Lakers (20-7)

Sacramento (20-8)

Golden State (14-13)

Portland (14-13)

Seattle (13-14)

LA Clippers (12-13)

Phoenix (10-20)

### NBA Sunday's Games:

Toronto 94, LA Clippers 88

Sacramento 98, Utah 89

San Antonio 89, Milwaukee 74

Cleveland 86, Portland 74

Phoenix 100, Philadelphia 92

Denver 103, Golden State 79

LA Lakers 105, Boston 82

### James scores 32 of 86

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James took complete command at precisely the right time.

Cleveland's rookie scored 32 points, including 12 in a 14-2 spurt that closed the Cavaliers' 86-74 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers Sunday night.

James outscored the Trail Blazers alone in the fourth quarter, 12-8. He also had 10 rebounds and nine assists, but did not know he was near his first triple-double.

"Somebody should have told me," he said. "Of all the people in the crowd, one of you should have told me."

