



# Ironhorse Desert News



## Controllers keep aircraft flying right

**Story by Sgt. Christopher Carney**

CAMP SPEICHER, TIKRIT, Iraq — With military flights departing or landing day and night, in all kinds of weather, through all kinds of conditions, it falls to air traffic controllers to coordinate their movements so collisions in the air or accidents on the ground don't occur.

The responsibility for controlling traffic in the air over Task Force Ironhorse belongs to F Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 58<sup>th</sup> Aviation, which is based at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Normally attached to 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, 58<sup>th</sup> is currently assigned to 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Unlike the Air Force, which has combat, tactical air traffic, and fixed-air traffic controllers, the Army has one Military Occupational Specialty to coordinate air movement at sites ranging from temporary landing zones to fixed tower airfields.

“For us the same MOS, air traffic control specialist, covers all of these tasks,” said 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Michael E. Boardman, first sergeant of F Company. “We cover all aspects of ATC, everything from landing zone drop zone control for air assault



Photo by Sgt. Christopher Carney

Sgt. Jose Gutierrez, an air traffic controller with F Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 58<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment, communicates Jan. 10, 2004 from the air control tower at Camp Speicher, Iraq.

**--ATC continued on page 4**

## ICDC troops receive hazardous duty pay

**Story by Spc. Bronwyn Meyer**

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq — Iraqi Civil Defense Corps troops, who have been working with American troops, are enjoying the benefits of incentive pay.

Like their American counterparts, ICDC members have begun to receive hazardous duty pay, in addition to their base pay, said Staff Sgt. Laura Blunt, a civil affairs sergeant with the 418<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion.

Separate from the Iraqi police and the new Iraqi Army, ICDC is a Coalition-trained element that is responsible for maintaining civil order in cities such as Tikrit.

The hazardous duty pay took effect Jan. 1. The Iraqi soldiers are

now receiving hazardous pay in lieu of a substance allowance.



Photo by Spc. Bronwyn Meyer

An Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldier holds up identification as he receives pay from a Coalition soldier in Tikrit, Iraq on Jan. 6, 2003.

Like military units, the ICDC pay structure is based on rank. The lowest enlisted Iraqi soldier, a private first class, receives \$130 a month. In the officer ranks, a second lieutenant receives \$180 per month, which is a handsome sum in Iraq's lagging economy, said Blunt.

“(The) ICDC and Iraqi police are the best gigs in town right now,” she said.

The promise of a paying job has many Iraqis clamoring for a spot in the ICDC basic training course.

“More people want to join” Blunt said. “Every recruiting class we have 600 guys showing up for 150 spots. They want to do it,

**--ICDC continued on page 6**



# Stop loss policy continues for many TF Ironhorse soldiers

Story by Master Sgt. Richard Belt

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – Soldiers who are leaving the Army by retiring or having reached the expiration of term of service will get out, but the date it happens may well be different than planned because of the current stop loss/stop movement program.

For those who were anticipating a permanent change of station, the question of when enters into the minds of troops now affected.

For Soldiers serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, stop loss and stop move mandates are now in effect for both the active Army and the Reserves and National Guard. Whether active,

Reserve or Guard, the Defense Department program is designed to retain servicemembers beyond an established date of separation or retirement.

Part of the Army's reason for enacting stop loss/stop move for the active Army is to provide for equity between the components. Maintaining force readiness and combat capability are the key reasons for implementation of the policy, said Sergeant Major Jose I. Borges of 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's personnel office.

Borges refers to Military Personnel message number 04-053 dated Jan. 7, 2004, for explanation and clarification of the stop loss/stop movement policy.

"I see stop loss as a positive

because of readiness, cohesiveness of the unit, and because you have the same soldiers and NCOs working together," said Borges, a human resources provider.

Borges acknowledges that the stop loss/stop move policy has its share of detractors, but he is impressed by the stoicism of the majority of the hundreds of Task Force Ironhorse soldiers affected by the policy.

For enlisted, noncommissioned, and officer ranks, the policy as it states that no movement or separation can occur until 90 days after their units redeploy back to the installations where they are based. There are exceptions where ETS, PCS, or retirement can take

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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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Staff Sgt. David Bennett

The new ICDC battalion staff meets with company commanders for the first time Jan. 14, 2004 to discuss how the fledging battalion will operate. Responsible for its formation, 4th Infantry Division Mechanized Artillery members say the new unit in Taji, Iraq is close to standing up.



# Soldiers can gain citizenship faster

**Story by Spc. Benjamin Kibbey**  
FORWARD OPERATING BASE  
IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq –  
The United States has always rewarded those willing to serve and protect their adopted homeland with an expedited path to citizenship. During the time of war, that path is shortened considerably.

The waiting period for Soldiers seeking citizenship has been reduced or eliminated temporarily in the past during such times as World War II and the first Gulf War, said Capt. Matt Ward, an attorney with 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's Staff Judge Advocate Office. In that tradition, the United States has once again eliminated the waiting period for those serving in the military.

Prior to Operation Enduring Freedom, Soldiers had to serve on active duty for at least three years before applying for citizenship. Now, individuals seeking naturalized citizenship can begin the process immediately.

However, as in the past, this special exemption is only temporary. That is why it is important for those in the military seeking citizenship to take advantage of the current allowance as soon as possible, said Ward.

Although the process isn't simple, there is information and assistance available on the Internet or through military legal specialists.

Once a Soldier seeking citizenship has submitted the necessary forms, along with a passport photo and a check for \$310, the process begins. He or she will require an interview and

background check, said Ward.

One such Soldier currently going through the process is Pvt. Adegboyega Adewumi, who works in the Staff Judge Advocate office. He has entered into the final stage of attaining citizenship himself.

Adewumi, originally from Nigeria, came from Canada to the United States in December 2002.

The 35-year-old had been a practicing lawyer for about ten years in Nigeria. Upon graduating college in Canada, he received his green card, and tried to find a job in the U.S. After searching, Adewumi chose the Army.

Once he was at Fort Hood, he was able to begin the process of attaining citizenship, said Adewumi.

He obtained the forms, had his commander sign off on them, and sent them in along with the requisite photo and fee. Within two weeks, he got a reply and a number so he could trace his file, he said.

"It's easy, very easy," said Adewumi of the process.

Although he has yet to decide whether he wants to make a career of the Army, he knows becoming a

citizen will open future doors.

Once Adewumi gains citizenship, his wife, who already has her green card, will also benefit. Her waiting period for naturalization, which is now four years, will be pared down to two.

"I have a lot of inquiries (from soldiers), and most of them do not seem to know," he said. "There needs to be a campaign to enlighten Soldiers, to let them know."

Any Soldier can begin the naturalization process immediately.

"They don't need to wait for the expiration of their green card," said Adewumi.

For those troops not aware of the policy, the SJA will offer further assistance when the division returns to Fort Hood.

"Once we get back to the rear, we are going to set up a workshop to take Soldiers through the process once a week," he said.

Ward recommended that persons affected take advantage of the quicker process.

"It's helping the persons over here fighting for their country," he said.

A good starting point for Soldiers looking for information for obtaining American citizenship can be located at the website [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), where three forms necessary to apply for citizenship – N-400, N-426 and G-325B – can be found. Also on the same website a booklet is offered – available in PDF format – entitled "A Guide to Naturalization." This booklet can answer many of the questions about the process.

A specific guide of naturalization process can be found at <http://www.perscom.army.mil/tagd/pssd/ins.htm>. Searchers can also browse [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). The website has a search feature, and most forms can be found by simply searching for the form number.

Additional information can be found at [www.jagcnet.army.mil](http://www.jagcnet.army.mil).



**--CONTROLLERS continued from page 1**

missions to the kind of stuff we do here (at Camp Speicher). We're a jack-of-all-trades."

A small unit that can operate independently in a commonly misunderstood MOS, Boardman said it took time for 4<sup>th</sup> ID to realize the full capability of F Company. Now one is dependent on the other.

At Camp Speicher, which was originally an Iraqi fighter-training base, where bits and pieces of Iraqi planes can still be seen, F Company operates out of the original tower.

"The tower was badly destroyed and our Soldiers helped fix it up, along with our other buildings," said Boardman. "They have really worked hard. I feel it's important for morale to not only stay busy but to improve living conditions. Everyone has helped in some way or another."

From the refurbished tower, the controllers man the radio that communicates with the aircraft.

"Everything coming in or out goes through us," said Staff Sgt. Derrick Brown, the company's facilities chief. "We push about 5,000 movements per month."

Movements are defined as any aircraft coming or going.

"We separate aircraft and sequence them for landing and departure," Brown said. We control about a 5-mile radius and anyone that comes in has to coordinate with us."

The tower handles both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

Another aspect of air traffic control is the ground controlled approach radar, an essential piece of gear to the controllers' mission.

"The GCA is here to provide assistance to aircraft if they can not see the airfield because of light or

weather conditions," said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Tony Alonzo, of F Company. "We can guide them to the airfield by providing them a vector and azimuth to keep them on the center of the runway. We can do this with an accuracy of 20 feet at touchdown."

In addition to the controlled environment of Camp Speicher, F Company sends out tactical teams to work forward air refueling points. These points are sometimes in remote areas, but still require good communications between the controller and the pilot.

"Normally a team of about four Soldiers with a tactical tower control system can set up in about 20 minutes," Boardman said.

The tactical tower control system is in fact a Humvee outfitted with radar and communication gear in the back that can be quickly set up at the site.

"Temporary sites for the division or a brigade can be set up even quicker with man-pack radios," said Capt. Denita Lynch, commander of F Company. "We provide continuous air traffic services wherever we're needed."

The unit's need is obvious as air movement is essential in this part of Iraq.

"We have a broad spectrum mission for a relatively small company," Boardman said. "We have a mission that we do everyday and (the Soldiers) display pride in their work everyday," he said.

In face of demanding times, Boardman said members of the aviation unit are more than capable of handling the high-tech jobs that keep aircraft from harm.

"They are intelligent," he said. "In 20 years I have never been a part of an organization that is as good or as tight as this is."

**--STOP LOSS continued from page 2**  
place sooner, depending on special circumstances.

Unit human resource providers can give information to soldiers in these situations, whether it is a school opportunity, a pregnancy, or the individual suffers from a physical disability.

While the expanded coverage of the stop loss program is distasteful to some, according to

Sgt Maj. Michael W. Massey, the command career counselor for Task Force Ironhorse, it isn't hurting active duty retention efforts. "It (stop loss) won't have a significant impact on our immediate retention mission," said Massey.

Soldiers who chose to leave active duty for civilian careers are an important source of manpower for the Army Reserve and National

Guard. However, that trend is languishing.

"With all the frequent deployments going on we have seen a decline in soldiers willing to affiliate with the Reserve component," he said.

According to Massey, there are sizable tax-free, lump-sum bonuses available to active-duty Soldiers who reenlist while still in the OIF/OEF theaters of operation.



# Resort hotel recognized for relief

Story by Spc. Samuel Soza

LAKE DOKAN, Iraq – Iraqi workers at the Ashour Hotel, a hotel in northern Iraq that has been a rest and relaxation site for many Task Force Ironhorse Soldiers, were recognized Jan. 16 for providing outstanding service.

“They were great,” said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class William R. Reid, a native of Hayden, Ala., who serves as liaison officer at the hotel. “They understand why we’re here – they’re glad and they show it by taking good care of the Soldiers.”

Reid, who primarily serves as the noncommissioned officer in charge of intelligence for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment, acted as the go-between for Soldiers and hotel staff. His mission was to take care of the Soldiers while living at the hotel for roughly six weeks, he said.

During a small ceremony held in the hotel lobby, a certificate for the hotel was given to the hotel owner, Marbin Salewa. The ceremony also marked the end of the four-month contract Task Force Ironhorse held with the hotel.

Fifteen other certificates were presented to various hotel employees, including chefs, maintenance

workers, and an Internet technician. The certificates were signed by Maj. Gen. Raymond Odierno, commander of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and Task Force Ironhorse.

Word of the hotel’s posh grounds and stellar lake view first drifted down to Task Force Ironhorse members in September. Within a week a \$200,000 dollar contract was drawn up allowing soldiers exclusive use of the hotel for four months, said Capt. Keith D. Toler



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Two employees of the Ashour Hotel, located at Lake Dokan, Iraq clean the hotel’s pool.

of Portland, Ore.

Toler is the chief of planning and operations for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

In coming months, the 4<sup>th</sup> ID will transfer authority to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division.

“We hope 1<sup>st</sup> ID continues a working relationship with the hotel,” Toler said.

The hotel has offered various comforts to visiting soldiers, such as a sauna and a large pool. Movies can be checked out at the front desk, as well as cell phones that can be used anywhere in the hotel.

For hungry troops, the hotel’s own chefs specialize in native dishes.

Since the hotel is located in Kurdish territory, and considered a safe haven, Soldiers do not have to carry their weapons, Kevlar helmets, or wear the normal desert camouflage uniforms.

The hotel has invested about \$2 million into restorations, according to Salewa, who also owns another hotel, called the Abu Sana.

A helicopter-landing pad was built near the hotel and future plans include construction of a restaurant that will seat 1,000 people indoors and outdoors, the owner said.

Most Soldiers have a good experience at the hotel, including the liaison officers, according to Reid.

“I learned a lot about Kurdish history,” he said. “I have to admit it’s been pretty easy because the staff is really good.”



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Fallah Haso Yaqub, a chef at the Ashour Hotel at Lake Dokan, Iraq, is commended by Lt. Col. Steven Shea, a human resources officer for 4th Infantry Division, at a ceremony Jan. 16, 2004 recognizing the hotel workers for their work and commitment to serving Task Force Ironhorse soldiers who visited for rest and relaxation.



# Big game set for TF Ironhorse Resort

Story by Spc. Andrew Loveless and Spc. Benjamin Kibbey

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – The Task Force Ironhorse Resort is bringing the biggest sporting event of the year to the big screen.

Super Bowl XXXVIII will be shown live at 2:25 a.m., Feb. 2 on “the biggest screen in Tikrit – the theatre,” said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Celeste Proctor, the resort’s event coordinator.

The game, featuring the New England Patriots and Carolina Panthers, will also be rebroadcast at 7 p.m. that night.

Until then there is plenty of time for speculation about the game’s outcome.

“The Patriots will win. They have a better defense,” 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jacob Jeffers, assistant personnel officer with 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 44<sup>th</sup> Air Defense Artillery, and a Parisburg, Va. native. “Carolina got in on luck.”

Spc. Nick Krugler, a senior scout observer with the 173<sup>rd</sup>

Airborne Brigade disagreed. “I like Carolina,” he said. “They’re all heart. They’re really playing hard.”

The only thing the Soldiers may agree on is that there will be plenty of food. The Ironhorse Desert Cafe, which serves cheeseburgers, hot dogs, and fries in the resort’s lobby from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. daily, will keep the grill on later to serve food before the kickoff.

The café is also trying to get hot wings, chips and dip in addition to its normal fare, all at no charge, Proctor said.

Soldiers can take more away from the game other than a full stomach, said Sgt. Maj. Mike Anastasio, the nuclear, biological and chemical sergeant major for the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Drawings for door prizes will be held every quarter, featuring items from the local bazaar and merchandise donated by civilian companies and other military organizations on post, said Anastasio, who lives in Copperas Cove, Texas.



Photo by Spc. Andrew Loveless

Staff Sgt. Sylvia Celarie, a medic with E Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion, gets a hamburger at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort, site of the upcoming Super Bowl.

Until the food is served and prizes drawn, the heated debate over Super Bowl Monday continues.

“(It’s) definitely New England.” said Pfc. Thomas Tennesen, a medic with 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 67<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment. “They keep on winning, so I figure they can’t lose.”

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they take pride in it, and it’s a good job,” said Blunt. “They get great training.”

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment has graduated five classes of ICDC soldiers, and one of the largest ICDC forces in the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team. The rigorous three-week basic training includes physical training, weapons familiarization and troop movement, said Spc. Marcus Gordon, a Willingboro, N.J. native, and ICDC instructor with A Company.

After graduating, ICDC soldiers now have a chance for promotion in the new army. The ranks of ICDC soldiers are from private first class to lieutenant colonel, although there are not that many officers.

Soldiers must show leadership ability and initiative in order to be promoted, said Staff Sgt. James Loehr, a 418<sup>th</sup> field ordering officer from Platte City, Mo., who is serving with 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division’s 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team. Promotions are based on the soldier’s performance.

Candidates must complete an application, health exam and basic training to join.

Once the soldiers have graduated, they are able to go on missions with Coalition forces.

As time goes on the ICDC is coming into its own as a Coalition partner.

“It’s their country, so they need to stand up,” said Gordon. “Now that Saddam is gone, we are putting them on the right path.”



# Local News

## FOB Ironhorse Religious Services

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)

## Sports Bar

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

**FREE hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and fries at Desert Cafe, every night, 1930-2330**  
*Open Sun. - Thurs.: 2000-2400*  
*Fri. - Sat.: 2000-0100*

## 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-tour leave.

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

## Weather Forecast

**Monday:** High: 60F  
 Low: 44F  
 Mostly Cloudy

**Tuesday:** High: 56F  
 Low: 43F  
 Mostly Cloudy

**Wednesday:** High: 57F  
 Low: 38F  
 Mostly Cloudy

**Thursday:** High: 59F  
 Low: 41F  
 Partly Cloudy

**Friday:** High: 66F  
 Low: 45F  
 Mostly Sunny

## Freedom Radio

AFN 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.**

26 Jan.: The Hunted  
 27 Jan.: A Guy Thing  
 28 Jan.: Empire  
 29 Jan.: National Security  
 30 Jan.: League of Extraordinary Gentlemen  
 31 Jan.: John Q  
 1 Feb.: Saving Silverman  
*\*Sunday's movies are shown at 1400 and 2000 only.*

## Aerobics Classes

Aerobics classes are offered at the Ironhorse Resort Sports Bar. Classes take place Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sat., 0600-0730. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Richardson at 534-9865.

## 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.

## Update DEERS info

Reservists and members of the National Guard who were deployed or extended in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, should update their information for their family members in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

As many as 55,000 soldiers and more than 95,000 family members will be affected when current identification cards expire. Along with renewing ID cards, members should update DEERS information to reflect service extensions.

Families can confirm eligibility by calling 1-800-538-9552; or 1-800-334-4162 in California; or 1-800-527-5602 in Alaska and Hawaii.

Families can find card issuing facilities at the Rapids Site locator web page:  
<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl>



# World News

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Microsoft Corp. chairman Bill Gates said Sunday his company's ventures in Egypt on e-government and other projects should serve as an example for the Middle East and the world.

The Microsoft chairman said his company is engaged in various ventures in Egypt, including providing low-cost computers and "working together on e-government that creates more openness (and) creates more efficiency."

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - In a world record for a mass jump, 672 skydivers from 42 countries leaped from six aircraft over the Thai capital on Saturday, organizers said. At least three jumpers were injured upon landing.

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - IBM and Philips said on Monday they would work together to sell radio tags that would displace barcodes.

Philips' semiconductor unit will make the tiny radio chips that can be stuck on items from clothes to bottles of milk, while IBM will provide the computer services and systems.

PINE LAWN, Mo. (AP) - A man's treasured \$1,000 bill was returned by police who swapped it for more common currency at the mayor's request after the trucker was arrested.

Curtis Smith Sr., 71, had made several requests to have the rare bill returned without success. On Friday the city gave him the money back in exchange for 10 \$100 bills.

# Sports

## NBA Standings

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic	W-L
New Jersey	21-20
Boston	22-23
Philadelphia	20-26
Miami	19-25
New York	18-26
Washington	13-29
Orlando	12-32
<b>Central</b>	
Indiana	33-13
Detroit	29-15
New Orleans	25-19
Milwaukee	24-19
Toronto	20-21
Chicago	15-28
Cleveland	13-31
Atlanta	12-31

### Western Conference

Midwest	W-L
San Antonio	29-12
Minnesota	29-16
Denver	27-16
Dallas	25-17
Houston	26-19
Utah	24-18
Memphis	21-22
<b>Pacific</b>	
Sacramento	30-11
LA Lakers	26-15
Seattle	22-20
Portland	18-23
LA Clippers	18-25
Golden State	17-24
Phoenix	16-28

## NBA Scores

### Sunday, Jan. 25

Dallas 108, Sacramento 99
New Jersey 110, Boston 91
Chicago 96, Toronto 89
Memphis 106, Denver 88

Houston 99, Orlando 87
Atlanta 91, Detroit 82

## NCAA Men's hoops AP top 25

### Mon. Jan. 19

1. Duke
2. Stanford
3. St. Joseph's
4. Connecticut
5. Louisville
6. Cincinnati
7. North Carolina
8. Pittsburgh
9. Kentucky
10. Wake Forest
11. Georgia Tech
12. Kansas
13. Syracuse
14. Arizona
15. Gonzaga
16. Texas
17. Florida
18. Texas Tech
19. Mississippi St.
20. Oklahoma
21. Wisconsin
22. Vanderbilt
23. Purdue
24. Oklahoma St.
25. South Carolina

## NHL Standings

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic	W-L-T-OTL, Pts.
Philadelphia	24-11-10-5, 63
New Jersey	24-12-10-1, 59
NY Islanders	24-20-4-1, 53
NY Rangers	18-20-7-4, 47
Pittsburgh	11-31-5-3, 30
<b>Northeast</b>	
Toronto	27-12-8-3, 65
Ottawa	27-12-7-3, 64
Boston	22-14-10-4, 58
Montreal	24-18-6-2, 56

Buffalo	19-25-5-1, 44
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### Southeast

Tampa Bay	23-16-6-3, 55
Atlanta	21-22-5-2, 49
Florida	17-20-10-3, 47
Carolina	16-22-9-2, 43
Washington	14-28-5-2, 35

### Western Conference

Central	W-L-T-OTL, Pts.
Detroit	28-15-6-2, 64
St. Louis	25-16-6-1, 57
Nashville	24-17-6-2, 56
Columbus	14-25-7-3, 38
Chicago	12-26-7-5, 36
<b>Northwest</b>	
Colorado	28-11-8-2, 66
Vancouver	25-16-6-1, 61
Calgary	24-17-4-3, 55
Minnesota	17-20-14-0, 48
Edmonton	19-22-8-1, 47

### Pacific

San Jose	23-12-11-4, 61
Dallas	23-20-8-0, 54
Los Angeles	19-15-10-5, 53
Phoenix	18-15-13-2, 51
Anaheim	15-22-8-5, 43

## NHL Scores

### Sunday, Jan. 25

Buffalo 4, Carolina 2
Philadelphia 4, Washington 1
New Jersey 3, Atlanta 2
Vancouver 4, Nashville 1

## Mickelson finally wins one

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP) -- Phil Mickelson can hardly wait to tee it up again.

Mickelson birdied the first playoff hole to beat Skip Kendall in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic on Sunday and end an 18-month winless streak.

"It's terrific. I can't wait to do it again. I want it next week," said Mickelson, who had dropped from

second to 16th in the world rankings.

"I just have so much fun when I'm playing well." "Not having been there last year, I realize how much I missed it."

The 2002 Hope champion, he rolled a 3-foot birdie putt into the center of the cup to win it again.

Kendall was left still looking for his first tour victory. He was runner-up for the fourth time in his career, losing three times in playoffs.

Mickelson, making his 2004 debut, closed with a 4-under 68 to match Kendall (65) at 30-under 330 in the 90-hole tournament.

The 39-year-old Kendall, 0-for-294 in tour events, said, "I played my heart out. It's hard to take, but I'm glad I was there."

## Vinitieri: Mr. Clutch

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP) -- The game was coming down to a final kick, as so many of the New England Patriots' games do.

Coach Bill Belichick didn't fret: He had Adam Vinatieri.

"We put one of our best players out there," Belichick said, "and let him kick it."

With 15 game-winning field goals in his career, including the one to win the Super Bowl two years ago, he has shown he can handle the pressure and just about anything the New England weather can throw at him.

"He's Mr. Clutch," backup quarterback Damon Huard said. "The Snow Bowl and the Super Bowl kicks have defined his legacy here. But we see him do it every day in practice. He's first class. I'm glad he's on my team."

