

The Daily Roar

Daily Newspaper created by the Soldiers, for the Soldiers

VOL. 1, NO. 297

MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION – BAGHDAD

DECEMBER 5, 2008

Hurriyah security improvements highlighted

by **Spc. Dustin Roberts**

2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div. PAO

BAGHDAD – More than 30 Sheiks from the Baghdad neighborhoods of Hurriyah and Tarmiyah gathered at a mosque Dec. 3 in a neighborhood that was once filled with sectarian violence to see for themselves how the security situation has changed.

The religious leaders from both the Sunni and Shiite tribes met at the al-Farooq Mosque in Hurriyah, where the 1st Battalion, 22nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, with the help of the 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, displayed how safe the neighborhood is.

Many of the Sheiks from Tarmiyah had once lived in Hurriyah and relocated because sectarian violence dramatically increased from around February 2006 to February 2008, said Maj. John Breland, human terrain team leader, attached to the 2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div.

“The Sheiks (from Tarmiyah) were surprised and amazed by the progress that had been made in Hurriyah over the last two years,” Breland said. “They were under the impression that Hurriyah was still a very dangerous place, and as they witnessed for themselves, that is not the case.”

Iraqi Army Maj. Adhab Imam al-Ghussy Hussein, commander, 1st Battalion, 22nd Brigade, 6th IA Division, formally welcomed the visitors and spoke of the effectiveness of the battalion’s tactics against

sectarian violence in Hurriyah.

“The displaced Sheiks saw the houses that they once lived in before they were forced to move away and were grateful for the invite from the Hurriyah Sheiks and the Iraqi Army,” said Breland. “Maj. Hussein explained that despite the reputation of Hurriyah, anti-resettlement violence is almost non-existent and the situation is still improving.”

After Hussein talked about the security mission, he described the procedures of how Tarmiyah attorneys can come back and work with the IA to help facilitate relocation. He then turned the discussion over to the Sheiks.

“The Iraqi Security Forces were not the main players in this meeting – the main effort and discussion was actually led by the Sheiks,” said Maj. Todd Auld, civil affairs officer, 2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div. “That was historic because a year ago, they wouldn’t

have been able to have that conversation, and they wouldn’t have wanted to talk to each other about it.”

Because Sheiks are leaders the people of Iraq usually trust and look up to, Auld said they were the right group of people to show how Hurriyah has changed.

“They also got to go through very fundamental conflict mitigation steps that will help reconciliation and accommodation,” he said. “The people are tired of the violence and want it to end.”

After having the opportunity to hear Hussein speak, and following several discussions amongst themselves, the Sheiks were escorted by the Iraqi Army to Dolai, a neighborhood they were also concerned about.

The Sheiks thought the IA did not have a strong presence in Dolai and were able to see how security has improved there as well.

One of their concerns expressed was that of the Abass Mosque, which they heard was destroyed during the course of the sectarian violence. To their relief, they were able to tour the mosque, touch its walls and see that it was never disturbed.

“This went a long ways toward convincing them that a lot of things they heard about Hurriyah were not correct,” Breland said. “Our hopes are that they will carry what they learned to Tarmiyah so the citizens there, who are displaced, will know that a lot of the things they’ve heard about Hurriyah are no longer true and it’s safe for them to come home.”



by Spc. Dustin Roberts, 2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div.

Col. Joseph Martin greets a sheik from the Hurriyah neighborhood of northwest Baghdad Dec. 3 outside the Al-Farooq Mosque.

WWE Superstars visit Strikers at FOB War Eagle

by Sgt. Zach Mott

3rd BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WAR EAGLE, Iraq – Six members of the World Wrestling Entertainment visited Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers at Forward Operating Base War Eagle as part of the annual WWE Holiday Tribute to the Troops production Dec. 4.

WWE Superstars John Cena, Rey Mysterio, R-Truth, Eve, Kelly Kelly and WWE Chairman Vince McMahon posed for photos and signed autographs for the Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, during their visit.

“It’s the biggest and most important thing we do all year,” said McMahon of the annual event. “Everybody thinks Wrestlemania is our biggest event – but this is our biggest event every year.”

McMahon has led a band of his troops to entertain servicemembers in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2003.



by Sgt. Zach Mott, 3rd BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

World Wrestling Entertainment Superstar John Cena signs a metal chair for 1st Lt. George Rolston during a visit to Forward Operating Base War Eagle Dec. 4.

“It’s really good to come over here to meet everyone and to show them that they’re appreciated,” said Eve, a member of the WWE Divas, who visited Soldiers at FOB War Eagle.

This visit to FOB War Eagle precedes the taped performance that will be broadcast across the world later this month. The Soldiers who filled the dining facility for the opportunity to pose for photos and receive autographs welcomed the opportunity to see the larger-than-life personalities face-to-face.

“It was great. I like wrestling, so it’s fun for me. It’s great to see that they care. It lifts a lot of people’s hopes up,” said Pfc. Adrian Morgan, a Trenton, Tenn., native, who serves as a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Special Troops Battalion, 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

Today’s Soldiers in focus are Sgt. Gloria Gonzalez, a military police dog handler, and her partner Max, a military police dog, form a formidable team for the Provost Marshalls Office of the 4th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad.

Gonzalez and Max serve a vital role in the PMO’s mission by assisting in weapons and munitions searches and entry-checkpoint operations.

Unlike most Soldiers, who leave their partners at the end of the duty day, Gonzalez and Max are together 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

Max’s breadth of military experience balances Gonzalez youthful enthusiasm. Although she completed her military police training six years ago, Gonzalez certified as a dog handler only two years ago. Conversely, Max was bred in Germany specifically to become a military police dog and received his training at Lackland Air Force, Texas more than seven years ago, which makes him 49 in dog years. He has spent his entire life in the Army.

Like her partner Max, Gonzalez was destined for a career in the Army. Both her parents were Soldiers when they met and married at Fort Benning, Ga. nearly two decades ago. Her Army roots run deep – tellingly, she calls Fort Benning home rather than the nearby community of Columbus, Ga.

For the here and now however, both handler and dog are very satisfied with their work during the deployment. “It’s been a good one,” Gonzalez remarked, just before heading out on another mission with partner Max.

Soldiers in focus



by Maj. Lorraine Januzelli, MND-B PAO

Tip leads MND-B Soldiers to large munitions cache

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD – Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers seized a large munitions cache in Baghdad Dec. 3. Iraqi Army soldiers, Iraqi National Police, and MND-B Soldiers also discovered three additional weapons and munitions caches throughout the day.

Soldiers serving with 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, acted on a tip from an Iraqi citizen that led them to a cache in Kadhamiyah at approximately 11 p.m. The munitions were hidden in the basement of a vacant house and included 75 60mm mortars, 21 81mm mortars, six 130mm artillery rounds, four 107mm rockets, 40 PG-7 grenades, 90 OG-7 grenades and 2,000 rounds of 7.62mm and 39mm ammunition.

Earlier in the day at approximately 10

a.m., Soldiers serving with 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, discovered a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, nine RPGs and a box of unknown ammunition while conducting searches in Husaniyah.

At approximately the same time south of Baghdad, Soldiers of Company A, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armor Division, recovered a stockpile of weapons and munitions collected by Iraqi Army soldiers during a two-week period. The munitions included 26 projectiles, 22 heat grenades, 37 projected grenades, seven 60mm mortars, a rocket-propelled grenade, a 20-pound bag of unknown stick propellant, 20 projectile fuses, 32 23mm cartridges, six 82mm mortars, three rifle grenades, an 82mm projectile, a 5-pound

bag of unknown bulk explosive, a 57mm rocket, two 60mm mortars and two surface-to-surface guided missiles.

Soldiers serving with Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armor Division, seized a cache south of Baghdad at approximately 10:30 p.m. The cache consisted of an RPK machinegun, nine full AK-47 magazines, two full Glock magazines and fake identification cards.

“Through the combined efforts of Multi-National Division – Baghdad and Iraqi Army Soldiers, a significant amount of deadly munitions and weapons were removed from those who mean the Iraqi people and Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces harm,” said Lt. Col. Steve Stover, spokesman, MND-B and the 4th Infantry Division. “These combined forces are truly dedicated to safeguarding the Iraqi people.”

Pro Golfers ‘tee off’ at Camp Echo



by Staff Sgt. Carlos M. Burger II, 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

Pro golfer Art Sellinger talks driving tips with Col. Butch Kievenaar, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division commander, as part of the “Operation Links” tour at Camp Echo Nov. 30.

Safety Sense

Mine Resistant Ambush Protections Safety

The driver is responsible for the safety of the personnel riding in their vehicle. MRAP's can weigh more than 49,000 lbs. and have a very high center of gravity, approach slopes head on and avoid side slopes when possible. Remain clear of road and canal edges, they can slide away under pressure and moisture can compound these effects. Always maintain speeds appropriate with road conditions; a little slower may be safer.



by Sgt. DaleAnne Maxwell, MND-B PAO

Player of the day

Today's player of the day award goes to Sgt. 1st Class George Lane, a native of Crestview, Fla., for his outstanding performance as the ROC night shift noncommissioned officer in charge and managing the ISR/IED nominations effectively. He has also performed the duties in the 2 BCD as training NCO during this deployment.

David Letterman's Top Ten Things That Sound Sexy When Said By America's Next Top Model presented by Eva Pigford

10. The atomic weight of Barium 137.34.
9. Objects may be closer than they appear.
8. Taco Bell beef and cheese Chalupa.
7. The nighttime, sniffing, sneezing, coughing, aching, stuffy head, fever, so you can rest medicine.
6. Gesundheit.
5. This soup tastes like Dioxin.
4. Spongebob Squarepants.
3. Castrol is engineered to provide maximum protection against viscosity and thermal breakdown.
2. Hoobastank.
1. All this and Andy Rooney, tonight on "60 Minutes."

This Week in 4th Infantry Division History

VIETNAM 1966

1LT MARK ENARI, A COMPANY, 1-12TH INF, BECOMES THE FIRST 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION SOLDIER TO BE AWARDED THE SILVER STAR (POSTHUMOUSLY) FOR ACTIONS ON 2 DECEMBER. AS HE WAS LEADING A POINT PLATOON, SNIPERS OPENED UP

ON THE PLATOON. WHILE COMMANDING THE HASTY DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AND DIRECTING MG FIRE, 1LT WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED. THE DIVISION'S BASE CAMP AT DRAGON MOUNTAIN WOULD LATER BE NAMED IN HIS HONOR—CAMP ENARI.

Daily Iron Games

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow:

3	5			6	2			
2				4		5		8
		9						
	8		7					3
	3			9			7	
9					3		4	
						1		
4		6		8				2
			9	2			8	7

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Thursday's Word Search challenge results





ELECTRICAL HAZARDS



Electrical hazards will cause an accident. Improper grounding procedures, damaged wiring and/or static electricity build up are all contributors to causing an electrical shock or fire. Either hazard could easily result in serious injury to personnel or damage to equipment.

- Check all electrical equipment for damage to cords, and receptacles.
- Use Power Strips and not extension cords – Power strips have a fuse or circuit breaker which prevents electrical surges and overloads.
- Do not twist, bend or walk on electrical cords – the wires and insulation inside the covering can break causing the current to arc which could result in a fire.
- Only qualified electricians will work on the wiring systems.

GROUNDING EQUIPMENT:

Remind personnel that extra care must be given to preventing static electricity in hot, dry climates.

- Ensure that personnel know that desert soil requires special grounding procedures:
- Instruct personnel to dig/drive ground rods to a depth of 6 feet.
- Grounding can also be accomplished by burying grounding plate in the sand and frequently pouring salt solutions onto them.
- Remind personnel to keep soil moist with salt solutions around grounding rods to increase conductivity.
- All connections on generators, and grounding rods will be tight.



Army Safe is Army Strong!

Stay Focused!

Stay Alert!

Stay Alive!

Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker



Daily Laugh

A ragged individual stranded for several months on a small desert island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean one day noticed a bottle lying in the sand with a piece of paper in it.

Rushing to the bottle, he pulled out the cork and with shaking hands withdrew the message.

"Due to lack of maintenance," he read, "we regretfully have found it necessary to cancel your e-mail account."

Chaplain's Inspiration

A life in which anything goes will ultimately be a life in which nothing goes. Some people in life really want to be efficient. Efficiency is the foundation for survival, but effectiveness is the foundation for success. To be effective in this life requires moral and spiritual discipline and a deep understanding that God will be with you wherever you go. He will never leave you or forsake you. Take some time to examine your heart and seek to be controlled by the moral discipline of the Holy Spirit.

Joshua 1:9 "For the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. He will never leave you or forsake you."

ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

tribute to the troops

www.wwe.com

MISTLETOE AND TOEHOLDS

This holiday season, there won't be any smooching under the mistletoe. More like toeholds and body slams as the Superstars and Divas of the WWE® take to the square circle for an unforgettable holiday bash in a tribute to our Armed Forces.



DECEMBER 5, 2008
GATES OPEN AT 10 A.M
EVENT 12-2:30 P.M.
AL FAW PALACE (VBC)



COMING TO A THEATER NEAR YOU.
register to win this custom guitar at armedforcesentertainment.com


Hometown Briefs

Health officials warn of TB case on bus
The Gazette


People who rode an interstate bus on Aug. 3 or Aug. 9 are at a small risk of having contracted tuberculosis from an infected passenger, health departments from Colorado and two other states warned today.

The bus originated in El Paso, Texas, and traveled to Greeley, with the infected passenger getting on board in Albuquerque, said the joint announcement from the Colorado, Texas and New Mexico health departments.

It made stops in Pueblo, Colorado Springs and Denver, among other stops in Texas and New Mexico.

The same passenger boarded the same bus in Greeley on Aug. 9 and rode it back to Albuquerque.

Only passengers who rode the bus on those two dates were at risk for being exposed, said the announcement.

TB is an infectious disease that can be spread through the air when someone with the active form of the disease coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings.

It weakens the lungs and can be deadly if untreated.

Army retirees staying in area
The Killeen Daily Herald


Responses to a quarterly survey by the Fort Hood Region Veterans Inventory Initiative has revealed that about 38.5 percent of the Soldiers completing their service at Fort Hood, mostly retirees, plan to remain in the region, defined roughly as the Killeen-Temple-Fort Hood Metropolitan Statistical Area, within about 30 miles of the post.

The report, prepared by executive director Bill Parry of the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance and released by the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce, said all respondents said "quality of place" issues of entertainment, higher education and housing affected their decisions to leave or stay.

The inventory received responses to a 12-question survey in January through March of this year. Of the persons questioned, 576 were leaving the service before retirement, 217 were receiving medical discharges, and 271 were retirees with 20 or more years of service.

The survey found that 411 of 1,066 indicated they intended to stay in the region. This included 68 percent of retirement-eligible respondents and 28.4 percent of others. About 19.5 percent said they are not staying but would if they could find satisfactory employment. From September 2007 to March 2008, 659 Soldiers said they intended to stay in the area after their service.

The Retired Army Personnel System says the military retiree rate is growing in the MSA, with an increase of 420 to 16,459 from January 2007 to January 2008. Killeen showed the largest number, but the population is growing in all the cities.

The survey results showed the Soldiers are better educated than civilian counterparts.

The report said, "Veterans ending their service at Fort Hood are clearly a talented and educated workforce worth retaining in the Central Texas region, and their perceptions of quality of place improvements are important feedback to be considered in future planning. We will continue to monitor the responses for any significant changes in future reports."

Residents welcome new bridge for success
The Honolulu Star Bulletin



About five years ago, Kapiolani Community College professor Judith Kirkpatrick envisioned a new learning center at low-income Palolo Homes to overcome inadequate resources and facilities and provide learning opportunities for the poor.

Yesterday it came true with the grand opening of the \$1.7 million center.

"It's been a long time coming," Kirkpatrick said. "I'm sort of in disbelief."

More than 300 Families at the privately owned Palolo Homes can now use the learning center, which some hope could spring residents out of poverty.

Palolo Homes Families, many of whom are immigrants, make 20 to 60 percent of median income, which is \$61,160 for a Family of three in Hawaii.

The Palolo Ohana Learning Center is more than 5,400 square feet, or somewhat larger than a basketball court, with a summer green and light brown decor. The modern space has red lockers and a new elevator.

It was built with a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant as part of the Palolo Pipeline Program, which taps local college students to create an educational pipeline for Palolo residents.

In the Pipeline Program, students and teachers from Kapiolani Community College, the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Chaminade University tutor residents, give health exams and create workshops that residents want. They in turn learn community service skills.

Boyce chief convicted; will resign office
The Town Talk


Boyce Police Chief Claude Williams was convicted Wednesday on three weapons charges, a conviction his attorney said has a "chilling effect" on law enforcement officers everywhere.

"This is a ground-breaking case," Williams' attorney Larry English said after the unanimous federal jury verdict was read. "... If any law enforcement officer has an illegal weapon outside of the (police department's evidence room) they are subject to criminal charges."

Williams was found not guilty of two other federal charges -- both of making a false statement to federal agents -- after the three-day trial this week.

Because of his convictions, Williams will resign as Boyce's Police chief and surrender all of his weapons by 5 p.m. today, English said. His bond was continued, and his sentencing is scheduled for March 19 before U.S. District Judge Dee Drell. He faces as many as 30 years in prison.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James Cowles Jr. argued in his closing statements that the case was about principles and that no man, even a police chief, is above the law. He stressed that the law is clear that if illegal weapons are taken from a police department's evidence room that "must be" properly registered.

Cowles repeatedly referred to the weapons -- in Williams' case a machine gun, rifle and sawed-off shotgun -- as "inherently dangerous."


Hometown Briefs


New fire chief chosen

The Capital-Journal



Dave Meek is replacing the retiring Richard Maginot as Soldier Township fire chief.

A ceremony to pass the command to Meek is set for 7 p.m. today at the township's fire station, 600 N.W. 46th.



Township board members Gary Groves, Jerry Glasgow and Karl McNorton last month chose Meek, 48, to replace Maginot, who has been with the Soldier department since 1981 and served as fire chief since 1985.

The department employs four paid firefighters and has 35 volunteers, who respond to fires and emergency medical calls in a 63-square-mile area of northeast and north-central Shawnee County.

Meek, who most recently served as a captain with the Soldier department, also is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve and works part-time as a trauma nurse in the emergency room at Stormont-Vail Regional Health Center.

Meek has been a firefighter since 1978, having formerly served with the Mission Township Fire Department and the Dover-based Shawnee County Fire District No. 4.

He also founded the Kansas Search and Rescue Dog Association, for which he serves on the board of directors.

Maginot retires Dec. 12 as Soldier Township fire chief and business manager, having assumed the latter position after the township created it in 1993.

The business manager's job will be eliminated upon Maginot's retirement as part of a reorganization the township is carrying out.

National archive posting millions of photos

The Local



The German National Archive announced on Thursday that some 100,000 digitalized historical photos were available for the internet encyclopedia Wikipedia in a dual project that will eventually make about 11 million photos available for public use.

"We decided on the cooperation because of the high hit rates that Wikipedia gets. This way we can reach the public a lot better," archive deputy director B. Kuhl told *The Local* on Thursday. "It isn't that the national archive is ever closed or anything, but people would not normally think of us when they are looking for pictures."

The archive decided which photos to release first based on their experience of the most popular requests and also worked with the Federal Press Office on the project. Images include documentation of the Holocaust, Weimar Republic era, public demonstrations and other important events in contemporary history, Kuhl said.

"Everyone here is involved somehow, and it is a work in progress," she said. "We have some 11 million pictures and have about 150,000 together, so it's only a fraction at the moment."

The digital photos will be uploaded to Wikimedia Commons, where users will then be able to attach them to corresponding entries on Wikipedia.

"The cooperation shows how important Wikipedia has become," head of Wikimedia Deutschland Sebastian Moleski told news agency DDP.

County approves Obama holiday

The Montgomery Advertiser



In central Alabama's Perry County, government workers already get a day off for President's Day, Martin Luther King Day, and Veterans Day. In 2009, they'll get one more: "Barack Obama Day."

The rural county, which overwhelmingly supported Obama in last month's presidential election, has approved the second Monday in November as "The Barack Obama Day." Commissioners passed a measure that would close county offices for the new annual holiday and its roughly 40 workers will get a paid day off.

Sponsoring commissioner Albert Turner Jr. said the holiday is meant to highlight the Democratic president-elect's victory as a way to give people faith that difficult goals can be achieved.

Perry County has 12,000 residents, most of them black. Voters there backed Obama by over 70 percent in a state that gave 60 percent of the overall vote to Republican John McCain based largely on strong support from white voters.

At the state level, Alabama observes the standard federal holidays as well as a handful of its own that include Confederate Memorial Day in April and the June birthday of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. It observes Martin Luther King's birthday in January but the holiday is twinned with commemoration of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee on the same day.

Workers' quick response saves 74-year-old

The Statesman



Dixie and Paul Mix have walked three laps around the second floor of Highland Mall nearly every day for three years. A month ago, when Paul Mix, 74, had a heart attack during their daily 45-minute trek, the shopping center's automated external defibrillators and workers ended up making a critical difference.

The couple usually goes to the North Austin mall at 10 a.m., as it's opening, Dixie Mix, 68, said. On Nov. 3, she and her husband were walking inside the mall together when he fell.

"He just said, 'I need down,' and collapsed," Dixie Mix said.

She was so busy holding onto her husband that she didn't have time to call 911, she said.

Mall security Capt. Criselda Ozuna and security officer Jamael Jackson rushed to the couple's side. Ozuna performed CPR and Jackson helped with the defibrillator, Dixie Mix said. By the time paramedics arrived, officials said, mall employees had done much of the work of reviving Paul Mix.

Ozuna, Jackson and two other mall employees who assisted with Mix's rescue, Fidel Salazar and Carlos Ignacio, were recognized at a ceremony Wednesday morning at the mall.

"How do you thank somebody for returning what could have been lost when it is everything?" Dixie Mix said. She referred to Ozuna and Jackson as "two angels." Highland Mall Operations Manager Rob Ledbetter gave out certificates and Lifesaver candy tins to the four employees.

Dr. Joanne Tsai, a cardiac electrophysiologist with the Heart Hospital of Austin, treated Paul Mix after his heart attack and implanted an internal defibrillator. She said that Mix was lucky that he was in a public place when the incident occurred because timing is "the most crucial thing" during cardiac arrest.

Sports

NFL players union seeks to block suspensions

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS – The NFL Players Association filed a lawsuit Thursday to block five of the six player suspensions for violating the league's anti-doping policy.

The suit filed in federal court here is on behalf of Kevin Williams and Pat Williams of the Minnesota Vikings, and Charles Grant, Deuce McAllister and Will Smith of the New Orleans Saints.

The five players were suspended for four games for testing positive in training camp in July and August for the banned diuretic bumetanide, which can be used as a masking agent for steroids. The drug was in a dietary supplement, StarCaps, that did not list the diuretic as an ingredient.

The suit does not include Houston Texans long snapper Bryan Pittman. David Cornwell, Pittman's lawyer, told the AP that his client isn't included because his circumstances "differ substantially from the men who used StarCaps."

In the lawsuit, the NFLPA alleges both the NFL-appointed doctor and the NFL lawyer who administer the league's steroids policy knew the supplement contained the

banned drug but never advised the players. It alleges they breached their duty to the players and endangered their physical well-being.

"It's just common sense that someone shouldn't be punished in those circumstances," David Feher, a lawyer for the union, told The Associated Press.

The union has asked for a hearing Friday for a preliminary injunction so the five players can play this weekend. Feher said the hearing hadn't been scheduled as of Thursday morning, and that it wasn't immediately clear which judge would handle it.

"We are taking these steps today in hopes of keeping these players on the playing field," Richard Berthelsen, acting executive director of the NFLPA, said in a statement. "We strongly believe that the doctors and the NFL should have told us and the players what they knew about StarCaps, but for some unknown reason they failed to meet that duty."

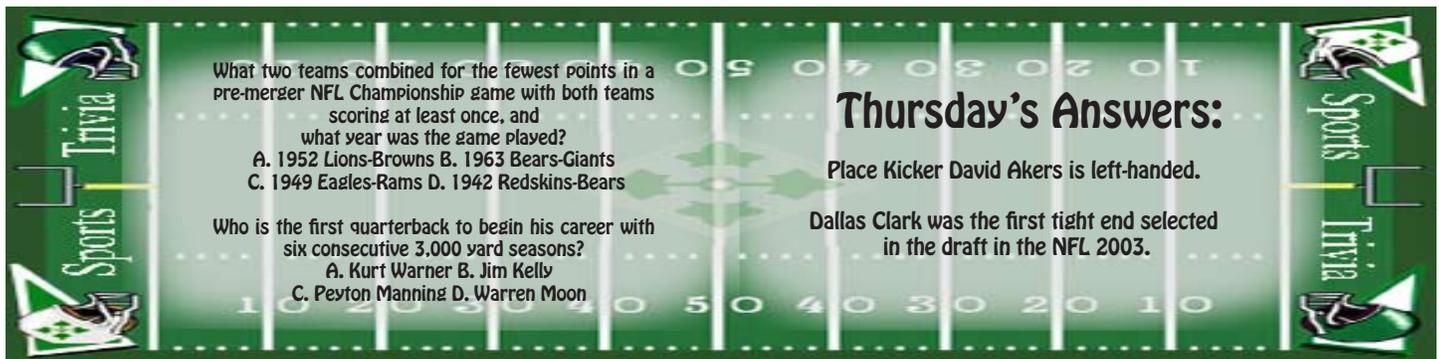
An accompanying legal memo says the suspensions could prevent the Vikings and Saints from making the playoffs. It notes that Kevin Williams and Pat Williams have

been the centerpieces of the Vikings' defensive line. The Vikings are in first place in the NFC North; the Saints are last in the NFC South and are a longer shot, two games out of the wild card spot with four games to go.

"Not only these players, but their teammates and fans will suffer irreparable harm if the wrongful suspensions are not enjoined," the memo says.

The lawsuit and memo stress the union's view that the NFL had a duty to tell the players and the union that it had known since at least 2006 that StarCaps contained the banned drug, but failed to do so.

Dr. John Lombardo, who oversees the league's steroids policy, "expressly knew and willfully withheld the critical information that StarCaps secretly contained the banned diuretic substance," the filings allege. They also allege that NFL vice president Adolpho Birch, who also oversees the policy, also knew but withheld the information that StarCaps "contained a prohibited substance that could jeopardize the health and career of any player who used the product."



Thursday's Answers:

What two teams combined for the fewest points in a pre-merger NFL Championship game with both teams scoring at least once, and what year was the game played?
 A. 1952 Lions-Browns B. 1963 Bears-Giants
 C. 1949 Eagles-Rams D. 1942 Redskins-Bears

Who is the first quarterback to begin his career with six consecutive 3,000 yard seasons?
 A. Kurt Warner B. Jim Kelly
 C. Peyton Manning D. Warren Moon

Place Kicker David Akers is left-handed.

Dallas Clark was the first tight end selected in the draft in the NFL 2003.



Multi-National Division - Baghdad
 Public Affairs Office

Public Affairs Officer:
 Lt. Col. Steve Stover

Public Affairs Chief:
 Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger

Editor:

Sgt. DaleAnne Maxwell

Staff Writers:

Staff Sgt. Michael Molinaro
 Staff Sgt. Brock Jones
 Staff Sgt. Scott Wolfe
 Staff Sgt. Jody Metzger
 Sgt. Jason Thompson
 Sgt. Whitney Houston
 Sgt. Jerry Saslav
 Sgt. Philip Klein
 Sgt. Shana Henline
 Spc. Douglas York
 Spc. Benjamin Crane
 Pfc. Lyndsey Dransfield

The *Daily Roar* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of *The Daily Roar* are not official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or the 4th Infantry Division. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, the 4th Infantry Division, or *The Daily Roar* of the products and services advertised.

All editorial content of *The Daily Roar* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office.

Do you have a story to share?

The *Daily Roar* welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers.

Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC eric.d.lobsinger@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. *The Daily Roar* reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

For further information on deadlines, questions, comments or a request to be on our distribution list, email the Editor at annie.maxwell@mnd-b.army.mil