



VANGUARD POINT

Volume II, Issue 10
July 31, 2005

*Family serves
together in Iraq...*



Inside



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On the cover:
1st Sgt. John Cartwright and his two sons are all assigned to the same unit and are currently attached to the 3rd Infantry Division for OIF III.



Chaplain's corner ...

Tips to navigate the sea of marriage

Chaplain (Maj.) Blake Bowers

4th BCT Chaplain

A marriage is a sacred trust and union and is the first institution God ordained. A marriage takes effort and work between two people to make a marriage successful. Separation on a deployment can make it hard, but it can also work and draw you closer together. What are some keys that make a marriage a lifetime commitment?

First God intended marriage to be exclusive between one man and one woman for a lifetime. You should see your spouse as exclusive to you only. That is why God made Adam one woman and no more. When Adam first saw Eve, his expression, not adequately captured in its translation to English was something like "Wow God this is awesome." Man was designed for a woman and woman was designed for a man. When a man looks at his wife it should be something along the lines of Adams description "My wife is awesome."

Through age, through time, through childbirth, your wife should always look awesome in your eyes. Ladies the exclusiveness of your husbands is yours as well. You too have a responsibility to see your husband in a unique way. Read the Song of Solomon and see how the beloved spoke of her lover. God designed marriage to be a lifetime commitment between one man and one woman.

Second, a strong like-minded faith is important. It makes a difference when a husband and wife worship together, have the same moral values and virtues and pray together. The Bible tells us that men and women in marriage are to be yoked equally, (II Corinthians 6:11) that is to share the same faith in God.

Married men and women, grounded in spiritual faith have a far better chance of weathering life's challenges together.

Third, love is critical. Ephesians 5:25 says "Husbands love your wife like Christ loved the church."

Men, look at what Christ did for the church; He died for it. A man's love for his wife should take you to your death, if necessary. That is how powerful and strong Christ's love was for the church. It also means Christ is forgiving. Not just once but many times over so be forgiving towards your wife. Ladies your responsibility is to respect your husband. (Ephesians 5:33). God's order of the home is that the man is at the head.

Love and respect goes hand in hand. A man who loves his

wife like Christ did the church will have no problems having a wife who loves him, especially when they share the same faith together.

Love is sacrificial. If we applied the concept of I Corinthians 13 to our homes there would be far less divorce and misery than what there is now. It would also benefit couples to learn a love language that is exclusively yours. Look at how the lover and the beloved spoke in the Songs of Solomon. Read together the Song of Songs as husband and wife. Let it remind you that God intended husbands and wives to enjoy themselves in the most intimate moments of marriage which pure and holy in God's design for marriage.

Another concept to a successful marriage is forgiveness. That one sentence, "I am sorry" or "I was wrong" are so important and make a world of difference. Women and men both need to swallow their pride and stubbornness. Say I'm sorry. Forgive each other and move on.

Too many couples hold on to grudges of issues that happened years ago. If it keeps cropping up in a fight, it has not been forgiven. In the book of Hosea you find that Hosea forgave his wife three times for adultery until she got it right with her husband and God.

Good communication is important. We love to blame and accuse the other person when we fight. We often use the accusatory you in our fights with our spouse.

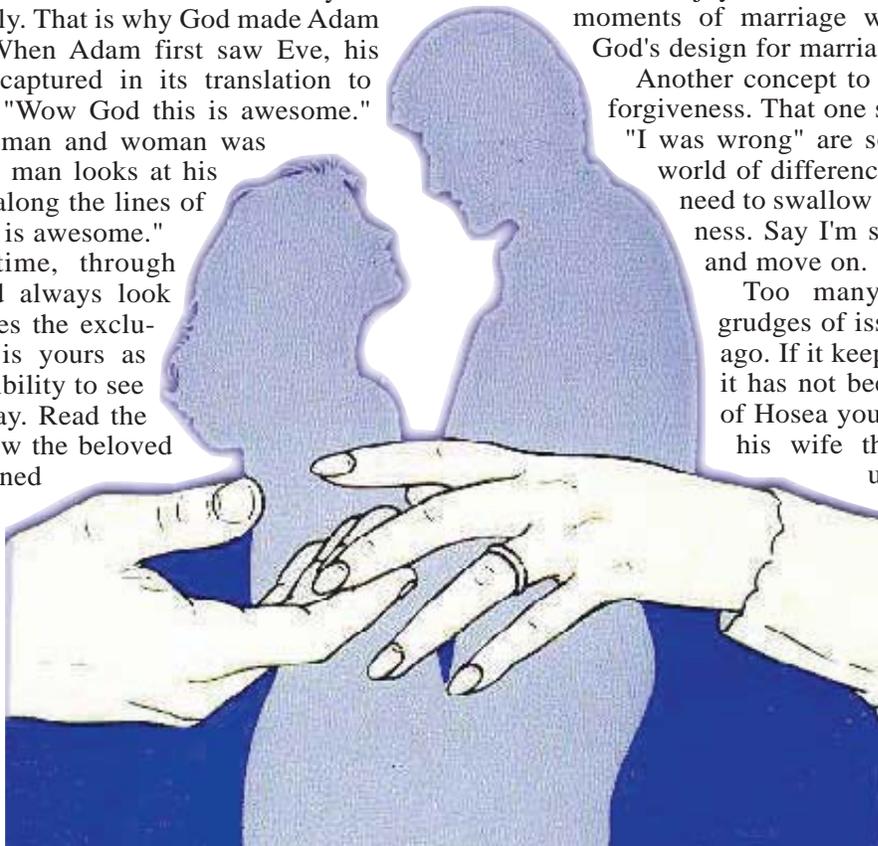
Instead of accusing, identify your own feelings.

An example might be "I feel hurt when I am not included on decisions that affect our money."

Another example might be "I feel rejected when you turn away from my affections and advances toward you" or "It is important for me to go out on a date with you twice a month. Our relationship is that important to me." If you state your feelings and thoughts it takes away the sting, stops the accusations and puts things in perspective.

That kind of communication along with good resolution skills will make a huge difference in your relationship. It takes time, effort and practice to communicate like this but it works.

Work with these tools in your relationship together and you'll find better harmony in your marriage. ☞



Rebuilding Iraq, 1 stitch at a time

Maj. Alayne Conway
4th Brigade Combat Team PAO

One mission that has remained constant for the Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment since arriving in Iraq is helping to rebuild the civilian infrastructure. This is done in many ways, but the intent is to have Iraqi's rebuild Iraq.

Although a small project for the Al Rasheed district, the opening of the Jihad Sewing School July 5 was a big step forward in improving the local economy.

"The school is small but they are training about 15 to 20 women and when they finish, they will be able to go directly into the work force and put their skills to use," said Capt. Christian Neels, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment civil-military operations officer, and native of Muscatine, Iowa.

The school teaches women to use sewing machines to make clothing and a variety of other items. These items can be sold on the local economy or the women can get a job in a local factory.

The project was nominated by Menar Fadhel, one of the leaders from the Jihad neighborhood council who also serves on the Al Rasheed District Council Neels



Capt. Christian Neels

Two women train at the Jihad Sewing Center in the Al Rasheed District. The school celebrated its grand opening July 5.

added. She and another woman are volunteers who manage the sewing center and offer two training sessions per day.

The sewing school was funded with Commander's Emergency Relief Project

money at a cost of \$5,000.

"Menar is stepping up to improve the community and giving the women in the Jihad area an improved quality of life," Neels said. 

Wolf Bde., 1-184 Inf. recover artifacts



Courtesy Photos

Iraqi Soldiers from the Wolf Brigade captured a suspected dealer of stolen artifacts and one insurgent during a raid July 19. They recovered three possible artifacts

buried under a pile of palm fronds. The detainee said the artifacts were worth \$25,000. The dealer believed the items to be 2,000 to 5,000 years old and they may have been stolen from a Baghdad museum.

Soldiers school teachers on first aid basics

Staff Sgt. Raymond Piper

4th BCT PAO NCOIC

Soldiers helped school teachers learn a little first aid so they could treat the students if they hurt themselves. B Company, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment taught basic first aid to teachers of six different schools in the Karradah District at the request of the Neighborhood Council.

“The goal was to provide some basic first aid classes to the teachers and staff of this school so they could provide it to the children or anyone in the area that was hurt,” said Capt. (Doctor) Daniel Green, 4-64 Armor battalion surgeon and Atlanta, native.

The unit gave the schools aid bags to that were tailored to the more common injuries that a child might receive at school.

“We spent an hour talking about how to apply the bandages, how to make a sling and use a splint, and how to take care of burns. We also talked about using the Heimlich maneuver for choking,” Green said.

The training covered the basics and gave the teachers an understanding of how to use the aid bags, Green said.

“Generally when teaching medicine, you keep first exposure simple so you don’t overwhelm them too much,” he added. “There is a lot more that can be discussed at a later date if they are interested.”

“As we go in the future, we’re going to change up the material a little bit,” said Pfc. Christopher McMullen, a medic with 4-64 Armor, said as they train more and more teachers, they will graduate to other areas that will help them take care of the students.

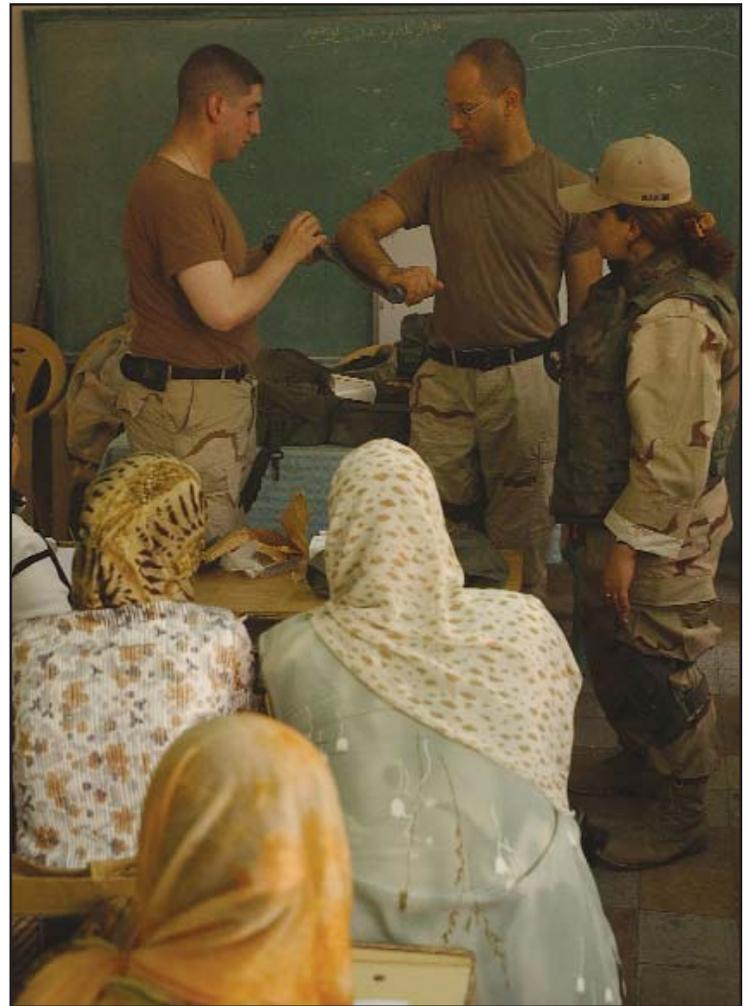
The Peoria, Ariz., native said, “In the future we’ll teach them how to treat diarrhea and what to do for common colds – what medicines to use and the dosage – to help them deal with the kids at the school.”

McMullen helped train the Iraqi medics for the Iraqi Army and he said it was very rewarding.

“I think it’s beneficial to them that we are here and able to teach them the medical knowledge we have. A lot of things have changed over the years and we have newer and better techniques that we use with our medical training,” he said.

“It makes me feel really good that I can go out and help people who might not have the medical knowledge that I do and help them possibly save one of the lives of the kids that go to this school or anyone that they see that might need help,” McMullen continued.

For McMullen his time in Iraq is spent doing something he wants to do.



Staff Sgt. Raymond Piper

Pfc. Christopher McMullen, a medic with 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment and Peoria, Ariz., native, demonstrates how to splint a broken bone on Capt. Daniel Green, 4-64 Armor battalion surgeon, July 17 during first aid training for Iraqi school teachers in Baghdad.

“This is the reason I joined the Army so I can go out and help people. I love doing humanitarian stuff and helping no matter if I’m teaching them medical stuff or pulling security on a building so they can have a meeting. Just the feeling ... that you have gone out and have done something to help feels good.”

“This is the reason I joined the Army so I can go out and help people.”

**Once, they see you.
Twice, you're known.
Three times you're dead.**

Don't be predictable.

STAY ALIVE

0007 IEDs KILL

**Take a good look
at the robot now...**

**... so you can
watch outside the
cordon later.**

STAY ALIVE

0012 IEDs KILL

New soccer equipment, wheelchairs score big in Al Bayaa

Capt. Christian Neels
3-7 Inf. S5

Despite high temperatures, more than 200 children and community members gathered at the Bayaa Youth Center in the Al Rasheed district to participate in a uniform and wheelchair distribution, followed by a soccer game July 13.

The event was outstanding and turn-out was great," said Capt. Jeffrey LaPlante, B Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment commander, and a native of Lakeland, Fla. "When we arrived, a group was practicing hurdles at the track and kids were playing soccer. If you didn't know you were in Baghdad, you would have thought that you were back at Fort Stewart."

The Bayaa Neighborhood Council had been conducting public assistance projects to improve the quality of life of residents in their neighborhood during the past two weeks.

A community health screening was conducted where more than 300 people were treated for minor illnesses by Iraqi doctors and given food and other humanitarian aid. The community program continued by providing complete soccer uniforms, soccer balls, and a variety of other items for the 240 children involved in the Bayaa Youth Soccer League. There was enough equipment to outfit 15 teams. In addition, they distributed wheelchairs to disabled persons in the area.

Local leaders, with the assistance of several of Berserker (B Co., 3/7) Soldiers, distributed the uniforms to the soccer team coaches to a round of applause. Coaches of the soccer teams were thankful for the work that the Bayaa NC has recently accomplished.

"The local government has come a long way in the past month," said 1st Lt. Eddie Johnson, the civil-military operations coordinator for B Co., 3/7. "They're talking with the people they represent, and they're doing their best to improve the quality of life for the Bayaa people."

Prior to the start of the soccer game, five disabled people from Bayaa were given new wheelchairs as well.

"Khalid and other NC members came to us asking for wheelchairs following the MEDCAP," said Johnson, a native of Orangeburg, S.C. "We had a few that we hadn't given out yet, so the NC coordinated for the people to come to the youth center today to receive new wheelchairs."

At the start of the soccer game, soccer balls and toys were distributed to children that weren't participating. As B Co. 3/7 Inf. left the youth center, Khalid and Haider, two Bayaa NC members watched the children play soccer while talking to the people of their neighborhood.

Johnson said, "Although soccer uniforms and giving out a few wheelchairs isn't a lot, people in Bayaa see their leaders out talking to the people, helping out the community, and leading from the front." 



A Soldier from 3-7 Inf. removes a brand new wheelchair from the box that was donated to a resident of the Al Bayaa neighborhood.



Photos by Capt. Christian Neels

(Above) The Bayaa Youth Soccer League waits for instructions from their soccer coach. More than 200 children and community members gathered at the Bayaa Youth Center in the Al Rasheed district to participate in a uniform and wheelchair distribution, followed by a soccer game July 13.

(Right) Children from Al Bayaa get ready to play a soccer game after receiving uniforms and equipment from their neighborhood council and the Soldiers of 3-7 Inf. July 13.



A community health screening was conducted in Al Bayaa July 13 where more than 300 people were treated for minor illnesses by Iraqi doctors and given food and other humanitarian aid. The neighborhood council in coordination with Soldiers from 3-7 Inf. also distributed wheelchairs to disabled persons in the area.



Pfc. Dan Balda

Pfc. Alejandro Torres, HHC, 4-64 Armor, shakes a Baghdad University defender during a close game that the American team eventually won 3-2.

Soccer spans the gap of language, religion and ethnicity

Pfc. Dan Balda

4th BCT PAO

It could have been a soccer (football as the rest of the world calls it) match anywhere. Players fought for an opening in the defense, cheered on their teammates, cajoled for calls, flopped when they thought the referee needed a little help in making (in their eyes) the correct call.

Some aspects of the playing area, however, were out of place.

To one side of the pitch, there was a pile of rifles, flak vests and Kevlar helmets keeping the requisite water jug company. Later on in the match, play had to be temporarily halted when a dust storm

of language, ethnicity and religion.

“Initially we started the team as a way to build relations with people in the International Zone and the Iraqis,” said Staff Sgt. John Travis, the Information Operations noncommissioned officer in charge for 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment. “It’s a lot of fun. I enjoy talking with the other guys, such as the Brits and the Danes to see how things are going.”

Travis, a native of Paden City, W.V., also sees the games as a healthy diversion from work.

“For the guys who are manning the checkpoints and going out on patrols it’s a good way to wind down and relax, run around and burn off whatever frustration they might have.”

“The games are a great way for the Iraqi people to see Soldiers without all their battle rattle.”

created by a UH-60 Blackhawk proved too difficult to play through. A large swamp took up a quarter of the field where a pipe had burst, causing laughter when players, focused on the game, would become entrenched in the muck.

The team made up of Soldiers assigned to the 4th Brigade Combat Team and Marines assigned to protect the American Embassy was created for two reasons: recreational purposes and a way to interact with the people the Soldiers come into contact with on a daily basis.

Some of the teams they play are made up of players drawn from coalition forces, such as British, Danish and Italian forces. They also play Iraqi teams. In one match they played a team made up of employees from a local radio station.

In one of their most difficult matches, they went head-to-head with the Baghdad University team, which included some members of the Iraqi Olympic team; the same team that captivated the world during the Athens Olympics in 2004.

According to the Federation Internationale de Football Association, the soccer world governing body, 240 million people play soccer in 200 countries all over the world.

These are just a few of the reasons why soccer spans the chasm

According to Travis the games can get a little heated with each team battling for the win.

“It can get a little rough but part of the game is trying to get the ball and win,” Travis said. “Yeah we take the games serious, sometimes you think there might be a fight, but as soon as that last whistle blows everybody is shaking hands and taking pictures together.”

Many of the Iraqi players bring their families and friends to cheer them on while they play. Some of the spectators also include local high ranking politicians.

“We’ve had a district chairman come out and root on some of the teams,” said Capt. John Agnello, the officer in charge of the 4-64 IO section. “The games are a great way for the Iraqi people to see the Soldiers without all their battle rattle, without their weapons, playing a game that they can compete in. It shows that we are just like them; we like to compete in sporting events, and we like to win.”

The Fairport, N.Y. native continued, “We are going to play hard and we expect the same from the other teams we play. But regardless of what happens during the game, as soon as the whistle blows we are going to shake the other teams’ hands and thank them for giving us a tough game, win or lose.” 

Soldiers partner with Iraqis to rebuild civilian infrastructure

Pfc. Dan Balda

4th BCT PAO

Along with providing for a safe and secure Iraq, one of the most important functions of the Army is to rebuild the civilian infrastructure.

One of the ways this is accomplished is to rebuild and maintain the water pumping stations in the area, most of which are more than 40 years old.

One project in Saydiyah, is a perfect representation of the marriage between American Dollars and Iraqi ingenuity.

The projects are not chosen at random, rather, there is a long and involving process to make sure the money is spent wisely on projects that are going to benefit the most people, said Capt. Stacey Purifoy, Infrastructure Coordination Element (Water), Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Brigade Troops Battalion.

The project is routed through the Amanat, which is like a city hall. Once the project is chosen the Army is asked to fund the project. The ICE puts out a bid on the project and wait for the contractors to respond.

"We make sure the contractors are skilled at their given job before they are allowed to bid on the project," Purifoy, a native of Louisville, Ky., said "Each contractor has worked with the Army before the (3rd Infantry Division) got to Baghdad, so we know the quality of the work we are getting."

Mohamed Hassan, the head engineer



Pfc. Dan Balda

One of the pumps at a water station in Saydiyah. Most of the stations are in need of repair because the stations themselves are more than 40 years old.

for the Saydiyah water pump station, has been working with various Army units for 18 months to bring clean water to the neighborhood. He has enjoyed working with the Americans so far for a couple of reasons. One of the reasons is because he knows that they want to help rebuild the infrastructure.

"I like that they use Iraqis to build the projects," Hassan said. "It makes us happy to work to rebuild Iraq."

The other reason he enjoys working with the Multi-National Forces is

because, much like the Soldiers stationed here, he would rather be out of his office working in the field.

Besides the oppressive heat and other detrimental factors such as an attack by a car bomber, Tamathir Abid Mohamed, the manager of the project takes joy in her job because she brings a necessity to the people of the neighborhood.

"The people were very happy when we fixed the station because water is very important and they need it all the time," Mohamed said. 

1SG and father: Family serves together in Baghdad

Pfc. Dan Balda

4th BCT PAO

A younger Chris Cartwright and his older brother John Cartwright Jr. are racing around on a tank with their father, John Cartwright, during his National Guard unit's weekend drill. They are having the time of their life, but oblivious to the impression this ride will make on their lives down the road.

Fast forward twenty-odd years, and the boys, like their father, are serving in Troop F, 2nd Battalion, 278th Regimental Combat Team, Army Reserve, deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. They still ride on tanks with their father, with one caveat, despite the fact that both boys have grown up to be noncommissioned officers, Chris a sergeant, Junior a corporal; dad is their first sergeant.

Both sons enjoy working with their father despite the good natured ribbing they receive for being the first sergeant's kids.

Junior is stationed in a different area because the unit does not want all the family members serving in the same area for security reasons. But that doesn't mean he is exempt from the teasing.

"We catch heat all the time for being the first sergeant's kids, even though I am hundreds of miles away," Junior said. "It hasn't really affected me at all. I just work hard, and I know I've done my job."

The family is used to working with each other. Their father owns a construction and contracting business in their hometown of Bristol, Tenn. He employs Chris and works with Junior whenever the job permits. "They've been working with me since they were boys," John said. Chris enjoys working for his father saying, "It helps bring us closer together."

Talking to all three men, it is easy to picture them at a job site, sharing a cup of coffee and a joke. They tease each other with the reckless abandon only family members can know.

The jokes cease when dad dispenses the wisdom gained over a lifetime of service to his country.

John has been in the Army for 35 years, and at 25 years, is the longest serving member of the troop. He sees his whole troop as family.

Continued next page

Tales from the Crib

Stars and Stripes seeks makeover candidates

Maria Luisa Hernandez

Stars and Stripes, Central Office

Washington DC – Stars and Stripes, the daily newspaper of the U.S. military, will launch its “Tales from the Crib” promotion on July 22, designed to solicit entries for an “electronic makeover” contest for the barracks and living quarters of gamers and others enamored of high-end techno-gadgets.

This event, running online at www.Stripes.com, requires servicemembers to submit a photo of their barracks, living quarters, tents, etc., that are in need of a tech or gaming facelift, along with a brief written description of why their entertainment options have been limited and are in need of a boost. The electronic or gaming makeover winner(s) will receive prize packages from many of the best known brands, including Novalogic, Gamer Graffix, Nintendo, NC Soft, Activision, Mad Catz, and many others. For details on how to win and more about prizes being offered, visit www.Stripes.com.

This promotion coincides with publication of Stars and Stripes’

upcoming special supplement, Gamer’s Guide to the Galaxy of Cool Electronic Stuff, scheduled to hit ground August 27th in the Middle East, Europe and Pacific theaters.

The Gamer’s Guide will include reviews of current and previews of the upcoming in the most popular games department, as well as a look at the console wars heating up between the Big 3: Microsoft X-Box, Sony PlayStation, and Nintendo Revolution. Stars and Stripes will also take a look at the increasing popularity of online and mobile gaming – perfect for those who find themselves in “mobile situations.” The Gamer’s Guide will provide tips, tricks and trivia throughout and also take a behind-the-scenes gander at the gaming industry’s biggest event: the 2005 E3 Expo, which is not open to the general public.

The “Tales from the Crib” promotion and the Gamer’s Guide are sure to be a hit with Stripes readers—especially with the elite gamer segment, where interest in the multi-billion dollar gaming industry runs high. As a spectator, fan, or hardcore gamer, Stars and Stripes is a must-read feature for our entertainment-loving troops. 

Going the distance ...



Joe Nemechek's 01 Army Chevrolet leads Ricky Rudd's Motorcraft Genuine Parts / U.S. Air Force Ford through Pocono Raceway's turn three during Sunday's Pennsylvania 500. Rudd finished 10th, while Nemechek struggled to a 22nd-place finish.

Maj. William Thurmond

Continued from previous page

“We’ve always wanted to be deployed together,” John said. He feels that the unit cohesion goes a long way in making the time go by faster. “The whole unit feels like a family, so having my boys here is just an extension of that.”

John’s wife is a little worried about them all being deployed together, but as he says, “There is not

much she can do about it.”

This is the longest Junior has been away from his father and brother.

“It’s weird being stationed away from them and wondering what they are doing how they are handling everything,” Junior said. “They are always wondering what I’m doing. We have instant messenger so that helps a little bit.”

The brothers don’t worry about being in danger so much but their father is a little worried about his boys.

“It’s a lot harder on me, being a first sergeant and a father, than it is on them,” John said. “I haven’t run into it yet, but it could be hard sending my boys out on a dangerous mission.” 

Wheelchair donations keeps Iraqis rolling along

Capt. Raymond Hill

1-184 Inf. Bn. PAO

A patrol from 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment made the trip to a small village located in a palm grove in the Al Rasheed district July 10.

Their mission was to take two wheelchairs to a local Iraqi man named Alaa who lives in the palm grove village. As the patrol neared the village, children began to follow the Humvees. When we stopped and got out, the children were standing a few feet away from the vehicles and came up to the vehicles saying, "peensol meesta, peensol, chocolaty meesta chocolaty."

They were asking for candy, pencils and other goodies that soldiers normally hand out. Of course, they received candy from the soldiers in the Humvees.

As Command Sgt. Major Edgardo Coronado, 1-184 Inf. Bn. senior noncommissioned officer, and native of Santa Maria, Calif., two interpreters, and a group of Soldiers walked into the village, Alaa and the residents came out to greet them. Alaa came over to where they were standing, climbed up on a mud bench and sat down to talk with Coronado.

The Soldiers talked to Alaa and the others to find out how they were doing. After a few minutes, Coronado told Alaa that he had brought some gifts for him and the village. As wheelchairs were pulled from the Humvee, the smile Alaa always has on his face grew even larger.

Alaa was helped into the wheelchair and shown how to use

it. Through the interpreter, he thanked us and expressed his gratefulness for the increased mobility the wheelchairs would give him and the other disabled residents of the village.

The smile on Alaa's face hides the pain he suffers in his shoulders from the weight they carry, and in his hands from the increased calluses that you would normally find on a man's feet.

Alaa who is now 36 years old, tragically lost both of his legs at the age of 10 in a vehicle accident. Despite his disability, he leads a very productive life as a husband, father and farmer. He refuses to let this little "inconvenience" slow him or keep him from doing his part in the village. He walks around on his hands in a way that reminds you of R2D2 from Star Wars, and he even drives a tractor that has been specially modified for hand operation.

Alaa is married and has four children, three girls and one boy and members of a small village with an additional seven men, along with their wives and children. There are about 50 people living in a building complex about the size of an average California family home.

While two of the men work outside the village to support the entire extended family, everyone else in the village, including Alaa, farms the land that they live on. The owner of the land pays Alaa and the others in the village a total of \$70 per month, plus lodging for their labor. To complicate matters more than 20 of the residents are women under 18 years of age.

Despite all the hardships Alaa and his entire extended family have endured, they move on with their lives, thankful for the generosity of Iraqis and American soldiers alike. 



Staff Sgt. Ron Eberhardt

Iraqi medics peruse medical supplies to see what they need.

Night Stalker gives Iraqi Army medics "tools of the trade"

Staff Sgt. Ron Eberhardt

1-184 Inf. S7 NCO

The Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment gave much needed medical supplies to medics from the Iraqi Army July 17.

The medical supplies included numerous items ranging from over-the-counter medicines to trauma bags which held items such as dressings, tourniquets and intravenous lines.

The faces of the IA Soldiers lit up as they followed the 1-184 Inf. Soldiers led by Sgt. Michael J. Helton, a medic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-184 Inf. Bn., and native of Riverbank, Calif., from location to location where they were

handed different medical supplies.

Helton led this medical treasure hunt and said that he hopes this is the beginning of a long term relationship between the medics of each battalion. He looks forward to each opportunity to help out the IA medics.

The IA has repeatedly fought off disease and have had Soldiers injured during insurgent attacks. With out the proper medical equipment it becomes harder each day to help the injured and sick living in the camp.

According to the IA Lieutenant in charge of the detail of six medical Soldiers, the supplies will be used by the unit and what they don't use will be taken to local medical clinics in the surrounding area. 

Tip leads ISF to a large cache, 4 insurgents killed

Iraqi Security Forces found a large weapons cache on a farm in the Horajeb area of the Al Rasheed district July 24. Iraqi forces from the 4th Public Order Brigade teamed up with 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment Soldiers and were acting on a tip about a weapons cache that had been reported by a local child.

While traveling to the site, the ISF unit was attacked by four insurgents firing from a house near the farm.

A firefight ensued between the POB forces and four insurgents were eventually killed. The coalition forces were supporting the Soldiers from the POB. The cache included IED materials (timers, wire, demo, fuses), 60 millimeter mortar rounds, rocket propelled grenades with multiple warheads, and grenades. 



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HARPSHOOTERS

Photos from around the brigade by the Soldiers of 4th BCT



Courtesy photos

Cpl. Timothy Parsons, a member of F Troop, 2nd Battalion, 278th Regimental Combat team, Watauga, Tenn., keeps a watchful eye during EODT Escort mission.



Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment drop off water and food for Baghdad residents June 24 after four VBIEDs detonated on the Karadah Peninsula the previous day.



Sgt. Terrance Johnson Hinesville, Ga., and Spc. Robert Johnson Hendersonville, N.C., man an M1A1 at Checkpoint 1.



Capt. Steve Wood, A Company, 4-64 Armor commander, presents a doll to a child during a Toy drop that his company conducted.