



**DESERT**  **BULLS**

**OPERATION  
IRAQI  
FREEDOM  
06-08**

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A TRIBUTE TO THE  
**SACRIFICE, SERVICE  
& SUCCESS**  
OF THE  
**1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM,  
34TH INFANTRY DIVISION**





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1. Lt. Gen. Russell L. Honore, CG, 1st U.S. Army, Col. David Elicerio, Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty and Minnesota National Guard Adjutant Gen. Larry Shellito are escorted onto the parade field in a humvee during the BCT's deployment ceremony at Camp Shelby, Miss., March 17, 2006.

2. Gov. Iziz Khadim Alwan of Dhi Qar province (left), Lt. Col. Larry Herke and Al Batha Mayor Ali Al-Shershab place a keystone to commemorate the ongoing civil projects to improve the water network in the Al Batha community.

3. Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 10th Division, Iraq army, march in a ceremony celebrating the handover of Dhi Qar province from Coalition Forces to Iraqi authorities.

4. 1/34 BCT Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Julin unfurls the BCT's colors May 6, 2006, before a combat patch ceremony at the Ziggurat of Ur.



8.

5. 1/34 BCT Soldiers oversee local workers employed by the BCT's road sanitation project to protect Coalition Forces from roadside bombs and improve safety for local travelers.

6. 1/34 BCT Commander, Col. David Elicerio is given a demonstration of water purification standards by local officials during the brigade's first water purification plant opening May 31, 2006.

7. The 1/34 BCT Command Staff officers and non-commissioned officers.

8. 1/34 BCT Civil Military Operations Officer Maj. Jake Kulzer briefs Australian Army Civil Military Cooperation Officers Maj. Bushby and Harley Feb. 18, 2007 on the brigades progress in the city of Al Batha, Iraq.

9. The 1/34 BCT battalion commanders and brigade commander in front of the Ziggurat of Ur near Camp Adder, Iraq. From Left to right, Lt. Col. Gregg Parks, Lt. Col. Benjamin Corell, Lt. Col Brian Olson, Lt. Col. William Lieder, Col. David Elicerio, Lt. Col. John Kolb, Lt. Col Martin Apprich, Lt. Col. John Burk and Lt. Col. Allen Kiefer.



9.

**The 1/34 Brigade Combat Team**

Col. David Elicerio  
Command Sgt. Major Doug Julin

**Desert Bulls Staff:**

Capt. Mark Lappegaard, public affairs officer  
Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, managing editor  
Sgt. Kent Westberg, broadcast journalist  
Spc. Dustin Perry, assistant editor  
Spc. Brian D. Jesness, production editor

**Desert Bulls  
Tour End  
Issue #40**

On the cover:  
A collection  
of images  
documenting the  
experiences of the  
1/34 BCT's 16  
month tour in Iraq.

This newsletter is in compliance with the provisions of AR 360-1. Any photo or story submissions should be forwarded to Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood at clinton.wood@us.army.mil

**Desert Bulls  
Issue #39 correction**

Soldiers of C Co. 2-136 will now fall in with 2-136 HHC, and B Co. for the 30-60-90 day reintegration events.

**30**

Minn. State University-  
Moorhead  
Sept. 29

**60**

Minn. State University-  
Moorhead  
Oct. 27

**90**

Camp Ripley  
Dec. 14 - 16  
(MUTA 6 pay)

1. Maj. Wade Bastian of Task Force BEARCAT patrols with an Iraqi Soldier near Rawah.

2. Spc. Cameron Hanson of Task Force BEARCAT saws through an iron support beam to be welded into framework for armored vehicles.

3. A Task Force BEARCAT Soldier greets local children during a patrol.

4. Spc. Brian Pfeiler, a Task Force IRON gunner, displays his weapon after a large sandstorm.

5. Sgt. Dennis Joedy, Task Force IRON, in his truck commander seat with photos of his family attached to the dashboard of his Humvee.

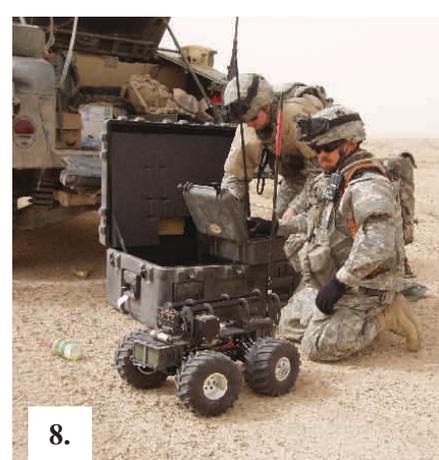
6. A Task Force BEARCAT medic treats the injured foot of a young boy.

7. A snowman built by Sgt. William Wohlers sits on a Humvee after a snowfall in December at Camp Korean Village in western Iraq.

8. Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Olson of the Task Force BEARCAT Explosive Ordnance Disposal team dispatches his equipment.

9. Spc. Lucas Schmitz of Task Force BEARCAT scans his sector of desert on guard duty.







Sgt. Brent W. Koch, Age:22  
E Co., 2-136th Combined arms Battalion,  
1-34 Brigade Troops Battalion  
Hometown: Franklin, Minnesota  
October 7, 1983 – June 16, 2006



Staff Sgt. Jeffrey J.  
HHT, 1-167th Ca  
Hometown: Ca  
July 12, 1975 – A

Spc. Benjamin J. Slaven, Age:22  
308th Transportation Company,  
7th Transportation Battalion  
Hometown: Plymouth, Nebraska  
March 20, 1984 – June 9, 2006



Spc. Kyle R. Miller, Age:19  
HHB, 1-125th Field Artillery  
Hometown: Willmar, Minnesota  
October 15, 1986 – June 29, 2006



Staff Sgt. Greg N.  
A Co., 2-136th Comb  
Hometown: Fra  
June 12, 1978 –



Sgt. Bryan T. McDonough, Age: 22  
B Co., 2-136th Combined Arms Battalion  
Hometown: Maplewood, Minnesota  
July 31, 1984 – December 2, 2006

Sgt. Corey J. Rystad, Age: 20  
B Co., 2-136th Combined Arms Battalion  
Hometown: Red Lake Falls, Minnesota  
December 31, 1985 – December 2, 2006

Sgt. 1st Class Scott E. Nisely, Age: 48  
C Co., 1-133rd Infantry Battalion  
Hometown: Marshalltown, Iowa  
July 5, 1958 – September 30, 2006



Sgt. Maj. Michael C. Mettelle, Age: 44  
A Co., 134th Brigade Support Battalion  
Hometown: St. Paul, Minnesota  
July 3, 1962 – February 1, 2007



Sgt. 1st Class David R. Berry, Age: 37  
A Btry., 1-125th Field Artillery  
Hometown: Wichita, Kansas  
March 12, 1969 – February 22, 2007

Spc. Carla J. Stewart, Age: 37  
250th Transportation Company,  
7th Transportation Battalion  
Hometown: Glendale, California  
Nov. 29, 1969 – January 28, 2007



# HONORING THE FALL 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT, 34

Hansen, Age: 31  
Cavalry Regiment  
Nebraska  
August 27, 2006



Staff Sgt. Joshua R. Hanson, Age: 27  
A Co., 2-136th Combined Arms Battalion  
Hometown: Dent, Minnesota  
August 22, 1979 – August 30, 2006

Sgt. Germaine L. Debro, Age: 33  
B Troop, 1-167th Cavalry Regiment  
Hometown: Omaha, Nebraska  
February 9, 1973 – September 4, 2006



Spc. Kampha B. Sourivong, Age: 20  
C Co., 1-133rd Infantry Battalion  
Hometown: Iowa City, Iowa  
March 21, 1986 – September 30, 2006



Staff Sgt. Thomas W. Clemons, Age: 37  
2-123rd Field Artillery,  
1-34th Brigade Troops Battalion  
Hometown: Leitchfield, Kentucky  
May 19, 1969 – December 11, 2006



Sgt. Nicholas D. Turcotte, Age: 23  
A Co. 2-135th Infantry,  
1-34 Brigade Troops Battalion  
Hometown: Maple Grove, Minnesota  
February 17, 1983 – December 4, 2006



Sgt. Brandon L. Wallace, Age: 27  
1451st Transportation Company,  
7th Transportation Battalion -  
11th Transportation Battalion  
Hometown: Festus, Missouri  
February 26, 1980 – April 14, 2007

Staff Sgt. James M. Wosika, Jr., Age: 24  
B Co., 2-136th Combined Arms Battalion  
Hometown: St. Paul, Minnesota  
May 4, 1982 – January 9, 2007



Riewer, Age: 28  
Combined Arms Battalion  
Maze, Minnesota  
March 23, 2007



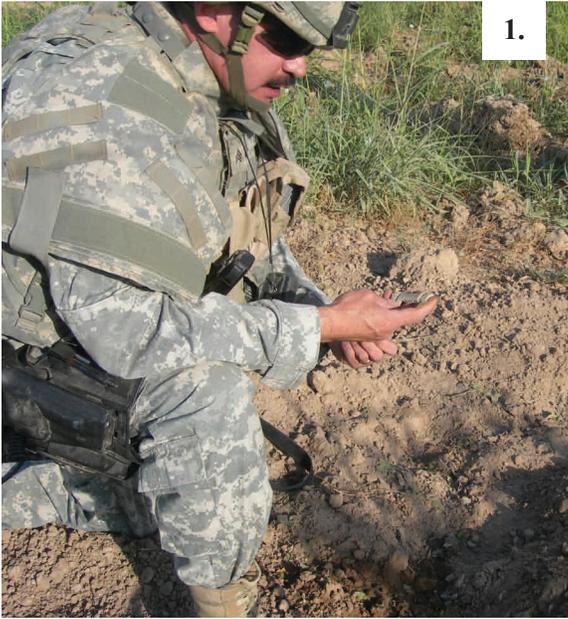
Sgt. Joshua A. Schmit, Age: 26  
1451st Transportation Company,  
7th Transportation Battalion -  
11th Transportation Battalion  
Hometown: Willmar, Minnesota  
September 30, 1980 – April 14, 2007



Staff Sgt. Robert J. Basham, Age: 23  
B Co., 1-161st Field Artillery,  
1-125th Field Artillery  
Hometown: Kenosha, Wisconsin  
May 4, 1984 – April 15, 2007



# LEN SOLDIERS OF THE TH INFANTRY DIVISION





1. Sgt. Charles Hiatt of Task Force SABER studies an impact sight from an enemy mortar round.

2. Spc. William Champ of Task Force SABER, scans his sector on tower guard duty at Camp Anaconda.

3. Staff Sgt. Bradley Lahti of Task Force SABER searches a small irrigations canal for suspicious items near Camp Anaconda.

4. A young Iraqi girl shows her cast to Sgt. Kairo E. Ruffin, a scout for Task Force SABER, on a visit to Ajeelia, Iraq.

5. Spc. Michael Dittmer, Task Force IRON, inspects a semi fuel tank for siphoning hoses or external gas cans at Forward Operating Base Trebil, Iraq.

6. Sgt. Justin Dominguez (left), and Staff Sgt. Robert Basham of Task Force THUNDER pause while preparing for a joint patrol with Iraqi soldiers.

7. Spc. Sadie Brehmer, Task Force THUNDER, hands out school supplies to local Iraqi children.



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8. Spc. Nhial Ruach solders connections on upgraded headlights on a Humvee in the Task Force THUNDER motor pool at Camp Scania.

1. Spc. Christina Massena inserts a nasal airway device for Pfc. John Zagrzebski as Sgt. Anthony Mayne watches during a demonstration for Task Force WILD's Combat Life Saver class at Camp Adder.

2. Spc. Myunggil Lee of Task Force WILD, provides security on the highway south of Camp Adder.

3. The Iraqi Highway Patrol takes the lead while working with Task Force WOLVERINE Soldiers.

4. Spc. Angela Minnich of Task Force WOLVERINE hands out school supplies from operationiraqchildren.org to girls at a school in Al Batha.

5. Staff Sgt. Jennifer Yurczyk of Task Force WOLVERINE hands out school supplies to children at a school near Al Batha.

6. The Iraqi Highway Patrol takes the lead while working with Task Force WOLVERINE Soldiers.

7. Engineer Talib Harigeh, (left) Engineer Reishan Shanwah Juwaid, City Councilman and Sheik Mohammed Al Tayeh, and Capt. Andrew Peterson break ground on Task Force WOLVERINE's agriculture project.

8. Pfc. Luke Miller of Task Force WILD prepares for a convoy mission.



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