

Local Color

Blood Drive-The Red Cross is planning on being at M-AC on Thursday, Feb 28.

The times scheduled to give blood are 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. **Plays**-"Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe"/March 1-3/ Warren Wilson / Call 298-3325

"Oresteia"/February 22-24/Theatre UNCA/253-5778

"The Winter's Tale"/UNCA/February 27/251-6411

"Tarot: House of Cards"/Jubilee/March 1-2/252-9661

Lecture-"The New Europe: What Role for the United States"-Presented by Dr. Walter Boland, chairman of the Department of Sociology at UNC-Asheville. This is scheduled at Highland Farms, Tuesday, Feb. 26.

World Day of Prayer-Friday, March 1, will be the prayer day for the United Methodist Church. This global service will be led by Lucy Hestir, Church Women United President. This is a chain of prayer, which will join all denominations in prayers for peace. The *Black Mountain News* states that, "This year's service was written by women of Kenya, West Africa."

Gospel Music-A enjoyable program of gospel music will be presented Feb. 28 by Heaven Bound at the Swannanoa Church of God at 7:30. Heaven Bound, a quartet, has appeared in various churches, prisons, and Carnegie Hall (3 times). Call 686-3538 for more info.

Ground Campaign Begins

By: Susan Long
Staff Writer

It looks as though the big question of whether Saddam will retreat from Kuwait has been answered with a firm *no*. As the minutes ticked by, the time for Saddam's response grew closer. February 23, 1991, by 12:00 EST Saddam's deadline had passed while his troops remained in Kuwaiti territory. Yet, while Washington awaited Iraqi response and the Soviet Union continued to listen for any answer to their suggested pullout, war continued.

It is evident that Saddam is stirring, yet it is estimated that 50% of Saddam's army has already been wiped out thus far. Troops that have been either captured or have surrendered appear hungry, tired, and weak. The statistics speak for themselves. The US has 8 POW's held by Iraq, while Allied forces hold Iraqi POW's numbering into the thousands. Now, for the first time since the combat began, the Iraqi leader has been forced to utter a word toward negotiations. Baghdad said that it will now begin drafting 17-year olds who might otherwise still be attending school.

On February 11, 1991, allies stepped up the air assault on Iraq's elite Republican Guard and other ground forces occupied in the Kuwait theatre. "There's more stuff up there (in the air) than I'll see in 20 lifetimes," said an

Air Force pilot. "Targets everywhere. It's like an amusement park, except they're shooting back at you." Even now the air raids continue in high numbers with an estimated 2,900 air missions every 24 hours for allied forces.

The Russian government tried to begin negotiations by offering Saddam this deal: For Iraq to agree to all UN resolutions and by offering Saddam a personal exemption from war crimes charges, or other penalties. Bush received a cable explaining the Iraq and Russian dealings. He expressed appreciation, yet continued his much guarded consent of war proceedings. Bush wants Saddam to withdraw from Kuwait immediately, and leave behind all significant weapons. The US President's discontent could cause a drastic break in allied forces, as Bush already struggles to keep SCUD targeted Israel from waging a counter-attack. Israel's defense minister, Moshe Arens, in a hastily arranged one day visit to Washington, told President Bush that Israel was suffering heavy destruction and the country's restraint was wearing thin. In his visit he warned Bush of possible Israeli retaliation and attempted to press Bush on dealing favorably with Israel's financial needs.

Now both forces are deeply involved in a ground war. With the Coalition Forces moving with tens of

thousands of men, thousands of tanks, mobile artillery pieces, rocket launchers, and a continued air assault, surely Saddam is considering a withdrawal. The Iraqi people are tired. They may not be able to continue much longer, yet the decision remains in the hands of Saddam Hussein, will he pull out? Will he stay? Will he survive? The world watches while the actors play.

(Information compiled from The Washington Post, U.S. News And World Report, and The Charlotte Observer)

Night Light

"Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! My God has sent his angel, and he has shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king."

--Daniel 6:20-21

Quotables

I love California.

I grew up in Phoenix.

Dan Quayle, when asked about his role in carrying California for the GOP in 1992.

--Collected From
Newsweek