



Breaking through the bubble

U.S. troops face turmoil from al Qaeda fighters in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan – The United States' top commander in Afghanistan has confirmed reports that Taliban fighters have been returning to the country from Pakistan.

According to CNN reports, the al Qaeda-trained fighters have been trying to regroup and regain control of Afghanistan for nine months. They were removed from power in 2001 by a U.S.-led coalition. Pakistan has been accused of harboring the exiled militants and allowing them to organize.

U.S., Afghanistan and coalition forces have been fighting as many as 1,000 Taliban fighters in the province of Zabol in what CNN describes as the most vicious fighting in more than a year.

Afghanistan officials said they foiled a Taliban attack on the Pakistan border hours before U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Kabul.

The increased violence in Afghanistan and Iraq led President George W. Bush to seek an addition \$87 billion to continue to battle terrorism in the Middle East.

3 and out: Florida high schoolers no longer need four years to ear diploma

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. – Thanks to a new law passed by Florida voters, seniors may no longer rule the school. In an effort to cut class sizes, students can earn a high school diploma in three years.

The fast-track graduation law was passed this spring by voters and sets caps for every grade, with no more than 25 students per high school class by 2010, according to CNN.

Students can graduate with six fewer credits as long as they earn four English credits and study a foreign language for two years. They may skip certain electives, such as physical education, art and life management.

Florida is the first state to implement such a program, and critics claim it will make it harder for students to do well in college. These students will also be too young to enroll in the military after graduation, limiting options for some graduates.

Following Columbia disaster, NASA vows to hold itself more accountable

WASHINGTON – According to CNN, NASA has developed a “return to flight” plan for future shuttle missions and is aiming for a return to space by March.

The report shows the steps the organization has taken to comply with suggestions made by the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, which has been studying the crash of the Columbia spaceship after it exploded during re-entry in February.

However, for nine of the 15 recommendations made by the investigation board, NASA has not committed itself to making any definite changes to its existing policies and procedures.

NASA has agreed to a partnership with the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, as well as several others, to provide satellite camera images of the ship as it speeds through space.

An individual advisory group will assess NASA's progress as it implements the investigation board's suggestions. Former astronauts Thomas Stafford and Richard Covey will lead the group.

- Compiled by Ellis Harman -

CAREER CONNECTION: Your link to the Elon Career Center

SENIOR RESUME BLITZ

September 8-12, Elon Career Center, Duke 101

Hurry in - only two days left for you to come by the Career Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to have your resume reviewed. No appointment needed for this week only. First come, first served! *Don't miss it!*

SENIORS, REGISTER for Interview Day - JOB FAIR 2003!

Come by the Career Center at Duke 101 from September 15 - September 19 and submit a resume for each company with whom you wish to interview. Deadline: Friday, September 19 at 5 p.m.

Fall Graduate School Workshop

Tuesday, September 30, 4-5:30 p.m.
Moseley - Room 215

Find out about the Peace Corps!

Come talk to a Peace Corps representative TODAY, Thursday, September 11. The rep will be in Moseley at a table from about 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Need to find an internship or part-time job?

Then email walldebb@elon.edu to get on the careerinfo list-serve. You will receive information on internship and job opportunities - and find out about other activities sponsored by the Career Center.

Looking to earn some extra money babysitting?

The Career Center has a babysitting list that we provide to parents in the community who need babysitters. Just come by Duke 101 and sign up on the list.