

## **WBA Co-Sponsors National Guard Media Day**

The Wisconsin Army National Guard's largest unit, the 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team has received a mobilization order to call up as many as 3,500 soldiers for an active duty mission in Iraq. This will be the largest operational deployment of Wisconsin National Guard forces since World War II. Your WBA teamed up with the Wisconsin Army National Guard to provide a Media Day "Boot Camp" for Broadcast Journalists which was held on Wednesday, December 10 at the Wisconsin National Guard state headquarters in Madison. The event was presented by the Wisconsin Army National Guard, including Lt. Colonel Tim Donovan, Director, Public Affairs, for the Wisconsin National Guard. Attendees were also able to hear from the commander of the Wisconsin Army National Guard, Brig. General Mark Anderson, as well as 32nd Brigade Combat Team Commander Colonel Steve Bensed. They provided interviews, in addition to covering an overview of the mobilization process, background on Wisconsin National Guard mobilizations in the past (and especially those since 9/11), a timeline for the upcoming 16 months and key events. This was in addition to military terminology reporters will encounter while covering Wisconsin's units and soldiers. Attendees also received up-to-date information on how journalists can be embedded with Wisconsin National Guard units in Iraq. The WBA received rave reviews on the day's events. Everything was on the record. Reporters were free to use any material offered during the day. Many of the attendees called or e-mailed the WBA office to say how much they appreciated such an event being offered to them.