

Dispatch



AIRLIFT

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Vol. 39, No. 30

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, August 4, 2000

Air Force exceeds 2000 recruiting goal

The Air Force said that it is winning its "war on recruiting" by reaching this year's goal with the recent signing of the 34,000th enlistment contract in Mt. Vernon, Ill.

With 26,070 new airmen sent to basic training since the beginning of the fiscal year, the Air Force has enough contracts with new recruits to enter basic training by Sept. 30 to meet its annual goal.

"Locally we've come up to 100 percent of our recruiting goal," said Master Sgt. Robert Colbourne, Charleston area Air Force recruiting flight chief. "We're a little short on our entry to active duty goal, but we're on track and shouldn't have any problems making it up."

Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters said, "This is a great accomplishment for not only our recruiters, but for the entire United States Air Force. We made recruiting a top priority this year and are pleased to see the initial fruits of our labor. However, we won't let up; we will continue to work hard to reach both our future recruiting and retention goals."

Last year, the Air Force missed its recruiting goal for the first time in 20 years. An increase in the number of recruiters, targeted enlistment bonuses in hard-to-fill areas and months, and a first-ever paid television-advertising campaign contributed to

this year's success.

"There's a great awareness about the Air Force, especially in the Charleston area," Colbourne said. "The new advertising campaigns have helped and we've put more recruiters on the street." In addition to increasing its overall manning, the Air Force deployed 100 recruiters from headquarters and staff positions for 90 days, recalled 170 former recruiters to serve 120 days on temporary duty status and deferred assignments for nearly 100 recruiters. This boosted its number of "on the street" recruiters from fewer than 900 last fall to approximately 1,300 current recruiters.

"Our front-line recruiters and the entire Air Force recruiting team are doing excellent work," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan. "They've responded to the challenge and we are extremely pleased with the quantity and quality of our new recruits. We will continue to make recruiting and retention a top priority."

Even with 34,000 sign-ups in hand, recruiters are still hard at work recruiting additional candidates in anticipation of possible cancellations and to begin filling an expected 34,600 new jobs for next year.

"I think we're at a turnaround stage," Colbourne said. **Recruit**, page 2



White out

Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore, 437th Security Forces Squadron anti-terrorism program manager, puts the finishing touches on Entry Control Point 3. The ECP was moved Aug. 1 as part of a new system to help TDY flightline workers easily identify ECPs and improve flightline security measures.

Senior Airman Jason Smith

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith 437 AW Public Affairs

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Sam Parish, the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, visited Charleston July 26-28.

While visiting the base, Parish presided over an informal ceremony on a C-17 and was the guest speaker at the senior noncommissioned officer induction ceremony.

Both events gave him the opportunity to talk to Charleston's enlisted

Retired CMSAF visits Charleston AFB

members and give them his take on military life.

"This is not the same Air Force I joined," Parish said. "The mission's changed; the uniform's changed. Virtually everything's changed except the titles." "There have been more changes in the past 10 years than there have been in 44, but I think this is the best Air Force in history."

Parish joined the Air Force in December 1954, made his way through

the ranks and was selected as Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force in August 1983.

"As a young NCO, my focus was not on promotion, retraining or retirement," he said. "My focus was on being the best at what I do. If I did that, I knew my supervisors would take care of me."

Parish said it's not the responsibility of supervisors and senior NCOs to try to keep people in the Air Force.

"We need to make things available for airmen to make a conscientious decision about their future," Parish said. "Airmen should take a broad look at what civilian life offers compared to military life because a lot of military members don't realize how good they have it."

"Even with the high operations tempo, life in the Air Force is not a bad way," Parish said. "It allows us to be unbelievably independent and gives us options we wouldn't have see **Chief**, page 2

IN THE NEWS

Citadel sponsor program offers cadets needed rest

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

It's about the toughest experience you can expect anyone to undergo at college, but more than 680 people are going to try this fall when The Citadel welcomes in their largest freshman class in recent years and begins a difficult journey toward their degrees.

To help this large class cope, the Citadel's Cadet Activities Office is looking for families to sponsor cadets in their home a few weekends throughout the school year to give the cadets a welcome relief from the challenging "boot camp" style fourth class system.

The cadets, often separated from their families for the first time, are faced with a regimented lifestyle that affords them very little free time and even fewer luxuries and privileges under the stringent military system, similar to what many airmen faced at basic training. Under the "tough" fourth-class system, freshman cadets are referred to as "knobs," which

refers to their shaven heads that resemble a doorknob.

The program is designed to give out-of-state cadets a "home away from home" since they lack the support structure of their family nearby. Sponsors are matched up with cadets from similar geographic areas or interests/hobbies.

"What most freshman cadets want is just a place to relax, have a stress free meal and someone to listen/talk with them," advises a pamphlet provided to sponsors. Many freshmen might even use the time to get some sleep and do their laundry while at your home, according to school officials.

The first opportunity for cadets to leave the campus and spend time with their sponsor family will be Sept. 2.

The Citadel asked the Air Force for help because they do not have enough sponsor families to accommodate the unusually large freshman class.

"I'm out of sponsor families already and we still have about 50 out-of-state freshman who want to be matched

with a sponsor family," said Mary Ann Dorton, deputy director of Cadet Activities at The Citadel.

The Citadel has extended the deadline for sponsor families to sign up for the program.

About 130 cadets dropped out from last's year incoming freshman class and school officials count on the sponsor program to make life better for those cadets who choose to tough it out.

The school has set times and days, usually on weekends, when freshman can spend some time with their sponsor family. Overnight stays do not occur since most cadets must spend their nights on campus during the first semester.

The freshman start arriving in late August where they are met by the upperclassmen who arrange for intense physical conditioning and military training.

"Military members can identify with what many of these cadets are going through as they have been through similar experiences at the Air Force Academy or



courtesy photo

Citadel freshman, called "knobs", receive intense military training upon their arrival on campus. Cadets have to study a book about the schools traditions and customs since they are often quizzed by upperclassmen on that knowledge.

other military colleges," said Dorton. "It can also be very rewarding to be involved with younger people. It can also be flattering that these young kids will enjoy your company."

The sponsor program also offers a great opportunity to interest them in joining the Air Force.

"Oftentimes, our cadets think that life in the barracks is similar to what life

would be in the military," said Col. Frank Shealy, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps detachment 765 commander at The Citadel. "We like our cadets to see first hand that the Air Force truly is a great way of life."

Families interested in sponsoring a cadet need to complete a form that identifies their hobbies and interests. To enroll in the program, call Dorton at 953-5111.

Chief

continued from page 1

otherwise."

When someone becomes a senior NCO and decides to make the Air Force a career, Parish said it's important for them to remember where they came from.

"If you were abused by your supervisor and didn't like it," he said, "why would your troops like it. I'm not sure

it makes you a better NCO."

Parish said that the environment an airman works in plays a major factor in his or her decision to reenlist.

"I don't believe a majority of people are leaving for money," he said. "Why did I stay? I stayed because I enjoyed what I did and who I worked with."

Parish said supervisors should try and go back to a more personal environment and get away from the corporate way of doing things.

"You can have fun with what you do and still be professional."

Master Sgt. Josephine Miller, 437th Civil Engineering Squadron, said she liked Chief Parish's straight forwardness.

"I agree with him that we need to do away with political correctness just for the sake of being politically correct," she said. "As supervisors and as people, we need to start thinking outside the box."



Retired CMSAF Sam Parish greets Charleston enlisted members onboard a C-17 during his recent visit. The Chief spoke about current enlisted issues.

Recruit

continued from page 1

said. "We looked at our problems, made some changes and did some tweaking, so we feel very good about the next year."

Col. Duane Deal, Air Force Recruiting Service commander said there isn't room to get complacent though.

"We really don't yet have the time to stop and celebrate," said Deal.

"This is an indicator of how hard our recruiters are working, but we still have a daunting challenge ahead of us."

Recruits cite the opportunity to further their education as the top reason for joining the Air Force, according to a recent survey. All new recruits are automatically enrolled in the Community College of the Air Force; the only accredited junior college among the armed services. (AFPN)

Use GI Mail 2000 when deployed

Air Mobility Command offers GI Mail 2000 for command members who are deployed to forward locations and using government network access.

According to AMC officials, members should use GI Mail 2000 instead of commercial internet mail systems such as Hotmail and Yahoo Mail. Commercial services should only be used through a commercial service provider because they do not protect sensitive government e-mail traffic. Also, commercial service's extensive advertising negatively affects bandwidth, which limits the ability to communicate.

Access to commercial internet mail service is restricted or blocked in many Areas of Responsibility outside of AMC to reduce network vulnerabilities.

"The Network Operations and Security Center at AMC continues to improve GI Mail 2000," said Capt. Tim Stacey, an official with the NOS Center. "One of the latest improvements allows people access to their GI Mail 2000 account from any commercial network, as well military networks. We are committed to providing a morale e-mail service that meets the needs of our worldwide customers and does not open up network vulnerabilities."

For more information, call Stacey at DSN 576-7222 or e-mail at timothy.stacey@scott.af.mil. (Compiled by Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe)

Charleston civilian to represent AMC for Wright Brothers Trophy

By Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe
437 AW Public Affairs

Jack Ruff, a training monitor for the 437th Maintenance Flight, has been selected as Air Mobility Command's nominee for the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy.

The award, established by the National Aeronautic Association, is given annually to civilian government employee (federal, state or local) for significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States.

In a written message, AMC commander Gen. Charles T. Robertson, Jr., states, "Mr. Ruff's hard work, ingenuity and inspiring accomplishments epitomize the traits and character embodied in the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy. I wish him the very best in further competition at the NAA."

"I'm very surprised because I didn't know this was coming," said Ruff, who is also a master sergeant in the 315th Airlift Wing (Reserve). "But I didn't do this alone. It was a team effort. We all do this together. I'm thankful for everyone who helped along the way."

Ruff is responsible for scheduling, administering, implementing and evaluating training for 178 assigned active duty military, Reserve and civilian technicians. He ensured train-

ing was completed and properly documented on schedule, ensuring availability of a fully qualified work force to perform the mission.

Ruff received an "excellent" rating during a staff assistance inspection conducted by 21st Air Force. He was publicly praised for efficient methods and innovative ideas, according to his nomination package.

Ruff also developed a plan to keep technicians dual-qualified on several mission-critical C-17 and C-141 aircraft maintenance tasks, including engine run, towing and jacking. He realized the potential benefits of having multi-airframe qualifications. His plan increased the availability of qualified maintenance technicians by 50 percent.

Ruff established a rotational training program to ensure maintenance flight personnel stay proficient on all heavy-maintenance and backshop tasks. The plan rotated personnel between Aero Repair, Wheel and Tire, and Inspections sections. His efforts resulted in an increased knowledge base, increased production efficiency and eliminated the "not my job" syndrome, according to his nomination package.

Heading the call of the squadron commander to fix a training problem, Ruff coordinated a down day for training wheel and tire shop members. The training covered technical data,

Air Force instructions and safety standards. Ruff's efforts resulted in a 95 percent pass rate on all Wheel and Tire shop quality assurance assessments.

The availability of a fully qualified work force enabled the maintenance flight to accomplish more than 120 C-17 aircraft home-station check inspections per year, averaging 2.9 days per inspection, which exceeds AMC standards. The flight also accomplished 12 C-141 aircraft isochronal inspections, averaging 14 days per inspection, also surpassing AMC standards.

The quality training coordinated by Ruff helped the Wheel and Tire section inspect, repair and build up more than 1,500 C-17 and C-141 tires last year in support of home-station and overseas requirements.

Finally, Ruff facilitated aircraft crash recovery training ensuring a qualified response team for all contingencies. Ultimately, a top-notch training program enabled the maintenance flight to provide quality aircraft to their customers, the C-17 and C-141 aircrews.

Ruff is also dedicated to the morale and welfare of his co-workers in the maintenance flight, his nomination package states. He routinely volunteers to conduct hail and farewell ceremonies in the flight. He also requisitions and prepares awards, plaques and gifts. He is a member of

the 437th Maintenance Squadron Fundraising Committee and helped raise more than \$10,000 last year to support the morale and welfare of squadron members.

Ruff is involved in his community. He is an active member of the civic club, where he is block captain for the crime watch committee. As a member of the American Legion, Ruff makes weekly trips to the Veterans Administration Hospital to visit sick and disabled veterans. He also works with his church's youth group as a mentor.

"I think he's a great choice," said Senior Master Sgt. Matthew McMahan, chief of the 437th Maintenance Flight. "It's well deserved. He's a people person who goes the extra mile to do things and enhance morale. He's dedicated and takes the initiative. I never have to ask him to do anything because he's always two steps ahead of me."

The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy is presented annually by agreement on or about Dec. 17, the anniversary of the first successful flight of an airplane. It's given by the president of the National Aeronautic Association at the Aero Club of Washington's Annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet. Past recipients include Charles Lindbergh, Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, and Edwin Colodny.

Base residents encouraged to take precautions

Rabid raccoon found in base housing

A rabid raccoon was recently discovered near Charleston AFB family housing after a military member's dogs killed it. The raccoon's head was submitted to the South Carolina Department of Health, Environmental Center for analysis, which confirmed that the raccoon had rabies.

"Rabies is a viral disease spread between mammals," said Capt. Tracy Middleton, deputy commander of the 437th Public Health Flight. "The rabies virus lives in the saliva and brain tissue of infected animals and the disease is 100 percent fatal. Rabies is spread mainly through bites from infected animals. This means pets, livestock, wildlife and people are all at risk."

As a general rule, rabies in humans results from the bite of a rabid cat, dog, skunk, raccoon, fox, wolf or bat. Cats are the domestic animal most often affected by rabies in the United States. As of July 15, 78 cases of confirmed animal rabies have been reported in South Carolina.

"A change in expected behavior is the most consistent sign of rabies," said Middleton. "There are two forms of rabies: the 'dumb' form and the 'furious' form. In the dumb form, an animal may become shy, hide or be unusually approachable as well as appear to be in a stupor. Most people are familiar with the furious form of rabies when an animal appears excitable, irritable, and aggressive. The animal may seem confused and calm, and then suddenly attack when approached."

Animals with rabies can lose all caution for natural enemies, as was the case with this raccoon.

To protect yourself and your family from rabies, don't feed, handle or approach any wildlife or stray dogs and cats — you never know if they have been properly vaccinated. Teach your children not to approach unfamiliar animals. Do not feed stray pets and keep trash containers covered. Keep pets leashed or confined to your property at all times and make sure they are kept current on their rabies vaccinations.

If an animal bites or scratches you, treating the wound quickly will help prevent rabies as well as secondary bacterial infection. Thoroughly wash the wound with soap and water immediately, and then seek additional medical treatment as soon as possible. A health care provider will assess the rabies risk and decide whether further rabies prevention measures are necessary.

"If a wild animal or a stray dog or cat bites your pet, contact your veterinarian immediately for wound treatment and rabies vaccinations," said Army Capt. Larry Shelton, Charleston AFB veterinarian.

S.C. State law requires that a licensed veterinarian vaccinate every pet cat and dog against rabies. An owner of an unvaccinated cat or dog more than four months old may be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined up to \$100 or imprisoned up to 30 days for each offense. On Charleston AFB, all animals are required to be registered with the base Veterinary Clinic and be current on all vaccinations.

Anyone who sees stray pets or strange acting

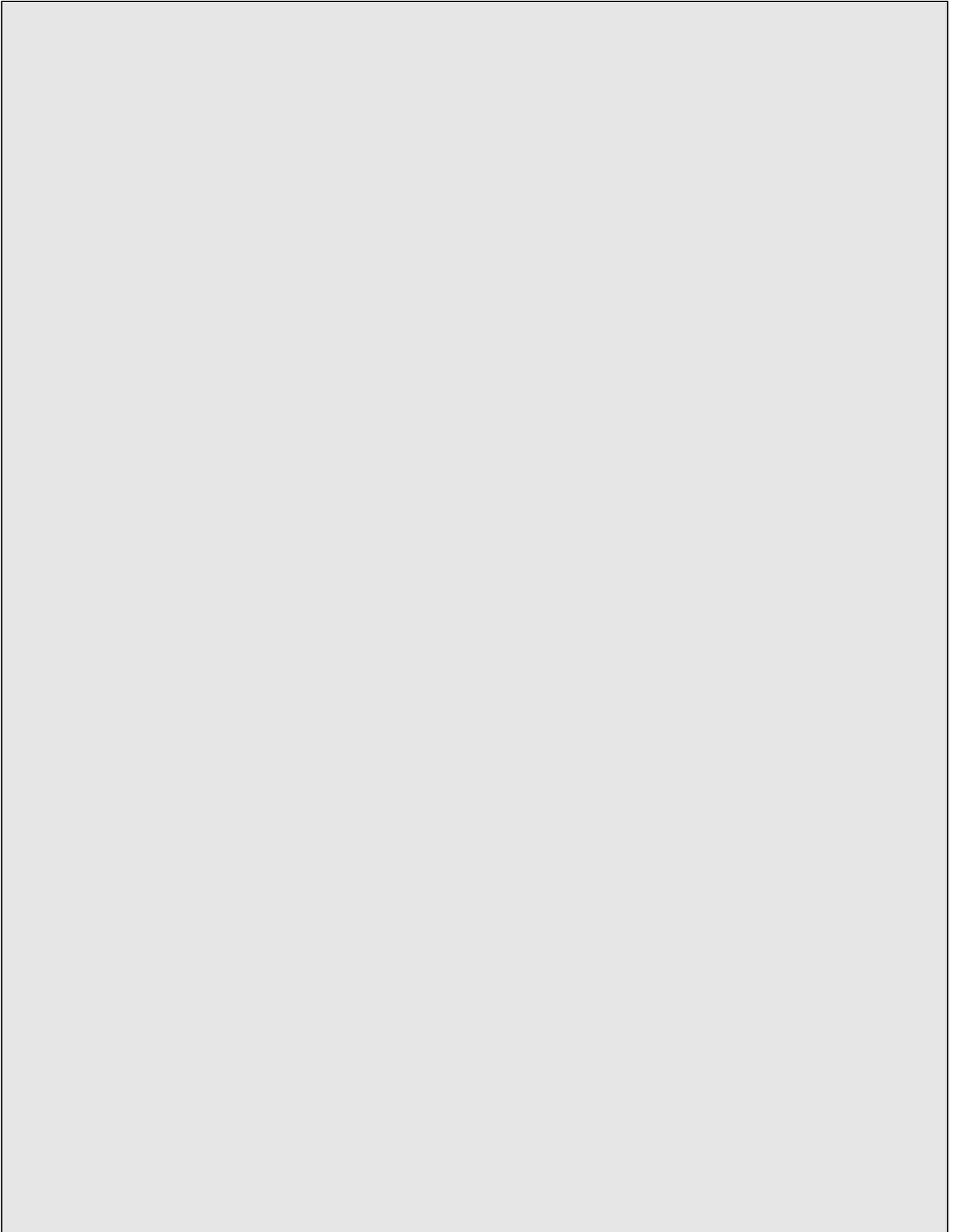
Basic symptoms of rabies

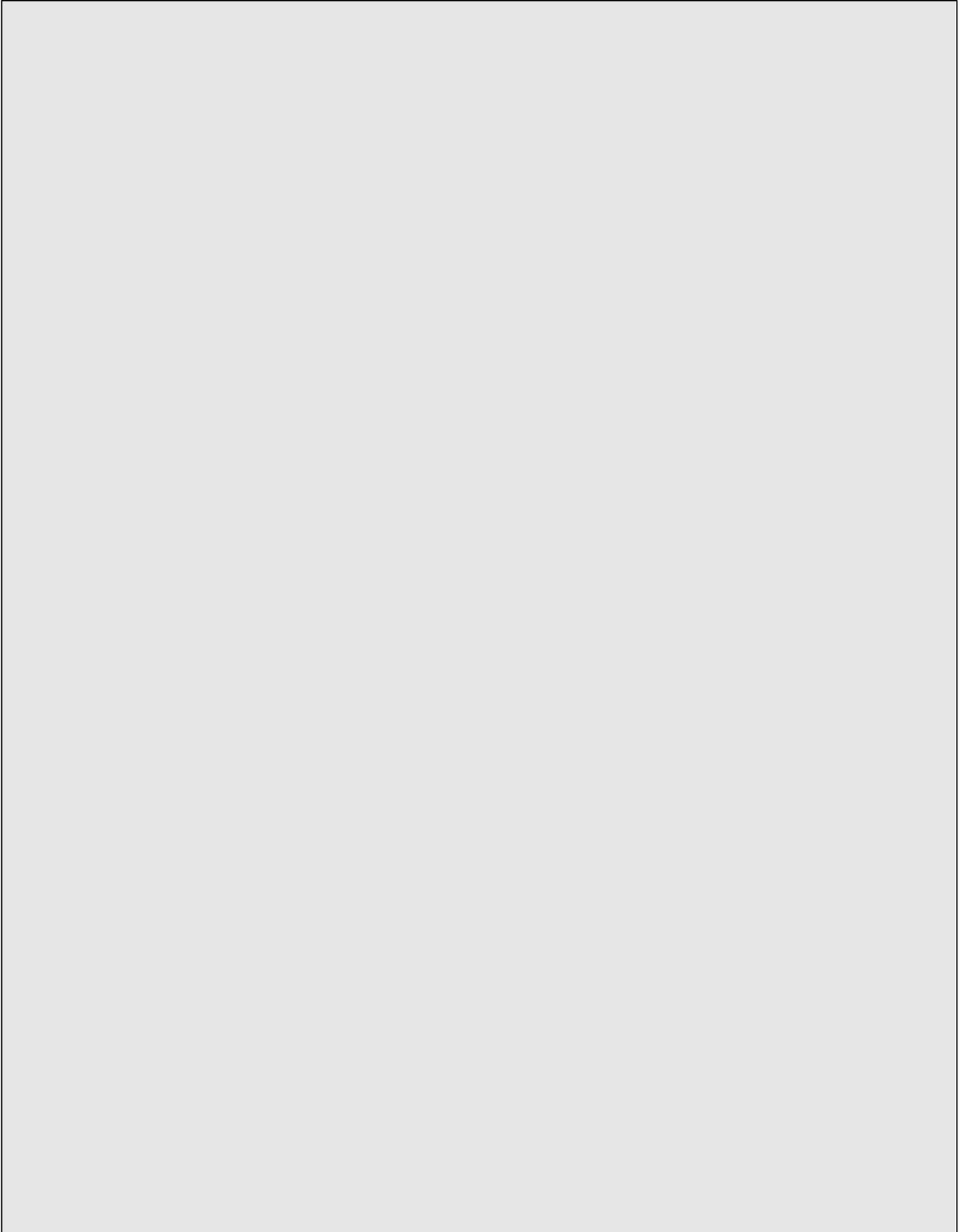


- Daytime activity in animals normally active at night
- Staggering, weakness and paralysis
- A change in the sound of the animal's voice
- An inability to eat or drink
- Convulsions with frothing at the mouth

wild animals on Charleston AFB should call the 437th Security Forces Squadron at 963-3600. For off base reporting, contact your local animal control office.

Questions or concerns regarding rabies can be directed to the base veterinary clinic at 963-4264 or to the Public Health office at 963-6962. (submitted by 437th Public Health Flight)





NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Award selectee: Congratulations to Capt. Charles Nesemeier, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, for being selected as one of the 12 finalists for the Airlift/Tanker Association Young Leadership Award. The award is given to an individual who demonstrates superior leadership, makes outstanding contributions to Airlift/Tanker missions and provides service to their local community.

Around the base

Enlisted Dining-Out: The Enlisted Dining-Out will be held Sept. 16 for all Charleston AFB active and reserve enlisted personnel. Volunteers of all enlisted ranks are welcome to participate in all preparation efforts. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tracy Brewster at 963-6318 or Master Sgt. James Scanlan at 963-2798.

Dining-Out coin design: The Enlisted Dining-Out committee is looking for volunteers to design a commemorative coin. The theme "GI person of the century," pride, professionalism and passion should be incorporated in the design. The deadline for designs is Wednesday. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tonya Harris at 963-6211 or Tech. Sgt. Teresa Ware at 963-3037.

"Operation Frivolous Frivolity": The Company Grade Officer Council will be holding a Combat Dining-In on Aug. 12 at 6 p.m., in Nose Dock 1. The event is open to all 437th and 315th

airlift wing officers. For information, contact 2nd Lt. Zabrina Robinson at 963-4239, or purchase tickets on Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Charleston Club.

Dining hall: The Magnolia Dining Facility will be closed for the mid-night meal on Wednesday, for monthly spraying. The In-flight kitchen will be open for duty personnel. If there are any questions, call 963-3595.

Instructor's positions: The 373 TRS/DET 5 has three instructor positions available in the following AFSCs: 2A452, 2A655 and 2A656. Please contact Master Sgt. Lee Woody at 963-2948 for details.

Committee formation: Parents of Lambs Elementary, Hunley Park Elementary, Morningside Middle School and North Charleston High School students are encouraged to join a new committee which will represent the educational needs of base children. The committee will address issues relating to the schools that support Charleston AFB members. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Terrie Powell at 963-2202.

Chiefs' Group: The CAFB Chiefs' Group will be holding a meeting on Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Heritage Trust Credit Union will address the group, and lunch will be provided. All chiefs are encouraged to attend.

Commissioning briefing: There

Commissary tips for fresh food

- Head home immediately after buying frozen foods
- Use all food before the expiration date
- Avoid food in poor or damaged condition
- Stay away from dented cans and ripped boxes
- Make sure frozen foods are frozen solid
- Bring a cooler with ice to get frozen foods home
- Buy meats and frozen foods last, before leaving the commissary

will be an officer commissioning briefing at the base education center on Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. The briefing will provide information about how enlisted personnel can obtain commissions as officers in the Air Force. Call 963-4575 for more information.

City of Chicago College: The City of Chicago College will be holding registration for Term I, Sunday through Sep. 30. Tuition is \$75 per semester hour. Active-duty military members will pay \$56.25 for a three semester-hour course. For more information, call 552-5959 or 963-4575.

Family Fun Fest: Earn ATWIND game pieces during the base picnic today, near the base pool and Davis Drive, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be live music, and games and activities for children and adults. Adult games include a Velcro wall, a bungee run



and much more. There will be a watermelon eating contest at 1 p.m. The cost to enter is \$1, and winners will receive family fun packs. Both active duty and reserve personnel and families are invited to celebrate during this free event. Call 963-3809 for more information.

Jazz performance: A jazz concert will be held at the Charleston Club Aug. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. Charr, a local jazz singer, will be performing with the group Gumbo.

Military night: The Charleston Riverdogs are hosting a military night at Joe Riley Stadium Aug. 15. The game begins at 7:05 p.m. Free tickets are available at the 437th and 315th public affairs offices, or the Outdoor Recreation Center.

Family Support Center

Hearts Apart, Hearts Apart is an on-going program for spouses of deployed service members. The program offers such services as email, morale calls, video phone calls and free oil changes. For information, contact Tech. Sgt. Ken Fisher at 963-5630.

Pre-Deployment briefings, 8 a.m., Monday, Aug. 14, 21 and 28; 4 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 17, 24 and 31.

Educational Opportunities Specialist, 10 a.m., Tuesday.

Building Self-Esteem in Children, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesday. This workshop teaches how to accurately assess your child's level of self-esteem and how to build or reinforce positive qualities.

Stress Management and Interpersonal Communications, 1 p.m., Tuesday.

Job Search Process III and IV, 5:30 to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday.

How to Develop a Spending Plan Workshop, 9 to 11 a.m., Wednesday. **Checkbook Management,** 1 to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday.

TAP three-day Workshop, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Aug. 15-17.

Mini Job Fair, 3 to 5 p.m., Aug. 17. **Troops to Teachers,** 10 to 11 a.m., Aug. 21.

Securing Your Financial Future, 2 to 4 p.m., Aug. 22.

Car Buying Workshop, 1 to 3 p.m., Aug. 23.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

Charleston Profile

Senior Airman Matthew Luetkemeyer 437th Civil Engineer Squadron

Luetkemeyer, a staff sergeant-select, is a driver-operator/crew chief with the base fire department. When responding to emergency calls, he drives firefighting trucks to the scene and ensures water pumps on the truck are in working order.

Luetkemeyer is also one of three fire department volunteers who recently completed three weeks of Emergency Medical Technician training held on base. "Firefighters receive additional certification to improve the quality of the fire department and to have better-trained people on the job," Luetkemeyer explained.

Luetkemeyer is originally from Warrenton, Mo. He joined the Air Force in June 1992. He got out in 1996 and served with both the Reserve and Air National Guard, but found civilian life not as enjoyable as military life.

"I realized what I had in the Air Force that the civilian world doesn't offer, like the benefits," he said. "Benefits like housing make it worth it to me, plus the opportunity to travel.

"My advice to first-term airmen about to separate is to think about what they have in the Air Force before they get out," Luetkemeyer advised.

Luetkemeyer's goals include making rank quickly and to make a career in the Air Force. "I'd like to put more than 20 years in," he said.

Luetkemeyer and his wife, Elizabeth, have a five-year-old son, Wesley.

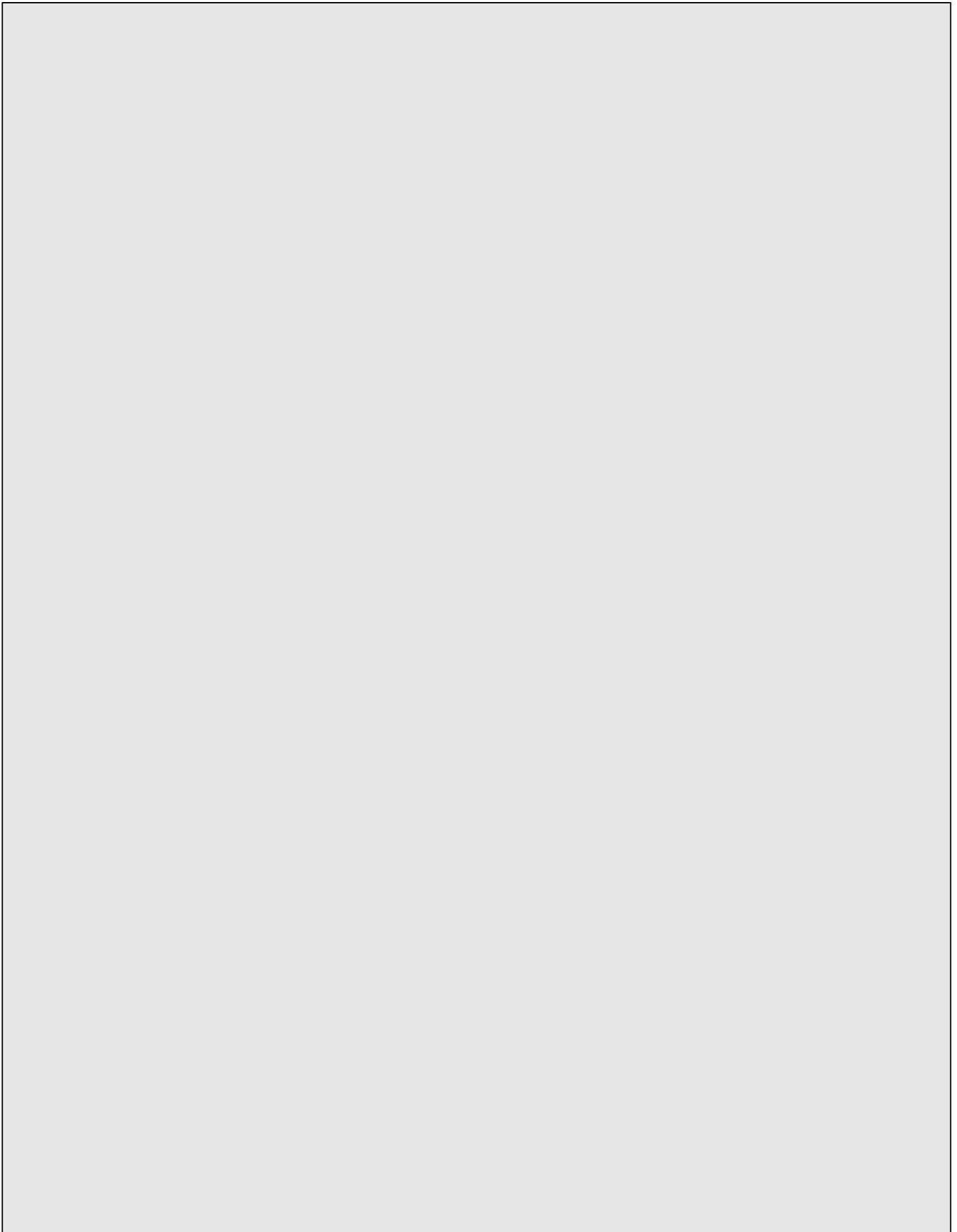
In his spare time, Luetkemeyer enjoys hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation, such as camping and boating.

Luetkemeyer said he likes his work schedule (24 hours on duty, 24 hours off) because it allows him time to spend with his family.

"I really like being a firefighter," he commented. "I like helping people and doing what I can for people."



Staff Sergeant Michael Duhe



COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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Deadlines

The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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Team Charleston continues to impress

By Col. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

A big thanks to the Charleston AFB Top Three Association for a truly first class Senior NCO Induction ceremony July 27 to welcome in our new master sergeants. Our guest speaker for the evening was retired Chief Master Sgt. Sam Parish, the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, who spoke about the qualities that make up a senior NCO. I know that the event carried special significance for the 63 master sergeant inductees, families, friends, co-workers and supervisors.

To plan an event of this caliber is no small feat, thanks to the following committee members for their hard work:

Master Sgt. Josephine Miller, Senior Master Sgt. Terrie Powell, Senior Master Sgt. Mike Freebury, Master Sgt. Larry Brooks, Master Sgt. John Kannegaard, Master Sgt. Peggy Miller, Master Sgt. Tony Helton, Master Sgt. Jeffrey Unger, Master Sgt. Davis Bechtol and Master Sgt. Geoffrey Oliver. It was a great event and everyone had a fun time.

At Monday's standup, it was my honor to present a number of awards. As many of you may know, the Palmetto Cup is awarded to the top three squadrons that improve their squadron on-time participation and accuracy in areas requiring improvement in eight different categories such as evaluations and awards. The award comes with some money taken from my Palmetto account to be used for a quality of life improvement project in the respective winning squadrons. Two squadrons, 437th Maintenance and Comptroller Squadrons, tied for first place

and walked away with \$6,250 each. In third place, we had the 437th Communications Squadron who took home \$2,500.

I was also pleased to present the Air Mobility Command Outstanding Staff Judge Advocate award to Capt. Heather Logan and the AMC Outstanding Civilian Program Specialist to Deirdre Abernathy, a court reporter in the same office. I was also honored to present signed certificates from the Secretary of the Air Force and Air Force Chief of Staff for a commendation for outstanding civilian service to Frank Metzger, 437th Airlift Wing Plans, for having the "benchmark Y2K plan in the command."

If you hate to calculate your bowling score manually, then you are going to love the recent renovations to the Starlifter Lanes Bowling Center, which reopened Monday after being closed for renovations for six weeks. The renovated center includes new automated scoring machines, ball retrievers, lighting and furniture. The center offered free bowling to base patrons Monday as part of their grand reopening festivities. See the article on page 15.

The center could not have not have opened in time without the help of the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron members in the wood, electrical and plumbing shops. Thanks to 437th Services Squadron members Al Poirier, Robert Simmons (Starlifter Lanes manager) and the entire bowling center staff who worked so hard to get the place ready for the opening, as well as Laura Abell and Karl Brown for planning the festivities.

We have approximately 25 people from our sister wing at MacDill AFB, Fla., planning to visit us Tuesday through

Thursday to learn about Team Charleston. We look forward to hosting them. The visit will offer them a chance to become more familiar with our operations and how we do business on Charleston. It is a great opportunity for functional counterparts to crossfeed information and share ideas!

I was pleased to recognize the Diamond Sharp award winners on Tuesday for July and August. These airmen clearly show that they have the pride, professionalism and passion that makes this the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. Winning top honors were:

Staff Sgt. Greg Fennessy, 437th Mission Support Squadron; Staff Sgt. Bridget Bush, 437th OSS; Senior Airman Brian Johnson, 437th Supply Squadron; Senior Airman Jamey Elms, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron; Airman 1st Class John Parker, 437th MXS; Airman 1st Class Darla Looney, 437th Aerial Port Squadron; Airman 1st Class Richard Gebhardt, 437th Security Forces Squadron; and Airman 1st Class Erik Sonnenberg, 437th CS. Congratulations to all for their achievement!

The Civilian Personnel Office is hosting Mr. Kent Slakey, a senior evaluator from the Office of Personnel Management in Atlanta, Ga., for a visit Tuesday through Aug. 11. I thank Bill Williams and the rest of the CPO staff for taking good care of him during his first official visit to Charleston AFB.

The wing quarterly awards for the second quarter were presented Wednesday morning in the Charleston Club. Among those receiving top honors were:

Senior Company Grade Officer category: Capt. Hugh J.J. Verhoff, 437 MXS; Junior Company Grade Officer, 2nd Lt. Celeste Rodriguez, 437 CS; Senior Noncommissioned Officer, Senior Master Sgt.



Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

Thr Starlifter Lanes Bowling Center unveiled its new, modern look this week. Col. Findley cuts the ribbon with Robert Simmons, bowling center manager.

Michael J. Freebury, 437 OSS; Noncommissioned Officer, Tech. Sgt. Alfred L. Gregg, 437th Operations Group; Airman category, Senior Airman Robert M. Florio, 437 CPTS; Civilian category 1, Laura H. Abell, 437 SVS; and Michael Hairston, 437th Logistics Group.

Congratulations to all the award recipients and thanks to the supervisors who took the time to nominate their people. Thanks to the First Sergeant's Association for arranging the breakfast ceremony.

It is good to be home after all these TDYs. I look forward to seeing you at the base picnic today, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the base pool and surrounding areas on Davis Drive. The Family Fun Fest is one of the base's Year of the Family activities and it will have lots of activities and entertainment for adults and children, plus plenty of food and refreshments. During this time, you are also invited to watch the colonels defeat the chiefs (I predict) at the softball game at the base fields beginning at 2:30 p.m. The loser of this match will have the added responsibility of developing a suitable trophy, which I am sure will be memorable.

This week's been great and next week will be even better culminating with a fun Company Grade Officer's Council combat dining-in Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. in the C-17 Nosedock #2 (Bldg. 519). The event is open to all officers. I hope to see you there!

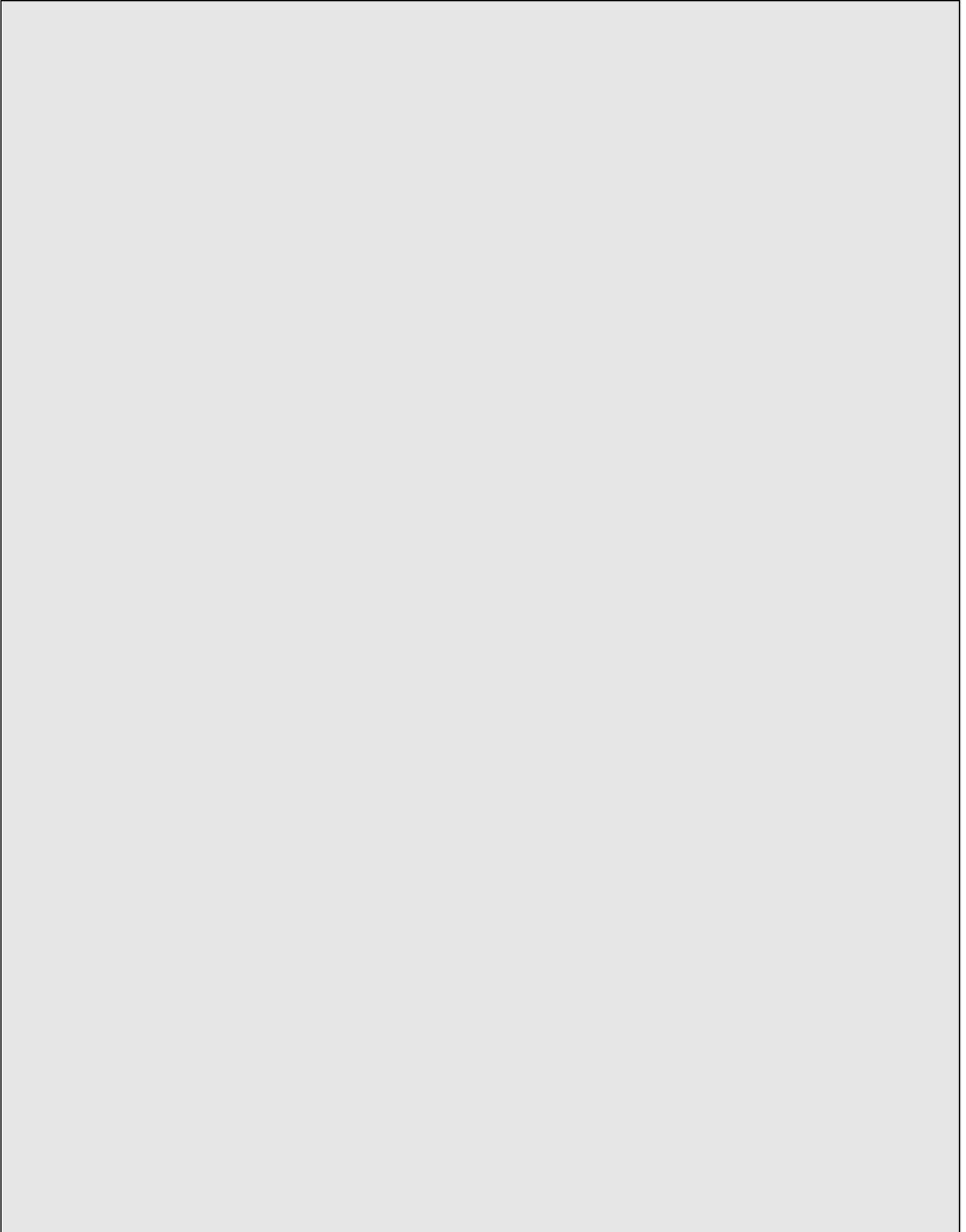
Action Line

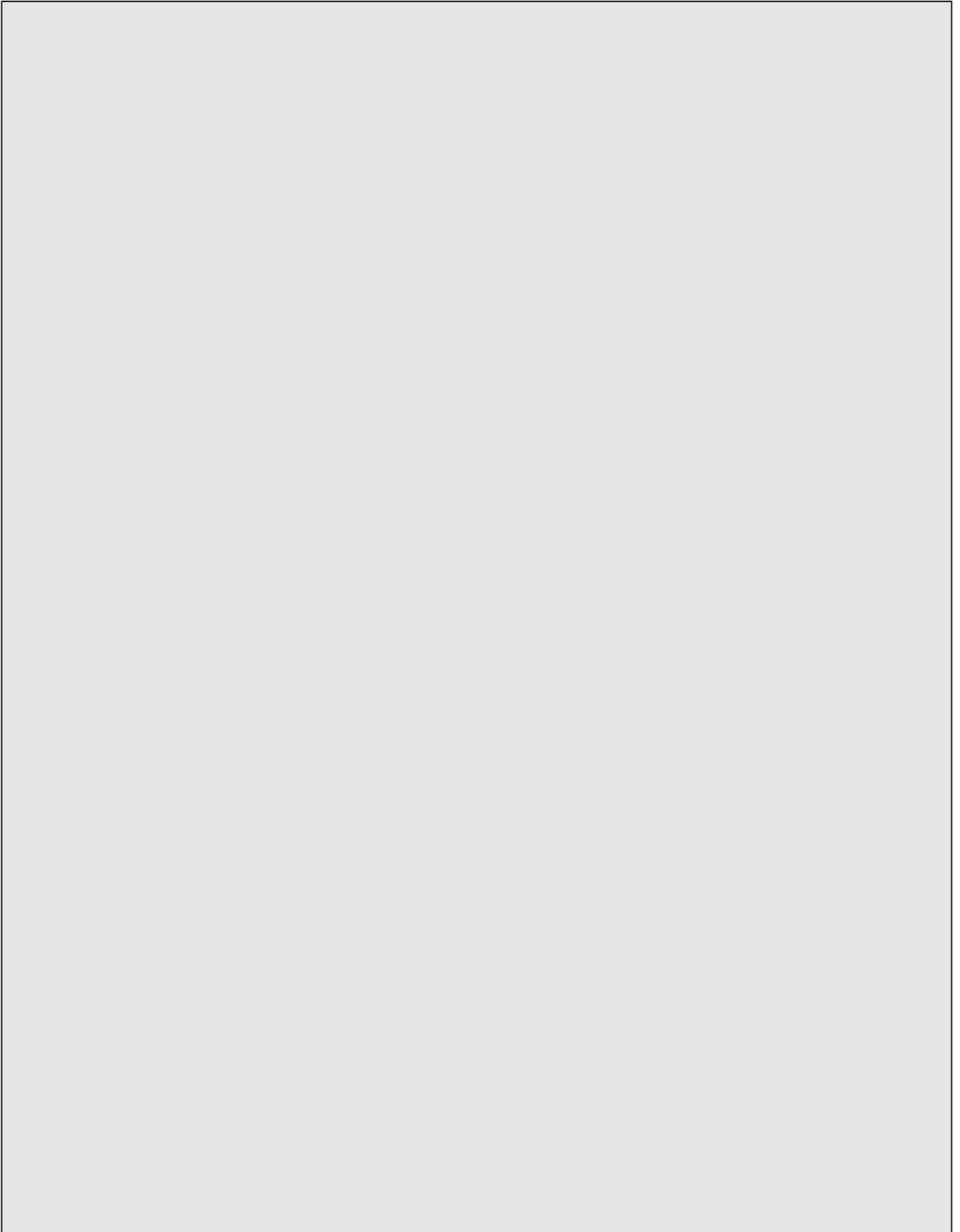
The Commander's Action line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play.

First give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at 963-5581 or send an e-mail to action@charleston.af.mil.

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.







FEATURE

Auto Skills Center's excellent customer service is 'no hog-wash'

Story and photos by Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

"We're only here because you're here. We're serious about taking care of our customers, and that's no hog-wash," said Terry Pugh, Auto Skills Center manager.

The Auto Skills Center here offers many repair and maintenance services, along with a well-equipped garage area for do-it-yourselfers. From oil changes to overhauls, the center's experienced staff can provide expert advice and assistance with almost any project.

The center has flat stalls, lift stalls, computer systems, tools, machines, books, parts, fluids and anything else that may be needed to service and even rebuild vehicles. The staff will gladly help in any way they can, but they will also give lots of space to those who want to do things on their own, said Pugh.

"A lot of our customers want to do things by themselves," said Bobby Sarine, Auto Skills Center mechanic. "Sometimes they tear something apart and then realize that it's a little more complicated than what they expected. That's when they usually turn to us for help. Even if we don't know the answer, we have car manuals on CD-ROM and they can usually find any information they need on there."

Sarine, a retired Air Force master sergeant, said he has been working on cars all of his life. While he won't say exactly how long that is, he promised it's been a long time.

"I was in transportation for 23 years," said Sarine. "I was fixing cars before that, and I've been doing it ever since."

Along with services offered at minimal fees, the center participates in the Car Care, Because We Care program through the Family Support Center. The program gives spouses of deployed military members a free oil change courtesy of the Charleston AFB Aid Society.

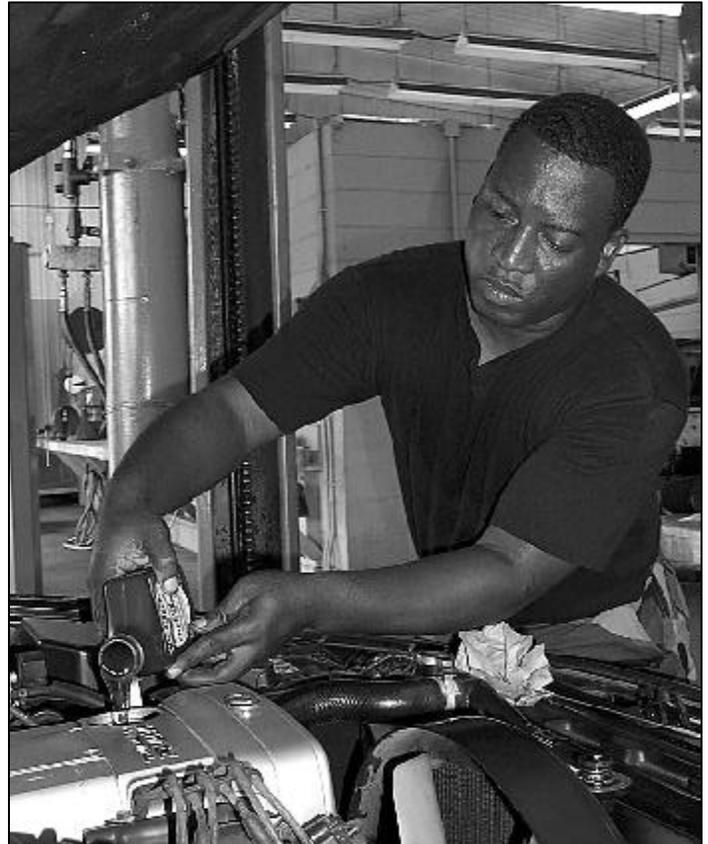
"My husband is on a remote to Korea," said Anna Greenhalgh, Auto Skills Center customer and Car Care, Because We Care program participant. "Even if it wasn't free, my husband wanted me to get everything done here. He's a mechanic, and if he can't be here to do things himself, there's no one else he trusts to service our car."

A lot of the trust from customers comes from long relationships with the Auto Skills Center, according to Jeannie Adkison, tools and parts attendant.

"I've seen lots of repeat customers who won't go anywhere else," said Adkison. "I've talked with people who have been regulars here, gone overseas and then come back to Charleston and still come here to work on their cars."

New customers are always welcome also, said Sarine. While the staff may already know about certain problems with its repeat customer's cars, they are anxious to help new customers. New customers with new cars provide valuable experience for the staff.

"We try to keep up with new technology as best we can," said Sarine. "I learn about most of it from the new cars that come in here for tune-ups. I'm



Master Sgt. William Brown III, 437 APS, NCOIC of cargo movements, takes advantage of his lunch break to change his car's oil.

always anxious to take a look under the hood."

Outstanding staff knowledge and customer service are two major Auto Skills Center selling points, according to Pugh, but he also said value plays an important role.

"You're not just getting help from people who actually care about you and the military, you're also getting auto service at less than half the price you're probably going to pay off base," said Pugh.

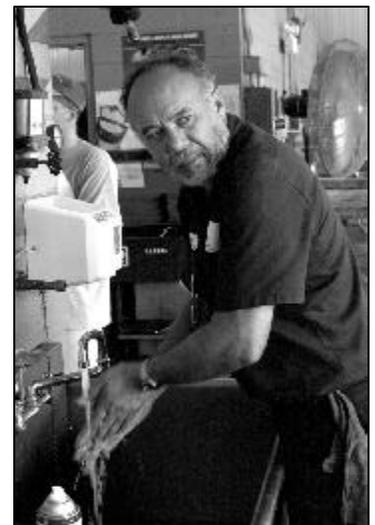
Anyone with a valid military identification card, to include DOD civilians and contractors, can take advantage of the Auto Skills Center.

The center is open Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It's closed on Sundays and Mondays. For more information, call 963-4942.

Bobby Sarine (right), auto mechanic, washes-up after finishing an oil change.



Terry Pugh, Auto Skills Center Manager, looks over an engine head.





MAGNOLIA PLACE DINING FACILITY

On the Menu



Today

Lunch — barbecue pork, tacos, spanish rice, potatoes, mexican corn, refried beans, peas with mushrooms

Dinner — chicken jambalaya, steak with onions, wild rice, lyonnaise potatoes, pinto beans, squash, sweet and sour greens

Saturday

Lunch — beef pot pie, simmered polish sausage, baked chicken, steamed rice, macaroni and cheese, green beans, glazed carrots, cauliflower

Dinner — fried shrimp, beef with broccoli, orange rice, rissole potatoes, brussels sprouts polonaise, calico corn, fried okra

Sunday

Lunch — country captain chicken, tuna and noodles, pork chop suey, steamed rice, potatoes wedges, broccoli, succotash, carrots

Dinner — roast turkey, yakisoba, rice, mashed potatoes, vegetable stir fry, peas with onions, cream corn

Monday

Lunch — manicotti, barbecue ham steaks, ginger basted sole, rice pilaf, baked potatoes, spinach, cauliflower, pinto beans

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce,

herbed-baked chicken, rice, baked potatoes halves, lima beans, corn on the cob, asparagus

Tuesday

Lunch — chili macaroni, sweet and sour pork, country-style steak, rice, mashed potatoes, lyonnaise carrots, mexican corn, mixed vegetables

Dinner — fish almondine, fried chicken, steamed rice, oven-browned potatoes, bean combo, squash, fried cauliflower

Wednesday

Lunch — veal parmesan, fried fish, creole spaghetti, rice, rissole potatoes, broccoli, peas and carrots, corn o'brien

Dinner — roast pork, baked chicken, potatoes au gratin, rice pilaf, tomato okra gumbo, green beans, cauliflower combo

Thursday

Lunch — beef stew, lime cilantro sole, orange-spiced pork chops, franconia potatoes, steamed rice, mustard greens, beets, corn on the cob

Dinner — honey-glazed cornish hens, roast beef, mashed potatoes, wild rice, black-eyed peas, spinach, carrots and celery amandine (*Menu subject to change without notice*)

Volunteer Spotlight

Burt Bolton

Outdoor Recreation Center

Burt Bolton is a volunteer at the Outdoor Recreation Center. He has been helping-out at the center for seven years now, and he says he enjoys every minute of it.

"I have a great time here," said Bolton. "It keeps me in shape and off the street."

Bolton works full-time as the lead firefighter at the Naval Weapons Station, Goose Creek. He said his position as a firefighter affords him spare time to participate in outdoor events.

"I have extra free time, so working here (Outdoor Recreation Center) gives me something to do," said Bolton. "Even if I couldn't volunteer here, I would still be camping and doing outdoor things with my time off."

The center hosts many events that Bolton regularly participates in, but he said the center's trips to Key West, Fla., stand out as his favorites.

"I've gone on the Key West trips five or six times, and I can't get enough of it," said Bolton. "It's always an incredible time. Everyone who goes with us seems to just love it."

The Outdoor Recreation Center is always looking for volunteers. Anyone interested can contact the center at 963-5271.



Senior Airman Jason Smith

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to wedding.

Protestant Services

Sunday -- 8 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Airman 1st Class David Winner at 963-2102.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies.



Movie schedules are provided by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Patrons should call the theater at 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Boys and Girls" – Freddie Prinze Jr.

From the moment they first met as kids on an airplane, Jennifer and Ryan set the tone for their life-long relationship; fighting and flirting with equal skill. By the time they both get to college, their decade-long antagonism starts turning to friendship; the kind only one unexpected thing could possibly destroy. **(PG-13) 93 minutes**

Saturday, 2 p.m.

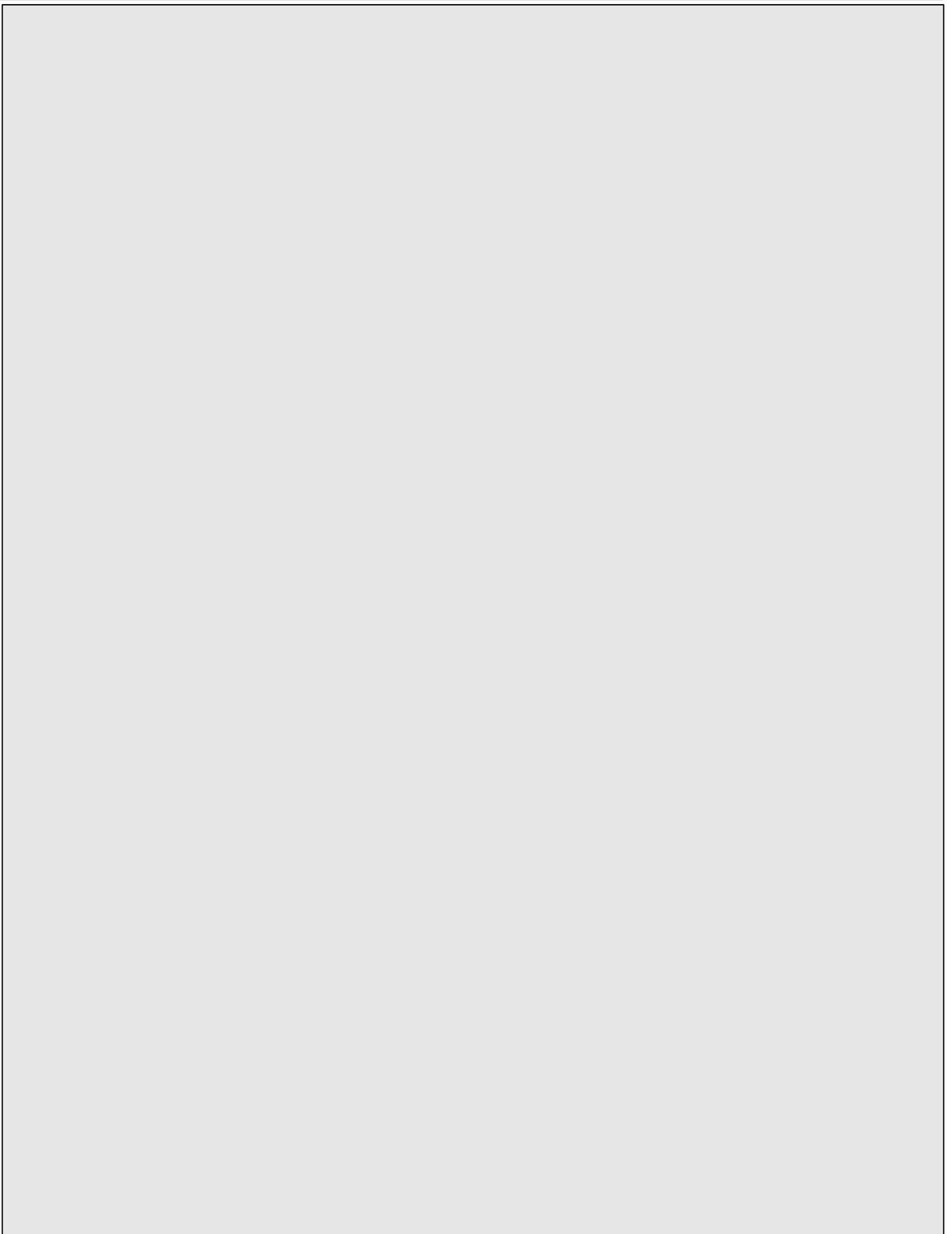
"The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle"- Animated

Yes, it's true, those notorious "no-goodniks", Boris and Natasha are back, and as usual, are up to no good. This time they have managed to break the secret code and make the leap from their cartoon existence into the real world. Led by a criminal mastermind, they have a plot to take over the world. **(PG) 88 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Big Momma's House" - Paul Giamatti

FBI agent Malcolm is a master of disguise. Malcolm's latest assignment is to trap a bank robber. He sets up a stakeout at the home of a southern matriarch known as Big Momma. **(PG-13) 99 minutes**



Fitness & Sports

The future is now at Starlifter Lanes

By Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe
437 AW Public Affairs

Starlifter Lanes Bowling Center has gone from the Flintstones to the Jetsons. Its new, uncluttered modern look was unveiled during a grand re-opening ceremony Monday.

Before a crowd of approximately 75 people, 437th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Rusty Findley delivered some brief remarks and snipped a ribbon to mark the re-opening of the renovated facility. That being done, he grabbed a bowling ball, rolled it down a lane twice and picked up a spare to get things going.

Within minutes, the lights in the center were turned off and a day of cosmic bowling kicked off. Colored lights and lava lamp displays danced on the walls, top 10 hits blared from the speakers and glow-in-the-dark pins fell in every lane. Circular designs on the tables glowed under the black lights, as did the bowling balls.

"It's psychedelic," said Senior Airman Karlton Chesson, who was bowling with several co-workers. "I like the special effects on the monitors. This place has a lot of character. It seems like a nice place to hang out."

Free breakfast snacks, hot wings, beverages and giveaways such as a bowling towel were available at the grand re-opening. Many of those attending registered to win prizes that included bowling balls, bags, shoes, lunches and passes for bowling parties and cosmic bowling. Plenty of ATWIND game pieces were handed out as well.

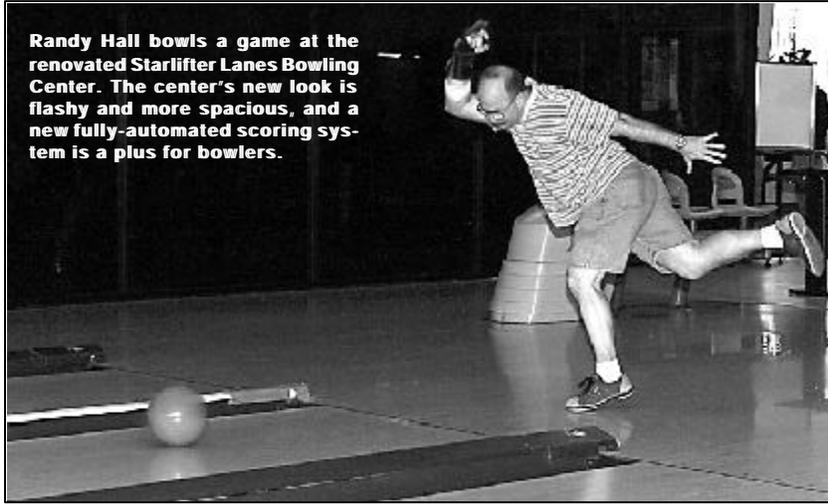
The re-opening drew a diverse crowd. There were military members, spouses, retirees, teenagers and children at the bowling center Monday. Pam Lemon was one of many parents who brought their children to the event.

"I think it's a neat way to show it off," she said of the grand opening. "I like the futuristic look of the place. It looks like a place where the Jetsons would bowl."

Staff Sgt. Leon McFadden said, "I like the new facelift. I like the lights and I like the way the chairs swing around."

One of the most notable differences in the newly renovated center is the new style of scoring tables. Gone are

Randy Hall bowls a game at the renovated Starlifter Lanes Bowling Center. The center's new look is flashy and more spacious, and a new fully-automated scoring system is a plus for bowlers.



photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

the bulky tables that looked like consoles from the set of the original "Star Trek." Thanks to a new fully-automated scoring system, the new tables are little more than a keypad on a thin stand.

Other improvements at Starlifter Lanes include:

- New seating and tables in the bowling area that takes up less space

- New overhead monitors with flashy graphics

- Automatic electronic scoring

- A new ball retrieval system

- New seating and tables in the game room area

- Three points of sale - the snack bar, bowling center and back office, offering a wide variety of services

- New carpet (to be installed in several weeks) that glows in the dark

A number of people from the 437th Services Squadron attended the grand re-opening, including Al Poirier, Business Operations Flight chief.

"I think the grand re-opening is fantastic," Poirier said. "Now we have a first-class bowling center. For the past three-and-a-half years, we've done a lot to improve the bowling center, and we'll continue to improve in every area."

Lt. Col. Bruce Alexander, commander of the 437th Services Squadron, was also pleased with the response to the re-opening.

"We had an outstanding turnout," he said while bowling a game with Findley and Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander. "We

couldn't have asked for a better crowd. We want to keep people coming in and enjoying the facility."

Starlifter Lanes will sponsor a grand re-opening tournament Aug. 12-13, Aug. 19-20, and Aug. 26-27. The prize for the first place team will be \$300, with \$200 going to second place. Team, doubles and singles play for men and women will be included. The entry fee is \$15 per person. Entry forms are available at the center.

A mixed doubles league will be offered on Fridays during fall, and a retired officers league will be held every Thursday. Cosmic bowling will be offered in September.

Details on coming events at Starlifter Lanes will be published in future issues of the Airlift Dispatch.

For more information on upcoming leagues, or for information about reserving the center for special events, call Starlifter Lanes Bowling Center at 963-3315.



Pete Marchewka (sitting), wife Karen and son Chris check out the new monitor scoring system at the bowling center.

CAFB to host men's basketball camp, tournament

By Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe
437 AW Public Affairs

It's going to be another banner year for basketball at Charleston AFB.

For the third consecutive year, CAFB has been selected to host the Air Force Men's Basketball Camp, set for Oct. 26-Nov. 12.

On top of that, the base will host the Men's Armed Forces Basketball Tournament Nov. 15-17. Two new events, a shoot out and dunk contest, will precede the tournament.

"We'll take two participants from each branch of the service for each event and showcase their abilities," said Eddie Goad, CAFB sports director.

The decision for Charleston to host the events was made last year.

"I think they were impressed with what we did in the past," Goad said.

The Air Force team will play area Division I-A college teams, including Charleston Southern, South Carolina State, Coastal Carolina, The Citadel and College of Charleston, during camp.

"That's pretty notable for an 18-day camp," Goad said. "It helps them prepare the team, and that's our main objective of the camp."

The team will again take part in several promotional events during camp, including visits to the Charleston Veterans Administration Hospital and area junior Air Force ROTC units.

Goad said the outlook for the Air Force's team is good.

"Last year, we had a very inexperienced team, but this year we have many people returning from previous teams," he commented.

Don Fellers and Bonnie Day return as head coach and assistant coach, respectively. Also acting as assistant coach will be John Bailey, who played with the University of Wisconsin for four years and was once selected as the Chicago Tribune's Player of the Year. He also has years of experience with Air Force and the U.S. Armed Forces teams.

"I think we have the 'A team' of coaches coming out this year," Goad said. "We certainly have the experience factor. A lot of people are enthused about it."

