

Rodeo

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Jan. 31 – pre-selection begins for maintenance, aerial port, joint airdrop inspection and security forces teams

Feb. 7-21 – fly-off competition for C-17 crew selection

Feb. 29 – names of all competitors given to team chief

March 1 – official team selection, practice begins (except security forces)

March 16 – security forces begin practice

May 6 – departure for Rodeo

May 13 – return ceremony

“If they (squadron commanders) are going to have a competitive selection, I want them to have enough time to do that,” Heuer said. “We want to field the best team, and commanders of each unit know who their best team is.”

Once the teams are selected, they’ll begin working together as one team, according to Heuer. For example, although support functions (such as security forces) don’t have interaction with aircrew and aerial port, Heuer wants to get them involved by having them take part in training flights to see what aircrews and aerial porters do. Aircrews and aerial porters will, in turn, work alongside security forces.

“It will get team cohesiveness going and support for each other,” he explained.

This year’s Rodeo Competition has special meaning for Team Charleston’s C-141 community. The aircraft will be completely phased out of service at CAFB soon after Rodeo 2000.

“It’s important we do well not only with the C-141 team, but as a wing,” Heuer said. “It’ll be a good send off for the C-141.”

One benefit Team Charleston will have going into Rodeo 2000 is experience, according to the major. Some who have represented CAFB in the past are still here and can provide useful information as either team members or as coaches.

Team Charleston’s 1998 Rodeo team brought home several awards, including best C-17 maintenance, best C-17 short field landing and best Phoenix Raven.

“I think we can do very well this year,” Heuer said. “The squadron commanders are all excited about it and are all on board to put their best foot forward and provide the highest caliber of people they can. We’ve got some great individual expertise out there. Our goal is to not only win individual awards, but overall awards as well.”

The C-17 maintenance team leader will be Master Sgt. Mark Burns.

“This year’s team will include one maintainer from each career field and three crew chiefs — one from each sortie generation flight,” Burns explained. “We have many highly qualified volunteers for Rodeo 2000. This, of course, will make the selection process very difficult. When the final team is selected, we will be allowed to initiate practice on March 1. Once started, we will be working many long hours preparing our aircraft for this highly competitive event.”

The Air Force’s airlift community started the Rodeo Competition in 1962 as a combat skills competition. It was expanded in 1979 to include international competitors. It now challenges teams in all aspects of air mobility: airlift, airdrop, air refueling, maintenance, aerial port operations, joint airdrop inspection, aero-medical evac, security forces and special tactics.

This year’s event is being sponsored by the 43rd Airlift Wing.



Medical records section conducting inventory; retiring some records

The 437th Medical Group Records section is conducting an annual inventory and records retirement review during January.

Any retirees or family members of a retiree who have not been seen at the clinic since December 1997 will have their records retired to the National Personnel Records Center.

Those who have not been seen since December 1997 and who still wish to have their medical records maintained at the medical group should contact the Outpatient Records Section at 963-6713. Office hours are 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Saturday from 8-11 a.m.

As an added convenience, customers may also call the office’s message line at 963-6710 and leave a message requesting their records not be retired. Those choosing to use the message line option should state their name and social security number so that their records can be appropriately identified and kept.

The records office will not retire the government medical records of active duty members and their family members.

As a reminder: the medical records of military beneficiaries are the property of the United States government and must be maintained at a military treatment facility. If your records are being maintained elsewhere, please return them to the records office immediately.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Josh Glover at 963-6701.