

DISPATCH



AIRLIFT

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Vol. 40, No. 15

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, April 20, 2001

Fuels ready to use gold card system

By Senior Airman
Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Supply Squadron's Fuels Management Flight is changing the way they account for the fuel they use in servicing military aircraft.

The Automated Data Collection Fuel Dispensing System is slated to come online May 1, replacing the manual system currently in use, according to Staff Sgt. Robert Anderson, fuels resource controller.

The new system uses a "gold card," which looks a lot like a credit card, Anderson said. The magnetic strip on the card is encoded with the aircraft tail number and other information the fuels management flight needs. A Fuel Master user interface terminal card reader scans the gold card. The card reader looks a lot like an ATM and is mounted on the truck. The aircraft's tail number is displayed on the card reader's

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Adrian Cadiz

Homecoming

Senior Airman Curtiss Towne, a crewmember on the Navy EP-3 aircraft involved in the April 1 accident with a Chinese aircraft, salutes upon arrival at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. A Charleston AFB C-17, transported the crew from Andersen AFB, Guam, to Hickam AFB, Hawaii, returning them to U.S. soil after their 11-day detainment in China. Maj. Matt Smith, 14th Airlift Squadron, was the aircraft commander for the return trip. Other members of the crew were Maj. Richard Bryan, 1st Lt. Jim Martin, Staff Sergeants James Hilton and Corey Carter, all from the 14 AS, and Staff Sgt. Ernest Hires, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron. The C-17 returned to Charleston Saturday.

14th Airlift Squadron flies Army mission, lands 'short'

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The 14th Airlift Squadron accomplished another first for Charleston AFB C-17s during an Army Joint Readiness Training Center exercise April 1-4.

Capt. Paul Lambertson, 14 AS pilot, aircraft commander and Aircrew Life Support flight commander; Capt. Eric Wittendorfer, 14 AS pilot; and Staff Sgt. Michael "Flash" Gordon, 14 AS loadmaster, were the first CAFB crew to land a C-17 on Peason Ridge Assault Field, Fort Polk, La.

"Peason is a semi-prepared assault strip," said Lambertson. "It's the shortest peacetime strip we're authorized to land on."

The strip is a combination of dirt

and cement, according to Lambertson. Normal runways are layers of hard materials that can withstand a great deal of weight for a long period of time. Peason's strip doesn't offer the stability of a standard runway.

"Regular runways are engineering feats. They may have layers of cement and metal to withstand the weight. The cement cap strips, like the one at Peason, are temporary."

Peason's strip measures approximately 3,500 by 90 feet, compared to the 9,000 by 200 feet for Runway 15/33 here, according to Lambertson. The minimum length of an airstrip for C-17 use depends on a great number of variables such as weight, slickness of the runway and winds.

The Charleston aircraft departed

here April 1 and met with a C-17 and crew from McChord AFB, Wash., at Manhattan Regional Airport, Kan. During April 2-4, the crew flew M2A2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, M1A1 Abrams Tanks, personnel and other equipment from MRA to Fort Polk. The first day gave the crews a chance to land at Peason, but they were diverted to Alexandria, La., on the last two days because of inclement weather.

Day three was complicated further due to a mechanical issue with the McChord AFB aircraft.

"We had an in-flight problem, and Charleston AFB was a lot closer, so we went there to get it fixed" said Maj. Mike Phillips, 7th Airlift Squadron pilot evaluator, McChord AFB. "We couldn't make it back in time to

finish our part of the mission."

With the McChord AFB crew out of the picture, the CAFB crew was asked to pull some extra weight.

"The Army commander asked me how much we could do to complete the mission," said Lambertson. "I asked him 'What do you need us to do?' We flew our missions and then we flew McChord's that day."

The success of missions, like the one to Peason, has a lot to do with planning, according to Lambertson. The aircraft, cargo and fuel weight have to be figured accurately to achieve success.

"The weight of the load and fuel is the biggest factor," said Lambertson. "A loadmaster figures the backend

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IN THE NEWS

Charleston AFSA leading charge for AF Memorial

By Senior Airman
Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston Chapter 306 of the Air Force Sergeants Association needs help from all members of Team Charleston.

All AFSA chapters are collecting financial gifts to raise \$4 million to use toward the \$30 million needed to break ground for the Air Force Memorial in Washington, D.C.

An Air Force Memorial press release speculates if half of every active, guard, reserve, retiree and veteran member of the Air Force gives \$9.82, AFSA will have the \$4 million.

"The Air Force is the only branch of service without a memorial," said Senior Mas-

ter Sgt. Bruce Blodgett, 437th Supply Squadron first sergeant and AFSA Chapter 306 president. "It would be great to see our heroes, like Levitow and Doolittle, honored with a memorial."

According to an Air Force Memorial Web site, the memorial "will honor the millions of patriotic men and women who have distinguished themselves in the U.S. Air Force and its predecessors." It will also emphasize the technological achievements that make American airpower the greatest on earth.

An article in the April edition of Sergeants magazine lists Arlington Ridge, Va., as the most likely two-acre site for the memorial. The ridge is just north of Arlington Na-

tional Cemetery and near the Fort Meyer Parade Grounds. Blodgett said the proposed location of the site is not yet definite.

"There has been recent talk of building it in an area near the Pentagon," said Blodgett. "There is some land there that can be used at no cost. It's higher ground than Arlington Ridge also. We still need the money to break ground if the location changes, but it would be a lot cheaper."

The memorial will be a 50-foot tall structure, shaped as a five-pointed star, according to the Sergeants article. There will be an education and visitors center beneath the memorial to provide visitors with information about the Air Force's past, present

and future. Visitors will be able to stand on a mezzanine and look down at an aerial projection of the earth on a 45-foot screen. The earth's image will be constantly changing to show a view of the world through an airman's eyes, including a recreation of the first military flight and a living history of the Air Force.

Artifacts, such as a shrapnel-damaged bombsite, moon rocks and a flag sewn by prisoners of war will be displayed on the perimeter of the mezzanine, according to the magazine article. An Airmen's Chapel will be built at the south end of the mezzanine for visitors to have a quiet place to ponder things they've seen during their visit.

Blodgett said the local

AFSA chapter started taking donations Sunday, and they will run the campaign through May 30. Chapter 306 is also currently involved with the Adopt-a-Highway program, an Air Expo 2001 booth and Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps awards programs. The next AFSA meeting will be May 8, 4:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pamphlets and brochures regarding the Air Force Memorial have been handed out to squadron AFSA representatives, along with pledge sheets. Anyone interested in pledging who has not been contacted can call their unit AFSA representative or first sergeant for more information.

14 AS

continued from page 1

weight and sends it to the aircraft commander to review. After that, winds and other factors are input into the computer which then calculates a minimum landing distance."

There is a back-up system to the computer. Lambertson said if the computer failed during flight, the crew has technical orders available to manually figure the same information the computer gave.

"We had to figure our weight precisely to ensure we had enough fuel, but would not arrive too heavy to land. We had about 8,000 pounds to play with, which isn't much in a C-17," said Lambertson. "It's awesome to me that a three-person crew is able to load, unload, refuel and do all the things needed to carry out our mission. In three days, we flew nine sorties, airlifting about a half million pounds of Army personnel and heavy armor."

Along with the airlift, the crew got the opportunity to participate in some public relations work while at MRA.

"The mayor, city council members, children and even three WWII veterans came out to see the C-17," said Lambertson. "We gave them tours and talked about what we do. Everyone enjoyed it, even though it wasn't a scheduled part of the mission for us. I would love the opportunity to do it again."

Phillips, who is also a former Charleston flier, said he enjoyed the teamwork and the opportunity to fly with his old unit again.

"It was great to fly with Capt. Lambertson again," said Phillips. "The mission was built on great teamwork. When our plane broke, they picked up our drops, and we would have done the same for them had the roles been reversed. Our crew chief helped them with preparations for landing at Peason, and we helped each other with paperwork."

"Everyone worked together in all aspects of the mission," continued Phillips. "For me, it's not a competition. I'm more of a 'let's build a great C-17 program together' person, than an 'us and them' person."

Tick season moving into Charleston

Spring is here, and so is tick season across the Lowcountry.

Being bitten by an infected tick can result in debilitating, sometimes deadly, Lyme disease, military and civilian experts warn.

Left untreated, Lyme disease can advance from early flu-like symptoms to painful and permanent damage to the joints, according to the National Centers for Disease Control. The disease can also affect the nervous system, causing numbness, pain, stiff neck and severe headache or muscle weakness in the face or limbs. Occasionally, heart irregularities occur.

The first stage of the disease begins three to 31 days after the tick bites. Symptoms can include fatigue, chills and fever, headache, muscle and joint pain or swollen lymph nodes.

Another mark of Lyme disease, researchers say, is a peculiar expanding circular skin rash in the area where the tick bite occurred. Patch shapes vary depending on location. As the patch enlarges, the center may clear, giving a ring-like appearance. It may be warm, but isn't usually painful.

However, researchers say, some people never develop a rash.

Maj. (Dr.) Edwin Burkett, 437th Medical Group Clinical Medicine Flight commander, said the first sign of Lyme disease is a red rash that looks like a target.

"The outside will be red, and the center will be flesh tone," said Burkett. "If you have a bright red area, or if there's

swelling or any signs of infection, you should come in and get checked."

Burkett said the most effective way to get rid of a tick is to put baby oil on it. "Baby oil or any thick oil will work. Just put it on the back legs of the tick and it should crawl out. Ticks breathe through their back legs, so if it doesn't come out with oil, it's already dead and needs to be pulled out."

People can pick up ticks during walks in parks or the woods, or while hiking and camping. Children are especially susceptible because they run around in tall grass, play in wooded areas and roll on the ground, researchers noted.

The individual risk of getting Lyme disease is reasonably small. Only about 12 to 15 percent of ticks actually carry the bug. Removing ticks from the body quickly may prevent a person from contracting Lyme disease, experts said. Ticks generally must feed on a person for 24 to 48 hours before the person becomes infected.

It is a good idea to check children and pets after they have played outside.

If people can't avoid tick-infested areas, experts suggest wearing a long-sleeved shirt and long pants. The pant legs should be tucked into socks or boots and the shirt should be tucked into the pants. Tape the area where pants and socks meet to keep ticks out, and wear light-colored clothing so ticks can be seen easily.

For more information, call 963-6700. (AFP and Senior Airman Jason Smith, 437 AW Public Affairs, contributed to this story.)



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

A three-man crew from the 14th Airlift Squadron was the first to land a Charleston AFB C-17 on Peason Ridge Assault Field, Fort Polk, La.





Charleston AFB March 2001 Justice Files

Senior airman receives remission on suspended Article 15 for good behavior
Airman 1st class uses marijuana, gets busted to airman, 30 days extra duty
Airman fails in Weight Management Program, gets discharged

By Staff Sgt. Nichelle Cunningham
and Senior Airman Geoffrey Gunn
437 AW paralegals

Article 15 actions

An airman 1st class wrongfully viewed and displayed obscene images on a government computer.

Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman, 15 days extra duty, and a reprimand.

An airman 1st class wrongfully used marijuana.

Punishment: Reduction to airman basic, 30 days extra duty, 30 days restriction to Charleston AFB and a reprimand.

An airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty.

Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman basic, forfeiture of \$100 pay for one month, 14 days

extra duty, 14 days restriction to CAFB and a reprimand.

An airman failed to go to his appointed place of duty.

Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman basic, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

An airman 1st class was under the influence of alcohol, while operating a motor vehicle at the Dorchester Gate with a blood alcohol content of .12.

Punishment: Reduction to airman, 14 days restriction to CAFB, 21 days extra duty and a reprimand.

An airman 1st class was under the influence of alcohol, while operating a motor vehicle at the intersection of Hill Boulevard and West Jackson Drive with a BAC of .14.

Punishment: Reduction to the grade of airman, seven days extra

duty and a reprimand.

An airman 1st class was under the influence of alcohol, while operating a motor vehicle at the Dorchester Road gate with a BAC of .27.

Punishment: Reduction to airman, 14 days extra duty and a reprimand.

Vacation action

An airman 1st class had his suspended reduction from a previous Article 15 vacated for failing to go and dereliction of duty.

An airman 1st class had his suspended reduction from a previous Article 15 vacated for failing to go.

Remission

A senior airman had a suspended reduction from a previous Article 15 punishment remitted for good behavior.

Administrative discharges

An airman was discharged for failure in the Weight Management Program. He was separated with an honorable discharge.

An airman basic was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions. He was separated with a general discharge.

An airman was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions. He was separated with a general discharge.

An airman 1st class was discharged for failure in the weight management program. He was separated with an honorable discharge.

An airman basic was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions. He was separated with a general discharge.

Fuels

continued from page 1

screen and is verified by the technician. The terminal records what time fueling began, when it ended and how many gallons of fuel were used. This information is transmitted via radio from the truck to the main controller antenna, mounted on a building near the flightline. The information is then saved in a computer, which is accessible over the local area network.

"The system takes all the information and separates it for the different sections all in one shot," Anderson said. "It's a lot better than processing the same information three times."

The fuels community has been waiting for this technology for 23 years, according to Anderson. The new system will offer a greater degree of accountability and security from unauthorized use like never before. "It's definitely a big improvement for our career field," Anderson said.

In the past, the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron's Maintenance Control Center would call fuels with the aircraft tail number, spot number and how many gallons of fuel it needed, according to Anderson. A truck was then dispatched to the flightline. If the aircraft belonged to Charleston AFB, the servicing technician needed only the tail number. For tran-

sient aircraft, a fuel card, which is like a credit card but without the magnetic strip, was scanned using an old-style credit card reader to make a carbon copy.

This information was then hand carried back to the office to be processed. The data from the carbon copy was used by three different sections and had to be input by each. This process allowed a lot of room for human error, and wasted a lot of time, especially when an error was made, said Anderson.

The Fuels Automated System cut down on some of the manual work, Anderson said. "You could take information from the log sheet about issued fuel and transfer it to accounting in the computer, but the new system does all of that for us."

Every Department of Defense aircraft and many foreign military services aircraft will have a "gold card," said Senior Airman Matthew Pahula, fuels resource controller. Commercial aircraft will still be run through the system manually, even though this technology was adapted from the way the civilian fuels world does business.

"I think this system will be great," Anderson said. "It will cut down the time needed to process information, provide 100 percent accountability for fuel and send the information where it needs to go, all in one shot."

AGS airman wins lowrider competition

Story and photo by Senior Airman Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

A senior airman won first place in the Mild-custom, Subcompact, Lowrider Euro Class at a Lowrider Magazine competition in Charlotte, N.C., recently.

Senior Airman Jeffery Baker, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, took top honors with his 1995 Honda Civic DX Hatchback.

Baker bought the car three years ago, mainly as a way to get to work, he said. "I didn't have any real plans for it, but once I got started, it just kind of grew on me."

Baker and members of Players Car Club, Port Royal, S.C., spent nine months getting the car to where it is now,

he said. In those months, Baker and club members customized the interior of the car, and installed the hydraulics system and stereo. Baker plans to have the car painted in October.

"It is a car club effort," Baker said. "Everybody helped. I

learned everything I know from the people in the car club."

Cars are judged in five categories, according to the Lowrider Magazine Web site. These five categories are body, engine, interior, undercarriage and hydraulics/air suspension. The classification system used by the judges takes into account the number and extent of modifications to a vehicle, and what the vehicle was originally designed for. Baker's car is classified as a mild custom, meaning it has no more than two major modifications and up to four minor modifications. It is also classified as subcompact, which means the car was originally designed for economy.

To prepare for competition, Baker said he spends about four hours cleaning the car at the base car wash. He owns a trailer and plans to buy a truck in the near future to haul his car to and from shows. Until then, he wraps the front end of the car with plastic wrap to protect it from bugs.

This wasn't Baker's first competition. He also took second place in a September 2000 lowrider show in Louisville, Ky.

"This gives me a chance to take pride in something," Baker said. "It's a fun, creative way to express yourself, and you actually get to see the finished product."

Baker's car is slated to appear in the September issue of Lowrider Magazine.



Senior Airman Jeffery Baker, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, sits in his award-winning 1995 Honda Civic DX hatchback lowrider.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Operations Group is hosting a retirement ceremony for Lt. Col. Frederick Cianciolo Wednesday, 3:45 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call 1st Lt. Daniel Bishop at 963-2187.

Retirement: The 437th Airlift Wing Safety Office is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Anthony Palangi April 27, 2 p.m., at the 14th Airlift Squadron auditorium. For more information, call Master Sgt. Allison Bethea at 963-5597.

Retirement: The 437th Airlift Wing Inspector General's Office is hosting a retirement ceremony for Lt. Col. Rod Pressley April 27, 3 p.m., in Bldg. 246. For more information, call Col. William Schell at 963-3552.

Around the base

Study guides: In order to maintain a fair and equitable system for Air Force testing, commercial study guides may not be purchased with government funds, and placing them on government computers is strictly prohibited. For more information, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/testing. Failure to follow the Web site's guidelines may result in test compromise.

Authorized cover: The Navy watch cap is authorized for wear with BDUs, special purpose and organizational uniforms during the period of Oct. 1-March 31. The cap can be worn with a field jacket, Gortex jacket, parka or flight dress uniform only. The watch cap must be worn squarely and snugly on the head with the front edge 1-1.5 inches above the eyebrows. The cap may be rolled down to cover the ears during extremely cold weather while performing duties outdoors within the immediate work area.

Trespassing: The base firing ranges, located adjacent to the Rivers Gate, are a highly dangerous area for trespassers. Trespassing is illegal at all times. Ranges are not authorized for personal use. Individuals having a valid need for entry must contact range personnel for authorization. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Phillip Borneman at 963-5292.

Door closure: The 437th Medical Group's main entrance to Bldg. 364 will be temporarily closed for construction. A new entrance canopy and overhang is being added to allow protection from inclement weather. The construction is expected to last until mid-October.

Awards breakfast: The 437th Airlift Wing is holding a quarterly awards breakfast Tuesday, 7:30 a.m., at the Charleston Club. The buffet

Charleston Profile

Master Sgt. Scott Wetzel 15th Airlift Squadron



Photo by Senior Airman Melanie Streefer

Master Sgt. Scott Wetzel is a loadmaster with the 15th Airlift Squadron.

The Great Falls, Mont., native was recently selected as the 15 AS and 437th Operations Group senior noncommissioned officer of the quarter.

Wetzel is the chief of standards and evaluation for the 15 AS. He is responsible for evaluating loadmaster training programs and ensuring loadmasters follow checklists properly.

The first half of his Air Force career was spent in maintenance as a communications and navigation technician. When he was forced to retrain eight years ago, he chose the loadmaster career field.

Wetzel has been all over the world as a loadmaster. "The C-17 goes everywhere," said Wetzel. "If it's on the planet, we've probably gone there."

There are times when the job isn't easy, Wetzel said. "Being away from home so often is hard. You can't honestly make plans or buy tickets for events unless you're on leave, because short-notice trips come up all the time."

Being a loadmaster has its benefits, though. "I can really see the impact of my job," said Wetzel. "You flip on CNN and see refugees starving and then we take them food and can really see the fruits of our labor."

In his free time, Wetzel and his wife, Tech. Sgt. Vicky Wetzel, 437th Airlift Wing paralegal, spend time with their daughter, Kristin, 7, and their three horses. He also enjoys hunting and volunteering at the John Anrum Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

breakfast is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. Commanders, first sergeants, supervisors and co-workers of award nominees are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact your first sergeant.

Enlisted dining in: There will be an Enlisted Combat Dining In April 28, at Nose Dock 1. There is a social hour at 5 p.m., and the event starts at 6 p.m. Tickets for the dining in are \$5 and are available through squadron representatives. Participants are encouraged to wear any serviceable utility uniform from any era. The next planning committee meeting is Wednesday, 3 p.m., in the wing conference room. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. James Moody at 963-5516 or Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Lautenslager at 963-4559.

First Six: There will be a First Six meeting Thursday, 3 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Master Sgt. Matt Harless will be discussing Redux retirement verse Top 3 retirement and the Thrift Savings Plan. For more information, call 963-4286 or 963-5831.

Recycling: Curbside recycling pick up for military housing will be Thursday.

Officer's dining in: There will be an Officer's Combat Dining In April 28, 6 p.m., at the washrack. The guest speaker is Maj. Gen. John Vines, 82nd Airborne Division com-

mander. If interested in volunteering, call 1st Lt. Charles Rock at 963-5520. For tickets, contact your squadron representative or group executive officer.

Sponsors: The 17th Airlift Squadron is looking for people interested in sponsoring U.S. Air Force Academy cadets who will be visiting Charleston AFB from May 3, 5 p.m. until May 6, noon. Activities for the cadets will be provided, but they will need transportation to and from base. If interested, e-mail 1st Lt. Scott Anderson at scott.anderson@charleston.af.mil, or call 963-5874.

Holocaust: The National Days of Remembrance for the Victims of the Holocaust Commemoration will be May 2, noon, at the Base Chapel. Attire for the event is uniform of the day, or Charleston casual. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call Lori Roop at 216-0286.

CCAF: The base education office is hosting an annual Community College of the Air Force Graduation on May 4, 2:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call 963-4575.

Officers needed: The Officer Accessions recruiting office needs field-grade officers to volunteer as Officer Training School candidate interviewing officials. Volunteers will interview perspective OTS candidates who have been prescreened by recruit-

ers. The number of applicants will probably not exceed 25 per year. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Perry Anderson at 569-6956.

TMO: The peak season for shipments of personal property is here. Personnel should report to the TMO office as soon as they receive their orders. Because of current volume, three-four weeks are needed to confirm requested move dates. For more information, call 963-2255, or visit www.charleston.af.mil/CHAS/437AW/OG/TMO/index.htm.

Family Support Center

Hearts Apart: Hearts Apart is an ongoing program for spouses of deployed service members. The program offers such services as e-mail, morale calls, videophone calls and free oil changes. For information, call 963-5630.

Pre-Deployment Briefing: Monday, 8 a.m., and Thursday, 4 p.m.

Troops-to-Teachers: Monday, 10-11 a.m.

Resume II: Tuesday, 9-10:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Families Facing Divorce: Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Smooth Move: Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Interview Techniques: Thursday, 1-4 p.m.

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

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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C-17 aircrew part of the international spotlight

By Col. Rusty Findley
437AW commander

I'm sure you saw the coverage on the national news this past week of a crew and aircraft from our wing as they shined, transporting the 24 "heroes" of the Navy EP-3 from Guam to Hawaii. We also received a lot of great coverage by the local media on this international news story. It was a good opportunity for us to remind the public of our prominent role in many world events.

Our C-17 crew returned Saturday, and I am extremely proud of their efforts. A special thanks to Maj. Matt Smith, Maj. Richard Bryan, 1st Lt. Jim Martin, Staff Sgt. James Hilton, Staff Sgt. Ernest Hires and Staff Sgt. Corey Carter. The crew performed this very important and closely watched mission with great style and class. Their pride, passion and professionalism were evident throughout.

We were proud to host 22 members of the 2001 class of Leadership Berkeley Monday for a series of briefings and a base tour. The class is composed of "up-and-coming" business leaders in Berkeley County who were hand-picked to attend this chamber-hosted, 9-month course because of their community involvement. For many, this was their first opportunity to visit the base and learn more about our mission.

We welcome the opportunity to bring these types of groups out to the base. During a panel session with these business leaders, we discussed the continuing need to go out into our community and let the public know about the great sacrifices and efforts of our people. Many Americans do not have the same level of knowledge of the military as previous generations did. It is our responsibility to let them know about the good that our people do for our nation. This is just one way to continue the move to make Charleston more of an Air Force town.

We bid farewell to 1st Lt. Chris Hobbs, 437th Airlift Wing Protocol, today and thank him for his tremendous efforts to support this wing. He truly loves the Air Force and we are fortunate that he will stay on as a maintenance officer with the 315th Airlift Wing. He is headed to Savannah, Ga., and we wish him the very best in his new career. Thanks Chris, for all your hard work!

The mobility processing exercise this week was part of the continuing effort to take an area we need to work on, our mobility machine, and refine and improve our procedures. We want to build on our exercises and further enhance our mobility processes so we can guarantee that we are ready to deploy any time, any place. Although the exercise was not over as of press time for this column, I can safely report that we are making good progress. Keep charging forward, and continue to improve upon those



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

Lloyd Christopher, Boeing, shows the loadmaster simulator to members of Leadership Berkeley during a tour of Charleston AFB Monday. The simulator is located in the Boeing Aircraft Training Facility on Hill Boulevard.

areas where our processes require more attention. We'll continue to have an exercise at least every quarter as the summer PCS season approaches. We'll raise the standard a little higher with each exercise.

We bid farewell to Hal Beamer Saturday night. Hal was the Charleston site manager for Boeing since 1993. He oversaw C-17 engine support, engineering and spare parts repairs. Hal has been a big part of Team Charleston. We appreciate his great support. Hal's been with Boeing for 15 years, following a very successful Air Force career. Although retired now, he's headed to Royal Air Force Brize Norton, U.K., and will follow his spouse, Marilee, who will continue on with the Boeing company to support the RAF's lease of four C-17s.

The 437th Support Group commander, Col. Dennis Kaan, organized a school forum April 2 for base people whose children go to the schools near the base. We had only a few parents attend the session. We would like to see increased involvement from parents. You can make a difference, but only if you get involved. We had representatives from Lambs Elementary, Hunley Park Elementary, Morningside Middle, North Charleston High and Stall High School. We'll keep the dialogue open between the local schools.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend. Thank you for all your hard work during the mobility exercise. It is a great feeling to be a part of the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet!

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

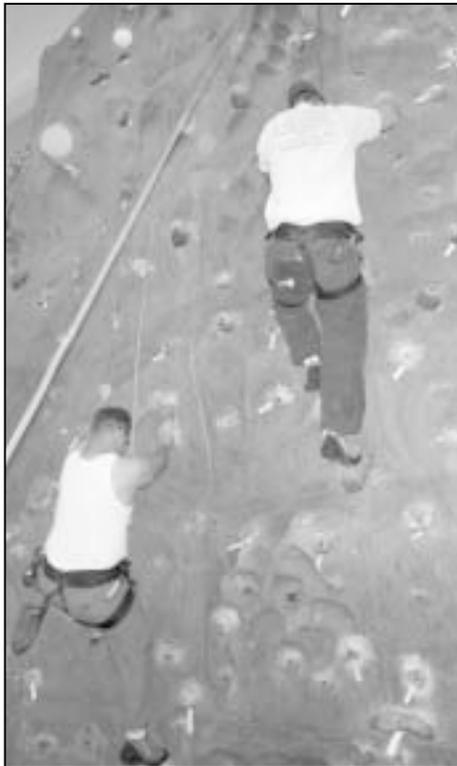
Team Charleston's other force

**Story and Photos by
Senior Airman Donald Church
437AW Public Affairs**

There is a Charleston AFB group that has no formal name, unit insignia or emblem, career field designation or a building to signify its existence. Yet this group has enough people to rank as one of the largest units on base, with one of the smallest budgets and may contain more knowledge and experience than any other organization.

Team Charleston's dedicated group of volunteers comes from every corner of the world. Active duty personnel, reserve members, dependents, retirees and civilians come together to help make Team Charleston complete. Their efforts allow the base to provide for needs not met with current military operations.

Charleston's volunteer force numbers 400-600 persons, according to Brian Churchill, CAFB Family Support Center. Churchill helps coordinate between volunteers and the organizations they aid. Churchill believes there may even be more, as many volunteers perform their valuable services



Volunteering brothers Jeromy Richey (top) and Senior Airman Robert Richey, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, demonstrate safe ways to climb during one of their recent classes at the Outdoor Recreation Center.

without asking for recognition.

It would be hard to imagine what Charleston AFB would be like without the immense support it gets from volunteers. They can be found in almost every aspect of base support activities and even some mission oriented roles.

Every day, hundreds of military beneficiaries are assisted at the 437th Medical Group's pharmacy, but few realize the amount of volunteers working there. The pharmacy has 10 volunteers who spend their time assisting patients with prompt customer service and a smile. Their presence helps the pharmacy staff better perform its mission by freeing the staff to concentrate on the critical task of ensuring correct medications and dosages.

"I do it because I love to do it," said Karoline Meason, about her work at the pharmacy. "At first, my doctor suggested the work would be good therapy for me. I began enjoying it so much it became part of my life. The people I work with here are some of my truest friends, and I love what I do. I only wish I had less housework so I would have more time to come in and help."

Meason is a certified Red Cross volunteer and has been volunteering in several capacities in the medical group since 1986.

The medical group is not the only unit touched by these special individuals. CAFB also has volunteers staffing the visitor's desks at the gates, helping teach classes at the fitness center, finding information at the library and helping parents on the Parent Advisory Board. However, the unit with the greatest volunteer impact is the 437th Support Group.

Without the contributions of volunteers, youth activities would be very different from what CAFB has now. With dozens of after school programs and hundreds of children participating in sports, the handful of personnel the Air Force provides would never be able to keep up with customer demand without volunteer support.

One-third of the known volunteers on base work in some fashion with the Youth Services Program.

One of the most amazing contributions to the program comes from Tech. Sgt. Arthur Williams, Jr., 437th Airlift Wing Command Post, whose entire family contributes to the youth program. Williams works with two age groups of baseball teams, a youth basketball team and is an umpire. His wife, Theresa, works with a little league bowling team. His oldest son, Arthur Williams III, 13, helps out by being a score-keeper during games. His younger son John, 9, was both a helper and a participant in last year's Punt, Pass and Kick competition.

"I really never thought much of what we did," said Tech. Sgt. Williams. "I just like working with the kids and inspiring them to be the best they can."

Youth services is not the only organization with a significant volunteer force. The Base Chapel has dozens of volunteers helping out, from folks teaching Sunday school classes to bringing in brownies for hard-working flightline personnel.

"I have been part of our chapel gospel choir for three years and help teach the monthly chapel craft class," said Tracy Morey, a volunteer with the chapel. "Volunteering has helped me maintain my computer skills and office professionalism. Basically, I have looked for holes in our services and tried to fill them. It has helped me to grow personally as I have learned to deal with different people in different situations. God doesn't use parked cars. I try to keep moving."

The Base Consignment Shop is another high-water mark for Charleston volunteerism. With 30 regular volunteers who make up almost the entire staff, most agree the shop would not exist without these individuals.

"I came in here one day to put a few items up for consignment," said Jeanie Eyer, a volunteer with the shop. "I got to talking with one of the ladies at the counter and the next thing I know, I'm helping out. This has been a good thing for me. I stay home to take care of my daughter while my husband works, but for a little while each week, I go out and



Jennie Eyer (left) and Sydney Dixon, volunteers at the Base Consignment Shop, prepare items for sale. Profits from the shop go back into the volunteer benefits program.

spend some 'adult' time, all the while helping out. The program here at Charleston helps out by providing for care for my daughter while I volunteer."

Another area where volunteers are making it happen is at the base skeet and trap range, which is completely manned by volunteers. Open year-round, the range epitomizes what volunteerism is all about.

"Years ago, the range sat unused and alone," said John Ramsey, who works at the range. "Several of us went to the folks at the Outdoor Recreation Center and asked if we could start her up again. They agreed and the good folks at the communications squadron were kind enough to let us use part of their building out here to run everything from. I think what we have to offer is a boon. You can come out here to shoot, and since we're volunteers, you can shoot for less than half of what you would anywhere else. We even help shooters reload their used cartridges in order to keep their costs low."

Just down the road from the skeet range, at the Outdoor Recreation Center, another family of volunteers is helping patrons climb to new heights, literally. Instructing people interested in rock climbing has become a passion for the Richey family.

"Coming out here and showing folks how to climb has been a lot of fun," said Senior Airman Robert Richey, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, whose brother and wife also teach climbing at the center. "We just enjoy being able to share our enjoyment of climbing and also teaching the proper and safe way of doing it. In addition, we are the guides for the center's river tours. All in all, it's just a lot of fun for everyone!"

For more information about volunteering, call Family Support Center at 963-4406.

USAFA Wings of Blue open Air Expo 2001

The Wings of Blue, The U.S. Air Force Academy parachute team, will officially open Air Expo 2001 May 19 at Charleston AFB.

The team is composed of elite parachutists who have been highly successful in intercollegiate parachuting competitions. Competing annually in the National Collegiate Parachuting Championships, the team has won numerous titles. The Wings of Blue has also won numerous awards at regional parachute meets across the country.

Competitive parachuting isn't the only thing cadets do. Members of the Wings of Blue demonstrate their aerial skills before spectators at Air Force Academy football games, Air Force base open houses, and air shows and civic functions across the country. The team performs aerial maneuvers, both in freefall and while under canopy.

Parachute competitions and demonstrations are secondary to the team's primary role of training other cadets in basic freefall parachuting. Each team member is a qualified jumpmaster and instructor in Air Force Academy parachuting programs, which are supervised by an Air Force staff, training over 1,100 students each year.

All cadets who meet the physical requirements will have the opportu-

nity to jump sometime after their freshman year. The freefall program at the Air Force Academy is an experience that many say will be remembered for a lifetime.

After intensive ground training, cadets learn firsthand how it feels to jump out of an airplane and free fall for 10 seconds before pulling their own ripcords. Cadets learn to handle stress and also discover how they would likely perform in a combat environment. Those who successfully complete five freefalls are awarded the coveted Parachute Badge and Rating. The Academy has the only parachute school in the Air Force authorized to grant these awards.

Other performing acts scheduled to appear at Air Expo 2001 include the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, U.S. Army Golden Knights, C-17 Globemaster III, F-117 Nighthawk Stealth Fighter, B-1B Lancer Bomber and F-16 Fighting Falcon, to name a few.

CAFB will open its gates for Air Expo 2001 at 9 a.m., and performances are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

For more information on Air Expo 2001, call 963-EXPO or visit www.charleston.af.mil. ***(Submitted by Tech. Sgt. David Fremin, USAFA. Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith, 437 AW Public Affairs also contributed to this article.)***



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

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 of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

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

Thursday -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service.

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: Senior Airman 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. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.

Today, 7:30 p.m.

"15 Minutes" – Robert DeNiro

So just how far will society's most desperate people go in order to get their "fifteen minutes?" At the center of New York City, there is a double murder that must be solved. This fast-paced story isn't so much about figuring out the truth of the murder, but following who controls the truth. **(R)**

120 minutes

Saturday, 2 p.m.

"See Spot Run" – David Arquette

Gordon offers to baby sit the young son of his beautiful neighbor, but soon finds himself with a new animal in his life; an FBI agent's drug-sniffing dog, which has escaped from a witness protection program. When the runaway canine seeks refuge in Gordon's truck, it's the beginning of a wildly comic adventure. **(PG)**

94 minutes

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Traffic" – Michael Douglas

Mexican policeman Javier works on and around the border with his close friend, and fellow policeman, Manolo. Confronted with temptations of power and money, Javier resists a web of corruption that leads to an untamable situation. **(R)**

147 minutes

Fitness & Sports

Sports line

Golf tournament: The Officers' Spouses' Association is sponsoring the 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament April 27 at Wrenwoods Golf Course. The tournament will be a four-person captain's choice format and will begin at 8:30 a.m. The cost, \$16 per player, includes range balls, lunch and beverages. Cart and green fees also apply as follows:

- E-4 and below—\$9
- E-5 through O-3—\$12
- O-4 and above—\$13
- Cart rental—\$8

The proceeds from the tournament will be used to fund scholarships and local charities. Prizes for the tournament were donated by Lexus of Charleston, USPA and IRA, Boeing and many other businesses. For more information, call Cindy Mackey at 767-4329 or Wrenwoods Golf Course at 963-4177.

Golf tournament: The Charleston chapter of the National Defense Transportation Association is sponsoring the 9th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament May 11 at Miler Country Club, Summerville, S.C. The tournament will be a captain's choice format and will begin at 1 p.m. The cost, \$35 per player, includes green fees, cart rental, beverages, lunch and a donation to the scholarship fund. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place teams, and for longest drive and closest to the pin. A putting contest will be held before tee time, and many other prizes will be given away. For more information, call Glenn McNeil at 963-3183.

Mouth guards: The 437th Medical Group Deily Dental Clinic provides fitted athletic mouth guards for use during all contact sports. Mouth guards can prevent traumatic injuries such as: fractured teeth; cut lips, gums or tongue; objects wedged between the teeth; and dislodged or lost teeth. For more information about mouth guards or dental health, call the Deily Dental Clinic at 963-6839.

MXS slips past SUPS in second game, wins 2001 base basketball championship

**By Senior Airman
Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs**

The 437th Maintenance Squadron's intramural basketball team, 10-3, beat out the undefeated 437th Supply Squadron team in two games, 80-66 and 64-61, in the 2001 base intramural basketball championship tournament April 13.

Michael Brandon, MXS, grabbed an offensive rebound with four seconds left in game two, holding off SUPS1 and sealing the win and championship.

In game one, the five MXS starters gave the team a lead that SUPS1 never recovered from. Brandon, Marcus Freeman and Kasey Korth opened the

game with consecutive three point field goals. MXS kept its lead throughout the game for a final score of 80-66.

For SUPS1, Robbie Montague dominated scoring with 26 points, followed by Derrick Walden with 18. Top scorers in game one for MXS were Freeman with 22 points, Korth with 18, and Brandon and Jerome Aubert, each with 14.

Game two was a different animal. SUPS1 jumped out with a quick 20-7

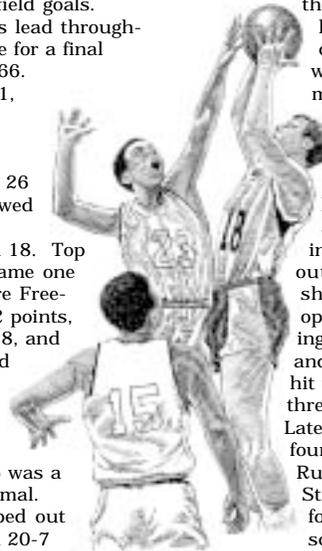
lead to start the game. In the second half, MXS came back with adjustments to their offense, netting some easy lay-ups and keeping their outside shooters open, allowing Freeman and Korth to hit two quick three pointers. Late in the fourth quarter, Rushaad Stroman was fouled as he scored a

three-point lead. Brandon then held on to the final rebound, allowing MXS to squeak by SUPS1 64-61.

"We always knew we were a great team, but during the season we played to the level of our competition," said Brandon. "Supply is equally as great, but they brought out the confidence in our team, which I think gave us the edge."

Montague scored 22 points for SUPS1 in the second game, followed by Kapatrick Forte with 12. Freeman scored 19 points for MXS and Korth hit 13.

This tournament wrapped up Charleston AFB intramural basketball for 2001. The season opened January 16.



Charleston Southern sponsors softball tournament on CAFB

Charleston Southern University Reserve Officer Training Corps held a softball tournament here Saturday, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

The Brew Dogs won the tournament after slipping past Team Rage in the final game.

Six teams, many of which included Charleston AFB

personnel, competed in the double-elimination tournament.

The CSU tournament was the first softball tournament held on CAFB this year.

For more information about softball on CAFB, call 963-4321.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier