



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

## Deuce is loose overseas

Actor and comedian Rob Schneider entertains troops in Naples, Italy. The Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders, country singer Neil McCoy and an array of other celebrities performed at military bases in Tuzla, Bosnia, and Italy as part of the 2001 United Services Organization tour. For more information about the Nov. 11-18 tour, which traveled aboard a Charleston AFB C-17, read the upcoming Nov. 30 edition of the *Airlift Dispatch*.

## CAFB takes Office of Personnel Management Director's Award for its Alternative Dispute Resolution Program's

# Award-winning process

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB was recently recognized as an Office of Personnel Management Director's Award winner for its outstanding Alternative Dispute Resolution Program.

The award, also given to the Department of the Air Force and Tinker AFB, Okla., recognized the system-wide implementation of an integrated ADR program, according to the awards ceremony program.

"I think it was a great feat for Charleston," said Wilma Mitchell, 437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron civilian personnel officer. "A few years ago we had a really bad relationship with the union. Many disputes weren't being settled without the help of a third-party mediator. Then, the Federal Labor Relations Authority came in and sat down with labor and management and worked out a strategic plan that led to the development of an alternative way to settle disputes."

There are currently 16 people at CAFB, eight labor and eight management, trained to mediate and facilitate the ADR program, according to Mitchell.

Team members serve for a minimum of two years. A four-member panel (two management and two labor) from members of the ADR team hears each ADR dispute.

Mediation is the primary goal of the program. However, if mediation fails, arbitration through consensus settles the issue. Mediation or arbi-

tration decisions of the panel are binding on all parties.

In the past, disputes were initially made to the supervisor, according to Mitchell. If the supervisor couldn't resolve the problem, the dispute would be taken to the squadron commander. If the squadron commander and the complainant couldn't reach an agreement, the issue was elevated to the group commander. Now, when disputes aren't resolved at the second step, the squadron level, complainants have the choice of ADR or the traditional process.

To participate in the ADR process, the complainant must sign a memorandum of agreement acknowledging that ADR is final and binding on both the employee and management, according to Trudy Pendergast, American Federation of Government Employees Local 1869 president.

"The only reason ADR is successful at Charleston is because both labor and management were committed to achieving a process that would work for all concerned," Pendergast said.

"Once Wilma Mitchell and I established how we wanted the ADR program to appear, we selected participants and turned them loose," Pendergast continued. "The panel members, made up of union members and management, put their hearts and souls into fine tuning the process."

According to Pendergast, the sys-

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## 437 SUPS works overtime to maintain increased ops tempo

By Staff Sgt.  
Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of the 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron's mobility and war readiness sections are working overtime to meet the supply needs of the fighting force.

Master Sgt. Kevin Getchell, mobility superintendent, said

his section has seen a huge increase in workload since the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We provide all mobility bag support for the wing," Getchell said. "This includes A-bags, B-bags, C-bags and E-bags."

A-bags include camping gear, such as sleeping bags, mess buckets and ponchos. B-bags are filled with cold weather gear. C-bags are

loaded with chemical gear, and E-bags are comprised of the desert uniform.

"We also issue ditty bags, which include the Kevlar helmet, canteen, ammo pouch and web belt," Getchell added.

Because people are always arriving and leaving Charleston AFB, the section is always busy. But since the war on terrorism kicked off,

they've seen a dramatic increase in the amount of work to be done to support the mission.

"Normally, our biggest customers are the flying squadrons," Getchell said. The section's support of these squadrons includes all aircrew equipment, flak vests, and C- and A-bags.

"We also support AEF (Aero-

space Expeditionary Forces) rotations, usually between 100-150 folks, equaling a few hundred bags a month," Getchell said. "Since Sept. 11, we've issued probably an additional 2,500 bags of various configurations."

A unique issue facing the section is their recent move

See SUPS, page 2

## IN THE NEWS



## CAFB September, October Justice Files

*Staff Sgt. looks at porn on government computer, gets punished*

*Senior airman uses marijuana, gets discharged*

*Airman first class hits civilian with metal crutch, loses stripe*

**By Senior Airman Geoffery Gunn**  
437 AW Military Justice

**Article 15 actions**

A senior airman wrongfully used marijuana.

**Punishment: Reduction to airman first class, a reprimand and 15 days extra duty. The member was subsequently discharged administratively with a General Discharge.**

An airman first class wrongfully struck a civilian with a metal crutch.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman and forfeiture of \$150 pay per month for two months.**

A staff sergeant violated a lawful general regulation, by wrongfully viewing pornography on a government computer.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of \$100 pay per month for two months, and 30 days extra duty.**

A senior airman violated a lawful order by operating a motorized vehicle on Charleston AFB, while his driving privileges were revoked.

**Punishment: Reprimand.**

An airman first class made a false official statement about having an appointment, which was totally false.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman.**

An airman first class wrongfully viewed pornographic and explicit images on a government computer at a deployed location.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$250 pay per month for two months, and six days extra duty.**

A first lieutenant was under the influence of alcohol while operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .18.

**Punishment: Forfeiture of \$800 pay per month for two months, and a reprimand.**

An airman first class made a false statement to a senior NCO.

**Punishment: Suspended reduction to airman.**

**Administrative discharges**

A senior airman and airman first class were discharged for failure in the Alcohol Abuse Prevention Treatment Program with Honorable Discharges.

An airman and two airman basics were discharged for disciplinary infractions with General Discharges.

A senior airman was discharged for a mental disorder with an Honorable Discharge.

An airman was discharged for unsatisfactory performance for two Career Development Course failures with an Honorable Discharge.

**Airman gets Bad Conduct Discharge**

An airman from the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron was court-martialed at Charleston AFB Oct. 18.

The airman pled guilty at a general court-martial to violations of Articles 86, 112a, and 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (Absent without Leave, Wrongful use of Controlled Substances, and Breaking Restriction, respectively).

On July 15, the airman, who was restricted to CAFB for earlier misconduct, broke that restriction by leaving the limits of the base.

Between May 12 and July 17, the airman wrongfully used cocaine and

marijuana on several occasions.

From July 15-17, the airman was absent from his place of duty without authority. He remained absent from his place of duty until he was apprehended July 17.

For the offenses of Absent without Leave, Wrongful use of Controlled Substances, and Breaking Restriction, the airman was sentenced by the court members to confinement for 15 months and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Courts-martial are open to the public. For more information about attending future trials, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Military Justice Office at 963-5502.

**SUPS**

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to a temporary location while awaiting construction of a new supply warehouse. The move temporarily relocated the 315<sup>th</sup> Air Wing's mobility equipment into storage, so the flight is now also supporting the 315 AW's mobility needs.

The section is normally comprised of nine members, but since mobility requirements have increased, three activated reservists have joined the team, according to Getchell. During surges of deploying personnel, about a dozen augmentees are available to help build bags.

"During normal operations, we have maybe 300 bags pre-built," Getchell said. "When everything kicked off, we had to build more to get everybody out of town."

In addition to extra personnel, the mobility section has increased its work hours. Getchell said his personnel were initially working straight 12-hour shifts, seven days a week. Now, with the pace slowed a little, members

of the section work five days of twelve-hour shifts with two days off each week.

The war readiness section has shifted to 24-7 coverage also, according to Master Sgt. Edward Henderson, war readiness element NCOIC. His element is responsible for assembling kits, which include various items to maintain the C-17 at deployed locations.

"We are responsible for getting war readiness parts on the aircraft and deployed to locations where parts aren't readily available," Henderson said.

Kits range in size from the large kit, comprised of 14 pallet positions, to smaller kits, taking up from nine to three to one pallet positions, according to Henderson. Kit size depends on what parts are deemed necessary where the aircraft is going and the availability of parts at that location.

The element is comprised of 13 active-duty members, one civilian and two activated reservists, said Henderson.

"The two reservists are

outstanding folks," Henderson said. "You can't tell they're not part of our regular workforce. They fit right in here."

Henderson said it's the team who ensures the mission is carried out.

"When events kicked off, everybody jumped up and made things happen," Henderson said. "We've got a young bunch, but they're an eager bunch.

"I'm proud of my young folks and proud of the reservists

brought on board," Henderson continued. "It makes it easier to get the job done when you've got people willing to do it. They all understand that this is our business and they're willing and ready to support it."



Senior Airman Kelly Diaz (left) and Airman Trevis Humphry, both from 437 SUPS, check the contents of a C-bag. Members of supply have been working many extra hours since Sept. 11.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streefer

### Shot in the arm

Airman 1st Class Keilon Campbell, 437<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron receives a flu shot from Capt. John Svoboda, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, at the Base Theater. Mandatory flu shots will be given again for active-duty military members Nov. 27, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Base Theater.

### AWARD

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tem works so well, one complainant said one couldn't tell the difference between who was management and who was labor.

Pendergast said this is because members of the ADR team have no affiliation with the complainant's squadron or area where he or she works.

"Unless they know the panel members personally, they never know who's who," Pendergast said. "That's the beauty of the process."

Pendergast noted before the ADR process was established, the group commander rarely changed the decision made at the squadron level. Under ADR, panel members perform a complete and thorough investigation independently of the second-step decision. The investigation includes interviewing eyewitnesses, such as coworkers and other managers.

"Unless they know the panel members personally, they never know who's who. That's the beauty of the process."

--Trudy Pendergast  
Local 1869 president

The panel then brings the complainant and group commander together to reach a decision.

"The goal is to get the complainant and the commander communicating," Pendergast said. "If they can't reach a decision, the panel will make one based on a consensus."

Pendergast added that once the panel begins its involvement, both the union president and the civilian personnel officer are completely divorced from the process.

Since the new process was implemented in February, the ADR team has settled five grievances without bringing in a third party, according to Mitchell. The removal of third-party involvement saves both management and union members money, because neither side has to pay for outside mediation.

"It's a wonderful program," Mitchell said. "I think we've had success stories, and I hope to continue it."



## Off duty--Around town



### Sports:

**Stingrays:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m., vs. Columbia. For more information, call 554-6060.

**Lowgators:** Next home game Friday, 7:30 p.m., vs. Asheville. For more information, call 764-4013 or 416-1162.

### Entertainment:

**Tops in Blue:** Tops in Blue is scheduled to perform Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., at the Gaillard Auditorium. Doors open at 7 p.m. for the free event. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, call 963-5608.

### Events:

**Festival of lights:** Drive or walk through over one million lighted holiday and Charleston structures, now-Jan. 1, at James Island County Park. Hours are Sundays-Thursdays, 5:30-10 p.m., and Fridays-Saturdays, 5:30-11 p.m. Admission is \$10 per car, truck or family van, \$8 Sundays-Thursdays with a canned-goods donation. Admission for commercial vans or church buses is \$25 and for commercial tour vans is \$100. For more information, call 795-7275.

**Ric Flair:** The "Nature Boy," professional wrestler Ric Flair, will be at the Summerville Sprint PCS Store, 1525 Old Trolley Rd., Saturday, 3-5

p.m., to sign autographs and meet with fans. Also scheduled to appear Saturday is Blues Patrol 2001, an award-winning salute to the Blues Brothers. The popular impersonation duo will perform original Blues Brothers songs, rain or shine, from 1-3 p.m.

**Discount:** Dillard's department store is extending a 20 percent discount to military personnel on all purchases made at Dillard's Dec. 5-6. The offer is open to active-duty members, full-time active guardsmen, activated guardsmen, activated reservists and their immediate families. Individuals, or a representative from their immediate family, may shop any area Dillard's store on both days. Military shoppers are asked to save their sales receipts. Upon completing their shopping, customers are asked to take the receipts for those two days to Dillard's customer service area and show a valid active or full-time military ID. Family members may show their dependent ID card noting they are military family members. The company will deduct the discount from the total purchases in the same form of payment they chose to use for those purposes.

**To submit an event for Off duty, send a fax with all pertinent information and a callback number to 963-5604.**

## 2002 Military Family Week essay, art contests open

The Armed Services YMCA is seeking entries from military children for its 2002 art contest and readers' essay contest.

Art Contest 2002 accepts artwork from children in kindergarten-sixth grade depicting their active-duty, Guard or Reserve military families. Top prizewinners will receive \$500 U.S. Savings Bonds, and their artwork will be printed on posters for worldwide distribution next year in observance of Military Family Week.

Children of Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians may enter in an honorary category. The entry deadline is Jan. 28.

The 2002 Armed Services YMCA Essay Contest highlights the joys of reading. Essays should be on any subject related to reading. In its sixth year, this contest is open to first-12<sup>th</sup> graders and offers Savings Bond prizes of up to \$1,000.

Children of active-duty, Reserve and retired members of the uniformed services, DOD, Coast Guard

and American Mission civilian employees can enter. Entry deadline is March 18.

Color images of this year's winning poster and the top posters from each of the other services are accessible on the Web at [www.asymca.org/art\\_posters\\_2001.htm](http://www.asymca.org/art_posters_2001.htm).

Full contest guidelines are on the Armed Services YMCA Web site. People can also obtain information by sending e-mail to [essaycontest@asymca.org](mailto:essaycontest@asymca.org) or [MilitaryFamilyWeek@asymca.org](mailto:MilitaryFamilyWeek@asymca.org); or by calling (703) 866-1260. (AFPN)



## NEWS BRIEFS

**Around the base**

**Flu shots:** Flu shots are available for active-duty members Tuesday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., in the Base Theater. Members must have their shot records to receive the immunization. For more information, call Public Health at 963-6962.

**Commissary:** The Commissary will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Seven habits:** Steven Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families seminar is being held at the Family Support Center Tuesday and Nov. 28, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The two-day course will cover subjects such as solving family problems and renewing family spirit. Space is limited to the first 40 people who sign up. To make a reservation, call 963-4406.

**Study skills:** There will be a Study Skills Seminar Nov. 30, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., in the Community Education Center. The seminar is open to all personnel, but is geared primarily for personnel who need to improve their study habits. This class may help personnel prepare to take their Career Development Course exam, college tests and CLEP/DANTES tests. For more information, call 963-4575.

**Golf tournament:** The Combined Federal Campaign Golf Tournament is scheduled for Dec. 4, 11 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. The start time was incorrectly printed in the Nov. 16 *Airlift Dispatch*. The 11 a.m. start time is correct. The captain's choice tournament costs \$20, plus green fees. Food and beverages will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for closest to the pin, longest drive and more. For more information, call 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Anthony Maffini at 963-2791.

**Nativity:** The chapel is hosting the Nativity of Emmanuel, or NOEL, program Dec. 8, 9 a.m.-noon. The program features crafts, stories, songs and more for children ages 3-12. Registration is required and begins Nov. 15. This time may be used by parents to shop, wrap presents or just relax. The Chapel staff will need help with the program. Anyone wishing to volunteer should call the Chapel at 963-2536 or Mary Davis at 552-0303.

**Closure:** The Military Personnel Flight Customer Service Office will be closed Dec. 10-12 while the system for the new identification card, the Common Access Card, is installed. The office will be closed for all services. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ronnie Cullum or Staff Sgt. Shonna Billings at 963-4545.

**Commissary:** Effective Dec. 11, the Commissary will be operating under new hours. The new hours of operation are Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5

## Charleston Profile

### Senior Airman DeQuan Barthell 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron

Senior Airman DeQuan Barthell is a loadmaster for the 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron.

Barthell came to Charleston AFB in October 1997 as a crew chief and held that job until August 2000 when he started retraining.

"I extended 23 months to become a loadmaster," said Barthell. "I have attended four schools so far and only have one remaining."

His reason for retraining had to do with wanting to travel more.

"I loved being a crew chief and seeing the immediate impact on the mission," said Barthell. "But I only went TDY one time for a day."

"After talking to loadmasters on the flight line I knew it was what I wanted to do. I wanted to see the world. A big incentive is also the money."

With the current crisis in the world going on, Barthell is motivated to finish his training.

"I'd rather be flying and performing the mission," said Barthell. "Hopefully I'll get a chance."

Barthell starts his last school in December and will graduate in March. He will then return to Charleston to fly in the C-17.

"It's an amazing plane. Tremendous," said Barthell.

Living in Charleston has been enjoyable so far for the Atlanta native.

"I like the fact that I am close to home, but I miss the big city," said Barthell.



*Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy*

His future seems certain, but he is not standing by waiting for things to happen.

"I wouldn't mind being a chief, but I am putting in a package soon to become an officer," said Barthell.

Barthell likes to workout at the fitness center but spends most of his spare time with his family. He is married and has two daughters.

p.m., and closed Mondays.

**Scholarship:** Applications and fact sheets are now available at the Commissary for the 2002 Scholarship for Military Children Program. The deadline for filing for the \$1,500 scholarships is Feb. 5. Information is also available at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

**SIU:** Southern Illinois University is holding open Spring 2002 registration for its one-year Workforce Education and Development program through Dec. 14. Military members, dependents, retirees and civilians are eligible to enroll. The Workforce Education and Development degree major is a one-year program in training and development that will commence Jan. 12 and conclude in November. SIU is located in the Community Education Center. For more information, call 552-7320.

**CCC:** City Colleges of Chicago Term III schedules are available. Registration will begin Dec. 10. For more information, call 552-5959.

**CGOC:** The Company Grade Officers' Counsel has elected new officers. The new CGOC president is 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Pete O'Neill, 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron; vice president is Capt. Stephen Cristofori, 437<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron; and treasurer is 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Melinda Reeder, 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron.

**Best base:** The Air Force Times "Best

Base" awards program, suspended following the Sept. 11 attack, has been resumed. Nomination forms are available in Air Force Times or are available online at [www.airforcetimes.com/bestbase](http://www.airforcetimes.com/bestbase). The winner will be announced in the Dec. 24 issue of Air Force Times.

**Limestone College:** Limestone College will have a representative on base every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon, at the Community Education Center. Limestone offers a non-traditional approach to education. For more information, call 745-1100 or 963-7298.

**Consignment Shop:** The Consignment Shop has extended its hours to include Tuesday nights, 6-8 p.m. Consigning on Tuesday nights will be available from 6-7:30 p.m. The shop is still open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The Consignment Shop is located in Bldg. 203, Graves Avenue, and can be reached at 963-3294.

**ESC:** The Enlisted Support Club, formerly the Enlisted Wives Club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., at the Family Support Center. Anyone associated with the Charleston AFB enlisted community is invited to join the group. Their activities include social events, fund raisers and helping with the Consignment Shop. For more information, call Marcia Lytton at 760-6892 or 207-0123. She can also be reached

via e-mail at [marcia359@hotmail.com](mailto:marcia359@hotmail.com).

**Vehicle storage:** Any individual going on a contingency TDY for more than 30 days is entitled to have a POV stored at government expense. This includes current AEFs and other deployed locations. Individuals must take a copy of their orders to TMO, which will process the paperwork. The member will have to do some paperwork and deliver the vehicle. Members have up to 90 days after the TDY to get the vehicle out of storage.

**Retiree activities:** The Charleston AFB Retirees Activities Program is seeking volunteers to help in a number of positions working with military personnel in such areas as security, pharmacy staffing and administrative offices. For more information, call 963-2228.

**Family Support Center**

**Pre-deployment Briefing:** Nov. 29, 4-4:30 p.m., and Monday and Nov. 26, 8-8:30 a.m.

**Troops-to-Teachers:** Nov. 26, 10-11 a.m.

**Resume II:** Nov. 27, 9-10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

**Women and Self-Esteem:** Nov. 28, 1-3 p.m.

**Smooth Move:** Nov. 29, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

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

## Lots to be thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley  
437 AW commander

Sandy and I send our deepest thanks to Team Charleston on the eve of this Thanksgiving holiday. We thank you for all that you have done over the past year and a half and especially your efforts since the tragic events of Sept. 11. Mission permitting, we hope that you have the best holiday season ever and that you take advantage of the season to spend as much time with your family as you can.

A special thanks to the **1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron** for their efforts to produce a video to help me salute the men and women of Team Charleston Tuesday. The patriotic salute was meant to be a timely and moving tribute.

It was a heartfelt thanks and we could not have accomplished what we have to date without the strong support of everyone who flies, maintains and supports our fleet of C-17s. Although the airdrop mission may have received more recognition, that mission only accounted for about 20 percent of what was accomplished by Team Charleston. There is a lot of hard work behind the scenes to move the forces to the fight; much of that work is unpublicized for good security reasons. I am especially proud of the hard work by everyone at home and those deployed overseas in making the mission happen seamlessly. Pride, professionalism and passion define who we are and what we've achieved to date. I know we'll continue to stay the course and continue to make Air Force history.

My compliments to everyone associated with Military Family Week held this week. The entire staff of the **Family Support Center** and **437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron** came up with a large listing of activities to recognize the contributions of family members in supporting our military members. During the week, I participated in a Thanksgiving feast at the Child Development Center Tuesday. The special meal is provided to all enrolled children and their families. I thoroughly enjoyed their company during the meal.

It is especially appropriate to celebrate this special week during the Thanksgiving holiday. A number of squadrons held Thanksgiving activities with their family members. Almost every squadron has military members deployed and I encourage the squadron leadership to hold picnics and other activities to include those left behind during the holidays. If you know of a family whose spouse is deployed, do what you can to include them into your family activities, or help them out in some way. It does make a difference!

I also encourage everyone to attend the seminar of "7 Habits of Highly Effective Families" presented by Richard Yates Tuesday and Nov. 28, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Family Support Center. Please call 963-4406 to reserve your place. It is just one of the many seminars that the FSC has brought to the base especially for military families.

The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce's Military Relations Committee met recently to form a number of committees to help our people. The committee divided into five subcommittees, who in turn brainstormed ideas upon which they can begin to take action: sports, hospitality, awards and recognition, Armed Forces Week and communications. Represented on this committee are a number of civic leaders (many are our own honorary commanders) from the surrounding community.

Col. Dave Snodgrass, 437<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander, and Rose Alexander, 437 Airlift Wing Public

Affairs, will serve as our representatives on this committee. This committee is a new initiative to better support our military members and they are currently looking for ideas. If you have any thoughts about how the community can better support our military members, please get your ideas to the Public Affairs Office at 963-5535. They will make sure your ideas get passed to the right people on the committee.

I've presented a number of Operation Enduring Freedom "Top Performer" certificates. Last week, I recognized **Lt. Col. Ed Memi** and his **Public Affairs** staff for their hard work in telling our successes to the public. I also recognized **Staff Sgt. John Morse** and the **Survival Element** members in the Fabrication Flight of the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron for designing heavy-duty vinyl covers to cover up building signs during higher force protection conditions. This idea impressed the headquarters so much that they suggested other bases follow our lead. **Ron Westall**, assigned to the Combat Readiness Flight in the 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron, also received a certificate for providing outstanding support to the Crisis Action Team.

Our Operation Enduring Freedom "Top Performers" for this week are **Jim Moore**, current operations flight in the 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, and **Master Sgt. Gary Mostinger** and the **437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Command Post**. Current Ops and the Command Post are two agencies that directly ensure our missions are accomplished each and every day. They are our "behind-the-scenes" heroes who often provide the support to our aircrews and maintainers allowing the mission to happen so seamlessly. They have been working long hours on behalf of the wing since Sept. 11.

I also want to thank **Tech. Sgt. Dan Lotito**, 437 SVS, and **Ada Carter** of David E. Wade Management Services Corporation for arranging another great feast at the Gaylor Dining Facility on Thanksgiving Day, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. A number of colonels, chiefs, first sergeants and myself volunteered to serve food. I always look forward to meeting with the great young and old folks who come to the dining facility on this day. It is considered an open house, and military members often bring guests. I won't be shy with the portion servings either, so get in my line if you are really hungry.

For those of you who don't go to the dining facility, then the Charleston Club will put on a fantastic buffet meal on Thanksgiving Day, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. The cost is \$11.95 for adults and \$5.95 for ages 5-12. Children age 5 and under eat free. Reservations are suggested for groups of 10 or more. Come out and enjoy the great food.

Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, will attend a ceremony next week to name a Sealift command-assigned container ship after Medal of Honor recipient Airman 1<sup>st</sup>

Class William H. Pitsenbarger at a local shipyard. Military Sealift Command will host the ceremony.

Pitsenbarger, a pararescueman, was awarded the Medal of Honor for treating and protecting scores of wounded infantrymen, while under intense enemy fire, and being mortally wounded himself in a rain forest stronghold near the Vietnamese capital of Saigon in 1966.

Pitsenbarger became the service's second enlisted Medal of Honor recipient since the Air Force became a separate service in 1947. Since the formation of a separate service in 1947, there have been 16 Air Force recipients of the medal.

Once again, have a great Thanksgiving weekend. It is indeed great being here at the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet!

## 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.

## Advertising

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Col. Karl Young (left), 437 AW vice commander, presents Staff Sgt. Thomas Smith, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, a plaque naming the CE Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight as Air Mobility Command's Outstanding EOD Flight. CES was also named AMC's Outstanding large CE squadron.

# Budd warns of holiday blues: *Behavioral Sciences flight commander says holiday season may not be happy time for all Team Charleston members*

**By Lt. Col. (Dr.) Frank Budd**  
437 MDG Behavioral Sciences

While many in the Charleston AFB family are preparing to celebrate the year's most joyous moments, many others are not. As the music chimes ring and the television blares "shop 'till you drop in the name of credit cards," some people feel an acute sense of loneliness and sadness. For some, feelings of vulnerability to terrorism creep in to spoil this special time. Others will not be with their loved ones due to the many deployments to support Operation Enduring Freedom.

For the military family, there are also several "normal" sources of stress this time of year. Absence of family members is especially common and acute. Active-duty members may be half way around the world over the holidays. This also disrupts family traditions on how the holidays are celebrated and puts extra stress on the remaining parent or caretakers of children at a time when they are extra excited and difficult to manage. For some personnel, there is the stress of decisions on who to visit. Sometimes parents are divorced and live far away from each other. Visiting

everyone who wants to be visited may cost a fortune. So the question of "who do we disappoint this time?" has to be answered.

For those who come from a strong and loving family, being away from them for the first time can be very lonely. They have not established new traditions for celebrating the holidays. Since everyone's expectations of this family time are heightened, being alone, sipping eggnog may be too stark a contrast with how Christmas "is supposed to be."

Single people may experience a growing sense of not fitting in, loneliness and embarrassment about not having anywhere to go. If family visits are destructive due to a parent's alcoholism or mental illness, there is particular anxiety about whether to visit out of duty, or find a good excuse so they don't have to visit. Additionally, some recently divorced or single people do not want to feel as if they are some type of hard luck case or squadron poster child. Especially in the case of divorce or a recent breakup, the holidays can be a stark reminder of how their world has been turned upside down. What was normal is now radically different, and lonely.

Some people can become so depressed and feel so alienated

from others that they can't stand it, and may see suicide as the only solution. Suicide may become a way to take control of their pain. A suicide attempt may also become their only way to let other people know they need help. Several members of Team Charleston have had their vision of family torn apart through a spouse's adultery or through divorce. In fact, depression and relationship problems are the risk factors most clearly increasing the likelihood of a suicide attempt.

To help combat these problems, first, be reasonable in expectations. It's not possible to visit everybody, it's not smart to deplete bank accounts splurging on the kids and it is lonely without someone who's deployed. Those experiencing loneliness should be surrounded with people.

Second, don't accept other people's unrealistic expectations. Accept that everyone truly can't be visited every year. Maybe it would be a good idea to stay home and establish new holiday traditions, especially for new parents, who are no longer just someone's son or daughter.

Third, make a single or separated person feel wanted and welcome. Married people can invite a

single person to their home for supper, or coffee and dessert. Take advantage of squadron or section functions and actually talk to and learn about others. Don't just stand in the corner and down another drink. Realize also, other people may be shy, nervous or bummed out. They could need a smiling face or invitation to talk. Make the first move.

Lastly, if depression has been a problem in the past, it may be coming on again, get help.

Counseling may not be needed, but rather just a feeling of connection to a caring person available to listen.

The staff of the Life Skills Support Center is here for those in need, as are the chapel staff, first sergeants and many others. They all know this can be a difficult time for many people, and no, people in need won't be bothering them or "ruining someone else's holiday," as many depressed people fear. Let them do whatever they can to help make this a joyous holiday time for the Charleston family.

For more information during duty hours, call 963-6852. After duty hours, call the Clinic Answering Service at 963-6790, or 911 if it is an emergency.

## FEATURE

# Last of the new Block 12 version C-17s arrives

Story and photos by Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

The last of three brand-new Block 12 versions of the C-17 Globemaster III was delivered to Charleston AFB Nov. 14.

The Block 12 is currently the most advanced version of the C-17 and contains a number of system improvements and avionics upgrades to include extended range fuel tanks and the Global Air Traffic Management System, which provides more precise navigation and better use of crowded airspace.

Other features to the Block 12 aircraft include Air Force Mission Planning System software, multi-functional display redesign, thermal electrical refrigerator, electrical engine control backup power, electrical system control panel redesign and electronic engine out software upgrade.

Other features to the Block 12 aircraft include Air Force Mission Planning System software, multi-functional display redesign, thermal electrical refrigerator, electrical engine control backup power, electrical system control panel redesign and electronic engine out software upgrade.

Maj. Gen. Duncan McNabb, Air Force Director of Programs, flew the aircraft in from the Boeing plant, Long Beach, Calif. McNabb was assigned to CAFB from June 1988-August 1992 as the chief pilot. He later became the operations officer of the 17<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Squadron, commander of the 41<sup>st</sup> Military Airlift Squadron (now the 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron), and finally, the deputy commander of the 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group.

Before aircraft number 0177, dubbed P-77 by Boeing, arrived, the 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron had to check it out. Tech. Sgt. Ernie Washington, 437 AGS shift chief, says acceptance inspections are normally performed by two crew chiefs at the Boeing plant and can take about four hours to complete. Maintainers follow a comprehensive checklist when inspecting a new aircraft before it leaves the Boeing plant. The Charleston-based Boeing Recovery and Modification Services team also installed armor on the aircraft shortly after it landed here.

"We basically make sure everything that is suppose to be on the aircraft is there. We make sure we are getting a quality product and help

Boeing out," Washington said. "We've found a few minor problems like paint defects, tires, etc. Anything we found we addressed to Boeing, and they took care of it right away."

Aircraft 0177 flew its first operational mission Nov. 16.

"Right now, as far as I'm concerned, this aircraft is ready to go," Washington said. "I did a thorough inspection on the aircraft."

Once the aircraft passed inspection, the Air Force accepted the aircraft for delivery by signing an Air Force form.

Washington says he loves the new C-17s. "I came out of the C-141 and the C-17 is a lot different," he said. "It's maintenance friendly. You have more room to work, and its more reliable. It's full of computers that basically tell you the problem. The engines are a whole lot quieter, and that's what I like about them. It can haul a lot more cargo and troops too. It is a lot less stressful to maintain than the C-141s."

Although he's worked on several aircraft, Tech. Sgt. John Wittchow, an activated reserve crew chief for 0177 in the 315<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron, said he loves to care for a new jet.

"If you are out here everyday, you get to know quite a few jets. Each jet is unique and you know what to look for on them," Wittchow said. Wittchow also performed the acceptance inspection with Washington.

"When you tie the people with a great mission, you literally see magic happen," McNabb said upon stepping off the aircraft. "The base has been at the cornerstone of national policy, you saw it all the time and you lived it."

While assigned here, McNabb participated in Just Cause, Desert Shield and Storm. McNabb added that CAFB is once again making history.

"It is going to take mobility to a different level; the C-17 in general, but the block 12 with its expanded range tanks is going to allow us to do a concept of ops that we've not been able to do," McNabb said. "You tie that in with interoperability and communications improvements which allows us to use the C-17 in ways that we could only imagine a few years ago."

McNabb, as a former Tanker Airlift



Aircraft 0177, the last of the three brand-new Block 12 C-17s, arrived at Charleston AFB Nov. 14.

Control Center commander, said he had often wished that the C-17s had a little additional range, and the new Block 12 version brings that to bear and will make scheduling even easier.

"Having been at the plant at Boeing, I got to see how they were looking for ways to make it even better, and you see all the people behind this airplane that make it great," McNabb added about his Boeing plant tour before visiting CAFB.

"The people, their passion and their search for excellence was what impressed me most at the Boeing plant," he continued. "I have visited the plant a number of times, and every time that I go there, they show me something new that is going to further improve the aircraft. They always ask me what they can do to improve the C-17."

Lt. Col. Mike Carlson, chief of logistics for the C-17 System Program Office at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, was visiting the base when aircraft 0177 arrived and commented, "We are extremely proud to see the third delivery of the latest-generation Block 12 C-17 aircraft to Charleston AFB."

"These aircraft are the backbone of our strategic airlift inventory, and the personnel at Charleston (both deployed and at home station) have done absolute wonders in keeping current contingency operations supported," Carlson said after touring the new aircraft. "In addition, the Boeing Company, prime contractor for the C-17, is providing superb logistical support through an innovative contract arrangement called Flexible Sustainment. This contract, executed and managed by the C-17 System Program Office, continues to be the benchmark in supporting crucial C-17 airlifter customer requirements."

McNabb is no stranger to the C-17, having flown airdrops at CAFB about 4 or 5 years ago while a wing commander at McChord AFB, Wash.

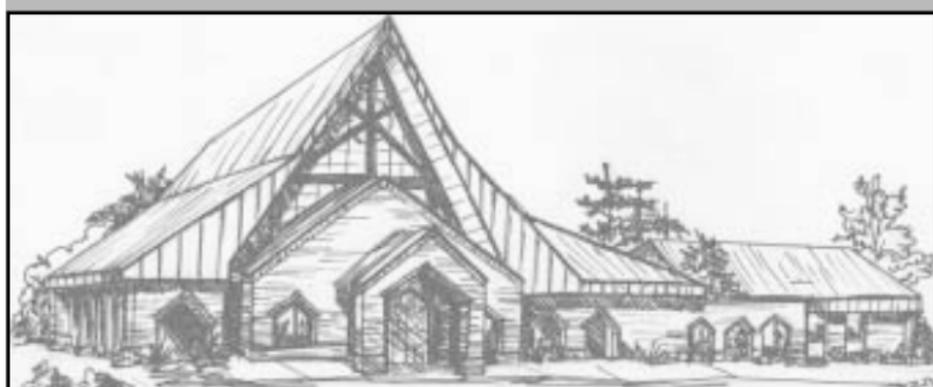
"It's amazing how solid the aircraft is," McNabb said. "The airdrops for Afghanistan and seeing how the aircraft is doing in the war flying into Uzbekistan and other places and to see what this plane offers the national command authority is awesome."

"One of the things that I reminisce about is that when I was here, I flew a lot of airdrops and special operations," continued McNabb. "What amazed me most about the C-17 was how solid it was at low level. But back then, we didn't have enough of them to be fully utilized. Now we do, and the aircraft is checking out as we had hoped years ago. It fills a unique niche."



Aircraft 0177 was flown from the Boeing Plant, Long Beach, Calif., to Charleston AFB by Maj. Gen. Duncan McNabb, Air Force Director of Programs.

## 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. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

**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 963-2676.

**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 an 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.**

### Friday, 7:30 p.m.

#### "Zoolander" – Ben Stiller

Derek Zoolander, a supermodel, is targeted by a dangerous crime organization that wants him to carry out some dangerous plans. Suddenly, Zoolander has to think fast. With his head in the clouds, Zoolander has trouble thinking at all. **(PG-13) 87 minutes**

### Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

#### "Training Day" – Denzel Washington

Alonzo, a corrupt veteran cop escorts Jake, a rookie on his first day, with the LAPD's tough inner-city narcotics unit. Jake is confronted with corruption within the unit perpetuated by his partner. Will the rookie turn on his partner or be drawn into the dark underworld? The only thing more dangerous than the line being crossed is who crosses it. **(R) 122 minutes**

### Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.

#### "The Others" – Nicole Kidman

On the secluded Isle of Jersey in the final days of World War II, three new servants arrive at Grace's home to replace the ones that disappeared. Startling supernatural events begin to unfold. Grace begins to sense that intruders are at large. Who are the trespassers? **(PG-13) 88 minutes**

## Fitness & Sports

# Swami lets Bartley win

By the Swami  
*Pigskin Prognosticator*

Scott Bartley is the solo winner in week 10 with a record of 13-2.

The tiebreaker score was irrelevant because the next best record was Anthony Komara's 11-4. The Swami was tied for third with three others who turned in 10-5 records. The Swami actually could've had a perfect week, but after two wins in a row, he decided to allow one of Charleston AFB's wannabees win.

The name Speedy made the highlights once again in Swami action. Speedy's impressive 5-10 record earned him the lowest spot in this week's standings. The embarrassment of losing is nothing new to Speedy. As a matter of fact, the Swami thinks Speedy's whole purpose in life is to make everyone else feel better about themselves by showing them things could be worse. Speedy, you wasted two minutes of the Swami's time reviewing your ridiculous picks, and the Swami wants those two minutes back!

While on the subject of losers, did

anyone watch the Dallas game? The folks at the Airlift Dispatch received an interesting e-mail for the Swami from Cortchie Welch. Welch asked the Swami "Do you hate the Cowboys because A. They've won so many Superbowls, B. they're America's team or C. both of the above."

The Swami, who was feeling just as creative as Welch, made his own little ABC list. It goes something like this: The Swami doesn't hate the Cowboys. He feels sorry for them because A. It's difficult for a prison league team to get into NFL games, B. UFOs often mistake Texas Stadium for a large pimple on

the Earth's surface and C. trying to get through the 12 steps to recovery while playing back-yard style football once a week is tiresome.

The top-ten Swami pickers for the season so far in order are Travis Anderson, Maharishi, Swami, Lovegod, Aldo the Greek, Matt Mercer, Roadrunner, Scott Bartley, George Thompson and Dale Robinson. The Swami is predicting he will take first place from Anderson within the next three weeks. After all, Anderson is a Cowboys

fan, and that will be his downfall.

The Swami has a major news conference to get to now. Have a great Thanksgiving, remember your diets while eating turkey, and you may someday look as beautiful as the Swami.



Photo illustration by Senior Airman Jason Smith

The Swami would like all of his fans to tune into the major Thanksgiving Day parades on Thursday to watch for the new Swami float. While the details of the contract haven't been finalized, the Swami feels he'll get the extra \$50 million he's holding out for.

### Week Twelve

Name/Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Sunday, Dec. 2

Carolina @ **New Orleans**

Denver @ **Miami**

Detroit @ **Chicago**

Indianapolis @ **Baltimore**

Minnesota @ **Pittsburgh**

New England @ **New York Jets**

St. Louis @ **Atlanta**

Tampa Bay @ **Cincinnati**

Tennessee @ **Cleveland**

San Diego @ **Seattle**

Arizona @ **Oakland**

Dallas @ **Washington**

Buffalo @ **San Francisco**

#### Monday, Dec. 3

Green Bay @ **Jacksonville**

Monday night total points: \_\_\_\_\_

Swami's Monday night points: **39**

Swami's picks are in bold and underlined.  
Send your picks to: Swami@charleston.af.mil

Picks may be dropped at the Public Affairs office in Bldg. 1600, Room 224.

\*\*Picks must be submitted by Friday, Nov. 30, 4 p.m.\*\*

## Oral cancer poses higher risk than skin, cervical cancer

By Senior Airman  
**Brenda Barnhart**  
437 ADOS

The number of people at risk for oral cancer may be surprising.

Oral cancer is more lethal than melanoma (skin cancer) or cervical cancer nationwide. Of all patients diagnosed with oral cancer, only half will survive more than five years. However, due to medical progress, oral cancer can be prevented and even cured. The key is early detection.

Studies completed by the American Dental Association suggest that almost 30,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with a form of oral cancer this year, making this the sixth-most-common cancer in males. In the early stages of oral cancer, there can be several signs or symptoms. Early detection is important to provide successful treatment and a cure.

There are often times several signs and symptoms

of oral cancer.

- A sore or irritation that does not heal or persists for more than one week

- Color changes in oral tissues, especially red and or white lesions

- Lumps, rough spots, crusts or small eroded areas

- Pain or tenderness anywhere in the mouth, including lips, gums, cheek lining, tongue, throat and floor/roof of mouth

- Any trouble chewing, talking or swallowing

Aside from watching for signs of oral cancer and maintaining oral health, individuals can avoid or eliminate risk factors such as tobacco or alcohol use.

People who smoke are six times more likely to have oral cancer than those who do not smoke. Smokeless tobacco is also very harmful. Using snuff or chewing tobacco increases the risk of oral cancer by fifty times. ADA research shows 75-80 percent of patients with oral cancer frequently consume alcohol. Research also confirms diets high in

vegetables and fruits limit the development of oral cancer.

Individuals should ask themselves "Could I be at risk for oral cancer? Am I taking measures to avoid cancer-causing habits? Is

my diet high in fruits and vegetables? Am I checking my oral tissues for any abnormalities and receiving a dental exam at least once a year?"

Everyone can be at risk for oral cancer, but the fact

that it can be prevented and treated successfully is important. For more information, call the dental clinic at 963-6842, or check out the American Dental Association web site at [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org).



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones

Staff Sgt. Kris Walker, 437 ADOS, performs routine dental work on Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean Lane, U.S. Coast Guard Group Charleston.