

# DISPATCH



A I R L I F T

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Vol. 40, No. 37

437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, Sept. 21, 2001

## CAFB K-9 handler was there!

By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

While most people at Charleston AFB watched the World Trade Center collapse on TV, a military working dog handler with the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, experienced the horror first hand.

Staff Sgt. Scott Shafer recalled the horrific events.

"I was in Bldg. 7 of the World Trade Center for a meeting when I heard the first explosion," Shafer said. "I started to run out of the building and had just gotten out when I heard the second one."

Shafer, who was TDY to New York as part of an assignment with the



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michelle Leonard, 1CTCS

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Staff Sgt. Scott Shafer, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron K-9 handler was in World Trade Center Building 7 when an airplane struck the first tower. Shafer was in New York to provide support for a United Nations conference.

## CAFB reservists respond to tragedy: A services flight team from CAFB left for Dover AFB, Del.

By Staff Sgt.  
Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

Thirteen members of the 315<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron Services Flight departed Charleston AFB for Dover AFB, Del., Sept. 13 to aid mortuary affairs personnel there.

Members of the all-volunteer team left their jobs and families on a moment's notice to help where they could, according to Maj. Tom Egbert, 315<sup>th</sup> Services Flight commander.

Egbert and his team will perform a variety of duties, he said. In addition to assisting in identifying victims, the team will preserve the victims' personal effects, assemble uniforms and help out in any other way required.

This is the second real-world incident Egbert has responded to. The first was an Army helicopter crash.

"I know what's coming," he said. "You just have to stay focused on the job you have to do and keep your mind from wandering. You don't think about the kids without a dad or mom or the wife without a husband."

This is also the second incident for Master Sgt. Tom Dombrowski, 315 MSS, who was with Egbert in responding to the helicopter crash.

"Somebody has to do it," Dombrowski said. "I'm not looking forward to it."

Dombrowski's son is going up a rank in Boy Scouts this weekend. "I'll miss his corps of honor," Dombrowski said.

His job will miss him, too. Dombrowski works in the 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's budget office.

"It's closeout time," Dombrowski said, referring to the end of the fiscal year. "It really puts a strain on everyone else in the office, but

they know this is a job that must be done."

All of the team members made sacrifices to help out, and Tech. Sgt. Deborah Fraser, 315 MSS, is no exception.

Fraser is leaving behind a seven-week-old baby to help where she can.

"It's very difficult," Fraser said. "But I thought of the families; how important it is for them to have their loved ones; to say goodbye. It's hard to believe something like this could happen in the U.S."

This is the second mortuary affairs team Fraser has worked with. She also responded with a 315 MSS team to Dover AFB following the tragedy on the USS Cole.

For many of the volunteers, helping out was something they said they had to do.

"You're home sitting in front of the TV wondering what you can do to help," said Staff

Sgt. Edna Doctor, 315 MSS. "We have a chance to do something."

In the past, Doctor responded to two Army helicopter crashes.

"The hardest thing for me last time was going through personal effects," Doctor said. "Seeing the families in pictures, going through the things they had on them when they died was hard, especially the ones with kids."

Doctor's eleven-year-old daughter was concerned about her mother leaving.

"I told her we were okay, we weren't going to New York or Washington," said Doctor. "I did tell her we were driving instead of flying. I didn't want her to be afraid."

"It's been a long day," Doctor continued, "We've been here since 7:30 a.m., just waiting. But this whole thing made me realize life is so short, so it doesn't bother me

to sit and wait."

Waiting next to Doctor was a City of Charleston police officer.

"They are always supportive," said Staff Sgt. Barbara Brown, 315 MSS, in reference to her employers.

"I don't know why I do this," Brown said. "I just enjoy helping other people."

As for the job she has to do, Brown said, "It doesn't bother me until, like, the second day, that's when you can't sleep. By the third and fourth day, everything seems normal."

Brown has been a Reserve member since 1992.

The team has no idea how long they will be needed, but their orders are cut for 15 days, said Egbert.

Maj. Connie Alge, 315 MSS, summed up the team's courage, "These people really show that patriotism is alive and well."

## IN THE NEWS

# Gaylor Dining Hall handles influx during FPCON Delta

*The 437 SVS was responsible for feeding all of Team Charleston, including officers and civilians*

**Story and photo by  
Senior Airman Jason Smith**  
437 AW Public Affairs

When Charleston AFB went into Force Protection Condition Delta Sept. 11, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron were required to shut down some of their normally provided services.

The BX food court, bowling alley, golf course, Charleston Club and Burger King all closed. Personnel who normally go to one of these locations, or off base, for their meals needed somewhere to eat.

The Gaylor Dining Facility quickly stepped forward and was able to provide nutrition for the base with no notice. Tech. Sgt. Daniel Lotito, 437 SVS Gaylor Dining Facility NCOIC, said business really started picking up during the Sept. 11 midnight meal.

"We had an extra hundred or so people for the midnight meal," said Lotito. "It's been busy since then. Normally for lunch we have around 300 or 350 meals to serve. Yesterday (Sept. 13), we served 516 meals."

During the recent closure of other eating establishments, civilians and officers were authorized to eat at Gaylor Dining Facility, according to Lotito. The dining hall staff reacted quickly to the influx of customers.

"We started doing emergency purchases right away," said Lotito. "We contacted some of our vendors and really started planning."

Lotito also coordinated the emergency shipments with the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces. One member of his staff met the food trucks at the gate and stayed with it until it left again. Also, personnel re-adjusted meal schedules and had a back up plan at

each meal.

"We start thawing meat three days ahead of time," said Lotito. "We knew we would run out of the food we planned on serving, but we came up with back up meals that don't take as long to prepare."

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Marcus Darnell, 437 SVS Gaylor Dining Facility, orders, re-orders, receives and issues food to clerks for the dining hall. He said the orders have been much bigger, and the flow of customers reminds him of Unit Training Assembly weekends.

"We're ordering a lot more food to make sure we're ready," said Darnell. "It's like a Reserve weekend every day now. Most of the business is from the dorms because Burger King is closed."

The dining facility workers, military and civilian, have been putting in extra time, according to Lotito. He said they understand what's going on, and they're dealing with the emergency very professionally.

"They understand this is what they're jobs are all about," said Lotito. "Most of our civilian employees are dependants, or are associated with military people in some way. That's the big thing. Everyone here knows what they're doing is important, and they're giving it their best."

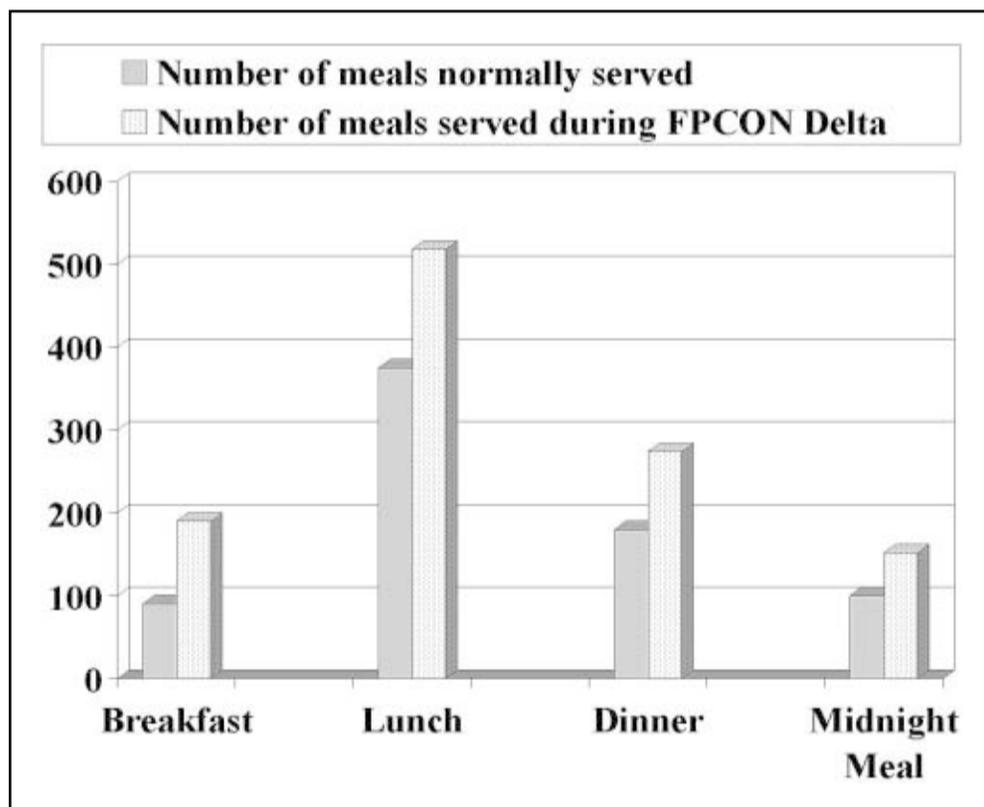
Darnell echoed Lotito's sentiments when asked how he was dealing with long hours and no days off.

"It's part of my job," said Darnell. "This is what I do during emergencies. I'm willing to support the mission any way I can."

Business should be back to normal for the dining hall. Other base facilities opened for business Sept. 14, meaning officers and civilians were able to go back to their previous meal plans, according to Lotito. He said the dining facility will stand ready should



Senior Airman Kala Olbino, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron, works in the Gaylor Dining Hall during FPCON Delta.



## Helping children adjust to terror

**By Lt. Col. John Murray**  
WPAFB Medical Center

Television views of plumes of smoke enveloping downtown Manhattan after the collapse of the World Trade Center towers in New York City ... ash and debris darkening streets in New York and the nation's capital ... flames erupting from windows at the Pentagon ... helicopters and other military aircraft flying over the Pentagon and White House ... military bases placed on high alert ... schools and businesses closed.

These are all images of the Manhattan, N.Y., and Pentagon landscapes after jets hijacked by terrorists crashed into the sides of buildings at each of these locations. This recent terrorist assault has also left its mark on small victims - children.

The aftermath of such devastation can leave an impression on children. However, there are a number of things individuals can do to help children following a disaster to assist in minimizing the long-term effects.

Getting children to express their fears and anger will help them work through the frightening experience. Some children find playing, drawing and keeping journals about the

tragedy to be helpful. The developmental level of the child will determine which activities are most beneficial.

Most experts agree parents need to stay calm and composed. Children clearly pick up on their parents' fears and anxieties. If parents can convince them everything is going to be all right, children will take great comfort in that.

Just as important is that parents be honest. It is in the best interest of children to inform them of what is occurring, remembering to modify the amount and level of information given at any time.

Other healthcare professionals report that parents should not make everything

appear disastrous, but at the same time don't deny that there is anything to be concerned about. Researchers also believe television viewing should be minimized. If children are allowed to watch TV coverage of the event, parents should watch with them so they can explain what is happening. Parental support is extremely important.

Finally and most importantly, researchers studying the effects of terrorism and disasters on children say parents should know the psychological effects of terrorism and disasters don't go away once the immediate threat is over. Children can suffer from nightmares, anxiety and other problems for up to two

this emergency or any other incident force normal establishments to close again.

From a customer's perspective, Lotito asked for patience.

"We have a new system that takes extra time for our cashiers to learn," said Lotito. "We want people to know we're trying to serve them the freshest, best quality food we can during this situation and every day for that matter. We're just asking for a little extra patience during this influx of customers."

The Gaylor Dining Facility's importance to the CAFB's mission became more apparent than ever during Sept. 11's crisis. No matter what the situation, the staff at the dining hall is ready to provide exceptional service and meals to all of Team Charleston.

years following the disaster. Pediatric health care professionals, teachers and caregivers need to be attentive to signs and symptoms that their children need counseling.

"Because of the extent of destruction and death in New York, most of us are experiencing some sense of shock and outrage," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Frank Budd, 437<sup>th</sup> Behavioral Sciences Flight commander. "This is normal for any tragedy, especially one the size of the World Trade towers. Terrorists, however, are counting on more than grief. They want to convince us we are helpless, they are in charge, and it can happen anywhere and any time."

# Crew from 14 AS flies medical supplies to N.J.

By Capt. Krista Carlos  
437 AW Public Affairs

Airlift forces at Charleston AFB have played a major role in almost every past conflict and contingency, and last week's attack on the World Trade Center was no exception.

At approximately 10 p.m. Sept. 11, Capt. Phil Lynch from the 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron and his five-man crew flew to Gulfport, Miss., to pick up medical supplies in support of the relief efforts in New York.

Lynch's crew airlifted a 47-person medical team from Keesler AFB, Miss., in addition to 70,000 pounds of medical supplies and a container of blood to deliver to McGuire AFB, N.J.

They arrived in New Jersey Sept. 12 to drop off the medical team whose mission was to help set up a makeshift hospital for disaster re-

lief and aeromedical operations. Capt. Mike Hayes, Tech. Sgt. Rob Cissell, Staff Sgt. Skip Hurley and Senior Airman Jerry Robertson, all from the 14 AS, were part of Lynch's aircrew.

"Although all our missions are important, this one was very much so," said Lynch. "Everyone on the crew was willing to do whatever we were asked to do. We were ready and willing to go help out."

Several of Charleston's C-17s have deployed in support of the relief efforts for the Pentagon and New York attacks. The aircrews have been ready to respond on a moment's notice if tasked.

According to Lynch, "It felt really good to be doing something, to know that we were helping instead of sitting there and watching it on TV and actually getting out there and making some small difference"



Photo by Master Sgt. Dan Murphy

## Public support

Master Sgt. Darl Tremain, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron first sergeant, loads food donated by Christ Our King Catholic School, Mount Pleasant, for Charleston AFB airmen in a show of support. The students wanted to do something to show their appreciation.

# Combat Camera: capturing the aftermath

By Capt. Krista Carlos  
437 AW Public Affairs

As many were glued to the television watching the events of Sept. 11, 10 members from the 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron geared up and deployed just hours after the attack in support of relief efforts in New York and Wash-

ington. Two teams were sent to the Pentagon and New York areas to help document everything from Red Cross assistance and medical support to army evacuation team activities and FBI evidence collection.

"Our job is to make ourselves available to the DOD, FBI or any other agency to help with investigations and anything else they may need," said Tech. Sgt. Cedric Rudisill,

an aerial photojournalist with the 1 CTCS.

The five-man team he was attached to was sent to Washington to help capture video and still imagery of the damage and recovery efforts.

"Nothing could compare to what I saw up close today," Rudisill said after seeing the Pentagon for the first time after the attack.

Combat Camera personnel had to overcome environmental factors to get the documentation required.

"You can still feel the heat", said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Mikie Keck, officer in charge of the Washington team. "It's so hot that it makes it difficult to get imagery because you can't get too close."

Some of the obstacles that the Washington team dealt with in addition to the heat were the number of bomb

threats and traffic jams at the Pentagon.

"Every time there is a bomb threat, we have to evacuate the compound," Keck said. "Traffic is disastrous, and drivers come to a stop to try to see what's going on."

Their team has been tasked to provide aerial photographers to cover some of the first aerial footage of the Pentagon, according to Keck. Their imagery is very important to providing the Secretary of Defense and other offices with internal coverage.

While Keck's team was busy covering the recovery efforts in Washington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Shay Lingerfelt led a five-man team at McGuire AFB, N.J., which is being set up as a host medical sight to help with the medical evacuation efforts in New York.

# OKTOBERFEST

Oct. 19, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., in the campus area

between Dormitories 473 and 466.

Free admission, including food and beverages for E-6s and below, all others \$5.

Door prizes, games and a live band!

Coupon not required for entry. For more information, call Master Sgt. Matt Harless at 963-8004.



## K-9

continued from page 1

secret service, said he probably would have been killed by falling debris had he not run when he did.

"I thought it was a bomb so my first reaction was to get back to my hotel and get my dog so I could help," he said.

Binky, an explosive sniffing dog, was left behind while Shafer attended the meeting, which was to determine his work schedule and responsibilities for the duration of the TDY.

Air Mobility Command tasked Shafer for this trip, because of a partnership with the secret service. He and Binky were assigned to New York to help with security for a United Nations conference.

Shafer and a secret service agent picked up their dogs from the hotel and headed back toward the WTC.

"It was like swimming upstream," he said, referring to the mass of people running the opposite direction.

Shafer and the agent were not allowed back toward the explosion, so

they met up with other secret service agents at a nearby school where they helped evacuate students to safety.

As things started to unfold, Shafer said he was prepared for anything.

"You just fall back on your training and go," he said. "I was ready to help in any way I could."

Though he has yet to be called in to help, he said he remains reachable by a beeper until he's told what to do next. He's not sure if they're going to keep him in New York to assist with the recovery efforts or send him back to Charleston.

Shafer's wife, Beth, is hoping for the latter.

"I will not relax completely until he his home safe," she said.

Either way, he said life would never be the same for him. Shafer is haunted by the images of falling debris and people jumping from WTC windows to their death.

"What you see on TV isn't even close," he said. "I've never seen anything like it before and it's something you just don't forget."

# Yom Kippur-The Day of Atonement

The Jewish High Holy Day period will conclude with the solemn observance of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, sundown Wednesday through one hour after sundown Thursday.

The Biblical source for the Yom Kippur, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, is found in the Book of Leviticus, Chapter 23: "The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'The tenth day of the seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation to you, and you shall afflict your souls. You shall do no work throughout the day for it is a Day of Atonement.'"

The Biblical commandment, "to afflict your souls," is fulfilled by a complete and total fast, and abstaining from all eating and drinking from sundown Wednesday to sundown Thursday. The obligation to fast, coupled with five religious services in this period, helps direct worshippers to address the need to seek forgiveness from God, as well as from neighbors and friends for sins and transgressions.

The conclusion of the Day of Atonement is marked by a single long blast of the Shofar, which signals the joy and elation of all worshippers who know God has forgiven them for all their misdeeds and shortcomings, and has blessed them with health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

For information regarding worship opportunities during this period, call Senior Airman David Winner, wing Jewish lay leader, at 963-8041 or the base chapel at 963-2536. (Submitted by Senior Airman David Winner.)



## NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Junior Mathis Oct. 1, 10 a.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call Richard Hutchinson at 963-5980.

## Around the base

**TRICARE:** There will be a special TRICARE benefit briefing for Medicare-eligible military retirees, 65 and older, Tuesday, 9 and 11:30 a.m., and 2:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Express in Summerville. For more information, call 963-6704.

**OSA:** In light of recent events and increased security measures, Tuesday's Officers' Spouses' Association meeting has been cancelled.

**Heritage Month:** All Hispanic Heritage Month events are cancelled. For more information, call Master Sgt. Edison Velez Jr. at 963-2519 or Mr. Mario Acevedo at 963-2405.

**Sam's Club:** Sam's Club is offering assistance to all military personnel due to recent events. Any military personnel can go to the Sam's Club membership desk with their military identification and get a three-month guest pass. The pass will expire Dec. 31. As a special offer to the military, Sam's club will give a \$15 gift card when a new membership is purchased at the \$35 annual fee. The gift card can also be used toward the cost of membership, making the final cost \$20. The gift card offer expires Sept. 30. For more information, call 572-7335.

**Finance:** Effective Oct. 1, all incomplete travel vouchers will be returned to the claimant for corrections. For information regarding proper completion of travel vouchers, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron Customer Service Center at 963-3700.

**Education Center:** Effective Oct. 1, the testing fees for CLEP exams will increase to \$56 each and the fees for DANTES exams will increase to \$35 each. The payment method for CLEP/DANTES testing is by money order or certified check only. Civilians authorized to utilize on-base programs may test at the Community Education Center. Testing for military personnel will remain free, however, a military identification card is required. For more information, call 963-4575.

**Base yard sale:** The base-wide yard sale is scheduled for Oct. 13 at the base picnic grounds. Tables may be rented from the Base Consignment Shop, Bldg. 203, Graves Street, for \$10. For more information, call 963-3294.

**SAT:** The Community Education Center will be taking registration for SAT testing Nov. 2. The test date is

## Charleston Profile

### Staff Sgt. David Guevara

#### 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. David Guevara is the facilities manager for the 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group.

As facilities manager, Guevara is responsible for coordinating maintenance work orders for the group's 85 buildings.

According to Guevara, each squadron has its own facilities manager. These managers file work orders through the group. Depending on the work requested, Guevara said, the order may need to be routed through several base agencies, including the fire department, environmental flight, bioenvironmental flight and wing safety before the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron reviews the order.

Because the group has many facilities, and because Guevara is often out of the office during the day, he developed a Web site displaying real time information regarding current work orders, future plans, and current facility manager information.

"I was spending half my day on the phone," Guevara said. "The site has cut that in half."

A member of the Air Force for 10 years, Guevara said he plans to retire from military service. Before coming to Charleston, he was stationed at Dyess AFB, Texas. Guevara recently received orders to return to Dyess AFB, where he will probably work as an avionics guidance and control systems specialist.

In his free time, Guevara said he enjoys working out with free weights and running. He is also pursuing an engineering degree.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

scheduled for Dec. 12. For more information, call 963-4575.

**OSA:** Artisans and crafters are invited to participate in the Officers' Spouses' Association Arts and Crafts Show scheduled for Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Aero Club Hangar adjacent to Charleston AFB. Booths are \$25. For application or more information, call Christine Memi at 871-8604.

**Best base:** Air Force Times has implemented an awards program to recognize and honor the Air Force base that provides the best environment and opportunities for airmen and their families. The "Best Base" will be selected from input by the airmen who live there. Nomination forms and voting instructions are available at [www.AirForceTimes.com/bestbase](http://www.AirForceTimes.com/bestbase). The winning base will be recognized in the Nov. 19 issue of Air Force Times.

**Scholarship:** The Aerospace Education Foundation is offering a scholarship for Air Force spouses. Applications are accepted until Nov. 1. The \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in early January. Applicants must be the spouse of an Air Force active-duty, Reserve or Guard member. Applications are available at the Community Education Center. For more information, call 1-800-291-8480.

**Limestone College:** A Limestone College representative is now available at the Community Education Center. The representative, Tina LaChance, is located with the other colleges in the center. For more information,

call 963-7298 or 745-1100.

**New hours:** The new hours of operation for legal assistance at the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Legal Office are Tuesdays 1-3 p.m., and Thursdays, 8-11 a.m. For more information, call 963-5502.

**Supply:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron Base Supply Customer Service Center is the point of contact for unit supply needs. The center researches national stock numbers, issues SATS cards and checks the status on particular items. For more information, call 963-4826.

**GRE/GMAT:** Military personnel are authorized to take the GRE/GMAT once at government cost, provided it's required for admission to a graduate program, and the approval has been documented in their education records prior to testing. GRE/GMAT testing is provided by a DOD contractor, Prometric Testing Centers, 1954 Ashley River Rd., Suite G, 766-5599. The cost of the GRE is \$105 and the cost for the GMAT is \$200.

**Fraud:** The British Ministry of Defense Police and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations are currently conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to U.S. and other authorized personnel in and around the RAF Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall areas within the United Kingdom. This company allegedly may have charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur. US personnel may also

have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges for vehicles. This scheme was cleverly disguised so those who have been defrauded may not know they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees. Those who feel they may have been subject to fraud committed by this company should contact a local AFOSI unit. For more information, call Special Agent Michael Lewis, AFOSI Detachment 310, at 963-3248.

**Volunteers:** The Charleston AFB Retirees Activities Program is seeking volunteers to help in a number of positions working with military personnel in such areas as gate security, pharmacy staffing, administrative offices, medical records, etc. Military retirees, spouses, widows, and veterans and their family members are needed, as well as other citizens who wish to support the U.S. military. Those interested in volunteering do not need to have prior military affiliation. For more information, call 963-2228.

### Family Support Center

**Pre-Deployment Briefing:** Monday, 8-9 a.m., and Thursday, 4-5 p.m.

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

**Home Buying Workshop:** Monday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

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

## About the paper

AIRLIFT  
Dispatch

Published by Diggle Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military service.

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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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## Address/Numbers

Editorial content is prepared by the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 223.

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604

Mail to: 437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

[dispatch@charleston.af.mil](mailto:dispatch@charleston.af.mil)

## Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander  
Col. Vern M. "Rusty"  
Findley II

Chief, Public Affairs  
Lt. Col. Edmund Memei

Editor  
Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Writer  
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Photo Support  
Base Visual Information Center

## Team Charleston ready to respond anywhere, anytime

By Col. Rusty Findley  
437 AW commander

Team Charleston has been in a higher Force Protection Condition since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. Our hearts go out to the victims and families of this terrible attack. One of our own military working dog handlers, Staff Sgt. Scott Shafer, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, got to witness the terrible attack at the WTC and fortunately was not hurt. We hope to have him home soon.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said it best when he described the challenges we face in the war on terrorism in a recent television interview.

"It's a new kind of war," Rumsfeld said. "The old rhetoric, the old words aren't going to work quite right for this problem. We're going to have to reorder our priorities. We're going to be resolute and patient."

I appreciate everyone's help to ensure the safety and security of our people and resources. Everyone has taken the situation seriously, and it has resulted in many long hours for our people. Our signature characteristics of pride, professionalism and passion have been on display more than ever. Let's keep our guard up and keep doing what we're doing. Safety needs to be at the forefront of everything we do. We are in this for the long haul, and it can be hard on everyone and their families, so ensure you are well rested before beginning your shift. When off-duty, spend time with your family and friends and get a well-deserved rest. I am proud of everyone and their hard work.

Now is a good time for families to ensure their ID cards do not expire during this period of heightened security. The Military Personnel Flight will continue to update military and family member ID cards as needed. Don't let your card expire. Individual units need to ensure our people are mobility qualified and ready to deploy, if needed. Lean forward as much as you can. Do it safely!

As the military gears its response, there may be a wave of growing anxiety. Deployments, leaving family and friends behind, and facing the unknown all bring their own challenges. The best remedy is to be prepared, and now is the time to get ready. There are also many helping services on the base to help families cope with the stresses caused by long work shifts and deployments. See the article on page 11 about some of the Family Support Center programs that can help.

We have begun opening many of the 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron facilities, but it is still not operations "normal" as we remain in Force Protection Condition Charlie as of Wednesday. Because of the many closings and FPCON, we had to cancel or postpone many base tours, visits and social functions on the base. Events like the Hispanic



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith

Students in Charleston AFB's Ability to Survive and Operate course use the buddy system to ensure their gas masks are properly donned and sealed against airborne biological or chemical attack. The class also covered self-aid and buddy care, decontamination, security forces duties and explosive ordnance disposal.

Heritage month celebrations and similar events that brought in many off-base people to the base were cancelled. With certain limits, events that include only military ID cardholders and their families will continue to occur. We are not in an exercise and military bases worldwide face a serious threat of terrorist activity. We have to keep our guard up and remain vigilant. We need everyone's cooperation! I appreciate all the hard work by our 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron and the many augmentees helping them. We have been able to eliminate most of the traffic difficulties at our gates by employing some innovative ideas, which helped us to maintain our security while relieving traffic congestion. I appreciate everyone's patience, and there will be occasional delays from time to time. Nevertheless, everything is going very smoothly now, and it has been a great team effort.

We have reached a battle rhythm now, and we need to stay the course for the long term. Stay focused on our mission and security. We need to continue to launch our missions safely, but with a greater sense of urgency. I have been very pleased with the hard work that our maintainers and aviators have shown in caring for our aircraft and ensuring they are ready to fly when needed. We must remain ready to respond anywhere, any time.

We know from the statements of our president and senior leaders that something will happen in the future. At this point, we are not sure exactly what our role will be, but if history is any predictor, we will be busy. Charleston has played a major role in every past military operation or conflict. We are poised and ready to respond on a moment's notice. We are the best at what we do, and there is no doubt in my mind that the Air Force leadership will turn to Team Charleston to get the job done. We are the home of the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet!

## 437 SVS, AAFES announce revised hours for base services

## Commissary and BX:

Open regular hours

**Fitness Center:** Monday-Sunday 5 a.m.-11 p.m.

**Child Development Center:** Monday-Sunday, 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

**Youth Center:** Monday-Sunday, 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

**Skills Center:** Tuesday-

Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Library:** Monday-Tuesday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Veterinary Clinic:** Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Charleston Club:** Monday-Sunday

■ Lunch Buffet, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

■ Bar Menu, 4-10 p.m.

■ Additional menu items available, 5-10 p.m.

**Dining Facility:** Monday-Sunday

■ Breakfast, 5:30-9 a.m.

■ Lunch, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

■ Dinner, 4:30-8 p.m.

■ Midnight meal, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

**In-Flight Kitchen:** Monday-Sunday, 24 hours



## Off duty--Around town



### Sports:

**Summerville Speedway:** Cumbie Chevrolet Bubba Chinner's Memorial Championship night Oct. 13, featuring NASCAR Super Trucks, NASCAR Late Models, plus 4 divisions of NASCAR Racing. For more information, call 871-8331.

***Tickets for sports events, as well as many other attractions in the area, may be available at a discount price for active-duty military, reservists, military retirees, Department of Defense civilians and their dependents from the Outdoor Recreation Center. For more information and for prices, call the Information, Tickets and Tours Program at 963-5271.***

### Entertainment:

**Theatre:** The Charleston Stage Company performs "Fiddler on the Roof" tonight and Saturday, 8 p.m., and Sunday, 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors. Performances are at the Dock Street Theatre. For more information, call 965-4032.

**Theatre:** The Old Village Playhouse presents "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," the classic Tennessee Williams play tonight and Saturday, Sept. 28-30 and Oct. 4-6, 8 p.m., at 730 Coleman Blvd., Mount Pleasant. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13.50 for seniors and students. For more information, call 856-1579.

**Comedy:** The Have Nots! perform improv comedy tonight and Saturday, 8 p.m., at Theatre 99. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 853-NOTS.

**Live music:** The Pietasters and Rude Buddha perform tonight, 10 p.m., at the Music Farm. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call 722-8904.

**Party at the Point:** Little Brian and Zydeco Travelers will play tonight, 5-9

p.m., with food and drink tents available at Charleston Harbor Hilton, Patriot's Point. Tickets are \$5, and parking is free. For more information, call 884-2543.

### Events:

**Book sale:** Friends of the Library is holding its annual three-day sale with over 50,000 books today, noon-8 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., at the Gaillard Auditorium. The event cost \$2 today, and is free Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 805-6977.

**Sensational Saturday:** A family program focusing on the "Spirit of the Mask" exhibit with activities, hands-on projects and refreshments takes place Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon at Gibbes Museum. The event cost \$3 for non-members' children or \$1 for members' children. Chaperones get in free. For more information, call 722-2706.

**Caribbean symposium:** Learn about the relationship between South Carolina and the Caribbean with lectures, tours, music and food Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Charles Towne Landing. The event is \$8 plus park admission. For more information, call 852-4200.

**Night walk:** Francis Beidler Forest offers a guided night walk along boardwalk through virgin swamps Saturday, 7:30 p.m., 336 Sanctuary Rd., Harleyville. The event costs \$6. Reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, call 426-2150.

**Ducks Unlimited banquet:** Prime rib or chicken dinner, and live and silent auction Saturday, 6 p.m., at the Ladson Fair Grounds. Tickets are \$45 single, \$65 couple. For more information or for tickets, call 747-9580 or 574-9260.

***Listings are published on a space-available basis at the discretion of the editor of the Airlift Dispatch. Events listed are subject to change without notice. Those interested in attending an event should call ahead to confirm the date and time. To submit an event for Off duty, send a fax with all pertinent information and a call-back number to 963-5604.***

## FEATURE

# Family Support Center helps ease the pain of deployment

*Center offers programs for deploying members, spouses, families; keeps morale high on both fronts*

**Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter**  
437 AW Public Affairs

President George W. Bush told military forces to "get ready," and one of the best tools to help military members get ready to support their nation is the Family Support Center.

The center offers a wide variety of programs for deployed Charleston AFB personnel and their families, according to Tech. Sgt. Ken Gilmore, family readiness NCO.

These programs are presented to deploying personnel, along with a packet of information, which includes checklists and reading material to help prepare both the member and family for the upcoming deployment, during a predeployment briefing or on the deployment line.

"Between the two, we hit pretty much everybody," Gilmore said.

Family readiness programs include a variety of services, from a video phone to free child care.

The video telephone allows family members to see each other while they speak. Located in a special room at the FSC, the phone is available by appointment. Not all deployed locations have video telephones, according to Gilmore, and Saudi Arabia is one of those, but there are various other locations where the service is available.

Another program allows members to call each other without blowing a tight budget. Morale calls allow a

family member to call loved ones from the comfort of home, free of charge. According to Gilmore, one 15-minute telephone call per week is authorized. Family members using the program call the base operator and are connected DSN to the deployed member.

Closely related to the morale calls are free calling cards. According to Gilmore, the Air Force Aid Society donates free calling cards worth \$20 for personnel who are deployed or TDY. The cards are not available for members on remote assignments. Gilmore said the center also gives out two other free cards, for 30 minutes and 45 minutes worth of phone calls. These cards were purchased with additional funds the FSC received from Air Mobility Command.

Another way family members can keep in touch through family readiness programs is e-mail. Family members receive their own private e-mail address and may use the computers to keep in touch with the deployed member.

For deployed members with children, the FSC offers "Operation R.E.A.D" or Reading Enjoyed Although Deployed. The program allows members to videotape themselves reading books at the FSC before their deployment. The library provides the books and the FSC provides the videotape. While the member is deployed, the FSC mails the books and tapes to the family. The program requires an appointment.

While seeing a loved one and

hearing a familiar voice does wonders for a family's morale, it sometimes isn't enough to prevent the stress and worries those left at home experience. Several family readiness programs address this.

"Sip-n-Chat" is a support group for spouses of deployed

members. The group meets on a monthly basis, and children are welcome.

"About eight months out of the year we go on trips," said Gilmore. They try to go places where kids will have fun too, he said.

The group is closely related to SpouseLINC, a program tailored to each unit's needs. SpouseLINC are a focal point for information and support to families in each unit.

Gilmore said the FSC keeps a list of spouses of deployed military members.

"Tuesday (Sept. 11) we called all the spouses of deployed members," Gilmore said. "When something like that happens, it can be frightening. We called them to see if they had any concerns, and many called back and said they didn't have any concerns, but they were just glad to hear from us."

Also available at the FSC is the "Give Parents a Break" program, which provides free childcare for five hours one Saturday a month while the military member is deployed.

Another program is "Car Care Because We Care," which provides a free oil change from the Auto Skills Center and a vehicle safety inspection while the member is deployed.

Flora Hoss-Mason, FSC director, said Air Force Aid deserves a lot of credit for the programs available at the FSC.

"Their grant programs are what allow us to do so much for free," Hoss-Mason said.

In addition to the family readiness programs, the FSC offers various electronic equipment and software

## The three stages of deployment

**Prepare:** Whether single or married, the member must ensure everything happening in his or her life continues on as smoothly as possible during the deployment. Areas to focus on include legal and financial matters as well as vehicle and home maintenance.

**Deploy:** Communication is the key. Stay in touch using morale calls, e-mail and video phones. Communicate openly and honestly, and remember to include children. Start and maintain positive activities.

**Reunion:** Be realistic. Expect things to have changed. People tend to naturally become more individualistic during deployments. Discuss reestablishing roles and responsibilities in day-to-day activities. Remember, change can be good.

programs to families of deployed members.

"We have a computer set up with a scanner and create-a-card software," said Gilmore. "We loan out emergency travel kits for families going on the road. We loan digital cameras and video cameras so families can record special events, like birthdays."

Regina Lasley, wife of Master Sgt. Thomas Lasley, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron, said she's glad the center's programs are available. Her husband is currently deployed to Saudi Arabia.

"I think it's great they do the phone call thing," Lasley said. "I'm sure calling Saudi Arabia costs an arm and a leg. I just wish I could call more often and without a restriction on what time of day. I'm thankful it's here."

Lasley attended her first "Sip-n-Chat" Monday.

Another "Sip-n-Chat" attendee said she's used several of the family readiness programs.

"I've used the car care, the telephone and calling cards," said Barbara Haar, wife of Staff Sgt. Robert Haar, 437 AGS flying crew chief. "The calling cards are a lot better because it gives both him a chance and me a chance to call. Plus, if I'm not available at home, he can call me on my cell phone."

Both Gilmore and Hoss-Mason said the key to preparing for deployment is not waiting until the last minute to get everything in order.

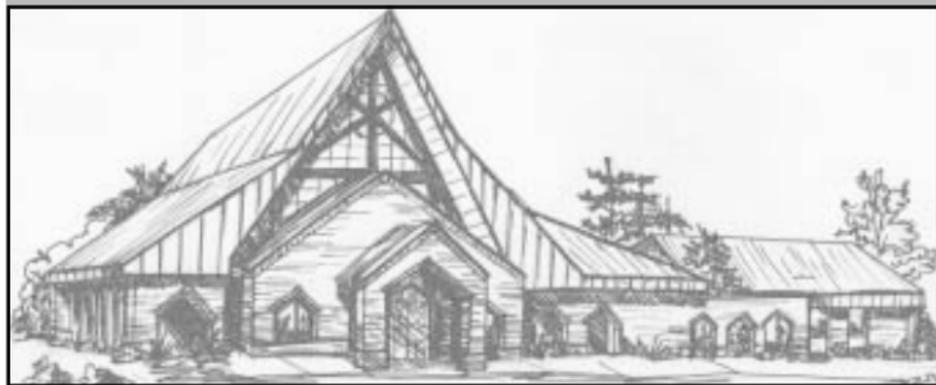
Deployments can be tough for everyone involved, but with a little help from the FSC, they don't have to be impossible.



Senior Master Sgt. Fred James (right), 621st Air Mobility Squadron, McGuire AFB, N.J., checks his e-mail at Charleston AFB's Family Support Center. James said FSC programs are convenient while deployed or away from home. Behind him, Tech. Sgt. Claude Cook, also from the 621 AMS, checks his e-mail to "keep in touch."

The FSC is open Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The Discovery Center has extended hours Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

## 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 963-8041.

**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.**

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

#### **"Planet of the Apes" – Mark Wahlberg**

In the year 2029, astronaut Leo Davidson boards a space station for a routine reconnaissance mission. But an abrupt detour lands him on a planet where talking apes rule over the human race. The race is on to reach a sacred temple within the planet's Forbidden Zone to discover the shocking secrets of mankind's past and the key to its future. **(PG-13) 120 minutes**

### Saturday, 2 and 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Rush Hour 2" – Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker**

Hong Kong Inspector Lee and LAPD detective Carter arrive in Hong Kong for a vacation. No sooner do they arrive when they are confronted with the biggest case of their careers. A bomb has exploded in the American embassy, killing two U.S. Customs agents who had been investigating a money smuggling ring. **(PG-13) 88 minutes**

### Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.

#### **"American Outlaws" – Colin Farrel**

As Confederate soldiers in the Civil War, the James boys and their cousins, the Youngers, became expert killers. The gang would later use skills gained in the war against railroads and banks. **(PG-13) 95 minutes**

# Fitness & Sports

Get in shape 

## HAWC ready to run Fitness Follies team challenge

By Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

The Health and Wellness Center is sponsoring the Fitness Follies fitness challenge Oct. 1-28 for the entire Charleston AFB community.

The event is a health challenge designed to encourage cardiovascular conditioning, and blood pressure and cholesterol awareness.

According to Jason Ham, HAWC exercise physiologist, participants should begin forming four-person teams now. Once teams are formed, a team captain should be appointed and a creative name for the team should be decided on. Team captains will have the responsibility of logging exercise time for the team, and getting the information to Ham every week.

Teams must then be registered through Ham. The deadline to register a team is Sept. 28. After being registered, team captains can pick up exercise log cards at the HAWC, or Ham can e-mail them.

The goal of Fitness Follies is to have every team member partici-

pate in aerobic activity. Distance is awarded by time participated. Ham said it doesn't matter if a participant runs 10 mph or walks 1 mph, time involvement is the important factor in this event.

No extra distance points will be awarded for over 60 minutes of exercise in a single day. Extra time for one day cannot be allocated for other days either. Ham said teams can earn extra distance points for participants getting a cholesterol check once during the event and taking weekly blood pressure readings. Each person will receive 20 points for a cholesterol check, and an additional 5 points per week for blood pressure checks.

"Participation in this event will help people have an improved level of health, and allow them to spend time with other members of CAFB and their families," said Capt. William Reynolds, HAWC health promotions flight commander. "Improving a person's fitness has multiple lifelong benefits which include lowering a person's risk for

injury and illness while improving their overall health."

Teams participating must exercise at least 180 minutes per week to stay in the competition. Ham said team sports such as racquetball and basketball will be allowed, as long as the activity is continuous. Resting periods, such as sitting on the bench, should not be counted. Also, weight training does not count.

Reynolds said the most points any team can earn is 6,880 (60 per day times 4 members times 28 days plus extra points for blood pressure and cholesterol checks). While prizes for the top teams are yet to be determined, Reynolds said the last event like this one, \$60 personal CD players were given to the

winning team with slightly less expensive items given to second- and third-place teams.

Even when there aren't prizes to win, Reynolds said staying fit should be a priority in everyone's life.

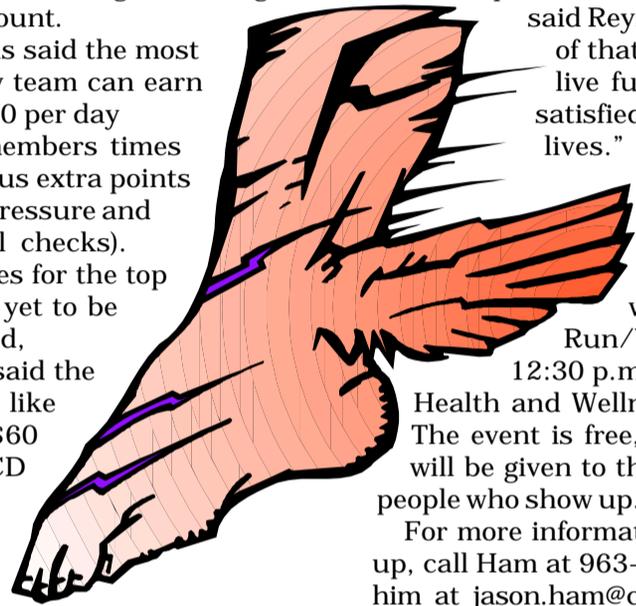
"In light of what is happening around the world, staying fit is a necessary part of the service we provide for our country," said Reynolds. "On top of that, it helps us live fuller, more satisfied and productive lives."

The first opportunity to participate in Fitness Follies will be a 5K Fun

Run/Walk Oct. 1, 12:30 p.m., in front of the

Health and Wellness Center. The event is free, and t-shirts will be given to the first 25 people who show up.

For more information, or to sign up, call Ham at 963-6023, or e-mail him at jason.ham@charleston.af.mil.



## Swami picks week four winners, talks about week three: The great one has spoken-bow before him

By The Swami  
Pigskin Prognosticator

The NFL players and fans are gearing up for week three, and the Swami is ready also.

After a week off due to last week's tragedies, Commissioner Paul Tagliabue has decided to resume football action this weekend. The Swami would like to salute all the men and women at Charleston AFB for their dedication and service to this great nation.

The Swami has decided to throw away everyone's week two picks. Since they were all trash anyway, the Swami doesn't see a problem with recycling them and perhaps saving a worthless tree.

NFL executives may cancel the wild card playoff games scheduled for the first week of January and play the week two games that week. That means good teams like Oakland, Miami, Tennessee and Baltimore will not make the playoffs. Do not question the Swami's logic in saying this. Just accept it!

After a mediocre week one, the Swami promises things will get better. Looking at the week one standings, Debbie Morillo, Beth Bartley and Anthony Komara are still in last place.

"Too bad," said the Swami. "They should get used to it."

Week three appears to be easy picking. There will be some good games this weekend, but the Swami still predicts a 14-0 record for himself. As usual, Dallas will be pummeled by San Diego. The Jets and Giants will walk away with victories.

Since many people in the area have named the Panthers as their "home team," the Swami has decided to make it "the game of the week." They are going against Charleston's former "home team," the Atlanta Falcons. The Panthers came away with a surprising week one victory over the Vikings. Weinke looked good for a 29-year-old rookie. Was is beginner's luck, or is this guy a natural leader? Are the Panthers going to be

competitive this season? Only the Swami already knows the answers to these questions. Watch the game and try to figure it out.

The Swami is starting a petition for the people of Pittsburgh. If the Swami gets enough signatures, he will try to rid the NFL, and the once great Steelers, of Kordell Stewart. The Swami thinks Stewart would be a great quarterback in a backyard Turkey Bowl, but he has no real place in the NFL.

Speaking of Pittsburgh quarterbacks, watch for the great Neil O'Donnell to lead the Titans to victory over the Jaguars. McNair is still questionable and could go out at any time. If McNair goes down, the Titan's passing game will reap the benefits of having a quality passer lead them to victory. The Swami's formula for the Titans this season is: McNair=losses; O'Donnell=Superbowl victory.

Tune into the games Sunday and see what the Swami has already seen. The football teams are all pumped up and ready for

some hard-hitting action after missing last week. Sit back and enjoy some football excitement this weekend.

On Monday, you can call the Swami "Butter" because he will be on a roll. Good luck!

### Week Four

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



**"You can't pick your nose, let alone football games."**

--The Swami

#### Sunday, Sept. 30

- Green Bay @ Carolina**
- Indianapolis @ New England**
- Kansas City @ Washington**
- Tampa Bay @ **Minnesota**
- Miami @ **St. Louis**
- New Orleans @ **New York Giants**
- Pittsburgh @ **Buffalo**
- Atlanta @ **Arizona**
- Baltimore @ **Denver**
- Cincinnati @ **San Diego**
- Cleveland @ **Jacksonville**
- Seattle @ **Oakland**
- Dallas @ **Philadelphia**

#### Monday, Oct. 1

- San Francisco @ **New York Jets**
- Monday night total points: \_\_\_\_\_
- Swami's Monday night points: **35**

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, Sep. 28, 4 p.m.\*\*