

DISPATCH

AIRLIFT

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Vol. 41, No. 31

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, August 9, 2002



Newest bird lands at CAFB

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

The commander of Air Force Material Command delivered the 89th production model of the C-17A Globemaster III to Charleston AFB Aug. 1.

"America should see this and talk to the professionals who put these airplanes together," said Gen. Lester Lyles, AFMC commander. "Talk to the aircraft commanders and see what they have been able to do with this aircraft and how we are supporting the war on terrorism. I am honored to be a part of the delivery crew."

As leader of the command responsible for acquiring new aircraft systems, Lyles said he jumped at the chance to tour the Boeing aircraft assembly plant at Long Beach, Calif., and flew in a brand-new Block-13 version of the C-17 on its maiden flight to Charleston.

See LYLES, page 9

Senior Airman Jason Conner, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, stands ready to help marshal in the newest addition to Charleston AFB's fleet of C-17s. Gen. Lester Lyles, commander of Air Force Material Command, helped deliver the aircraft.

Wing commander names drop zone in honor of local patriot

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The new dual-row airdrop zone at North Auxiliary Airfield was recently named the Robert Hammond Drop Zone Aug. 1 in honor of the man who gave his time and talents to make major improvements at the field.

In a small, informal ceremony, Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, officially named the drop zone as he presented Hammond with a certificate of appreciation.

Immediately following the presentation, Hammond looked on as a C-17 flew over, dropping four pallets to christen the newly-dedicated drop zone.

The origin of the project Hammond completed came about in spring of 2001, according to Maj. Brad Barnett, 437 AW Wing Plans chief and former "mayor" of North Field. Charleston AFB had a 100-acre area of trees cleared as an ongoing improvement

to North Field. The clearing of the trees left the area full of stumps sticking out from the ground.

"If an aircraft would run off the runway, the stumps could cause extensive damage," said Barnett. "Rolling onto dirt would definitely be a big improvement."

Hammond's company is one of the few in the area that can remove an area of stumps that large, said Barnett.

Following Sept. 11, Barnett said Hammond asked if the base still wanted the stumps cleared.

"He offered to do the job gratuitously," said Barnett. "He worked the project on the side all fall. It only took him about six months to finish."

On his own time, and with his own fuel, Hammond used his company's equipment to clear the area, according to Barnett. The removal of the stumps allowed for the lengthening and widening of the area, creating a dual-row drop zone that increases the number of pallets C-17s can drop at

that area.

Barnett said Hammond took on the job for no other reason than he loves the United States, and he loves to help others.

"I feel like it's the least I can do," said Hammond. "There's nothing like America. If asked to fight for the country, I'd fight, but at 59, I don't think anyone is going to ask. Instead, this is my way to say 'thank you.'"

Hammond, who happened to be wearing a patriotic shirt, arrived for the dedication in his Ford Bronco with three flags flying from it. When asked if the flags were put on his vehicle after Sept. 11, Hammond gave a hearty "no."

"I've had those flags on my Bronco for about 10 years," Hammond said. "To me, it just looks like the rest of the country has finally caught up with me."

"I feel like the Lord Jesus gave us

See HAMMOND, page 8



Robert Hammond takes a look at a C-17 Globemaster III cockpit August 1 prior to the dedication of the Robert Hammond Drop Zone at North Auxiliary Airfield. Hammond donated his time and talents to make major improvements to the airfield by removing a 100-acre area of tree stumps.

COMMENTARY

Base picnic a resounding success

By Col. Karl Young
437 AW vice commander

The base picnic was a resounding success. A special thanks goes out to our 437th Services Squadron "can do" crew for their outstanding efforts. The free movies, entertainment, food, and refreshments were masterfully done. A special thanks also goes out to the club staff, our sponsors and the many volunteers who helped out. Everybody appeared to have a great time. Look at the photos on pages 9-10 for more about the picnic.

Besides the picnic, the chiefs and colonels took to the field to play a softball game, and the chiefs emerged victorious, 13-6. Everyone had a great time and it was a good chance to share some camaraderie. You can read more about the game on page 17.

We recently hosted a visit by members of the National Association of Installation Developers. They were here this week as part of a conference on base reuse after closure. Several of the conference attendees spent Monday afternoon touring the base. You can read about one of those guest speakers in next week's newspaper.

If you look on page 1, you will see a story that describes how one patriotic citizen, Bob Hammond,

helped clear some tree stumps and small trees at North Auxiliary Air Field. We were proud to name a drop zone in honor of him. Community support of the base and our people has never been better.

I was proud to recognize some of our best at the Diamond Sharp ceremony on Tuesday. These airmen went above and beyond the call of duty and impressed their first sergeants. Diamond sharp recipients for this month are: Airman 1st Class Michelle Denton, 437th Maintenance Squadron; Senior Airman Sean Lambert, 437th Aerial Port Squadron; Staff Sgt. John Parker, 437th Medical Group; and Staff Sgt. Sandra Robinson, 17th Airlift Squadron. Congratulations.

Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, had the honor of pinning new eagles on Bill Bender in a small ceremony held in the Charleston Club Aug. 2. His wife, Sue, and two children assisted in the pin-on ceremony. He is presently attending C-17 school at Altus AFB, Okla., and is expected to assume command of the 437th Operations

Group around Sept. 18.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper will deliver the 90th production model of the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III here in late August. We know Gen. Jumper plans to tour the base the next morning; this will be a great opportunity to show him the base and our people. Please give our protocol office and Lt. Col. Steve Dye, 15th Airlift Squadron, your full support.

Another great bit of news is Gen. John Handy, commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, will be the guest speaker at

the Air Force Ball Sept. 7. We expect a large crowd for the ball, which explains why we are holding it in the North Charleston Convention Center.

We even have a great local band, XTRA, who will perform at the ball. Attendees will also receive a wine glass with a palm tree and crescent with the "Air Force Ball 2002" design on the glass. The cost of tickets will be no more than \$25 per person and may be even lower for some of our junior enlisted members. Mark your calendar now and get your tickets early!

Be safe, and enjoy your weekend.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, cracks a shot into the outfield during the chiefs and colonels game at the base picnic. The chiefs won the game 13-6.

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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Action line caller expresses concern over late night noise

Q: I live in Hunley Park housing and also right beside a park and basketball court.

I was wondering why this base doesn't have or enforce quiet hours or a curfew. I have heard and seen children anywhere from the ages 5-15 years old in the park and especially the basketball court, as late as 2 a.m. In fact, they have awakened my family and me.

How are our men and women in uniform supposed to do their jobs effectively if they cannot get enough sleep because some other

parents choose to not care for their children?

I would like for quiet hours and a curfew to be in place and enforced for the sake of our service's mission and sanity.

A: Thank you for your action line inquiry, I share your concerns about disruptive noise at nighttime.

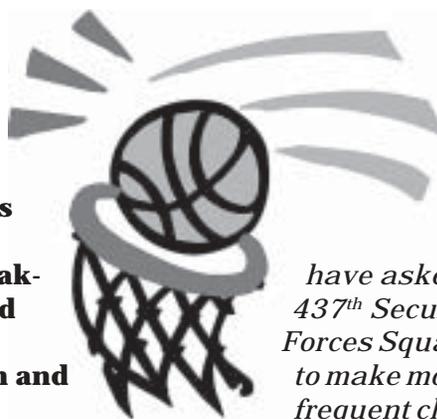
I have asked the 437th Security Forces Squadron to make more frequent checks of this area to ensure quiet hours are maintained

after dark.

Nevertheless, the safety and security of our children is primarily a parental responsibility, and they should be the first to ensure their children do not become unruly or keep the community up at night.

However, do not hesitate to call security forces at 963-3600 if this noise problem continues. They will send a patrol in a timely manner.

*-- Col. Brooks Bash
437 AW commander*



Action Line

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

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



IN THE NEWS

'Batman' learns about rabies after rescue attempt

By Airman Stephanie Hammer
437 AW Public Affairs

A local flyer began a series of rabies shots here July 27 after being bitten by a bat found floating in his backyard swimming pool.

Fortunately, Capt. Vance Noonan, a pilot with the 15th Airlift Squadron, began receiving the shots as a preventative measure, because the bat tested positive for rabies the next day.

"We've seen bats flying around trying to get the mosquitoes off the surface of the pool before, so this was not unusual," said Noonan.

Noonan was swimming in his pool when he said the bat splashed down in front of him.

"The poor thing looked like it was drowning and I'm too much of an animal lover to have just let it drown," said Noonan. "It looked so helpless. That's why I didn't think it posed too much of a danger to me."

As Noonan attempted to scoop the bat out of the pool with his cupped hands, he said the bat bit him on his ring finger.

"My finger bled a little bit, but it was more like a scratch," said Noonan. "I was more upset at the ungrateful creature who had just bitten me after I was trying to save its life."

Immediately following the incident, Noonan called the flight surgeon on duty and was told bats can carry rabies.

"I knew that if you didn't have the animal with you, then you'd have to have all the rabies shots," said Noonan. "Luckily, I was able to trap

the bat with a water pitcher, and animal control came to get it."

However, Noonan wasn't able to skip out on the sequence of shots to his arm.

"The phone rang on Saturday (July 27), and I immediately thought 'please let them be calling me with the all-clear message,'" said Noonan, "but the bat had tested positive, so I

finished up on the rabies shots.

"The shots weren't that bad at all," continued Noonan. "They don't hurt more than being pricked in the thumb with a tack. They were one of the least painful shots I've ever received, even though my arm is a little sore."

Since the incident, Noonan said he has been made aware of several

statistics on bats.

"It was pretty surprising to know that the bat was rabid," said Noonan. "I heard only one percent of the bat population is rabid, and they count for the majority of rabies cases."

Also in the pool with Noonan and the rabid bat were his 2- and 4-year-old daughters.

"I preach to the kids about wild animals," said Noonan, "and if you see one, stay away. My hindsight is 20/20, and that day I just wanted to help the bat before it drowned."

Even though Noonan regrets having handled the bat with his hands, he also said that it was a good thing he caught it.

"If I had to do it over again, I would have gotten the net," said Noonan. "My wife said later that if you're physically able to touch a bat, then it's probably the one bat you don't want to handle."

Although Noonan came away from the ordeal unharmed, he wasn't disappointed with how the incident came about.

"It's a little embarrassing," said Noonan. "I would have rather made the news for saving a life or something like that, but I try to keep a good sense of humor."

"I do feel a little funny though lately," joked Noonan. "Suddenly I have a strong dislike of garlic, I'm sensitive to the light, and I have a tendency to want to sleep upside down."

Even though Noonan was able to turn a potentially tragic incident into an array of jokes, he said he still learned the most important lesson of all: "No good deed goes unpunished."

437 MDG officials issue rabies alert

Rabies is a very real threat and should be taken seriously. In 2001, South Carolina had 143 confirmed cases of rabies in animals. As of July 20, there have been 47.

Rabies is a fatal disease of humans and animals affecting the central nervous system. The virus is transmitted in the saliva of rabies-infected mammals. Though rabies is most commonly found in animals such as bats, skunks, raccoons, dogs, cattle and foxes, the incidence in stray cats appears to be increasing. Essentially any mammal, wild or domestic, can have rabies and transmit it to people.

Rabies virus is transmitted to people and their pets through the bite of a rabid animal. It is possible, though rare, for transmission to occur if infectious material from a rabid animal, such as saliva, gets directly into the eyes, nose, mouth or wound.

Because of the serious nature of this disease and the presence of stray cats on Charleston AFB, it is imperative that everyone follow basic precautions to protect themselves, their families, and their pets from rabies.

- Do not handle or feed unfamiliar animals, wild or domestic, even if they appear friendly
- Educate children to avoid unfamiliar animals and to notify parents if they are bitten or scratched by an animal, be it a stray or pet

- Wash any wound from an animal thoroughly with soap and water and seek medical attention immediately; rabies post-exposure treatment is available from 437th Medical Group primary care managers

- In the event of a wound from a stray or wild animal; do not attempt to capture the animal; notify security forces if on base or the county's animal control if off base, and promptly notify a primary care manager at the 437 MDG

- Owners should keep rabies vaccinations current for all pets, keep cats inside and dogs under direct supervision; CAFB requires dogs to be kept on a leash or in a fenced yard; free roaming is not allowed for cats or dogs on this base

- Have pets spayed or neutered; members should take their cats with them when they PCS

For more information about rabies, call Public Health at 963-6964.



Air Force to release all specialties from Stop-Loss Sept. 1

The last officer and enlisted specialties on Stop-Loss will be released beginning Sept. 1.

In making the announcement, Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche said the release will be phased in during a one-month period to allow both the Air Force and affected personnel time for transition.

"We have arrived at a new steady-state," Roche said. "Stop-Loss most certainly helped us get here successfully, but we had pledged all along that we wouldn't hold onto anyone longer than necessary."

Capt. Kevin Heckle, 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight commander, agreed with Roche.

"The conflict is not wind-

ing down, but it is in a more manageable state," said Heckle. "You can't keep a person on Stop-Loss forever."

"We had Stop-Loss to ensure there were forces available for the conflict," Heckle continued.

The release, which affects three officer and 15 enlisted specialties, will begin with people who had original retirement or separation dates prior to April 1. They will be able to leave beginning Sept. 1. During the second phase, individuals with retirement or separation dates between April 1 and Sept. 30 can be released. In the final phase, anyone with a retirement or separation date of Oct. 1 or later can separate at his or her established date.

Senior Airman Dee Holman, 437th MSS retirements and separations clerk,

said there were about 45 CAFB members who have their date of separation before the end of January.

"We'll have a suspense time for those members to elect a DOS," said Holman. "Once they pick a DOS, they will be contacted by my office for an outprocessing briefing."

Holman said members are able to outprocess on their scheduled dates.

"Take in to consideration terminal leave and outprocessing days," said Holman. "It's up to the member how fast they outprocess."

Members can request to remain on active duty up to five months to transition to civilian life and use accrued leave. The release does not apply to airmen who are currently deployed in support of operations Noble Eagle and

Enduring Freedom; all deployed personnel will remain subject to Stop-Loss as long as they are deployed. Upon completion of deployment, people will have up to five months to transition.

Even if a separation date is set, Holman said members can still remain in the Air Force.

"Enlisted members must withdraw their retirements or choose to reenlist if they want to stay in," Holman said. "Officers need only pull their separation dates want to stay."

Stop-Loss was implemented shortly after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to meet unprecedented mission requirements. The process was reviewed every 60 days.

"We were very aware of the sacrifice our airmen and their families were making,"

Roche said. "Service before self is an Air Force core value, and their performance illustrated that."

Heckle said Stop-Loss can still be reinstated, and since it is canceled, remaining active-duty troops could feel the backlash.

"More active-duty (members) will be deployed," said Heckle. "The overseas deployment requirement won't draw down due to fewer forces."

On the flip-side, Heckle said there would be more units unable to provide Unit Type Codes for deployments, and other bases can be tasked for deployable members.

For more information about Stop-Loss, call the MPF at 963-4567.

(AFPN. Airman 1st Class Amy Perry, 437 AW Public Affairs, also contributed to this story.)

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron Gator Flight will host a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Henry Warden Aug. 21, 3:30 p.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Leonard McIver at 963-5508.

Around the base

Closing: The Charleston AFB Clinic will close today, noon, for the remainder of the day. For emergencies, call 911. For non-emergencies, call the CAFB Clinic at 963-6790.

Honor guard: The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard is making a recruiting trip to Charleston AFB Monday. Their goal is to attract and interest NCOs and senior NCOs for career broadening opportunities with the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard. The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team will accompany the recruiting team and will perform outside the Gaylor Dining Facility at noon. The recruiting team briefings are set for Monday, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., at the Community Education Center.

Webster: The Charleston Campus of Webster University is now registering for its next semester, which starts Monday. Classes meet once a week in the evening or on Saturday during each nine-week term. For more information, call 572-2675.

Chapel: The Chapel is offering CCD registration for children in grades 3-8 Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., with classes beginning Thursday. For more information, call the Chapel at 963-2536.

Luncheon: A going-away luncheon for Lt. Col. Rafael Diaz, 437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron commander, is set for Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. The cost for club members is \$9, and the cost for non-members is \$12. RSVP to 963-6289 by Wednesday to attend. For more information, call 1st Lt. Raymond Lewis at 963-7279.

New hours: The Naval Hospital Pharmacy will open a half hour later, at 8:30 a.m., on Wednesdays only, starting Wednesday due to training needs. Pharmacy hours and online refill requests are available on the hospital's Web site, www.nhchasn.med.navy.mil.

Chief's Group: The Charleston AFB Chief's Group is set to have their monthly meeting Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Heritage Trust will address the group, and lunch will be provided. All chief master sergeants and chief master sergeant-selects are invited.

TRICARE: An encore presentation of the TRICARE For Life briefing is scheduled for Thursday, 1:30-2:30 p.m.,

AF Ball 2002 information points of contact

437th Logistics Group/Logistics Support Squadron: Master Sgt. Jerry Nettles, 963-3664
 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron: Tech. Sgt. Tim Smith, 963-4041
 437th Contracting Squadron: Tech. Sgt. William Pinkowski, 963-5180
 437th Maintenance Squadron: Master Sgt. Michael Clark, 963-4679
 437th Transportation Squadron: Master Sgt. Janet Osborne, 963-4190
 437th Supply Squadron: 2nd Lt. Katherine Lefevers
 437th Operations Group/Operation Support Squadron: Airman 1st Class Diana Fraticelli, 963-4286
 437th Aerial Port Squadron: Senior Master Sgt. Steven Cathey, 963-3241
 14th Airlift Squadron: Master Sgt. Tim Lomas, 963-2137
 15th Airlift Squadron: Master Sgt. Ric Brayboy, 963-2135
 17th Airlift Squadron: Master Sgt. James Scanlan, 963-2913
 437th Support Group/Mission Support Squadron/Wing Staff: 2nd Lt. Deborah Morillo, 963-4546
 437th Communication Squadron: Master Sgt. Victor DeLaRosa, 963-3507
 437th Civil Engineer Squadron: Capt. Elwood Henry, 963-5023
 437th Security Forces Squadron: Staff Sgt. Richard Land, 963-3625
 437th Services Squadron: Master Sgt. Brendan Ryan, 963-3821
 437th Comptroller Squadron: Chief Master Sgt. Melvin Willis, 963-3726
 1st Combat Camera Squadron: Master Sgt. Buster Davis, 963-3356
 437th Medical Group: Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Coney, 963-6916
 315th Airlift Wing: Debbie Baldwin, 963-2036
 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 5: Master Sgt. Dennis Edwards, 963-2948

at the Naval Hospital Charleston Auditorium, located in the basement. The program is intended for military healthcare beneficiaries age 65 and older. For more information, call Ellen Baker at 743-7607.

Commissary: The Charleston AFB Commissary will be open Sept. 3, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

AAHC: The African American Heritage Committee will meet Aug. 21, 11:30 a.m., at the Wings Bar in the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Denese Bellamy at 963-2262 or Tech. Sgt. Steven

Beasley at 963-5082.

Luncheon: A Women's Equality Day Luncheon is scheduled for Aug. 26, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Cost is \$9 for members and \$11 for non-members. For more information, or for tickets, call 963-6757 or 963-6959.

CLEP class: A math preparatory College Level Examination Program is scheduled for Aug. 26-28, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Community Education Center. Students who successfully complete the math CLEP class will be administered the CLEP General Mathematics exam Aug. 29. Successful completion of this test meets the Community College of the Air Force requirement for mathematics. This class will be offered to Air Force personnel assigned to Charleston AFB as the purpose is to meet CCAF requirements. Other personnel are welcome on a space-available basis. Personnel who want to take this class must sign up in person. All personnel must confirm their seat no later than 3:30 p.m., Aug. 23, by calling 963-4575. Seats not confirmed will be opened to the waiting list.

Trespass notice: The base firing ranges are located adjacent to the Rivers Gate, between the explosive ordnance disposal ranges, munitions storage site and the Cross County Road gravel pit. Trespassing on the ranges is not only illegal, it is highly dangerous due to weapons training conducted daily, including weekends. Ranges are not for personal use. Individuals having a valid need for entry must contact range personnel at 963-5292 for authorization.

Family Support Center

TAP 3-Day Workshop: Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Jennifer Turner

Captain Scott Townsend

137th Aerial Port Flight, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Capt. Scott Townsend is an aerial port operations officer for the 137th Aerial Port Flight, Air National Guard, Will Rogers World Airport, Oklahoma City, Okla.

He served as operations officer for the 703rd Consolidated Aerial Port Squadron during the Charleston AFB Patriot Partner port takeover.

"Before becoming an aerial port operations officer, I was a command post officer and served as a coordinator for the base," said Townsend. "However, they did away with this position in the Guards, and there were openings in the aerial port."

A native of Mustang, Okla., Townsend has been in the ANG for eleven years and served as an enlisted Guardsman during college. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, he attended the Academy of Military Science, McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tenn., to become an ANG officer.

Townsend also works at Tinker AFB as a civilian software engineer for the B-2 Spirit flight simulator.

"The flight simulators are for training air crews," said Townsend. "I write programs and keep them up-to-date with the airplanes."

Working as an Air Force civilian and as a guardsman has increased Townsend's appreciation for the military.

"ANG has helped me with self discipline and leadership responsibilities in civilian life," said Townsend. "Working with people in a supervisory role as a Guard has improved my civilian work as well. Overall, I like the Air Force because of the quality of life it provides and the way they treat their people."

AFPC commander to visit CAFB, address personnel-related issues

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

The Air Force Personnel Center commander is set to visit Charleston AFB Sunday-Tuesday.

Maj. Gen. Mike McMahan, AFPC commander, is visiting CAFB for his AFPC Spread the Word briefing.

"General McMahan is interested in getting down to the base level and seeing how the (AFPC) policies are affecting (CAFB)," said Lt. Col. Chuck Capps, 437th Mission Support Squadron commander. "The Spread the Word briefing is primarily addresses assignments, promotions, civilian personnel issues, retention, Reserve issues and other personnel matters important to CAFB."

The Spread the Word briefing is set for Monday, 2:30 p.m., at the Base Theater. Each group will be given a quota of how many personnel can attend.

McMahan will open the floor for questions after his briefing.

Other than the Spread the Word briefing, McMahan plans on having several forums to get his message out.

"Some of the forums will be with base leadership, first sergeants and base personnelists," said Capps. "He will also visit each flight in the 437 MSS to shake hands with the world-

class personnel who do the day-to-day work.

"It's kind of cool that the No. 2 personnelist in the Air Force would take the time to shake the hands of the personnelists on base and the leadership at the base," Capps continued.

McMahan is also curious about other members of Team Charleston. He plans to spend time with reservists in the 315th Airlift Wing.

"He wants to see their side of the house," said 1st Lt. Clint Fisher, 437 MSS chief of personnel relocations and employment. "He's basically coming here to take a look at everything; active duty, reserve and civilian."

Capps said McMahan's visit is important for Team Charleston.

"There are certainly issues a headquarters general officer is aware of that others are not privy to," said Capps. "It will be good to hear his perspective about issues such as the Total Force, Aerospace Expeditionary Forces, Stop Loss, retention and civilian career progression."

Each group is currently sending questions to Capps, who is forwarding them to McMahan for the briefing. For those who have questions but cannot attend the briefing, questions can be forwarded to Capps at charles.capps@charleston.af.mil.

Around the Air Force

Pentagon tenants return: Less than a year after a hijacked airliner crashed into the Pentagon, the first tenants of the destroyed area will move back in, Defense officials said.

As befitting their tradition, a Marine Corps office will move back into the E-ring office it occupied before Sept. 11, said Rachel Decker, a communications specialist with the Pentagon Renovation Plan.

"It's the office they recovered the Marine flag from," she said.

The project is well ahead of schedule, Decker said. Other offices will move back in, although the schedule is not yet set, she said. (AFPS)

Overseas assignments: The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas assignments is now available for the April to June 2003 cycle.

The deadline for updating assign-

ment preferences is Aug. 22. Airmen will be notified of their selection by Sept. 9.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by Air Force Specialty Code and rank. Members are instructed to review and specifically list their job preferences in order, based on the EQUAL list.

Individuals should work through their military personnel flights or their commander's support staffs to update their preferences.

People can view the lists from the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil, or at local MPFs. Those on temporary duty can contact the nearest personnel office for assistance. (AFPN)

For more Air Force News, go to Air Force Link on the Internet at www.af.mil.

HAMMOND

continued from page 1

each a chance to find what we enjoy in life," he continued. "I get enjoyment by doing for others. Helping the military and the folks out there defending the country is satisfaction enough."

Hammond said he didn't expect the drop zone to be named after him, and he didn't want any kind of reward for his work, but he was extremely honored to have his name permanently

given to an area used for military training.

Although the field still needs to be surveyed to affirm that it meets additional training requirements, Barnett said the improvements Hammond made go a long way in North Field's vision of remaining the premier C-17 training area on the East Coast.

"Just clearing those stumps got rid of two or three waivers for safety," said Barnett. "This is a big step in the ongoing project to carry out sustained, tactical work in low cloud cover."

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo, 1 CTCS

Load 'em up

Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., load onto a C-17 for a night jump during Large Package Week. Large Package Week, July 16-21, at Pope AFB, N.C., was a joint Air Force and Army exercise to practice heavy equipment and paratrooper movement by air. C-17s and C-130s, as well as Army combat engineers and the 82nd Airborne participated in the week's activities, which benefit both services.

Safety office gives school bus tips

By Staff Sgt. Bart Craven
437 AW Safety

According to the National Highway Traffic Administration, approximately 28 million school-age children begin and end their days with a trip on a school bus. Unfortunately, many are injured, and even killed, each year in school bus-related mishaps.

Drivers are required by law to stop for a school bus when it stops to load or unload passengers and should mentally prepare for the stopping, loading and unloading of passengers.

The National Safety Council strongly encourages parents and guardians to teach their youngsters the following set of guidelines for getting on and off the bus:

- While waiting for a bus, stay away from traffic, avoid horseplay or other careless behavior; don't stray onto the streets in the path of oncoming traffic

- When the school bus approaches, line up away from the street or road; wait until the bus has stopped and the door opens before stepping on the road to enter

- When getting on the bus, use the handrails, especially in the winter months

- Never put body parts like the head, arms or hands outside the window, even when the bus is not moving

- Keep the aisle clear at all times; book bags can be tripping hazards and can block the way in case of an emergency

- At a stop or destination, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before getting up

- To cross the street in front of the bus, walk at least 10 feet ahead of the bus along the side of the road until the bus driver is visible

- Don't cross the center line of the road until the driver has signaled it is safe to continue walking

- Stay away from the buses rear wheels at all times

CAFB firefighter named hero

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Air Mobility Command and the American Red Cross recognized a Charleston AFB firefighter for saving a security forces member's life while TDY to school.

While at Warner Robins AFB, Ga., in the NCO Academy, Tech. Sgt. Donald Covert, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department North Auxiliary Air Field battalion chief, used his Air Force training to save a life, earning the Air Mobility Command's firefighter heroism award and the American Red Cross Neighborhood Hero award in the Professional Rescuer category.

"There was a security forces NCO who had been brutally attacked by an airman, who used a 32-ounce beer mug on him," Covert said. "Once the glass broke, the airman continued to use the handle on him."

Covert was several building down and heard the yell for help.

"I ran down the street, and saw the airman run away," Covert said. "The NCO was bleeding profusely, so I laid him down and assessed the situation. His nose was nearly removed from his face, and he had a laceration on his cheek 8 inches long and 3 inches wide."

Covert, whose Air Force training qualifies him as a first responder and an emergency medical technician, had no medical equipment with him.

"I used a ripped up T-shirt as a

bandage and applied pressure until the paramedics got there nearly 30 minutes later," said Covert.

Later that week, Covert received a visit from the spouse of the NCO. She thanked him and told him the doctor said his actions saved her husband's life. He met the NCO at his NCO Academy graduation.

The NCO needed two surgeries after the accident, and is now recovering back at work.

Covert was unaware his chain of command put him in for either award. Both times, he found out about the awards after the fact. Covert said he was overwhelmed and honored to win the AMC-level award.

"I told my boss and commander that I look at it like I'm just doing my job," said Covert. "They tell me I can't look at it like that. I have to look at it like I'm in the shoes of the other person."

Roger Schwartz, 437 CES Fire Department assistant fire chief, said Covert went above and beyond the call of duty.

"With the write-up we had from the school, it was obvious that Covert displayed true heroism and deserved the award," said Schwartz. "Even though he was an off-duty firefighter, he stepped right in without any safety equipment and really displayed heroism."

"My Air Force training allowed me to make the correct and timely decisions I needed to make," said Covert, a 19-year Air Force veteran.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

In the tradition of a Twilight Tattoo, members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard participate in a Sunset Salute at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.

Honor guard recruiting team to visit CAFB Monday, drill team to perform

A recruiting team from the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard is scheduled to visit Charleston AFB Monday.

The team is slated to hold two briefings at the Community Education Center, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., along with a Drill Team performance at noon at the Gaylor Dining Facility, according to Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Harris, 437th Services Squadron assistant NCOIC of the Base Honor Guard.

The goal of the team's visit is to attract and interest NCOs and senior NCOs for career broadening opportunities with the Air Force Honor Guard, according to an Honor Guard release.

LYLES

continued from page 1

Each block version is a major modification of the previous aircraft.

The delivery Aug. 1 was the second of 12 planned deliveries of the Block 13 aircraft, which includes upgraded mission computer software, extended range fuel tanks, improved airdrop and formation flying capabilities, and advanced wind shear and terrain warning systems.

Lyles said he has always been a big fan of the C-17.

"In a wartime environment (in) a landlocked country with unimproved runways, very rough terrain and the worst conditions that you can imagine, this aircraft and crews are doing fantastic," Lyles said.

Air Force Material Command, headquartered at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, manages the C-17 System Program Office and the logistics system that keeps the aircraft flying.

"The flexible sustainment contract for depot maintenance with Boeing has worked out very well," Lyles said. "We are trying to partner with Boeing to make sure at some point that we can do some of

the work for sustainment at our Air Logistics Center at Warner-Robins (AFB) in middle Georgia.

"We're in the process of defining what that partnering role will be," Lyles continued. "It will be a team effort to take advantage of the best of the talents of the Boeing people and my guys at Warner Robins."

Warner-Robins ALC already conducts some of the C-17 fleet's analytical condition inspections, he added.

Lyles said one of the lessons learned in procurement of the C-17 is that when the Air Force gets an aircraft this good, it needs to get a lot of them.

"I don't know if our budget will allow us to do that in every case, but we're looking at ways to increase procurement," Lyles said.

He mentioned that Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, has already stated the need for at least 222 C-17s.

"I'm hoping we'll get a lot more," he said.

The biggest lesson learned with C-17s was the need to stick with the program.

"The C-17 had some chal-

lenges at the very beginning ten years ago," said Lyles. "We managed to get through that and it has been a tremendous success. That same approach can be applied to other systems today. We need to stick with the program as best we can."

When visiting the Boeing plant, Lyles concluded AFMC could benchmark off Boeing's employees, particularly at Air Logistics Centers.

"Its true!" Lyles said. "We are trying to make sure we are a true partner with them. Their plant was truly state-of-the-art in terms of technology."

Lt. Col. Steve Shope, 15th Airlift Squadron commander and one of the pilots who brought in the new aircraft, described the general as being genuinely interested in how AFMC can further improve the aircraft.

"He spoke with everyone on the aircrew, seeking their ideas and asking for feedback," Shope said. "It was his first time on a C-17 flight and he was very impressed with the technology and how well it worked."

Lyles said he encourages top Air Force leadership to be a part of these delivery cer-

emonies. He said the experience could further motivate the workforce and even the general officer.

"It was really a thrill to talk to those outstanding people at the Boeing plant," said Lyles. "Listening to the aircraft commander and his experiences flying the C-17 in Afghanistan, and seeing the aircrew in action, was a thrill to me."

"I knew about the state of the technology in the C-17, but you really don't appreciate it until you have a chance to be in the cockpit while it is operating," Lyles continued. "The thing that impressed me most was what the loadmaster could do in the back, and the versatility in quickly reconfiguring the aircraft for various loads. The loadmaster is one of those unsung heroes; he really has a tremendous asset in his hands."

Besides AFMC's strong support for the C-17 program, Lyles also spoke about their outstanding success in supporting the warfighter.

"They (the warfighters) appreciate what we've done in our surge capabilities at the Air Logistics Centers, particularly with the munitions that we're providing," said Lyles. "They certainly appreciate

what we've done with incorporating new technology into the C-17, Global Hawk and Predators with Hellfire missiles on them."

He added that AFMC has some challenges ahead, one of which is to quickly provide capability to the warfighter.

Lyles explained that the Air Force couldn't wait 10-12 years to develop something and get it into people's hands.

"We have a concept called agile acquisition and spiral development," said Lyles. "We are looking at better ways of getting early capability to the warfighter. We let them fly it, try it and operate it, then use improvements in the next spiral update to the platform."

The other challenge is in the Air Logistics Centers.

"We have to make sure they are state of the art, and they can be partners with companies like Boeing to sustain aircraft in the future," Lyles said.

The final challenge is science and technology.

"We have to make sure we don't forget and mortgage our future," said Lyles. "We must continue to put emphasis and money into science and technology."

Base picnic draws crowd

Thousands flock to two-day fun festival

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB's annual base picnic brought crowds by the thousands.

More than 4,000 active-duty members, reservists, retirees, family members and even pets attended the picnic Aug. 2 and Saturday, which was part of the Around The World In Ninety Days summer promotion.

"We gave out thousands of tickets," said Laura Abell, 437th Services Squadron Marketing director. "We had about 800 new folks log on to ATWIND over the weekend, and it raised the percentage about 20 percent."

ATWIND sponsors gave out prizes both days.

"A couple of people won savings bonds, and we gave out a television on both days," said Abell.

Other prizes included gift packages, ATWIND T-shirts and family pack sporting event tickets.

The 437th Support Group showed their superiority at the base picnic by winning the Year of the Warrior Spirit competitions.

The 437 SPTG defeated 437th Airlift Wing staff in the tug-of-war finals Aug. 2, hours before the picnic started. But they didn't stop there. The 437 SPTG went on to defeat the 437th Logistics Group, 4-0, in the softball tournament.



Photo by Airman Stephanie Hammer

A wet Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, taunts the baseball throwers from the dunking tank.



Photo by Airman Stephanie Hammer

Master Sgt. Gregory Giovanetti and Staff Sgt. Todd Crytser, 315th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight, man a high-pressure air-powered T-shirt cannon made from PVC pipe.

Airman Ciji Robinette, Staff Sgt. Lynn Scholl and Airman 1st Class Jose Torres, 437th Logistics Group pulled their hardest against the 437th Airlift Wing staff, but came up short in the Year of the Warrior Spirit tug-of-war semi-finals. The 437th Support Group defeated the 437 AW staff within seconds during the finals.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry



Evelina Velez, daughter of Master Sgt. Ed [name obscured], available for children at the picnic.

TURE



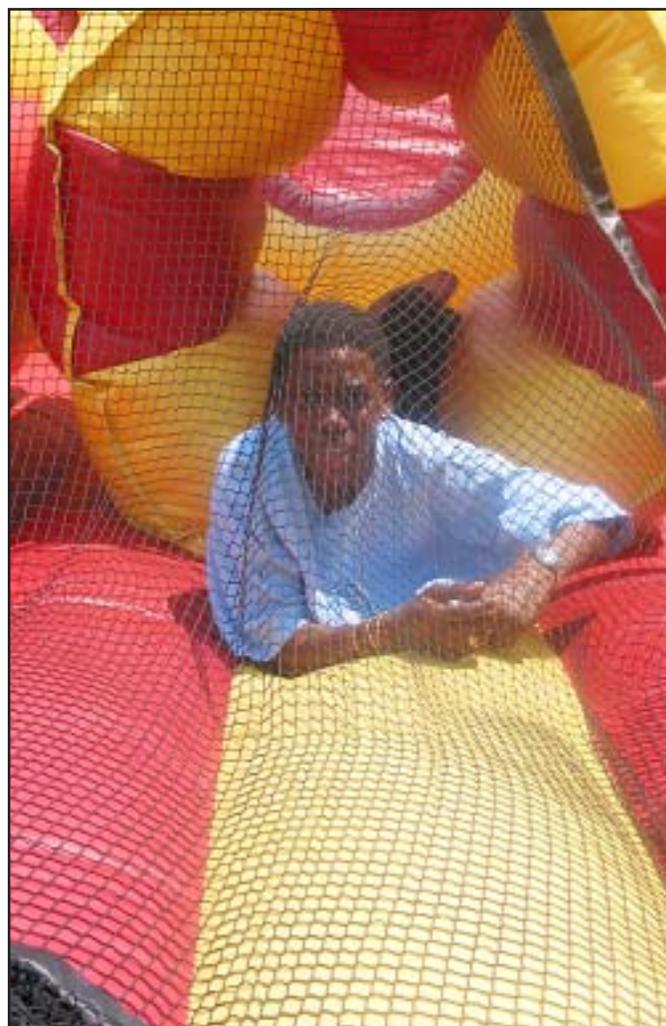
Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
d Velez, flips for her watching crowd on a bungee ride. Several rides were



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
Derek Cormier, son of Master Sgt. Art Cormier, winds up to test his speed. The RiverDogs donated the use of their speed gun for the picnic.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry



Above: Rachael Anderson, daughter of Master Sgt. Gregg Anderson, closes her eyes as she speeds down the Slip and Slide at the base picnic.

Left: Nicolas Middleton, son of retired Chief Master Sgt. Thomas and Air Force Auditor Georgia Middleton, crawls his way out of the balloon obstacle course.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

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 in Bldg. 216 (old Chapel).

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: David Sirull at 571-3264.

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.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Powerpuff Girls" – Animated

When Professor Utonium first cooked up the girls in his laboratory, he wasn't trying to give them superpowers, he just wanted to create the perfect little girl. But when the professor's monkey lab assistant knocked a dose of Chemical X into the mix, the Powerpuff Girls, Blossom, Bubbles and Buttercup were born. **(PG) 80 minutes**

Saturday and Aug. 16, 7:30 p.m.

"Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones"

The galaxy has undergone significant change. Anakin has grown into the accomplished Jedi apprentice of Obi-Wan, who himself has transitioned from student to teacher. The Jedi are assigned to protect Padme and will face choices that impact not only their own fates, but also the destiny of the Republic. **(PG) 142 minutes**

Aug. 17, 2 p.m.

"Like Mike" – Lil' Bow Wow, Morris Chestnut

Calvin finds a "magical" pair of sneakers that were once worn by professional basketball player Michael Jordan. The shoes transform him into a basketball wizard, able to compete on a professional level despite his size. He soon gets a chance to join an actual NBA team. **(PG) 101 minutes**

Fitness & Sports



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Batter up!

With supreme concentration, Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Cunningham, 437th Mission Support Squadron superintendent, prepares to make contact in an Aug. 2 softball match, held in conjunction with the base picnic. Team Charleston's chiefs and colonels squared off for the annual grudge match, with the colonels hoping to topple the chiefs, who won it last year. The colonels met with disappointment, however, as the chiefs went on to win it again, 13-6, in a true show of enlisted force.

Proper nutrition key to learning

By Capt. Sean Schumm
HAWC

School buses are rolling again, school bells are beginning to ring, and kids are running out the door. Another year of learning has begun.

Unfortunately, as many as one out of six 5th graders skip breakfast, and the statistics for older children show the number skipping breakfast is much higher.

Starting the day without breakfast is like starting a car without gas. It doesn't work. When a child misses breakfast, concentration is more difficult, their verbal fluency is impaired and muscle contractions are delayed. On an average, breakfast eaters are better prepared for the day and are less likely to be overweight. In addition, breakfast gives children a significant part of the day's overall nutrients.

For children who have a tendency to miss breakfast, parents should plan the meal with the child the night before, decide who prepares what and work together to get it done. Breakfast can be as quick and simple as cereal and milk, yogurt and fruit, or a bagel and a glass of milk. Even a peanut butter and jelly sandwich is better than nothing. Getting the right nutrition may mean some compromising, but good nutrition can equal fun eating

if planned well.

According to the American Dietetic Association, a recent survey of the nation's 100 largest school districts reported that nearly 70 percent of schools now meet or exceed nutrition guidelines limiting the percentage of calories coming from fat.

In addition to meeting these criteria, 69 percent of the children in these districts choose to eat school lunches rather bringing a lunch from home. Eating a healthy lunch provides people with the fuel they need to perform well in the afternoon. Pack only the amount of food that the child will eat in the time allotted in their lunch period.

Most children need a middle of the afternoon snack for additional fuel. The most important thing to remember is to make wise snack choices.

Eating healthy means children will look and feel better. They will be more alert and attentive, and are more likely to participate in school and sports activities. Eating healthy doesn't have to be tough. Try to follow these simple guidelines: have children eat regular meals, eat a variety of foods; cut down on high fat and sugar foods, and just have fun. For more information, contact Capt. Sean Schumm, Health and Wellness Center, at 963-8683 or Frankie Cox, HAWC, at 963-6171.

Hurricanes victorious in first round Air Force team looking to battle Gladiators

By Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice hockey team moved into the second round of the playoffs Sunday by winning their first round game 8-5 over Pacific Basin.

The final score doesn't reflect the closeness of the game which was a one-goal contest going into the last minute of play.

The Hurricanes started the scoring with a goal from Denis Paquette, 17th Airlift Squadron, only 30 seconds into the game.

Pacific Basin answered with six minutes left in the first period, making it 1-1 going into the second.

Six minutes into the second, Pacific Basin scored again and took the lead in what later proved to be a give-and-take contest.

Paquette put a second goal past the Pacific Basin net minder making it a 2-2 game.

The Hurricanes went up halfway through the second on a goal from Jon Connor, 437th Aerial Port Squadron and

team captain.

Pacific Basin quickly tied it up, only to go down by one again, when Jon Martinez, 437th Supply Squadron, put one in net.

Inside the first three minutes of the third period, Pacific Basin scored two unanswered goals, giving them a 5-4 lead. The Hurricanes team looked tired until Kevin Bosshart, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, put in the tying goal with five minutes left in the game.

Two minutes later, Connor scored his second of the night, putting the 'canes up by a goal.

The Hurricanes defense dug in to protect the lead in the final two minutes, not letting anything past the blue line. In a desperation move, Pacific Basin pulled their goalie with just over a minute left to play. The extra attacker didn't pay off as Connor put one in the empty net, capping the victory and getting him a hat trick.

Brian Jones, 437th Airlift Wing, scored an empty netter with 16 seconds, left finalizing the score at 8-5.

"We played as a team and pulled together when we had to," said Connor. "After the 11-1 victory we had against these guys last time, I think we underestimated them, and they almost made us pay for that."

Connor said the Hurricanes won't make the same mistake twice. They are preparing for a



Photos by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Mike Helm, Hurricanes' goalie, comes out of the net to block a puck before a Pacific Basin player can get a shot off. The Hurricanes won the game 8-5.

hard-fought battle against the Gladiators in the next round of the playoffs.

"Our plan is to strike early, strike hard and strike relentlessly," Connor said. "We're going to maintain our game and not give in to the temptation of taking retaliation penalties."

Connor said the Gladiators are known around the league as thugs, and every time the two teams play, it feels like a grudge match.

The Hurricanes play the Gladiators Sunday, 7:15 p.m., at the Carolina Ice Palace. Admission is free.



Jon Martinez, 437th Supply Squadron, lines up to take a face off.