AIRLIFT
Dispatch

Vol. 41, No. 19 | 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC | Friday, May 17, 2002

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Ricky Bloom

Still 'Enduring Freedom'

A Charleston AFB C-17 Globemaster III takes off May 10 from the runway at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, on a mission supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Brain stimulator to keep pilots awake

By Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

The Medical University of South Carolina will be working on a brain stimulation device for possible military use thanks to a contract award from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

According to an MUSC press release, the overall goal of the contract is to determine if non-invasive stimulation of the brain can improve a soldier's performance, and if so, design, manufacture and test a prototype of a system that would be capable of delivering the technology in the field.

Dr. Mark George, MUSC Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation System developer, said the real challenge in creating the device is to push back sleep deprivation so that people can reach peak performance even when deprived.

"We're not undoing the need for sleep," said George. "We're just trying to find a way to bring highly-trained soldiers to their best when they need to perform."

George used a fighter-pilot example to describe the intentions of the device. During a time of combat, a pilot may be flying a mission from an aircraft carrier. On the way back to the carrier, the pilot may be sleepy. Once he gets near his ship, he will need to focus to land the aircraft. That's when George said the device could be used on the pilot to make sure he lands the aircraft safely.

"We're looking to see if there's a way to give small doses that last for a period of time," said George. "It's distracting while it's being delivered. Maybe we could turn the TMS on for five minutes and have a lasting dose of 10 or 15 minutes."

Current devices George is working with are about the size of a hand. When delivering a dose, George said the device makes a pop, and the wearer can hear the electricity flowing.

"The thin muscle on the scalp gets excited," said George. "You can feel the muscles contracting on the head. It's an odd feeling. It's not really painful, just odd."

The ideal TMS would be a lot smaller than today's version. George said eventually TMSs would be built into fighter pilot's helmets. Since everyone's brain works differently, the device's location would be customized for each helmet.

"Right now, braces hold the TMS to the head," George said. "We put people in the MRI and figure out,

See **BRAIN**, page 3

'Pop quiz, hotshot,'

CAFB hosts bomb-removal training

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB hosted the first Air Mobility Command Threat Analysis and Diagnosis training class May 6-10.

AMC charged ahead of the other commands for the opportunity to be able to offer the course to its technicians and teach them about weapons of mass destruction.

"We had three exercises the fourth day, and in the first one we learned how to disarm a briefcase device," said Staff Sgt. Tony Newbern, CAFB Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician. "The second two involved two different large chemical dispersal devices to teach about weapons of mass destruction. The last day we worked on large vehicle bombs to be prepared to disarm them. We did an explosive procedure, using a detonating cord, to remotely open a vehicle.

"Due to media interest for the event, we also blasted a one-half brick of TNT to make an explosion," continued Newbern.

See **EOD**, page 3

Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight used a detonating cord to blow open a vehicle during a recent SPARTA, Inc., course.

IN THE NEWS

'Deployed Dads' Saturday: Charleston AFB hosting workshop for deploying members, Budd calls it, 'Operation Enduring Family'

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB is set to be the pilot base for a one-day workshop geared to help military families effectively deal with deployments.

Deployed Dads, a program built by military members for military members and their families, is scheduled for Saturday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

"My main goal at CAFB is prevention," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Frank Budd, 437th Medical Operations Squadron Behavioral Sciences Flight commander. "Prevention is getting good information to people who need it. This program is good for wings that are being repeatedly tasked for deployments."

Budd's interest in making Team Charleston a tighter unit with less family problems led him to volunteer CAFB to be the pilot base for the program.

"CAFB is the first base in the Department of Defense to do this program," said Budd. "Only one other civilian group has ever tested this program."

The workshop will include a variety of sessions to assist military families with deployment.

Budd said there will be information to help deployed members stay connected with their families, and the briefer will address questions or needs of attendees. Play activities have been developed to initiate closeness between parents and their children.

The Deployed Dads program will also provide some tools to keep the deployed member and children connected during deployment, and it will prepare deployed members for changes that may occur in their family while they are deployed. Extensive deployment guides have been developed to effectively cope with deployments that will be handed out to all participants.

Although called Deployed Dads, the program is not only for deployed fathers. Deployable mothers may also take advantage of the program.

"This program is geared toward fathers, but any deployable member can attend with their families," said Budd.

Unit SpouseLinks, a volunteer training by the Family Support Center to be the local resource for deployed members in their unit for the services they need, are encouraged to attend the meeting with their families to be able to provide a more comprehensive database of information for deployable members.

"This program is not just service to family, it's primarily a recruitment and training program," said Budd. "We are looking for people willing to give additional support to our deployed families. We expect the people to also provide these services in return to fellow squadron members, neighbors, members of their church and more.

"We are equipping the people who come to get help for their families," continued Budd. "But it is primarily to recruit and train people who want to support others."

Budd wants to help decrease family problems that occur because of increased operations tempo.

"We are all aware of the strain Operation Enduring Freedom is causing on our families," said Budd. "We just want to provide tools for people who need it.

"The Family Support Center has excellent programs for deployed members," continued Budd. "But what's different about this program is these two organizations, Parents Educating Parents, Inc., and the National Father Initiative, have put together the best practices of different organizations. This should be a program that has powerful and helpful tools."

Budd said he knows this won't stop every problem, but he hopes to curb most of the negative issues.

"We're excited about this opportunity, but it's not a cure-all," said Budd. "We are providing a springboard to help people to effectively deal with communication issues. We want to help Team Charleston during OEF to initiate 'Operation Enduring Family.'"

Cristian Maurin, spouse of Staff Sgt. Joe Maurin, 437th Supply Squadron, looks through a Family Readiness pamphlet about deployments.

Honorary CC kickoff

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB kicked off its 2002 Honorary Commanders Program May 10 at the Charleston Club.

Now in its third year, the mission of the program is to create a partnership between the base and the local community, and to generate increased support for the base workforce, both military and civilian.

"It certainly has been a pleasure to have the program take off like it has in the last few years," said Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, in opening the ceremony. "I really enjoy the relationship we have here with the community. We want to be a good, vital part of this community, and this is another way to ensure we are."

Local leaders said they decided to become honorary commanders for a variety of reasons.

"It truly is a personal reason," said Tim Scott, chairman of the Charleston County Council and honorary commander of the 437th Services Squadron. "When I was a little fella, Ms. Corbin (Nancy, 437 SVS) was my leader over at the Youth Center. My father was Air Force, and my brother went to the Air Force Academy."

Scott said he views the program as a way to reconnect to the military and also to contribute something to the relationship between the civilian and base communities.

"I see it as an opportunity to learn more about what's going on at CAFB," said John Chiappardi, owner of Time Properties and honorary commander of the 437th Logistics Group.

The kick off ceremony gave new honorary commanders a chance to meet up with their military counterparts and with community leaders returning to the program.

Honorary commanders are invited to a variety of military events throughout the year. During their one-year tenure, they have an opportunity to attend squadron picnics, changes-of-command ceremonies, dining-outs, hail and farewells, commander's calls and more.

LG gives YOWS briefing

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Members of the 437th Logistics Group let Charleston AFB know what goes on behind the scenes Tuesday during the monthly Year of the Warrior Spirit Warrior Briefing at the Charleston Club.

Representatives of each squadron in the group painted a picture of how logistics gets the job done both at home and while deployed.

"We started off the day this morning with a 12-ship C-17 launch," said Col. Tommy Hixon, 437th Logistics Group commander. "Talk about a Team Charleston event. That's not something that can happen without the work of everybody out there."

In describing the role the 437 LG plays in operations, Hixon quoted Navy Adm. Ernest King, chief of Naval operations during World War II.

"What he said to one of his staffers was, 'I don't know what the hell this logistics is that Marshall is always talking about, but I want some of it,'" Hixon said. "Well, I'm here to tell you what it is. It's what's behind getting those 12 airplanes off, and it's what's behind what Col. Bob Allardice (437th Operations Group commander) is always talking about; getting the stuff to the fight. Logistics is the enabler that allows us to get the stuff to the fight."

Hixon then bowed out to the briefing team. Staff Sgt. Kaia Olbino, 437th Contracting Squadron, explained the role her squadron plays in keeping operations going.

According to Olbino, the work of the 437 CONS is vital to the operation of any mission, both here and in deployed locations.

The 437th Supply Squadron took the briefing, with Airman 1st Class Trevis Humphrey, 437 SUPS mobility section. Humphrey described his section's responsibilities to supply and equip Charleston AFB personnel when they leave for destinations unknown.

The 437 SUPS briefers turned the briefing over to a representative from the 437th Transportation Squadron, Staff Sgt. Don Gworek.

Gworek started his segment of the briefing by showing a slide representing what it would be like to load a C-17 without any type of special motorized equipment. He went on to describe how the squadron prepared and deployed a number of vehicles, and how they carried on operations at CAFB with squadron members scattered throughout the world.

After the 437 TRANS briefer left the stage, Senior Airman Darril Rodgers, 437th Maintenance Squadron, took over. Rodgers explained his role as an aircraft maintainer deployed to support the humanitarian relief mission out of Ramstien AB, Germany.

Briefers from the 437th and 315th Aircraft Generation Squadrons finished up the briefing.

Tech. Sgt. Chris Selle, 315 AGS, described his experiences as a jet engine mechanic at a deployed location.

Tech. Sgt. Steven Kaestner, 437 AGS, told of how he was called into the Maintenance Special Operations shop the day before Thanksgiving and woke up three days later in the desert.

Entomology putting choke hold on mosquito problem

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Entomology shop, sometimes referred to as pest control, handles all the critters and unwanted or hazardous plants that reside on base.

"During the summer, our biggest problem is termites, ants and mosquitoes," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Allbright, 437 CES ecological control specialist. "With Charleston being a subtropical area, we deal with a lot of termites. We've treated at least 10 homes since October."

According to Allbright, mosquitoes aren't as easily treated as termites.

"Because the chemical (used to control mosquitoes) is so dangerous, we have to wait until there's just cause to spray," said Allbright. "We usually wait until public health catches a mosquito count of 200 females (which are the only mosquitoes that bite). They set traps all over base to collect their count. Once there's more than 200, we know there's a problem."

Senior Airman Lorie Kopecky, 437 CES ecological control specialist, discussed pest control's ways to put a dent in the mosquito population.

"We use a mosquito fog (a chemical sprayed all over base to kill mosquitoes) mostly," said Kopecky. "For still water, we put little briquettes in the water to kill the mosquito eggs."

Allbright said the shop's number one priority is the flightline. They have to keep the weed population under control, making sure the weeds don't grow over any lights or any other critical aspects of the flightline.

Another large part of pest control's job is to eliminate any unwanted pests in the housing area.

"We catch rats, feral cats, raccoons, squirrels, snakes, and we've even caught an alligator out on the flight line," said Tech. Sgt. Linda Newberry, 437 CES ecological control technician. "We also spray the housing area for roaches."

One thing most Team Charleston members don't know is that stray animals found on base aren't killed, said Allbright.

"We capture the animal and set them off in the wild," said Allbright. "If we trap a wild animal, we coordinate with local animal control, and they come and take it off our hands. If the animal looks like it has rabies, it's sent to the veterinarian on base."

Pest control does additional jobs each week to ensure CAFB's safety.

"We do building inspections twice a week to every building that is connected to food," said Allbright. "We make sure it is clean, safe and healthy."

Pest control's job doesn't end on the CAFB homefront.

During wartime, Allbright said, there is one entomologist deployed to each location to be prepared to stop pests overseas.

"We have to know about them so we know how they affect the environment," said Allbright. "It's not about 'how do we kill this pest,' it's about 'how can this pest be removed from CAFB?'"

Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

Tech. Sgt. Linda Newberry (left) and Senior Airman Lorie Kopecky, both from the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Entomology shop, spray the Charleston AFB perimeter fence line for weeds.

EOD

continued from page 1

SPARTA, Inc., a systems engineering and advanced technology company, presented the course to 24 members across the command to teach them more about weapons of mass destruction.

"It gives technicians a better understanding of the threat, if it's 'real' as opposed to a hoax, by enhancing their ability to use X-ray techniques," said Master Sgt. Eddy Dominguez, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron EOD superintendent. "The technicians look at a lot of advanced (bomb mechanisms.) They use X-ray to determine whether or not it's a hoax."

According to the SPARTA, Inc., website, they are dedicated to serving the nation's needs within their core business areas of strategic defense and offense systems, tactical weapons systems, space systems, and information systems. They brought their knowledge of explosives to CAFB.

"The purpose of the class was twofold," said Matt Hill, SPARTA technician. "It was to give the members a better understanding of improvised explosive devices (such as homemade bombs) disruption and have many discussions to understand what equipment is available."

According to Newbern, those taking the course learned mainly about smaller bombs, such as pipe bombs, in their technical school. Additional training is needed to deal with the real-world threat of larger, more powerful bombs.

"This training takes (us) from the smaller bombs we learned about to the larger bombs we mainly see today," said Newbern. "It gives us the tools and ability to attack a vehicle bomb or a weapon of mass destruction."

The course included three days of instructional work and two days in the field putting to practice the information they learned.

"Anytime you have the hands-on training backed up by classroom learning, you'll get more out of it," said Senior Airman Jeff Barnett, 437 CES EOD technician. "Having people from different shops helped me out a lot because I was able to get a different perspective on how to solve a problem 10 different ways."

"The training reinforced things we learned in technical school and things we need throughout our career," continued Barnett. "The perspective in general coming from EOD technical school is that the bombs are simple. The bombs, however, are no longer small or simple. They are much more sophisticated. These things will do more damage to mass groups of people than before."

Teamwork came into play during the course when airmen were put together with troops from throughout the command.

"We learned different ways of thinking and how to solve problems," said Airman 1st Class Matthew Stark, an EOD technician from MacDill AFB, Fla. "When you are teamed with people you don't normally work with, you learn different things."

Electronics has became a large part of the explosive world these days, and the course also focused on that aspect, said Senior Airman David Csizmar, an EOD technician from Dover AFB, Del.

"In the three days of classroom training, I learned a lot about the electronics involved with making bombs today," said Csizmar. "Viewing electronics on the X-ray made everything look different, but luckily if I couldn't see it, someone from my group could."

Many participants agreed the most important lesson of the course came when they applied "out-of-the-box" thinking to each scenario and realized there was more than one way to solve a problem, and most of those accomplished the task at hand.

"There are a lot of ways to attack any problem, and there's never a set way to do it," said Csizmar. "A lot of times when the guy in charge would decide how to do a problem, they would have someone else share their idea about it so everyone would learn how to do the same problem different ways."

Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight set off a half brick of TNT during Air Mobility Command sponsored training May 10.

BRAIN

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personally, what part of the head they use for certain tasks."

If research is successful, George said he would like to build a relationship with Charleston AFB and possibly put the device on pilots in a flight simulator.

"I don't really think there's a problem with pilots falling asleep anyway," said Capt. Scott Weber, 17th Airlift Squadron pilot. "If I'm that tired that I need something to keep me awake, I shouldn't be flying."

Although it's too early to even know if the device will work properly, Weber said unless it's proven, he wouldn't trust a TMS.

"If it was tested, proven and bought into, I would still hope it would only be used as an aid and not to extend the current duty day in length," said Weber. "When I fly, I try to avoid all forms of caffeine or medicine because I need to fly under the control of my own senses. I don't want my body to rely on habit-forming chemicals or some form of artificial stimulant to keep me awake."

George said it's too soon to know if the project will even work, but he did point out that DARPA has had success on many research projects.

"Stimulants have not received good press," said George. "That's the reason the TMS research is being funded. We've talked with military personnel who love the concept of more focal latitude. This technology would be perfect for that."

George said testing feasibility of the TMS is very important in keeping with the DARPA mission. Even more important to the project is the safety of everyone involved.

NEWS BRIEFS

Day off: The Air Mobility Command commander has designated May 24 as a minimum-manning day for active-duty military personnel. The civilian employees of the 437th and 315th Airlift Wings who choose not to work on that day will be authorized liberal leave (i.e., annual, compensatory time, credit hours or leave without pay), subject to their supervisor's approval and workload permitting.

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron Gator Sortie Generation Flight is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Timothy McCutcheon today, 2 p.m., at the Community Education Center.

Retirement: The 437th Contracting Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Kenneth Stempert Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Kaia Olbino at 963-5168.

Retirement: The 437th Airlift Wing is hosting a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. Robert Adams May 24, 3:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tona Cook at 963-5198.

Luau: A going-away luau for Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, and his wife, Sandy, is scheduled for May 28, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Tickets are $17 for club members and $20 for non-members. RSVP by Wednesday by calling 963-3995.

Retirement: The 437th Security Forces Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Staff Sgt. Wayne Belisle May 29, 3 p.m., at the Charleston Club.

Hoedown: A farewell hoedown, in honor of Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, is scheduled for May 30, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. R.S.V.P. by May 24 to 963-5476.

Around the base

Open house: Following renovations, the First Term Airman Center is holding an open house and ribbon cutting Tuesday. The open house will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., with the ribbon cutting at 2:30 p.m. The center is located on the third floor of Bldg. 246. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Joel Jones at 963-6182.

ESC: The Enlisted Spouses' Club is scheduled to meet Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., at the Olive Garden next to Northwoods Mall. The club will be bidding farewell to Sandy Findley. RSVP by today to Marcia Lytton at 760-6892.

FOD walk: As part of Charleston AFB's continuing Foreign Object Damage Prevention Program, the base will conduct a semi-annual FOD walk Wednesday, 9 a.m., beginning at the south end of Hangar 700 and sweeping the entire length of the flightline. All base personnel may participate and are asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. No line badges are required, and transportation will be provided to return participants to Hangar 700. Four "Golden Bolts" will be hidden on the flightline, and the participants who find them will be awarded prizes for exceptional attention to detail. Prizes include Army and Air Force Exchange Service and 437th Services Squadron coupons as well as Charleston River Dogs and Swampfoxes family packages. The grand prize will be a cruise package to the Bahamas courtesy of TRIPS Travel. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Derick Seaton at 963-4723.

Tobacco Cessation: The next Tobacco Cessation Class is scheduled to begin Thursday, 5 p.m., in the Fitness and Sports Center classroom. The class runs for five weeks and meets for one hour each time. Discussions include quitting the habit, stress management, nutrition and exercise. For more information, or to sign up, call the Health and Wellness Center at 963-4007.

Closure: The Charleston AFB Commissary will be closed May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

Red Cross training: Red Cross Medical Assistant Training Program classes are scheduled to begin June 24. The program is open to family members of active-duty and retired military personnel. The six-month course requires five-days per week attendance. Attendees will learn practical and on-the-job training about obtaining vital signs, interviewing patients and assisting with invasive procedures, to name a few. Applications are available at the Family Practice Clinic. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Karen Smith at 963-6714 or Master Sgt. Noble Lisenbee at 963-6780.

Assignments: Air Force personnel wanting to update their assignment preferences must do so through their servicing orderly room or military personnel flight while the Assignment Management System Website is undergoing maintenance.

Motorcycle shipment: The government of Japan has imposed a requirement that all motorcycles or mopeds over 250cc, manufactured July 1, 1999 or later, must comply with Japanese brake standards. The compliance testing costs about $2,000. There are no testing facilities on Okinawa, therefore, motorcycles subject to the new requirement cannot be shipped there. For more information, call 963-2261.

Shoplifting: The Civil Recovery Act, which went into effect March 1, allows the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to collect a flat administrative cost of $200 in addition to the value of the shoplifted items from those caught shoplifting in an AAFES store. Under the terms of the new program, sponsors are responsible for their family members' actions. Parents of minors caught shoplifting will be billed for the costs, AAFES officials explained. They added that this administrative charge is separate from any criminal prosecution or military disciplinary action.

Family Support Center

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

Positive Parenting, Part I: Thursday, 6-8 p.m.

Thrift Savings Plan Briefing: May 28 and 29, 8:30-10 a.m.

Resume II Workshop: May 28, 9-10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Smooth Move Workshop: May 30, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Positive Parenting Part II: May 30, 6-8 p.m.

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

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Staff Sgt. David Perkins
437th Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. David Perkins is the 437th Maintenance Squadron Home Station Check C-17 Support Section NCOIC.

"We are responsible for maintaining all support equipment for the HSC," Perkins said. "Everything used during an HSC on an aircraft comes from the shop."

The Pensacola, Fla., native has spent six of his 14 years in the Air Force at Charleston AFB. He plans on retiring here.

While enjoying hobbies such as fishing and watching sports, his forte is volunteering.

On base, Perkins volunteers for every squadron activity available such as working in the squadron's Little League concession booth several times, organizing squadron teams to raise money for medical research and volunteering his time toward the Holiday Cheer program, which collects funds to provide holiday meals to young enlisted families to ensure everyone can enjoy a holiday meal.

Off base, he helps local schools set up before their school years start, works with the Royal Rangers (a group similar to Boy Scouts) and assists a youth basketball team.

Perkins also supported the Stephen Ministry program at Trident Medical Center by visiting newly arrived patients and addressing their concerns.

Perkins' volunteerism doesn't stop at America's borders. He has also volunteered his time in Guatemala and Romania to build churches.

In Guatemala, Perkins helped remodel a 250-seat church to fit 2,000. In Romania, he helped build a church from scratch, which was almost completed in 11 days, enabling the church to meet the needs of the local orphans.

Perkins and his wife, Jolie, have a son, Andrew, 11, and a daughter, Taylor, 7.

With a father in the Navy and a brother in the Air Force, Perkins was destined for military service.

"I love the Air Force," said Perkins. "I love the people I work with and the environment."

Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Logistics Group warriors brief on their accomplishments

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

The 437th Logistics Group warriors provided a number of briefings about their accomplishments Tuesday as part of our activities for Warrior Day. You can read about their accomplishments on page 2 of the Airlift Dispatch. We also held a Year of the Warrior Spirit softball tournament between the groups in the morning. See the story on page 15.

It was my honor to present warrior coins to the following individuals: Maj. Dan Olson, 17th Airlift Squadron; 1st Lt. Kelly Daugherty, 15th Airlift Squadron; Tech. Sgt. John Travis, 437th Supply Squadron; and Staff Sgt. Walter Hetherington, 437th Aerial Port Squadron. Congratulations!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Mother's Day this past weekend. Pat Simpson and the Charleston Club staff did a fantastic job with the Mother's Day Brunch, and we had more than 450 customers, making the brunch a huge success once again.

May marks Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and there have been a number of events to help us celebrate our cultural diversity. The BX and library have displays all month that highlight Asian Pacific culture and heritage. The Gaylor Dining Facility held a special ethnic lunch Tuesday. There will be a Charleston AFB Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Luau May 31, 4-7 p.m., at the base picnic grounds. The cost is only $5 for adults and $3 for children ages 4 to 11. Children under 4 are admitted free. To get tickets, contact 1st Lt. Jennifer Fehl at 963-3662. Everyone is invited to attend.

Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, and I had an opportunity to speak with several groups this week. I spoke at a Lions Club meeting at the Citadel Alumni House on Tuesday. I also had an opportunity to see our Air Mobility Command Airman of the Year, Staff Sgt. Brian Sharman, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, receive an Airman of the Year Award from the Exchange Club of downtown Charleston on Thursday. The Exchange Club recognized all of the military services at the luncheon. Young will speak to the 456th Bomb Group Association and 15th Air Force reunion groups at the Radisson Hotel Saturday. This group flew B-24 bombing raids over Europe during World War II. They also had an opportunity to tour the base Thursday.

I will have the unique opportunity to speak with survivors of Her Majesty's Transport and Convoy KMF-26 Survivors' Memorial Association Saturday at the Charleston Premier Riverview Hotel. A German bomber had sunk the HMT Rohna with a radio controlled, rocket-boosted bomb off the coast of Africa Nov. 26, 1943. Approximately 1,015 U.S. service-members perished in that attack. About 900 survived the attack, and many of them, and their descendants, attend these reunions to ensure the public never forgets about one of our country's worst combat losses.

The 437th Security Forces Squadron will host a memorial retreat at the base flagpole today, 4-4:30 p.m., to pay tribute to police officers slain in the line of duty. On Saturday, they will host a pistol shooting match between area police departments as part of National Police Week. The match begins at 8 a.m., at the base firing range.

The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce hosted a special military reception for area commanders Thursday. This was one of many events planned as part of Armed Forces Week. Military members can also receive free admission to a Charleston Battery Soccer game May 25 and Charleston RiverDogs baseball game May 29. All of these events are designed to salute the Armed Forces and the men and women of Team Charleston.

We bid farewell to Col. Bob "Dice" Allardice, 437th Operations Group commander, and his wife, Susan, Wednesday at the Charleston Club. Allardice has been at the forefront of leading our operations group, and set new standards on the employment of the C-17, to include "perfecting" training and operations for C-17 night vision goggle and multi-ship formations.

Our success in Operation Enduring Freedom is well known throughout the Department of Defense, and Allardice has been a key leader in our many accomplishments. He helped assemble our people for the first ever high-altitude nighttime airdrops of humanitarian meals during the first night of a "hot" war.

Allardice's foresight was instrumental in training to ensure we could safely operate on austere, semi-prepared airfields. The current war required us to put this training into practice — a true first for the C-17 community. His visionary leadership has been at the forefront of changing the mindset on how the C-17 is employed in future conflicts. We'll miss them. We wish them great success as they head off to command the 62nd Airlift Wing at McChord AFB, Wash.

We will have a base-wide Foreign Object Damage walk Wednesday, 9-10:30 a.m. Our goal is to rid our flightline areas of objects that could be ingested into one of our engines. A number of prizes will be awarded to those who find the golden bolts hidden on the ramp somewhere. We hope for a maximum turnout for this event. To participate, meet at the south side of Hangar 700, Home Station Check Hangar. The walk will end near Bldg. 178, 437 APS. Contact 2nd Lt. Derrick Seaton at 963-4723 for more details.

As many of you know, I was pleased to see our local Swamp Fox Flight, Chapter 297, of the Air Force Association finally get off the ground and become more active than in the past. Charleston has one of the largest chapters in the state. I headed to Shaw AFB, S.C., this past weekend to see CAFB receive the most improved chapter award and a number of individual and unit awards. As mentioned last week, congratulations to our award winners!

The Air Force Association will host a golf tournament May 31, 8 a.m. at Wrenwoods Golf Course to raise funds for our upcoming 2nd Annual Air Force Ball, which should be even better than last year. The cost for the tournament is $15, plus cart rental and green fees. Following the tournament, there will be a pig roast. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Sara Fisher at 963-3612 or Master Sgt. Janet Osborne at 963-4190.

Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, has authorized a minimum manning day for military personnel and a liberal leave policy for civilian personnel May 24. Civilian employees are encouraged to take leave or use accrued compensatory time to the maximum extent possible. Mission permitting, this is a well-earned opportunity for our people to spend time with family and friends during the Memorial Day weekend.

Thanks for all that you have done on behalf of the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. You've earned it!

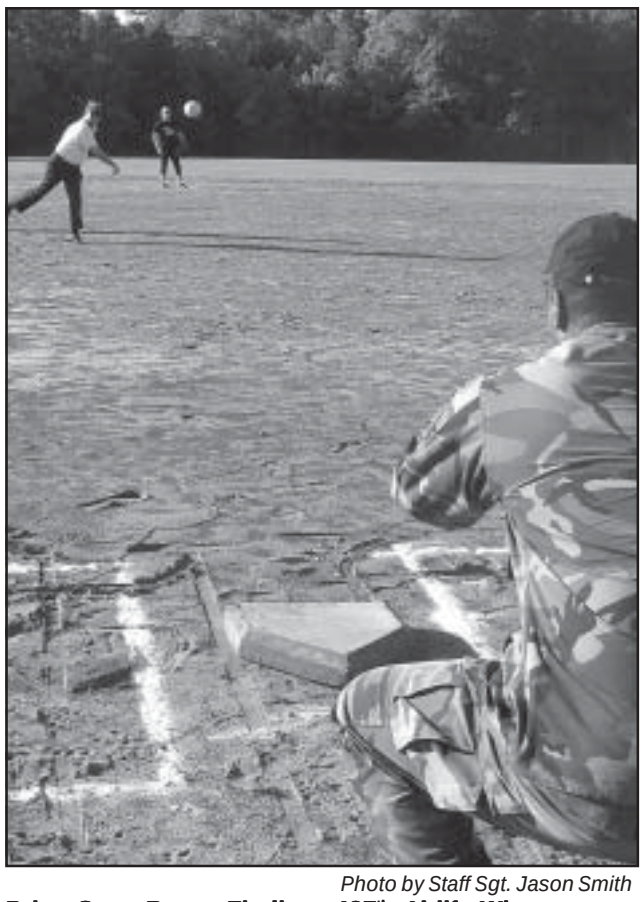


Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Smith

Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, throws the opening pitch of Tuesday's Year of the Warrior Spirit Softball Tournament to Chief Master Sgt. Bobby Robinson, 437th Aerial Port Squadron.

FEATURE

ELEN, hydraulics and fuels shops keep the mission MOVING

Story and photos by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Maintenance Squadron Accessories Flight keeps Charleston AFB's C-17s in the air.

The fuels system, electronic and environmental (ELEN), and hydraulic shops are responsible for ensuring most of the aircraft's components run efficiently.

The fuels system shop is responsible for anything on the aircraft that requires fuel, according to John Newsom, 437 MXS aircraft fuels system mechanic.

"We are responsible for the ground refueling and working on the numerous valves that go through the wings of the aircraft," said Newsom. "The majority of the components we work with are in the wing structure. There are lots of leak possibilities in the wings, and if one leaks we have to go inside the wing to repair it.

"We mostly do all of our work on the flightline, but if we have to go inside the wing structure, we have to bring it into our hangar," continued Newsom.

Charlie Jenkins, 437th Maintenance Squadron Accessories Flight Fuels Systems technician, does an operational check of the aerial refuel system.

The aircraft's fuels systems are massive due to how much fuel they require.

"The older aircraft hold 180,000 pounds of fuel," said Newsom. "While the newer aircraft can hold up to 240,000 pounds, which is enough to fly to Europe's coast if the load is light enough."

While the fuels system shop is responsible for getting the aircraft to fly the mission, the ELEN shop allows the pilots to fly the mission.

"Our shop works on the air conditioner and breathing-oxygen systems, repairs and overhauls aircraft ELEN parts, assists the flight-line on an as needed basis (for ELEN emergencies) and maintains the deployment of the oxygen and breathing masks," said Hal Leming, 437 MXS ELEN shop foreman.

"We also maintain aircraft batteries and work on the emergency power battery supplies," Leming continued.

ELEN supports other flights with their electrical and environmental needs.

"We work on the liquid oxygen and nitrogen for the flightline support carts for the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron," said Leming. "We support the 437th Operations Support Squadron Life Support Flight by maintaining the life raft inflation bottles. We also support the 437th Medical Group by working on their portable oxygen units (for field use).

"If any other flights need assistance with electrical problems on the aircraft, we also help them out," Leming continued.

The third area of maintenance the hydraulic shop is responsible for is making sure the aircraft can take off and land.

"We overhaul about 36 line replacement hydraulic components," said Master Sgt. Kyle Ellison, 437 MXS Pneudraulics Section NCOIC. "We work on the main landing gear shock strut assembly, all main landing gear retrack cylinders, some hydraulic manifolds and the cargo winch assembly.

"One of the biggest manpower components we replace is the C-17 main landing gear brake assembly," continued Ellison.

While the shops are all separate, they all work together. According to Newsom, during the home station checks, this is evident. HSCs are operational checks that are done in six stages on all of the aircraft, he said. Once the aircraft has gone through the sixth stage of an HSC, it goes back to the first.

"All of the systems work together, because our equipment works together," said Newsom. "For the fuels section, we check for fuel leaks on the aircraft and do operation checks of our equipment during the HSCs."

ELEN works on its equipment every third stage of an HSC, and helps out with any problems during the other stages.

"We do an operational check of our systems during the HSC," said Leming. "Even though we only work during the third and sixth stages of an HSC, we correct any problems on the aircraft that need to be fixed, regardless of the HSC."

During every HSC, the hydraulics shop inspects all hydraulic gear for any problems.

"The HSCs are a three-day extensive process that requires extra support," said Ellison. "Any discrepancies that come up are taken care of then, usually back at our shop. Sometimes, however, the problem is fixed on the flightline."

The accessories flight is responsible for many of the vital components that put aircraft in the air, keeps the aircraft in the air and keep the pilots in good condition to fly the aircraft.

Airman 1st Class Ben Lapinski, 437th Maintenance Squadron Accessories Flight Hydraulics technician, checks the nose landing gear strut for proper servicing.

David Robinson, 437th Maintenance Squadron Accessories Flight electrical and environmental technician, prepares to take the housing off a C-17 recognition light.

Summertime news: 101 critical days kick off Memorial Day, 437 AW Safety Office tells all CAFB members 'stay safe'

By Staff Sgt. Bart Craven
437 AW Wing Safety

Memorial Day marks the start of the summer season and offers opportunities for fun in the sun, travel and spending time with family.

Unfortunately, the Air Force and its sister services experience an increase in the numbers of injuries and fatalities resulting from mishaps during the 101 Days between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Historically, according to Annual Air Force Statistics, more Air Force people and their family members are injured or killed during this time of the year than any other period. On average, 40 Air Force personnel will die in off-duty mishaps during the upcoming 101 Critical Days. The leading cause of mishaps usually is traffic-related fatalities. The second leading cause is usually drowning.

Other causes can be poor judgment, alcohol abuse and lack of self-discipline.

The 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign is a concerted effort to reduce mishaps and fatalities by heightening awareness for all Air Force members and their families. Here are some tips to have a safe summer.

Driving

- Allow adequate time to make the trip; don't rush
- Get plenty of rest prior to taking a long trip
- Plan trip to include unexpected delays such as road construction
- Ensure the automobile is mechanically sound
- Take frequent rest breaks while driving
- Wear a seatbelt
- Obey speed limits
- Be on the lookout for construction zones
- Don't drink and drive

Swimming

- Never swim alone
- Know physical limits
- If swimming, find out information about the place first
- If diving, check the area first
- Be aware of underwater currents
- If caught in a riptide, swim with the current and angle towards the shore; don't panic

Boating

- Don't overload or over power the boat; pay attention to the manufacture's data plate for load and horsepower limitations
- Ensure all required Coast Guard equipment is on board to include a paddle or oars, signaling device, air horn, fire extinguisher, a flashlight or boat lights if required
- Wear an approved personal floatation device
- Follow established Coast Guard boating safety procedures
- Limit boating to charted water with the above and below water hazards identified
- Do not operate boat under the influence of alcohol
- Let someone know the intended routes on waterways and lakes or notify the harbormaster of intended routes if planning a ocean trip

Personal Watercraft

- Wear an approved personal floatation device
- Wear goggles to protect eyes against glare and spray
- Lanyard-Emergency shut-off must be attached to the operators and to the vessel
- Keep a whistle to be used as a signaling device
- Wear foot protection, deck shoes or tennis shoes to help avoid injury
- Wear gloves to help maintain grip in wet situations

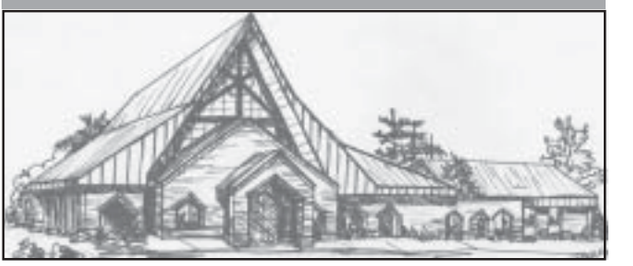
Motorcycles

- Know the bike and environment; adjust accordingly
- Complete the basic or experienced rider's course
- Wear a helmet that is Department of Transportation and Snell Foundation approved only
- Impact resistant goggles or full-face shield should be worn
- Wear a brightly colored vest that is reflective at night
- Long sleeve shirt and pants should be worn
- Wear full fingered gloves
- Wear sturdy footwear; do not wear tennis shoes or flip-flops

Biking

- Wear approved and mandatory safety equipment
- Always ride on the right hand side of the road
- Obey traffic signals, signs and lane markings
- Signal in advance of a turn
- Never wear headphones
- At night, have a light attached to the bike for visibility, as well as reflectors.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Phone: 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services

Saturday -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

Sunday -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

Weekdays -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

Protestant Services

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

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

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2676.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission prices:
Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.

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

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.
"Clockstoppers" – Jesse Bradford

Zak discovers an odd wristwatch amidst his father's inventions, and something very strange happens. The world around him seems to come to a stop. Everything and everybody are frozen in time. Zak quickly learns how to manipulate the device and starts having real fun. **(PG) 94 minutes**

Saturday, 2 p.m.
"Ice Age" – Animated

During the Ice Age, 20,000 years ago, the planet's creatures begin migrating south to avoid a really bad frostbite. Manny, Sid, Diego and Roshan embark on an incredible journey. They narrowly escape avalanches, battle over food, careen through a prehistoric roller coaster of ice funnels and traverse ice bridges over lakes of volcanic lava. They become the weirdest herd of this, or any, age. **(PG) 81 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
"High Crimes" – Ashley Judd

A Harvard Law School professor is forced to defend her husband in military court after the Army declares him a deserter and charges him with participating in a mass killing in El Salvador. **(PG-13) 115 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

YOWS
Five base teams do battle Tuesday

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

The OG softball team won the Year of the Warrior Spirit softball tournament on Tuesday with a late run in the championship game against the LG.

The Company Grade Officers' Council set up the double-elimination tournament.

OG placed first overall, with SPTG coming in as the runner-up. LG placed third with MDG and AW rounding it out.

In the first set of games, OG stomped the MDG, 38-1, and SPTG beat AW, 31-2. MDG and AW went to the loser's bracket from there, and MDG took AW out of the tournament, 22-11.

In the second set of games, LG, who had a bye the first game, beat the SPTG, 16-4, sending SPTG to the losers bracket and giving LG a spot in the championship game against OG.

In the winner's bracket championship game, OG beat LG, 11-10, by scoring a run in the last inning, and sending LG to the loser's bracket runner-up game.

In the loser's bracket, SPTG beat MDG, 25-6, giving SPTG a chance to redeem itself against LG.

SPTG beat the LG, 21-11, securing a second place finish for the SPTG.

OG coach Travis Anderson was surprised at how well the OG team did.

"We were made up of mainly APS members and one flyer," said Anderson. "It was kind of exciting to win, especially with the other teams being made up with many different members of their several squadrons."

One of the members of the CGOC, who was in charge of organizing the event, said he enjoyed the event.

"The teams had a good turnout," said Peter O'Neill. "The finals were exciting."

Even though his team finished fourth, Varner Walker, MDG coach, said his team had fun.

"The tournament was excellent," said Walker. "All of our players enjoyed playing against the other groups. It's fun to compete against your peers just for fun."

WS coach Theodis Pickett had fun in the tournament, even though they lost.

"We enjoyed the tournament," said Pickett. "There was lots of sportsmanship showing and the tournament went great."

Photos by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Randy Bennett, OG, prepares to take a swing.

Keith Cedergren, AW, tries to throw a runner out at first.

Sports briefs

Ice hockey: The Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice hockey team plays Sunday, 8:30 p.m., at the Carolina Ice Palace. Admission is free. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Jason Smith at 963-5536 or Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones at 963-5657.

Softball: The intramural softball season is underway. There are multiple games during the week including SUP 1 vs. MED GP, Monday, 5:30 p.m., at field 2, and FLYERS/OSS vs. APS 1, Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., at field 1.

Soccer: Intramural soccer playoff games are scheduled for Monday-Thursday. Playoff games are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, 5:30 and 6:45 p.m., and Wednesday 5:30 p.m. The base championship is scheduled for Thursday, 5:30 p.m. All games are played at Hurricane Field.

Sports Line: Call the Sports Line at 963-4318 for all the latest scores, game times and other sports information.

Golf tournament: The Air Force Association is hosting a golf tournament May 31, 8 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. The cost is $15, and all proceeds go toward the 2nd Annual Air Force Ball. Cart rental and green fees apply also. There will be pig roast for all participants after the tournament. For more information, call 2nd Lt. Sara Fisher at 963-3612, or Master Sgt. Janet Osborne at 963-4190.

MSS rolls to victory, named base champions

By Staff Sgt. Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

MSS bowled strong in a three-day playoff series to win the 2002 Charleston AFB Intramural Bowling Season championship.

The regular season ended April 30, with MSS in fourth place. The top six teams advanced to a playoff round May 6-8, which was a total pin, plus handicap, competition.

The MSS team, comprised of Lisa Barkman, Rich Hamlett, Pete Kurth, Dave Muse, Kenneth Olsen and Borris Rollins, picked up the level of their game during the playoffs, according to Barkman.

"We ended up whipping everybody's butt," said Barkman. "Throughout the playoffs, everyone picked it up. The last game, Rich Hamlett rolled like a 250 or something."

The SVS team finished in second place, 120 pins behind MSS. Kenneth Randolph, SVS team member, said he was pleasantly surprised that his team was able to keep it as close as they did.

"We had three people with high handicaps who did very good during the tournament," said Randolph. "But MSS was the best team all year long. They had one guy who bowled a 600 all three days in a row during the tournament."

The high totals put out by MSS in the tournament made the talk of sandbagging unavoidable. When asked about sandbagging during the season to ensure a playoff win, Barkman said that just wasn't the case.

"It's like any other night," said Barkman. "You can either bowl way above or below your average. We just all had our good nights at the same time."

Randolph also helped to quickly dispel the sandbag rumor.

"Our coming in second was more of a fluke than them coming in first. The services team is always near the top. After all, we are the 'Can Do Crew.' I suspect we'll be near the top again next year."

The third-sixth place teams were APS, CE, SFS and CTCS, respectively.

2002 CAFB Intramural Bowling final standings

Place	Team	Points won	Total pins
1	APS	92	40,313
2	Services	85	39,834
3	SFS	78	39,775
4	MSS	77	40,449
5	CE	60	39,558
6	CTCS	60	38,789
7	373 TRS	56	38,991
8	SUPS	49	38,999
9	CS	49	37,550
10	TRANS	46	39,555
11	14 AS	46	39,390