

AIRLIFT Dispatch

Vol. 42, No. 14

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, April 11, 2003

Fly by night

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A C-17 on an Operation Iraqi Freedom mission taxis along a runway in northern Iraq. C-17s brought troops and equipment into Iraq to provide warfighting capability to secure an airfield there. The war in Iraq, or OIF, is keeping C-17 crews busy 24-7. Photo by Master Sgt. Billy Johnston

ION SCANNER

Base increases security with new technology

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OUTSTANDING

Community wins award for supporting CAFB

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CHILD CARE

Extended hours help meet mission demands

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SPORTS

Seasons wrap up for hockey and basketball

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Team Charleston: One family, one mission, one fight!

COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash
437AWcommander

AFAF campaign

We wrapped up the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign last week, exceeding our monetary goal, with total contributions of \$53,831. I express my thanks to **Senior Master Sgt. Scott Owens** and **2nd Lt. Robert Nichols** who headed AFAF campaign efforts, and to all the unit points of contact. I am very pleased with the overall effort and the response from the base. This money goes directly back into the CAFB community to benefit people in need.

Awards

Team Charleston received more good news on the award front this week: the local community won the Abilene Trophy in recognition of outstanding community support of CAFB. Read more about this award on page 7. We received word this week that the Charleston AFB chapel renovation project earned an Air Force Merit Award for facility design; and the Services facility, Bldg. 322, earned a Citation Award for its design.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Wilson, a mental health craftsman assigned to Detachment 3, Headquarters Air Force Security Force Center at the Naval Consolidated Brig here, was the distinguished graduate at the NCO academy. Congratulations!

We presented several Air Mobility Command awards this past week. **Walter Jensen**, 437th Operations Support Squadron, was named AMC's civilian supervisor of the year in the resource management competition. **Nicole Shope**, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, earned the Gen. Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Award for individual excellence. The **437 CES environmental flight** also won AMC's environmental quality award and

restoration award, being named runner-up in Air Force-level competition for environmental flights.

The 437 CES received word regarding winners in the firefighter category, with AMC naming **Staff Sgt. Stephen Thompson** the military firefighter of the year and **John Geraci** its civilian firefighter of the year. Geraci also impressed the South Carolina Air Force Association, who named him their civilian of the year. The **437th Mission Support Group** won the AFA's Outstanding Air Force Group Award for an active duty group, **1st Combat Camera Squadron** won the AFA Outstanding Small Unit award, and the **437th Airlift Wing** won the Outstanding Air Force Unit Award for an active-duty wing.

Congratulations to all our award winners. I also applaud all the supervisors of these and our previous award winners, who have taken the time to submit quality award packages to earn formal recognition for the outstanding work I see from Team Charleston each day.

Ops tempo

Team Charleston continues to operate at a record-setting pace, with nearly 700 temporary duty and 900 activated reservists integrated into Team Charleston, shouldering the workload alongside active duty and civilian counterparts stationed here. We have launched more than 1,050 missions since we began stage operations in January—a testament to every person on base, whether aircrew, maintainer or support, who keeps the mission running.

Our maintenance reliability rates are nothing short of amazing, routinely running in the 95 percent range. When we were called on to insert Army troops into northern Iraq, every single mission got off on time. The 437th Aerial Port Squadron hit a high water mark, moving a record 14,800 tons of cargo in March; they loaded 653 tons of cargo in one day last week—nearly the equivalent of a month's worth of work after 9/11. Helping to record history and provide commanders vital eyes on scene, the 1st Combat Camera Squadron has been part of some historical missions; most of the aerial video and still photography in the skies over Iraq was shot by members of 1CTCS. See page 11 for a sample.

As we continue on this war footing, I encourage you to take time off whenever you can. If your plans take you out on the road, drive safely. If you are going to drink, have a plan ahead of time for how you will get home. Each of you is a vital part of our mission—be safe!

Action Line caller expresses concern over W-2s, Tax Center

Q: I am having a problem getting a corrected W-2. Evidently this problem affected many people as finance had to send somebody to Denver to deal with all the wrong W-2s. My question is if the tax center can remain open past April 18? I know extensions may have to be filed by many people, but by the time we get corrected W-2s, the center may be closed. I called the tax center and they said that the 18th was their last day. I realize that the tax center is not responsible for the incorrect W-2s, but it is a problem caused by Air Force central finance, which is keeping many people from being able to use the tax center for their

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

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

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.



Col. Brooks Bash
437 AW commander

taxes. I don't know if the tax center is aware of the problem with the W-2s so they may not be planning to extend their service which many airmen find a valuable resource.

A: Thank you for your concern about W-2s and the tax center. There were about 100 Team Charleston personnel who received incor-

rect W-2s. Fifty of the W-2s were corrected during the last week in March. With the exception of four, the remainder were corrected by April 4. The last four should be corrected shortly. The updated W-2s can be picked up from Finance or downloaded on MyPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>, which offers a wide variety of pay services.

This leaves several days for you

and others to file your taxes before the April 15 deadline. Individuals who file after April 15 may be subject to penalties and interest for late filing. Also, a request for an extension of an individual's filing deadline must be made on or before April 15. The Tax Center will remain open until April 18 to help with the handful of late filers. If you are unable to receive help on your taxes before the Tax Center closes, please call the legal office for assistance. Thank you for the positive comments about the tax center; the volunteers there have completed more than 1,700 Federal returns, processed more than \$2.6 million in refunds, and saved patrons about \$230,000 in tax preparation fees.

FORCE PROTECTION: SFS

offers security tips while off base

By Staff Sgt. David Rich
437 SFS Antiterrorism NCOIC

Force protection does not end when you depart the installation. While off base, staying in local hotels or just taking in the sights, you are a much easier target. Following simple security principles will help protect you, your family and your fellow servicemembers.

Instruct your family not to provide strangers with unnecessary information and not to discuss topics of a sensitive nature in public.

When you check in to a hotel, the clerk does not need to know that you are in the military, what you do, and where you have been; they are most likely just making conversation. But in today's world, it is better to be safe than sorry.

Check your hotel room to make sure it provides the best security it can. Check the locks and ensure they all work and the wood around them isn't damaged. Check the windows to see if they lock and if they have screens. If the room is not secure then request a new room.

When you leave your room arrange things so that you can tell if someone has gone through your belongings. Avoid spending prolonged periods of time on a balcony if your room is equipped with one.

By practicing the basic principles of operational security you can help protect yourself from terrorism.

Vary your daily routine. If you set a pattern of daily activities, you are giving anyone who may be collecting information or targeting you the advantage.

Change the time you leave for and return from work. Vary the routes you take to and from work and eating establishments. By changing up your routine you can throw off an adversary and increase the chances you will be left alone for an easier target.

Avoid drawing attention to yourself. Keep a low profile to keep from becoming a target. If personnel are looking for a target and you walk by in uniform with a giant American flag flying from your vehicle, singing the national anthem, you may move to the top of their list.

Taking pride in

your service and your country is an admirable quality that should be commended, but when displayed in the public eye can lead to targeting by information collectors. Traveling to and from work in civilian clothes is not a requirement, but can go a long way to reducing your risk.

Report suspicious activity to the proper authorities. If something doesn't look or feel right, report it.

Do not let things slide because you are afraid that it is nothing and you will have wasted someone's time. It is Security Forces' and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations' job to check out these reports; they would rather investigate 100 reports that turn out to be nothing than miss the one that could have saved lives.

Exercising sound judgment and good security discipline can drastically reduce the level of threat to you and your family.

By following these principles you also receive the added benefit of reducing the threat from the common criminal due to your heightened level of security awareness.

worth repeating

"Following simple security principles will help protect you, your family, and your fellow servicemembers."



—STAFF SGT. DAVID RICH
437 SFS Antiterrorism NCOIC

The DOC spot



Capt. Susan Anspach

437th MDG Family Practice physician assistant

Education: A graduate from University of Nebraska Medical College, Omaha, Neb., she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Allied Health.

She also earned a Master's Degree from UNO in Physician Assistant Studies specializing in Family Practice.

Best part of job: Daily interactions with the patients and getting to know them and their families.

Biggest challenge: Meeting the demands of both readiness and military commitments with high operations tempo while caring for extended patient population and finding time at the end of the day to play with her kids.

Sound medical advice:

Make good use of *Take Care of Yourself* books from TRICARE and the home care advice given by our nurses. Most minor illnesses and injuries can be taken care of at home, which will improve appointment availability for those patients who may need more extensive care.

Dispatch

The *Airlift Dispatch* is published by Diggle Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 437th Airlift Wing. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Airlift Dispatch* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

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NEWS

Forces heighten base security with new Ion scanner



Army Sgt. Michael Robinson, 437th Security Forces Squadron, glides a sample-trap wand over areas commonly touched to collect particles for the Ion scanner.

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny
437 AW Public Affairs

Security Forces are using ion scanners at Charleston AFB gates to strengthen security and detect and deter narcotics and explosives from coming into the base.

The first line of defense security forces use to deter potential terrorists is 100 percent identification checks at gate entry points. While the 437th Security Forces Squadron inspects IDs and vehicle decals at the gates, they are also conducting a visual inspection of the drivers and vehicles for anything out of the ordinary, said Army Staff Sgt. Randy Gantt, 437 SFS squad leader.

When the security forces are alerted to something unusual on first inspection, the driver is instructed to pull over to the search station. At the search station, a security forces team conducts a visual inspection of the vehicle and waves a wand over the interior to detect the presence of narcotics or explosives. If the scanner alerts a positive reading, the driver does "not pass go," said Gantt.

"The Ion scanner we use at the gates collects particles and analyzes the sample to indicate the presence of certain narcotic and explosive substances," said Staff Sgt. Michelle Funk, 437 SFS desk sergeant.

The ion scanner can detect very small amounts of a substance, and determine the amount of the substance present in the vehicle, said Funk. The ion scanner supplements vehicle searches and the K-9 unit. It's very accurate and alerts the security forces a substance is present in the vehicle, said Funk.

"During a search, we look at the exterior, interior, and underneath the car, and we also check the glove box, console and trunk for weapons, contraband and anything out of the ordinary," said Gantt. "We glide a wand with the sample trap over areas in the car often touched by the occupants, and the scanner reads the sample trap indicating the presence of substances undetectable by a visual inspection."

The ion scanner alone is not enough to determine a positive for narcotics or explosives, said Funk. After two positive readings from the scanner and additional visual inspections, a K-9 unit conducts more intense searches on the vehicle.

If the scanner indicates the presence of a substance, the driver shouldn't panic, but instead remain calm until further testing and investigations have been completed.

"Be cool, you haven't done anything wrong, and we're going to make sure of it," said Army Sgt. Michael Robinson, 437 SFS security forces squad leader.

Rhein-Main sees flurry of C-17 missions to northern Iraq

Crews flying 17-hour duty days, logging up to 110 arrivals, departures a day

By 2nd Lt. Kristen Miller
437 AW Public Affairs

Aircraft from Charleston AFB and McChord AFB, Wash., are flooding the runways at Rhein-Main AB, Germany, logging up to 110 arrivals and departures daily.

Lt. Col. Steve Groenheim, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron commander, said crews are pulling 17-hour duty days, 10 to 12 hours of which is actual flying time.

"We're pushing over 700 C-17 missions at Rhein-Main this month," Groenheim said.

Groenheim and his crews recently flew several airland missions into northern Iraq. He said the 24 hours before any of these missions involves a flurry of activity geared toward refueling the aircraft and preparing it for the type of mission it is going to fly.

"I've got guys working 24-7 who are monitoring intelligence and updating tactical information as far as what the crew is going to do with that tactical flight," Groenheim said.

Part of the C-17's mission is to transport military members wounded and killed in action back from the front lines.

In one of the most historic airlift missions of the war, Charleston aircrews transported Pfc. Jessica Lynch, wounded POW, from Kuwait to the U.S. Army hospital at Landstuhl near Ramstein AB, Germany.

Maj. Scott Torrico and five crewmembers from the 701st Airlift Squadron flew the mission moving Lynch safely to Germany.

"We always try to do a good job, but for this mission we wanted to shine," said Torrico.

There are many opportunities

for C-17 crewmembers to shine during this high operations tempo.

"The C-17 community over the last year and a half to two years has been running at pretty much a full sprint from an operational tempo perspective, and there is certainly no sign of that slowing down," said Lt. Col. Greg Schwartz, chief of combat operations and tactics.

Groenheim added C-17 crews are doing the same job as FedEx, but in a combat environment.

Because of this high tempo, crew fatigue is a concern, continued Groenheim. Crews are allowed 150 flying hours over a period of 30 days and 330 hours over a period of 90 days.

While aircrews are given required crew rest, sometimes members peak out on their flying time, said Groenheim. When this happens, members are either sent back to

their duty station or perform ground duties at a deployed location until they burn off enough hours to start flying missions again.

However, with 110 crews in the system, the C-17 aircraft aren't getting any breaks. From the Charleston stage alone, more than 1,050 missions have launched with a 95 percent maintenance reliability rate.

Despite the heavy workload for C-17 crewmembers, morale has been good. Schwartz said crews are upbeat and very positive. Crewmembers have access to phones and e-mail to keep in touch with family and friends, making the distance away from home more bearable.

"These are the kinds of missions that all of us have trained for as long as we've been in the service," Schwartz said. "This is why we chose to fly this plane."

Charleston wins community support award

AMC recognizes local community's strong partnership with Charleston AFB

By Rosetta Alexander
437 AW Public Affairs

The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce and Charleston are communities, were selected as this year's recipients of the 2002 Abilene Trophy, the United States Air Force Air Mobility Command's community support award for outstanding civilian community support.

The Charleston community was selected as the best of six AMC communities throughout the United States April 3 at the AMC Spring Commanders' Conference,

Scott AFB, Ill., for forging a strong partnership with Charleston AFB through many years.

"The Military Relations Committee is very excited about the award," said Jeff Messick, Military Relations Committee chairman. "CAFB is a vital part of the national defense and the tri-country area. It has been a privilege to be involved with a community that works so hard to help strengthen the relationship with CAFB. We look forward to working with the Air Force base more closely in the years to come."

The award, originally established in 1999 by the Military Affairs Committee of Abilene, Texas, and AMC, provides recognition to a civilian community whose activities throughout the year show the community's exceptional support to a nearby AMC base.

"This is great recognition for a

community that has shown an outpouring of support since 9/11, but long before then as well," said Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander. "We at the base feel fortunate that our community supports us as strongly as they do. We appreciate them and are pleased they are being recognized as the best supporter in AMC."

"They are well-deserving and should be proud of this accomplishment," he continued.

Two representatives from the Abilene Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee will formally present the traveling Abilene Trophy to the Charleston community at a future date.

It will be displayed for one year and then passed along to next year's winner. Charleston will then receive a miniature replica of the trophy for permanent display.

Charleston community supports CAFB

- 15,000 people participated in 143 community relations events
- Arranged six military appreciation nights offering price reduction on tickets for CAFB airmen attending local sporting events
- Matched 60 Charleston civic leaders with 28 active-duty base commanders
- Charleston County School District initiated Air Force Careers on Wheels program, educating 500 local school students on Air Force opportunities
- Fostered increased patriotism by arranging military participation in more than 28 community events that reached 5,000 local residents

Instructor best in AF

By Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny
437 AW Public Affairs

"Every day I go to work, my goal is to contribute to the organization," said Tech. Sgt. Jason Hanks, 373rd Training Squadron Detachment 5 C-17 aerospace propulsion instructor.

Hank's contributions to the organization are being acknowledged by the Air Force with the award of the 2002 Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez Technical Supervisor of the Year award.

Hanks was recognized for meticulous assurance of technical order accuracy, discovering the cause of chafing on \$475,000 thrust reverser fan duct assembly doors, impacting the entire fleet by suggesting repositioning of control value clamps that eliminated structural damage, stellar interagency customer relations, and his outstanding ability to mentor and motivate his students.

Hanks attributes his success in implementing over 100 improvements and corrections to the C-17 technical orders, bringing better, safer, and cheaper maintenance for the Air Force to his ability to effectively communicate his thoughts.

"I know how the Air Force system works, and I know how to articulate my thoughts both orally and in writ-

ing, so they are understood and can be implemented," said Hanks.

Hanks also attributed his success to learning the value of an education.

In 1995, he applied for Operation Boot Strap a program to help airmen complete their college education. While in the program, he completed his Bachelors of Science degree in workforce education and graduated from Southern Illinois University with a 3.917 grade point average.

"I believe it is an individual's social responsibility to learn and then give back to society by applying what they've learned to the work place," said Hanks.

In January 1997, Hanks became a C-17 aerospace propulsion instructor and was able to give back by applying his knowledge to the work place.

"I'm not smart, I am a culmination of my students," said Hanks. "When they ask questions, I expand my knowledge in order to answer them."

Hanks says he doesn't really feel like he won the award, but instead, gets the honor of representing the award. Hanks says he doesn't really like the fanfare of winning what he describes as the "Gold medal of maintenance." He just likes to work hard, go home on time, and spend his weekends fishing.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Youthful talent

Avery (left), 3, and Ariel Ulanoff, 8, daughters of Cynthia and Tech. Sgt. John Ulanoff, 373rd Training Squadron, look at pictures displayed at the Youth Center Gallery of Art featuring photographs and artwork from the Child Development Center and Youth Center April 3. Ariel won 1st place in the 9-year-olds photography contest.

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Thrift Savings Plan open season begins Tuesday

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas – Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during “open season” from Tuesday to June 30.

“TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider,” said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the Air Force Personnel Center’s contact center. “Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another — the TSP folks are set up to handle that.”

“Either way it’s a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans,” said Stokstad. “It’s important to note that TSP is not limited to investing in stocks. People can choose safer government securities as well.”

“Employees already contributing to the TSP are encouraged to review their TSP plan and account balances,” said Janet Thomas of the center’s civilian benefits and entitlements service team, “as the open-season period is the best time to open an account or make changes to an existing one.”

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

“You can take out loans and make withdrawals from your TSP account,” said Thomas. “And you can keep your account even if you leave military or federal service.”

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck “so you never have to think about it,” said Stokstad. “That makes it easy to ‘pay yourself first’ while only investing what you deem appropriate.”

The five TSP funds are: the Government Securities Investment (G) Fund; the Common Stock Index Investment (C) Fund; the Fixed Income Index Investment (F) Fund; the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund; and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund.

“As with any individual retirement account, the sooner you begin contributing, the better,” said Stokstad.

Account changes made on or before May 31 will take effect June.

Changes made on or after June 1 will become effective in the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military members.

Some of the specifics of the program include:

Military: Military members can contribute up to 8 percent of their base pay. Airmen also have the ability to invest all or part of their bonuses or special pay. However, total yearly tax-deferred investment cannot exceed \$12,000, except those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$40,000 in annual contributions.

Military members can enroll through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at <http://www.dfas.mil/emss/>.

They can also enroll by filling out a Form TSP-U-1 at the military personnel flight, finance office and family support center.

Civilian contribution limits are based on which retirement sys-

tem an employee has.

Federal Employees’ Retirement System employees may contribute up to 13 percent of basic pay each pay period. The government provides matching funds of up to 4 percent as well as an automatic 1 percent each pay period whether the employee contributes or not, making the government’s contribution 5 percent.

Employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System may contribute up to 8 percent of basic pay, but do not receive any matching contributions.

The percentage FERS and CSRS employees may contribute will increase by one point each year through 2005, when they will be restricted only by the Internal Revenue Code’s annual limit, which is \$12,000 in 2003, Thomas said.

Specific information is available for civilians on the Thrift Savings Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/> or the BEST homepage at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/best/>

[menu.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm) and for airmen at http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm.

All Air Force-serviced civilian employees must choose their TSP contribution amount or changes through the BEST automated phone system at (800) 997-2378.

Hearing-impaired employees may contact BEST by calling TDD (800) 382-0893.

Counselors are available weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST. The BEST Employee Benefits Information System web application is located at http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST_GRB/EBIS.htm.

People can choose which fund to contribute to by calling the TSP automated ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777 or on the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov/>.

Military members with general TSP questions can call the AFPC contact center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free (866) 229-7074. (**Air Force Personnel Center News Service**)

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Spirit in the sky

A B-2 Spirit, returning from Iraq, approaches a KC-135 Stratotanker, for refueling, over the Indian Ocean.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Aerial Port Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Van Wey today, 2 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kevin Fitchko at 963-6462.

Community support

Autograph session: Grammy-nominated Joe Nichols will hold a CD autograph session Saturday, noon, at the Main Exchange. Joe Nichols is the opening performer for the Alan Jackson and Martina McBride concert.

Tennis: The Family Circle Cup tournament will be held through Sunday at the Family Circle Tennis Center. Military personnel and their families will receive a \$10 discount on any daily admission ticket and 50 percent discounts on night session tickets. To purchase tickets, call 1-800-677-2293, or 856-7900.

Beauty: The Academy of Cosmetology is sponsoring a Military Appreciation Day April 22, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. The service is free with a military or dependent I.D. card. The Academy is offering free shampoo and sets, manicures, pedicures, and facials. No appointments are necessary. The Academy is located on Dorchester Road, the first stop light after Ashley Phosphate Road. For more information, call Penny Smart at 552-3241.

Around the base

Mosquito fogging: The Entomology Shop will be fogging on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-11 p.m. for the next three weeks. On those two days, please avoid outside activities during these hours.

To submit information considered for News briefs, send an e-mail to dispatch@charleston.af.mil with subject: **NEWS BRIEFS**; or send a fax to **963-5604**, ATTN: **NEWS BRIEFS**. Submissions must be received no later than close of business Friday the week before publication.

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Staff Sgt. Sonia Edwards 437th Medical Group

Staff Sgt. Sonia Edwards is the NCOIC of the 437th Medical Group commander's support staff. Edwards is responsible for maintaining personal information, creating orders, and monitoring programs for the entire medical group.

Edwards enjoys the challenge of her constantly changing work environment and providing customer service to the internal customers of the medical group.

"I joined the Air Force to travel and to get an education. So far I have traveled to Michigan, Illinois, and England, and will be going on a remote to Kunsan, Korea, this summer," said Edwards.

The Buffalo, N.Y., native moved to Charleston June 2000. She loves the Charleston area because of its warm environment and the historical downtown areas of the city.

While Edwards is in the Air Force she plans to continue her education. She is currently taking courses to complete her CCAF.

"In my spare time I hang out downtown and feed the ducks, and I work out at the gym seven days a week," said Edwards.

Edwards is a single parent of three children 13, 12 and 9.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzocny

Chiefs: The Chiefs' Group will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. All chiefs and chief selects are invited to attend.

CGOC: The next Company Grade Officer Council meeting will be a professional development luncheon April 17, 11:30 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Col. Carl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, will be speaking about motivation. Lunch will be Italian day at the buffet. To sign up, e-mail 2nd Lt. Nick Okamura at nick.okamura@charleston.af.mil, or call at 963-4199.

Commissary: The Commissary

will be closed in observance of Easter April 20 and will resume normal hours of operation on April 22.

Committee: Committee members are needed to assist in planning events in celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander month. Please call Capt. Heather Gordon at 963-3662, or Master Sgt. Sherley Jones at 963-7052 if interested. Family members are welcome.

Committee members are also needed to assist in planning events in the Victims of the Holocaust Memorial Service. Please call Capt. Heather Gordon at 963-3662, or Tech. Sgt. Michael Hayes at 963-3655 if interested. Family members are welcome.

Boy Scouts: Individuals are needed to help with the base Boy Scout troop. No experience necessary. For more information, call Lt Aaron Rivers at 963-4687, or e-mail at aaron.rivers1@charleston.af.mil.

Survey: The 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron is running a

survey on the National Institute of The Blind Service Store. The service store is part of base support infrastructure and may need to be improved or changed to better fit the needs of the base. The survey will help obtain a consensus on how well the store is servicing the community.

Take the survey at <http://globemaster/437msg/lrs/437LRS.htm>.

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

Stories: The Medical Operations Squadron is looking for personal stories on how base nurses/medical technicians may have positively touched a patient's life for use in an upcoming article. Volunteers are asked to contact Lt Col. Dezell at 963-6830 if they have a story they would like to share.

FEATURE



Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall

Left: Keri Norris, licensed childcare provider, plays with Madilyne Norris, daughter of Staff Sgt. John Norris, Jacob Kell, grandson of Master Sgt. Carlyne Kell, and Carolyne Lane, daughter of Staff Sgt. Richard Lane. Norris is part of the extended-duty child care program which helps parents meet their military obligations when working extended work weeks.

Below: Tracie Danens, licensed child care provider, plays with Taylor Keck, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Mark Keck, and Charlay Wilson, daughter of Airman 1st Class Charles Wilson.



Help is here: *Extended-duty child care helps parents meet military obligations*

By 2nd Lt. Shaloma McGovern
437 AW Public Affairs

With Team Charleston members working extra hours, the Air Force is offering an extended-duty child care program to help parents meet their military obligations.

The program pairs licensed child care providers with parents who are working overtime.

"This program is geared toward times when the active-duty person is required to work beyond the 40 -to 50- hour work week," said Sherian Vickers, Family Child Care coordinator for CAFB. "Extended-duty care is for times like this, whether it is an exercise or real world," said Vickers.

"The Extended Care Program has been a life saver for my family," said 1st Lt. Veronica Parnell, EDC participant. "It allows my husband and I to complete our respective missions without the worries of how our children will be cared for in the process."

Extended duty hours are provided based on space availability at no cost to the parent. Once FCC determines availability, they submit the form to the member's first sergeant verifying the need for extended duty hours, said Vickers. Many of these extended duty hours are in the

evening and on the weekends. Vickers noted in the month of March, Charleston had 271 hours of extended-duty child care.

Kerri Norris, Charleston's contracted extended care provider for more than two years, has six children in full-time care in addition to the children participating in EDC. The base awarded her the contract because she was already doing after-hours care when the opportunity arose.

"When I went to school and work, my friends would help me out after hours," said Norris. "I was so appreciative. That's why I do it."

Extra time and added responsibilities on the job, coupled with worrying about having good child care arrangements can increase stress for active-duty personnel. Family child care providers can bring welcome relief.

Each family child care provider on base is certified here, said Vickers. They attend a three-day licensing class, which outlines the rules and regulations of child care. Representatives from the 437th Medical Group, Family Advocacy, Public Health and the 437th Fire Department provide information during these classes. Care providers are also trained in CPR and first aid, Vickers said.

After an individual completes the class, the family child care coordinator conducts a home

interview to include spouse and children, Vickers said. STET, 437th Security Forces Squadron, Family Advocacy, Behavioral Sciences, 437th Medical Group and first sergeants complete a background check which takes approximately five to six weeks.

The Family Child Care Panel reviews the applicants, and makes recommendations to the 437th Mission Support Group commander. The commander approves or disapproves the applicants based on the panel's recommendations, Vickers said.

Once approved, family care providers can look forward to help getting set up and guidance throughout their service.

"Everything they are required to have to provide quality child care in their home, we provide for them at no cost," said Vickers. "In addition to providing the necessary tools, we also follow up with unannounced inspections. All family providers are inspected monthly unannounced by using an eight-page checklist to ensure compliance with [Air Force Instruction's] governing the program."

CAFB has 14 certified family care providers. To become a family child care provider or for more information about the extended-duty care program call 767-2134.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Stephen Faulisi

Airborne

A C-17 transporting U.S. Army and Air Force troops takes off from an air base in Europe in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Chaplain explains Passover

By Chaplain (Capt.) John Shipman
437AW Protestant Chaplain

Passover, beginning April 16 this year, is the eight-day observance commemorating the freedom and exodus of the Israelites [Jewish slaves] from Egypt during the reign of the Pharaoh Ramses II nearly 3,000 years ago.

According to the Book of Exodus, Moses, a simple Jewish shepherd, was instructed by God to go to the pharaoh and demand the freedom of his people. Moses pleaded with the pharaoh to "let my people go," but was ignored. Moses then warned the pharaoh that God would punish him, and still the pharaoh ignored the request.

In response, God unleashed a series of 10 terrible plagues on the people of Egypt: blood, frogs, lice, flies, cattle disease, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and slaying of the first born.

The holiday's name, *Pesach*, meaning "passing over" or "protection" in Hebrew, is derived from the instructions God gave to Moses. To encourage the pharaoh to free the Israelites, God intended to kill the first born of both man and beast. To protect themselves, the Israelites were told to mark their dwellings with lamb's blood so God could identify and "pass over" their homes.

When the pharaoh finally agreed to the Israelite's freedom, he later changed his mind and pursued the Jews with his army. He chased

them through the desert towards the Red Sea. When the Jews reached the sea they were trapped. It was then that the waves of the Red Sea parted and the Israelites were able to cross to the other side. As soon as they reached the other side, the sea closed trapping the Pharaoh's army. As the Israelites watched the waters of the Red Sea sweep away the pharaoh's army, they realized they were finally free.

Passover celebrates this history. The first two nights of the eight-day holiday are celebrated with lavish meals called Seders in which the stories and history of Passover are celebrated. Passover begins on the 15th day of the Jewish month of Nissan.

Holy Week Chapel schedule

Holy Week Catholic Mass schedule:

Holy Thursday – April 17, 7 p.m.

Good Friday – April 18, 3 p.m.

Easter Vigil – April 19, 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 20, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Week Protestant Service schedule:

Holy Thursday – April 17, 11:30 a.m.

Good Friday – April 18, 11:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday – Sunrise Service 6 a.m. followed by Easter Breakfast, 11 a.m.

Contemporary Service – 9:30 a.m.

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive
Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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.

Protestant Services: *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Bldg. 217 (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: Synagogue Emanu-El, 5 Windsor Dr., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 571-3264.

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

Movie schedule

Admission: 99 cents for adults and children.

Any person under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (a minimum of 21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor 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.

"The Life of David Gale" – Kevin Spacey

Dr. David Gale, a Texas professor and advocate for the elimination of the death penalty, is falsely accused and convicted of the rape and murder of another activist. He ends up on the state's notorious death row himself. **(R) 130 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Cradle 2 the Grave" – DMX, Jet Li

When an international criminal kidnaps the daughter of a gang leader as part of a diamond heist, it causes the police to engage in an intensive search aided by gangsters. **(R) 100 minutes**

April 18, 7:30 p.m.

"Old School" – Luke Wilson

Three guys try to relive their old college days by moving into a large house near their old campus. They inadvertently form an "unofficial fraternity" where students can enjoy all the riches of the partying lifestyle without the commitment that comes with having to abide by the university's fraternity rules. **(R) 91 minutes**

SPORTS & FITNESS



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Mike Lyons handles the puck as he looks to pass up the ice as the Charleston AFB hockey team plays against Shaw AFB April 5.

Hockey team skates to season end

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones
Special to Airlift Dispatch

The Charleston AFB men's hockey team finished off their spring season Monday night with a 3-1 win over last season's defending champions, the Wizards. The Hurricanes were led by the scoring of Jacoby Routley Tubbs, who had two goals, and Jon Connor who also netted a goal. It was also another stellar performance by goaltender Jeramie Banks who made 33 saves between the pipes.

The Hurricanes had a respectable season playing in the men's B league at the Carolina Ice Palace. They just missed the playoffs, finishing in fifth place. Only the top four teams advanced. Coach Karl Nichols was very proud of his team.

"We are out here representing the Air Force in the local community and the pride and passion of these guys is amazing," said Nichols. "We have a great bunch of men out here between 20-45 years old skating and giving it their best. It's awesome."

Jon Connor, team captain, echoed Nichol's words and added, "We can hold our heads up high knowing that we are a team to be reckoned with. Last season we played in the championship game, and moving up a league this year proved we have the talent

for a winning team. Between deployments and TDYs, we were still able to hang tough in the upper league."

Assistant captain, Sam Hill, organized two games last weekend against the Shaw AFB hockey team

"We rented some ice time here in Charleston last Saturday and then in Florence on Sunday," said Hill. "Playing against the Shaw team really sharpened our skills to come out Monday night and finish off our season with a win. The Shaw guys gave us some great games. They have some good skaters who showed us a few moves."

The Hurricanes played with only 12 men Monday night, but managed 60 minutes of solid hockey. Normally, they skate with 20 players. The number one line of Brian Jones, John Matecki and Chris Riley put in a strong performance with some great passing and shooting. The number two line of Tubbs, Connor and Stephen Gerke provided all the scoring the Hurricanes would need for the win. The defense was led by Hill, Nichols, Mike Lyons, John Fusich and Jon Martinez, with Banks being the net minder.

Denis Paquette led the team in scoring this season even though he missed four games due to TDYs. Paquette is known for his fancy footwork on the ice, averaging more than three points per game.

Security Forces capture 2003 basketball crown

By Eddie Goad
Special to Airlift Dispatch

The 437th Security Forces Squadron captured the 2003 Charleston Air Force Base basketball crown April 1 by dethroning the MXS Mustangs and two-time returning champions of 2001 and 2002, 60-45 in the finale of this year's double elimination tournament.

SFS, the regular season's 6th place team with a record of 8-6, survived a detour through the loser's bracket and thwarted MXS's attempt towards a threepeat to win the 2003 championship. The Mustangs, at 10-4 and the league's fourth place team, derailed SFS earlier in the tournament and rerouted them to the losers bracket in a classic double overtime contest, 47-44.

Because of the double elimina-

tion format, a team would have to lose twice before being eliminated from the tournament. SFS' double overtime defeat to MXS on March 27 forced them to beat MXS twice on championship night to win the 2003 title.

In the critical first game, SFS steadfastly secured control of a tightly contested first half. With key play by Rodney Nesbitt and Kendrick Ward, SFS managed to enter the half with a scant 23-19 lead. In the second half, SFS continued their defensive intensity over MXS and stymied the league's highest offensive team who averaged 60 points a game during the regular season, and held them to just 38 points with their 50-38 victory. SFS only tallied 39.5 points a game during regular season action and had the lowest points per game average of any of the 8 teams

making the playoffs. Defensively, SFS gave up 40.4 points per game.

Game one had Nesbitt leading the way with 17 points including 7-8 from the foul line; Kendrick Ward had 12, and Jed Welch 9. No one from MXS was in double figures; David Cox led them with 9. MXS also shot a woeful 5-15 from the charity stripe.

With both teams now at one loss during tournament action, the deciding "if" game would have to be played. SFS opened the rubber game with an immediate offensive onslaught that gave them an early 23-8 lead over the flailing MXS squad. The Mustangs did close the gap to 10, with 33-23 at halftime.

The second stanza began with the SFS continuing their defensive control as MXS only scored 6 points in the first five minutes.

Additionally, Kendrick Ward's key ball control and Mike Evans' leadership would make it difficult for MXS to get back into the game. MXS did make a credible run with significant contribution by Ed Lawler and John Todd; however, their efforts were not enough as SFS' easily outdistanced the Mustangs by 15 points in the 60-45 final. SFS balanced scoring continued in this game with Ward leading with 17, Evans, 11, Nesbitt, 9, and Welch with 8. Lawler led MXS with 16 points and Todd had 10. This was SFS first basketball championship banner since 1998, and their 5th since 1990 with crowns in 1993, 1994, 1996, and 1998.

The other teams that qualified for the 2003 playoffs were CES, AMXS, LRS 1, OSS, CPTS/AW, and LRS 2.