

# **Dispatch**

Vol. 43, No. 27

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

Friday, July 9, 2004



## Chillin' out

*Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady*

Senior Airman Justin Fetrow, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Flight, ensures the air conditioning unit at the Charleston Club receives the correct voltage. Temperatures this week hit 96 degrees with the heat index topping 107 degrees. See page 17.

## BEST OF BEST

**Charleston SNCO  
named one of AF's top  
12**

Page 7

## DETERMINED

**Airman thrives 10 years  
after accident**

Page 21

## MISSION POSSIBLE!

|                         |        |                                 |     |
|-------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Charleston departures   | 9,092  | Personnel deployed              | 595 |
| Maintenance reliability | 93.3%  | Reservists activated            | 726 |
| Cargo moved (tons)      | 41,760 | <i>(Jan. 1 to July 9, 2004)</i> |     |

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



## Safety at the forefront

Congratulations to all of Team Charleston for a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend! The extra attention to working and relaxing safely paid off on a weekend known to be especially dangerous.

Unfortunately, we continue to see people without seatbelts, and small children not in car safety seats. Buckle up, and buckle your children up to avoid tragedy. Continue to use personal risk management in your outdoor activities, and if you choose to drink, do so responsibly.

## Recognition

We received great news this week! **Senior Master Sgt. Michael David**, 437<sup>th</sup> Communication Squadron, was named one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen for 2003. This is a huge achievement for Sergeant David, and a reflection of a year—and career—of exemplary service. See page 7 for more. Congratulations, Sergeant David!

At last week's NCO Academy graduation, Team Charleston had three people walk away with honors: **Tech. Sgt. Donald Scott**, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron, earned the academic achievement award; and **Tech. Sgt. Joseph Gardner**, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and **Tech. Sgt. Robert Baldrate**, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, both finished in the top 10 percent as distinguished graduates. Well done to you, and all our NCO Academy graduates, listed on page 11.

We recognized July's Diamond Sharp winners Wednesday. These Airmen represent the core values and are singled out by their first sergeants as top performers. Congratulations to **Staff Sgt. Alan Jenkins Jr.**, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Senior Airman Karem Bryant**, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron; **Senior Airman**



**Christopher Markwood**, 437 AMXS; and **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Elizabeth Reed**, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron.

**Senior Airman Jeff Dean**, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Squadron, was my shadow this week, and it was a pleasure to show him a day in my life and hear his perspective. Airman Dean has excelled at Basic Military Training, during deployment, on the job here, in Airman Leadership School and in his college courses. I am proud to serve alongside Airman Dean!

## Change of Command

Team Charleston farewells **Maj. David Rowland**, 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron commander, in a 3 p.m. ceremony today, and welcomes **Maj. Tara Morrison** from Hurlburt Field, Fla., as the new 437 CONS commander.

## Exercise

As we gear up for a major accident response exercise Thursday, it is important for everyone to support the exercise and learn from it so we will be ready to apply its lessons if the need ever arises.

And a final word on a different kind of exercise. I am thrilled to see squadrons and offices working out regularly; those workouts are reflecting well in physical fitness test scores around base. Gen. John Jumper, chief of staff of the Air Force, recently published a sight picture in which he essentially called on Airmen to be fit and to look fit. Take pride in your fitness and in your professional appearance. Remember, you are representing the Air Force's premiere airlift wing!

Be **safe** out there!

## Safety Emphasis Item

Although you may consider yourself a capable or strong swimmer, this alone may not prevent injury or drowning. Undertows, tides, exhaustion and alcohol all are common contributing factors in drowning. A water-safe summer involves thinking ahead and following basic prevention tips. Get proper training for all water related activities. Don't mix alcohol with swimming and boating. Predict, plan and prevent drowning!

## Hunley Park entrance, McCombs Way cause concern

**Action Line:** I'm calling in reference to the construction in Hunley Park and want to know if it's possible to open the gate by Hunley Park Elementary. I'm concerned about the construction area.

**A:** Thank you for your question and safety concerns in reference to the construction in Hunley Park. During pre-construction planning, we evaluated all possible options. Obvious options were the old entry control point on Dorchester Road across from Uniway and the entrance on Michigan Ave next to the elementary school, which is currently blocked by jersey barriers. Both options were dismissed due to safety and traffic flow, especially getting across Dorchester to gain access to either the Commissary Gate or Main Gate. When the contractors began the construction project, they felt they could do all the work, safely maintain the current entry control point at Maryland Ave. safely, and allow sufficient traffic flow to meet the needs of Charleston AFB.

Security Forces and Civil Engineering will ensure the contractor building the new gate is following all base rules and regulations.

**Action Line:** I run around McCombs Way at least three times a week. It is a very nice track and I enjoy running it. The only problem is right after the 1.25 mile mark when you cross the road and come around the corner, there are bushes that stick out into the track. This makes it hard to run with others because when you come around the corner you are trying to dodge the bushes sticking out.

Also, it makes it hard to see if anyone is coming around the corner. I've tried to contact a few of the services on base to see who trims the trees and bushes around McCombs Way but I am getting the same answer—no one knows, and they give me another number. Can you please help me find the information I am looking for? Thank you for your time and consideration.

**A:** Thank you for your call in regards to the grounds maintenance on McCombs Way. The 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron oversees the grounds maintenance contract on Charleston AFB. The section of bushes you mentioned was cut back on June 23. We regret any inconvenience this caused the McCombs Way patrons for their physical fitness. Should questions arise about grounds maintenance in the future, please contact CES Customer Service at 963-2392.

- **Col. Brooks Bash**  
437AW commander

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](mailto:action@charleston.af.mil).

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

# Every member is a vital link in history

By Lt. Col. Blaine Holt

16<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron commander

We're serving at a critical moment in history. It's not hard to imagine that future generations will ask the inevitable question ... "What did you do in the War on Terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom?"

I believe it's a valid question for us to ask ourselves today. It's called the "Kill Chain."

No matter how you view the mission, the bottom line is the enemy must be forced to capitulation or elimination. From the muzzle of a soldier's M4 rifle to the Charleston AFB gate there is a chain that enables the warfighter to execute the mission at the right place and time.

The chain runs through us all. Any function on the base has "links" in that chain. For the civil engineers it might be ensuring the base infrastructure is maintained at the highest level possible (link), which makes for a more efficient flow of cargo to the aerial port for marshalling (link), to a C-17A receiving its final maintenance inspection (link) to enable the crew makes an on-time departure (link),

## worth repeating

"We all have to periodically remind ourselves of our relationship to those on the front lines."



Lt. Col. Blaine Holt  
16<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron commander

in order for the EAS deployed aircrew to continue the mission (link) direct to Baghdad where the offload of ammunition, food and letters from home (link) will get into that soldier's hands so on that afternoon, in a firefight he or she encounters, the Soldier is positioned for mission success. Later that evening the troop returns to the tent and continues to write the spouse about their future plan to vacation at the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Germany (link).

What about the C-17? It's on its way back to Frankfurt to deliver a wounded Marine who was prepped for evacuation by deployed 437<sup>th</sup>

Medical Group troops (link).

Every member of our wing's team — military, civilian and family members — has a part to play. Find out or define what your role is, and think of ways you can magnify your impact.

Unit improvement, such as running a rigorous self-inspection, self-improvement, such as professional reading or community involvement, like we experienced at Air Expo, are ways we can advance the cause. We all have to periodically remind ourselves of our relationship to those on the front lines. They're depending on us.

So when you ponder the question you'll be asked in the future, "What did you do in the Wars on Terror and OIF?" start your answer with "I was essential to ..." then fill the rest in with a description of **your link** in the chain and how you did it. It's a challenging question to answer when we can't always see a direct result from our efforts, but rest assured the country needs the best we can offer. I am proud to be serving with you all at this moment in history!

## Change of command

Maj. Tara Morrison assumes command of the 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron today at 3 p.m. at the Charleston Club, replacing Maj. David Rowland, who will become the Air Logistics Center Directorate of Contracting at Tinker AFB, Okla.



Maj. Tara Morrison

Major Morrison graduated from the University of Alabama and received her commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1991 before going Minot AFB, N.D.

She then moved to Ramstein AB, Germany, where she was the 621st Air Mobility Support Group chief of contracting. Following her assignment to Germany she became acquisi-

tions contracting officer at Tinker AFB. In 2000 she transferred to Hurlburt Field, Fla., where she's worked as the staff acquisitions officer, director of cross cultural communications and deputy for the regional affairs division at the USAF Special Operations Command.

Major Morrison's military decorations include a Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, National Defense Service Medal with one leaf cluster and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

**Interesting fact about yourself:** I was honored to participate in an Angel Flight mission - a volunteer organization that provides medical airlift at no cost to patients in need.

**Favorite movie:** It's a Wonderful Life

**Major pet peeve:** Display of arrogance

**Favorite author:** Beth Moore

**Favorite quote:** Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV) "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**Why did you join the Air Force:** The Air Force offered opportunities for challenge and growth as well as an opportunity to travel around the world.

**How would you describe your leadership style:** Collaborative. Respect for team input and ideas as we work toward a common goal.

**Who is your role model and why:** My parents, who daily demonstrate love, sacrifice and service to others.

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Photo by Senior Airman Jason Bailey

## Just checking

Army Sergeant William Knight, a 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces augmentee from the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 118<sup>th</sup> Infantry, checks identification of individuals attempting entry through the Commissary Gate during morning rush hour Wednesday. Charleston AFB personnel and other people accessing the base must use the Commissary Gate while the main gate is under construction. The Dorchester Road Gate and Rivers Avenue Gate are expected to be completed by January 2005.

# Derelict drivers, trespassing transients pay price

The following are some of the responses by the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron from June 28 to Sunday and are printed to raise awareness of resource protection and safety. Anyone with information regarding these or any other incidents please call security forces at 963-3600.

## Traffic stats

■ Security forces responded to a civilian driver who ran through the Rivers Avenue Gate. The driver was trying to get to Midland Park Road and was unaware the road was closed. Security forces briefed the individual on proper installation entry procedures.

■ A family member was issued a traffic ticket for driving the wrong way on a one-way street, and parking in a no-parking area.

■ Security forces requested a license check on a civilian driving without a license. Charleston County Sheriff's Office responded to the request and issued a \$125 fine for driving without a license.

■ A security forces check showed a civilian driver's license was suspended indefinitely. CCSO was contacted and dispatched to the scene. CCSO issued the driver a \$2,400

fine and court date. The individual's base driving privileges were suspended.

■ Security forces responded to a civilian whose vehicle ran through the Rivers Avenue Gate. The vehicle was traveling at such a high rate of speed, it had to swerve into the oncoming lane to avoid hitting the gate. The individual stated it was his first time driving to the base with the new gate and he did not see it. The driver was escorted back to the search area and briefed to be more attentive of his surrounding area.

■ An Airman was stopped during a random vehicle search at the commissary gate and discovered to be in the possession of an open container of alcohol. The individual was advised of his Article 31 rights, and gave consent to search his vehicle, which met with negative results. The driver passed a field sobriety test. The Airman's first sergeant was contacted and took custody of the individual.

## Crime-watch

■ A contractor entered an unoccupied home his firm was renovating on base and discovered five reels of cable worth \$2,000 had been sto-

len from the work site.

■ A family member telephoned security forces and reported a domestic disturbance at an on-base house. Security forces responded and discovered the family member and an Airman were involved in the dispute. The Airman's first sergeant assumed control of the situation.

■ A juvenile family member was detained for shoplifting a \$12.95 DVD from the base exchange. CCSO responded and released the individual to his mother. The member's exchange privileges were revoked.

■ Two civilians jumped the barrier at the Midland Park Road. The individuals stated they had been

dropped off adjacent to Midland Park Road on Arthur Extension. The individuals were issued citations for trespassing with a fine of \$465 and were given a court date.

■ An Airman reported to security forces a base construction vehicle was discovered with damage Saturday. The damage consisted of a light missing from the top of the vehicle. Security Forces verified the damage to the vehicle, and took photos.

## Safety Awareness

■ A family member accidentally locked her keys and child in her car. The vehicle's windows were rolled up and the engine was not running. The fire department was notified and gained access to the vehicle.

## DUI/DWI Statistics

**Last incident: 18 days**

**2004 total: 12**

**2003 total: 18**

*Members receiving a Driving Under the Influence or must report to the wing commander the following duty day in full service dress accompanied by their supervisor, first sergeant and squadron commander.*

**AADD**  
AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

51

963-0437

saves this  
year

Charleston AFB's Airman  
Against Drunk Driving offers  
free, confidential rides home.

# Charleston SNCO named Outstanding Airman

Story and photo by Airman Sam Hymas  
437 AW Public Affairs

The Air Force named the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year for 2004 recently, and one Team Charleston Airman is included in the service's list of top performers.

Senior Master Sgt. Michael David, superintendent of the 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron Mission Systems Flight, got a call from Gen. John Handy, commander, U.S. Transportation Command, and commander, Air Mobility Command, at his home Friday night.

"It's not every day the general calls you at your house; it's not something you expect," said Sergeant David. "I was shocked when he told me I was chosen (as one of the Outstanding Airmen of the Year)."

Sergeant David, who was the only Airman chosen from AMC, will be formally recognized for his selection during the Air Force Association National Council Convention in September and will serve as a member of the AFA's Enlisted Advisory Council from September 2004 and for the next year.

Sergeant David has managed the maintenance side of the communications squadron. He oversaw a \$9.4 million base infrastructure installation and led the deployment of mobile navigation equipment to Southwest Asia in

support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"He's very dedicated to his work and he takes care of his people," said Master Sgt. Cecil Wilson, chief of maintenance support, a coworker of Sergeant David's.

Nominees are judged on their on- and off-duty performance.

Sergeant David organized a "Day of Caring" event, held last Sept. 11, leading 18 volunteers to aid the Dorchester Board of Disabilities and Special Needs. The project ensured 500 people with special needs received unique care and enabled in-home care giving. He is also the senior noncommissioned officer Honor Guard team leader and a soccer coach for a local youth team.

"The great thing is he didn't try to make this happen, he was just being Sergeant David. Just because of who he is, he got it," said Capt. Christopher Shields, who has been Sergeant David's supervisor for nearly a year. "As an Airman, a friend and a human being, he's tops," said Captain Shields. "He truly deserves this award."

There are travel plans in Sergeant David's immediate future that will interrupt his work here. He'll be going to Washington D.C., later this year for an annual banquet sponsored by the AFA. Sergeant David and the other 11 Airmen selected will meet with general offic-



Senior Master Sgt. Micheal David was recently named one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen.

ers, meet their congressmen and take a trip to the Pentagon.

He'll be adding a bronze service star to the Outstanding Airman of the Year ribbon he earned after his nomination for the honor. Winners also get to wear the Outstanding Airman badge for a year following the presentation.

Sergeant David plans to test for chief master sergeant in September and eventually retire to the Asheville, N.C., area.

## Military members must know political limitations

Amanda Murray  
437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Law Center

With the nation preparing for the upcoming federal election, many of us may wish to become involved in the political activity around us. However, military members and Department of Defense civilian employees are subject to limits on their political activities.

For military members, there are numerous, specific rules governing their political participation.

Political guidelines for military members are set forth in DoD Directive 1344.10, *Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty*, Air Force Instruction 51-902, *Political Activities by Members of the Air Force*, and DoD Directive 5500.7-R, *Joint Ethics Regulation*.

These rules specify permitted activities and those prohibited based on whether they are "partisan" or "nonpartisan" political activities.

Partisan political activity relates

to candidates or issues representing national or state political parties. Nonpartisan political activities, on the other hand, are not associated with a national or state political party but involve "stand alone" political issues.

### Permitted

- Registering and voting
- Attending political meetings or rallies as a spectator when not in uniform
- Joining a political club and attending its meetings when not in uniform
- Displaying a political sticker on one's personal vehicle or wearing a political button when not in uniform
- Enlisted members may hold nonpartisan civil office on local school boards, planning commissions and similar agencies
- Officers may hold a position on an independent school board that is located exclusively on a military installation

■ Contributing to a political organization or political committee favoring a particular candidate or slate of candidates

### Prohibited

- Participation in partisan political management
- Participation in campaigns or conventions or making public speeches in the course of such activity
- Marching or riding in a partisan political parade
- Displaying a large political sign, banner, or poster on the top or side of a member's personal vehicle
- No member may serve in an official capacity or be listed as a sponsor of a partisan political club
- No member may perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or on election day
- Contributing to a partisan political candidate

Failure to obey these rules is

chargeable under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Even though civilian employees are given more freedom than military members to engage in off-duty political activities, they are still required to avoid those political activities that might undermine the appearance of a politically-neutral military establishment.

Section 6-200 of the JER governs the political activities of civilians and prohibits them from engaging in political activities on government time or at the workplace. Civilians are also prohibited from campaigning for nomination or election to public office in a partisan election.

Nevertheless, they are permitted to attend and participate in political rallies as well as hold office in political clubs and parties.

For questions regarding what political activities are prohibited, contact the Base Law Center at 963-5502.

## Spotlight

**Change of command:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron hosts a change-of-command ceremony at 3 p.m. today at the Charleston Club. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Hector Lopez at 963-5180.

**Retirement:** The 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron hosts a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Larry Jones at 3 p.m. today in the 14 AS Auditorium (Bldg. 72). For more information please call 963-4077.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron host a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Crain at 10:30 a.m. today in Bldg. 709 auditorium. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Liggins at 963-4591.

## Around the base

**Summary court officer:** Maj. Steve Bruce, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, is detailed as summary court officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Steven Hatton.

Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to the deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, please contact Major Bruce at 412-6879.

**Summary court officer:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Nicole Drummond, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron, is detailed as summary court officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of Capt. Daniel Pope.

Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, contact Lieutenant Drummond at 963-5889.

**Parenting class:** The Family Advocacy Program will offer a free parenting class. This evening class starts Tuesday and meets on five consecutive Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. To register, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

**Chiefs' meeting:** The Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Charleston Club. For more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. John Danko at 963-5324.

**Chapel:** The base chapel will not

# Charleston Warrior of the Week

## Senior Airman Jeremy Beebe 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron

Senior Airman Jeremy Beebe is a vehicle maintenance journeyman for the 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron. His primary duties include being part of a team that repairs and maintains nearly 700 vehicles, both flightline and base-support related. He also does mobile maintenance on critical vehicles enabling successful completions of missions.

"I am not one for monotonous work; I love a challenge. Most of all it gives me a rewarding feeling when I know I have completed a job and have done it right," said Airman Beebe.

The Marietta, Ohio, native joined the Air Force three years ago after serving a tour in the Army. After he got married, he wanted a better environment for his new family.

His future plans include attending the City Colleges of Chicago to complete his Community College of the Air Force degree in applied automobile technology, and continue for his bachelor's in criminal justice.

"Senior Airman Beebe is a dedicated professional who sets the standard for others to follow," said Staff Sgt. Josh Bolner, the NCOIC of vehicle maintenance. "From training new troops to rebuilding a transmission, he is an integral part of the vehicle maintenance team. If I need something done right and efficiently, he is my go-to guy."

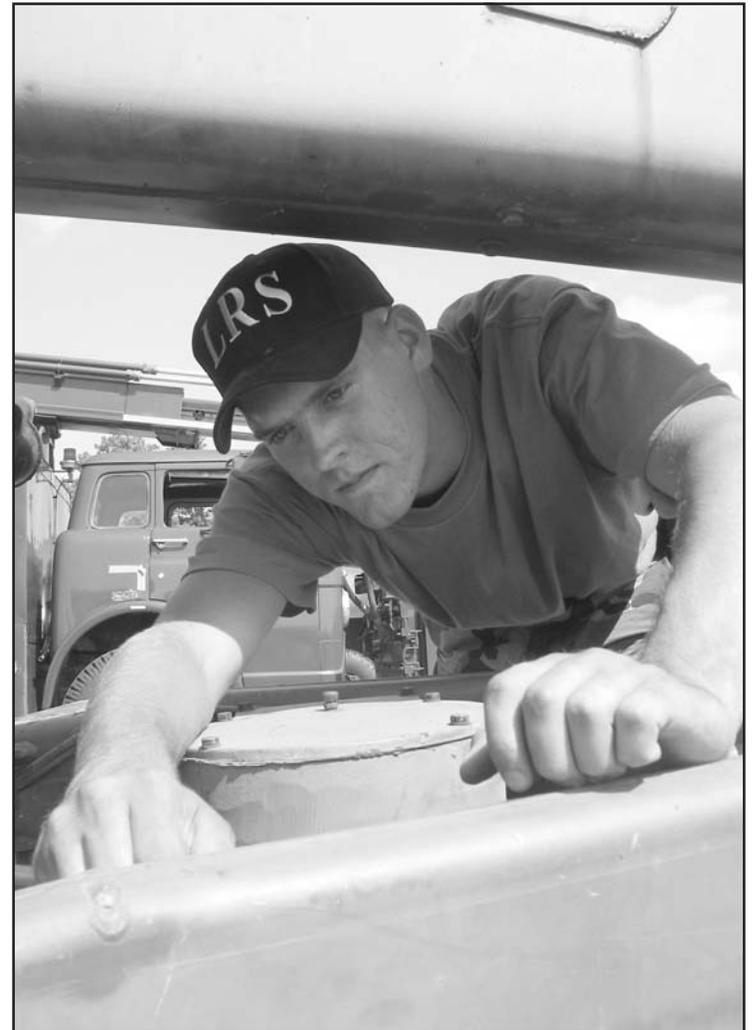


Photo by Airman Sam Hymas

be holding Daily Mass until July 27. If anyone is in need of reconciliation, If you need to speak with a priest please call 767-9621.

**Commissioning briefing:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Education and Training Flight is holding the monthly commissioning briefing at 9 a.m. July 21 at the Base Education Center. This briefing is mandatory for anyone interested in applying for a commissioning program.

Call 963-4575 or 963-7021 by July 16 to enroll.

**MSS:** The Mission Support Squadron closes at noon today for a squadron function. For emergencies, call 696-1017 or 412-5653.

**Professional development:** The Company Grade Officer Council holds an officer promotion briefing at 2 p.m. July 16 at the 16 AS auditorium. To sign up or for more

information, contact 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Shaloma McGovern at 963-5571.

**On-base colleges:** Registration at all on-base colleges for term one

begins July 19 at the Education Center and continues through the end of the month. For more information, contact the Education Center at 963-4575 or 963-7201.

## 17 NCOs graduate from academy

The following technical sergeants graduated from the Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class 2004-5 at Robins AFB, Ga., June 30.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron

Piper Faulisi

### 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Squadron

Aaron Delapena

### 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron

Willis Holt

Bradley Kirk

Scott Morrison

### 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

Rodney Umbaugh

### 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron

Carl Allen

Donald Scott

Ronald Stewart

### 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron

Shawn Derrick

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

Robert Sadwick

### 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces

Anthony Mullins

### 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Joseph Gardner

Kenneth Kincer

Joseph Schulte

Mark Trocha

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

Antwan Carlisle

## Clothing policy changes for deployments to SWA

**SOUTHWEST ASIA** — All Airmen deploying to the Central Command area of responsibility must ensure the clothing they pack is in step with a recent dress and appearance policy revision now in effect.

The most significant change requires Airmen to wear either desert camouflage uniforms or physical training gear while on an Air Force installation in Southwest Asia, said Lt. Gen. Buck Buchanan, U.S. Central Command Air Forces commander.

General Buchanan's new policy ensures the Airmen's attire portrays a positive military image and supports the area's force-protection posture.

The policy gives installation commanders the leeway to authorize people to wear civilian clothing for specific official duties or visits, special activities and specialized PT such as swimming, weightlifting, basketball and volleyball. The clothing authorized in these instances will be conservative as defined and posted by installation commanders.

Airmen deploying can get more information or a copy of the policy letter at their local military personnel flight.

## Military One Source helps with any problem

**WASHINGTON** — The Defense Department has established a "one-stop" place to go whenever servicemembers or family members need assistance with any kind of problem.

It is called "Military One Source," and is available anytime, worldwide, said John Molino, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

Mr. Molino said Military One Source allows DOD officials to provide assistance to families and servicemembers via the Internet or a toll-free telephone number. Services available include help for everyday difficulties to life's most complicated situations, he said.

Military One Source also is available to National Guardsmen and reservists being called to active duty for operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The toll-free numbers for Mili-

tary One Source are:

— From the United States: (800) 342-9647.

— From outside the United States (where available): (800) 342-9647.

— International collect: (484) 530-5747.

## Air Force bids farewell to a legend

**WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** — The Air Force's last Vietnam-era former prisoner of war still serving retired June 30, ending more than four decades of active-duty, Guard and Reserve Service.

Reserve Maj. Gen. Ed Mechenbier, mobilization assistant to Gen. Gregory Martin who is commander of Air Force Materiel Command, hung up his Air Force blue on the very last day possible, according

to service age limitation laws. He is 62 years and 1 day old.

Reflecting on his life and Air Force career after his retirement ceremony, General Mechenbier said, "My entire career was one of continuing, exciting experiences, and I never felt like I was enduring. Even during the time in jail, I was doing my job. The Air Force was 13 years old, and I was 17 or so when I joined, and it's been an exciting, evolutionary journey. I've enjoyed every minute."

## Airmen donate \$6.7 million to AFAF

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Airmen have given more than \$6.7 million to this year's Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, \$800,000 more than last year.

"The 2004 campaign raised more

money than any other since 1989 when we had twice as many people in the Air Force," said John Lowrance, project officer for the campaign.

"The generous gifts donated by our active-duty, Guard, Reserve and retired members shows a real appreciation for the aid these charities provide our Air Force family."

This year's campaign was helped by 18,000 new contributors. About 71 percent of donations are designated for the Air Force Aid Society, the largest of the four charities, Mr. Lowrance said.

Airmen can donate to one or more AFAF charities through cash, check or payroll deduction.

Other than the Air Force Aid Society, charities include the Air Force Enlisted Foundation, the Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal

## Taking care of business

**DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz.** — Staff Sgt. Scott Becker replaces a tire on a 10-ton tractor. He is a special-purpose vehicle mechanic with the 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

# HVAC flight helps Team Charleston keep its cool

**By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo**  
437 AW Public Affairs

PHEW!! It is hot out there, but it's cool inside, thanks to the 25 Airmen and five civilians who work at the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Flight.

The people of the HVAC shop work on air-conditioning units small enough to fit into windows and some as large as tractor trailers. They also work on heaters and water treatment systems for the AC units.

They're responsible for all industrial and administrative buildings, as well as after-hour service calls for base housing.

"Our mission is to provide a comfortable environment to live and work in through the use of heating and air conditioning," said Master Sgt. Juan Santiago, HVAC superintendent.

"Charleston is really hot and humid," he said. "We have an extended summer, so more emphasis is placed on air conditioning."

When summer does come, that is when the HVAC shop is out and about working to make the indoors comfortable.

Once the base has had three consecutive days of 85 degrees or a combined temperature and humidity level of 150, the HVAC team is turning the air conditioning on, Sergeant Santiago said.

"One of the biggest obstacles for any HVAC shop is the infrastructure (of the base)," he said. "The older the equipment, the less reliable and efficient it is."

"For the most part, Charleston has a lot of newer systems. There are some systems that are older, which account for about 25 to 30 percent, but they'll be replaced through our five-year plan," Sergeant Santiago said.

The five-year plan is a way for the shop to keep track of systems needing to be replaced, keeping a timetable to schedule those replacement systems to be installed.

The HVAC members are not only responsible for replacing units, they also have to keep up with recurring maintenance or preventive maintenance.

"Our shop prides itself on its recurring work program completion rate being close to 99 per-



*Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady*

**Staff Sgt. Remone Richardson, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Flight, removes refrigerant from the chiller at the Charleston Club so he can replace a filter dryer in the unit. Refrigerant is the gas used to remove heat from the building.**

cent," Sergeant Santiago said.

The shop normally schedules the maintenance with the building custodian, he said. "We go out and clean the unit coils, grease the motors and replace belts."

The scheduled maintenance is accomplished by crew leaders and their workers who

work in one of four dedicated work zones. These zones are groups of buildings the maintenance team works on regardless if it is a service call or routine maintenance.

"They have a set area to work in. They get to know the facility, where the equipment is located, and what maintenance has been accomplished," Sergeant Santiago said.

"If you keep up with the recurring maintenance, you'll have fewer service calls," Sergeant Santiago said.

But, even with preventive maintenance, the shop still receives numerous service calls due to weather conditions.

"Because of the two lightning storms that came through the area recently, we received 99 calls on equipment failure caused by power surges," Sergeant Santiago said.

Along with responding to these regular service calls, the shop responds to an average of 15 to 20 after-hour calls from base housing each week.

Base housing residents can help out in reducing service calls by replacing the air conditioning filters when they become clogged, Sergeant Santiago said. These filters may be obtained at the civil engineer self help store located on base.

Not only can residents help reduce service calls, but they also can help out in saving electricity.

"People can help out by keeping their windows closed while running their air conditioning unit," John Harriger, HVAC maintenance mechanic. "Those in office buildings can help out by turning off lights and computers when not in use."

Another way to conserve energy is by keeping the thermostat around 78 degrees, Sergeant Santiago said.

Keeping Team Charleston in comfortable

working and living conditions is the main mission of the HVAC shop.

"What I like most about this job is the daily challenge of fixing things that are broken to keep people comfortable," said Sergeant Santiago.

"I probably have the hardest working group of guys," said Sergeant Santiago. "When it is hot outside we are working when it is cold outside we are working. I like the hard work and the ethics of my guys."

## No-cost, low-cost energy savings measures

Examples of things individuals can do to save electricity and water include:

- Turn off incandescent lights when leaving areas for any period of time
- Turn off fluorescent lighting when leaving areas for longer than 15 minutes
- Turn off lights in all nonessential and unoccupied spaces
- Turn off PC monitors, televisions, etc., when not in use
- When possible do not use, or limit use of, big electricity-consuming shop equipment and home appliances (i.e., washers, dryers, vacuum cleaners) between noon to 4 p.m.
- Ensure all windows and doors are shut when operating air conditioning
- Close blinds, pull shades and limit indoor-outdoor traffic as much as possible during the hottest part of the day when operating air conditioning
- Water lawns during early morning and/or evening hours

For more information, e-mail [darrell.guidry@charleston.af.mil](mailto:darrell.guidry@charleston.af.mil) or [william.gaines@charleston.af.mil](mailto:william.gaines@charleston.af.mil). or call 963-5029 or 963-5019.

# Command Performance

## Uniform board releases results

by **Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter**

*Air Force Print News*

Air Force officials recently released the results of the 96th Air Force Uniform Board held June 18 and 19.

The chief of staff approved a number of changes, affecting everything from cell phones to scarves. Among the changes are:

- Establish a standardized Air Force physical training uniform.
- Redesign the female lightweight blue jacket.
- Authorize the lightweight blue jacket to be worn indoors.
- Authorize, as an option, to have the Air Force symbol embroidered on the lightweight blue jacket.
- Offer the A-line skirt as an optional item.
- Redesign/revise maternity uniforms.
- Authorize the black scarf only with all Air Force uniforms, eliminating white, gray and olive drab options.
- Authorize conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses.
- Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant, pager or cellular phone at a time to be worn on the uniform belt.

— Allow females to wear small, black spherical earrings when in uniform.

— Allow black web belts or black riggers belts with nondescript buckles as an optional item with the battle dress uniform.

— Remove the requirement to wear a tie or tab with short-sleeved shirt or blouse while traveling on a commercial airline.

— Authorize wear of a backpack over both shoulders.

— Authorize only a solid-color black backpack with blue uniform combinations and solid black, olive drab or woodland camouflage backpack with battle dress uniforms.

— Redesign the security forces beret.

— Allow the wear of plain black conservative hairpins, combs, headbands, elastic bands and barrettes with all female hair colors.

— Allow males to cleanly shave their heads or have military high-and-tight haircuts; females are not authorized to shave their heads or wear high-and-tight haircuts.

More information about these and other uniform board decisions will be included in the next update of Air Force Instruction 36-2903, being released this summer. Questions should be addressed to local military personnel flights.

## 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* - 4:15 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church. Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. Daily Mass is from 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Fridays.

**Protestant Services:** *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. *Sunday* - 5 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service. *Wednesday* - noon Protestant Bible Study.

**For information on other faith groups, call the Base Chapel at 963-2536.**

## 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 the start of the movie, unless otherwise noted.

**Movie schedules are provided by AAFES.**



**Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.**

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

**Saturday, 2 p.m.**

**"Shrek 2" - Voice of Mike Myers**

Shrek and Fiona return from their honeymoon to find Fiona's parents inviting them to dinner. Fiona's parents anticipate the homecoming of their daughter and her new prince, but no one could have prepared them for the sight of their son-in-law. **(PG) 93 minutes**

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

**"The Day After Tomorrow" - Dennis Quaid**

A climatological disaster ravages the world beyond recognition. As millions of terrified survivors flee the South, Professor Adrian Hall heads to New York City, now a frozen wasteland, in search of his son who may still be alive. **(PG-13) 124 minutes**

**July 16, 7:30 p.m.**

**"The Chronicles of Riddick" - Vin Diesel**

Riddick, on the run from mercenaries eager to claim the price on his head, seeks refuge on the planet of Hellon, only to discover he's walked into a world of chaos. Hellon has been seized by the Lord Marshall, determined to wipe out humanity throughout the universe. **(PG-13) 119 minutes**

## WELLNESS TIP

### Drinking on the weekends, in many instances, leads to alcohol dependence

- Excess drinking can cause liver damage (cirrhosis), malnutrition, heart disease, some cancers (including cancers of the breast, stomach, pancreas, mouth and esophagus), high blood pressure, brain damage, and is responsible for a high percentage of accidents, especially car crashes
- Heavy drinkers are more likely than nondrinkers to commit suicide and engage in violent actions
- The severe damage done to families and relationships is harder to measure, but it's just as real



**For more information, contact your local ADAPT Program office**

# SFS sails over Navy, 16-12

By Tech. Sgt Mark Kleber  
437 AW Public Affairs

J.J. Fuqua, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, made his last intramural softball game at Charleston AFB June 28 a memorable one.

Fuqua, third baseman for SFS, drove in five runs with consecutive triples to lead his team to a 16-12 victory over Navy Nuclear Power Training Command/ Nuclear Field "A" School.

"It's been a great ride," said Fuqua, who has worn eight different softball jerseys for the last 10 years at Charleston AFB. He is transferring to the Pentagon this summer.

The slugfest featured a total of 45 hits. SFS collected 21 hits, led by Jeffrey Norman and Donnie Hart with three hits each. Mookie Wilson, Bobby Trout, Ray Corbett and Scotty Wilder all had two hits. Brandon Bivens and Lyle Filey each had four hits to pace NNPTC/NFAS, which collected 24 hits.

Tim Noble, Derek Hawes and Jerome Williams had three hits, and Larry Hershey and Jason Ulibarri got two hits.

SFS took a 14-4 lead after three innings.

"During the rally, our team got motivated when they came back to the dugout," said SFS Coach William Lemaster. "I told them there was nothing we can do about base hits. Just keep your head in the game and keep hitting the ball like we've been doing."

NNPTC/NFAS bounced back with five runs on seven hits, one walk and one error in the top of the fifth inning to cut the lead to 14-9.

After its fifth inning comeback, NNPTC/NFAS was excited, but "we wondered if it was too little, too late," said Coach Phelan Cox. "I told them to dig in defensively and keep the hot sticks rolling."

Cox said he liked his team's effort in the field, but says they need some work at the plate. "They (SFS) were solid defensively and really hit the ball well."

SFS improved to 10-2, while NNPTC/NFAS fell to 5-4.



Photos by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Darnell Cannady

SFS third baseman J.J. Fuqua goes for the ball during his final intramural games at Charleston AFB, while Navy shortstop Brandon Bivens makes it safely to third. SFS won the game 16-12.

## 2004 Charleston AFB Softball Standings

| Team              | Win | Loss | Team   | Win | Loss |
|-------------------|-----|------|--------|-----|------|
| AMXS 1            | 12  | 1    | BOEING | 4   | 7    |
| APS               | 9   | 2    | LRS 2  | 4   | 7    |
| LRS 1             | 10  | 3    | AMXS 2 | 4   | 7    |
| MXS 1             | 10  | 3    | SFS 2  | 4   | 8    |
| SFS 1             | 10  | 3    | CES    | 3   | 9    |
| MOS/373 TRS Det 5 | 9   | 4    | MXS 2  | 2   | 9    |
| NNPTC/NFAS        | 7   | 4    | SVS    | 2   | 11   |
| NAVY BRIG         | 5   | 4    | 1 CTCS | 0   | 11   |
| FLYERS/OSS        | 6   | 6    |        |     |      |



Mike Kochanski, SFS, watches one go by as catcher Jason Ulibari, Navy, snags the ball.

## Sports shorts

### Fitness and Sports Center:

The new hours are Monday through Friday, 4:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and holidays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Base Pool:** The base pool, located at the Fitness and Sports Center, is closed Monday; open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 963-5271.

**Youth Soccer:** Registration is underway and ends July 30. Cardholders pay \$35, and those without a current card pay \$47.50. All youth need to have a current physical on file now or when they register. Registration can't be processed without the necessary documents.

A \$10 late fee will be charged after July 30. Register at the youth center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information call 963-5684.

# Maintainer shows determination to succeed

By 1st Lt. Shaloma McGovern  
437 AW Public Affairs

After nearly being killed by a drunk driver almost 10 years ago, a Team Charleston Airman has shown his determination to be fit to fight

Since the accident, Master Sgt. John Cummings, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron hydraulic shop NCOIC, has faced many challenges, especially physical ones.

The desire to improve has been with Sergeant Cummings since that fateful night in 1995 when he was hit by a drunk driver, while traveling home from work. His truck was launched into a series of end-over-end and lateral rolls before coming to a rest more than 150 feet from the point of impact, leaving him in critical condition.

"Following the accident, I had a right



Sergeant Cummings walks a mile and a half each time he gets on the treadmill as part of his physical therapy. He was nearly killed 10 years ago by a drunk driver.

arm that was essentially uninjured except for the thumb that was crushed between the steering wheel and my chest. Every other part of my body was injured and in excruciating pain," said Sergeant Cummings. "I had absolutely no desire to continue living. My bad attitude and the doctor's goals were on a collision course that was unavoidable."

"Around the fifth day after the accident, my right lung collapsed again. That was the straw that broke the camel's back. There was no way I was going to let anyone cut anymore holes in me," he continued. "I was given severe verbal counseling by a technical sergeant on the medical staff about my poor attitude. The doctors repaired my lung, and I came away with the determination I was going to beat this bad hand I was dealt.

"My first goal was to get a shower. I quickly learned the importance of setting 'realistic and obtainable goals,'" said Sergeant Cummings.

As time progressed, his goals became more advanced.

"Each time I would try to use the walker, I would tell myself 'just one more step,' and again, 'just one more step,'" said Sergeant Cummings. "The most important lesson I've taken away from this experience is if it's too painful to get to the end then just worry about the next step if I can just make one more step I will do that, and then just try for another until I succeed."

Sergeant Cummings said his drive for success came from questions he had to answer. "Why did I live and someone else die? Why am I alive? Did I survive to save someone else?" he asked himself. "I'm driven to find the answers to these questions, and I'm afraid if I don't explore every opportunity presented to me, I will miss the opportunity to fulfill my destiny and find the answers to the questions."

Sergeant Cummings said he has two keys for success. His first key is no matter how much it hurts, just take one more step. The second is to repeat the first step.

"Everyone has the ability to succeed. It's the fear of failure that prevents most of us from succeeding," said Sergeant



Photos by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Darnell Cannady

Master Sgt. John Cummings does 50 sit-ups each workout, as he strives stay physically fit.

Cummings. "Surviving trauma destroys all the preconceived notions you're raised with. Then your brain starts to question your very existence, and lastly your body challenges you with new levels of pain you never thought possible."

"When I heard about the new fitness standards, I knew this was something I had to take seriously," said Sergeant Cummings. "Each of the physical elements of the test challenges me. I've worked pretty consistently to make sure I'll pass the test."

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Brian West, 437 MXS section commander said Sergeant Cummings is an inspiration.

"Sergeant Cummings has overcome many challenging obstacles in his career and personal life," he said. "His determination in his personal physical fitness has improved his baseline score by nearly 10 points in just the past few months. His official score on his annual test was 82 and he still strives to improve."

Master Sgt. David Hughey, 437 Maintenance Operations Center superintendent, said he admires Sergeant Cummings for his ability to overcome tremendous obstacles in his life to get where he is today.

"His positive attitude and determination to overcome any physical limitations are the driving factors that prevent him from failure in life, to include the fitness program," Sergeant Hughey said. "To him, failure is never an option. Anyone who's met him and understands what he's had to go through does not take physical fitness for granted and automatically strives to improve his own well-being."