

# Top 3 says thanks to junior enlisted

Senior enlisted members sponsor party recognizing efforts of technical sergeants and below

By Tech. Sgt. Daniel Murphy  
437<sup>th</sup> AW Public Affairs

The sounds of music and merriment could be heard Friday during the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing 1999 Junior Enlisted Oktoberfest Block party held in the dormitory area between buildings 477 and 466.

The celebration was held to show ap-

preciation to the junior enlisted (technical sergeant and below) personnel for their efforts with all the deployments in the last year, according to Master Sgt. Matt Harless, Top Three Oktoberfest chairman.

"This is for all those that went and for all those that stayed behind," said Harless.

A lot of time, effort and money went in to setting up this event for the approximately 2,800 E-6 and below on the base, Harless said. "We are expecting to feed between 1,500 to 2,000 of the enlisted. The funds were provided by the Top Three, through fund raisers and donations from local community businesses."

This year has been billed the year of the family by Air Mobility Command and this event was billed as a year of the family event.

"Sometimes our younger, unmarried personnel are not directly affected by YOFAM," said Harless. "This is to show they are part of the Charleston Family and they are part of YOFAM."

There were many volunteers, both enlisted and officer, that came together to organize

the event.

"A special thanks goes out to the Security Forces, Communications, Civil Engineers, Medical Group and the first sergeants."

There were cold drinks on ice inside a boat, tickets given away for free drawings and plenty of barbecued food to please everyone.

"The hot dogs were really good," said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Sarah Mears, 437<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron. "I am enjoying myself."

By letting the troops enjoy the day, organizers were hoping to raise their morale.

"It's a great morale booster," said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Paul Bright, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron jet engine mechanic. "Free stuff for airman is always a good thing"

After working a half day, supervisors were allowed to release anyone wishing to attend the festivities.

"It's a pretty good deal," exclaimed Senior Airman Richard O'Brien, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron. "Half a day of work, free drinks, free food, it's great. Where else can you do this?"

The party continued through the afternoon and the crowds started to dwindle around 6 p.m. according to Harless. The tents were lowered and some party-goers stayed until 8 p.m.

"The party turned out great," said Harless. "The number one response was when were we going to do it again."

## Defense

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ests around the globe have actually increased since the end of the Cold War.

"It will take a continuing commitment from all of us to meet our security needs in the future," he said. "The key to meeting the security needs will remain a trained and ready force of quality people with the best and most advanced equipment America can provide."

Clinton also used the occasion of the ceremony to push for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, linking it to the elimination of threats to U.S. service members.

"I believe the treaty is good for America's security," he said. "I believe walking away and defeating it would send a message that America is no longer the leading advocate of nonproliferation in the world."

Clinton said the treaty would keep other countries out of the nuclear weapons arena. He said it would make easier the task of determining whether other countries are engaging in nuclear weapons activity and to take action if they are.

"Like all treaties, this one would have to be vigorously enforced and backed by a strong national defense," he said.

He said if the Senate rejects the treaty, nuclear arsenals will grow and other countries will develop the weapons.

"Weapons will spread to volatile regions and dangerous rulers and even to terrorists," he said.

He said the Senate owes it to U.S. service members to lessen the threat of proliferation of nuclear weapons. (AFP)



Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Valeria Arriaga

Senior Airman Elmo Lameg, 437<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron, was one of 2,000 junior enlisted who took advantage of the free food being offered at the 1999 Junior Enlisted Oktoberfest Block party sponsored by the wing Top Three.

## Make a difference in the environment

Charleston Air Force Base has achieved 29 consecutive months of not having any environmental violations. Base civil engineers are asking everyone to pay attention to their industrial processes and make sure they are disposing of hazardous chemicals the right way.

"We have a mission, but also must comply with environmental regulatory rules. We can still accomplish our mission while protecting our natural and cultural resources," said Jeff Garrett, chief of environmental quality.

Some of those winning ways include the use of so-called environmental "Best Management Practices." BMP's are schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, and maintenance procedures to prevent or reduce pollution of U.S. waters. An example of BMPs is good housekeeping. This is the maintenance of a clean and orderly work environment. Some examples of good housekeeping are:

- Dispose of litter and waste properly.
- Keep storm drains clear of debris, dirt and wastes.
- Disposal of waste materials in approved containers.
- Keep dumpster access doors closed.
- Use drip pans when performing Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricant processes and when transferring fuels and oils to different containers or vehicles.
- Clean all spills before washing floors or parking lots.
- Keep floor drains plugged unless cleaning.
- Use environmentally friendly cleaners and detergents.
- Discharge floor cleaning machines through oil-water separators when possible.
- Ensure proper operation and maintenance of oil and water separators.

For information, call 963-2699 or 963-4013.



### Wash down

Paul Laemer of Empire Aircraft Services washes the C-124 Globemaster on display in the Air Park. The three static display aircraft in the park are a popular stop for base visitors and are washed periodically.

Senior Airman Michael Duhe