

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Vol. 40, No. 21

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

Friday, June 1, 2001

## Hunley Park students get playground

By Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

Hunley Park Elementary School fourth graders completed their mission with a \$10,200 check from the Carolina Children's Charity.

Class 4-3 took on the task of building a new playground as their class project several months ago. The school has been without needed playground equipment since old equipment had to be removed to meet safety guidelines, according to Marsha Betcher, Class 4-3 teacher.

The March 16 issue of the *Airlift Dispatch* contained a story about the project the class was tackling. Betcher said the story paid off for the class during a Parent-Teacher Association meeting Tuesday.

"Shelli Quenga (Carolina Children's Charity director) presented us with a \$10,200 check at the meeting," said Betcher. "We absolutely couldn't do this without them."

Betcher said a Carolina Children's Charity staff member read about the Hunley Park playground project right here in the *Airlift Dispatch* and wanted to help. A representative contacted

See **Playground**, page 2



## Remembering

Charleston AFB took time off Monday to celebrate Memorial Day. According to [www.usmemorialday.org](http://www.usmemorialday.org), Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by Gen. John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I, when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war. It is now celebrated in almost every state on the last Monday in May. Congress passed the last Monday in May as Memorial Day in 1968 to ensure a three-day weekend for Federal holidays. Several southern states, including South Carolina, have an additional, separate day for honoring the Confederate War dead. South Carolina honors the Confederate War dead on May 10 each year.

Collage by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

## CAFB braces for hurricane season; forecasters say 'be prepared'

By Jennifer Cavender  
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB should start preparing now for the North Atlantic hurricane season, which begins today and runs through November 30.

It is important for people to be prepared for hurricanes ahead of time, according to Maj. Luis Rios, 437<sup>th</sup> Weather Flight commander.

"People tend to forget about hurricanes until they're a few days away, but it's important to be prepared early," Rios said.

A hurricane is a low-pressure system that generally

forms in the tropics. It is accompanied by strong winds, thunderstorms and flooding.

According to Rios, the National Hurricane Center predicts an average of 11 named storms with five-seven of those being hurricanes and two or three being classified as major storms. Major storms consist of winds greater than 110 mph.

Hurricanes are categorized on a scale of one-five, called the Saffir-Simpson Scale. A category one hurricane has winds of 74-95 mph and a storm surge of four-five feet above normal. Category two storms have winds of 96-110

mph and a storm surge of six feet above normal. Category three hurricanes have winds of 111-130 mph and a storm surge of nine-12 feet above normal. Hurricanes classified as category four have winds of 131-155 mph, with a storm surge of 13-18 feet above normal. The most powerful hurricanes are classified as category five and have winds greater than 155 mph and storm surges greater than 18 feet above normal.

Air Force bases use a hurricane condition, or HURRCON, system to classify the winds expected and the time frame they are expected

in. The conditions are numbered one-four, with four being the least threatening and one being the most. The conditions are specific to each base, according to Staff Sgt. Stephen Daggett, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron readiness technician. At Charleston, HURRCON 4 means winds of 50 knots (58 mph) or greater are expected within 72 hours. HURRCON 3 has the same wind speed condition, but is expected within 48 hours. HURRCON 2 expects winds of 50 knots within 24 hours, and HURRCON 1 expects those winds within 12 hours. A fifth condition, HURRCON

Black, means severe winds have passed, but personnel should remain inside until mission essential personnel have performed initial damage assessment.

"Security forces has a HURRCON sign posted at the gate to let you know what the current condition is," said Daggett.

When a hurricane is within 36 hours of the coast with the possibility of coming on land, a hurricane watch is issued. A watch does not become a hurricane warning until 74 mph winds are expected

See **Hurricane**, page 3

## IN THE NEWS

# Alcohol risk reduction at FTAC is major mission for CAFB chief

Story and photo by  
Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Reginald Davis, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Individual Mobilization Augmentee, has a personal agenda at the First Term Airman's Center.

Davis, who teaches the PRIME Alcohol Risk Reduction Course, doesn't want others to make some of the choices about alcohol that he made early in his career.

"I have a personal investment in the course," said Davis. "I'm 16 years recovering."

With the help of a grant to the 437<sup>th</sup> Behavioral Sciences Flight, Davis went to Madison, Wis., last year and took a course to become a certified instructor in PRIME. He brought his knowledge back to Charleston AFB, where over 225 first-term airmen have attended one of the 16 courses he has taught.

According to a PRIME fact sheet, the first goal is to help each person reduce the risk for any type of alcohol or drug

problem by using the five steps to risk reduction.

"First, identify the risks," said Davis. "Then, learn the guidelines. Third, you have to adjust for differences. Fourth, choose a direction. Finally, implement a plan that flows with your decisions."

Recently, Davis and Tech. Sgt. Joel Jones, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing FTAC superintendent, were asked to present the course at Shaw AFB, N.C.

"Air Combat Command asked us to give the course at Shaw," Davis said. "We had about 28 students in the class. The critiques were good, and they're considering using this course."

The eight- or nine-hour course is a combination of PowerPoint slides, discussions, a 102-page workbook, and videos of DUI crash victims, families and offenders.

"The workbook lets the students evaluate their high-risk choices," said Davis. "We don't tell them 'Don't drink.' We say 'Here's a lot of good information to help you make decisions.' We let them know the risks they are taking and

decide if it's worth it."

Students are given a test about risk reduction before and after the course. Pre- and post-test results show a 25-35 percent increase in prevention knowledge after the course. Davis said 80 percent of the students scored 80 or higher on the post-test. Also, 90 percent of the students said they were going to start making safer drinking choices for themselves and friends.

While the program is too new here to accurately measure results, Davis said he relies heavily on the after course critiques to measure success.

"The question 'What, if anything, do you think you will do differently since taking this class,' always gets the best response," Davis said. "Every class has some kind of response that tells me I've at least given them the information to make a good decision about risk prevention."

Davis said part of his motivation for teaching the course is to reduce the number of



Chief Master Sgt. Reginald Davis, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Individual Mobilization Augmentee, teaches PRIME Alcohol Risk Reduction at the First Term Airman's Center.

airmen he encounters in his civilian capacity as a paramedic. More importantly to the students, Davis said some of the decisions he made in the past allow him to share, first-hand, the types of things that can ruin a career.

"I facilitate a weekly substance abuse recovery group at the Navy Brig also," said Davis. "If I can keep just one troop from ending up there, then none of my time and energy teaching this material will have been wasted."

## Playground

continued from page 1

Betcher and asked her to write a proposal to receive a grant. Betcher followed through immediately with a six-page document outlining the project and the need for the equipment.

"I was expecting about \$5,000," said Betcher. "When I heard we were getting \$10,000, I was ecstatic. When we added that to the \$7,000 we raised, we finally had enough to finish."

The grant was made possible because of the handicap access Betcher's class had added in the playground design. According to a Carolina Children's Charity news release, orthopedically impaired students will benefit from the new playground.

"We have 12 students in wheelchairs," said Betcher. "The new playground is going to have a swing with a platform that they can wheel onto and swing themselves. The whole playground will be handicap accessible."

Betcher said she was given the nickname "fund-raiser queen" by her co-workers because of all the things her class was trying to do to raise money.

"We sold 'Y'-tie shoelaces, baked goods and freezer pops," said Betcher. "We held HOPS restaurant nights, teacher class challenges and other events to name a few. We also had a

lot of help and donations from the people at Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream and the owner of the Stingrays. A lot of people from the base and local community really helped us."

While raising money was a major part of the project, the class's work wasn't done yet. The \$17,000 raised was considerably short of the initial \$50,000 goal of the class.

After some re-configuring and re-accessing, Class 4-3 decided to see the project through to the end and move on with the money in hand.

"We contacted a rep from Playworld Systems and told him what we wanted and how much money we could spend," said Betcher. "He has really worked with us on pricing and installation. He gave us exactly what we wanted, minus a couple pieces."

Class 4-3 can rest easy now knowing the playground will be completed in mid-July. Betcher said this amazing project allowed her students to experience a feeling of accomplishment.

"They accomplished what they set out to do," said Betcher. "From start to finish, generosity has made our dreams come true, and it's a great life lesson for the students to see a project through from start to finish. More importantly, the students are happy they are leaving such a great legacy for future students to enjoy."

## 437 OSS senior airman claims John Levitow Award at ALS

Senior Airman Marlon Verasamy, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron earned the Sgt John L. Levitow Award during Airman Leadership School Class 01-D, and was presented with the honor at the graduation dinner May 24 at the Charleston Club.

The award is named for Sgt. John Levitow, one of only 16 airmen awarded a Medal of Honor for exceptional heroism during wartime.

Levitow, the lowest ranking airman to earn the medal, received the honor as a result of an incident on Feb. 24, 1969. At that time, the airman first class served as loadmaster aboard a severely damaged AC-47 gunship flying a mission over South Vietnam.

Senior Airman Anthony Johnson, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, received the Distinguished Graduate Award and the Academic Achievement Award.

Senior Airman Marvida Johnson, 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron,

earned the Leadership Award.

Graduates from the five-week course also include the following senior airmen:

1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron-Sean Devine; 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron-Eric Blevins; 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron-Jeremy Davis, Randy Karels, Mark McGrath

and Matthew Spillars; 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron-William Linford, Ruben Pinero Jr.;

437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing-Geoffery Gunn; 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron-Jonathan Haigler, Jeffrey Smith and Kenneth Toole;

437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group-Leslie Rector; 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron-Marlon Pharr and Steven Shown;

437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron-Chad Allan and Jerome Whaley;

437<sup>th</sup> SUPS-Ronald Martin; 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron-Scott Bernier; 315<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron-Michael Nalley.

The guest speaker at the graduation was Lt. Col. Jon Roop, 437 CES commander.



# CAFB to officially open Lowcountry mentor action program

A group of Charleston AFB field- and company-grade officers will officially open the Lowcountry Palmetto Chapter of the Air Force Cadet/Officer Mentor Action Program in a chartering ceremony June 20, 2:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club.

The chapter will serve as a mentoring vehicle for present and future officers. "We have an incredible reservoir of knowledge and experience at CAFB," said Lt. Col. Ivan Sherard, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Support Squadron commander and local AFCOMAP president. "Developing a forum to translate this potential into something concrete is the goal of AFCOMAP."

Committee members here said they see this program as a critical step in the development of both cadets and young officers.

"Charleston doesn't have a formalized mentoring program for young officers," said Lt. Col. Bruce Alexander, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron commander and former Bolling AFB, Washington D.C., AFCOMAP president. "AFCOMAP will provide just that forum to grow some of the sharpest young minds we've seen in this Year of Retention

and Recruiting.

"Every successful major corporation attributes it's management level success to focused mentoring," continued Alexander. "The Air Force is no different. We must nurture our young officers and cadets as they come through the ranks. Without a formalized program, many officers will never have a mentor or a mentoring forum to gain the necessary skills to excel early on in their careers."

Capt. Ita Udoaka, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing chief of logistics plans, has been on both sides of the fence. He has grown to feel strongly about the need for a formal mentoring program since he benefited first-hand from having a mentor as a second lieutenant, and then again as he took the position as vice president of the Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, AFCOMAP chapter before PCSing here.

"With less than three months on active duty, a major from contracting took me under his wing," said Udoaka. "He not only provided good insight into my options for a successful career, he also gave advice on issues like my budget, finances, officership, leadership, professionalism and the

importance of being an effective communicator.

"Realizing the importance of mentoring, while stationed at Wright Patterson AFB I was part of a briefing team that visited local ROTC (reserve officer training corps) detachments and provided upperclassmen some insight into life on active duty from a lieutenants perspective," said Udoaka.

To build a strong mentor base, the AFCOMAP committee is looking for officers to volunteer their time to the program.

"Mentors need experience, so the more senior the officer the better," Alexander said. "Ideally, seasoned majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels provide the best mentors for lieutenants and captains. Captains and lieutenants can mentor our incoming Air Force ROTC or academy cadets quite nicely.

"Additionally, mentors don't have to be in the same career field," Alexander added. "It helps to talk with someone who has had a successful career track in your specialty, but they don't necessarily have all the answers to your future."

Alexander said there are some constant traits to being a successful officer and mentors must be capable of articulating these messages to all mentorees.

AFCOMAP is a national, private, non-profit organization originally organized in 1989 for the mentoring and professional development of minority AFROTC cadets. The organization later expanded its efforts to include the mentoring of all minority Air Force officers, and in 1994 the charter was changed to include all Air Force officers, regardless of race.

Brig. Gen. Darryl Scott, deputy assistant secretary for contracting for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and the National President of AFCOMAP, will be the keynote speaker. All base personnel are invited to attend the chartering ceremony, however, AFCOMAP is focused on chartering a mentoring forum for officers.

For more information about the AFCOMAP program or the upcoming chartering ceremony, call Udoaka at 963-5524 or Capt. Elaine Washington at 963-6936. *(This article was submitted by the AFCOMAP committee.)*

## Let sleeping dogs, alligators, lie

By Senior Airman  
Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

An alligator measuring around six-feet long was found Tuesday evening near the flightline.

According to Tech. Sgt. Timothy Moore, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, the alligator was found on the taxiway, and because it was after normal operational hours, North Charleston Animal Control could not assist.

Members of the 437 SFS and the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Department captured and removed the animal, and transported it behind the hot cargo area, Moore said.

The hot cargo area is at the south-end of the runway near the munitions area. According to Moore, the area is

heavily wooded and swampy.

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Lorie Kopecky, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron Entomology Flight, said this is the fourth alligator found here since she came to the base two years ago.

"If you find an alligator, call the fire department and they will contact us," Kopecky said. "Stay away from alligators. They are a lot faster than people think. Don't try to touch or move it."

The fire department and entomology personnel will remove alligators up to a certain size. If the animal is too big, entomology will get outside help, Kopecky said.

"We do whatever is possible to move the animal without hurting it," said Kopecky. "We try to relocate them to a safer place."

The fire department can be reached at 963-3777.

## Hurricane

continued from page 1

within 24 hours. Once this warning has been issued, a disaster plan should be well in place and executed.

Rios suggests having a disaster plan in place beforehand.

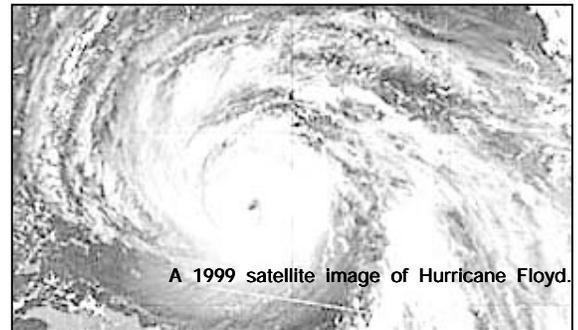
"It's bad when everyone waits until the last minute to go to the grocery store and stands in lines for hours instead of being at home preparing for the storm," Rios said. "Plus, if you're a pilot or someone in maintenance, you're being pulled away from home to take care of things at work."

According to Daggett, a lot of things drive an evacuation. "Charleston AFB generally doesn't fall under any of these," Daggett said.

As for personnel living off base in the surrounding communities, Daggett said they should follow the direction of civil authorities. "Let your supervisor know what's going on. Don't just get up and go."

Keep vehicles' gas tanks as full as possible during the hurricane season. In case of an evacuation, fuel may be hard to get.

Assembling a disaster supply kit is something that can be taken care of early in the hurricane season and can become lifesaving during and after a disaster, Rios said. Disaster supplies should include flashlights and extra batteries, a portable battery-



A 1999 satellite image of Hurricane Floyd.

operated radio, and a first aid kit. Canned food, non-perishables and a non-electric can opener should be included.

Disaster supplies should also include water, at least three gallons per person, per day, and any special items for infants, the elderly, or disabled family members and pets.

"You don't want to go out and buy diapers, but end up with no dog food," Daggett said.

Keep medications up to date in case of a hurricane, and keep extra cash available in case electricity outages prevent trips to the ATM.

"When Floyd was on its way, I had cash out of the ATM a week in advance," Rios said.

Rios stressed the importance of water and supplies during Hurricane Hugo in 1989.

"Hugo left people without power for 14 days," Rios said. "All the water you have is the only water you can use or you have to wait in long lines to

get some."

Knowing what's coming is also important, according to Rios. "Be careful where you get your information," he said. "Your best bet is the National Hurricane Center Web site ([www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov)) or the Weather Channel, because they don't deviate from the NHC forecast."

The NHC is an excellent source because the organization employs a number of experts in the hurricane field working together to get the most correct forecast possible for the entire east coast, Rios said. "They aren't concerned with making the event 'breaking news' for a specific area. They look at the big picture."

Another good source of information is Channel 2 (the commander's access channel), said Daggett.

From now until the end of November it is important to be ready for whatever comes this way, Rios said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Amy Lamont

A six-foot alligator was found near the Charleston AFB flightline Tuesday. The gator was moved to a safe area.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Ollie Fountain today, 3 p.m., at the Base Education Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Thomas Foster at 963-7055.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Steven Owensby Monday, 10:30 a.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Grace Picicci at 963-4634.

**Retirement:** The 412<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. Johnny "Bo" Hamilton, 10 a.m., Wednesday at the Base Education Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Sam Trippi at 963-5206 or Staff Sgt. George Cassiano at 963-2706.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Carl Belton, 10:30 a.m., Thursday at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kenneth Sellers at 832-9848.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Jeff Tilley June 8, 2 p.m., in Bldg. 174. For more information, call Master Sgt. Alex Scruggs at 963-3015 or Staff Sgt. Dan Smith at 963-2122.

**Retirement:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Michael Mulligan June 8, 2 p.m., at the Charleston Club.

## Around the base

**Closure:** Finance will be closed June 8 for an official squadron function.

**Limited service:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron is holding its annual picnic June 15. Operations will be limited due to minimum manning in the afternoon. For more information, contact the helpdesk at 963-3511.

**Road closed:** The right-turn lane from Dorchester Road to the Dorchester Gate will be closed June 9-12 while a sewer main is replaced. Vehicles may still enter the Dorchester Gate by making a sharp right turn at the light.

**Chiefs' Group:** The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting June 21, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Bank of America will address the group, and lunch will be provided.

**Closure:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Military Personnel Flight customer service office will

## Charleston Profile

Staff Sgt. Marlon Verasamy  
437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Marlon Verasamy, a weather forecaster for the 437<sup>th</sup> Weather Flight, was recently named the John L. Levitow Award for Airman Leadership School Class 01-D.

The Levitow award is given to the airman who demonstrates the highest degree of excellence as a leader and scholar. The award was named for Sgt. John Levitow, who received the Medal of Honor on Feb. 24, 1969 while serving as a loadmaster aboard a severely damaged AC-47 gunship flying a mission over South Vietnam.

Verasamy also recently completed forecaster school at Keesler AFB, Miss. He was slated for promotion to staff sergeant in October 2000, but because of forecaster school, and not having fulfilled the ALS prerequisite, he had to wait until May 25.

The Boston, Mass., native has been in the Air Force for eight years and at Charleston AFB since February. Charleston is his first Air Force base. Verasamy was previously stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., and at Hohenfels, Germany, another Army installation.

For Verasamy, ALS was an enjoyable experience. "It was fun," he said. "The instructors were great, everybody got along well, and we had a lot of fun."

"You have to come to ALS with an open mind," he continued. "You can learn some pretty good stuff. Attitude makes all the difference in the world."

When not forecasting the weather, Verasamy spends time with his wife, Carmon, and plays basketball and softball.



Photo by Senior Airman Melanie Streeter

be closed July 9-10 for DEERS/RAPIDS system upgrade and training. For more information, contact Senior Airman Angela Hawkins at 963-4536.

**Scholarships:** The Airlift/Tanker Association is offering Scholastic Assistance Awards of \$500 and \$250. All active duty, guard and Reserve members in the rank of E-6 and below are eligible. Application packages are available at the Base Education Center or the Family Support Center. The deadline for submitting applications is July 18.

**Volunteers:** The Muscular Dystrophy Association is seeking volunteers to be counselors at their summer camp in Rincon, Ga., for July 28-Aug. 3. Counselors assist campers with activities of daily living such as feeding, bathing and dressing, and help them enjoy activities such as arts and crafts, swimming, tennis and other games. Housing and meals will be provided to volunteers. For more information, call Nicole Gelb at 556-3654.

**Base supply:** The Base Supply Store is now located at 108 Long St., Bldg. 713, and is open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

**ID checks:** The Commissary is now randomly checking identification at the entrance, in addition to mandatory checks at the registers.

**Pet shipment:** Air Mobility Command, in cooperation with Commercial Pa-

triot Express, is initiating a 3-month test program, allowing movement of pets with containers weighing up to 150 lbs on all AMC missions. This test program will begin immediately and run until Aug. 31.

**Boy Scouts:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs office is seeking an active-duty member to assist Boy Scout and Cub Scout groups wishing to use base facilities and tours. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones at 963-5657.

**CLEP tests:** The Education Center will offer an additional day for college-level testing. The new testing schedule will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. DANTES testing and tests that allow more than two hours for administration will still be limited to the 8 a.m. session. The additional testing on Wednesdays will be offered as long as the session is utilized. All college-level testing, AFIADL testing and proctored college exams can be scheduled by calling 963-4575.

**TMO:** The peak season for shipments of personal property is here. Personnel should report to the TMO office as soon as they receive their orders. Because of current volume, three-four weeks are needed to confirm requested move dates. Personnel shipping vehicles overseas must ensure they have all proper documentation upon arrival at the Vehicle Processing Center. Required

documentation now includes permanent change of station orders and either the title or letter of authorization from the lien-holder or lease company before shipment can be accomplished. For more information, call 963-2255, or visit their Web site at [www.charleston.af.mil/CHAS/437AW/OG/TMO/index.htm](http://www.charleston.af.mil/CHAS/437AW/OG/TMO/index.htm).

## Family Support Center

**Pre-Deployment Briefings:** Monday, June 11, 18, and 25, 4 p.m., and Thursday, June 14, 21 and 28, 4 p.m.  
**Jr. SMOOTH Move:** Wednesday, 6-7 p.m.

**Sponsorship Training:** Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**Newcomer's Tour:** Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Investing Fundamentals:** June 11, 2-4:30 p.m.

**Educational Opportunities Assistance:** June 12, 10a.m.-1 p.m.

**TAP Three-Day Workshop:** June 12-14, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Employers Panel and Mini Job Fair:** June 14, 2-4 p.m.

**Financial Fitness Workshop:** June 18, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

**Resume II:** June 19, 9-10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

**Sponsorship Training:** June 20, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**Troops-To-Teachers:** June 25, 10-11 a.m.

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

## COMMENTARY

## About the paper

AIRLIFT  
Dispatch

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The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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## Address/Numbers

Editorial content is prepared by the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 223.

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604

Mail to: 437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

[dispatch@charleston.af.mil](mailto:dispatch@charleston.af.mil)

## Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander  
Col. Vern M. "Rusty"  
Findley II

Chief, Public Affairs  
Lt. Col. Edmund Memi

Editor

Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Writer

Senior Airman Melanie Streeter

Photo Support

Base Visual Information Center

## Team Charleston continues winning ways

By Col. Rusty Findley  
437 AW commander

It was my pleasure to announce at staff meeting Tuesday that Senior Master Sgt. Michael Freebury, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, was selected as the Air Force Aircrew Life Support Senior NCO of the Year for 2000. This is quite an honor and we will be making the appropriate presentation at a future staff meeting. Congratulations on a job well done.

Also at staff meeting, we had a chance to present Staff Sgt. Jacqueline Dent, 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron, with the USO Spirit of Hope Award trophy and a photograph for receiving the 21<sup>st</sup> Air Force Airman of the Year recognition.

It was also my pleasure to announce the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron as the Intramural Basketball Base Champion and the 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron as the Intramural Bowling Base Champion. The intramural program is just one of the many fine activities that our 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron manages for the benefit of our people.

Col. Norm Moore, 315<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander, other area military commanders and I had the opportunity to throw out the first pitch for a special military-appreciation night with the Charleston Riverdogs at Joe Riley stadium May 23. Although I did not throw a 90 mph fastball, I did manage to throw the fastest pitch among all the military commanders present.

In any event, the event was great fun for the entire family, and if you came out, you got to see a nice flyover by Charleston's own C-17 and hear the Marine Corps band. I will not say much about the game since the Riverdogs lost.

There will be a military appreciation night with the Charleston Swampfoxes (arena football) June 9, 7 p.m. Discounted tickets are available at the North Charleston Coliseum box office.

I was honored to represent the wing, and the military in general, as a guest speaker for a Memorial Day ceremony on the USS Yorktown at Patriot's Point. It was a nice tribute to those who served their country and made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today.

It was great to see so many people there for the ceremony. Afterwards, I had a chance to meet with members of the community and with many of the veterans in the crowd. Many expressed their heartfelt appreciation for what you do each and everyday. Keep up the good work!

Our operations tempo has picked up as Team Charleston plays a key role in swapping out the forces from Aerospace Expeditionary Forces 3 and 4 with incoming folks from AEF 5 and 6.

We've assumed a key leadership role for the mobility operations by standing up the 15<sup>th</sup> Aerospace Expeditionary Squadron, and our own Lt. Col. Dave "Frenchy" Peaire, along with a handful of our folks, have set up shop at Moron AB, Spain. Their busiest period will be next week when as many as 6 C-17s from Charleston and McChord AFB, Wash., fly back and forth. We will also have some C-5 support.

For a four-day period, there will be more than 60 aircraft, to include tankers, airlifters and fighters, on the ramp at Moron. Charleston is playing a key leadership role in managing the airlift and tanker assets, and our support will be crucial for ensuring the swap-out occurs seamlessly.

We enjoyed the opportunity to host Brig. Gen. (select) Bill Lord, Air Mobility Command Directorate of Communications and Computers, as he visited with base information managers, 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron and 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron Wednesday and Thursday. It was another great visit and he was impressed with all that he saw. Special thanks to the project officer Capt. Steve Wainwright from 1 CTCS and our protocol staff.

We will host Brig. Gen. Gregory Trebon, deputy com-

manding general, Joint Special Operations Command, and some members of the AMC staff for a comprehensive update and conference on the C-17 Special Operations Low Level II mission June 4-6. We look forward to the discussions on this very important mission.

Starting today, we have officially begun hurricane season, and now is the time to begin making your own personal preparations should the worst happen. We live by the coast and a hurricane is a very real possibility.

Do not make the mistake of waiting until the last minute to prepare. We were fortunate last year, and eight-12 named hurricanes are predicted for this year. For more information, see the story on page one.

On June 12, we will spend an entire day going over various scenarios and ensuring we are ready to deal with another Hurricane Hugo. The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Plans is sponsoring the exercise, and it is important that we try to understand one another's roles and responsibilities should a hurricane threaten the local area. This tabletop exercise will get us thinking in the right terms before we are faced with a severe storm.

As we are in the full swing of 101 Critical Days of Summer, it is worth noting that our safety folks report that many off-duty fatalities Air Force-wide can be attributed to people not wearing their seatbelts, drinking while driving and excessive speed in their vehicles. The Air Force has already lost 37 of its members, with 24 attributed to off-duty motor vehicle mishaps. The biggest increase is concentrated in our officer and NCO ranks.

It may seem like common sense, but unfortunately there is a disturbing trend of people not taking some simple safety precautions. Please wear your seatbelts, watch your speed, and never drink and drive.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating the new 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing headquarters will be held Saturday, 10 a.m., in front of Bldg. 60 on East Hill Boulevard. There will be a short reception and tour afterwards. All are invited to attend.

We have retired Col. Gail Halverson, the famed "candy bomber" from the Berlin Airlift crisis, slated to be our guest speaker for the Air Force Ball, Sept. 14. We are trying to establish a tradition of celebrating the Air Force birthday and our heritage at Charleston AFB.

A bowlathon is scheduled for today at noon to raise funds to help offset the cost of the event. We will have many other fundraisers between now and the actual event.

We are hoping for good participation throughout the base, and I can guarantee you that the Air Force Ball will be an event that will make you proud to be a part of the premier airlift wing (and Air Force) on the face of the planet! Mark it on your calendar now.

Today kicks off the 2001 Around the World in 90 Days summer promotion, more commonly referred to as ATWIND, that allows servicemembers and their families to earn valuable prizes by using our great 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron facilities.

I encourage everyone to participate in this worthwhile program by using many of our great facilities as you can. This program encourages you to frequent and use these facilities that you have earned from your hard work. ATWIND is just a nice way to use these outstanding facilities and have some fun at the same time. Why not earn some terrific prizes, like a new car, in the process?

For the second week in a row, there is still a good buzz around town about Air Expo 2001. A much stronger bond exists between the community and the base. I still get lots of people coming up to me and telling me how much they enjoyed themselves at the air expo. We are doing well with the local community.

Let us keep the momentum going and stay involved in our community while we continue to grow the flag pole and fly the flag higher each day on job number one: getting the mission accomplished safely.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend!

## FEATURE

# 437 SUPS ready, waiting for new warehouse

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

If you see many weary-eyed supply airmen hauling desks and supplies to four different buildings spread out across the base, don't fret it because they are doing it so they can move into a new supply warehouse and mobility processing center someday.

The supply warehouse, Bldg. 611, built in 1953, will be completely empty today so it can be torn down to make room for a modern, \$9 million, 112,000 square-foot warehouse.

The 250 people from the 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron have set up shop in four different facilities. Bldg. 532 will house the 437<sup>th</sup> and 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing mobility functions, Defense Reutilization Marketing Office turn-in area and bulk storage. The squadron commander and his administrative support functions, such as customer service, have moved into Bldg. 302. Additional bulk storage will be in Bldg. 579. A few folks will set up the supply receiving functions in buildings 178, with the rest going to T80 (on the flightline). After vacating Bldg. 302, the 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron moved into the old life support facility, Bldg. 241 and the old dining hall, Bldg. 250. After some renovations, the entire 1 CTCS will eventually move to Bldg. 241.

The new warehouse will include a mobility processing center with a centralized staging area, including space for personnel processing, mobility bag storage and a weapons vault. It will also feature adminis-

trative areas and more functional warehouse area. The supply squadron hopes to get a flightline storage area for C-17 parts funded in FY 2004, to forward locate their parts to reduce delivery times.

Gen. Charles "Tony" Robertson, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and commander of Air Mobility Command, paid a visit to the old facility May 22 and helped begin the demolition process by swinging a sledgehammer and knocking some bricks out. He described the facility as needing replacement badly, and said it took a long time to get the money to replace it. He called Bldg. 611 "the ugly baby in the command."

The 437 SUPS began moving out of Bldg. 611 about three weeks ago.

"All the telephone numbers remained the same. The same with e-mail," said Capt. Jason Nulton, 437 SUPS Management and Systems Flight commander. "We're very happy with the temporary facilities and we're confident we can make it work. Among some of the challenges, moving the computer and local area networks will cause us some minor downtime." He added the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron and 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron have been working lots of long hours to get their temporary facilities up and operating.

Bldg. 611 is an old facility, suffering from a leaky roof, rotted support timbers and considered too dangerous to be inside when high winds are expected. "The new facility will be much nicer, and the best thing about it is that it won't be falling down," Nulton said. "We won't have to worry about any yellow (caution) tape, leaking roofs or falling debris."

Col. Rusty Findley, 437 AW commander, described Bldg. 611 as the worst facility he has seen in his Air Force career, and during the "demolition" ceremony with Robertson was thrilled that the facility would be finally replaced.

"At one point, we had received so many requests from supply to repair different items on the old warehouse that we just thought it was best to replace the facility," said



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith  
Senior Airmen Adam Davison and Jonathan Pogue, both of the 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron, move boxes from Bldg. 611 to wait out the construction of a new facility.

Vaughn Bussell, 437 CES chief of program development. "The initial request to replace the facility was submitted in December 1982, and it was inserted in the next available military construction cycle for funding in fiscal 1986." The project was finally funded in fiscal 2001.

Master Sgt. Debra Baczewski, NCOIC of consolidated customer service, Master Sgt. Troy Perry, NCOIC of storage and issue, and Nulton have led efforts to relocate the supply functions and have participated in a number of design reviews for the new facility along with the 437 AW Plans office, who will be in charge of the mobility sections in the new building.

"We originally thought that parts of the old building could be salvaged, but according to the civil engineers, it was more cost effective to simply demolish the entire building, except for the slab," said Baczewski. "We're fine with that. Although we're split up into four buildings instead of one, it is worth the inconvenience if it will get us into a nicer facility."

Another major advantage of the new facility is that it will serve as a "one-stop" mobility processing center. "Our deploying members can pickup mobbags (mobility bags), weapons, receive briefs, visit the doctor, etc., all in one convenient facility," said Wade Cheney, deputy director of wing plans. Cheney added that the mobility elements of the wing plans shop will relocate into the new facility as part of a larger headquarters realignment.

The design-build contract for the new facility was awarded to L.C. Gaskins Construction Company and VRL Architects in Jacksonville, Fla., and will be managed, as will all new or very large construction projects, by Southern Division Navy Facilities Engineering Command in North Charleston. Construction is slated to begin in July and will be completed in about a year, according to Tom Bone, 437 CES project manager.

"The contractors were given several options to consider in building the new facility and they chose to tear down the old building, but will build on top of portions of the old slab floor, which will save us some money in the long run," Bone said. "Since the new building is about 88,000 square feet smaller than the old building, some of the old floor slab will also be demolished."

Bone added that the existing Local Area Network hub now located in Bldg. 611 will be replaced with a small LAN hub building. This will avoid the expense of having to rerun all the cables.

The new facility will include landscaping and look similar, architecturally, to most of the newer brick and masonry buildings on base. The existing 450 parking spaces will be saved and approximately 30 percent of them will be repaved, according to Bone.

"This is a great opportunity for us and everyone is quite excited," said Maj. George Pierce, commander of the 437 SUPS. "We may be divided, but definitely not conquered."



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith  
Airman Edwin Pena, 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron, operates a forklift in the soon-to-be replaced supply warehouse, Bldg. 611.

# If it ain't broke, fix it anyway; good IDEAs net two CAFB sergeants \$10,000 each

**By Senior Airman  
Melanie Streeter**  
*437 AW Public Affairs*

Two staff sergeants, one from the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron and one from the 373<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron, Field Training Detachment 5, were recently awarded \$10,000 each for suggestions submitted to the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program.

Staff Sergeants Stephen Daggett, readiness technician, and Jason Hanks, C-17 propulsion instructor, found flaws in the way they were doing business in their respective career fields.

Daggett said his suggestion to consolidate readiness materials on a CD-ROM came to him when his unit deployed to Albania.

"We had to carry our own equipment. We ended up paying more for excess baggage than we did for our tickets,"

Daggett said.

Almost all of the publications, forms and checklists needed to perform the readiness job were already electronic, according to Daggett. "I was tired of having to download the publications every time and check for updates," he said. "I like to play around with the Web anyway, it just seemed logical to put all of this information on a disc and run it in a Web-based application."

Submitting the suggestion to the IDEA program wasn't Daggett's intention, he said. "Someone else told me I should submit it."

Daggett made copies of the program and passed the idea on to other bases. "Some of the other bases used it during IG (Inspector General) evaluations and got high marks for using it," Daggett said.

As for spending the money, Daggett said he plans to pay

off some bills. "I'll still have some left over after that," he said.

All told, Daggett's suggestion should save the Air Force \$87,602, according to the analysis submitted by Master Sgt. Samuel Love, Air Force-level IDEA program evaluator.

The program isn't used often enough, according to Daggett. "More people should use it for any idea they might have that could save money. Mine was a pretty straightforward idea, I just put it in there."

For Hanks, the opportunity for improvement was presented when United Airlines, the contract holder for off-wing repair of the F117-PW-100 engine used on the C-17, noticed a trend in damaged wiring harnesses. The contractor contacted Hanks.

"The number one corrective action taken by United on engine reverser assem-

blies was the core wiring harness," Hanks said.

"They asked me 'What are you guys doing to the harness?'" said Hanks. "The problem was, out on the line, maintainers only troubleshoot enough to find out what assembly is not working properly and replace it. We didn't realize the harness was being damaged until United brought it to our attention."

Hanks submitted a suggestion to add two steps to the C-17 Power Plant General job guide, which eliminated the damage to the harness.

By eliminating the damage to the wiring harness, Hanks' suggestion will save the government \$103,300 annually.

For Hanks, the IDEA program is an old friend. "I've lost track of how many I've submitted," Hanks said.

"The opportunity is there to fix problems through the IDEA program," Hanks said.

## Commanders Access Channel

The Commanders Access Channel, Channel 2, is a good source of need-to-know information for Charleston AFB personnel. The channel can be viewed through cable on any TV on base, including housing and the dorms. The channel is updated with information concerning disasters, exercises and other important information for the base population. The current schedule for the station is:

Team Charleston Mission Briefing-8 a.m., noon, 4 p.m., 8 p.m., midnight and 4 a.m.

Air Force News-9 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m., 9 p.m., 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

Hurricane Preparation-10 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., 10 p.m., 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.

Clemson University Magazine-7 a.m., 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m. and 3 a.m.

## Chapel schedule



### 107 Arthur Drive

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

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

#### Catholic Services

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

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

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

#### Protestant Services

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

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

**Buddhist:** Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405.

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

**Jewish:** Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2102.

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

## Movie schedule

### Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

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



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

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

#### **"Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles" – Paul Hogan**

The first movie took Mick to New York City and the second movie brought Mick and Sue back to the Outback. Now, in the third film, Mick and Sue are headed to Hollywood to investigate the mystery of a murder that leads to a movie studio. **(PG) 95 minutes**

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

#### **"Along Came a Spider" – Morgan Freeman**

A congressman's daughter, under Secret Service protection, is kidnapped from a private school by an insider who calls Detective Alex Cross, sucking him into the case. **(R) 103 minutes**

### June 8, 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Joe Dirt" – David Spade**

Joe Dirt hits the road to find the parents that he lost, or lost him. His wandering, misguided search takes him from one hilarious misadventure to another. Through triumph and adversity, Joe Dirt plows on to unearth the mystery of his family's disappearance with startling results. **(PG-13) 91 minutes**

### June 9, 2 and 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Spy Kids" – Antonio Banderas**

## Fitness & Sports

### Sports line

**Bowling:** Starlifter Lanes is hosting an Air Force Bowling Tournament today, noon-4 p.m. The tournament will be limited to 12, four-person teams. The cost, \$50 per team, includes three games and shoe rental. The money raised will go to offset the cost of the Air Force Ball. For more information, call Capt. Robert Whetzel at 963-2393.

**Mouth guards:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Dely Dental Clinic provides fitted athletic mouth guards for use during all contact sports. Mouth guards can prevent traumatic injuries such as fractured teeth, cut lips and dislodged or lost teeth. Call 963-6839 or 963-6842 to receive a mouth guard.

**No restriction:** Individuals on the Monitored Fitness Improvement Program are now allowed to utilize the base fitness center for exercising and are not restricted to the Health and Wellness Center. The fitness center hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 5 a.m.-11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m.; and holidays, noon-6 p.m. For more information, call 963-4007.

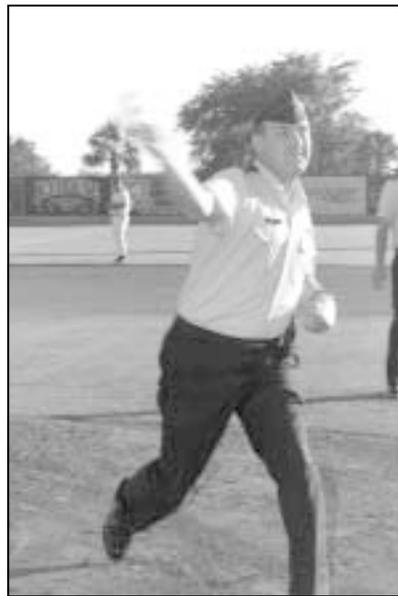
## Charleston Riverdogs host Military Night

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones  
437 AW Public Affairs

The Charleston Riverdogs baseball club hosted Military Night May 23 for Lowcountry men and women in uniform.

Free tickets, courtesy of GEICO, were given to members of the Armed Forces. Col. Rusty Findley, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

commander, and Col. Norman Moore, 315<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander, threw out ceremonial first pitches along with commanders from the Naval Weapons Station. A C-17 Globemaster III, flown by the 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, performed a flyover following the national anthem played by the Marine Corps Band, Parris Island, S.C. Findley and



(Photos by Master Sgt. Charlie Hall.)

(Left) Col. Norman Moore, 315<sup>th</sup> Support Group commander throws out the first pitch. (Above) A Charleston AFB C-17 flies in during the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Maj. Mike Pierce, 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron commander, battled it out for the Sumo wrestling crown during between-inning festivities. Findley was declared the winner.

It was a beautiful night for baseball as the Riverdogs took on the Lakewood Blueclaws from New Jersey in front of more than 4,800 fans. The Riverdogs lost the game, 16-5.

## WWGA holds ladies' club championship tournament

By Cindy Mackey  
WWGA president

The Wrenwoods Women's Golf Association held its first ladies' club championship golf tournament May 23-24 at Wrenwoods Golf Course.

The tournament ended with an awards luncheon. Prizes were given out for the tournament and top performers for the year.

Sue Green won the title, Ladies' Club Champion 2001, with a score of 89 and 90 for both days. Low net honors go to Bea Marsh (60/70); Kathryn Pointer (70/70); and Mary Ann McDonald (70/74). Betty Erbe and Evalene Guindon won the closest to the pin contest, and Virginia Parker and Barbara Karns won the most accurate drive prizes for the two-day event.

Green also won low putts for the year with a 1.67 average for putts. Cindy Mackey won the Ace award with an 85 average.

The WWGA meets every Wednesday morning for fun, exercise and practice improving golf scores. It's not too late to join and still receive a handicap. New players are always welcome. For more information, call Barbara Karns at 873-0549 or the Wrenwoods Pro Shop at 963-4177.



Photo by Barbara Karns

Sue Green walks toward the green during the Wrenwoods Women's Golf Association tournament May 23-24.



Photo by Larry McTighe

### Driving Force

Elliott Sadler, NASCAR driver, completes a qualifying lap at the Lowe's Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C., in preparation for the Coca Cola 600 Sunday. The Wood Brothers Racing #21 Ford Taurus that Sadler drives displayed a special Air Force paint scheme for the race. Sadler finished in 19<sup>th</sup> place.