

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Vol. 40, No. 8

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

Friday, March 2, 2001



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

## It's almost dinner time

Capt. Timothy Sites, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron flight commander, gives a tour of the new dining facility. Magnolia Place will close March 19, and the new facility will open during the week of March 26. Meal card holders will have to find an alternate place to eat during that period. They will not receive BAS until their April 1 paychecks, so they are reminded to save enough money to purchase food during that time.

## Lamb's kids play safe thanks to base

By Senior Airman  
Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

The children at Lamb's Elementary School can play on new playground equipment thanks to the efforts and labor of Team Charleston volunteers and the Lamb's Elementary Parent and Teacher Association.

Lisa Easdale, wife of Tech. Sgt. Shannon Easdale, 373<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron, Detachment 5, noticed playground equipment had been removed from an area in base housing because it was not compliant with current safety codes.

At the same time, Lamb's Elementary School was in need of playground equipment for use by its 250 first, second, and third grade students. The playground at the school had been removed earlier in 2000 because it didn't meet set safety codes, and was so far from the standard that it couldn't be overhauled to meet the codes, said Ruth Cohen, principal of Lamb's Elementary.

"The children had nothing to play on," Cohen said. "The PTA and other organizations had started a fund, but it had only about \$4,000 in it. We knew that wouldn't even buy one piece of equipment, not

even one slide or swing set. The state used to match funds by 60 percent, but it doesn't do that any more. We needed a large set and knew the cost would run too much beyond our means."

Members of the PTA contacted S.W. Day, the contract company that removed the equipment from the base. The PTA asked the company what it was going to do with the equipment, according to Tech. Sgt. Dean Jeavons, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron and PTA vice president. A company representative told the PTA they could have the equipment but that it also was not compliant with safety codes.

The PTA contacted Mosteller Construction Company. Jim Mosteller, owner of the company, is a nationally certified playground inspector and installs playground equipment, said Capt. William Reynolds, health promotion flight commander at the Health and Wellness Center and PTA president. Mosteller offered to supervise installation, provide the labor required to get the equipment to meet current safety codes and all of the tools needed to install the playground.

See **Playground**, page 3

## Logistics Group Training Flight gives first professionalism award

By Senior Airman  
Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group Training Flight presented the first Dale Bannister Professionalism Award to Staff Sgt. Michael Kretser Feb. 23.

Tech. Sgt. Dale Bannister taught in the maintenance arena for many years, said Tech. Sgt. William Harmon, 437 LGTF. "He was a great instructor and top notch NCO. He had an effect on every student he taught and ran

the instructor pool for some time before he died. He was very professional in everything he did."

Bannister died following a sudden illness in January 2000. He was 34.

The NCOICs of the four elements of LGTF got together and hashed out criteria for the award, said Tech. Sgt. Brendan Ryan, acting first sergeant for the 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron.

"We didn't want it to be an instructor award, but rather an award for anyone in the flight," Ryan said.

The NCOICs decided the award would be given to a person in the flight each year who showed the degree of professionalism and commitment to the training flight that Bannister had shown during his career.

"We've been wanting to have an award like this for awhile. We decided by naming it after Dale, people who work here ten years from now will know who Dale was and what he did," Ryan said.

According to Ryan, Kretser demonstrated vast knowledge of LGTF

processes and procedures and is an unmatched expert in his field. He displays a high level of integrity and professionalism.

"Dale didn't get to leave here on his own terms," Ryan said. "So to us, he's still here. He'll always be a part of the training flight."

The names of each year's award recipients are displayed on a plaque bearing a portrait of Bannister. They are also currently looking into having Bldg. 112 renamed in honor of Bannister.

## IN THE NEWS

## Just one fix; Ecstasy users keep 'rolling' in Charleston area

By Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

Many Christians believe hell is not a fiery pit in the abyss, but rather knowing God and then dealing with the total absence of him. Similarly, some ecstasy users are in their own hell because they've known a sense of euphoria so great, that it can never be achieved again.

Ecstasy, MDMA, Adam, XTC, XorE, as it's also known, is actually a homemade methylenedioxymethamphetamine, according to the Scientific American Website. This club drug has become increasingly popular at nightclubs and more prominently, raves.

"A rave was traditionally a place for hundreds of people to gather and dance," said Special Agent Kevin James, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Detachment 310. "Now, groups of people get together, rent a warehouse for the weekend and charge \$25 per head to get in. They hire a DJ to spin records, and they know that people are selling E and heroin and whatever else, but that keeps people coming and puts money in their pockets.

"They don't serve beer or alcohol there," he continued. "Then they can let kids of all ages come in. Raves aren't just a problem in L.A. and Chicago. There are lots of raves right here in Charleston."

Ecstasy comes in the form of a pill about the size of an Aspirin, according to James. Usually it has a picture of a flower, bunny or something amiable on it. In the Charleston area, one pill costs about \$30.

"The strength and cost depends on where it was manufactured," said James. "A lot of it found here comes from Canada and the Northeast. Local narcotics and police officers know about raves, but there's nothing illegal about going to a party to dance."

A person feels a great sense of well-being while "rolling," according to Catherine Hallett, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment manager and certified alcohol and drug abuse

counselor.

"When someone is rolling, they don't lose their sense of reality, but their emotions are overblown," said Hallett. "Any kind of touching feels like it never has before. That's why you see people on XTC hugging and touching people they normally wouldn't. All their senses are heightened to a level we haven't seen from any other drug."

Some people have used so much E they have been seen rolling around on the ground and drooling on themselves in what looks like a seizure. Rave goers have nicknamed them "E-tards."

While the initial effects of ecstasy are normally extremely pleasurable, Deborah Wheeler, 437MDG Demand Reduction Program manager, warns that "crashing" is dangerous.

"You're so heightened by ecstasy, that when you come down, you come down real hard," said Wheeler. "Anxiety and depression set in quick. The real problem occurs when you roll again and don't reach that peak you had the first time you rolled."

A life change can easily take place after one use, according to Hallett.

"Since you feel better than you've ever felt before, there's a problem with looking forward to anything in life," said Hallett. "I can't imagine using a drug that made me feel more alive than some of my happiest moments."

Ecstasy gives its users such a pleasurable experience because it depletes the brain of serotonin, or the brain's "naturally released chemical when experiencing pleasure," according to Hallett. E uses up all the serotonin in the brain in a four- or six-hour roll, and then depletes it immediately.

"Without serotonin, life isn't so wonderful," said Hallett. "It takes the body about three or four days to rebuild its supply to a normal level. Even then, you don't feel near as good as you did while rolling. Ecstasy basically gives you an unrealistic high and then ruins your body's chemistry."

Because using E is never as good



Graphic by Senior Airmen Donald Church and Jason Smith

Ecstasy usually comes in the form of an Aspirin-size pill with pleasant pictures on it, according to Special Agent Kevin James, Air Force Office of Special Investigation, Detachment 310. The pills cost about \$30 here.

after the first time, users will often mix it with other drugs in an attempt to reach the peak they felt the first time, said Wheeler.

"People will mix ecstasy with alcohol or marijuana while they're rolling, searching for that first high feeling," said Wheeler. "Unfortunately for them, they do much more damage, and they still don't get that initial feeling."

Raves and Web communities have created a subculture of ecstasy users. Hallett said Web sites like [www.bluelight.nu](http://www.bluelight.nu) have been established claiming to be informational sites, but tend to promote the E culture. The site even includes a picture gallery of ecstasy users.

Since ecstasy is relatively new, other than psychological problems, the long-term physical effects are unknown. Short-term effects include muscle tension, nausea, blurred vision, faintness, chills, increased heart rate, confusion, depression and anxiety, according to Scientific America.

"Ecstasy doesn't have the number of people being rushed to emergency rooms that crack has, and people assume it's not as dangerous," said Hallett. "That's just not true. Many E users overheat because they don't feel like anything is wrong. On the other end of the spectrum, I've even heard a story about a man drowning himself because he felt thirsty and didn't realize that he drank too much water."

Schools surrounding Charleston AFB have seen an increase in ecstasy, according to James. He said there has been a growing trend in the number of students who attend raves.

"There used to be a rave every Wednesday or Thursday night in the local area," said James. "It's real

easy to tell mom and dad 'I'm going to Billy's house to spend the night,' and then go to a rave with your friends."

James said to date, no CAFB members have been caught with ecstasy, but that doesn't mean it's not being used here.

"Ecstasy is only in your system for a short period of time, so it's tough to catch someone during random urinalysis," said James. "As always, the Air Force has a zero-tolerance drug policy, and ecstasy is no exception."

Some of the tell-tale signs of ecstasy include people wearing surgeons' masks, using pacifiers, lollipops, candy or chewing on beads, according to James.

"Some users coat the inside of surgeons' masks with vapor rub," said James. "They say it intensifies the drug. Everyone chewing on candy or beaded necklaces isn't necessarily an ecstasy user; but when people use it, their mouths get very dry, and they use things to keep their saliva going. Those are just a couple things to look for."

Hallett also pointed out the use of a pacifier is two-fold. "Ecstasy users tend to tighten their jaws and then start grinding their teeth and the inside of their mouths," said Hallett. "Pacifiers can help prevent that."

OSI is always looking for help in the fight against ecstasy and all illegal substances. To anonymously report ecstasy use, or any crime, call the OSI hotline at 963-3248. James promised the hotline number does not have a caller ID system, and callers are not pressured into giving any information about themselves.

For more information about drugs and drug abuse, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Behavioral Sciences Flight at 963-6849.

### Little known facts about ecstasy use

- The use of ecstasy has more than doubled among high school age children over the last five years
- According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a survey of 7,290 students in grades seven through twelve showed 10 percent have tried ecstasy during the past year, compared with just seven percent the year before
- Symptoms have been reported to persist from one to fourteen days after taking ecstasy.
- In clinical tests with monkeys, exposure to ecstasy for four days caused brain damage that was evident six to seven years later.
- Ecstasy was originally introduced to allow for more productive psychotherapy sessions for mental patients

(Information courtesy of NIDA)

# Fire inspector wants to prevent disaster at Charleston AFB

By Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB recently experienced a house fire in base housing. While the cause of this fire is still under investigation, the CAFB fire department points out that kitchen fires are the most common type here.

"Remember, a fire can start in any home," said Robert Hoffman, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron fire inspector. "If you can say, 'it will never happen to me,' then you are the most likely to have a fire."

Everyone in a home needs to be educated about fire safety awareness, said Hoffman.

"Children are amazed by fire," Hoffman said. "They must be taught to respect fire and not play with it at any time. If older children cook, make sure they know how to prevent fires from happening and fully understand what to do in case of a fire."

The fire department offers the following tips to help prevent kitchen fires:

- Don't wear loose clothing while cooking; tie long hair back before leaning over the stove
- Don't leave items unattended while they are cooking; if you must leave the kitchen, turn the burner off
- Keep cooking areas clean and

grease free

- If a fire starts in a pan, cover it with a lid and turn off the heat

- Never put water on a grease/oil fire

- If a fire starts in the oven, leave it in the oven with the door closed and turn off the heat

- Have a fire extinguisher on hand and know how to use it

- Call the fire department immediately to report all fires, even if it's out; dial 911 to report any emergency

"We give demonstrations in October during Fire Prevention Week," said Hoffman. "If enough folks are interested, we will show a video and give a class anytime. We'll even let you use a fire extinguisher to put out a fire if you want."

Hoffman recommends that all homes have a fire extinguisher on hand, but he stresses the importance of letting the fire department handle any emergencies.

"If your house is on fire and you can't easily put it out with an extinguisher, leave immediately," Hoffman said. "Evacuate 75 feet from your home and don't re-enter under any circumstances. Call 911 immediately. It's our job to go in and get anyone still inside and we have the equipment to do it. It's better to know about one victim than not know about two."

For more information about fire safety, call 963-3121.



# Team Charleston shows C-17 in Australian International Airshow

A Charleston aircrew recently got the chance to go "down under" and show the capabilities and professionalism of the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing and the U.S. Air Force at the Australian International Airshow 2001, February 13-18, at the Avalon Airport.

Approximately 100 Air Force pilots, aircrew members and maintainers participated in the show, which boasted more than 700 static displays and welcomed almost 400,000 visitors during the six-day airshow.

While many would think a TDY to an airshow in Australia might be all play, the aircrew stayed busy by flying C-17 demonstrations and setting up a static display six days in a row, said Capt. Jeff Pierce, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron mission commander for this trip.

"The first three days were 'trade days' for people like the manufacturers, contractors and government officials," said Pierce. "About 30,000 people visited the airshow those first days. For the last three days we saw up to 120,000 per day."

"The crowd was real excited to see such a large plane that was so maneuverable and could take off and land in such a short distance," said Pierce. "We were the only large airplane open for display, with the exception of a 747 on display the final day. We were packed with people trying to set a good look through the C-17."

Pierce said the crew also got valuable training done during the mission. Four pilots were tested and qualified to fly the official C-17 dem-

onstrator. The loadmasters on the flight had the opportunity to load a SH-2G Superseasprite, a helicopter recently purchased by Australia, for the first time.

Capt. Robby Hanovich, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, took the time to spend a day with school children at Kardina International College, talking about the Air Force and the C-17.

"Like the United Kingdom and Canada, the Australians have shown an increasing interest in the C-17, and could be a customer," said Col. Glenn Mackey, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group deputy commander. "It's important for the folks here to know what part we, the C-17 community, can play in potential international sales or leases of the C-17."

Participation in the airshow demonstrated the United States' commitment to the Pacific Region and allowed an opportunity for Pacific forces to work together, said Maj. Brad Bingaman, assistant air attaché for Australia.

Other aircraft that joined the C-17 at the airshow included a B-1B Lancer from McConnell AFB, Kan., a KC-135 Stratotanker from Kadena AB, Japan, and two Kadena AB, Japan, F-15 Eagles that were flown by the Air Combat Command West Coast F-15 Demonstration Team.

Also included were two F-16 Fighting Falcons from Misawa AB, Japan, flown by the Pacific Air Forces F-16 Demonstration Team, and a B-52 Stratofortress from Barksdale AFB, La. (AFPN. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Beth Szucs, 437 AW Public Affairs contributed to this article.)

## Air Force says 'no' to civilian operators

Falling in line with a Department of Defense-wide directive, the Air Force has issued a moratorium on permitting civilian visitors to operate any item of military equipment when such operation could cause, or reasonably be perceived as causing, an increased safety risk.

The moratorium is in effect while the Air Force conducts a top-to-bottom review of its policy relative to civilian visitors operating military equipment. Until such time as the review is complete, civilian passengers aboard Air Force aircraft are prohibited from manipulating the controls of the aircraft.

This policy is effective regardless of how closely service members supervise the civilian visitors, said Air Force officials. Additionally, civilian visitors will not operate any Air Force equipment, such as small arms, shop equipment, aerospace

ground equipment, specialized vehicles and any other equipment that requires training to operate, unless they have been specifically trained in the operation of such equipment.

This does not mean civilian visitors can't ride aboard equipment, in concert with current Air Force instructions. It only means they can't operate it, said Air Force officials.

Civilian employees, contractor employees and other civilians who must operate Air Force equipment as part of their assigned duties are not considered civilian visitors and are not covered by this moratorium, officials said.

This restriction does not apply to nonappropriated fund equipment, such as go-carts, recreational vehicles, sailboats and motorboats, in use for recreational purposes by service members, civilian employees, retirees, their family members and other authorized patrons. (AFPN)

## Playground

continued from page 1

The construction dates were set for Feb. 15-17.

The PTA needed eight to ten volunteers every day to assist with construction. Letters were sent home to parents Feb. 1, and Jeavons sent an e-mail to the First Six Group requesting volunteers.

Over 30 people showed up to help out, 27 of them from the base. Because the PTA received so much help, the job that was slated for three days ended up taking only two to complete.

"Everybody was energetic, supportive and upbeat throughout the entire project," said Reynolds. "We were thrilled with the incredible support the entire community showed. We just can't say thank-you enough to the base people who took their time to help the children at Lambs."

The PTA also found it had enough volunteers to move the six gardens the school

uses for hands-on biology lessons to a new home. The old garden location is sched-

uled to be demolished during upcoming construction.

Brand new playground equipment would have cost the school around \$45,000 with labor costs bringing the total to \$50,000-60,000. With the help of volunteers and donation of the equipment, the playground cost \$4,900, Jeavons said.

"It's unbelievable, because there was no way we could do this on our own," Cohen said. "It's just amaz-

ing. The kids couldn't believe it. It was like an answer to our prayers."



Courtesy Photo

Volunteers and construction company personnel work to rebuild the school's playground. Of the 30 volunteers who showed up to help with the project, 27 were members of Team Charleston.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

Retirement ceremony: The 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron will be hosting a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Joe Hattayer today, 10 a.m., in the C-17 Nose Dock. There will also be a retirement dinner tonight, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Senior Airman Amy Buchanan at 963-2395.

Retirement ceremony: The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Safety Office is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Michael Higdon, Mar. 9, 10 a.m., at the base education center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Allison Bethea at 963-5597.

Retirement ceremony: The 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Willard Pretlow Jr., March 16, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Staff Sgt. James Tabourne at 963-3366 or Tech. Sgt. David Underwood at 963-3331.

## Around the base

School bus: School busses in Charleston County are not allowed to make right turns at red lights. Since Charleston County bus drivers pick up students on Charleston AFB, they are asking base personnel to excuse the inconvenience when exiting the base.

Trident: Trident Technical College is holding early enrollment for the summer semester Monday through April 17. Payment of tuition will be due before May 22. The term dates are May 23-Aug. 2. For more information, call 963-4581.

Spring semester: Class registration for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's spring term is now through March 19. Classes run March 19-May 19. Classes are open to everyone and are held at the base education office. For more information, call 767-8912.

Commissary: The Commissary is holding a case-lot sale Monday, 9

## Charleston Profile

Staff Sgt. Michael Dinkins  
437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group

Staff Sgt. Michael Dinkins is the assistant budget analyst for the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group. His job duties include managing TDYs, performing administrative functions for the IMPAC card program and keeping the clinic's budget in order.

"I didn't really know what I wanted to do, so I joined the Air Force," Dinkins said. "I found out it was my dream, I just didn't know it then."

The native of Sumter, S.C., was recently selected for the Medical Service Corps and a commission.

Medical Service Corps officers work in several areas, including plans and operations, managed care, human resource management, logistics management, patient administration, budgetary and fiscal management, medical manpower, medical facility management, biometrics, medical recruiting, and aeromedical evacuation. They direct the hospital accreditation program and management improvements studies.

To apply for the program, Dinkins had to earn his master's degree and score well on the Graduate Record Examination or the Graduate Management Admission Test.

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Roudebush announced Dinkins' selection during his visit here Feb. 16.

"Once I joined the Air Force, I knew I wanted to go to school," Dinkins said. "So once I knew the Air Force was for me, I decided becoming an officer would be my goal."

The competition for selection to the program is very tough, he said. In fact, he wasn't chosen the first time he applied, so he resubmitted his package in the last cycle and made the cut.

When not busy preparing for Officer Training School, Dinkins enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his wife, Anna, and 2-year-old daughter, Madison.



Photo by Senior Airman Melanie Streever

a.m.-5 p.m. Some of the items for sale include dog food, trash bags, batteries, meats and toiletries.

ECAMP: A Charleston AFB environmental team will be assessing the base March 5-9 as part of the Air Force Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program. The team will spend most of their time in the industrial shops on base, but everyone should pay close attention to their Hazardous Communication Program. The base is inspected every year, with an external team from Air Mobility Command performing the inspection every third year. CAFB will have an external inspection in 2002. The ECAMP team will be working from The Community Education Center, Room 125. For more information, call 963-2690.

Dining In meeting: The next meeting for the Enlisted Combat Dining In will be Wednesday, 3 p.m., in the wing conference room. The planning committee is still in need of volunteers. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. James Moody at 963-6009 or Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Lautenslager at 963-2610.

Baby steps: The Family Advocacy office is presenting a Baby Steps Workshop beginning Wednesday, 10-11:30 a.m., and running six consecutive Wednesdays. New parents and their babies are welcome. The group will hold relevant discussion about the development of babies. For more information call, 963-6972.

Education fair: The base education office is holding an Excellence Through Education Fair March 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the education office auditorium. Eight local college representatives will be present. There will be refreshments and prizes. For more information, call 963-4575.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group is holding a meeting March 15, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Heritage Trust Credit Union will address the group, and lunch will be provided. All chiefs are invited to attend.

SGLI: Military members will have the opportunity to increase their SGLI coverage to \$250,000 starting April 1. The monthly rate for the increased coverage will be \$20 per month.

## Family Support Center

Air: The Family Support Center now has a membership with Air Inc., for the convenience of those personnel deciding between separation and an Air Force career. Some of the resources available include the Airline Pilot Career Decisions Guide, Airline Application Handbook, Airline Fleet and Sim Directory and Pilot Resource Guide. Free Web access and counseling are also available. To access these resources, visit the FSC's Discovery Center in Bldg. 104. The center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information, call Linda Lankosz at 963-5187.

Pre-Deployment Briefings: Monday, March 12 and 26, 8 a.m. and Thursday, March 15, 22 and 29, 4 p.m.

Sponsorship Training: Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m. and March 20, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Stress Management: Wednesday, 1-3 p.m.

Financial Fitness: March 12, 2-4:30 p.m.

Educational Opportunities Assistance: March 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

TAP 3-Day: March 13-15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Employers Panel and Mini-Job Fair: March 15, 2-4:30 p.m.

Sip-n-Chat Chucky Cheese Trip: March 17, 6:30 p.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.

## Airlift Dispatch advertising, submission policy

Newsbriefs for the *Airlift Dispatch* should be submitted to the newspaper staff no later than noon, the Friday prior to the date in which individuals would like their submission to appear. Briefs are placed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Classified advertisements should be submitted directly through Island Publications and will not be processed through the *Airlift Dispatch* staff. See page 14 for instructions.

All other story submissions are welcome and encouraged, and will be considered based on content, newsworthiness and space available. The *Airlift Dispatch* staff maintains the right to edit all submissions as needed. Story ideas are also welcome. The staff is always interested in stories related to unit missions, extracurricular activities (i.e. sports, hobbies) and human interest.

For more information, call 963-5536.

## 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

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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 Memei

Editor  
Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Writer  
Senior Airman Donald Church

Photo Support  
Base Visual Information Center

## Commander's trophies presented to 437 MXS, 437 CES

By Col. Karl Young  
437 AW vice commander

It was my honor to present this year's wing commander's trophy Monday to the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron (large category) and 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron (small category). The commander's trophies are presented to those units that have consistently done well in nine intramural sports including flag football, basketball, softball, tennis, golf, racquetball, volleyball, bowling and soccer.

Participation in intramurals has been the key to winning. The squadrons that win often participate in all the sports and finish competitively. My congratulations to all who participated in the intramural sports program. They are a great way to stay in shape while enjoying the fun and competition of sports. Kudos to both squadrons for their winning ways!

Retired Gen. Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, the former commander of Air Education and Training Command, enjoyed his visit to the base and wants to come back again when he has more time. He thoroughly enjoyed the Black History Month closing banquet Feb. 23. He gave a great speech, and everyone enjoyed it.

We hosted a visit Monday and Tuesday by Seena Simon, a reporter from Air Force Times. The command sponsored her visit here and then to Dover AFB, Del., to learn more about Air Mobility Command, since she is designated as the "beat" reporter for the command. As a new reporter for Air Force Times, she was here to learn more about mobility and airlift. CAFB was the first airlift wing she has visited.

She was impressed with what she learned, and I'm

confident that we will see future articles about the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. Thanks to everyone who pitched in, on rather short notice, to make the visit a huge success. She flew back to Dover AFB on a 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing shuttle mission.

A special thanks to the chaplain staff for a wonderful prayer breakfast Tuesday in the Charleston Club. Our featured speaker was Chaplain (Col.) Cecil Richardson, Air Combat Command command chaplain. He was a truly inspirational speaker, and everyone seemed to enjoy his great sense of humor and powerful message about God. He spoke of three priorities that everyone should possess: right-thinking, right-living and right-praying. It was certainly a compelling message that kept everyone on the edge of their seats. Thanks again to Chaplain (Capt.) Richard Novotny, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing chaplain, and the entire chapel staff for a first-class event.

We hosted a visit by Dr. Jean D'Meza Leuner, a member of the Quality of Life Subcommittee on the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service Tuesday. Dr. Leuner lives in Mount Pleasant and works for the Medical University of South Carolina. This marked her first visit to CAFB.

DACOWITS was formed to assist and advise on policies and matters relating to women in the military. The committee also makes recommendations on quality of life matters that affect all military personnel.

Dr. Leuner attended a series of discussion groups with junior and senior enlisted and officer members. She also spent time touring many of the base's quality of life facilities, like the Hunley Park housing area, Child Development Center and Family Support Center. She was impressed with the base and thanked everyone for their hospitality. A special thanks to Capt. Meg Martin, 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, and the protocol staff for their efforts in making this a successful visit.

March 9 is our annual re-launch of the Honorary Commanders Program. This program pairs up one or two civic leaders with each squadron and group. The purpose of the program is to get more community involvement in the base, build public support for our mission and to truly make Charleston into an Air Force town. Each commander will be asked to invite his or her honorary commander out to their unit functions and allow this honorary commander to become one of their own. In addition, the base will host several events and tours to highlight the various groups while giving them a better appreciation of the Air Force.

Our goal is to make this a successful program where it benefits the host squadron/group and the respective civic leader. We want to keep the program as fun as possible without it becoming a burden on any particular squadron or group.

We had a meeting Wednesday with the union leadership and the base's senior leaders to discuss issues and get updates on the status of labor relations. This quarterly meeting is an outgrowth of our strategic plan to promote better communications between the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1869 and base management.

Royal Air Force Air Commodore Geoff Simpson, United Kingdom air attaché to the U.S. Air Force, visited CAFB Thursday to review the RAF exchange officer program. We have an excellent relationship with the RAF and enjoyed his visit.

We bid farewell to Chief Master Sgt. Joe Hattayer, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Support Squadron superintendent, who retires after more than 30 years of service. He served the Air Force from April 24, 1969, to April 1, 2001. The retirement ceremony is planned for today, 10 a.m., in the C-17 nosedock. Everyone is invited to attend. He and his wife, Jean, will be staying in the local area.

Col. Rusty Findley, 437 AW commander, returns to CAFB Saturday. He's really looking forward to getting back in the saddle and running the premier wing in the Air Force.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Dr. Jean Leuner from the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service visited Charleston AFB Tuesday. Leuner held multiple discussion groups at the Charleston Club.

## FEATURE

# Charleston crew flies for Black History Month

By Senior Airman Jason Smith  
437 AW Public Affairs

In honor of Black History Month, an all African-American crew carried out a local training mission Feb. 23.

The C-17 left Charleston AFB at 8 a.m., and returned around 2 p.m. The crew, Maj. Terry Hunter, 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, Maj. Keith Dulaney, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Adam Burks, 15 AS, and Staff Sgt. Kevin Simmons, 17 AS, flew to Pennsylvania, refueled with a KC-135 from the 171<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Coraopolis, Pa., and returned to CAFB.

While the flight served as a training mission, the crew said it meant a whole lot more to them.

"We used to have a mission like this every February," said Hunter. "I was stationed here in 1986 through 1989, and we took an all African-American crew to Africa on a C-141 every year. Although the mission may have been local, it meant a lot to us because it's the first time we've done it in a long time, and it's the first time an all African-American crew has flown a C-17."

According to Hunter, there are only three African-American pilots currently flying at CAFB. The chance to fly with three black pilots and a black loadmaster is a rare experience.

The Air Force Personnel Center lists a total of 230 black pilots. Four of them are women. Those numbers constitute two percent of all Air Force pilots.

"This may have been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Dulaney. "It's rare to have a black pilot, let alone a whole black crew."

The mission fit right in with Air Mobility Command's Year of Re-



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

**Staff Sgt. Kevin Simmons, 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, performs pre-flight checks.**

vention and Recruiting theme. Burks said the flight served as a tool to inspire current Air Force members as well as help recruit new members.

"Since I've been a kid, I've wanted to fly," said Burks. "I hope a flight like this served as motivation to all youth. I've always known that I wanted to be a pilot, but hopefully I can help inspire kids who don't know what they want to be, to think about a military career."

Hunter said he's been able to use his status as an African-American pilot for recruiting purposes in the past.

"I flew our plane to the Seymour-Johnson (AFB, N.C.) airshow last year, and you wouldn't believe the number of people who came up to me and said, 'did you fly this thing,'" said Hunter. "People just don't expect to see an African-American pilot. I always get people coming up to me on the plane and mistaking me for the loadmaster until they see my rank. I want to do my part for recruiting more minority pilots so we can move away from people being shocked by it."

The low number of minority

pilots could be a type of downward spiral, according to Dulaney.

"It's critical for society as a whole to see more minority pilots," said Dulaney. "This would not only increase exposure, but possibly spark an interest in aviation among more minority youth. If not, they might just start accepting that African-Americans can't be pilots because they don't see any. That's a perception we need to avoid if we ever expect to increase our numbers."

The Air Force has been full of opportunity, said Hunter. He has traveled to almost every continent, met some remarkable people and had a chance to give back to others. Dulaney echoed the same positive aspects of the Air Force.

"The total Air Force experience has been a blessing for me," said Dulaney. "The things I've gotten to do and the people I've had the opportunity to meet and work with have been great. To begin this assignment at CAFB with a historic flight with Terry (Hunter) before he PCSs adds to the many blessings I have received from the Lord, and



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

**First Lt. Adam Burks, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, performs an exterior check of the C-17 before his Feb. 23 flight.**

I'm thankful."

Burks said he also gained valuable insight from the flight.

"I'm happy I was part of this," Burks said. "I was able to learn from the wealth of knowledge aboard the aircraft."

Hunter, Dulaney and Burks all agreed the flight was a success and they hope to keep the tradition alive in the years to come.

"I'll be in Air Education and Training Command next year," said Hunter. "I'm going to pass the torch to Keith (Dulaney) on this mission. With a little earlier planning, maybe he'll be able to plan this mission outside the United States."



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church  
**Maj. Keith Dulaney, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, looks over an aircraft checklist.**



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

**Maj. Terry Hunter, 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, sits in the cockpit after a flight.**



MAGNOLIA PLACE DINING FACILITY

## On the Menu



### Today

**Lunch:** Cream of broccoli soup, barbecue chicken, yakisoba, fish, rice, potatoes, vegetable stir-fry, brussels sprouts, fried okra, brown gravy

**Dinner:** Sloppy joes, chicken a la king, steamed rice, tater tots, corn, carrots, cauliflower

### Saturday

**Lunch:** Tomato vegetable soup, baked ham, beef and broccoli, hot wings, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables, stewed tomatoes, brown gravy

**Dinner:** Grilled chicken breast, fried shrimp, baked potatoes, macaroni and cheese, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, cheese sauce, cocktail sauce

### Sunday

**Lunch:** Tomato vegetable soup, yankee pot roast, italian sausage, chicken, rice, potatoes, baked beans, asparagus, peppers and onions, gravy

**Dinner:** Roast turkey, liver with onions, peas and pepper rice, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower combo, wax beans, lima beans

### Monday

**Lunch:** Cream of broccoli soup, baked fish, baked chicken, beef stew,

rice pilaf, potatoes, green beans, carrots, peas, chicken gravy

**Dinner:** Roast pork, veal parmesan, egg noodles, mashed potatoes, fried okra, cauliflower, mixed vegetables

### Tuesday

**Lunch:** Tomato vegetable soup, pork steaks, chicken, lasagna, rice, potatoes o'brien, lima beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, cream gravy

**Dinner:** Chili macaroni, chicken enchiladas, spanish rice, oven-brown potatoes, mexican corn, squash, bean combo

### Wednesday

**Lunch:** Cream of chicken soup, chicken, pork chops, meat loaf, potato wedges, rice, broccoli, succotash, beans, brown gravy, cheese sauce

**Dinner:** Roast beef, spaghetti, mashed potatoes, asparagus, corn-on-the-cob, cauliflower, garlic toast

### Thursday-Asian Meal

**Lunch:** Egg drop soup, sweet and sour pork, five-spice chicken, beef and broccoli stir-fry, fried rice, steamed rice, fried cabbage, tempura vegetables, vegetable stir-fry

**Dinner:** Barbecue chicken, meat loaf, rice pilaf, mashed potatoes, corn, carrots, green beans, brown gravy



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones

### Fly away

Members of Southside High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, Greenville, S.C., enjoy a recent orientation flight flown by the 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron. The students were also given a base tour.

# Fitness & Sports

## Sports line

Youth baseball: Youth baseball sign-ups are now in progress at the Youth Center, Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Teams are being formed for ages 5-17. Coaches are still needed for t-ball, coach-pitch baseball and softball. The last day for registration is March 16. For more information, call Youth Programs at 963-5684 or Denise John at 963-3132.

Golf tournament: The 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group is sponsoring a golf tournament March 16, 8:30 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. The format will be a four-person captain's choice with prizes for the longest drive, closest to the pin and top finishers. The \$15 tournament fee includes a barbecue with pork, coleslaw and beer or soda after the tournament. Green and cart fees also apply as follows:

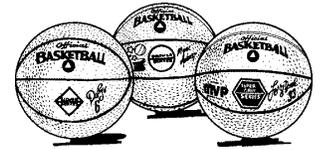
- E4 and below--\$9
- E-5 through 0-3--\$12
- 0-4 and above--\$13
- Cart rental--\$8

Sign up by calling the golf course at 963-4177 or Staff Sgt. William Bellerdine at 963-4091.

Golf tournament: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Support Group Golf Tournament will be held March 23 at Wrenwoods Golf Course. Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m., and the tournament starts at 8:30 a.m. The format for the tournament is captain's choice. The \$20 entry fee includes range balls, lunch and beverages. Green and cart fees also apply. Many prizes will be awarded including golf passes, dinners and golf equipment. For more information call H.P. Bordeaux at 963-5495 or Erik Sonnenberg at 963-3505.

Mouth guards: The 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Deily 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, gums or tongue; objects wedged between the teeth; and dislodged or lost teeth. Prevention is the key to good dental health. Contact the Deily Dental Clinic at 963-6839 or 963-6842 to receive a mouth guard.

## Charleston AFB 2001 intramural basketball standings



Team	Wins	Losses	Ties	PF	Avg.	PA	Avg.
<b>SUP1</b>	7	0	0	528	75.43	265	37.86
<b>SFS</b>	6	1	0	361	51.57	270	38.57
<b>MXS</b>	5	1	0	377	62.83	264	44
<b>AGS1</b>	5	1	0	319	53.17	306	51
<b>CES</b>	5	2	0	368	52.57	335	47.86
<b>MED GP/SVS</b>	4	2	0	325	54.17	314	52.33
<b>1 CTCS</b>	4	2	0	313	52.17	287	47.83
<b>OSS</b>	3	3	0	326	54.33	300	50
<b>FLYERS</b>	3	4	0	305	43.57	372	53.14
<b>CS</b>	2	5	0	386	55.14	406	58
<b>LGT</b>	1	5	0	324	54	402	67
<b>AGS2</b>	1	5	0	249	41.5	346	57.67
<b>APS1</b>	1	5	0	208	34.67	314	52.33
<b>SUP2</b>	1	6	0	266	38	383	54.71
<b>APS2</b>	0	6	0	208	34.67	299	49.83

## Hurricanes Outlast Red Dogs

Story and photos by  
**Master Sgt. Dan Murphy**  
*437 AW Public Affairs*

The top two teams in the 13-14-year-old Tri-County Youth Basketball League squared off in a thriller at the Globemaster Gym Feb. 23.

The shoot-out culminated with a double overtime win by the Hurricanes over the Red Dogs 52-51 in the last game of the regular season.

Both teams are made up of players from Charleston AFB.

The two teams entered the contest tied with one loss each. That loss had come at the hands of each other earlier in the season, which set the stage for the final meeting.

The Hurricanes sealed the victory by gaining possession from

a jump ball and scoring a lay-up to take the lead. The Red Dogs brought the ball down with five seconds remaining and missed the last shot of the game that could have won it for them.

Both teams are gearing up for the post-season tournament to be held at St. Andrews Recreation Center in West Ashley starting Saturday. If both teams continue winning they could meet again in the finals.

Four other teams participated during the regular season, two from Hanahan and two from the Naval Weapons Station.

The Youth Center had over 180 participants in basketball for the 2001 season. For more information on this and any other youth program contact the Youth Center at 963-5684.



(Above) The Red Dogs shoot a free throw to tie the score at the end of regulation play.

(Left) The Red Dogs (dark jersey's) attack the Hurricanes after they came away with the rebound.

