

DISPATCH



AIRLIFT



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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, August 23, 2002

Longer AEF deployments

By Airman Stephanie Hammer
437 AW Public Affairs

Some members of Charleston AFB, who are tasked to deploy soon, can expect AEF tour lengths to possibly extend beyond the standard 90-day rotations.

"Extended tour lengths for airmen deployed as part of the Air and Space Expeditionary Forces are a fact of life," said Lt. Gen. John Baker, Air Mobility Command vice commander in an AMC news release.

"The AEF construction was built to support steady-state deployments, such as Operations Northern and Southern Watch and short-term crisis," continued Baker in the release. "Our operations have now expanded to include Opera-

See AEF, page 17



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Swimming with danger

Staff Sgt. Brian Sharman, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician and one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen, dives with Sand Tiger sharks, among other exotic fish found off the coast of South Carolina, while honing his dive skills at the South Carolina Aquarium. Sharman is one of two EOD technicians in the Air Force who are Navy dive certified.

Honorary commanders enjoy C-17 ride, demo at North Auxiliary Airfield

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Forty-four Charleston community leaders got a firsthand look at the capabilities of the C-17 Globemaster III Aug. 16.

The civic leaders flew to North

Auxiliary Airfield on board two C-17s to observe an airdrop and C-17 capabilities demonstration.

For many, the trip was their first time in the airlifter. The group experienced an assault landing as the C-17 landed and stopped in about 1,500 feet. They also witnessed a low pass, touch-and-go landings and an aircraft backing demonstration from a safe distance on the tarmac at North Field.

The community leaders are members of the 437th Airlift Wing Honorary Commander Program, which matches them to each of the groups and squadrons. The honorary commanders participate in wing, group and squadron events and maintain contact with their respective active-

duty military commanders. The intent of the program is to increase community support and understanding of the base's mission.

Col. Brooks Bash, 437 AW commander, flew the civic leaders in one of the C-17s and commented at a luncheon immediately following the flight. Bash talked about the obvious benefits of showing Charleston AFB's mission to the community.

"I would like to express my appreciation to everyone for their participation in the honorary commander program," said Bash. "It is really important for you to learn what our young folks are doing in the Air Force to protect our country. Charleston has been at the forefront in the war on terrorism."

Sam Lyons, Bash's honorary commander, commented about the valu-

able role CAFB plays in the nation's defense, encouraged each honorary commander to stay active in the program and warned about a future round of base closures in 2005.

"We need you to spread the word around about the accomplishments of the men and women of CAFB," Lyons said. "Learn as much as you can from your commanders so that you can tell your friends and the people you go to church with what a great program we have out here."

Dean Reigel, with Atlantic Occupational Health Inc., and a 437th Communications Squadron honorary commander, was impressed with the overall arrangements.

"I really enjoyed myself," Reigel said. "It helps you to appreciate the efforts of our Air Force and the role our C-17s play in Afghanistan."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock, 1 CTCS
(Left to right) Henry Rittenberg, Bill Moody and James Cammons, all Charleston AFB honorary commanders, experience flight aboard a C-17 Globemaster III Aug. 16.

COMMENTARY

101 critical days to end; safety still No. 1

By COL. BROOKS BASH
437AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

I am looking forward to our Safety Awareness and Training Day on Aug. 30. The purpose of this day is to take a breather before a three-day weekend and to close out the 101 critical days of summer. Safety is my No. 1 priority. The day is also designed to focus on training issues as necessary. Please contact your unit safety representative for more details.

I have implemented a new program giving Team Charleston members an overview of my daily duties as wing commander. Every month, a group will nominate an airman to shadow me for the day. Airman Brandy Skooflas, 437th Security Forces Squadron, shadowed me Tuesday.

The program goal is to highlight some of the underlying decisions and meetings that shape wing policy. My hope is each airman will walk away with a better appreciation of how the wing is led and the thought process behind decisions that affect our airman's lives.

There is still time to play the Around the World in Ninety Days game promotion. We are doing great and have reached our goal of 3,600 people who have played at least two game

pieces. As a result, the base will receive \$5,000 to invest in community facilities and programs. Please continue to play ATWIND. If we finish in the top three, Charleston could receive larger awards. The ATWIND campaign ends midnight Aug. 31.

I appreciate everyone's participation in ATWIND. By participating in this promotion, you are directly supporting our top notch 437th Services Squadron, Family Support Center and Chapel programs.

Regular readers of the Airlift Dispatch may have noticed a new format this week. In addition to the new paper size, the paper stock is a slightly brighter making photographs stand out. The changes made follow current standards used in the print industry. I encourage you to share any comments or further suggestions of improvement with the Airlift Dispatch staff.

There are a couple of new leadership changes in the 315th Airlift Wing. Lt. Col. Lionel Trujillo assumed command of 300th Airlift Squadron from Col. John Hall. Hall was promoted to vice commander of the 315th Airlift Wing. Congratulations.

Diane Chancey is my new command section secretary. Her first day is Monday. We are fortunate to have someone with tremendous Air

Force experience. Many of you may remember Diane when she was a master sergeant working in the wing administration section. Please take time to welcome her on Monday.

I continue to visit many of the units on base. I recently visited the 437th Mission Support Squadron and enjoyed meeting the many dedicated professionals in Airman Leadership School, Family Support Center, Military and Civilian Personnel Flights, and the Community Education Center.

I also visited the 437th Maintenance Squadron a couple of weeks ago to view firsthand their outstanding efforts in the Fabrication Flight. I will visit many more units in the upcoming months. Stay safe and have a great weekend.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements
Airman Brandy Skooflas, 437th Security Forces Squadron, shadows Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander.

Action line caller concerned about speeding in MFH

Q: I worked last year with people in the 437th Civil Engineering Squadron about my concerns with speeding in Hunley Park and the plausibility of installing speed bumps. I was told this would impede responding emergency vehicles. At that time, I also asked about the installation of "Children at Play" signs and speed limit signs in the new area of Hunley Park. That was last year, and at this time, there aren't any signs installed in the

new area. The reason I am again addressing this problem is that I consistently see people speeding through the neighborhood. This is a problem that needs fixed.

A: As you are aware, the Base Traffic Engineering Working Group carefully considered your concerns with speeding in Hunley Park and determined that speed bumps would impede responding emergency vehicles. With construction occur-



ring in the Hunley Park area where you live, the 20 mph speed limit sign at the entrance to your section was inadvertently removed, but replaced Aug. 14. With respect to "Children at Play" signs, they are located where there are visual- or hearing-impaired children residing. The 437th Security Forces Squadron is aware of the speeding problem and is working the issue.

Indeed, during the month of July our security forces ran speed checks

in Hunley Park 23 times, and they will continue to do so in the future. They are also spreading the word at specific meetings, such as Commander's Call and Town Hall, to ensure base personnel are aware speeding will not be tolerated. The 437th Airlift Wing Safety Office has also agreed to outline the problem on their web site. Safety is my number one priority, especially for our children. Thank you for your interest and concern.

*-- Col. Brooks Bash
437AW commander*

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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IN THE NEWS

437 Medical Group briefs warrior spirit at Base Theater Aug. 15

STORY AND PHOTO BY
AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AMY PERRY
 437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The word of the day at the Year of the Warrior Spirit briefing, hosted by the 437th Medical Group, Aug. 15 was EMEDS, or expeditionary aerospace medics.

Tech. Sgt. Isiah Walker, 437th Medical Support Squadron Pharmacy technician and the first briefer, introduced the role of medics throughout the world.

Walker said when people hear the word "medic," many images come to mind, such as disaster response and assistance, and wartime medical care. However, medics do much more than that.

"Our ability to provide care to you and your family contributes to your readiness," said Walker. "One

can not put a price on one's life. The bottom line is our care for you and your family, in peacetime or in war, is what makes us the world's greatest Air Force."

When Walker left the stage, he turned it over to a series of speakers who are involved with EMEDS in some way.

Lt. Col. Scott Norris, 437th Medical Group flight surgeon, explained what the global reach lay-down does once it arrives at a base.

"The GRL team members are a flight surgeon, independent medical technician, bioenvironmental officer or technician, and public health technician," said Norris. "A GRL provides basic and preventative care, safe food and water supply, and ensures a safe working and living environment."

Staff Sgt. Elsie Graham,

437 MDG medical technician, was with Morris, deployed as an independent duty medical technician. She explained how the GRL team set up the water purification and linked it to the dining facility.

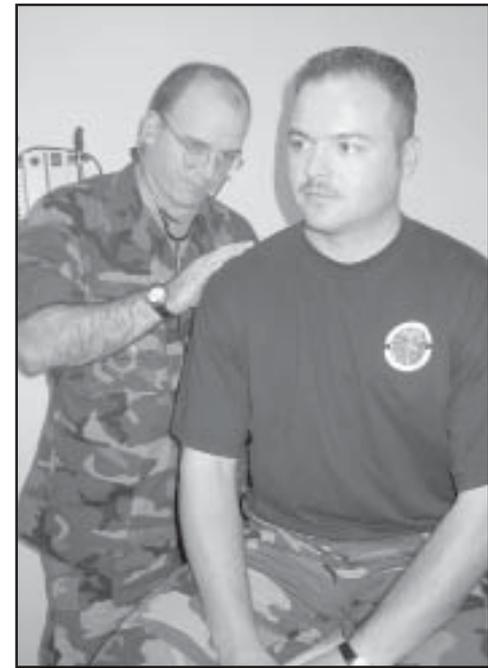
The last person in a GRL is a public health technician. While deployed, they use medical intelligence to learn about that particular country's diseases and keeps airmen safe from them if possible, said Staff Sgt. Scott Archer, 437 ADOS Public Health technician. Public health also gives a medical intelligence briefing to make people aware of the environment they are going to.

The 437 MDG medics are not just the medics down the street, said Col. John Hill, 437 MDG commander.

"We're the medics who

help you deploy," Hill said. "We (go on the) expeditionary missions to provide care. We're the EMEDS that do air evacuations."

Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, ended the briefing by giving out gold YOWS coins for accomplishments during deployments. Senior Airman Troy Barber, 437th Logistics Group; Tech. Sgt. Paul Harris, 437 LG; Airman 1st Class Quintino Zaccardelli, 437 MDG; and Staff Sgt. Scott Archer, 437 MDG; all received coins.



Lt. Col. Scott Norris, 437th Medical Group flight surgeon, checks the lungs of Staff Sgt. Monti Cutlip, 437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron technician. Norris was one of the briefers at a recent Year of the Warrior Spirit warrior briefing.

Personal finance big Air Force issue, says FMP manager

Government cancels travel cards, reviews policies because of misuse and fraud

By **STAFF SGT. JASON SMITH**
 437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Charleston AFB members can find themselves in serious trouble if not careful about financial responsibility.

Depending on the magnitude of the incident and the financial responsibility after all efforts have been exhausted to rehabilitate them, an individual can receive anything from verbal counseling to a court-martial and discharge, according to Barbara Lang, Family Support Center personal financial management program manager.

"Being financially responsible takes more than just one single act or event, it takes a series of events to occur," said Lang. "If an individual is able to meet their financial obligations, like paying debts when due, and at the same time, secure their financial future, including things like saving for future purchases and emergencies as well as saving for their retirement, then I'd

consider them financially responsible."

Some examples of financial irresponsibility include bouncing checks, using credit cards for every day living expenses, not providing financial support for a dependent and not saving, said Lang. She said the Air Force takes bouncing checks seriously, not just because it portrays a negative image, but more importantly, because it's irresponsible.

"When a member manages their account, yet writes a check knowing there are no funds available, it is considered stealing," said Lang. "However, if you take into consideration that bouncing checks is financially irresponsible and financial irresponsibility causes stress, it makes sense.

"Stress, whether caused at home or work, negatively affects a worker's performance," Lang continued. "Due to the nature of our profession, it would stand to reason that the Air Force would take

great strides to prevent this occurrence."

One area of financial irresponsibility has negatively affected the Department of Defense enough to make officials take corrective action.

The DOD has recently canceled 100,000 expired government travel cards, and 300,000 are under review for cancellation, according to a DOD press release.

In the release, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said a review of the cards was ordered because of reports of misuse and fraud.

Undersecretary of Defense Dov S. Zakheim, DOD comptroller and chief financial officer, issued guidance in July directing the immediate cancellation of all cards that have not been used in the past year, or where the date on the card has expired.

DOD policy alone can't create financial responsibility. Lang said CAFB uses the First Term Airmen Center as a foundation for teaching

new enlisted members about the importance of financial responsibility.

"CAFB is proud to be one of the leading examples in the Air Force for teaching personal finances to its first term airmen," said Lang. "From reading a leave and earning statement to buying a car, the Personal Financial Management Program provides FTAC students 12 hours of basic financial education, giving them the foundation they need to improve their finances and remain financially responsible."

A good starting point for any Team Charleston member wanting financial guidance is the Family Support Center, according to Lang.

"For starters, my consults are free and the last thing an individual who is in financial trouble needs is to spend more money," said Lang. "If I can't help them, at least I can steer them in the right direction."

Lang can be reached at 963-5548.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Airlift Wing Command Post is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. William Chalifoux Aug. 30, 12:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Theodis Pickett at 963-2331.

Around the base

Blood drive: Charleston AFB is hosting a blood drive Monday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Community Education Center auditorium. For more information, call 963-4678.

Luncheon: A Women's Equality Day Luncheon is scheduled for Monday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. The cost is \$9 for members and \$11 for non-members. For more information, call 963-6757 or 963-6959.

Smoking: The Health and Wellness Center is offering a tobacco cessation class starting Tuesday, noon, at the Health and Fitness Center. The class will meet one hour per week. For more in-

formation, call 963-4007.

Life changes: The Family Support Center is sponsoring a Getting Unstuck and Making Life Changes seminar, Aug. 28, noon-1:30 p.m., at the FSC. For more information, call 963-6853.

Commissary: The Commissary will be open Sept. 3, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., in lieu of the Labor Day holiday.

NAHC: The Native American Heritage Committee is scheduled to meet Sept. 3, 11:30 a.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call 963-6418.

Steak: The Charleston AFB first sergeants are holding a steak lunch Sept. 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the base picnic area. The \$5 meal will include a rib eye, baked potato, corn and a roll. For tickets, contact a first sergeant.

Stepfamilies: The Family Advocacy Program is offering a five-session Strengthening Your Stepfamily class beginning Sept. 16. For more

information, call 963-6504.

Parent-Child: Charleston AFB Youth Programs is looking for a new volunteer program coordinator of the Parent-Child Play Group which meets Wednesday mornings 9:30-11 a.m. The group is open to all children from 6 months-4 years of age. For more information, call 963-5684.

Stray animals: Residents and employees of Charleston AFB should not feed any stray animal, including cats, or interfere with the humane capture of these animals. If a stray is spotted on base, call the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron at 963-5027 or 963-2392. The ani-

Air Force Ball

The 437th and 315th Airlift Wing commanders are scheduled to host the Air Force Ball 2002 Sept. 7, 6 p.m., at the North Charleston Convention Center. For \$25, attendees will have the opportunity to experience a night of dinner and dancing. For ticket information call Kathy Knichel, 963-5644, or Capt. William Reynolds, 963-6173.

mal will be picked up and handed over to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Trespass: The base firing ranges, located adjacent to the Rivers Avenue Gate, are a "no trespassing area." Due to weapons training conducted daily, including weekends, the ranges are off limits unless a valid need for entry has been authorized.

Guests: The 437th Security Forces Squadron can only accept guest lists five days prior to required entry onto the base. All lists must be alphabetized by last name and brought to Bldg. 254. For more information, call 963-3626.

Embry-Riddle: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, located in the Community Education Center, offers Bachelor of Science degrees in different programs of study. For more information, call 767-8912.

Volunteers: Beech Hill Elementary School is looking for volunteers to help paint a media center. For more information, call Mary Tyler at 821-3970.

Volunteers: Windsor Hill Elementary School is both looking for volunteers to mentor students. For more information, call Daisy Parker at 760-9820.

Family Support Center

Pre-deployment Briefing: Daily, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Resume II: Tuesday, 9-10:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Smooth Move: Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Marriage Enrichment II: Thursday, 6-8 p.m.

All classes are held at the Family Support Center unless otherwise noted. For more information, or to sign up for a class, call 963-4406.

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

Senior Airman Stacy Pearsall
1st Combat Camera Squadron

Senior Airman Stacy Pearsall is a ground combat photographer in the 1st Combat Camera Squadron here.

"Our big tasking is to go out and document real-world operations and exercises," said Pearsall. "We take real-time photos and documentation."

Pearsall said she hopes "to get dirty" by deploying soon. "I love the mission," Pearsall said. "I love getting out there and being deployed. I love being part of the bigger picture."

Other than her love for the dirt and grime that goes along with deployment, she said she enjoys the sterile environment at the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran's Affairs Hospital.

"I love volunteering," said Pearsall. "I'm working on a program now with disabled veterans. I just play bingo or cards. It's good to let them know they're not forgotten."

Pearsall recently found out she will be promoted to staff sergeant after testing only once.

"It was a huge relief," said Pearsall. "I don't know if anyone is really sure they made it, no matter how confident they are."

Pearsall said she works with a really talented group of people, and that makes her job much easier.

"We have a tight camaraderie here," Pearsall said. "I like that about this job."

NEWS

'Lightning strikes ... and the thunder rolls:' Lightning hits the ground more than 100 times every second

By JENNIFER TURNER
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

At any given point during the day, there are more than 2,000 thunderstorms occurring on Earth, producing more than 100 ground lightning strikes per second.

According to the NASA space science Web site, lightning strikes can cause internal hemorrhaging, cardiac dysfunction, loss of consciousness, comas, paralysis and much more in humans. Clothing and shoes on a lightning strike victim are normally torn off, shredded and singed if they aren't exploded off the body.

The US falls victim to 15-20 million ground strikes a year. Florida, merely hours away, has the most strikes, more than 12 strikes per square kilometer per year in some places.

Staff Sgt. Bart Craven, 437th Airlift Wing Safety Office, said Charleston AFB is not safe from lightning strikes.

"No one on base has been struck by lightning in recent years, but equipment, aircraft and holes on the flightline have been struck," said Craven. "Lightning issues on base are not that different from the rest of the Charleston area, but in general, lightning occurrences have gotten worse over the years, possibly because of changing climates."

According to the National Lightning Safety Institute Web site, eight

Lightning facts

- Lightning strikes kill around 80 Americans per year
- Go inside a building after spotting dark clouds or hearing a lightning strike warning
- If outside during a strike, get into

a car or crouch on the ground away from trees, tall objects and water

- Remove all metal from the body during a storm
- Do not use electrical devices
- Warning of potential lightning strikes on base can be found through the crash phone, weather channel, and base public address system

out of 10 people survive lightning strikes, but 25 percent of the survivors suffer long-term psychological or physiological trauma.

According to the NASA Web site, few people are immediately struck dead by lightning strikes. However, once the victim seeks medical attention, it is likely their doctor will not fully understand how to treat the injuries caused by keraunopathy, or the pathology of lightning.

According to the NASA site, "Most doctors are familiar with electrical shocks, such as those received by industrial workers when they have an accidental run-in with high-voltage equipment. But lightning injuries are not the same as electrical shocks. For one thing, the contact voltage of a typical industrial electric shock is 20-30 kilovolts, while a lightning strike delivers about 300 kilovolts."

Craven said 300,000 volts is enough to blow a person's finger, leg, arm or head off. However, most people experience ventricular fi-

brillation, where the heart ceases to function as a pump and ventricular contraction becomes irregular, or multi-system failure.

"A person's overall resistance to electrical shock and the lightning bolt's voltage help determine if the person is killed when struck by lightning," Craven said.

Awareness is key when it comes to lightning safety, said Craven.

"We have several warning procedures on base, such as the base crash phone, the weather channel and the public address system," Craven said. "There are also lightning warnings that come from base operations through the crash phone."

Other than awareness, Team Charleston members need to know basic safety procedures to stay unharmed, said Craven.

"To be protected, go into a building and move to the heart of the facility," said Craven. "Metal sheds and hangovers are not safe during a lightning storm. However, a person is well-protected in a car.

"People who have no way to get to an indoor shelter should crouch down on the ground, curl up and become as small as possible," continued Craven.

Craven warns golfers to get off the course and put away their clubs if lightning warnings have been issued. Many people are struck by lightning on golf courses.

Once inside, Craven warns people to be cautious using electrical devices.

"Don't talk on the phone during a lightning strike," said Craven. "The lightning can hit the building or telephone line outside and travel through to the telephone inside. People should also avoid water during lightning strikes because it is a good conductor of electricity."

CAFB has several preventive measures implemented to decrease lightning strikes, said Craven.

"Buildings have lightning protection systems that distribute electrical currents evenly throughout the building to ground the current," said Craven. "On the flightline, the aircraft are grounded and bonded to the ground. People can't work on the flightline if lightning comes within five miles."

Most importantly, Craven reminds people to recognize that lightning is a powerful source and should be avoided.

"Electricity does crazy things, and it will find a source base to the ground no matter what."

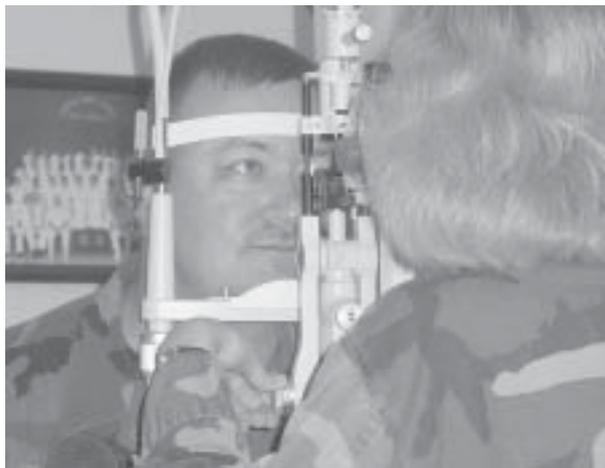


Photo by Airman Stephanie Hammer

Tech. Sgt. Tod Piper, 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 5, has his eyes looked at by Capt. Tina Luichinger, 437th Medical Group Optometry Clinic.

Optometry clinic looks at problems of computer vision syndrome

Computers have become indispensable at work and home for many Charleston AFB members.

Working with computer screens is a visually intensive activity that can create computer-vision syndrome.

Some of the complaints of CVS include headaches, eyestrain, blurry vision, double vision, and overall tired, burning, itchy and watery eyes. The American Optometric Association recommends a comprehensive eye exam every year or two.

To minimize some of the symptoms, try these tips:

- Screen brightness should match the general brightness of the room
- Dark characters on a light background are

best and the contrast should be high

■ Anti-glare screens work remarkably well; be sure to purchase one that has the American Optometric Association Seal of Acceptance

■ The top of the monitor should be slightly below eye level and about 20-26 inches away

■ Try to eliminate windows and other bright light sources from behind

■ Indirect lighting is best

■ Taking an occasional break is beneficial; eye strain can be eliminated by periodically looking at a distant object or closing the eyes

■ Keep eyes moistened; dry eyes can cause irritation

For more information, call the 437th Medical Group Optometry Clinic at 963-6855. **(Submitted by the 437 MDG Optometry Clinic.)**

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Reynaldo Ramon, 1 CTCS

The hook up

Prior to taking off, a pararescueman hooks up a radio from his gear to an intercom located inside the helicopter. The airman was getting his gear ready in preparation for a one-hour flight for a humanitarian search and rescue exercise Aug. 15, in Uzbekistan.

437 SFS airman claims Levitow

Senior airman Paul Barentine, 437th Security Forces Squadron earned the Sgt. John Levitow Award during Airman Leadership School Class 02-G.

The award was presented at a graduation ceremony Aug. 15 at the Charleston Club.

Staff Sgt. Eric Zilaitis, 14th Airlift Squadron, received the Academic Achievement Award.

Senior Airman Michael Bassford, 437th Airlift Wing, Senior Airman Jeffrey Kasch, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, and Senior Airman Charles Rash, 437th Supply Squadron, all received Distinguished Graduate Awards.

Senior Airman Jeremy Daley, Detachment 3, Headquarters Air Force Security Forces Center, Naval Consolidated Brig, earned the Leadership Award.

Graduates from the course also include the following Senior Airmen:

1st Combat Camera Squadron - Garrett Carlson and Donna Nipper

15th Airlif Squadron - Matt Schanz

17th Airlift Squadron - Joseph Ortiz

437 AGS - Erik Dobson, Ronald Lotson, Daniel Rose, Danny Stallings and Matthew Wheeler

437th Aerial Port Squadron - Denny Garrison, Billy Lucas, Sandra Steffers and Robert Ward

437 AW - Christopher Shelton

437th Civil Engineer Squadron - Clayton Barker, David Vanhorn and Michael Paul

437th Communications Squadron - Jamie Bivins and Angela Blair

437th Maintenance Squadron Squadron - Mike Balarillo, Eddie Busby, Kirk Hirschman, Renee Rivera, Darrill Rodgers

437th Operations Support Squadron - Adrienne Darling

437 SFS - Donald Greenhow II

437 SUPS - Andre Blake and Yakima Armstrong

437th Services Squadron - Latasha Capleton

437th Transportation Squadron - Jerry Price.

Day of Caring coming Sept. 11: Chapel looking for volunteers to help with local community improvement projects

By AIRMAN STEPHANIE HAMMER
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"On Sept. 11, our nation experienced a great shock as both civilian and military institutions were targeted for destruction," said Chaplain John Shipman, 437th Airlift Wing Protestant chaplain.

"Throughout this year, we have lived in a new world with hope that things would return to normal," continued Shipman. "As we draw close to the one-year anniversary, we, on Charleston AFB, are afforded an opportunity to show that we, too, were, and are, affected by the devastation and that we care about the future."

On the anniversary of the terrorist attacks, the city of Charleston has scheduled a Day of Caring.

"People in the Charleston com-

munity are caring enough to remember the past and use this opportunity to turn compassion into action, evil into good and bring hope from despair," said Shipman.

There are four areas in which members of the CAFB community can get involved; construction, landscaping, painting and mentoring, according to Airman 1st Class Erin Brock, 437th Airlift Wing chaplain administration.

"The whole idea is to get together to help the unfortunate parts of the community get what they need done, done," said Brock. "Most of the work will be done at local recreation centers, retirement homes, schools and shelters.

"CAFB members can pick one of the four areas they are interested in, and then I set them up with a project," continued Brock. "Most

of the projects won't need materials and supplies. We only need your person in order for you to participate."

Volunteers are encouraged to plan being gone for the whole day.

"A lot of tasks are nine-five jobs," said Brock. "It's an all-day thing that requires a lot of commitment."

The events of the day start off with a free breakfast at the North Charleston Performing Arts Center at 7:30 a.m. Afterward, the Tribute to September 11 Program will begin at 8 a.m., followed by a day of volunteering starting at 9 a.m. The day will end with the Remembering our Heroes Program at the North Charleston Performing Arts Center at 6 p.m.

According to Shipman, even if members of CAFB are unable to participate in events off base, the

chapel will be open from 8-11 a.m. for prayer, reflection and remembrance of those who were lost and those who continue to struggle.

"The chapel will be open to all personnel, and at 8:46 a.m., a unity candle will be lit as a reminder of what was lost and as a guide to the hope that still exists within our country," said Shipman.

The CAFB Chapel is the contact point for the base concerning these events.

"If you are interested in being a part of this significant event and vision, we invite you to volunteer," said Shipman.

Tickets are required for the remembrance programs and can be acquired by e-mail at www.tuw.org or calling 740-9000, said Shipman.

For more information, contact Brock at 963-2536.



Elliot Sartin, a heating, ventilation and air conditioning technician with the 437 CES MFH maintenance office, inspects an air conditioning unit in an MFH unit.

Right: Tonie McArdle, Williams Building Corp., cleans up a MFH unit after renovation crews finish, preparing the home for a new military family.



Kenny Hilton, Williams Building Corp., installs hardware for a sliding door during phase-three renovations to MFH units in Hunley Park.

Repairs, renovation

STORY AND PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AMY PERRY
437AW/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

With renovations starting on base and continuing in Hunley Park, the work of the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Military Family Housing Maintenance office is often overlooked.

Tradesmen, including carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning engineers, work constantly to make sure Team Charleston's MFH residents are at their comfort zone, said Ron Cooper, 437 CES MFH maintenance supervisor.

"We provide minor housing maintenance and repair for about 1,450 MFH units," said Cooper.

When a resident generates a work order, Cooper said, the MFH maintenance office puts the request into their computer. They then separate the requests into the four tradesmen areas.

Once a tradesman is available, Cooper said, they are sent out to complete the request. HVAC, electrical and plumbing work is normally completed on the spot or next day. Carpentry is usually put on a 30-day work order if needed, but the carpenters usually complete work within two weeks.

The MFH maintenance completes 10,000-12,000 work orders a year, said Cooper.

MFH maintenance has another task that is not submitted by residents. Once a resident vacates a MFH unit, the MFH office turns the keys over to maintenance.

"When members PCS or move out of MFH, the house is brought to us," said Cooper. "It's assigned to one of our tradesmen, who goes in and repairs everything under his section. Each trade goes through the house to fix anything that needs to be fixed. We fix about 650 vacated homes a year."

Cooper said they try to take care of the MFH families to the best of their ability.

"If a spouse needs help while the military member is deployed, we will gladly support them with things around their home," said Cooper.

Even with the four trades available to MFH maintenance, sometimes they need to seek outside help.

"If there's an issue out there that we consider substantially above minor maintenance and repair, we hire a contractor for it," said Cooper. "Sometimes, if it's within our IMPAC limits, we can use our IMPAC card to bring contractors in to fix small things in the MFH units."

Even with MFH maintenance continually working to satisfy its customers, occasionally there are



Ann Manross, Williams Building Corp., finishes touches on a renovation project.

IRE

Keep MFH in shape

problems with equipment they can't fix, Cooper said. Eighteen months ago, there were about 960 water source pumps installed to heat and cool the MFH units, said Cooper.

"We've had cooling issues with less than 2 percent of them," said Cooper. "As a result, we've had to replace 13 units, and put those units on potable water. The contractor came Monday to work on the units that didn't work correctly. Hopefully, the contractor fixed all of the problems."

Cooper said all of the air conditioners are designed to work at a maximum temperature, approximately 92 F.

"From the standpoint of 90-92 F, the units work great," said Cooper. "However, when you get the air conditioner working in excess of 10 degrees (higher than 90-92 F), it's hard to get the desired temperature."

Other than the day-to-day maintenance work in MFH, there are also major renovations occurring in Hunley Park and on base.

The Hunley Park projects involve renovating old Hunley Park houses," said Deborah Carlton, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron MFH manager. "We are completely gutting the houses out and renovating them to brand-new homes."

Phases one and two, involving the renovation of 18 MFH units, are complete, said Carlton.

Phase three is set to be completed in mid-September and a ribbon cutting is tentatively set for Sept. 29, 11 a.m.

Phase four and five are in the works and involves renovating 10 houses, said Carlton.

All houses are in the same condition of needing to be renovated," said Carlton. "Different houses, however, are scheduled for different phases."

When renovations occur, usually the residents of the houses set to be renovated first are moved into other homes on base.

"When moving the people around, we work with each individual family to try to place them as close to where they want to be as we can," said Carlton.

"There are always a few people who don't want to move from one older house to another older house, but we still have to follow our procedures."

Carlton said the MFH office has not forced anyone to move off base with the renovations going on, and they have always been able to accommodate the residents.

"You can do a contracted move, or a Do-It-Yourself-Move, and receive a partial dislocation allowance of \$500," said Carlton.

With more than 1,450 units, the MFH office and maintenance work around the clock to help make the base in Charleston as comfortable as possible.



ing Corp. puts the boards in a house in Hunley Park.



Ernest Whitted, a carpenter with the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Military Family Housing maintenance office, uses adhesive to repair wooden flooring that is buckling in a MFH unit. MFH maintenance is responsible for the maintenance and repair of more than 1,450 housing units at Charleston AFB, covering everything from plumbing to heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

Motorcycle tips from 437 Safety Office

Clothing

Motorcyclists should wear the following:

- Over-the-ankle boots with nonskid soles
- Jacket or long-sleeve shirt
- Long, sturdy pants
- Snug-fitting gloves that protect the entire hand
- Helmet with face shield or protective eye wear

The brighter the clothes motorcyclists wear, the better people can see them. Attaching reflective tape onto riding clothes makes it easier for drivers of other vehicles to see motorcyclists, especially when it gets dark. The better motorcyclists can be seen by others, the better the chance of avoiding an accident.

Helmets

The best way to prevent head injuries is to wear a helmet. Even though the best helmet can't guarantee complete immunity from injuries, a motorcyclist not wearing a helmet is five times more likely to sustain a critical head injury than a helmeted rider.

Defensive riding

Nearly two-thirds of all motorcycle acci-

dents are caused by a driver violating a rider's right-of-way. Usually, this is because the motorcyclist was not seen. To avoid this, motorcyclists should ride as if no one else can see them.

Tips to remember:

- Always ride with the headlights on; day and night
- Slow down at intersections and ride through carefully
- Watch for turning vehicles
- Stay out of a driver's blind spots
- Signal well in advance of any change in driving pattern
- Don't assume a driver sees everyone on the road, even if eye contact is made
- Use the horn when necessary

Motorcyclists should be careful when approaching another vehicle. It's hard for drivers in oncoming vehicles to accurately judge how fast a motorcycle is moving. That's why it's up to motorcyclists to make sure they can react safely if another driver suddenly turns or pulls out in front of them. Also, motorcyclists should make sure they have plenty of space between their motorcycle and the vehicles in front. **(Submitted by the 437 AW Safety Office.)**

AEF

Continued from page 1

tions Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle."

These new operations are expected to affect CAFB AEF rotations to a certain degree, according to Peter Kurth, 437th Airlift Wing installation deployment manager.

"Right now the tasking is for three months for most Charleston taskings," said Kurth. "However, with the change in world events, some personnel can expect to be gone 179 days."

According to Kurth, extended tour lengths began this year.

"Close to the beginning of the year, people started to remain longer than 90 days, but most did return after three months," said Kurth.

Some stressed career fields that might be hit the most with longer rotations include civil engineering, services and

the aerial port squadron, said Kurth.

"Civil engineering and services are what we have tasked at 179 days, some services are at 135 days and some aerial porters are at approximately 120 days," said Kurth.

"Taskings for AEFs have increased," continued Kurth. "AEF 1 deployed 180 people while we are planning to deploy approximately 600 with AEF 6, and taskings are still coming."

However, other career fields may not be safe either.

"I'm deploying in September to a classified location," said Airman 1st Class Celina Johnson, 437th Medical Group. "I'm scheduled for 90 days, but it could go up to 120."

"I just try to make the best of it," continued Johnson. "You have to or you'll lose your mind out there."

Kurth also advised to start preparing now for extended tours.



Photo by Airman Stephanie Hammer

Airman 1st Class Celina Johnson, 437th Medical Group Public Health technician, picks up uniforms from the 437th Supply Squadron Mobility Flight in preparation for a deployment.

Chapel schedule



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

Phone: 963-2536.

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

Catholic Services: Saturday - 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass. Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church. Weekdays - 11:30 a.m. Mass. Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex.

Protestant Services: Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. Thursday - 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service in Bldg. 216 (old Chapel).

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

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

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader, David Sirull, at 571-3264.

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

Movie schedule

Admission: 99 cents for adults and children.

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



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

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Minority Report" - Tom Cruise

In Washington, D.C., in 2054, police utilize psychic technology to arrest and convict murderers before they commit their crimes. A panel of three makes the decisions, where the feelings of two judges outweigh the third. So, if the correct verdict comes from the third judge, it's a "minority report." The head of this pre-crime unit is accused of the future murder of a man he has never met. **(PG-13) 140 minutes**

Saturday and Aug. 31, 2 p.m.

"Lilo and Stitch" - Animated

Lilo adopts a small ugly dog whom she names Stitch. Stitch would be the perfect pet if he wasn't actually a genetic experiment that has escaped from an alien planet and crash-landed on Earth. Lilo helps unlock Stitch's heart and gives him the ability to care for someone else. **(PG) 85 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Reign of Fire" - Matthew McConaughey

SPORTS & FITNESS

Flyers/OSS claims base softball championship

No. 1 seed going into tournament drops first game after 11 innings, comes back strong for win

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JASON SMITH
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Flyers/OSS earned the 2002 Charleston AFB Intramural Softball Championship Aug. 16 by beating SUPS 30-13 in game two after losing game one 18-17.

The first game was a must win for SUPS because they were in the double-elimination tournament via the losers' bracket.

The tone of the game was set when SUPS's first batter, Jason Reinke, took the ball deep and well over the centerfield fence. SUPS's third batter, Roberto Caceres, also went long with a solo shot.

Flyers/OSS quickly answered with four runs in the bottom of the first, giving them the 4-2 lead. Flyers/OSS held the lead until the top of the third when SUPS tied the game 5-5.

Flyers/OSS quickly took a three-run lead going into the fourth, but SUPS tied the game again at 8-8.

This time, SUPS's defense dug in holding Flyers/OSS scoreless in the bottom of the fourth, and scoring three runs of its own in the top of the fifth.

Going into the bottom of the sixth, SUPS held a commanding lead, 14-9. Flyers/OSS's bats came alive, tying the game 14-14 going into the final inning.

SUPS put two more on the scoreboard in the top of the seventh, and the defense appeared confident as it took the field to end the game. Flyers/OSS batters were just as confident, and it paid off as they scored two to tie the game at 16-16 and sent it into extra innings.



Rob Dibble, Flyers/OSS, rounds third during the sixth inning of the first championship game. Flyers/OSS lost the first game 18-17, but won the second game 30-13.

Both teams averaged more than two runs per inning in the first through seventh. However, in extra innings, both teams decided to try to take the game defensively.

In the eight, ninth and 10th innings, both teams' gloves dominated the diamond, and the game went into the 11th still at a draw.

SUPS finally found a hole in the Flyers/OSS defense, allowing Brian Langley and Kenneth Clinton to score runs. SUPS went into the bottom of the 11th with an 18-16 lead.

With the game and season on the line, Flyers/OSS quickly put one of the two

needed runs on the board. After two quick outs, the tying run was at third base.

Rob Sadwick, Flyers/OSS, hit a hard ground ball, doubling out and giving SUPS the 18-17 victory after 11 innings.

The SUPS win created the need for a second game. Fifteen minutes after the end of the long first game, both teams took the field again.

The results of the second game were dramatically different,

and it showed by the end of the third inning. Before Flyers/OSS even started swinging in the third, they led the game 8-2. Rob Dibble, Michael Deehr, Sadwick and Ed Ebersole all homered in the third, with Deehr hitting two over the fence in the same inning. The batting massacre left the score 25-2 at the end of three.

SUPS scored some runs in the sixth inning, but victory was never within reach. The game ended with Flyers/OSS winning 30-13.

"I don't think anyone could've beaten us the second game," said Damian Fox, Flyers/OSS coach. "We got hot in the last game."

Fox said when SUPS has all its players, it's one of the toughest teams to beat. Previous matches between the two teams usually have ended by one run in the last inning. Fox said his team expected to meet SUPS in the finals, and they knew they had to bring their bats.

"We should've won the first game," said Fox. "We had bases loaded with one out. All we really needed was a long pop out. It was a missed opportunity."

"We didn't really hit well that game," continued Fox. "We didn't hit well the whole tournament. We were in a slump the last three games of regular season and through the last game of the playoffs. Our defense and our pitcher (Jim Blakely) got us to the championship."

Kenneth Owens, SUPS coach, agreed that pitching played a big role in the games.

"Give their pitcher a lot of credit," said Owens. "He's very good, and our team had a hard time hitting him."

Owens said the umpire wasn't calling a lot of high strikes in the first game, making it a hitter's game. However, the strike zone appeared to be a little higher in the second game, causing some problems for the SUPS batters. Flyers/OSS batters had no problem adjusting which gave them the upper hand.

"Both teams played great defense," said Owens. "The Flyers bats got hot and stayed hot. They had a bunch of home runs in one inning, and it got our guys down."

In the end, Owens said Flyers/OSS deserved the win.

"The best team won the tournament," said Owens. "We'd hoped to take them in the second game, but they deserved it."



Matt Limon, Flyers/OSS, cracks a single and heads to first base during the first of two championship games Aug. 16.



Rick Carreno, Flyers/OSS, looks to make the move for second base as Tony Jones, SUPS first baseman, waits for the action to start.

Hockey championship

Hurricanes drop close championship game to Wolves, 3-2

By **STAFF SGT. JASON SMITH**
437AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In a season of firsts for the Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice hockey team, a first championship was not to be as the Air Force team lost a 3-2 nail biter to the Wolves Monday night.

The game was tied for the majority of the time, and at one point in the third period, the Hurricanes had a 2-1 lead.

With about a minute to go, the Air Force team went down 3-2 on a deflected goal by the Wolves. Hurricanes' coach Karl Nichols, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, pulled out all the stops to tie the game and pulled goalie, Jeramie Banks, 373rd Training Squadron, to get the man advantage. Nichols called a time-out and rallied the team for one last attack on the Wolves' goal.

"I've seen some great teams play together," shouted Nichols with the team gathered at the bench. "I've seen great Boston teams, Detroit teams and Minnesota teams. I've never in my life seen a team play as great as we have considering the odds we've overcome. Win or lose, I'm proud of this team and the things we've

done, and you should all be proud too. Now let's get out there and win this thing!"

The Hurricanes put a barrage of pucks in front of the Wolves' goal, but were unable to sneak one in. The game ended with the Wolves winning 3-2.

"It was a very close game right to the end," said Sam Hill, Hurricanes' defenseman and member of the 437th Maintenance Squadron. "They were more experienced together, and it

gave them the edge they needed to win."

Hill said the Hurricanes played a good game, and although they tasted defeat for the first time in six games, the team should be proud.

"We came out to win and we played hard," Hill said. "Two of the goals they put in were lucky, and there's nothing we could've done about that. They never let up, and they played a great game."

Hurricanes' captain, Jonathan Conner, 437th Aerial Port Squadron, said the team's dramatic improvement during the season was unprecedented.

"When we took the ice for the first time, it looked like the Bad News Bears, only worse," said Connor. "We worked hard, and we never gave up. Our new players' skill levels improved at astounding rates, and our more experienced players polished their skills."

Hill said if the Air Force team can stay together for another season, it should have better luck in the championship.

The Air Force team is looking to start a new season Sept. 15. Any active-duty members wanting to try out for the team should contact Staff Sgt. Jason Smith at 963-5536.



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

Jeramie Banks, Hurricanes' goalie and member of the 373rd Training Squadron, gloves a puck shot from the slot during the league championship game Monday.

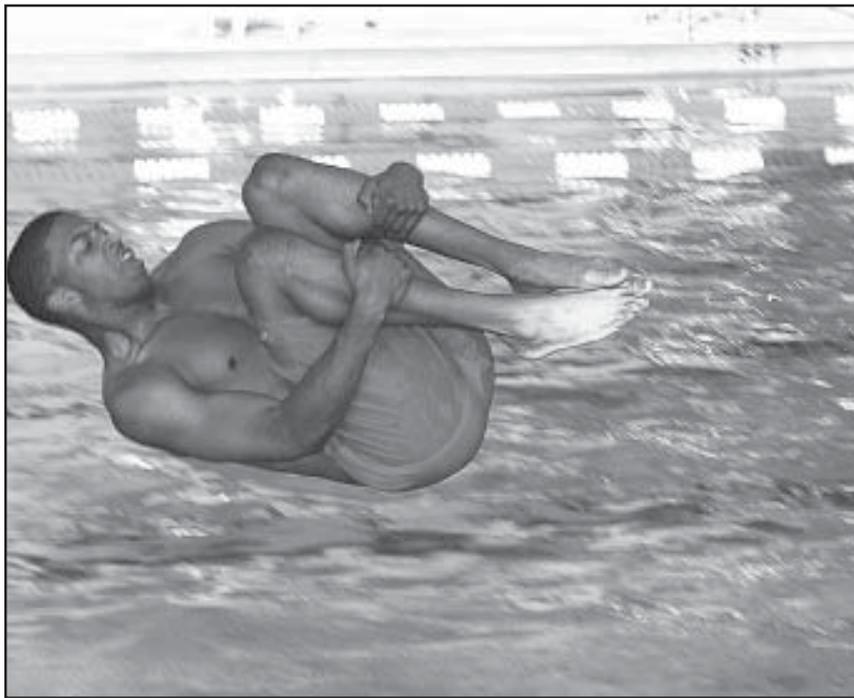


Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

Making a splash

Rick Burton, 437th Communications Squadron, does his best cannon ball during the Year of the Warrior Spirit swim contest Aug. 16. The YOWS events at the base swimming pool consisted of a cannon ball splash contest and an inner tube relay. Four teams of four people from the 437th Airlift Wing Staff, 437th Logistics Group, 437th Operations Group and 437th Support Group competed in the events.

Airman makes AF volleyball team

By **AIRMAN STEPHANIE HAMMER**
437AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Team Charleston member joined the Air Force Volleyball Team Wednesday at Pope AFB, N.C., to train for this year's Armed Forces Volleyball Tournament.

Staff Sgt. Bobby Caldwell, 437th Services Squadron NCOIC of readiness, joined the team for a fourth year in a row.

At a towering 6 feet 6 inches tall, Caldwell plans to play as the team's middle blocker.

"It's not the back yard picnic volleyball everyone thinks of," said Caldwell. "It's a lot more technical than people think."

Tryouts for the team were held at Pope AFB for about two weeks before 10 players were chosen to join the Air Force team, which will play this year's tournament, hosted by the Navy, at Millington, Tenn.

"Even if you were on the team the year before, it doesn't guarantee you a spot on the team this year," said Caldwell. "You still

have to try out because you never know who might be up and coming."

According to the 29-year-old volleyball veteran, the weeklong tournament will be played in a "round-robin format where we will play the Army, Navy and Marines at least twice in a best-of-three match."

A native of Mount Pleasant, S.C., Caldwell said he started off his volleyball career playing in the sand of Isle of Palms, S.C.

"The kind of volleyball I play now is much faster," said Caldwell. "The volleyball just comes at you at some intense speeds."

Caldwell also said he had high expectations for this year's team.

"There's a good group of guys coming back this year," said Caldwell, "and I'm looking forward to winning the gold again."

Caldwell said he hopes to have a place on this year's Armed Forces Volleyball Team, which competes against other teams from other countries.