

DISPATCH

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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, March 1, 2002



Photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed

Airmen at Rhein-Main AB, Germany, load an operations van onto a C-17 Globemaster III. The cargo plane, from Charleston AFB, then transported the van, other equipment and supplies to Kandahar, Afghanistan. Operation Enduring Freedom has turned Rhein-Main into the hub of Air Force airlift in the region.

OEF keeps Team Charleston personnel busy in Germany

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews
437 AW Public Affairs

Operation Enduring Freedom has raised the operation tempo for the Air Force. No one knows this better than the men and women of Charleston who are currently stationed at Rhein Main AB, Germany.

"We have people from all over Air Mobility Command," said Col. Dave Estep, 437th Air Expeditionary Group commander. "However, the primary nucleus falls under Charleston AFB. Not everyone's job is glamorous, but that doesn't make them any less critical than anyone else. This team doesn't work unless the pieces come together."

Between December 2001 and January 2002, the Rhein Main team handled 13,112 short tons of cargo and 1,256 aircraft. That is a huge increase compared to January 2001 to October 2001. During that time period, Rhein Main handled 9,914 short tons of cargo and 1,859 aircraft.

"Stage management helps the flow in and out of Frankfurt," said Lt. Col. Dave Rodriguez, 726th Air Mobility Squadron commander. "The majority of those folks belong to Col. Hirneise."

Lt. Col. Pete Hirneise, 17th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron commander, is in charge of all C-17 operations.

"Our mission is to get stuff to our troops in Khandahar and Afghanistan," Hirneise said. "It was originally planned to have 12 aircraft and 21 crews flying eight missions a day, but the numbers have expanded."

Most flying crews are at Rhein Main for 45 days, and support staff is there for 90 days. More than 50 percent of aircrews come out of Charleston and most of those are reservists who are all volunteers and not activated. The majority of aircrews work 26-hour days.

"Most aircrews stay up the entire time, but they have a look of accomplishment on their faces when they get home," Hirneise said. "Fourteen hours later, they are ready to do it again."

Since Jan. 16, there have been 240 C-17 missions (590 sorties), C-17's have moved more than 12,000 pounds of cargo, and moved more than 2,100 passengers.

"These folks are very proud and dedicated," Estep said. "Everyone here is working 12-14-hour days and no one has complained yet."

One reason the C-17 missions are running smoothly is because of the training they receive while at CAFB.

"Charleston folks are well-trained and have outstanding skills when they leave Charleston," said Lt. Col. Joe Heirigs, 17th EAS director of operations. "When they get here, we refine those skills and then send them out to complete their mission."

Another reason for the smoothness of operations is safety.

"Despite anything they do, safety is paramount," Heirigs said. "If they haven't been here before, we send another pilot with them to guide them through the mission the first time. We all have to be on the same page to complete the mission."

Hollywood connection: TV stars show support for security forces

By Senior Airman
Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Ten members of the 437th Security Forces Squadron returned from a recent TDY to find dog tags and autographed photos of the cast of Fox's TV show "24" waiting for them.

Hollywood talents Kiefer Sutherland, Elisha Cuthbert, Leslie Hope, Dennis Haysbert and Sarah Clarke signed each

of the eight by ten inch glossy photos.

The photos were sent by the actors in a show of support for what the military is doing, according to Tech. Sgt. Tim Moore, 437SFS Anti-terrorism Force Protection NCOIC.

The way the photos found their way to the hands of the CAFB airmen is nothing short of how Ferris Bueller's class found out he was sick in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." "My

cousin's, sister's friend's uncle said her boyfriend's, brother's, cousin's former roommate saw him pass out at 31 Flavors last night..." or something like that.

"My wife's (Gwen Moore) college roommate's husband (Jim Downing) works on the set of '24'," said Moore. "Our wives are great friends, and he (Downing) and I e-mail and talk often. He knew I was TDY with a group from the base, but he didn't know

where we were or what we were doing."

Conversations between co-workers, even in the civilian world, seem to rotate around the military since Sept. 11, said Moore. Hollywood celebrities' conversations around the set are no exception.

"A group was talking during lunch," Moore said, "and Jim (Downing) mentioned that he had a friend who was de-

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IN THE NEWS

437 CPTS, personnel named AMC award winners

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Air Mobility Command recently announced its Financial Management and Comptroller Annual Award winners, and the 437th Comptroller Squadron weighed heavy on the list.

Bringing home honors were Joy Delk, Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year (GS-11 and above); Holly Mehringer, Financial Analysis Civilian of the Year (GS-10 and below); Senior Airman Jason Brena, Financial Management Airman of the Year; and Staff Sgt. Carolyn Brandt, Financial Management NCO of the Year.

The squadron was also named winner of the Special Acts and Services Award for its paying agent, or purser, program.

"It's great to see individual people winning awards, but we all know it's not just one person," said Maj. Patrice Solorzano, 437 CPTS commander. "The whole squadron supports these people, even though only one walks away with the award."

Solorzano said what makes the individuals who won these awards

special is the way they share their knowledge with others in the squadron to better the whole.

According to the award package submitted for Delk, she was instrumental in training coworkers for new positions following an 86 percent loss of flight personnel. Delk also led the 437th Supply Squadron relocation working group after receiving a Congressional insert of \$9.4 million for a new facility.

Mehringer's award package cited her accomplishments in realigning systems to reap the maximum benefit. By redesigning a computer program, she made data ready and available for analysts' review in 15 minutes, versus the three hours it took in the past. All told, the program saves 2,800 hours per year for the office.

"I was very surprised," said Mehringer about the award. "But then I was thankful that my efforts were recognized."

Some of Brena's accomplishments, noted in his award package, include working as a paying agent for a POW/MIA Repatriation and Presidential Support Mission to Viet-

nam. Brena transported \$350,000 on the trip and gave out \$47,000 for critical aircraft fuel and supplies. He also deployed as paying agent for a U.S. embassy support mission to countries in the former Soviet Union, where he disbursed more than \$40,000 for aircraft fuel and ground services in "cash only" countries.

In her work as a financial analyst, Brandt found and resolved multiple errors in billing and duplicate payments totaling more than \$160,000, according to her award package. She also helped win \$281,000 in rescue and force protection funding to replace the 911 system.

"I'm excited and extremely grateful," Brandt said about winning the AMC award.

The paying agent program, which won the 437 CPTS the Special Acts and Services Award, teams finance personnel with flying missions.

"Basically what we're doing is going out with cold hard cash and paying for landing fees and flight services on the ground," Solorzano said. "Some countries have decided not

to use the fuel card (accepted by most airfields to pay for fuel) because they can get cash instead. So instead of giving the aircraft commander all this money, we send out a paying agent.

"They're part of the mission essential ground personnel who are part of the aircrew," Solorzano continued.

The paying agent takes control of all needed money for the mission and is responsible for carrying, protecting and spending the money, Solorzano said. The agent also does all the "bean counting," she said.

"We support the mission in our way and let the aircraft commanders take care of their missions," added Solorzano.

The individual award winners were glad their squadron was also recognized.

"I'm glad our accomplishments as a squadron were recognized by AMC," Mehringer said.

Brandt also expressed her gratitude.

"It was great to see we're being recognized for supporting the flying mission," she said.

Red Cross dental assisting program to begin April 15

By Airman 1st Class
Shanta Brown
437 ADOS

The next Red Cross Dental Assisting class begins April 15 at the Deily Dental Clinic.

The program, available to anyone with a military identification card, includes an academic phase as well as hands-on dental assisting training, where students will be taught how to assist in general dentistry procedures, according to Staff Sgt. Linda Lee, 437th Aeromedical Dental Squadron Dental Flight.

Some dental assistants at the clinic here gave their take on the job they perform every day.

Dental assisting involves completing a variety of tasks, according to Senior Airman Brenda Barnhart, 437 ADOS dental assistant. Some of the responsibilities include setting up dental rooms for the day's procedures, processing x-rays, and working with the dentists and patients to make appointments accommodating for both parties.

Other duties include taking and recording vital signs, preparing dental materials for use, passing instruments and medications for restoring teeth, assisting in cleaning

and sterilizing dental equipment, and some administrative tasks.

Barnhart said the biggest responsibility for dental assistants, which is also the most gratifying, is making patients feel comfortable during and after their appointments.

Since Charleston AFB's Deily Dental Clinic dental assistants deal more with patients' needs than their civilian counterparts, the base's assistants are more experienced at providing great patient care. This may be a benefit for participants in the Red Cross program.

"The job has given me hands on experience on educating people about improving and maintaining their oral hygiene, putting them one step closer to good health," said Barnhart.

Airman 1st Class Odette Rameet, 437 ADOS dental assistant, said along with helping people down the road of dental well being, she also enjoys working with a group of diverse people.

"There are several great things associated with being a dental assistant," said Rameet. "Dental assisting has great opportunities for those seeking interaction

from different walks of life. I try to make the atmosphere of the dental office and visit a pleasant one to remember, no matter who you are."

Being a dental assistant can be very rewarding and provides an environment to establish many lasting relationships and encounters.

The Red Cross program last approximately 6-7 months, according to Lee. Class weeks are 40 hours, and weekends and holidays are days off.

Other benefits include a certificate of training, obtaining a marketable skill, certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and exposure to a wide variety of dental specialty procedures, Lee said.

Lee also said program graduates are sent to a resume writing course and to Columbia, S.C., to test for their radiology safety license, allowing them to take x-rays.

The test is \$30, and aside from the cost of shoes, is the only cost associated with the program.

Applications are available at the clinic and are due by March 17 at 4 p.m.

For more information about dental health or the Red Cross Dental Assistant Program, call Lee at 963-6839.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith
Senior Airman Brenda Barnhart, dental assistant, helps Col. Peter Antinopoulos, dentist, give Senior Airman Kenneth McCourt, 437th Transportation Squadron, a root canal.

Air Force Assistance Fund campaign in full swing: Aid for CAFB members in 2001 totaled \$184,984

By Senior Airman
Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

This year's Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign, titled "Commitment to Caring," kicked off Monday and runs through March 29.

The AFAF campaign, which is running for the 29th straight year, raises money for charities that benefit active-duty members, reservists, guardsmen and retired Air Force members and their families.

According to an Air Force Print News release, in 2001, Air Force people contributed more than \$4.5 million to the AFAF. The secretary of the Air Force and Air Force chief of staff will announce a goal for the 2002 campaign soon.

Locally, Tech. Sgt. Ronald Goble, 437th Communications Squadron and base AFAF representative, said he thinks Charleston AFB can raise even more money this year than last.

"About 25 percent of the entire Air Force donated to AFAF last year," said Goble. "That's about 850 people here. That breaks down to \$44 per

person per year."

Goble's reasoning for wanting to raise more is apparent through the statistics of how CAFB benefited from AFAF in 2001. According to his statistics, CAFB received a total of \$184,984 in AFAF benefits. Base contributions the same year equaled \$36,694.

"AFAF charities are strictly for Air Force members," said Goble. "By donating, you're helping yourself and each other.

"If people would donate even \$10 a month like they usually do for the CFC (Combined Federal Campaign)," Goble continued, "then even with only 850 people donating again, we could raise about \$102,000."

While most of the base's benefits came directly from the Air Force Aid Society, Goble said there is a total of four organizations falling under the AFAF umbrella. They are:

■ The Air Force Aid Society is the official charitable organization of the Air Force. It provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance,

education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs.

■ The Air Force Enlisted Foundation, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. The foundation was formerly the Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation Inc.

■ The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, San Antonio, is a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. It includes indigent widows fund for widows and widowers of Air Force officers.

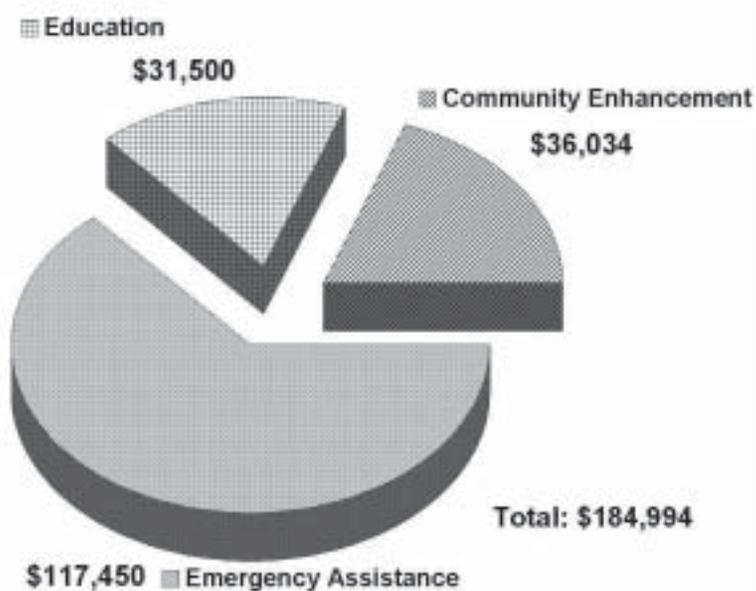
■ The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation is available for those indigent widows or widowers who don't want, or aren't able, to move to one of the retirement homes. The LeMay foundation provides rent and financial assistance to indigent officer and enlisted widows or widowers in their own homes

and communities.

Goble said within the next few weeks, a booth will be set up at the BX to accept donations. Donations can also be made through squadron representatives. All contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible.

For more information, contact a squadron representative, or call Goble at 963-3493.

2001 Air Force Aid Society Assistance to CAFB



Combating the insider threat

Simply put, espionage is the act of spying to obtain intelligence information. To borrow a phrase from the former comic strip character, Pogo, "We have found the enemy, and he is us."

Research has shown that the overwhelming number of Americans arrested for spying in the past 20 years have been volunteers or "insiders." To detect "insider spies," counterintelligence specialists look for irregular or suspicious behavior.

However, any lifestyle activity inconsistent with commonly acceptable behavior should be questioned. For example, unexplained wealth, purchases of high-value items, frequent domestic or foreign travel for no apparent purpose, excessive use of classified computer or questionable visits by friends or family from foreign countries are all things that should raise security awareness.

Counterintelligence specialists look for irregular patterns of behavior because spying or the intelligence collection activities of enemies is frequently revealed by their unusual or irregular behavior. Too often the unusual behavior pattern of the spy is only identified after the spy is caught in illegal activity.

Unfortunately, the "insider" threat with the Air Force is real, and there is no way to really know how widespread the problem is. What is reported to security and law enforcement appears to be only the tip of the iceberg. It is important to remember that opportu-

nity equals temptation, and personal acquaintances and co-workers might very well be the next "insider threat."

Early detection of irregularities through the recognition of unusual behavior patterns can help identify spies and espionage activities directed against national security.

The detection of irregularities or unusual behavior patterns is every citizen's responsibility. Early detection of questionable lifestyle practices that are inconsistent with the norm will aid in the neutralization of espionage efforts directed against the nation.

The key elements in fighting the insider threat are security awareness and reporting the threat. Security awareness requires that everyone make an effort to identify peculiar or unusual situations or behavior. The threshold for reporting suspicious behavior or activity is low. Therefore, when in doubt, report the unusual behavior or activity to supervisors, local security or Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Contacting AFOSI can be anonymous, if the informer desires. If necessary, special agents will protect identities.

Remember, to counter the espionage threat, be aware of surroundings and to report anything "irregular" or out of the ordinary to AFOSI or other law enforcement authorities.

(Information provided by AFOSI Detachment 310. For more information or to report suspicious incidents, call 963-3248.)

Force protection

By Tech. Sgt. Rich Reeder
437 SFS Force Protection

Protection of Air Force personnel and resources must be a top priority to accomplish the mission.

When the time comes for members to deploy, there are measures they are required to take, increasing security awareness. First, they must complete all deployment force protection training on the Internet at <http://globemaster>, under Level 1 AT Training, or at <http://at-awareness.org>.

Once training is completed, members must print the certificate of training and then contact the Air Force Office of Special Investigation detachment here at 963-3248 to schedule an appointment for an area-specific briefing. The briefings require members to bring their DOD identification card, force protection training certificate and out-processing paperwork.

Force protection can be maximized by adhering to six easy-to-remember forms of protection: take responsibility, be alert, keep a low profile, be unpredictable, play "what if," and most of all, use common sense.

HOLLYWOOD

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ployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The word got back to the actors and actresses on the show, and they wanted to do something nice for us."

Moore said Downing contacted him asking for an address at the deployed location to send the pictures and dog tags. Due to security reasons, Moore just had the package shipped to CAFB for when the team returned.

"There was a package waiting for me at the house with enough pictures and dog tags for the whole team," said Moore. "I made sure I passed them out to all the folks who were with us. I think everyone was pleasantly surprised and appreciative. We don't know these people. We never met them. It's great that they took time out of their day to say 'Thank you' to us."

Moore said he prepared a nice thank-you letter from the deployed airmen and sent it to Downing who would make sure the cast got to read it. He also told Downing the whole cast is welcome to stop by the base for a personal tour if their travels ever bring them to the Charleston area.

Tech. Sgt. Bill Cline, 437 SFS Training NCOIC and one of the deployed team members, also said the group was welcome to visit the base for a tour and some real life training.

"It's re-assuring to see the entertainment community appreciates what we're doing," said Cline. "After all, we're the ones out there protecting their artistic freedom."

NEWS BRIEFS

Around the base

OSA: The Officers' Spouses' Association will hold a silent auction at the Charleston Club today, 5-7 p.m. There will be a variety of items and services available for bids.

Ceremony: There will be a massing of the colors March 10, 3 p.m., at Summerall Chapel, on the Citadel campus. According to a Citadel release, it will be a colorful, dignified, patriotic ceremony dedicated to the memory of those members of the military services who gave their lives to preserve the nation's liberties and to honor those who have served and are serving to ensure continued freedom.

ERAU: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University will hold its next class registration beginning Monday for the Spring 3 Term. The term runs March 18-May 17. For more information, call the Community Education Center at 963-4575.

Study Skills: The Community Education Center has scheduled a Study Skills Seminar March 13, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in the center. The class is designed to help personnel in upgrade training and those taking college level classes or tests. For more information, call 963-4575.

City Colleges of Chicago: Term IV for City Colleges of Chicago begins March 17. Registration is currently in progress and will continue through March 14. Class schedules for Term IV are available and can be e-mailed, faxed or picked up at the Community Education Center. A variety of classes are being offered. For more information, call 552-5959.

Commissioning: There will be a Commissioning Briefing March 20, 10-11:30 a.m., at the Community Education Center. The briefing will be conducted by Capt. Dennis Nuttall, Unit Admissions Officer for AFROTC Detachment 772, Charleston Southern University. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 963-4575.

Commissary Gate: To alleviate congestion at the Dorchester Gate, the

Commissary Gate will be open Monday-Friday, 6:30-8 a.m., for vehicles with base decals only. All vehicle occupants must have valid DOD (military or civilian) ID cards. No passes will be issued at the Commissary Gate.

AFSA: More than 155,000 active duty and retired Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve enlisted people of all grades belong to the Air Force Sergeants Association. AFSA's mission is to advocate improved quality of life and economic fairness to support the well being of Air Force enlisted personnel and their families. AFSA meetings are held at 4 p.m., the second Tuesday of every month, in the Daedalian Room at the Charleston Club. For more information about AFSA, and to learn about members-only services, go to www.AFSAHQ.org.

Reunion: The 22nd Military Airlift Squadron reunion is planned for April 19-21 at Travis AFB, Calif. For more information, call Jack Bostick at (707) 425-3895.

Limestone: Limestone College will have a representative on base every

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.-noon, at the Community Education Center. Limestone offers a non-traditional approach to education. Classes are four weeks long, and students may start at any time. For more information, call 745-1100 or 963-7298.

Survey: Some Charleston AFB personnel may receive an e-mail from Col. Michael Schiefer, director of operations for the survey program at Air Force Personnel Center. The e-mail asks members to provide information about their actual income and expenses via a Web-based survey. This is a legitimate survey conducted by AFPC and not a hoax or scam. The input will be used to make recommendations to Congress on how to improve pay and benefits.

Homeowners Assistance: A Homeowners Assistance Program was approved for Altus AFB, Okla. The program is available for persons who were unable to dispose of their dwellings under reasonable terms and conditions when the real estate market is adversely affected by closure or partial closure of a military installation, or a reduction in scope of operations. Military, permanent federal civilian and non-appropriated funds employee homeowners stationed or employed at or near Altus AFB who owned a home within a 34-mile radius of the base prior to the announcement dates, who recently departed from the area or who will leave prior

to Sept. 30, 2004 may be eligible for assistance. Applications for HAP or additional information concerning the program may be obtained from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, at (888) 231-7751.

Tax Scam: The Michigan Department of Treasury recently received an alert from the Internal Revenue Service about a scam being conducted by e-mail people need to look out for. Some taxpayers have received e-mail from a non-IRS source indicating the taxpayer is under audit and needs to complete a questionnaire within 48 hours to avoid the assessment of penalties and interest. The e-mail refers to an "e-audit" and references the IRS Form 1040. The taxpayer is asked for social security numbers, bank account numbers and other confidential information. The IRS does not conduct e-audits, nor does it notify taxpayers of a pending audit via e-mail. This e-mail is not from the IRS. Do not provide the requested information. This may be an identity theft attempt. Those receiving this e-mail should contact their local IRS office.

Family Support Center

Pre-deployment Briefing: Monday, March 11, 18 and 25, 8-8:30 a.m., and Thursday, March 14, 21 and 28, 4-4:30 p.m.

Career Briefing: Monday, 8-9 a.m. For more information, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Staff Sgt. Jon Connor 437th Aerial Port Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jon Connor is an air transportation specialist with the 437th Aerial Port Squadron.

Connor's day-to-day job entails loading aircraft, operating material handling equipment and assembling cargo for loading. He also teaches an Air Force wide two-week class on operating the 60K Tunner aircraft loader.

Connor said his APS job offers him the opportunity to work with sister services since aerial port's mission is getting critical cargo to the fight.

"We get to learn about other services' traditions and the way they do their jobs in relation to what I do in my job," said Connor. "I enjoy working with other transportation specialists and seeing how they move their equipment."

Connor, a Lewiston, Maine, native, recently sewed on staff sergeant, and said he is already enjoying his new responsibilities.

"I like the added responsibility of being an NCO," Connor said. "I hope I can supervise some of the newer troops with the same quality of leadership that I was given."

The seven-year Air Force airman said he's looking forward to at least 13 more years of service to the Air Force. He's currently working toward his Community College of the Air Force degree, and he said he plans on earning a bachelor's at his earliest convenience.

When Connor isn't teaching classes or loading airplanes, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Angie, and his daughters Julia, 7, and McKayla, 3. The time he spends with them is about to increase because he and his wife are expecting their first son in May.

"I absolutely love my girls, but I'm ecstatic to have a son who will some day play for the World Champion New England Patriots," said Connor.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

Free bike registration



In an effort to prevent bicycle theft, the 437th Security Forces Squadron offers free bike registration. The three-step process (register, engrave, secure) is quick and easy.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. David Bailey
a 963-2159.

COMMENTARY

Great people promoted at Team Charleston

By Col. Karl Young
437 AW vice commander

You may have already noticed a lessening of traffic congestion on Dorchester road after we reopened the commissary gate beginning Wednesday. The commissary gate is now open Monday-Friday, 6:30- 8 a.m. for vehicles with base decals only. All vehicle occupants must have a valid DOD (military or civilian) ID card. No passes will be issued at the commissary gate. We'll need your cooperation to make this initiative by the 437th Security Forces Squadron work.

The Air Force Personnel Center released the results of the 2001 Colonel's Promotion Board on Feb. 21. With great pleasure, Charleston AFB had two superior officers chosen to pin-on eagles in the near future: Lt. Col. **Ben McCollum**, 437th Logistics Group deputy commander and Lt. Col. **William "Goose" Changose** (selected below-the-zone), 14th Airlift Squadron commander. Please join me in congratulating these two for a very significant accomplishment in their Air Force career.

We had a great turnout from supervisors and airmen for the monthly promotion ceremony Thursday at 3 p.m. Once again, everyone was enthusiastic in cheering on their co-workers and ensuring that this significant milestone was special. Keep supporting our great people by your attendance at these monthly events. It means a lot to our people and their families.

We hosted our first shadow program since the 9/11 attacks on Monday. We had 36 ninth graders from North Charleston High School visit the base for a couple of hours and shadow an airman in their workplace. The students were also briefed by our Year of the Warrior Spirit team on their respective contributions to the war on terrorism; they made a big impression on the students. A special thanks to the following YOWS briefers: 1st Lt. **Catherine Barker**, 437th Operations Group executive officer; 1st Lt. **Lisa Dobbels** from intelligence flight in the 437th Operations Support Squadron; 1st Lt. **Dan Dobbels**, 17th Airlift Squadron; 1st Lt. **Liz Dunn**, 17 AS; Capt. **Andy Ix**, 17 AS and Staff Sgt. **Ricky Smith**, 437th Aerial Port Squadron.

I also want to thank the 42 base volunteers who agreed to take these students into their work areas and teach them a little about our Air Force. I am sure we recruited a few individuals for our Air Force and the feedback from the students has been outstanding.

To celebrate YOWS and to promote fitness on the base, we held a 5K Fun Run/Walk on Tuesday at the

fitness center. The entire Charleston AFB community participated and free T-shirts were given to the first 40 that showed up at the race. We had a good turnout for a wing event and will have even more YOWS events in the future.

We held the 50th Annual National Prayer Luncheon Wednesday at the Charleston Club. The guest speaker for the luncheon was Chaplain (Col.) Charles Locklin, AMC command chaplain. The first prayer breakfast groups were initiated in 1942 in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Since then, those groups have continued their weekly meeting to discuss individual daily spiritual needs and the dependency of our country on God. We had over 200 people attend which was another great turnout.

The Executive Program Management Review was held this week at Robins AFB, Ga., to review the status of AMC's fleet of C-17s. We had senior leaders from the 437 LG and OG attend this important review and learn more about what is happening in the C-17 world. This review allows us to take a comprehensive look at those areas that need improvement as well as recognize those areas that are doing well. The periodic review has created a number of improvements and has been a factor in why the C-17 contractor-military relationship is so good.

It was my pleasure, along with several aircrew members, to accept a 10 by 3 foot banner on behalf of the children from Connecticut. Pratt & Whitney, makers of the engines on our aircraft, hosted the U.S. Air Force, the Boeing Company and United Airlines at a Technical Interchange Meeting and Program Management Review at the North Charleston Embassy Suites Tuesday-Thursday.

The background on this banner, which will be displayed in the wing headquarters' lobby, was the result of the Bayer Corporation (makers of Cipro and other pharmaceuticals), which held a big fundraiser for Connecticut families affected by the 9/11 attacks. They have been using the United Way to distribute the funds. The fundraiser was called "Connecticut Kids for Kids," and the idea was to encourage elementary school age kids to help other kids during this time of great need. At the fundraiser, they put out a big vinyl banner and had people sign it.

The folks at Bayer were awed by the C-17 Spirit of Connecticut coverage on local TV back in October. They thought it'd be nice to present the banner to the aircrew as a gift from the people in East Hartford, Conn., to thank them for their efforts in the war. Em-

ployees of Pratt & Whitney also signed the banner. We had a number of 437 OG and LG leaders attend the ceremony.

We felt truly honored by this recognition. It is another example of the strong community support for our efforts. What is even more amazing is that the folks at Pratt and Whitney are still talking about the Oct. 12 C-17 dedication ceremony and the value it had in allowing them to see a C-17 up close and personal.

Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley returned home this week and is anxious to get back in command of this fine wing. Having command for the past three months has been a real privilege. I'm proud to serve with each and every one of you. Keep up the great work!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Team Charleston members launch from the starting line of the Year of the Warrior Spirit 5K Fun Run/Walk Tuesday, promoting fitness and celebrating YOWS. The event is one of many scheduled in coming weeks to express Charleston AFB's warrior spirit.

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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Action line callers discuss loose dogs, youth programs

Who let the dogs out?

Q: I am writing to inform you about a problem that exists at Hunley Park Housing. That problem is a very large number of irresponsible dog owners. This is not just a small number of individuals, but from what I see has become a widespread problem. My wife and two children walk to school at Hunley Park Elementary every day, and they have been chased and nearly attacked at least half a dozen times in the last month alone. Every time I drive through the housing area on the way to or from work I have a 50-50 chance of seeing either loose dogs or dogs in someone's front yard running around without a leash. I consider this to be a serious and dangerous situation. If people wish to own a dog and live in base housing, they must realize if there is no fenced in back yard then they must restrain the dog. Also, all dogs must be on leashes at all times while outside. If individuals cannot follow these simple rules, then they need to be kicked out of base housing and find a home off base that is more conducive to owning a large dog.

A: Dogs running loose on Charleston AFB are totally unacceptable. All housing occupants are briefed at the time they move into family housing on their responsibilities as pet owners to keep their animal under control at all times. This includes preventing their pet from becoming a neighborhood nuisance by barking or invading the privacy of others. Pet owners are responsible for the safety of their pets and the people around them. Pet owners must control their pets, ensure the cleanliness of the pet's area, and clean up behind their pet when taking it for a walk. Dog owners should also install an approved fence in their backyard to contain the pet. If you notice that a resident is not controlling their dog, contact the pet owner and attempt to resolve the problem. If that does not work, then contact the Housing Office (963-3868) with the name of the owner, and steps will be taken to correct the problem. If the pet is a stray, call the North Charleston Animal Control Dispatcher at 554-5700 or Security Forces at 963-3600. Any animal

not wearing a collar and rabies tag will be treated as a stray. Thank you for calling the Action Line with your concern.

Hoop nightmares?

Q: My concern is the base basketball program at the youth center. We have a son enrolled who is 13. We are a family in transition, and I want to make sure that my son has something he can count on. There have been rumors that the basketball program might not last long. The coach is saying she might resign because of inconsistency.

A player on one team was switched to another team, there have been problems finding competition, and numerous other problems. It's not a full season like we were hoping. We really want to support the base youth program. Can you look into this and address some of these issues?

A: Thank you for your call. We are pleased you are supporting our youth sports program. Yes, we have had challenges in providing this year's basketball program, primarily at the beginning of the season with the older age groups. The major problem was the difficulty associated with off-base civilians/teams gaining access to the base at the time the schedules were being developed. The events of Sept. 11 occurred just prior to the beginning of basketball season. The difficulties of providing a season were discussed during the Youth Programs Parent/Coaches Orientation Meeting, and also during the team's parent/coaches meetings. Despite these challenges, Youth Programs felt it very important to continue providing programs, especially during this time. The staff innovatively salvaged the season by providing the older age youth with a nine-game scrimmage season (complete with paid officials/scorers), and spots in the Southern District Basketball Tournament. The issue regarding the "switched player" involved team-drafting rights. Hopefully, now that the season is underway, you feel more secure in the program, and will continue to support Youth Programs.

FEATURE



Retired Master Sgts. Adolph Mahoneui (left) and Don Edwards (middle) talk with Vernon Miller (right), 437th Aerial Port Squadron passenger service agent, about upcoming flights to Germany and South America.

Leaving on a jet plane

Passenger terminal staff gives tips to prevent travel headaches

Story and photo by
Capt. Beth Szucs
437 AW Public Affairs

Flying Space Available on military aircraft gives military families and retirees the opportunity to vacation around the world without paying out-of-sight prices on commercial airline tickets.

Although Sept. 11 has put a damper on Space A travel, it is still a valuable alternative if passengers plan accordingly, do their research and stay flexible.

The first thing to remember about Space A travel is it is just that—space available, said Master Sgt. Edward Pinnell, 437th Aerial Port Squadron passenger services operations superintendent.

“A lot of times there are circumstances that we can’t control, whether it be maintenance problems with an aircraft or mission changes at the last minute that prevent us from putting passengers on a flight at the last minutes,” said Pinnell.

“Sometimes it depends on the type of cargo the aircraft is carrying,” Pinnell added. “It might be full of cargo and have no room for passengers or have one small load, but that particular type of cargo doesn’t allow for Space A passengers.”

Tech. Sgt. Ed Constable, NCOIC of training, passenger service, wants all passengers to remember they need to be prepared in case Space A falls through.

“All Space A travelers should

have a few different options and enough money to fly commercial if necessary,” said Constable.

The busiest time for Space A is during the summer and Christmas holidays, said Constable. He recommends traveling in spring and fall to avoid long waits and booked flights.

The most commonly occurring flights out of Charleston AFB are to Germany, according to Pinnell. He said passengers are usually trying to get over to Europe or on the once-a-week flight to Honduras. Throughout the month there are also a few flights to South America, he said.

Getting to the west coast might also be a little more difficult, he said.

“We used to fly to Travis (AFB) twice a week,” said Pinnell, “but since Sept. 11 there haven’t been any regular flights.”

Passenger services used to publish a flight schedule, said Pinnell, but due to increased force protection procedures, they have stopped. He said a member interested in finding out about specific flight times and destinations must come by the passenger terminal and speak to an agent face to face.

Once the traveler finds a flight they want, there are a few steps Pinnell and Constable recommend to help ensure

travelers are successful.

First, it helps both travelers and passenger service workers if travelers read the information on the AMC Space A website at <https://amcpublic.scott.af.mil/SPACEA>.

There are four ways to sign up for a flight: face-to-face, e-mail, fax or mail. Active-duty members must be on leave to sign up, and retirees can sign up 60 days in advance.

Pinnell said it’s best if the traveler calls the passenger terminal every day to check and see if there have been any changes to the flight. He receives an updated schedule every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and because changes occur throughout the week, it’s best to keep up with the most recent information.

Pinnell also recommended arriving early for the flight.

“They should be there four-five hours prior to the scheduled take-off,” he said. “Things can change so quick, and a plane has been known to leave more than an hour early.”

Constable said it is beneficial to have all the proper paperwork in order.

“Active duty members can sign up at 12 o’clock the day before their leave begins,” he said. “If retirees or dependents are going overseas they need passports and valid IDs. Even two-month old dependents need passports.”

If travelers take this advice and do research, they will prevent a big headache and be able to enjoy their trip to whatever destination they choose, said Constable.

Tips for traveling Space A

- Plan the trip, be flexible, be patient; as a rule of thumb, military ports offer more travel opportunities than commercial gateways
- If possible, travel at off-peak periods (February-March and October-November)
- Be as flexible in choosing a destination; if a passenger wants to get to Germany, consider Ramstein AB, Rhein-Main AB, or even RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom
- When traveling Space A with young children, prepare for possible delays along the way where baby supplies may not be readily available; a good supply of games and books is also recommended; be aware that baby’s ears, like adults, are sensitive to altitude pressure changes
- Although it is still recommended for safe travel, there is no longer a requirement to use car seats for children traveling aboard AMC aircraft
- Traveling to places AMC flies often, such as Germany, will be much easier than arranging a trip to low frequency areas, such as Australia or New Zealand
- Pack lightly; Space A passengers are allowed two pieces of luggage at 70 pounds each per person; family members traveling together may pool their baggage allowance as long as the total doesn’t exceed the total allowance
- Passengers can only carry on bags that will fit under their seats or in the overhead bin, if one is available

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive

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

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

Catholic Services

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

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

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

Protestant Services

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

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

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

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

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2676.

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

Movie schedule

Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

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



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

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

"Kung Pow" – Steve Oedekerk

The Chosen One is looking to avenge the death of his family at the hands of the seemingly invincible Master Pain. **(PG-13) 82 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"The Royal Tenenbaums" – Gene Hackman

In their youth, the Tenenbaums were all geniuses. However, when Royal packed up his life and left his wife and his family in a cloud of betrayal, everything fell apart. Twenty years later, the Tenenbaums are a dejected and alienated bunch plagued by failure. When washed-up Royal learns that his distant wife may remarry, he feigns illness as an excuse to reunite with his estranged family. **(R) 109 minutes**

March 8, 7:30 p.m.

"A Beautiful Mind" – Russell Crowe

It is 1947 and mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. made an astonishing discovery early in life and stood on the brink of international acclaim. But his white-hot ascent into the intellectual stratosphere drastically changed course when Nash's intuitive brilliance was undermined by schizophrenia. Nash eventually triumphed over tragedy and won the Nobel Prize in 1994. **(PG-13) 135 minutes**

Fitness & Sports

Kinder, gentler, fatter Air Force?

HAWC addresses 'weight creep' issue becoming major AF concern

By Senior Airman Jason Smith and Jessica Kaleina
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB's Health and Wellness Center is starting a test run of the Air Force's new program to prevent weight creep.

"Shape Your Future...Your Weigh" was started in response to Air Force-wide statistics showing 49 percent of Air Force members are overweight, and five percent are obese.

According to Frankie Cox, HAWC registered dietician, Charleston AFB's statistics are slightly above the Air Force's. Fifty percent of CAFB members are overweight, and of those, six percent are obese. Cox credits the problem to an epidemic called weight creep.

The CAFB body mass index statistics used in the weight creep calculations were put together during the 2001 Ergometry Testing Cycle. The formula is based on height and weight only, and does not account for factors used in a body fat measurement. Cox said a BMI between 25 and 29.9 kilograms/meter squared constitutes being overweight, and a BMI of greater than 30 kg/m² means obesity.

"Think back to when you first came into the Air Force," said Cox. "Think about what you weighed

then as to what you weigh now. Most of us, as time goes on, have gained a few pounds. They call it the weight creep."

Weight creep happens over a period of years. Cox said the contributors can be a combination of many factors, including lack of activity, poor nutritional habits and slower metabolism.

"As we get older (over 30), our metabolism slows five percent every 10 years," Cox said. "Many times we eat the same foods in the same amounts, but are much less active."

As a nation, the United States has a more serious problem. Sixty-one percent of Americans are overweight and 25 percent are obese, according to Cox. Although the Air Force stats are considerably lower, Cox said military members have fallen into the same trap as their civilian counterparts.

"Families don't have time to sit down and eat a healthy meal anymore," said Cox. "Fast food consumption is up, and sodas keep getting bigger. In the 50s, a serving of soda may have been six or eight ounces. Now, we're drinking 24-ounce Cokes more than once a day."

To combat these potential weight-creep factors, Cox is preaching prevention. She said the HAWC already has lots of

programs in place to help the CAFB community once weight becomes a problem, but the shape your future program is designed to stop weight creep before it needs officially addressed through the Weight Management Program.

"Essentially, shape your future is about making people aware of the weight creep that happens and the programs already available," Cox said. "It's not necessarily setting up a new program."

Capt. William Reynolds, 437th Medical Group Health Promotions Flight commander, echoed Cox's theory that education and prevention are the keys to success.

"If you give people the education and tools they need, the results will come," Reynolds said. "You can see results from educational programs. People who are educated lose weight and keep it off because they change their lifestyles."

Reynolds backs his claims with statistics from the 2001 Lifestyle Exercise Attitude Relationship and Nutrition Program. Of the 200 people signed up for the class, 80 attended regularly. The average weight lost was 11.07 pounds after 16 weeks. While Reynolds is happy about the results the HAWC's programs achieved, he said he'd like to see less people need the



mandatory Air Force programs through weight-creep prevention.

To promote weight-creep awareness, the HAWC is using a variety of pamphlets, posters and monthly e-mails that include information and tips geared at weight loss and management. Cox argues the use of some weight-loss tools, such as fad diets, starving techniques and over exercise, are an unhealthy way to lose weight. She said in most cases, people gain all the weight back and sometimes get heavier than when they started.

"A person can lose weight on a diet, but can that person continue to eat like that the rest of their life?" asked Cox. "This program helps people to find the tools and get the education they need to live healthier lives and manage their weight in a healthy way."

The Shape Your Future...Your Weigh Program will last six months. If successful, the program will operate Air Force wide starting in July or August.

For more information about any weight-loss program, call the HAWC at 963-4007.

2002 intramural hoops season seeing heavy competition



Photo by Jessica Kaleina

Terrance Brown, Navy Hospital, shoots a jumper while Aaron Williams, AGS, goes for the block during a game Monday. AGS won the game 66-60.

Place	Team	Win	Loss
1	APS1	8	1
	MXS1	7	1
3	MED GP/ICTCS	7	2
4	SFS	5	2
5	CES	7	3
6	AGS	5	5
	OSS	4	5
8	NAVY HOSP.	3	5
9	CS/SVS	3	6
10	SUP	3	6
11	MXS2	1	7
12	APS2 (dropped)	0	10