

DISPATCH



A I R L I F T

Inside

- ▶ Purple Heart / 3
- ▶ Feature / 8-9
- ▶ Commentary / 11
- ▶ Ephedra / 15

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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, March 15, 2002



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

Staff Sgt. Patrick Smith, 437th Security Forces military working dog handler, is attacked by Military Working Dog Bak. The attack was a demonstration for about 500 children during Careers on Wheels Day March 7 at the base picnic grounds.

More than 500 show for COW Day

By Capt. Beth Szucs
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB was overrun with third-grade students March 7 as CAFB troops put on the field trip of a lifetime at the base picnic grounds.

In the first ever Careers on Wheels Day at CAFB, more than 500 children from schools across the Charleston County School District got the chance to learn about military jobs working with vehicles.

"We invited one third-grade class from every school in Charleston County," said Katey Hines-McCormack, School-To-Careers associate. "We have 18 schools taking part today. We couldn't have asked for a better day."

The goal of the day was to introduce the students to a variety of careers that center on vehicles, said

See COW, page 2

C-17 crew lights up sky over Eglin: Crew from 701 AS travels to Florida to test heat-seeking missile countermeasures

Most people use flares to draw attention to themselves in an emergency. But when attention comes in the form of a heat-seeking missile, people can also use flares to draw attention away.

To help develop the use of flares as a defensive measure, people from the 46th Test Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla., in conjunction with Air Mobility Command, including pilots from the 701st Airlift Squadron, Charleston AFB, recently conducted several days of flare testing. This testing was designed to improve the defensive capabilities of C-17 Globemaster III and C-130 Hercules aircraft.

Aircrews launch flares as a defense against heat-seeking missiles, hoping the missile will be drawn toward the flares and not the aircraft, said Capt. Anthony Thomas,

46 TS defensive systems test flight commander. There are many combat forces today that have the capability to launch heat-seeking missiles, so requests for the testing came down from leadership with a high priority, he said.

"We received an urgent and compelling request for this (flare) testing," Thomas said.

Capt. John Robinson, 701 AS Air Reserve Technician, and C-17 instructor and evaluator pilot, flew the test missions from Feb. 25-March 7.

"They always want to make sure our flares are the most effective they can be against the systems we could encounter while flying around the world," Robinson said. "I've never been in a situation when the flare systems have been used, but I'm glad to know they are there if I

need them."

There are three types of testing; reactive, pre-emptive and foreign comparison, said Maj. Stan Lasoski, 33rd Flight Test Squadron Defensive Systems test director.

Reactive testing simulates flares being dispensed after a missile has been launched, while pre-emptive testing simulates flares being launched prior to entering a threat envelope so that the weapon never acquires its proper target, Lasoski said. Foreign comparison testing is used to see if foreign-made flares are better than the ones used by C-17 and C-130 crews, and also to see if these foreign flares can be used with American flares.

Lasoski said running all of these tests is not easy.

"Shoulder-launched missiles have been around since

the 1960s. There are three generations of these missiles," Lasoski said. "We have to find a way to defeat all three generations, not just one. It's a daunting task."

Robinson said the flying for the testing isn't very exciting, flying back and forth over the test range followed by a chase plane, but the results are worth it.

"They (test squadron) were very pleased with the information they gathered during the testing," said Robinson. "Hopefully the results will be implemented within a few weeks." (Story by Greg Davenport, Air Armament Center Public Affairs. Information also provided by Capt. Beth Szucs, 437 AW Public Affairs.)



Photo by Bruce Hoffman

A C-17 Globemaster III launches flares during a test at Eglin AFB, Fla. The flare testing ran from Feb. 25-March 7.

IN THE NEWS



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones

Flying high with Young Eagles

Three pilots from the Charleston AFB Aero Club provided scenic flights for 15 Young Eagles from CAFB March 10. The Young Eagles are a group of school-age kids who have an interest in aviation. The flights took them over Fort Sumter (seen above), the Battery, and other parts of Charleston.

Dispatch correction notice

The feature page from the March 8 edition of the *Airlift Dispatch* had an error on the timeline titled "Women with Spirit," taken from *Airman Magazine*. It showed Leslie McGowan as the first female chief master sergeant, which is incorrect. The first female chief master sergeant was Grace Peterson in 1960. Chief Master Sgt. Leslie McGowan entered the AF in 1975.

AMC confirms, 'APS RULZ'

By Staff Sgt. Jonathan Connor
437 APS

Air Mobility Command has recently named the 437th Aerial Port Squadron Mobility Flight as the command's Mobility Flight of the Year.

The AMC award recognizes the mobility flight as the standard of what global mobility should be.

The flight's accomplishments included loading and off-loading more than 65,000 passengers, moving 13,237 tons of cargo and handling more than 4,000 aircraft. According to the award package, the flight also deployed a team and equipment to support a C-5 Galaxy sent in response to a Navy EP-3 aircraft involved in a collision near China.

The package also recognized the mobility flight for its quick response and continuing support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Mobile first, always proud" has been the flight's motto for years, and according to Col. Robert King, 437 APS commander, the flight can add the AMC award as another reason to be proud of themselves.

"The mobility flight has lived up to their motto by being prepared and trained, and being ready for an event like 9-11", said King. "They go around the world proving that they are well

trained and prepared."

The mobility flight, made up of 52 airmen, has the job of deploying and handling normal aerial port functions in a location that may not have an aerial port. The flight's members are always ready to move and always ready for whatever is thrown their way, according to Chief Master Sergeant Mike Michaud, 437 APS Mobility Flight chief.

"The flight has worked a number of global taskings at one time, from Presidential support to wartime missions," said Michaud. "These are the best trained and most enthusiastic mission-oriented professionals in the command."

Michaud also pointed out the rest of the 437 APS can be proud of the award because they help "get the stuff to the fight." After all, "APS RULZ!"

Capt. Todd Cook, 437 APS mobility flight commander said he was proud of his flight for winning the award, but he wasn't shocked by it.

"It doesn't at all surprise me that Charleston's mobility flight won, with the quality of aerial porters we have here," said Cook. "The Air Force knows if they want stuff moved, and moved right, they come to Charleston. We have moved more, done more and done it better than any other wing."

TDY

Government travel card benefits see increases

Recent changes in travel regulations have given government employees increased benefits, affecting members at Charleston AFB who travel TDY on commercial aircraft and those who use a government travel card.

On Dec. 28, President Bush signed into law the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002. This act, in part, permits federal military and civilian employees traveling at government expense on official business to keep promotional material for personal use. This applies to items received before, on, or after Dec. 31.

"This is a great program," said Staff Sgt. Chuck Jones, 437th Aerial Port Squadron contract quality assurance evaluator. "It makes our life a lot easier. It is a quality of life issue."

Jones goes TDY for 12-16 days every other month, and on each trip takes seven-eight commercial flights, usually to South America. He is happy about the new regulation and said he and his coworkers have just started taking ad-

vantage of the program.

"When you are flying on long flights, it makes a big difference to be able to get upgraded," said Jones.

The change in the law applies to items received at no additional cost to the government, and may include benefits such as a airline points or miles, upgrades to first class airline seats, or access to carrier clubs or facilities, according to the Authorization Act. For instance, if a member has a frequent flyer account with Delta Airlines and flies Delta on a TDY, the member can accept the frequent flyer miles in their personal account.

Additionally, government personnel wishing to use the frequent flyer miles to obtain an upgrade to first class will now be allowed to do so.

Another promotional item allowed under the Authorization Act is the registration of Government Travel Cards with credit card benefit programs such as Upromise.com (no federal endorsement intended). As most military members know, many credit card companies have promo-

tional incentives, such as rebates for purchases, for customers who use their particular credit card. These rebates may be given in the form of cash points or credit to the cardholder for future purchases. This is where a company like Upromise.com comes in. Instead of the cardholder receiving a rebate from the credit card company, the credit card holder may register the card with Upromise. Participating card companies will then send a rebate to Upromise, which will deposit the rebate into a Section 529 college investment account. A Section 529 investment account is an investment account established to help people save for their children's college education expenses.

For more information contact the base legal office at 963-5502 or stop by during walk-in legal assistance hours, Tuesday 1-3 p.m. and Thursday 8-11 a.m.

(Information submitted by Capt. Aaron Reed and Cadet Matt Dibble, 437 AW Legal Office.)

COW

continued from page 1

Hines-McCormack. Aside from the 437th Transportation Squadron, 437th Aerial Port Squadron, 437th Security Forces Squadron, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, 437th Medical Group and 437th Airlift Wing Chapel, there were also representatives from a local car dealer, radio station and restaurant.

"People always think the military just means soldiers, but there are so many more specific jobs in any branch of the military," said Hines-McCormack.

She hoped the students would talk to the different representatives and learn about their jobs and what kind of school subjects they use in their everyday work.

Hines-McCormack printed up career interest inventory worksheets for the teachers to use before and after the visit to get the most out of the day. Charleston County teachers introduced the term career, meaning general progression of one's working life, to the students before the trip. Then they gave the students ideas of questions they could ask the military representatives, such as what is the hardest part of their job or what do they enjoy about their position.

Following a demonstration by military working dog handlers, the students were divided up into five clus-

ters and then rotated to different vehicles spread out around the picnic grounds.

"I liked the big trucks with machines (the 60K loader and crane) on them," said Braden Davis, a student from Orange Grove Elementary.

He said the field trip has definitely made him think about joining the Air Force someday.

"I think it's been fantastic," said Sharon Dillon, Orange Grove Elementary School teacher. "It's given the children a chance to be on the base and see jobs that would never have occurred to them. It's marvelous."

Military representatives were equally satisfied with the day.

"It feels great to have a positive influence on kids these days, and it's nice to know that we are appreciated too," said Staff Sgt. Patrick Smith, 437 SFS military working dog handler. "And who knows, I might be one of their supervisors one day."

The Schools-To-Careers program is based on a federal law enacted in 1984. It focuses on all children, kindergarten-12th grade, allowing them to participate in work-based learning opportunities, such as shadowing, internships, mentoring and service learning, said McCormack.

"Our primary focus is to help students make the connection between the real world and academics," said Shelia Grier, School-To-Careers associate.

315 AGS ART awarded long-overdue Purple Heart

By Staff Sgt. Faith Kassan
315 AW Public Affairs

More than 32 years after he was injured in the Vietnam War, Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Sturdivant, an Air Reserve Technician with the 315th Aircraft Generation Squadron, received the Purple Heart Medal March 3.

"When I opened the envelope and read the letter from the review board, I just couldn't believe it. I had to wait until my wife came home to read the letter and confirm it was true."

The Purple Heart is awarded to U.S. servicemembers who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy.

"It was June 18, 1969," recalled Sturdivant, who entered the Air Force April 1967. "I was stationed at Bien Hoa (Air Base, Vietnam).

"The Viet Cong launched 122 mm rockets at the base," continued Sturdivant. "I was heading for the bunkers. I saw a bright red flash, but never heard a thing after that."

Two of Sturdivant's good friends were eating on the other side of base at the time of the attacks. Sturdivant had decided to stay in his barracks while two of his friends went for fried chicken, wrote Ralph Chapman, a friend of Sturdivant's, in an eyewitness account. Chapman and an-

other friend were on their way back to the barracks when the siren sounded. The rocket fire seemed to hit in various locations, with no particular target.

Chapman and Sturdivant's other friend walked slowly back to the barracks area, and when close enough, they discovered Sturdivant's building had taken an almost direct hit, Chapman wrote.

"When my friends found me, they wanted me to go to the hospital," said Sturdivant. "All I wanted to do was go to sleep. I went to sleep in one of the hooches down the road. I do not remember the next seven days."

For a week after the attack, Sturdivant was still not hearing well or responding normally, reported Chapman. On June 25, Chapman finally forced him to go to the hospital.

"I woke up on June 25, seven days later, in my own bed," Sturdivant said. "The damaged barracks had already been repaired. I had no recollection of even going back to my own hooch."

As a result of being so close to the explosion, Sturdivant's hearing was impaired. Today, he has almost a total loss of hearing in one ear and a severe loss in the other.

"I was never put in for the Purple Heart then," said Sturdivant. "It

wasn't until about 1990 that I seriously considered putting in for it."

In order to be considered, I needed the medical records from the hospital, an eyewitness account, which I was able to get (from Chapman) and my own, personal account," Sturdivant continued.

Sturdivant said it took him several years to make the proper contacts and complete the paperwork.

"And on Dec. 11, 2001, I received the letter from the Purple Heart Review Board," said Sturdivant. "In the middle of a short, three paragraph letter was the sentence 'We have completed a thorough review of your records which indicate you are entitled to the Purple Heart Medal.'

"Once my wife confirmed what it said, it was still hard to believe," he continued. "Thirty-two-and-a-half years later, I will be receiving my Purple Heart."

The medal was presented to Sturdivant March 3 by Brig. Gen. Jerry Black, 315th Airlift Wing commander, and 1st District Congressman Henry Brown during a 315 AW



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Sturdivant, 315th Aircraft Generation Squadron, poses for a picture while stationed at Bien Hoa Air Base, Vietnam. Sturdivant was recently awarded the Purple Heart for his injuries he received in 1969.

Commander's Call.

"It was an honor to present this medal," said Black, who also served in Vietnam. "It's something that should have happened a long time ago."

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Promotion ceremony: There will be a promotion ceremony for Lt. Col. Robert King, 437th Aerial Port Squadron commander, today, 11 a.m. The ceremony will be held in Bldg. 178. For more information, call 963-6410, 963-3070 or 963-3210.

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Logistics Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Donald Gaudette March 29, 10 a.m., at the Community Education Center. A luncheon at the Charleston Club at 11 a.m. will follow the ceremony. All Team Charleston members are invited to attend. For more information, call Master Sgt. Doreen Castle at 963-5725.

Military discount: Shoe Carnival is offering an indefinite 20-percent discount on all regular-priced items for all military members. Today and Saturday only, the West Ashley store is offering a 30-percent discount. The discounts do not include sale items. For more information, call Paul Kellett at 766-1611.

Around the base

YOWS: .

First Six: A First Six meeting is scheduled for today, 2 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Senior Airman Heather Reid at 963-5549.

YOWS: There will be a free Year of

the Warrior Spirit bowling competition Tuesday, 1 p.m., at Starlifter Lanes. Two teams from each group will be competing. All Team Charleston members are invited to show up and support their respective teams. There will also be a Year of the Warrior Spirit briefing Tuesday, 3 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call 1st Lt. Erika Tanner at 963-5626.

OSA: The Officers' Spouses' Association is holding a fashion show on Thursday, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. A social will start at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and a program at 6:30 p.m. The menu consists of soup, salad and a dessert. The cost is \$12 for club members and \$15 for non-members. To make reservations for last names beginning with A-M, call 875-2505. Last names beginning with N-Z can call 207-7379. The deadline to call for reservations is Monday.

Webster University: The Charleston Campus of Webster University is now registering for its next term, which begins Monday. Classes meet once per week in the evening or on Saturday during each nine-week term. For more information, call 572-2675.

Commissioning: There will be a Commissioning Briefing Wednesday, 10-11:30 a.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call 963-4575.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston

AFB Chiefs' Group will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Representatives from Heritage Trust will address the group, and lunch will be provided.

Tobacco cessation: The Health and Wellness Center is conducting a Tobacco Cessation Class starting Thursday. The one-hour class will meet at 5 p.m. in the Fitness Center and run for five consecutive weeks. For more information, call 963-4007.

Women's history: There will be a motivational Women's History Breakfast March 26, 7:30 a.m., at the Charleston Club. To RSVP, call 963-6024 or 963-6703.

Education fair: A "Spring Fling Educational Fair" is scheduled for March 27, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Community Education Center ballroom. Refreshments will be served, and a drawing for prizes will take place at noon. For more information, call 963-4575.

Volunteers: Charleston AFB will host its 6th Annual Earth Day celebration March 27. More than 1,100 Charleston-area 5th grade students from 11 schools will visit the base picnic grounds for a day of environmental education. Exhibitors from various base, local, state and federal agencies will present lessons in recycling, energy conservation, wildlife protection and other environmental subjects. The children will have the

opportunity to participate in Earth-friendly games, hands-on presentations and a formal tree-planting ceremony. The event is hosted by the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Management Flight. Volunteers are needed to make the event a success. For more information, call Keith Thompson at 963-4020 or Al Urrutia at 963-4978.

Women's history: There will be a Women's History Month Retreat Ceremony March 29, 4 p.m., at the base flagpole. Volunteers are still needed. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Tiffany Richardson at 963-6962.

Closure: The Commissary will be closed March 31 in observance of Easter.

NDTA: The National Defense/Transportation Association is holding a luncheon April 10, 11:30 a.m., at North Towne Grill. Commander Gary Merrick of the U.S. Coast Guard will be the guest speaker. The cost for the lunch buffet is \$9.30. For more information, call 963-3240.

SIU: Southern Illinois University is holding open summer registration for its one-year Workforce Education and Development program now through May 1. Classes will begin May 4 and conclude April 2003. For more information, call 552-7320.

Scholarship: The Order of Daedalians is sponsoring two flight scholarships in the amount of \$750 each, with the potential of matching funds from their national headquarters. The scholarships are for enrolled college students who demonstrate the desire and potential to become commissioned military pilots. Further scholarship guidelines are available at www.daedalians.org. For more information, call 1st Lt. Joe Eppley at 963-2150.

Family Support Center

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

Investing A-Z Part II: Today, 8-11 a.m.

Troops to Teachers: Monday, 10-11 a.m.

Women and Self-Esteem: Tuesday, 10-11:30 a.m.

Prenatal Orientation Class: March 22, 9-11:30 a.m. Call 963-6787 for details.

Give Parents a Break: March 23, 1-6 p.m. Call 963-5684 or 963-4366 for details.

Base School Committee: March 26, 7-8 p.m.

Baby Steps Support Group: March 27, 10-11:30 a.m. Call 963-6787 for details.

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

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

Tech. Sgt. Alan Tally 437th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Alan Tally Jr. is the fleet services operation NCO for the 437th Aerial Port Squadron. He is responsible for the daily operations of 30 military and five civilian personnel.

Tally's section is responsible for the flight servicing of all originating and transit aircraft. Servicing includes providing travel comfort items and delivering meals to both passengers and aircrew members.

"I enjoy my job because it gives me a sense of accomplishment," Tally said. "Our customers range from active-duty and retired Space-A travelers, to all levels of dignitaries and to the president of the United States."

Tally said he also finds his job rewarding.

"The most rewarding aspect about my job is the opportunities to gain experience in various sections and experiences gained from numerous deployments," said Tally.

When Tally is not working, he spends time with his wife, Allison, and their 5-year-old son, Austin. He also spends time restoring his 1968 Mercury Cougar when he isn't coaching t-ball at the Youth Center.

Tally recently began the process of applying for a commission through the Officer Training School program pending his April 2002 graduation from Southern Illinois University.

Through the e

This is the first part of a two part series about the 1st Combat Camera Squadron. The idea of "Through the eyes of the lens" is to show two aspects of the unit's mission, videography and photography, through an accomplished individual from each of the two sections. Look in next week's Airlift Dispatch for the conclusion of the series about Tech. Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez, a photographer who has seen it all, "through the eyes of the lens."

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Mark Kenyon, an aerial combat videographer with the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, didn't want a story to be written about his two years in the unit. As a matter of fact, he dropped the names of many other combat videographers who have "done so much more," than he has ever done. Kenyon's humbleness and "give credit where credit is due" attitude may very well have been some of the reasons the unit's leadership selected him to talk about his role in the "big picture (pun definitely intended)."

Kenyon's Air Force journey began when he enlisted as an environmental support specialist in 1990. As the needs of the Air Force change, so does the mission. Kenyon said his career field started expanding into fields that weren't for him. He took a cross-training opportunity into visual information.

While stationed with the 30th Communications Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, Calif., in 1999, Kenyon put in for a special duty assignment.

"I heard about four openings for techs (technical sergeants) with combat camera," said Kenyon. "Combat camera has a reputation for being the best of the best, and I wanted to be a part of that. I tried to apply as a staff, but they didn't want me."

The Air Force's needs changed once again, and combat camera decided it did need Kenyon.

"I really wanted to travel," Kenyon said. "You would always hear people telling horror stories about being TDY 250 plus days a year. That's exactly what I wanted."

It didn't take long for Kenyon's wish to come true. While he was still house hunting, Kenyon got the word he would be leaving for Bosnia. His first combat camera trip proved to be an eye-opening and broadening experience.

"I had an old lady tell me, 'Thank you. If it weren't for you, I'd be dead,'" said Kenyon. "It made me feel really good about what we were doing.

Then, in the same area, a teenager said, 'I can't wait for you to leave. Everything is stagnant while you are here. We aren't fighting. We're not accomplishing anything. As soon as you leave, we can fight again and win.'"

Kenyon was still in Bosnia for the changing of the millennium. He said shortly after midnight, the concept of where he was and what he was doing suddenly became apparent.

"I was outside looking up in the sky," said Kenyon. "I saw tracer after tracer round flying by overhead. It was just people celebrating the New Year. Then I realized, those people are civilians. It started to make me wonder about how many civilians had war-fighting weapons there."

Kenyon's work on the Bosnia mission wasn't over when he left. Upon returning from shooting videos, combat camera videographers have months of work to accomplish before they have a final product in hand.

"A 10-15 minute video may take up to two months to put together," said Kenyon. "Some people think we spend six or eight hours shooting in a day, and we're done. That's not the case. We have to go through what we shot and label it with captions, basically, shot by shot. Then we have to pick out some of the footage and transmit it back. After a six-hour shoot, we may spend another five-seven hours that day processing it."

Before Kenyon even finished his videos from Bosnia, he was "out the door" again. Between his Bosnia trip and now, Kenyon went on too many TDYs to name. His travels took him to all different places, including stateside locations, and third-world countries like Paraguay. The events of Sept. 11 added more travel to Kenyon's out-the-door job.

"I was put on the beeper around 5:30 p.m., Sept. 17," said Kenyon. "I was on team two, so I was supposed to have an hour to leave after team one left. I took the beeper and headed to Wal-Mart to get some shaving

**"It started to
about how many
fighting weap**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas, 1 CTCS

creme and other things to take with me. As I was leaving the store, the pager went off, and it was time for me to leave."

Kenyon spent the next 118 days traveling in and out of

TURE

y e s o f t h e l e n s



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez, 1CTCS

Kenyon shoots the scene of a Russian helicopter crash in Kandahar, Afghanistan during a recent 118-day TDY.

classified areas. He worked with all branches of the military in many forward areas, to document Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Being in the Air Force, you never really think you could go off to war and die," said Kenyon. "We were receiving a briefing where we were told if we haven't talked to our families yet, we should call them and tell them we were safe and we loved them. Then we said a prayer. At that moment, I realized this is for real. This is a war."

Kenyon got to be a part of many firsts while in the Afghanistan area including the filming of the first time

a C-17 landed and launched from an all-dirt runway in a combat environment. He also said he saw things that aren't always broadcast on the news, but still have historical value when docu-

menting a war. Most importantly, Kenyon came back with something the rest of the country has been searching for since Sept. 11; a reason why.

"I wonder what would make someone be a suicide bomber," said Kenyon. "Why would you strap explosives to yourself and run into a crowded building?"

"You take a guy who has nothing," he continued. "He

thinks his whole purpose for being alive is to suffer for Allah. His wife and kids are starving, and he has no way to take care of them. Then some crazy, radical rich guy says, 'If you strap these bombs to yourself and kill some Americans, your family will be taken care of, and you will be a hero at Allah's side.' It's a terrible situation."

Although Kenyon has seen both sides of the coin, knowing what might go through a terrorist's mind doesn't help him sleep any easier. Like every other American, he said he's outraged by the senseless loss of life. He's been kicking around the idea of hanging up the camera and settling down for a while.

"You asked me that at a bad time (How long are you going stay in combat camera)," said Kenyon. "I'm getting older (33 in June), and I'm thinking about settling down. It might be time to give some of the younger troops the chance to take some of these trips and see some of the things going on around the world."

If Kenyon does decide to take a break from combat camera, it doesn't mean he won't still hunger for the action. While his reasons for thinking about giving it up are legitimate, he very well may have an underlying drive to stay in one place for a stint.

"It's also real tough to meet women when you're traveling," said Kenyon smiling. "I bought a house here, and I have a dog to take care of too."

What's missing from that equation?

Videoographer

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Honor guard impresses crowd with performance

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

I was privileged to attend the General Westmoreland Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars fifth annual Massing of the Colors ceremony at the Summerall Chapel on The Citadel Campus this past Sunday. Retired Army Brig. Gen. J. Emory Mace, commandant of cadets at The Citadel was the principal speaker.

More than 40 organizations, and more than 400 people, participated in this patriotic and religious service honoring the flag of the United States of America. The service is dedicated to the memory of those of the military services who have given their lives to preserve liberty, to honor those who have served and are serving to ensure our continued freedom, and to preserve military heritage.

Of the many organizations participating, the most professional and impressive were the members of our base honor guard. They were quite simply the best. A special thanks to the following honor guard members: **Senior Airman Zachary Woodall, Airmen 1st Class Joseph Spartin, Jenny Collins and Jack Travis.**

We hosted a weeklong assessment by the Air Mobility Command Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program team. The team, composed of environmental experts from Scott AFB, Ill., Pope AFB, N.C., and a private contractor, examined our environmental processes and gave us a comprehensive and unbiased report card on our programs. The assessment looked at 13 different environmental protocols from water quality to hazardous waste.

We have an outstanding record on the environment, and this outside look validated our many good programs while also noting some areas that need improvement. The ECAMP gives our environmental program additional focus and helps us to make our program that much better. We have the final out brief today.

You may have read about some of the Women's History Month activities in the *Airlift Dispatch*. The Walk-a-thon is scheduled for today, 2 p.m. Participating members will walk around McCombs Way track together the first time and then continue around as many times as each person desires. There will be a motivational breakfast at the Charleston Club March 26, 7:30 a.m., and you can RSVP by calling 963-6024 or 963-6703. A Women's History Month retreat ceremony will be held at the base flag pole March 29, 4 p.m. Call Staff Sgt. Tiffany Richardson at 963-6962 for more information.

We bid farewell to **Lt. Col. Bruce Alexander** and his wife, **Desiree**, Saturday evening in the Charleston Club. I appreciate their hard work on behalf of the best Services Squadron in the Air Force. His leadership has been key, and we wish him our best, as he becomes the new deputy operations group commander at Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. Thanks for all you have done for the "can do" crew!

Thursday marked a special day for both **Tony Kolgaklis** and myself, as we became honorary chief master sergeants as part of the 2002 Honorary Chiefs Induction Ceremony. It was a special ceremony for us

and meant a lot personally to be recognized by the Charleston Chiefs Group. The award is given to individuals who exemplify the "whole person" care of the enlisted troops and traits of a chief master sergeant. We certainly appreciated the honor and will cherish this memory forever.

I need everyone's help with the Air Force Assistance Fund. We are currently at only about 20 percent contact and have a ways to go before reaching our goal of 100 percent. The annual AFAF campaign raises money for four charitable organizations benefiting active duty, Reserve, Guard and retired Air Force people and their families, including surviving spouses and their families.

The four organizations are: the Air Force Aid Society, The Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation Inc., the Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund and the General and Mrs. Curtis LeMay Foundation.

AFAF is the official aid society of the Air Force and can be accessed worldwide for emergency financial assistance. The Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependents Home Foundation Inc. is located in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people. The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, located in San Antonio, Texas, is a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation provides rent and financial assistance to indigent officers

and enlisted widows and widowers in their own home and community.

Donations to the AFAF campaign can be made through cash or check contributions or payroll deductions. Contact your squadron or group representative for more information.

The 437th Airlift Wing Honorary Commanders will hold a luncheon at the Mills House on Monday to pay tribute to the base's group and squadron commanders. The honorary commanders are active community leaders that are paired with squadron and group commanders. We plan to have our Year of the Warrior Spirit briefers on hand also. It promises to be a nice event and I look forward to going.

I hope to see a good turnout for our YOWS Warrior Day that will begin with a 9-pin no tap Bowling Tournament Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the base-bowling center. There is no cost for the teams to participate and you can register by contacting your squadron representative.

This same day kicks off our YOWS briefings at the Charleston Club in the ballroom at 3 p.m. The 437th Operations Group will brief on their current operations and everyone is invited to join them. The Low Country Bar opens for officers and enlisted members from 3:30 - 5 p.m. Come out and learn more about our wing operations in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. For more information go to the CAFB YoWS website at <https://www.charleston.af.mil/yows/yows.htm>.

You make me proud everyday, and keep showing everyone that we are the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. Have a great weekend, and stay safe.

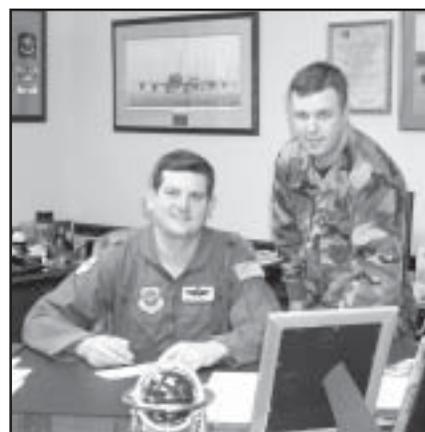


Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews

Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, and Staff Sgt. Keith Cedergren, 437 AW Air Force Assistance Fund campaign representative, fill out a contribution form. The campaign is scheduled to run through March 29.

Action Line

My question is about traffic on Dorchester Road between the main gate and Ashley Phosphate Road. Since Sept. 11, traffic has been horrendous because of the Commissary Gate closure. Is there any timeline set for re-opening this gate?

In the wake of the tragic events of Sept. 11 and the ongoing war on terrorism, the magnitude of security at all DoD installations has been understandably magnified. Every force protection action taken must be measured

against all associated risks.

As a result of the innovative efforts of the 437th Security Forces Squadron, augmentees will be manning the Commissary Gate for inbound traffic from 6:30-8 a.m., Monday-Friday. We will

continue to have the gate open to morning traffic as long as it is needed. All individuals using that gate will need to have a valid I.D. card and their vehicle will be need to have a current base registration.

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

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.

"Black Hawk Down" – Ewan McGregor

In 1993, the United States sent Special Forces into Somalia to destabilize the government and bring food and humanitarian aid to the starving population. Using Black Hawk helicopters to lower soldiers onto the ground, an unexpected attack by Somali forces brings two of the helicopters down immediately. From there, the U.S. soldiers must struggle to regain their balance while enduring heavy gunfire. **(R) 144 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"The Count of Monte Cristo" – Guy Pearce

Edmond Dantes, a sailor falsely imprisoned in an island prison for treason, eventually escapes, becomes rich and wreaks revenge upon the men who framed him. **(PG-13) 131 minutes**

March 22, 7:30 p.m.

"Snow Dogs" – Cuba Gooding Jr.

When a Miami dentist finds out he's been named in a will, he travels to Alaska to claim his inheritance. Once he gets there, his dreams turn to mush. He discovers he's been left a mischievous team of sled dogs that have it in for him. **(PG) 99 minutes**

March 23 and 29, 7:30 p.m.

"Collateral Damage" – Arnold Schwarzenegger, John Leguizamo

(R) 115 minutes

Fitness & Sports

Supplements continue popularity trend

Health products may not always be healthy, expert warns

By Capt. Susan Anspach
437 MDG Family Practice

Diet supplements are becoming increasingly popular among health-conscious individuals.

An Air Force background paper estimates about one-half of the United States' population uses at least one dietary supplement and spends about \$5 billion annually on supplements, with sales estimated to increase about 18 percent per year.

Supplement use is also popular among active-duty airmen at Charleston AFB. A variety of supplements and vitamins are offered for sale by the BX, BX concessionaires and Commissary.

Currently, Air Force Instructions and policy letters do not prohibit the use of dietary supplements except for anabolic steroids and hemp products. However, just because a supplement isn't restricted doesn't mean it is safe to use.

According to a report by the Air Mobility Command

surgeon general, since 1994, the Food and Drug Administration has investigated more than 800 reports of adverse effects of supplements, including 44 deaths associated with ephedra-containing products (Ma Huang, Chinese ephedra extract, epitonin and herbs of the genus ephedra). Most of these events occurred in young to middle-aged adults who were otherwise healthy. Most occurred with the recommended dose listed on the supplements.

There are currently more than 200 products on the market containing ephedra and ephedrine alkaloids, according to a background paper from the Air Force surgeon general's office. Most are sold for a variety of purposes to include weight loss, increased energy and body building enhancement. The products sold on CAFB containing these supplements are the usually thermal or energy boosters like Hydroxycut, Stacker 2, Optidrene, Xenadrine and

Ripped Fuel, to name a few.

Some of the adverse effects from ephedra and ephedrine compounds can include death, heart attack, stroke, seizure and psychosis. Users may also experience a variety of other symptoms to include allergic reactions like itching or hives, dizziness, nervousness, insomnia, tremors, headaches, nausea or vomiting, muscle cramps, difficult or painful urination, irregular heart-beat, high blood pressure and heart palpitations.

Use caution when using ephedra supplements. Do not exceed the recommended dose. If there is a noticeable increase in heart rate soon after taking a supplement, discontinue use immediately. Due to the possibility of tolerance to ephedra-containing products, they should never be taken on a continual basis. They should not be taken for longer than one month at a time. Continuous use can also cause kidney damage.

Ephedra products should not be used during pregnancy or breast-feeding. People who have a history of high blood pressure, heart conditions, diabetes, glaucoma, hyperthyroidism, anxiety, restlessness and kidney disease should also avoid ephedra.

Due to the potential of overdose or increased side effects, ephedra products should not be used in conjunction with caffeine, herbal supplements like guarana or kola nuts, diuretics or over-the-counter cold medications.

Personnel using any nutritional supplements should discuss their usage with a medical provider during routine visits to the

clinic.

Supervisors and active-duty members should also remember these supplements are legal. There are no negative repercussions or consequences for reporting the use of herbal vitamins or supplements to a health-care provider. The 437th Medical Group staff wants to ensure military members are using supplements properly and provide Team Charleston any additional education needed.



Although supplement use is popular among many health-conscious people, some products may contain potentially dangerous ingredients.

Hoops Hurricanes hopeful in tournament

The Charleston Air Force Base Hurricanes men's varsity basketball team defeated the Charleston Crossover 93-73 March 7 at the Starlifter Court.

The Hurricanes were led in scoring by Billy Graham, 437th Aerial Port Squadron, and Ed Lawlwer, 437th Maintenance Squadron. Graham had 16 points, and Lawlwer had 15.

The Hurricanes will be playing in a season-ending tournament Saturday and Sunday at the Fitness Center. All members of Team Charleston are invited to attend and provide support for the Hurricanes.

Ice hockey

CAFB Hurricanes to launch inaugural season at 'coolest' sport on planet

By Senior Airman Jason Smith
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB members will now have a way to play a sport, and keep cool while doing it, in the coming summer months.

With help from Eddie Goad, 437th Services Squadron sports director, and some interested base members, the Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice-hockey team will take the ice in May-August to compete against local community teams at the Carolina Ice Palace.

Since the idea of a base team was first suggested about two months ago, many hopeful players have already gotten together for early morning practices. Since the team will be base-sponsored in some aspects, tryouts need to be held to make sure those who want to play are afforded the opportunity, according to Charleston AFB's Letter of Instruction for 2002 Varsity Sports Programs.

Initially, the team will be open to active-duty members of Charleston AFB only. Due to the nature of the

sport and requirements posted by the Carolina Ice Palace, in conjunction with USA Hockey, exceptions may be made.

USA Hockey rules dictate that full equipment, including at least a half visor, must be worn at all times. Since the price of equipment is so high, roughly \$500 or more per player, Goad said the fitness center won't be able to purchase equipment for individual players. All those wishing to make the team must have their own gear.

USA Hockey rules also require players in adult leagues to be 18 or older. Goalies may be 16 or older if they have a waiver from their legal guardian.

Rosters are traditionally limited to 18 players, but Matt Mons, Ice Palace hockey director, said due to TDYs and PCSing, an exception would be made to allow the base to have a 20-player roster.

"I know a lot of the guys will be traveling and doing their jobs far away," said Mons. "We can make an exception for that."

Mons said the Ice Palace is always happy about adding new teams to their schedule, but this is the first time an all-military team has jumped into the competition.

"I know a lot of the base folks play on various teams here," said Mons. "We're looking forward to having an all-military team."

Tryouts will be held Monday, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 a.m., during pick-up hockey sessions at the Ice Palace. The Ice Palace charges \$7 per pick-up session which will not be paid or refunded by the base.

Due to TDYs, players who have been at previous sessions, but are unable to make tryouts, will be evaluated.

A non-playing coach is also needed. Goad said if the situation dictates, a playing coach may be used. Interested personnel can contact Goad at 963-4321.

For more information about tryouts, call Senior Airman Jason Smith, 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, at 963-5536, or e-mail him at jason.smith@charleston.af.mil.