

# DISPATCH

A I R L I F T

## Inside

- ▶ Reunion / 3
- ▶ Commentary / 8
- ▶ FTAC / 11
- ▶ Soccer / 15

Vol. 41, No. 20

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

Friday, May 24, 2002

## 12 CAFB C-17s fly into history

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

Twelve Charleston AFB C-17s left the runway here just after daybreak May 14 and flew into history as the largest-ever C-17 formation.

"At Charleston we have a commitment to do what is called Strategic Brigade Airdrop," said Lt. Col. William "Goose" Changose, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron commander. "It's what you see in World War II movies, and what we did in Grenada and Panama also."

Strategic Brigade Airdrop capability allows the United States to go anywhere in the world and airdrop paratroopers on short notice, Changose said.

"It's a powerful capability, and the whole rest of the world knows that we have it," he said. "I guess that's what helps keep a lot of the bad

See 12-SHIP, page 2



Photo by Senior Airman Bethann Hunt, 1 CTCS

Charleston AFB C-17s return from the largest-ever C-17 formation May 14. Practicing large formations is a way to keep up with CAFB's commitment to do Strategic Brigade Airdrop, which places paratroopers and supplies wherever they are needed worldwide. Launching the 12-ship kept maintainers and other support personnel working overtime to get the aircraft ready.

## AF tuition assistance plan to pay 100 percent

Air Force people soon will benefit from a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of the cost of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials.

"The policy, effective Oct. 1, 2002, will pay tuition costs and mandatory fees for up to a maximum of \$250 per semester hour, or \$750 per 3-hour course," said Jim Sweizer, chief of the Air Force voluntary education branch at the Pentagon.

The policy also includes a \$4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

"In the past, we only paid instructional fees, such as a lab fee for science courses," Sweizer said. "Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student doesn't have to

pay any money out of (his or her) pocket."

However, tuition assistance cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution's published tuition rates, Sweizer said.

Diana Roebuck, director of the Community Education Center here, said the new policy makes education at Charleston AFB virtually free.

With the exception of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University's graduate courses, the new rate covers courses for all of the schools represented on base, she said.

"Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus," said Roebuck. "Now there are no excuses allowed for the entire base. Education is now affordable for all Air Force members."

Roebuck said she'd like to see

base members flooding in now that the cost of college education is taken care of by tuition assistance.

With 100 percent tuition assistance available to airmen, some people might opt to waive contributing to the Montgomery GI Bill, Sweizer said. He recommends bluesuiters continue to take advantage of the benefits the GI Bill presents.

"Not everyone will be able to complete his or her education while on active duty," said Sweizer. "Having the MGIB as an alternative for later use is a wise investment."

The increase to 100 percent tuition assistance was authorized by Congress two years ago but was not funded until fiscal 2003.

The tuition assistance program is the same across the entire Defense

Department. Each service had two years to develop a plan to make the programs work together.

Along with the changes to the tuition assistance program, Roebuck said she expects more staff for the CEC soon, a change enacted by Air Mobility Command's recent cost comparison study.

The study compared different ways of doing business and came up with what is called the Most Efficient Organization structure. Under the MEO, all education functions, as well as other official training, will be housed at the CEC.

For more information about tuition assistance or any other issues related to continuing education, call the CEC at 963-4575.

**(AFNS. Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter, 437AW Public Affairs, also contributed to this article.)**

## IN THE NEWS

# 14 AS airman named AF Times Airman of the Year during ceremony May 15

By Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
Amy Perry  
437 AW Public Affairs

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Andrea Quillen, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron C-17 loadmaster, received the Air Force Times Airman of the Year award in a May 15 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

"It was a great honor to win the award," said Quillen. "I feel really proud, but I was just doing my job ... getting the stuff to the fight."

To win AF Times Airman of the Year award, Air Force Times readers had to nominate the person they thought was most deserving of the award.

Two members from the 14 AS thought Quillen was deserving of the award.

"She's outstanding," said Master Sgt. Jim Mueller, 14 AS chief C-17 loadmaster. "She always gives 110 percent, never complains and is always volunteering for projects."

"She's the only airman first class who has already been looked at to be an instructor," Mueller continued. "She was

one of our first to be night-vision goggle qualified."

Quillen said she was one of the 10 air-land crew selected for night-vision goggle training. She said she was also the only loadmaster to earn worldwide, mission ready status after just one overseas mission.

Another master sergeant in the 14 AS had more to say of Quillen.

"In the current operations tempo, we are 75 percent manned and 100 percent taxed for duties," said Master Sgt. Angel Rodriguez. "I never hear anything from her about not being able to continue."

Mueller said "she won the award mainly because of how she presents herself. The responsibilities she has as an airman first class are huge. She's been deployed numerous times for Operation Enduring Freedom."

Quillen said she has managed airlifts in support of the no-fly-zone over Iraq, participated in Operation Noble Eagle and flown more than 130 hours and 28 sorties in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Aircraft commanders come back, and we get feedback about her that is always very positive," said Rodriguez. "As far as the crews she deploys with, she's always very professional."

Quillen said that only one Air Force member was chosen from over 5,000 nominations.

"It was narrowed down in the end to a master sergeant and myself," Quillen said. "The winner was chosen on package alone. I have no clue how I won."

At the ceremony on Capitol Hill, Senators John McCain, R-Ariz., and Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, were the guests of honor.

"Some senators came to the presentation, along with family members, my squadron commander, and my supervisor," said Quillen.

Although selected for the award, Quillen continues to recognize others as winners for the award.

"I was truly honored, but I'm just doing my job," said Quillen. "I think everyone deserves recognition. We're all doing our jobs."

## 12-SHIP

continued from page 1

guys in the world a little more well behaved than they normally might be, because they know that if called upon to do so, in a short period of time we can project power, in the form of paratroopers landing exactly where we want them to."

Changose said that as operators, practicing large formation procedures

is important. On Tuesday there were 12 planes flying in an instrument-condition formation eight miles long.

"It was really good training for our guys, and really good training for LG," Changose said.

Prior to May 14, the largest C-17 formation was an 11-ship. Changose said the large formations are due in part to Col. Robert Allardice, former 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group commander.

"When he (Allardice) came in he said, 'I want to do a nine-ship or better

every quarter,'" Changose said. "We were on that path, and we were doing that, until Sept. 11. Since Sept. 11, the biggest we've been able to get airborne has been six."

Changose said Col. Tommy Hixon, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group commander, and Allardice made a deal May 7, just one week before the 12-ship got off the ground, to fly all the jets flyable on base.

Getting the aircraft off the ground was no simple task, according to Changose.

"To launch a 12-ship, is a lot of work," Changose said. "Quite honestly, the hardest work was done by the maintainers."

Maj. Gerald Frederick, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron commander, agreed that launching and recovering 12 aircraft at once is nothing short of amazing.

"I've been doing this for 15 years," Frederick said. "Launching a 12-ship ... is a huge undertaking. The thing that amazes me the most about this is folks like (Tech.) Sgt. (George) Franks (315<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron) and company made it look easy."

Frederick said the maintainers on the flightline started work on jets that weren't flying during the day shift May 13, and bedded down the aircraft that were flying the evening before the launch and turned them by the time the aircrews for the formation showed up at 4 a.m.

"Elsewhere I've been, we'd stand down a day ahead of time and the day after to get the airplanes ready and to bed them down when they came back," said Frederick. "We didn't do that here. We flew training sorties the day before, and we flew training sorties the evening after. It came off without a hitch, and I've never seen that before."

Franks, an activated reservist, said he's been in the Reserve for 14 years, and the formation May 14 was the first 12-ship he's ever seen.

"That goes to show you what Team Charleston is all about," Franks said. "We're all about production and getting the airplanes off the ground."

Franks said even though "Team Charleston" sometimes sounds like just another catchphrase, the way the activated reservists from the 315 AGS and active-duty members of the 437 AGS work together, the phrase has real meaning.

According to Franks, the maintainers weren't the only ones working hard to turn the aircraft. He said the 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron Fuels Flight also had a big hand in making the whole thing work.

"You have to give credit to the POL guys because they were there waiting with fuel when the airplanes landed, so we could turn the jets," Franks said. "We even had to turn a few jets when the 12-ship landed, so they deserve a credit also."

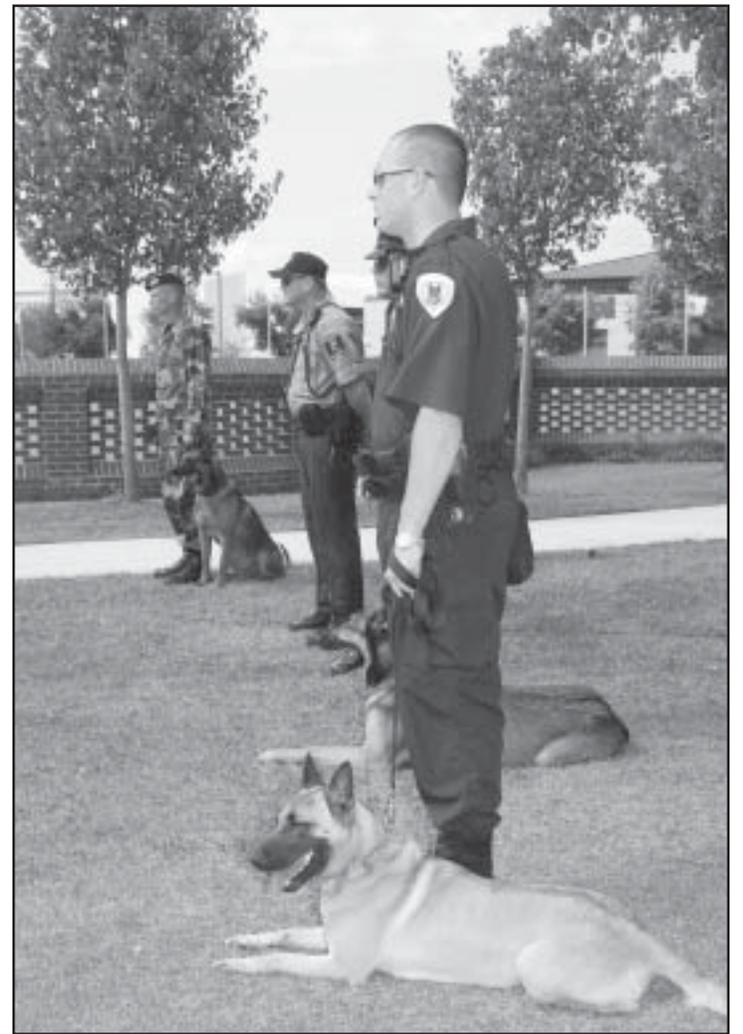


Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

## Honoring the fallen

The 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron hosted a memorial retreat ceremony at the base flag pole May 17 to honor National Police Week, May 12-Saturday. Representatives of local law enforcement agencies attended the ceremony.



Photo by Senior Airman Bethann Hunt, 1 CTCS

One of 12 C-17s in formation May 14 airdrops its cargo. According to Lt. Col. William "Goose" Changose, 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron commander, all of the drops were right on target and all landed within the designated drop zone.

# B-24 aircrew members remember Charleston, combat

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

Jumping out of a crippled B-24 Liberator over Vienna, Austria following a bombing run was one of many stories told during the 456<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion May 15-19 in Charleston.

A group of about 130 World War II veterans and their families toured the base May 16 and heard about Team Charleston's accomplishments from Col. Karl Young, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing vice commander, during their annual banquet May 18.

The 456 BG, assigned under the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force, flew combat missions from Stornara, Italy, from 1944-1945. The group activated June 1, 1943, and consisted of four B-24 squadrons. The group flew 249 missions, bombing oil refineries and storage, rail centers, airdromes and aircraft factories in locations such as Ploesti, Vienna, Munich, Regensburg. The group sustained more than 100 aircraft losses during that period.

Charleston AFB can trace its origins to the legendary B-24s. From Jan. 1, 1944 until May 30, 1945, CAFB, then under First Air Force, trained 8,630 B-24 combat crews, enough to completely man the Eighth Air Force. It was only after the war had ended, that CAFB assumed the airlift role of ferrying supplies and troops around the world.

John Singer Sr., a 456 BG member now living in Danbury, Conn., remembers his training at Charleston AFB. After receiving his initial training in Florida in 1944, he arrived at Charleston in August 1944, stayed here until October, and became a nose turret gunner.

"The base was a lot bigger, and the buildings then were just tar paper shacks," the 79 year old said, clutching a picture of the base's mostly dirt taxiways. "The majority of the planes here were misfits. Each plane had a different characteristic. One B-24 wouldn't stay airborne unless you left the nose wheel down. It was numbered double zero, and whenever that plane took off, people took off because inevitably the pilot probably didn't know that the nose gear had to stay down while flying.

"I believe half the planes back then (at Charleston) were defects," Singer continued. "Another plane, you couldn't open the bomb bay doors, so they used that one for gunship training."

Singer went on to fly 18 combat missions, and he said he was happy his time was cut short when the war ended.

"I was born in Germany and had told them that I did not want to go there because I had relatives still living in Germany," Singer explained. "My choice back then was either I go over there or go to jail. They did try to limit my trips to Germany, and I only did two bombing missions over there, the rest were to places in Yugoslavia and Austria. We bombed the heavily defended oil refineries in Vienna."

Following the war, he managed to hear from all his relatives in Germany and none had perished, though several had some narrow escapes.

"I did catch hell from some relatives for the damage that was done to several cities," Singer said.

Don Redding, another 456 BG member now living in Independence, Mo., remembers the raid on Vienna too, particularly since his entire crew bailed out and survived after flak

heavily damaged the wing on their B-24. He joined the group in September 1944 as a replacement crewmember and served as a flight engineer and right waist gunner.

"I was over there for about two months when we were shot down on our 15<sup>th</sup> mission," said Redding, who was a 21-year-old staff sergeant at the time. "We were on our third mission to Vienna and were bombing a marshalling yard at the time. We lost four planes that day.

"The shell went through the wing, and I saw all the gas jettisoning out of the wing," he continued. "I tried to stand up, and the plane started vibrating and falling off.

"We'd been hit by a lot of flak in the past, but none of it had been fatal or damaging to the plane," Redding added. "It was a miracle that all 10 of us got out. We were right over the city of Vienna. I came down spinning on my back and pulled the ripcord. I don't know of another crew where everyone had gotten out.

"When I was coming down, I could see the firing of small arms and hear the bullets go by my ear. A German soldier picked me up. I was shook up, but not hurt and they took me away to a barracks," he said about his capture on Dec. 11, 1944. His girlfriend, now his wife, was notified about two days before Christmas that he was listed as missing in action. She later learned on Valentine's Day that he was a prisoner of war.

He was later transferred to an interrogation center for about a week, where he avoided answering any questions. He eventually ended up in Stalag 1, which was an officer's camp, but according to Redding, they had nowhere else to send him.

Redding said the biggest problems for the POWs were the cold and food.

"It was the coldest winter in 50 years," he said. "We used portions of the sub-flooring for heat. I probably weighed about 175 pounds when I was shot down and left at 125 pounds. They just didn't have anything for us to eat."

Redding and his fellow prisoners were liberated May 12, 1945 by the Russian army.

"The Russians were on the biggest horses I ever saw, and we were still wearing our flight jackets with the American flag when we made our way into town after the Germans released us," Redding said. "They would see us, kiss us on the cheeks and give us a bottle of Vodka. It was just like a Wild West Show."

Only five of the remaining crewmembers are still alive, but Redding says they stay in touch with one another. He tries to go to as many reunions as possible and said he enjoys the company of his fellow aviators.

The B-24 Liberator was produced in greater quantities and flown in more theaters of war by the air forces of more countries than any other four-engine bomber in World War II. Consolidated Vultee, Ford Motor Company, Douglas Aircraft and North American Aircraft produced 19,256 planes (in several versions) between 1939 and 1945. Today there are only two flight-worthy B-24's in existence.

The other four-engine heavy bomber, the Boeing B-17, received most of the publicity, particularly in the strategic air campaign against the Germans in Europe. Yet B-24's outnumbered the B-17's even there. B-24's could fly higher, faster, farther, and carry a bigger bomb load.

## 437 SFS dominates local police for shooting competition win

Story and photo by  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Amy  
Perry  
437 AW Public Affairs

Charleston AFB hosted several activities for National Police Week, May 12 to Saturday.

A memorial service was held May 17 at the base flagpole to remember fallen officers, and a pistol match occurred Saturday between many of the local police departments.

Sgt. Doug Wright, a local officer from the Summerville Interstate Criminal Enforcement, enjoys the event that transpires every year.

"I think (the events) are real good," said Wright. "We don't ever want to forget the biggest sacrifice we could give in law enforcement: our life. That's why we have a memorial every year the week of May 15."

Although May 17 was a day of remembrance, on Saturday the officers went head-to-head

in competition.

"The Hundred Club, a local law enforcement club, organizes the pistol competition, and we run it and use our facilities," said Staff Sgt. Kelly Phipps, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms instructor. "It's a good chance for security forces to interact with local law enforcement."

Phipps said that 437 SFS did better overall than any of the other law enforcement agencies.

"In the team event, the 437 SFS Team 2 won with a score of 1,382 out of 1,500," Phipps said. "The Summerville PD took second with 1,289 and the Goose Creek PD took third with 1,272.

Phipps said in the individual event, a police officer from Goose Creek took first place.

"Shawn Laffey won first place with 286 out of 300," Phipps said.

Phipps said the 437 SFS Team 2's Staff Sgt. Anthony Osborne came in second with 284, and Master Sgt. James Glasgow seized third with 283.

Phipps said this year wasn't the first time the 437 SFS did so well.

"Last year 437 SFS won overall, and the individual winner was also a security forces member," Phipps said.

Two local law enforcement officers

said they enjoyed the competition because of the deep comradeship it promotes.

"All and all it's all great camaraderie," said James Odell, Charleston County Sheriff's Office. "We have a great working relationship, and this helps get to know a lot of people within the inter department agencies."

Wright agreed.

"I think it's a great competition," said Wright. "It's good to see members of other departments together. The camaraderie runs deep."

Phipps said he knows that the National Police Week events are important to build closeness with the other law enforcement units.

"It builds a good (working) relationship with all local departments," Phipps said.

National Police Week is held annually, with the memorial service and the pistol match at CAFB.



Lt. Michael Donoghue, left, and Cpl. Ken Billings, both from the Summerville Police Department, take aim at their targets in competition here Saturday.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

**Day off:** The Air Mobility Command commander has designated today as a minimum-manning day for active-duty military personnel. The civilian employees of the 437<sup>th</sup> and 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wings who choose not to work on that day will be authorized liberal leave (i.e., annual, compensatory time, credit hours or leave without pay), subject to their supervisor's approval and workload permitting.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing is hosting a retirement ceremony for Senior Master Sgt. Robert Adams today, 3:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tona Cook at 963-5198.

**Luau:** A going-away luau for Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander, and his wife, Sandy, is scheduled for Tuesday, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Tickets are \$17 for club members and \$20 for non-members. RSVP by calling 963-3995.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Staff Sgt. Wayne Belisle Wednesday, 3 p.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. William Cline at 963-5341.

**Hoedown:** A farewell hoedown, in honor of Col. Karl Young, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing vice commander, is scheduled for Thursday, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. RSVP by today to 963-5476.

**Change of command:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron will host a change of command June 6, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club. At that time Maj. Jeffrey Schwefler will relinquish command to Maj. John Keffer. For more information, call Master Sgt. John Kannegaard at 963-2955.

## Around the base

**Closure:** The Charleston AFB Commissary will be closed Tuesday in observance of Memorial Day.

**CCC:** Term V classes for City Colleges of Chicago are scheduled to begin May 27 at the Community Education Center. Registration began April 22 and will continue through the beginning of classes. Class schedules for Term V are out and can be e-mailed or faxed to students or picked up at the CCC office in the education center. For Term V, the school is offering Biology, Computer Language, English, Humanities, College Algebra, Psychology, Sociology and Speech, among others. Many courses offer morning, noon and evening sessions. For more information or to register, call the CCC office at 552-5959 or visit the office in the CEC.

**Steak out:** The Charleston AFB Top 3 Association is hosting a steak out June 12, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Base Picnic Grounds. Tickets are \$5 per meal and include an eight ounce rib-eye steak, baked potato, baked beans and a drink. Deadline to purchase tickets is June 7.

**Red Cross training:** Red Cross Medical Assistant Training Program classes are scheduled to begin June 24. The program is open to family members of active-duty and retired military personnel. The six-month course requires five-days per week attendance. Attendees will learn practical and on-the-job training about obtaining vital signs, interviewing patients and assisting with invasive procedures, to name a few. Applications are available at the Family Practice Clinic and must be submitted by June 17. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Karen Smith at 963-6714 or Master Sgt. Noble Lisenbee at 963-6780.

**Prostate screening:** A prostate cancer screening day is scheduled for June 21, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Urology Clinic on the fifth floor of Naval Hospital Charleston. All male active duty members and retirees over age 45 are eligible to attend. The screening is by appointment only. To schedule a screening, call 743-7253.

**Discount:** The Hilton Oceanfront Resort at Hilton Head Island is offering a special rate for military members who stay at the Resort any Sunday-Thursday from May 7-June 5. The "Military Base" rate is \$79 per night. For more information, call (800) 845-8001.

**Consignment shop:** The Consignment Shop is extending their consigning hours, and the number of consignment items has increased to

## Change of Command

Col. Brooks Bash will become commander of the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing during the Wing Change of Command ceremony June 3, 10 a.m., at the C-17 Nosedock.

At that time, Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander, will relinquish command to Bash, who served as Deputy Executive Secretary for the National Security Council in the Executive Office of the President of the United States under both Presidents George W. Bush and William Clinton.

There will be a reception immediately following the ceremony at the Charleston Club.

24 each time. Consigning hours are extended to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The shop is also open Tuesdays nights from 6-8 p.m., taking consignments until 7:30 p.m. It is also open the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., consigning until 12:30 p.m. The shop is located at 203 Graves St., across from the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Building. For more information, call 963-3294.

**Smart Card:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron issues and updates smart cards daily and the Parts Store, Bldg. T-80, and Customer Service, Bldg. 302. During swing- and mid-shifts, the cards are issued at the parts store only. For more information, call Consolidated Customer Service at 9963-4826 or Master Sgt. Debra Baczweski at 963-4836.

**Transportation:** Air Force regulations state government vehicles shall only be operated by military personnel, civilian employees, approved civilian contractors and Nonappropriated Fund employees who meet all applicable criteria. Additional information on Air Force policy for government owned vehicles is available in AFI 24-301, Vehicle Operations, and AFI 23-111, Management of Government Property in Possession of the Air Force. For more information regarding official use of government vehicles, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron, Vehicle Operations Flight at 963-4236.

## Family Support Center

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

**Thrift Savings Plan Briefing:** Wednesday, 8:30-10 a.m.

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

**Positive Parenting Part II:** Thursday, 6-8 p.m.

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

## Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Amy Perry

Staff Sgt. Lynn Scholl  
437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron

Staff Sgt. Lynn Scholl is a 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron customer service representative.

"I work in research records maintenance," said Scholl. "I load stock numbers to order stuff for customers and help customers acquire local purchase assets."

The Petersburg, Neb., native has been in the Air Force for more than eight years. He has only been stationed at Charleston AFB, but doesn't mind that fact.

"I like Charleston," said Scholl. "I'll stay here as long as they let me stay."

Scholl's hobbies are fishing, hunting and most sports.

It's his love of sports that gives him the chance to give back to the community.

"We (other members of the 437<sup>th</sup> SUPS) started a Charleston Swamp Foxes fan club, an arena football team," said Scholl. "We tailgate at the games to raise money for the Happy Days and Special Times organization, which helps children with cancer. We donate 100 percent of the money we receive to the organization."

Scholl said he loves his job in the Air Force because of his work environment and the opportunities it provides.

"My job allows me the freedom to do my job and make things happen, and also, I like the people I work with," said Scholl. "It makes it easier to do my job. Working with good people and working for good people, it's all good. It makes a big difference."

## COMMENTARY

## About the paper

AIRLIFT  
Dispatch

Published by Diggle Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military service.

Contents of the *Airlift Dispatch* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, Air Force, or Diggle Publishing, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. All photos are Air Force photos unless identified otherwise.

## Deadlines

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.

## Advertising

Classified advertisements may be referred to Diggle Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 2014, Mount Pleasant, S.C., 29465, Phone: (843) 849-1778 or e-mailed to [sales@islandpapers.com](mailto:sales@islandpapers.com). Classified advertisements are free, with the exception of personal business ads, for active duty military members and their spouses, retirees and Reservists.

## Address/Numbers

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

Phone: (843) 963-5608

Fax: (843) 963-5604.

Mail to: 437 AW PAI

102 East Hill Blvd.

Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154

or send to:

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

## Editorial Staff

437 AW Commander

**Brig. Gen. Vern M. "Rusty" Findley II**

Chief, Public Affairs

**Lt. Col. Edmund Memi**

Editor

**Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter**

Staff Writer

**Staff Sgt. Jason Smith**

Staff Writer

**Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Amy Perry**

## National Moment of Remembrance to mark Memorial Day

By Col. Karl Young

437 AW vice commander

Monday, Memorial Day, America will honor those men and women who died in service to our country or by acts of terrorism. This important day is being re-emphasized with a new Memorial Day tradition called the National Moment of Remembrance.

The president and members of Congress have joined together in support of the National Moment of Remembrance and encourage all Americans to participate in this very meaningful and nationally unifying act. The goal is that Americans everywhere will pause for one minute Monday, at precisely 3 p.m. (local time), in silent reflection for America's fallen.

During this one minute of tribute, the National Moment of Remembrance recommends that all Americans signify their unity in this gesture by doing one or more of the following: placing the right hand over one's heart; playing "Taps" during the National Moment of Remembrance; or if in a vehicle, turn on the vehicle's headlights. Please participate in this new tradition.

Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley flew his last local training flight Tuesday. As tradition dictates, he was appropriately soaked on his "fini flight" before he heads to Yokota AB, Japan, as the vice commander for Fifth Air Force. I know he will miss flying the C-17, and, I am sure with some regret, he will relinquish command to Col. Brooks Bash June 3.

General Findley was also honored by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce President Dick Elliott May 16. Elliott presented General Findley with a plaque honoring his efforts to bring the base and business community together. The chamber's military affairs committee hosted a special reception in honor of area military commanders and took time during this reception to honor the base for our community relations efforts. The recognition was significant because it symbolizes the strong ties between the base and the business community.

As ample proof of our strong bond with the community, we hosted a visit by 17 area business leaders from throughout Berkeley County on Monday. They were part of the chamber's Leadership Berkeley class, which is designed to acquaint up-and-coming civic leaders with the city, state and federal government. The group spends approximately 10 months learning everything they can about local issues. The group received 437<sup>th</sup> and 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wings' mission briefings, participated in a panel discussion with the group commanders and toured a number of base facilities. For many of these individuals, it marked the first time they ever set foot on the base.

I am proud of the progress we have made in turning Charleston into an Air Force Town with programs such as the honorary commanders program, speaking engagements in the local community and our involvement in the community itself. This past weekend, General Findley and I spoke to two separate groups of World War II veterans and their families. There was a common theme among these veterans and their families. These veterans expressed their sincere appreciation for everything the base is doing on behalf of the war on terrorism. This type of praise is something I hear often in the local community.

As part of the community salute to the Armed Forces, military members will receive free admission to a Charleston Battery soccer game Saturday and Charleston RiverDogs baseball game Wednesday. Come out and watch a C-17 flyover and General Findley throwing out the first pitch at the RiverDogs game.

We held a ribbon cutting for the recently renovated



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

**Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander, accepts a plaque from Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce President Dick Elliott May 16.**

First-Term Airmen Center on Tuesday. Airmen spend about 10 duty days at the FTAC. The FTAC gives them a solid orientation on the base and helps them complete much of their ancillary training. The open house gave everyone a chance to see the many improvements to their facility and their new equipment.

We held an extremely informative session Tuesday on preparing our leadership for the beginning of hurricane season, which starts June 1. The session provided our people with a chance to examine our decision processes and receive a number of helpful briefings on some of the considerations we would face when a major hurricane comes our way. We also tested our procedures with a comprehensive exercise Thursday.

It is not too soon to start thinking about your families' preparations should a hurricane threaten us. Our location makes us very vulnerable to these major storms. Prepare yourself now for the season!

On Wednesday, we held our basewide Foreign Objection Damage Prevention walk. I appreciate the good participation from units throughout the base. **Manny Flores**, Senior Airman **Jamie Murray**, Master Sgt. **Glenn Kern**, Staff Sgt. **Theodore Odom** and Chief Master Sgt. **Elton Kelley**, all from the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. **Gary Ferguson**, 15<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron; found Golden Bolts on the flightline and received prizes. Congratulations to all our Golden Bolt winners! Make FOD something we look for every day to ensure the safety of our people and operations.

It was General Findley's honor to recognize some of our wing winners for the 2001 Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez Award Tuesday. The wing-level award winners, all from the 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron, were: Senior Master Sgt. **Lawrence Strother**, Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Person of the Year, Supervisor/Manager; Staff Sgt. **Todd Westhaver**, Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Person of the Year, Technician/Supervisor; and Senior Airman **Jason Brown**, Outstanding Aircraft Maintenance Person of the Year, Technician. Senior Airman **William Barber** was named winner of the Chief Master Sgt. Thomas N. Barnes Award for the Crew Chief of the Year, and Staff Sgt. **Ernest Hires** was named Flying Crew Chief of the Year.

I'll end this column with a note about the importance of safety and using Operational Risk Management in all that you do. We have a long weekend ahead of us. Please don't let alcohol consumption affect your good judgment and do something that you'll regret. Our goal is for everyone to safely return to work following our extended Memorial Day holiday. Enjoy your time off; just be safe out there!

# Commentary: Marking 10 years of AMC's service

**By Gen. John W. Handy**  
*AMC commander*

Ten years ago on June 1, a new era in air power history began with the creation of a new tanker and airlift force under a new name, Air Mobility Command. I was the commander of the Tanker Airlift Control Center then and I well remember the challenges we faced and the endless days we worked to make the idea of centralizing the scheduling and execution of airlift and air refueling missions a reality.

AMC's creation was part of a larger Air Force reorganization undertaken in response to changing international relations in a post Cold war era. As the Air Force became more expeditionary and the demands on rapid global mobility became greater, it became clear that centralized command and control of this nation's airlift and tanker forces was essential to enable the rapid, efficient movement of U.S. forces and their equipment to any location on the planet.

Today, every warfighter knows that AMC is who you call when you want to bring the forces to the fight, sustain them while they're there, and bring everyone home when its over.

AMC's global reach is tested daily. You, the men and women of our great command, prove that air mobility is a national asset - responding to

emergencies and protecting our national interests around the globe.

From providing relief supplies to hurricane, flood, and earthquake victims both at home and abroad to flying food and medicine to the innocent civilian victims of relentless repression of the Taliban regime, AMC has been engaged in almost nonstop operations since its inception.

Command tankers and airlifters have supported peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts in Kosovo, Bosnia, Iraq, Cambodia, Somalia, Rwanda and Haiti.

And today, AMC is an essential force multiplier in the global war on terrorism, key in combat air patrols patrolling homeland skies and vital to our airmen, soldiers, sailors and Marines fighting in land-locked Afghanistan.

Now, more than ever, we stand together for freedom. We are the pride of our nation and the free world. Each one of us, in every career field, makes monumental contributions in defending America, our land, our freedom, our hopes and our dreams.

The next decade will bring about transformation to the entire defense structure and changes to our way of operations, but what will always remain true is AMC's spirit of dedication and commitment.

I know you join me in celebrating AMC's first 10 years. Together, let's carry the standard of AMC excellence into the future.



## AMC history in brief

A new era in air power history began on June 1, 1992, when Military Airlift Command and Strategic Air Command were inactivated and Air Mobility Command (AMC) formed from elements of these two historic organizations. AMC melded a worldwide airlift system with a tanker force that had been freed from its strategic commitments by the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Air Mobility Command, born out of the biggest reorganization of the Air Force since its establishment as a separate service, has undergone considerable change since its establishment.

Focusing on its core mission of strategic air mobility, the command divested itself of infrastructure and forces not directly related to global reach.

AMC relinquished ownership of Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Kirtland AFB, N.M.; Altus AFB, Okla.; Lajes AB, Azores; Little Rock AFB, Ark.; Malmstrom AFB, Mont.; Grissom AFB, Ind.; and Norton AFB, Calif.

Air Rescue Service, intratheater aeromedical airlift forces based overseas, and much of the operational support airlift fleet have been transferred to other commands. But the KC-10s and most of the KC-135s initially assigned to ACC were transferred to AMC, along with Grand Forks AFB, N.D.; McConnell AFB, Kan.; and Fairchild AFB, Wash.

*(Information taken from the Air Mobility Command Web site, <https://www.amc.scott.af.mil/>.)*

## FEATURE

# Newly renovated FTAC prepares airmen for life in 'real' Air Force

Story and photos by  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Amy Perry  
437 AW Public Affairs

The newly renovated First-Term Airmen Center had its ribbon cutting Tuesday.

FTAC has been a part of Team Charleston since June 1998, and is a program all first-term airmen at their first duty station are required to attend ensuring they receive all mandatory newcomer's briefings.

Originally, airmen spent more than 30 days at FTAC, and were used primarily for details, according to Tech. Sgt. Joel Jones, FTAC NCOIC.

"They changed the FTAC schedule to 10 duty days," Jones said. "We didn't want the airmen to be stuck doing details as the first thing they did when they got here. Our job is to get them the required briefings, transition them from the technical school environment to this base and get them back to their units."

Jones said classes are usually made up of more than 20 people, and team leaders from various squadrons on base are in charge of each class.

"A team leader, an Airmen Leadership School graduate, is recommended by his or her squadron and then goes through a series of interviews," said Jones. "I interview them and send them to the 437<sup>th</sup> Support Group superintendent. If they get approval from both of us, they then go to their final interview with the command chief master sergeant.

"The team leader has to be a hard charger," continued Jones.

The new airmen get many important briefings, but there are a few that Jones said are key.

"(Brig.) Gen. (Rusty) Findley (437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander) came to Charleston AFB at about the same time I got here, and when I gave him the initial briefing for FTAC, I told him I wanted him to come back," Jones said. "He said that he wanted to come back to every (class), and I thought of his schedule and thought it would be hard to do. He said that he wanted to come every time.

"Since then, the wing commander or the vice commander and the command chief master sergeant, or someone from his office, has been to every FTAC session except for the one that occurred during 9/11," Jones said. "The general spends one hour with them. When the chief executive officer of a company comes to a new employee meeting to tell them, 'look, I'm glad you're here,' that's huge."

The Chiefs' Group gives another key briefing, said Jones.

"The Chiefs' Group provides a session in career progression," said Jones. "What is a better way to talk about career progression than to have a chief talk about it?"

The Family Support Center and the financial management office make up about 20 percent of the FTAC curriculum, making them key also, said Jones.

They have two days total, and one and a half of the two days is strictly financial



Members of the most recent First-Term Airmen's Center session enjoy the new furniture provided by the 437<sup>th</sup> Support Group. The FTAC held a renovation ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday, signaling the start of its new look.

planning, covering everything from writing a check to buying a car, said Jones.

Another important briefing that takes up an entire day is the Prime for Life course, a life skills course, said Jones.

"The Prime for Life course is an all day education class about alcohol and life choices," said Jones. "CAFB is the first FTAC to have it."

Those classes are the most important because they teach the airmen about important choices in life, finances, quality of life and a lot more, said Jones.

One first-term airman said he thought it was important to have FTAC.

"FTAC is nice," said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clayton Allen, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron. "It's better than throwing new airmen in the Air Force and making them find out everything by themselves."

Another airman echoed his sentiment.

"It's an excellent program," said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Brian Walker, 437 CES. "It tells you about all the resources on the base and tells you everything you need to know from deployments to finances."

The FTAC staff wants the airmen to get off to a good start, said Jones, and that's why he has three basic rules for the airmen to follow.

"They have to be on time; they should display the proper dress and appearance, military bearing, and customs and courtesies; and lastly they have to have a positive attitude going into their work center," said Jones. "We tell the airmen that 10 days in the FTAC is not going to make or break you."

Jones tells the airmen that time in FTAC doesn't decide which road they go down, but that FTAC prepares them for their first-line supervisor who can make or break them.

Jones said FTAC belongs to the base and that base support is needed to have a successful pro-

gram. Jones also said that it's due to base support, and command support, that the FTAC could be renovated.

"The command chief master sergeant of the 21<sup>st</sup> Air Force purchased a Sony multimedia system for us," Jones said. "Retired Gen. Tony Robertson (former Air Mobility Command commander) gave us \$18,000 for the renovations and the 437 SPTG bought \$16,000 worth of furniture.

"The renovations were going to be a self-help project, but the 437 CES's chief said 'no, we can do that,'" Jones said. "That's how it went from a self-help project to a CE project."

With CE's help, they were able to do a lot more with the renovations.

"We were able to lower the ceiling, put in new drywall and new lighting; basically we have a whole new infrastructure," said Jones. "We have better communication lines, new phones and purchased two new Pentium 4 computers. It's changed a lot."

Before the renovations, the FTAC crew kept it clean, but it still wasn't the same Jones said.

"The command chief master sergeant used to say, 'you can take a duck, clean it and put a bowtie on it, but it's still a duck,' Jones said. "I would tell the chief that it's clean, and he would say 'it's still a duck.'"

With the base's help, the FTAC was able to meet the needs of the airmen to come, said Jones, but it's not finished yet.

"This is the beginning of the FTAC," said Jones. "The open house was to show what the FTAC has, what it still needs and to make sure the base provides what they need."

FTAC has assisted more than 1,100 FTAC students since its creation in 1998. And from the looks of it, it will continue to transition new airmen to CAFB for many years to come.



Master Sgt. Robert Roach, 437<sup>th</sup> Aero-medical Dental Squadron, briefs first-term airmen on career development course study skills on behalf of the Top 3.

## 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.**

**"Panic Room" – Jodie Foster**

A divorced woman in her 30's and her daughter are caught up in a cat-and-mouse game inside their New York brownstone when three burglars come looking for hidden cash. Mother and daughter hide in the "panic room," a secret room designed for just such a purpose, but still end up fighting for their lives. **(R) 112 minutes**

**Saturday, 2 p.m.**

**"Mulan" – Animated**

A spirited young Chinese woman disguises herself as a man and joins the Chinese Army in ancient China. She is aided by Mushu, a pint-sized guardian dragon, that counsels her while she trains to be a warrior, bring victory to her country and honor to her family. The story is based on a real Chinese legend. Even today, a large number of daughters in China are named Mulan because it's such an honorable name. **(G) 88 minutes**

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

**"The Rookie" – Dennis Quaid**

The true story of high school science teacher and baseball coach Jim Morris, who makes a deal with his team. **(G) 129 minutes**

## Fitness & Sports

# CAFB soccer playoff action heats up Hurricane Field

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Jason Smith

437 AW Public Affairs

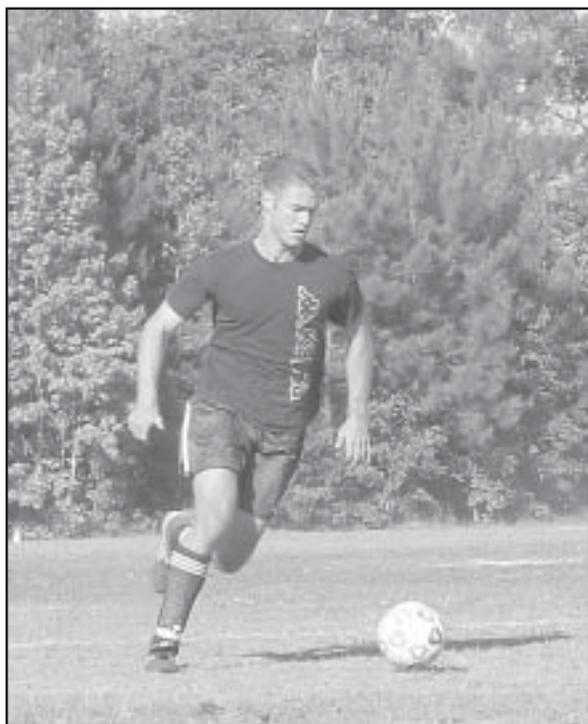
NNPTC (Naval Nuclear Power Training Command) easily blanked CS 9-0 in playoff soccer action May 16.

Going into the game, Jerod Ketcham, NNPTC, said his team knew it was facing a challenge, but felt good about the chance for a win.

"As I recall, CS is a quality team," said Ketcham. "Our key players, Steve Earl and Jason Karap, are both going to be there. We're healthy, and I feel confident."

Ketcham's confidence was proven as his team controlled the ball for most of the 60-minute game. Delmar McKinley, CS goalie, was bombarded with non-stop shots through out the duration.

"We're not as good



Gale Clark, NNPTC, brings the ball down the field on a scoring drive during NNPTC's 9-0 win over CS.

as them, basically," said McKinley. "They have more skilled players than we do. We're really just learning the sport, and they're already experts. Anytime that happens, you get beat."

Another reason to add to the laundry list for the CS shellacking was the substitution situation. NNPTC had fresh players available at all times, while every CS player had to stay on the field the entire game.

This type of raw beating was not typical of the CS season where they finished 5-5.

"We did the best we could," said McKinley.

"We won our first game in the playoffs by forfeit. Now, we're looking forward to playing MXS in the next round."

MXS ended up winning what proved to be a close game by scoring a final point in overtime to edge out CS, 4-3.

In the late game May 16, Med GP took on AGS and came out victorious 8-2. Med GP finished the regular season 6-3-1.

"We played well," said Monti Cutlip, Med GP. "We really came together, we were moving the ball and our defense was solid."

Cutlip said AGS had some key players deployed. He credits that and some key morale boosters to Med GP's big win.

"AGS is usually strong," said Cutlip. "During the season we beat them once and they tied us once. It's always a tough fight."

Individual efforts were also a big part of the win, according to Cutlip. He said Jason Ham, Med GP, scored three goals during the game, providing inspiration to the whole team.

The NNPTC and Med GP wins set the stage for what some called "the championship game before the championship game."

The two teams brought their skills to the field Tuesday, with NNPTC dominating Med GP, 6-2.

Following that match, AGS beat out MXS, 3-1, and moved on to face Med GP Wednesday night. The winner of that game went on to face NNPTC in the championship match Thursday.

As of press time, the results of the final round of the playoffs and championship game were not available. Read the May 31 edition of the *Airlift Dispatch* to find out what team is named the 2002 Charleston AFB Intramural Soccer Champions.



Lathan Chevls (right), CS, tries to break down field while Jerod Ketcham, NNPTC, moves in for the steal.



Delmar McKinley, CS goalie, dives to stop a shot on goal during a May 16 game against NNPTC.

### Sports briefs

**Ice hockey:** The Charleston AFB Hurricanes ice hockey team's game Sunday is cancelled because of the holiday. It will be made up June 4, 7 p.m., at the Carolina Ice Palace. The Hurricanes' next game is June 2, 8:30 p.m., at the Carolina Ice Palace. Admission to all games is free. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Jason Smith at 963-5536 or Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones at 963-5657.

**Softball:** The intramural softball season is underway. There are multiple games during the week including TRANS vs. AGS Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., at field 1, CS/SVS vs. Navy Hosp. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., at field 1, and SFS vs. MED GP Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at field 2.

**Golf tournament:** The Air Force Association is hosting a golf tournament May 31, 8 a.m., at Wrenwoods Golf Course. The cost is \$15, and all proceeds go toward the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Air Force Ball. Cart rental and green fees apply also. There will be a pig roast for all participants after the tournament. For more information, call 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Sara Fisher at 963-3612, or Master Sgt. Janet Osborne at 963-4190.

**Cheerleading:** Stratford High School is holding an annual cheerleading camp June 10-14, 9 a.m.-noon, each day. The \$45 cost includes a T-shirt. Additional children from the same family costs \$35 each. For more information, call Kathy Knichel at 963-5644.

**Sports Line:** Call the Sports Line at 963-4318 for all the latest scores, game times and other sports information.