

DISPATCH



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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, May 31, 2002



CAFB members help prevent FOD

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Five maintainers and one flyer took home prizes from the Foreign Object Damage Prevention Walk May 22.

"The FOD walk is a chance for Team Charleston to help save and prevent damage to our C-17s," said 2nd Lt. Derick Seaton, 437th Maintenance Squadron and current semi-annual FOD walk coordinator. "Even though aircraft are landing in austere conditions, we can still prevent costly repairs on base and for transients (other aircraft using the flightline here)."

A member of the 437th Airlift Wing Safety office stressed the importance of the FOD walk.

"We do (the FOD walk) to make sure the flightline is clear of foreign objects," said Staff Sgt. Bart Craven, 437 AW Safety Inspection and Training NCOIC. "We have to keep (the ramp) safe for aircraft."

See FOD, page 3

More than 240 Team Charleston members turned out May 22 for the base's semi-annual Foreign Object Damage Prevention Walk. Six "Golden Bolts" were hidden on the flightline, and the people who found them were awarded prizes ranging from Army and Air Force Exchange Service coupons to a Bahamas cruise. Foreign objects on the flightline can be extremely hazardous to both personnel and equipment, potentially causing thousands of dollars in damage.

Commands announce start of ATWIND program Prizes up for grabs during summertime services promotion

Air Mobility Command and Air Force Space Command Services will soon begin the boarding call for their summer promotion, Around The World In Ninety Days. ATWIND starts June 1 and continues throughout the summer.

According to Col. Terry N. Mayer, AMC Services director, ATWIND has been enormously successful the past three years.

"We are very pleased to be able to provide more than 11,350 prizes for ATWIND 2002," Mayer said. "It has become the premiere summer promotion, and we will award three brand new cars along with thousands of other great prizes; there is nothing that compares with this win-

ning opportunity for our military community."

According to Britt Lock, 437th Services Squadron Marketing, many Team Charleston members won smaller prizes last year, while four won large prizes, ranging from 36-inch televisions to \$1,000 cash.

ATWIND is a virtual adventure around the world. The player's "mission" is to travel from one landmark destination to another. Players earn travel miles every time they participate in an ATWIND event from June 1 through Aug. 31.

"The goal of ATWIND is to increase awareness and participation in programs, services and activities throughout the command," said Sam

Parker, marketing director with AMC Services. He said ATWIND's master events list includes recreational activities, sports and fitness, social functions, youth programs, educational opportunities, family support programs, chapel programs, base events and services.

Lock said the 437 SVS goal is a five percent increase in participation over last years numbers, or the equivalent of 169 new players.

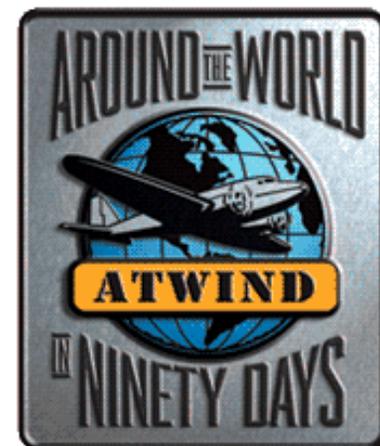
"If we meet our goal, Charleston AFB wins \$5,000," Lock said. "If we place first, with the most entries, we win \$20,000 in addition to the \$5,000."

The base with the second-highest number of participants wins \$10,000, and the

third-place base gets \$5,000, according to Lock.

Beginning June 1, people can see firsthand how the ATWIND game is played by registering the free introductory game piece # 9999-0033-333 at the ATWIND Web site (www.atwind.com) or calling ATWIND's toll-free number, (888) 597-9960. Once registered, participants then log their ATWIND travel miles on the Web or by using the toll-free number.

"The list of ATWIND opportunities is quite impressive," said Mayer. "We have included some new twists this year, adding an on-line Military Trivia Quiz and offering additional prize-winning opportunities worth thousands of dollars. I encourage every-



one to log on and get into the fun."

This year, prizes range from promotional T-shirts to vacation packages, cash and a choice of one of three Ford Motor Company vehicles.

See ATWIND, page 9

IN THE NEWS

Eagle Eyes program aims at spotting terrorist activities

Individuals are the only ones who know who or what belongs – or doesn't belong – in their building, neighborhood or work center.

Recognition of this fact is behind one of the latest Air Force antiterrorism initiatives, a program known as "Eagle Eyes."

The program has characteristics of a typical neighborhood-watch program, and Air Force officials consider it a key piece in the service's antiterrorism strategy.

According to Special Agent Kristen Welch, Counterintelligence Program Manager of Det. 310 of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations here, the program takes its cue from the experiences of British and Israeli authorities, who have significant experience dealing with urban terrorism.

"They make it their business to pay a lot of attention to small things that, in combination, can indicate they're being targeted," Welch said. "Eagle Eyes is our model for doing just that.

The simple act of recognizing suspicious behavior and reporting it to base authorities could thwart terrorist acts and save lives."

At Charleston AFB, anyone with something to report should immediately call the 437th Security Forces Law Enforcement Desk at 911 (on base) or 963-3600. From there, security forces will respond as appropriate to the situation and immediately pass the report to OSI Det. 310. From there, OSI will begin appropriate follow-up action, which may include an agent responding to talk with the person who called in the report to gain additional information on what was seen or heard.

At the same time, the information will be quickly upchanneled to OSI's central analytical center at Andrews AFB, Md., to compare with other Air Force reports, as well as similar information from the Army, Navy and other federal agencies.

But it all begins at the local level, Welch said, where ter-

rorists conduct operational planning activities.

"Every terrorist operation is preceded by precursor events that people need to recognize and report," said Welch. "Terrorist acts don't just happen – they are carefully planned and rehearsed many, many times in advance."

The key, Welch said, is public awareness of what to look for and take note of – both on and off base.

"This is something the whole community needs to be involved in," Welch said. "Anyone – from active-duty military members, to family members, to government civilians, contractors, and even off-base business proprietors – could see something out of the ordinary, report it, and make the difference between a terrorist act occurring or not occurring."

Welch said people shouldn't be gun-shy about reporting incidents that could turn out to be innocent behavior.

"That's bound to happen from time to time, but you don't know if it's innocent until

you report it and have it checked out," Welch said.

Welch said activity that should be reported can be classified into six broad categories:

- Specific threats: any threat received by any means that contains a specific time, location, or area for an attack

- Instances of any out-of-the-ordinary person or persons monitoring activities and/or recording information; such activity may include the use of cameras, note taking, notes on maps or drawings, hand-drawn maps or diagrams, and the use of binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices; it could also be as simple as seeing the same unknown vehicle parked in your area without explanation

- Any attempts to obtain security-related information – or even basic information about the base – by anyone who does not have the appropriate security clearance and the need-to-know; known as "elicitation," these attempts may be made by e-mail, fax, telephone, in person or through

the mail

- Any attempts to measure security-reaction times or strengths and weaknesses; any attempts to test or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures; any attempts to acquire or duplicate uniforms, badges, passes, or other security-related documents

- Repetitive activities: any two or more suspicious activities by the same person and/or vehicle in a one-month period

- Suspicious activities/incidents: any activity that does not specifically fit into the previous categories yet it is a concern to the individual; some examples of this are thefts of uniforms, ID cards, or vehicle decals

Military members need to protect each other by being vigilant and aware of their surroundings. The deterrent effect can only work if every individual reports suspicious activities to law enforcement.

(Article submitted by AFOSI Det. 310)

Command celebrates 10 years of continued excellence

From delivering emergency relief to transporting dignitaries involved in stabilizing volatile governments, from bringing forces to the fight to evacuating medical patients and casualties of war, Air Mobility Command has just about done it all.

For the past 10 years, AMC has created a legacy of excellence, bearing the nation's flag and standard of freedom and democracy throughout the world.

June 1 marks the 10th anniversary of the creation of AMC as America's premier Air Mobility Team. While celebrations this year are subdued because of ongoing operations worldwide in support of the war on terrorism, AMC officials wanted to recognize the accomplishments and the people who've made "global reach" possible.

Since its creation, AMC's charge has been to provide rapid, global mobility and sustainment for America's military. "AMC has been engaged in almost nonstop operations since its inception. Today, every war fighter 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," said Gen. John Handy, AMC commander and commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command.

From moving tanks and troops to

transporting water and whales, AMC's mission is diverse.

"We've provided relief supplies to hurricane, flood, and earthquake victims both at home and abroad and have flown food and medicine to the innocent civilian victims of the relentless repression of the Taliban regime," said Handy.

AMC has been called upon to support major contingencies and humanitarian operations around the world including Operation Allied Force in Kosovo; Operations Joint Endeavor and Provide Promise in Bosnia-Herzegovian; Support Hope in Rwanda; Maintain Democracy in Haiti; Restore Hope in Somalia; and Phoenix Scorpion exercises in Southwest Asia. At home, the command has provided much-needed aid to disaster victims from New York to California.

With its three-pronged mission—refueling, airlift (cargo and people) and aeromedical evacuation—AMC people have been in just about every country imaginable, almost 200 at last count.

"AMC's global reach is tested daily.

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," said Handy.

Although 1992 marked the birth of the new command, 1991 was a pivotal one for airpower. On the eve of the Air Force's 44th birthday, Secretary of the Air Force Donald Rice announced the end of Strategic Air Command, Tactical Air Command and Military Airlift Command and the creation of two new commands that came to be known as Air Combat Command and Air Mobility Command.

This Air Force restructuring came about because of a shift in the security strategies of the Cold War Era, which focused on the Soviet Union, to set the Air Force on a new course of Global Reach, Global Power.

National defense polices and the drawdown overseas meant fewer forward deployed forces.

The new times required global reach and rapid response to world hotspots through integrating airlift

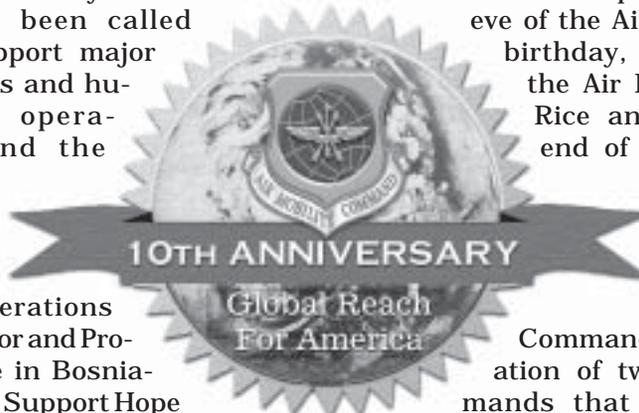
and aerial refueling. By February 1992, the Tanker Airlift Control Center assumed sole responsibility for aerial refueling as the Air Force began embracing the concept of unified air power.

In planning for the new organization in early 1992, MAC and provisional leaders, including commander Gen. H.T. Johnson and provisional leader Maj. Gen. Walter Cross, sought to create a new organizational identity which would arise from elements of MAC and SAC.

Johnson took a personal interest in the new emblem for the command. His call for ideas netted 14 possibilities. After deliberation and selecting the best possible one, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Merrill (Tony) McPeak had an idea of his own. The AMC shield would be the same design as the old MAC shield.

As far as other pieces of the new command's identity, Johnson directed the use of Phoenix as the generic nickname for command activities from heraldry terms. The term represented the creation of AMC from the end of SAC and MAC, similar to the Phoenix, a mythological bird that consumed itself by fire after 500 years and was reborn from the ashes.

(AMCNS.)



Team Charleston civil engineers still proud to serve

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Sonny Cohrs
320 AEW Public Affairs

Reservists come from all walks of life and bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and manpower to the fight. Eight 315th Civil Engineer Squadron reservists, currently serving in the 320th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, also bring with them stories of war – the Vietnam War.

Chief Master Sgt. Merritt Porter, Senior Master Sgt. Sonny Cannon, Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Gullett, Senior Master Sgt. Tim Hiott, Master Sgt. George Aldrich, Master Sgt. Ronald Gore and Master Sgt. John Murray, and Tech. Sgt. George Frazier all paid their dues and served their country – a nation that shunned them when they returned home.

The veterans range in age from 53 to 58 and not one was drafted – all joined the service of their choice when their country needed them most.

“Nobody appreciates what all went on, Cannon said. “It wasn’t that the soldiers agreed with the war – it was the fact that they went in and did their duty.”

Despite the way they were treated, all opted to serve their country again. Each had a break in service, with some taking as long as 15 years before donning the uniform once more.

Cannon graduated from high school and 10 days later was enlisted in the Air Force. He was stationed at Clarke Air Base in the Philippines for 17 months beginning in June 1967. Upon his return to the States, he was spit on three times while riding the cable cars in San Francisco simply because he was in uniform.

Today, the story is different. Now, nearly forty years later, Americans thank them and shake their hands for their service to the country in these current times.

All eight men are deployed in sup-

port of Operation Enduring Freedom. Instead of facing the jungles of Southeast Asia, they find themselves in the deserts of Southwest Asia. They are again half a world away from home, but the growing patriotism since Sept. 11 helps them end their career on a high note. They call it their “last dance.”

Murray, the “grunt” of the group, spent three years, seven months and 29 days in the Marine Corps – though he wasn’t counting. His time in Vietnam was from May 1966 to June 1967 where he was an infantryman on patrol from Da Nang up to the demilitarized zone. “I spent about 14 months horrified,” he said. “Time resolves it all. You don’t bring back bad memories all the time, so you just try to put them out of your mind the best you can.”

Murray, like most of the vets here, doesn’t really like to talk about his time in combat. However, he does like to recollect about the good times he had with the friends he made there. “Most every memory I have out of that whole experience is good because of the people and because of the country. Some of the beauty around that place hadn’t been destroyed.”

Aldrich agreed, saying, “I don’t believe in telling war stories cause there is no thrill to it or remembering the pain that goes with it.”

These civil engineers have made many friends during their time in the military. They’ve also had to face the harsh brutality of war when they had to say goodbye to a comrade.

The day before Frazier arrived in country in March 1969, his unit’s gunnery sergeant was killed while rescuing aircrew from an aircraft that crashed at the end of the runway. His base was also under fire most of the time.

“We got rocketed every night,” he said, “every night I was there. I can

watch somebody light a firecracker, and I still jump. A lot of things you never get over.”

Hiott was a door gunner on a Huey Gunship and has 900 combat hours to his name. “The kind of unit I was in and the kind of job I had – I saw a lot of things that were unpleasant. I lost many friends. If I saw somebody trying to hurt our guys, it was my job not to let that happen.”

Each has a fond memory of their time there sprinkled throughout the bad ones. Gore, a retired industrial mechanic and self-employed plumber, worked with the 40th Air Rescue Recovery unit. “I reckon the one (memory) that sticks out to me is when they picked up survivors and kept them out of the hands of the enemy.” At the time, Gore was a helicopter mechanic at Udorn Air Base, Thailand, from December 1968 to December 1969. He kept the choppers in the air – often a soldier’s only lifeline to safety.

Porter, who was in Thailand from February 1967 to February 1968, explained that even though he and some of the others weren’t actually in Vietnam, they were still close to the action.

“Even though we weren’t ‘quote’ in the war zone, our pilots were every day and we saw the results of those things with plane crashes and the loss of lives.”

Cannon volunteered to help find downed aircraft and flew near enemy territory as a spotter.



Front row: Senior Master Sgt. Sonny Cannon, Chief Master Sgt. Merritt Porter, Tech. Sgt. George Frazier, Master Sgt. George Aldrich. Back row: Master Sgt. Ronald Gore, Master Sgt. John Murray, Senior Master Sgt. Tim Hiott and Senior Master Sgt. Gerald Gullett. All eight of the 315th Civil Engineer Squadron reservists served during the Vietnam War and are currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“The reason I volunteered for the search and find missions was because I didn’t want the detail of helping stack the body bags,” Cannon said. “I could look out of the barracks window at any time ... and they’d be backing them up and unloading them.”

Gullett, who spent time in Thailand and the Philippines, came under fire one night while working on aerospace ground equipment. He received a call that the AGE equipment was on fire and he needed to pull it away from a nearby C-141. When he walked up to the taxiway, he thought he saw flares pass over his head. The flares turned out to be tracer rounds from the enemies’ rifle.

Aldrich, like all of the guys, is glad he’s able to help protect America again before ending his military career.

“If I had to do it all over, I’d do it again,” he said of his 1969 tour in Vietnam. “Without people being able to do that, our country would be in a world of trouble.”

FOD continued from page 1

Members of the 437 MXS participate in FOD walks on a monthly basis, but one 437 MXS member said it’s imperative that the entire wing gets a chance to join them.

“The FOD walk gets other people out here to see what the maintenance people do on a day-to-day basis,” said Tech. Sgt. T. Shea Saul, 437 MXS safety and environmental manager. “All of the squadrons were represented at the FOD walk, and we had over 240 people attend.”

While FOD walk participants scoured the ramp looking for foreign objects, they were also looking for six prizes hidden on the flightline.

Tech. Sgt. Travis Ellis,

437th Logistics Group Safety member and wing FOD manager, hid six golden bolts in different places on the flightline.

“The golden bolts are part of the FOD walk incentive program,” said Ellis. “Three people received \$160 worth of coupons from Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the 437th Services Squadron, a pencil and pen set, and a FOD coffee mug. Three people will win grand prizes: Charleston Swamp Foxes arena football set of family tickets; RiverDogs baseball set of family tickets; and a four day and three night Bahaman cruise courtesy of Trips Travel.”

The six members who found the golden bolts drew envelopes to discover their prizes.

Manny Flores, 437 MXS, won the RiverDogs tickets. Flores said he always participates in FOD walks, but this is the first golden bolt he’s found.

“I found the golden bolt on a bench by one of the entry points,” said Flores. “It was easy to miss because of where it was set up.”

Staff Sgt. Theodore Odom, 437 MXS, received the Swamp Foxes prize pack. Odom said he has found three golden bolts throughout the years and also found one at the last FOD walk.

“I found it behind one of the aircraft on one of the grounding points,” said Odom. “I always participate in the FOD walk because it’s important to make sure the aircraft don’t take anything into their engines they aren’t

supposed to.”

Chief Master Sgt. Elton Kelley, 437 MXS, received the AAFES and 437 SVS coupon prize pack. This was the first time he’s found a golden bolt, even though he always participates in all of the FOD walks.

“We have a 437 LG FOD walk all the time, it’s nice to see the whole wing out here,” said Kelley.

The other finders of the golden bolts were Tech. Sgt. Mike Ferguson, 15th Airlift Squadron, and Senior Airman Jaime Murray, 437 MXS, who won AAFES and 437 SVS coupon prize packs.

The other Team Charleston member who found a golden bolt was Master Sgt. Glenn Kern, 437 MXS. He left shortly after the FOD walk ended, not knowing he

had to stay for the prize drawing.

“I turned in my bolt and walked back to my section,” said Kern. “I didn’t know I had to wait around for the prize.”

Kern planned on giving his golden bolt prize to his troop, Murray, but was surprised to see she found one.

“When I picked it up, I planned on giving it to Murray,” said Kern. “Then I found out she found one, so I just turned it in anyway.”

“I was really surprised when I found out that I had won the Bahaman cruise,” said Kern.

However, Kern still felt his troop should get something more.

“I felt that a younger airman should get the chance to get the cruise, so I gave it to my troop (Murray),” said Kern.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Change of command: The 437th 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

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 743-7252.

Charleston Warrior of the Week

Senior Airman Cassandra Rainey 437th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Cassandra Rainey is a personnelist in the 437th Maintenance Squadron.

"I am currently the leave monitor, intro and sponsorship program monitor, BAS and meal card monitor," said Rainey. "I set up commander's calls and work with personnel on a daily basis on PC-III on anything from dream sheet updates to updating personnel information. I coordinate with the 437th Logistics Group, military personnel flight and finance on a daily basis."

The Charlotte, N.C., native has been at Charleston AFB for three years following an assignment at Kadena AB, Japan.

Rainey enjoys working out at the base gym four to five times a week.

She also enjoys volunteering at the local schools.

"I volunteer at Lambs Elementary School helping with the hearing and eye tests," Rainey said. "I tutor second- and third-graders and help them with their reading. I did a Gregg Middle School career day a few months ago. I also do a lot of stuff with squadrons such as the Family Circle Cup."

Rainey's favorite part of her job is customer service.

"I love working with and helping people," said Rainey. "I enjoy making sure all the personnel updates are correct so it doesn't affect people negatively."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

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 through 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 24 each time. Consigning hours are extended to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The shop is also open Tuesday 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 especially looking for items to fill the Furniture Room. These items usually sell fast and earn the consigners a nice profit, according to the shop's staff. The shop is located at 203 Graves St., across from the 437th Security Forces Building. For more information, call 963-3294.

Assignments: Air Force personnel wanting to update their assignment preferences must do so through their servicing orderly room or military personnel flight while the Assignment Management System Web-site is undergoing maintenance.

Smart Card: The 437th Supply Squadron issues and updates smart cards daily at 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 963-4826 or Master Sgt. Debra Baczweski at 963-4836.

Family Support Center

Pre-Deployment Briefings: Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. and 2 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.

437 AW change of command scheduled for Monday

Col. Brooks Bash will become commander of the 437th 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, 437th 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.

The 437th Transportation Squadron has arranged a bus schedule to transport attendees to and from the change of command ceremony.

Buses are scheduled to begin the route every 10 minutes, starting at 7:30 a.m. Early buses are for those participating in the ceremony, and attendees not involved

with the ceremony are asked to wait for buses starting a 8:30 a.m. and later.

Each of the three buses will travel the entire route. After the ceremony, they will travel the same route, in reverse, until all attendees are taken care of.

Bus #1		Bus #2		Bus #3	
Start	Drop Off	Start	Drop Off	Start	Drop Off
7:30 a.m.	7:50 a.m.	7:40 a.m.	8 a.m.	7:50 a.m.	8:10 a.m.
8 a.m.	8:20 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:20 a.m.	8:40 a.m.
8:30 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	9 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	9:10 a.m.
9 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	9:40 a.m.

Stop	Building #	Squadron
1	661	CES/315 CES
2	532	LGS/MOBAGS
3	503	MSS/MPF
4	302	SUPS
5	312	CPTS
6	364	MDG
7	201	CS/AW/OG
8	254	SFS
9	241	SVS/CTCS
10	174	APS
11	171	38 APS/81 APS
12	169	OSS
13	59	LSS
14	536	MXS
END ROUTE		NOSEDOCK

COMMENTARY

Thanks Team Charleston for being the best

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

This is my last column in the *Airlift Dispatch*, and with mixed emotions, I'll be passing command to Col. Brooks Bash June 3. You can read my thoughts on page 9.

Team Charleston members continue to amaze me, and as has been the tradition, I wanted to use this column to recognize a few of our local heroes for the past week.

My thanks to Maj. Jeff Hunt and the 437th Security Forces Squadron for inviting Col. Karl Young, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, and myself over for a chili cookout May 23. I have been awful proud of their performance for the last 2.5 years. They keep making us proud everyday!

Special thanks to Lt. Col. Kerm Getz and his entire 437th Airlift Wing Plans shop for their superb efforts in training us for the start of hurricane season, which officially begins Saturday. The half-day training seminar included a large number of excellent briefers. The training was very focused and served as an excellent primer for our daylong hurricane exercise May 23.

The exercise objectives were to ensure Charleston AFB was ready for a hurricane. We tested all our checklists and procedures used in preparation for a major storm. A special thanks to Lt. Col. **Brian Trout**, Maj. **Daren Baker**, Maj. **Dan Wilkie** and Master Sgt. **Dave Hunt**, all of the 437 AW Inspector General Office, and our Exercise Evaluation Team members. It was a great exercise and time well spent!

It was my honor and privilege to retire Senior Master Sgt. **Robert Adams**, 437 AW Manpower and Organization Office, for 20 years of dedicated service May 24. I appreciate everything he has done for our Air Force. Fortunately, we aren't really losing him, and he has already rejoined the office as a civilian.

At Monday's staff meeting, I presented wing coins to several of our outstanding 437th Logistics Group briefers who spoke during our Year of Warrior Spirit Day May 14, hosted by the 437 LG. Receiving coins were Capt. **Chris Hobbs**, Tech. Sgt. **John Travis**, Staff Sgt. **Kaia Olbino**, Tech. Sgt. **Chris Selle**, Tech. Sgt. **Stephen Kaestner**, Staff Sgt. **Jaime Gutierrez** and Staff Sgt. **Don Gworek**. Thanks for everything you do on behalf of our Air Force!

It is not everyday that someone gets a check for \$10,000 for a great money saving idea. That is precisely what happened to Staff Sgt. Anthony Johnson, 14th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, for identifying a piece of equipment on the aircraft that we had no use for. By eliminating this right rail bridge assembly from the C-17, he saved the government \$1,463.26 per aircraft. Keep those great ideas coming!

I also recognized our outstanding Civil Engineers and the many folks from a wide variety of areas that keep our environmental program going strong. Receiving wing coins for their superb support of the base's environmental program were Staff Sgt. **Madelyn Townes**, 437th Aerial Port Squadron; Staff Sgt. **John Manning**, 315th Maintenance Squadron; Senior Airman **Steven McGraw**, 437th Maintenance Squadron; Staff Sgt. **Jeremy Miller**, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron; and Airman 1st Class **Ross Roberson**, 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

As previously mentioned, I was equally proud to present the Air Force Outstanding Supply/Fuels Personnel of Year Award to Senior Master Sgt. Harold Stafford, 437th Supply Squadron. He is clearly at the top of his profession and the Air Force top honor is something that was well earned. He was one of the first to deploy following the 9/11 attack and is one of the great senior NCOs on our fabulous team.



Photo by Lt. Col. Ed Memi

Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, tries, unsuccessfully, to avoid a blast of water following his fini-flight. Findley will relinquish command to Col. Brooks Bash during the Wing Change of Command Ceremony Monday.

I want to thank Col. Karl Young for his superb support in running this wing during my absence while deployed to Southwest Asia for a little more than 90 days, and during my many TDYs. He has done a superb job for this wing, and I could not ask for a better right-hand man than Karl. He is quite simply the best, and I will miss him. Although he will stay on a little longer to ensure a good transition, we bid farewell to him in grand style on Thursday night. A special thanks to our Protocol staff and Capt. Pam Stephenson for their outstanding efforts in this tribute to a great American military leader.

I was pleased to cut the ribbon on our recently renovated Aerospace Ground Equipment Maintenance Facility Wednesday. The \$4.4 million renovation of the 13,000 square-foot facility gives our world-class professionals a superb facility to repair and fix AGE equipment such as power carts, maintenance stands and other support equipment for our aircraft. It was a long time coming, and our 437 AGE folks in the 437 MXS truly deserve this great facility.

The Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month activities come to an end today with a luau at the base picnic grounds from 4-7 p.m. The cost for adults is \$5, children from ages 4-11 pay \$3 and those three and under are free. A special thanks to Master Sgt. James Kincheloe, 437th Communication Squadron, and his committee for their outstanding efforts in planning the month-long events.

The Air Force Association golf tournament this morning is full, and I appreciate everyone's participation. All proceeds will be used to help defray the costs of the Air Force Ball for some of our younger airmen. I know the ball will be a huge success with Capt. Bill Reynolds leading the planning efforts. More to follow so stay tuned to the *Airlift Dispatch*!

The Around the World in Ninety Days program kicks off in June, and you can pick up your game pieces at participating agencies on base. See the article on page 1 for more details. It is a great way to win fantastic prizes by participating in exciting events and activities during the summer. I'll be rooting for Team Charleston to take first place this year, so participate as much as you can.

A big welcome to Col. Bash and his family who arrive here this evening for the change-of-command ceremony Monday morning. This is a big day for them, and we need to greet them in true Team Charleston style. Treat him like you treated Sandy and me, and I know they'll be very pleased. I know he is extremely proud to command the premier airlift wing on the face of the planet. Thanks for all your great support! Because of you, this has been the most enriching two plus years of my professional career.

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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Wing commander bids a fond farewell

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

It was more than two years ago that Sandy, our girls and I made our way down here to the Lowcountry with high hopes and great expectations for another chance to command a second CONUS Wing. As we get ready to depart and reflect back on the past two plus years, I can truthfully say our lofty expectations in March of 2000 have been exceeded by a significant margin ... and the reason for this great satisfaction is quite simple ... it's because of you!

Back in the spring of 2000, Team Charleston was coming off the magnificent effort put forth in the air war over Serbia. With that tremendous performance as a benchmark, as I took over this amazing wing, I knew we'd have our work cut out to maintain and sustain our great reputation. It didn't take me long, though, to realize that with all the talented folks on our team that there was still new ground to plow and plenty of room to grow. With this in mind we went to work to explore and expand on better and more innovative ways to safely employ this great airplane we call the C-17, to do all we could to make Charleston AFB a better place to live and work for all

our people, and to spend every ounce of energy we could muster to ensure all members of our team were rewarded both personally and professionally for their efforts in safeguarding our mission. Indeed I believe our team can take some credit for outstanding progress in all of these areas. Little did any of us know, however, that our efforts and progress in moving these areas forward would be called forth so soon in places far from the comfortable confines of our beloved Charleston. A fateful day in September woke us up to this necessity.

Sept. 11 certainly changed the course of history and threatened our very way of life in the United States; but, as I recall the events of that day, I'll continue to thank God for my own good fortune. For if there had to be a Sept. 11 (and all of us wish there never would have been), I am certainly glad I was a member of Team Charleston and part of the supreme sacrifice we've put forth so far in this necessary and just war. Your response to this tragedy has been nothing short of sensational and record setting. When they write the history books on the first year of this war, though our personal names will not be mentioned, the chapter on the effort of our collective team and the

accomplishments of the C-17—and by extension all those who fly, fix, and support it—should be the biggest chapter in the book. You have made me very proud!

Now as we enter the summer of 2002 ... and with this threatening and omnipresent war upon us ... I can confidently say we continue to make exceptional and historic progress in growing this mission and this team. As always, it's because of the efforts of every one of you on this great team that I can say that. You have written history and undoubtedly will be called upon to write some more—I know you are ready! So as the Findleys depart, for your supreme effort and continual sacrifice and dedication toward this end, I cannot thank you enough. We will cherish and remember our time here forever. Thanks for your friendship! Thanks for your continual demonstration of the pride, professionalism, and passion that's come to symbolize this great team. Our time at Charleston has been the most enriching part of my professional career. It has been a once-in-a-lifetime experience to command the finest airlift wing on the face of the planet! Sandy and I wish you all the very best! Godspeed and God bless each and every one of you.

ATWIND

continued from page 1

ATWINNER random prizes will also be awarded during the game piece registration process. All prize drawings are conducted at random.

Both AMC and AFSPC will have dedicated command prizes. Once registered, players may participate in their command program. Both commands will feature a base-to-base competition, and each command has \$100,000 in quality-of-life funds to award to bases achieving or exceeding their "ATWIND Mission."

"Last year's program boasted some pretty staggering figures," said Parker. "The program had 78,750 registered participants, 364,190 Web site visits, 59,682 calls to the ATWIND toll-free number and 975,585 game pieces played. There were 11,300 prizes awarded during last year's program."

Prizes included a choice of Ford Escape, Ford Ranger or Ford Focus, plus vacation trips, cash and more. Hien Parker from McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.; Phillip Bascom, Fairchild AFB, Wash.; and Lyndsay Correa from Buckley AFB, Colo. were last year's ATWIND grand prize winners.

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

FEATURE

Hurricane season blows into Charleston

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Saturday marks the start of hurricane season for Charleston AFB and the rest of the East Coast.

Hurricane season lasts until the middle of November, with the highest probability of impact to the base occurring during the mid-August to mid-November timeframe, said Staff Sgt. Chad Smith, 437th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight forecaster.

"The biggest threats are storms that generate from mid-August to mid-November, and September is the most important month," said Smith. "In general terms, we have to watch broad, low pressure areas off the coast of Africa that form storms in the Atlantic Ocean and head toward the Atlantic Coast."

CAFB uses a system of hurricane conditions, a wind advisory level, which starts when winds of 50 knots or more come toward CAFB, said Lt. Col. Kermit Getz, 437th Airlift Wing Plans chief. Getz said the HURCON level determines if evacuation of aircraft, personnel or sheltering personnel is warranted.

Maj. Pat Dowling, 437 AW Plans deputy chief, said that HURCON is an Air Force standard that gives the commander the ability to take necessary actions to protect aircraft, personnel and resources.

"During HURCON 4 (when the storm is 72 hours away), the wing commander establishes the HURCON based on information from our weather experts," said Dowling. "We start looking at protection plans, increasing the number of maintenance workers on base and start developing plans to evacuate aircraft."

"HURCON 3 (48 hours away) has a little of the same thing and is normally when we start to evacuate the aircraft," continued Dowling. "HURCON 2 (24 hours away) is when the decision will be made to evacuate personnel, which depends on the category level of the storm and where it is going."

Dowling said that the last HURCON comes into play when the storm is merely 12 hours away.

"HURCON 1 is when all utilities will face down

(the base closes down), the base will be secured and people will be released as required," said Dowling.

After the storm has gone through CAFB, HURCON Black will be established, said Dowling.

"This is when we have the initial responders assessing the base for structural damage and power line damage," said Dowling. "It's basically utility restoration to make the base safe for people to transit back. After the base is made clean, HURCON all-clear call is sent to say it's safe to come back and bring the aircraft back. It's restoration recovery."

Being prepared in case of a hurricane is the main goal of the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Readiness Flight.

"(The Readiness Flight's) role is that we deal with the disaster control group and make sure the base is prepared in advance," said Tech. Sgt. Stephen Daggett, 437 CES Readiness Flight NCOIC of Training. "We use a lot of education, through newspaper articles, marquee messages, base pamphlets and Family Support Center classes, to make sure people are ready."

Daggett said a hurricane or cyclone is a storm born of wind, heat and water, with winds of 74 mph or greater that move in a large spiral around a relatively calm center called the "eye." He said they are usually accompanied by rain, thunder and lightning.

"Every year, these violent storms bring destruction to coastlines and islands in their erratic path," said Daggett. "As a hurricane approaches and moves across the coastline, it brings huge waves and rising tides called the storm surge. The storm surge, along with torrential rain, produces sudden flooding, which constitutes a hurricane's greatest threat."

Daggett said the National Hurricane Center has forecasters that predict how many storms will occur each year.

"This year, forecasters are predicting 13 named storms to develop, and six to eight of these storms will reach hurricane strength," said Daggett. "Two to three of those storms will develop further into major storms of Category 3 or higher."

Daggett said that between June and November, the Atlantic Hurricane Warning Center maintains a constant watch for tropical disturbances that could develop into destructive storms.

"We work closely with the 437th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

The Saffir and Simpson Scale

Hurricanes are categorized by using the Saffir and Simpson Scale, which classifies the storms based on a variety of factors. According to the scale, hurricanes range from Category 1, the weakest, to Category 5, the most damaging.

Category 1: Winds of 74-95 mph, a surge of 4-5 feet and a minimal damage potential

Category 2: Winds of 96-110 mph, a surge of 6-8 feet and moderate damage potential

Category 3: Winds of 111-130 mph, a surge of 9-12 feet and extensive damage potential

Category 4: Winds of 131-155 mph, a surge of 13-18 feet and extreme damage potential

Category 5: Winds of more than 155 mph, a surge of more than 18 feet and catastrophic damage potential.

and take their forecasts and turn them into actions," said Daggett.

Actions can involve anything from securing a house to evacuating the entire base.

"CAFB is relatively lucky because we are 40 feet above sea level, and tidal waves are not a factor," said Dowling.

Evacuation can still occur though.

"There are two procedures for evacuation," said Getz. "There is a voluntary evacuation when a commander releases his troops with their consent without the travel pay. There's also the mandatory evacuation ordered by the wing commander where every servicemember should depart the base as fast as possible for inland refuge."

"Heading due west is normally a good idea," Getz said. "Unit commanders should have a strategic plan in place to assist members with the direction they should travel."

Dowling said that all personnel have to contact the Air Force Personnel Center if evacuated.

"If the base is evacuated, AFPC personnel readiness center has set up a number, (800) 435-9941, for every individual to get in contact with," Dowling said. "They should give their name, unit, squadron and base so they can be accounted for. When the wing commander gives the guidance to return, it will be through that number."

Daggett said that keeping people informed is the most important part of the hurricane season. "If we know a hurricane is approaching, we want people to know it's approaching and what to do," said Daggett. "We have to make sure aircraft are moved out of harm's way, and we advise people to move outside stuff inside, such as patio equipment."

Hurricane education is an important part of the training members get while counting down to the start of the season.

"The whole idea for training is to inform (people) what the CAFB hurricane plan entails, who the main players are and what they are doing," said Dowling. "Unit and individual preparation is key, a hurricane can't be stopped, but the base can be ready. Preparedness can save lives."

In the last six years, CAFB has seen six hurricanes, said Getz, with three of them occurring in 1999.

Hurricanes are a real threat to CAFB and servicemembers must be prepared to deal with them, said Dowling.



Courtesy photo

This building could not withstand the high winds which struck the Charleston area in September 1999 when Hurricane Floyd passed by the state, making landfall farther north.

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.

"Murder by Numbers" – Sandra Bullock

A tenacious homicide detective, Casele, and her new partner, Sam, become pitted against two high school students in a battle of wits as they try to solve a murder case. **(R) 125 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Changing Lanes" – Ben Affleck

One day in New York, Gavin, a young lawyer, and Doyle, a businessman, share a small automobile accident. Their mutual road rage triggers a chain of events that escalates into a feud. **(R) 95 minutes**

June 7, 7:30 p.m.

"The Scorpion King" – The Rock

In the notorious city of Gomorrah, an evil ruler is determined to lay waste to all the nomadic peoples of the desert. The few remaining tribes, never natural allies, have to unite or perish. Knowing their enemy relies on the visions of a sorcerer, they hire a skilled assassin, Mathayus, to eliminate the visionary. **(PG-13) 92 minutes**

June 8, 7:30 p.m.

"Life or Something Like it" – Angelina Jolie

(PG-13) 103 minutes

Fitness & Sports

Base pool opens for splashy summer fun

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Hundreds of Team Charleston members splashed around in the base pool during its yearly grand opening over the Memorial Day weekend.

The base pool provides a place for

Team Charleston, including the younger members, to unwind during the summer months.

As a precaution, every Team Charleston member age 10 and younger must have an adult (age 18 or older) accompany them at all times, said Ashley Familia, 437th Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation Center's head lifeguard.

Members 11-13 must take a swim test prior to pool entry, which consists of swimming the length of the pool and treading one minute in the water, continued Familia.

"The maximum amount of people allowed at one time is 250," said Ashley Familia. "The pool's busiest times are in the early afternoon during the week, and all weekend."

The base pool also offers some other services.

"We provide swimming lessons for \$25," said Familia. "The June class is filled up, but the July course starts on July 2 and runs until July 12."

According to Familia, three sessions are held each day, Tuesday-Friday.

Every lifeguard at the base pool has a American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification, a First Aid Certification and a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification, said Familia. There are five lifeguards at the base pool every day, continued Familia.

Although members have only had access to the pool since May 25, the

437th Civil Engineer Squadron Zone B Utilities Flight works on the pool year-round.

"The first thing we do to get the pool prepared is to drain the pool, use a pressure washer, hose and brush to clean the pool out," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Brown, 437 CES. "We scrub the pool to get the algae and leaves out."

"We replace the water (209,000 gallons) and add various chemicals to get the proper chemical balance to make the water appropriate for swimming," said Brown.

"Seventy-two hours before the pool opened, Bio (437th Aerospace Dental Squadron Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight) came over and tested the water for bacteria and made sure it's safe," said Brown. "Bio has the final say if the pool opens or closes because of bacteria."

The base pool is open every day this summer, excluding Monday when it is closed for routine maintenance, and is set to close Labor Day weekend. The pool hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Airman Matthew Fleecs, left, and Airman 1st Class Chris Simmons, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Utilities Flight, clean the kiddie pool.

Summer sun may lead to skin cancer

By Maj. Karen Wade
Health and Wellness Center

"Doctor, did you say I have skin cancer?"

The good news is skin cancer is highly curable and easily preventable if detected and treated early. The bad news is that every year, about a million people in the United States hear the words "You have skin cancer," according to the National Health Institute,

It is estimated 40-50 percent of Americans who live to age 65 will have skin cancer at least once.

Normal, healthy skin cells grow, divide and replace themselves constantly. Skin cancer is when normal cells lose their ability to limit and direct their growth.

DNA, genetic material in cells that passes from generation to generation, controls cell growth and division. DNA determines all of our physical traits. Chances of getting skin cancer significantly increases if a person is fair-skinned, red or blond-haired, and blue-eyed.

Ultraviolet radiation can damage DNA. A tan, either from exposure to sunlight or a tanning bed, is actually

the skin working to protect itself from radiation damage.

Anyone can get skin cancer; however, people with genetic disposition or frequent sun exposures have a greater risk.

Skin cancer and the complications associated with skin cancer can be prevented. The DNA you received at birth cannot be changed.

However, limiting your exposure to the ultraviolet radiation can help prevent DNA damage. Avoid being in the sun or using sunlamps, wear protective clothing over exposed areas and use sunscreen to limit ultraviolet radiation.

Use sunscreen as directed by the manufacturer. The sunscreen should have a SPF of 15 or more. Remember that sunscreen only filters some of the rays and should be applied 30 minutes prior to going outside or swimming. Sunscreen should be allowed time to dry prior to returning to swim. Apply the sunscreen to all exposed areas, even to arms when driving or operating a vehicle.

Skin cancers do not always look the same.

Questionable growths include moles that are asymmetrical; have blurry, jagged or notched edges; have color changes such as darkening, spreading of color, loss of color or the appearance of multiple colors such as tan, brown, red, white, blue, purple or gray; have a one-fourth diameter; is raised above the skin; grows fast; or itches.

Also, check for scaly or crusted growth on the skin; a sore or changes in the skin that won't heal; a small, skinny, pale or waxy lump which may be a firm or flat red spot; or a craterlike lesion on the skin.

If there is any question in your mind that an area on your skin is suspicious, have the area examined by your health care provider. The Health and Wellness Center is set to offer a free skin cancer screening June 7 from 1-4 p.m.

For further reading, there are numerous resources available on the Internet on skin cancer. They are www.cancer.org, www.amc.org, www.oncolink.upenn.edu, www.canceryellowpages.com and www.cis.nci.nih.gov.

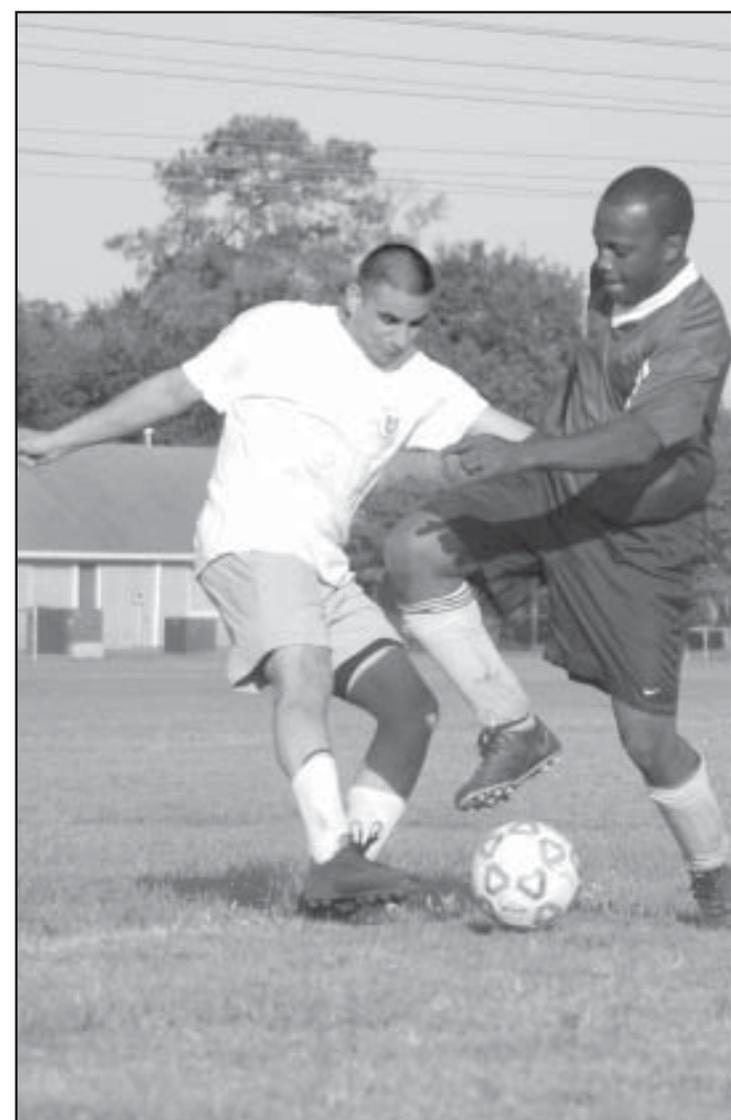


Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter

Break on through

Steve Olbino (right), AGS, fights past an NNPTC defender, Bryan Adam, during the Base Intramural Soccer Championship game May 23 at Hurricane Field. NNPTC (Naval Nuclear Power Training Command) beat out AGS, 4-1, for this year's title.