

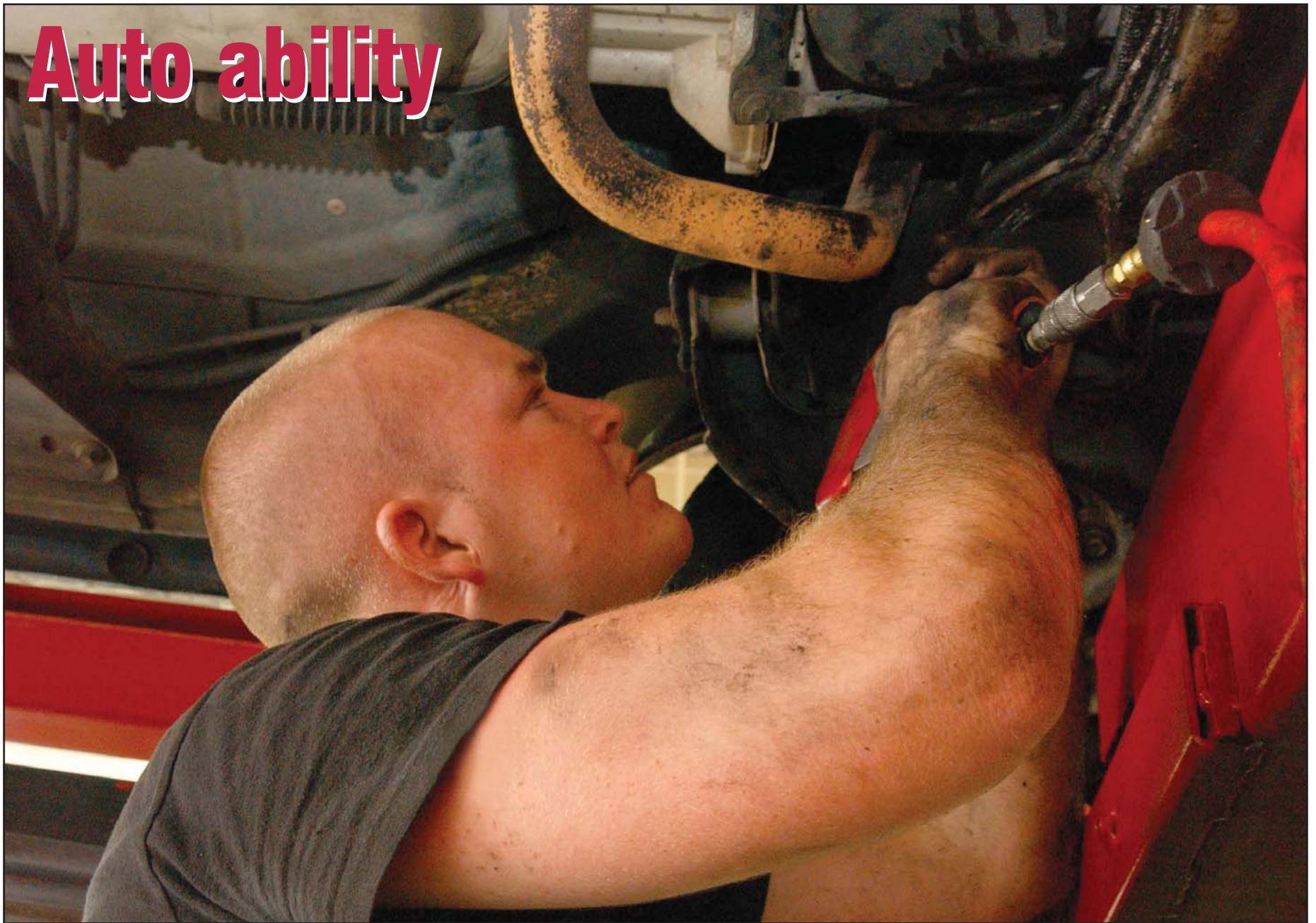
AIRLIFT Dispatch

Vol. 42, No. 29

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, July 18, 2003

Auto ability



Airman 1st Class Clayton Allen, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron utilities technician, changes a piece of exhaust pipe on his car before welding the pipe back together at the Auto Skills Center grand reopening July 9. The center is now offering a \$25 oil change service to military members. Photo Illustration by Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall

ENERGY

EMSG reminds CAFB to 'switch it off'

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MDG helps keep Charleston AFB healthy

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CES/AMXS 1 tie for second place Tuesday

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Team Charleston: One family, one mission, one fight!

COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash
437AW commander

Welcome

We extend a warm Team Charleston welcome to **Col. Julian Levin**, the 437th Medical Group's new commander, and to **Col. Chris Doran**, who takes command of the 437th Mission Support Group today. Both bring immense leadership talent to the wing, and we look forward to continued success from the 437 MDG and 437 MSG.

Next week we also welcome another group of Air Force Academy and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets, here for several weeks to shadow officers in a number of career fields. Welcome to these future Air Force leaders.

Inspection

Next week, we also welcome the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Health Services Inspection representatives, who will be here to conduct a combined military and civilian evaluation of medical service at CAFB. I am confident they will validate the excellence we know exists in the 437 MDG, and look forward to their observations to help us improve our service even more.

Air Force Ball

Mark your calendars now for the Air Force Ball, slated for Sept. 6 at the North Charleston Convention Center. Tickets cost \$25 each and are available through group and squadron representatives. Volunteers are needed to help plan for this social event. If you are interested, please contact committee leads **Master Sgt. Steven Foster** or **Ms. Kathy Knichel** for details. We look forward to an evening of tradition, inspiration, and camaraderie. Watch the *Airlift Dispatch* for updates.

Fun Run

Bring your squadron guidon and join the crowd at the Independence Fun Run, Wed., 7 a.m., at the Fitness and Sports Center. Participants can pick up their choice of a cooler or fanny pack as they cross the finish line. We will also award the spirit trophy, currently in 437th Security Forces Squadron custody, to the unit with the most enthusiastic participation.

Action Line addresses Rivers Gate, recycling at ball fields

Q: I come through the Rivers Gate every morning around 6:30-6:40 a.m. to start work at 7 a.m. Some days the traffic is flowing very smoothly and other days it is backed up to the point where it takes 20 minutes or more to come through. One day, there was one guard, and traffic was backed up so far you couldn't see the gate; yet there were four guards standing around at the checkpoint for trucks and not a truck in sight. It seems logical that, if they are not busy, a few of them could come over to the other side, check three to four cars at a time and get the traffic moving. I realize that the Security Forces are

short of personnel and the Army National Guardsmen are doing a great job, but everyone needs to pitch in and help out to break up the log jam and get everyone to work on time. I know a lot of us sit in traffic every day, and if there was a way to start our day on a more positive note it would benefit everyone. Thank you.

A: Thank you for your call regarding traffic flow onto the base. You are right; our Security Forces Squadron and Army National Guard augmentees do a fantastic job protecting you and our resources. Without doubt, they understand how taxing traffic problems can be, particularly during morning and evening rush hours. They try



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephanie Hammer
Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, receives his tuberculosis test Monday. All personnel who receive the test are reminded to return to the immunization clinic for evaluation 48-72 hours after the TB test is administered.

Fitness

In addition to these monthly runs, I encourage everyone to participate in a personal fitness program. See your unit fitness monitor if you need help getting started or to get information on how to get more out of your workouts.

Looking for a reason to get back into the Fitness Center? Check out the new interactive cycle spinning theater, the first of its kind in the U.S., and the only one in the Department of Defense. Additionally there is a new room with weight training equipment. I look forward to seeing lots of people take advantage of this world-class facility.

Recently, I sent a letter to all tobacco users on base, with a personal invitation to consider not using tobacco products. This is literally a life or death issue: tobacco use and obesity are some of our nation's top killers and contribute to a number of deadly diseases. For more information, I encourage you to contact our experts at the Health and Wellness Center, 963-4007.

Safety

Congratulations on an absolutely exceptional safety record. Keep up the great work; think before you act, and balance mission needs with safety considerations. As always . . . be safe out there!

Q: Who can I call to request some aluminum can recycling bins out at the ball fields? I was out there earlier this week and every trash

can was filled with empty beer cans. That's just recycling dollars going down the tubes that we could turn into program money for CAFB.

A: Thank you for your suggestion for improving our base recycling efforts. We will be adding the softball fields and the base picnic grounds to our base contract for pickup of recyclables. Look for our new recycle collection containers in these areas within the next few months. Thank you for your suggestion!

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— Col. Brooks Bash
437AW commander

action@charleston.af.mil
963-5581

Setting the bar high

When do you hold someone accountable?

By **Maj. William Rupp**
437MXS commander

One of the toughest challenges facing leaders at all levels in today's Air Force is "accountability." When to hold someone accountable, and to what degree, are questions we sometimes find difficult to answer under the best of circumstances, sometimes traumatic in the extreme. In those units where leaders exercise too strict accountability, careers might be at stake, morale affected and personal relationships tested.

But, one might also find exactly the same results in those units where leaders exercise accountability too loosely.

Ever been in an organization where a co-worker was continuously late but never called to the carpet, yet the on-time folks had to pick up the slack? Or a unit where you were blasted for walking in from your car without a hat while folks from a different unit, wearing a different uniform, often seem to be out and about uncovered?

Accountability is difficult for many of us because it is, by its very nature, confrontational. When holding folks accountable, we are forced to look them in the eye and communicate an impropriety.

Confrontation is certainly not easy when it is directed at well-intentioned performers, such as those comprising the vast majority of our Air Force. Leaders may fear a confrontation will contribute to not being liked or popular, adjectives which are not, and have not been, pre-conditions for effective leadership. Congeniality may facilitate good leadership, but properly applied accountability is a necessity.

But what does it mean to hold someone accountable?

Accountability, in the context of this article, is simply taking the appropriate steps to correct or punish, as applicable, inappropriate behavior. It often seems, however, that when one speaks of "holding

worth repeating

"Air Force leaders at all levels must be willing to hold personnel accountable for their actions or inactions."



– Maj. William Rupp
437th Maintenance Squadron commander

someone accountable," the phrase conjures up visions of guillotines at work in 18th century Paris.

Discuss accountability with today's airmen and you will find many supervisors hesitate to document counseling, such as letters of counseling and reprimand, because they don't want to "hurt" their troop.

The Problem is, many mid-level supervisors feel that level of accountability is too tough, while many senior-level supervisors often feel it doesn't do enough to deter inappropriate behavior.

Holding someone properly accountable certainly does not have to result in bloodshed; it must be done, however, in order to maintain the level of discipline and professionalism we expect of today's airmen.

In the aircraft maintenance business, for example, Air Force instructions, technical orders and job guides provide the framework, sometimes prescriptive, for how to accomplish a specific task. Deviation from that guidance is generally not at the discretion of the member, and failure to comply usually warrants some level of accountability. Continued deviation necessitates increased levels of accountability.

There shouldn't be the least hesitation on the part of a leader to hold an offender accountable, both because of the need to preserve the discipline inherent in our military culture, and to ensure consistent, safe application of the maintenance art. In other

words, if we don't demand and ensure our folks do it right, the mission suffers, equipment gets damaged and people get hurt.

When a technician accidentally drops and breaks a black box, we generally don't hang him from the t-tail, not when the incident was an accident. However, failure to follow tech data, in other words, to do what you're supposed to do, normally falls within the "inappropriate behavior" category. Whether or not the failure was intentional is immaterial. Failure to do it right warrants accountability. That's a leader's job.

Air Force leaders at all levels must be willing to hold personnel accountable for their actions or inactions. Lack of accountability not only degrades that discipline assumed to be an integral part of a military leader's function, it also erodes, if not eliminates, a leader's moral authority to command and supervise others. Inconsistencies in how leaders from different organizations apply and enforce common standards further result in negative morale and camaraderie.

A leader's failure to ensure accountability inhibits attainment of higher standards, potentially restricting individual and unit growth. Failing to properly address an individual's improprieties, whether through feedback or punishment, may not be "doing him a favor." Rather, it may preclude the "kick in the pants" that an individual needs to begin displaying "Excellence in All We Do."

We are privileged to work in a profession where superior performance is recognized and appreciated, but above all, demanded.

The bar must be set extremely high so our airmen, civilians and contractors know the standard, see the path, and understand the expectations laid before them by our leaders and the American people we defend. Leaders at all levels must consistently shoulder the responsibility of holding folks accountable; the honor of serving in our great U.S. Air Force demands it!

Dispatch

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NEWS

S.C. native takes command of Medical Group

By Airman 1st Class Amy Perry
437 AW Public Affairs

Col. Julian Levin assumed command of the 437th Medical Group in a ceremony Wednesday.

Colonel Levin replaces Col. John Hill, who is going to the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

The number one purpose of the medical group is to support the wing mission, said Colonel Levin.

"(We) do that by providing quality, cost-effective medical and preventative healthcare to our entire beneficiary population," said Colonel Levin. "The 226 personnel here have already been rising to the challenge of treating the base population with great leadership at group and squadron levels." Through continued focus on population health and health promotions Colonel Levin said the Medical Group strives to improve the wellness of our communities.

The Beaufort, S.C., native received his bachelor's degree in biology at the Citadel here. He initially joined the Air Force Reserve in 1977 through the Health Professional Scholarship Program and entered active duty in 1981.

"I never planned to stay (in)," said Colonel Levin. But while stationed here from 1990 to 1994 as

a 17th Airlift Squadron flight surgeon, Major Levin changed his mind and decided to make it his career. Now, at 22 years in service, he's grateful to be at Charleston AFB.

"This is a dream assignment for me, and I will see what happens," he said.

Prior to his arrival here, Colonel Levin was deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and worked for the Joint Patient Movement Requirement Center.

"We coordinated the clinical aspect of all fixed wing air (evacuations) from both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom," said Colonel Levin.

Colonel Levin moved to Charleston with his wife, Teri, a former Air Force Nurse Corps officer, and their children Sarah, 16, and Isaac, 13.

"Our favorite assignment was at Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany," said Colonel Levin. "We had time to travel all around Europe and my wife enjoyed buying the antiques."

Colonel Levin has received numerous military awards and decorations including the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal.

Interesting fact:

During his time in the 17 AS, he saw the transition from a full squadron of C-141s to a squadron of two C-17s.

Pet Peeve: Dishonesty

Favorite Author: Tom Clancy

Favorite Movie: Little Big Man

Favorite Quotes: "We must all hang together or assuredly we will hang separately." (Benjamin Franklin) "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance." (Derek Bok) "What we have here is a failure to communicate." (From the movie Cool Hand Luke)

Leadership style: "Participatory. I like to work in partnership."

Role Model: "My Dad. He taught us honesty and integrity long before they were Air Force core values."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Suzanne Jenkins

On the move

Loaded down with a 35-pound pack, 2nd Lt. Amanda Woodall, 437th Security Forces Squadron, walks the Spur Run July 9. The Spur Run is a U.S. Army Cavalry tradition involving a 13-mile road march, an evaluation of M-16 operations check, and self-aid and buddy care. The event helped to build unity between the 437th SFS and the U.S. National Guard augmented here.

Switch it off

Energy group explains no-cost, low-cost energy-saving measures

During these summer days it is essential that Team Charleston take steps to reduce base electricity usage, especially during peak demand hours.

During the May Energy Management Steering Group meeting, the EMSG demonstrated how turning off nonessential and unoccupied space lighting in base facilities for 10 hours a day can save \$100,000 annually in utility cost.

Energy conservation is the responsibility of all Air Force personnel and can be accomplished through a team effort.

To help save energy:

- Turn off incandescent lights when leaving areas for any period of time

- Turn off fluorescent lighting when leaving areas for longer than 15 minutes

- Turn off lights in all nonessential and unoccupied spaces

- Turn off PC monitors, televisions, etc., when not in use

- When schedules permit, do not use, or limit use of, big electricity consuming shop equipment and home appliances between 12-4 p.m.. This is usually the hottest part of the day and when Charleston AFB peak electric power requirements occur.

- Set air conditioning thermostats at 78 degrees and change filters as prescribed in the military family housing brochure

- Shut windows and doors when operating air conditioning

- Close blinds, pull shades and limit indoor-outdoor traffic as much as possible during the hottest part of the day when operating air conditioning

For more information, call the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Energy Management office at 963-5029 and 963-5019, or e-mail at darrell.guidry@charleston.af.mil and william.gaines@charleston.af.mil. (Courtesy of the 437 CES Energy Management Steering Group.)

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

200,000 parents receive AF recognition pins

WASHINGTON—Your Guardians of Freedom, the Air Force's grass-roots outreach information and recognition program, has touched the lives of more than 200,000 parents of airmen, Pentagon officials announced.

The program began in 2002 as a way for Air Force leaders to personally recognize the employers of reservists and guardsmen who were called to active duty to support operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Employers who were nominated by their airmen employees received lapel pins emblazoned with the Air Force logo and the letter "E," and a personal letter signed by the Air Force's senior leaders.

The recognition program expanded in May to include parents. Nominated parents received a letter and lapel pin with the letter "P." All active-duty, Air National Guard and Reserve airmen may participate in the program, officials said.

About 110,000 of the nearly 590,000 uniformed airmen have nominated their parents for recognition, according to Brig. Gen. Ed Tonini, program director.

Airmen may request up to two parent pins and letters to be sent to either their parents or people they view as parental figures, Tonini said. To participate in the program, visit www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com. (Air Force Print News)

Employee jailed for bomb threat

ROBINS AFB, Ga.—A base civilian employee was sentenced in federal court July 8 after pleading guilty to making a bomb threat on base.

Ms. Yolanda Aparicio was sentenced to two years imprisonment in a federal facility and ordered to pay \$786,860 in restitution.

Besides imprisonment, the wage-grade employee in the C-5 Galaxy maintenance division was sentenced to three years supervised probation. The restitution amount covered the lost work revenue the base experienced when the flightline was shut down and evacuated during the bomb threat.

An indictment against Ms. Aparicio was handed down in July 2002 by the

U.S. District Court for the Middle Georgia District in Macon. Ms. Aparicio pleaded guilty in February. Her sentencing was delayed pending an evaluation.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 105 investigated the incident. They passed the findings to the U.S. attorney's office, because the incident involved a civilian employee. (Air Force Materiel Command News Service)

Airmen can carry over more leave

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas—Some active-duty airmen will be allowed to accumulate more than 60 days of annual leave after the fiscal year ends, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here. The airmen must have been unable to take leave because they were supporting contingency operations.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen who performed full-time training or other full-time duty for more than 29 days are also eligible for this special leave accrual.

Those affected can retain up to 90 days of leave until the end of fiscal 2004, according to personnel officials.

"This program is meant to enable people to take (the) leave they've earned," said Master Sgt. Don Taylor, the customer support operations superintendent at the center. "In order for the program to work as planned, though, those affected need to take not only the leave they are carrying over now, but also the leave they will earn during the next fiscal year, or they may lose leave next year."

Those who meet the criteria for having excess leave should apply for special leave accrual through command channels. For more information, contact customer service at the local military personnel flight. (AFPC News Service)

Civilian career brief available online

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas—Air Force civilians now have the ability to view their own career information online, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials.

The virtual Civilian Career Brief offers information that might help in career planning like current position data, pay and benefits, appraisals and education, officials said.

People can access the vCCB through the AFPC secure Web site at <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/default.asp>. New vCCB users will need to establish an account before using the service. Establishing an account takes only a few minutes, officials said.

For more information about the vCCB, contact the local civilian personnel flight. (AFPC News Service)

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Master Sgt. James Bowman

Dusty Duty

Tech. Sgt. Selwyn McConney waits for an HH-60G Pave Hawk to land during an urban operations training exercise near Baghdad International Airport, Iraq. Sergeant McConney is a weapons specialist assigned to the 301st Rescue Squadron, Patrick AFB, Fla.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Change of Command: Col. Chris Doran takes command of the 437th Mission Support Group in a change of command ceremony is today, 9 a.m., at Nose Dock No. 2.

Retirement: Chief Master Sgt. Bobby Robinson is retiring after thirty years of service. The ceremony will be today, 3 p.m., at the 437th Aerial Port Squadron aerial delivery parachute bay in Bldg. 174.

Around the base

Summary Court Officer: Capt. Brady Goebel, 437th Security Forces Squadron, is detailed as Summary Court Officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of Tech. Sgt. James Soulantikas, deceased.

Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to the deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, please contact Captain Goebel at 963-6146.

Parenting class: A common-sense parenting class is Tuesday and meets six consecutive Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. For more information or to register for the class, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

SNCO Seminar: The Senior NCO Professional Development Seminar is Tuesday-Thursday. All master sergeant selects are required to attend. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. George

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry

Airman Jennifer Nguyen

437th Operations Support Squadron

Airman Jennifer Nguyen works in aviation resource management in the 437th Operations Support Squadron.

She is responsible for processing aircrews, preparing and processing aeronautical orders and badges, issuing military pay orders, recording and auditing flying time, and monitoring flying incentive pay.

The San Jose, Calif., native has been in the Air Force for more than a year and at Charleston for 10 months. She said she joined the Air Force to be a better person and to experience new things.

Her future goals include graduating from college.

Airman Nguyen said the scenery is different on the East Coast, but she is getting used to it.

"Although there are many differences between the two coasts, I quickly adapted to the area," said Airman Nguyen. "It's neat how the community has preserved history through restoration. The old homes are just beautiful."

When she's not at work, Airman Nguyen enjoys playing the piano, roller-blading, ice-skating, sun-bathing, listening to music and hanging out with her friends.

Broome at 963-4646, or Senior Master Sgt. Susan Barnes, 963-5776.

Blood Drive: The Armed Forces Blood Program collection team from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Pope AFB, N.C., will be at the Naval Weapons Station Charleston Thursday at the Red Bank Club 10

a.m. - 3 p.m. to collect blood to support the requirements of the Department of Defense. For more information call Chief Petty Officer Anthony Aubright or Petty Officer 1st Class Allen Moore at 863-3072.

Recycle: The upcoming curbside recycling is July 31. Aluminum cans have an average of 55 percent recycled content. Aluminum recycling is a closed-loop process, saving 95 percent of the energy needed to produce aluminum from ore.

It can take as few as six weeks for an aluminum beverage can to be back in a store for consumer purchase.

Golf Tourney: The Samantha Barnes Charity Golf Tournament is 8:30 a.m. Aug. 15 at Wrenwoods Golf Course with a shotgun start. Registration is \$15 and starts at 7:30 a.m. Sign up by Aug. 11 with Tech. Sgt. Steve Jenkins at 963-2232 or Tech. Sgt. Michael Heckendorn at 963-3982.

Guard vacancies: The New York National Guard 109th Airlift Wing in Scotia, N.Y., has traditional guard vacancies in the following career fields: 2A3X3, 2A5X1, 2A6X2, 2A6X4, 2A6X6, 2A7X1, 2A7X3, 2E1X3, 2FOX1, 2TOX1, 2T1X1, 3E0X1, 3E3X1, 3E4X1, 3E9X1, 3S0X1, 3S1X1, 3M0X1, 3POX1, 4A0X1, and 4A2X1, and 6FOX1, as well as full-time active duty opportunities in the following AFSC: 2A5X1. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Wes Tyerson at (800) 524-5070 or DSN 344-2456.

North Field Hunting: Hunting permits for active duty, Reserve, retired, military dependents and Department of Defense civilian are now available for \$20 each at the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Office, Bldg. 247. Applicants must present a valid South Carolina hunting license and an ID card at the time of purchase. For more information, call Harold Deese at 963-2701, or Al Urrutia at 963-4978.

Adopt-A-School

The School Liaison Committee is looking for volunteers willing to consistently provide their time, talent and energy.

The goal is to collect a large pool of volunteers from all the base organizations. When tasks are passed on to the school liaison officer from the local schools, the program coordinator will request volunteers to help out.

Participants will receive program volunteer rewards such as the Recognizing Achievement in Volunteer Excellence certificate from the 437th Services Squadron.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Robert Beechler at 963-5015.



FEATURE

Right: The memorial gardens at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum outside Savannah, Ga., include a small chapel and many walls with commemorative plaques that provide opportunities to reflect on the dedication and sacrifices of the men and women of the 8th Air Force.

Below: A grim recreation of a prisoner of war barracks provides a glimpse into what airmen, who were lucky enough to survive being shot down, had to endure. The POW exhibit is only one of many found at the museum.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Raymond Padgett



AF history: just a short drive away

By Tech. Sgt. Raymond Padgett
315AW Public Affairs

A trip just 109 miles south of Charleston via I-95 can set you back nearly 60 years. No, it's not a prison sentence. It's the feeling of nostalgia and flat out awe you will feel visiting the "Mighty 8th" Air Force Museum in Savannah, Ga.

On January 28, 1942, the 8th Air Force was activated at the National Guard Armory in Savannah. The original cadre consisted of three officers and eight enlisted, according to Bill Ehmig, a volunteer docent at the museum, who also flew B-52 bombers under the banner of the mighty 8th during the Vietnam War.

The museum has a collection of aircraft including a PT-17 Steerman, an ME-163 Messerschmitt, on loan from the Smithsonian, and a full-scale P-51 Mustang fiberglass model.

The aircraft, just like the 8th Air Force, are not strictly from the World War II era. An F-4 Phantom and a MiG-17 dressed out in North Vietnamese markings still eye each other across the parking lot, while a B-47 Stratojet, on loan from the U.S. Air Force Museum, relaxes out back. Inside, an entire gallery explains the 8th's later mission as a part of the

Strategic Air Command, which was instrumental in winning the Cold War.

"We are not really an airplane museum, but a museum that hi-lights the men and women of the 8th Air Force," Mr. Ehmig said as he welcomed a group of visitors into the experience.

The mission experience starts in a World War II Quonset hut where visitors become members of the flight crew and are briefed on their bombing run on the Third Reich.

While contemplating their mission profile, visitors somberly move to the next theater to meet aircraft maintainers and see the pride they take in keeping "their" airplane ready.

Onward into the third theater, complete with seven screens and surround sound, visitors-turned-aircrew start their mission with Tech. Sgt. "Billy Taylor," a fellow crew member and flight engineer on the B-47, as they take off on their fateful flight.

The museum has three other theaters in addition to the mission experience. The Battle of Britain, the Mighty 8th and the Freedom Theaters run continuous footage of everything from World War II to Cold War air defense.

The Tuskegee wall gives credit not only to the courageous pilots, but also to the several thousand African-American men and women who served as support and maintenance

personnel for the Tuskegee Airmen.

Right in front of the Tuskegee wall is the B-17 gunner experience, where visitors can actually man the guns to get a feel for what the crews felt in the skies over Europe.

The remaining galleries contain everything from room-sized scale models of an air base in England to a copy of the Savannah Morning News from Monday, Aug. 13, 1945, the day after the atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki, complete with quotes from the pilot.

To the rear of the building is a well manicured memorial garden where visitors can walk down the paths reading plaques with crew names or search for a loved one on the wall of valor. The gardens also include a small chapel available for reflective moments and even weddings.

The museum is open seven days a week, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and closed on New Years Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission is \$8 to the general public, but only \$6 with a valid military ID. For more information, visit their Web site at www.mightyeighth.org, or call the museum office at 912-748-8888.

FEATURE

Right: Staff Sgt. Jana Ross, 437th Medical Group medical technician, prepares a syringe for an immunization. Maintaining shot currency is just one of the many tasks that medical technicians perform to keep Team Charleston healthy.

Below: Mrs. Miranda Isom reviews health records with Mary VanLinden, wife of Master Sgt. Robert VanLinden, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and their daughter, Sarah.



Photos by Andre Bullard

Helping people — Medical technicians meet health-care challenge

By 2nd Lt. Shaloma McGovern
437th AW Public Affairs

Needles, scalpels and stitches, oh my!

These words might make many cringe, but for the 20 medical technicians at the 437th Medical Group, it's a way of life.

Team Charleston medical technicians can work in a variety of areas, from immunization, pediatrics and flight medicine, to obstetrics and gynecology. Along with ensuring immunizations are up to date, they also take a patient's history prior to a medical appointment and provide preventive-health education.

"The medical technicians are trained in setting intravenous fluids, stitching wounds, using semi-automatic defibrillators, giving immunizations and treating patients," said Staff Sgt. Robert Liggon, 437 MDG Flight Medicine NCOIC. "We take care of everything with the exception of the doctor's final diagnosis and patient's prescriptions."

The medical technicians also take care of many behind-the-scenes tasks.

"We completely prep the patient," said Staff Sgt. Christina Marx, 437 MDG medical tech-

nician. "All the doctor has to do is pick up the instrument and go to work."

To keep up with the demands of seeing more than 270 patients a day, medical technicians have extensive training requirements.

Upon completion of technical school, medical technicians are assigned to a temporary location for four weeks of hands on training. It is there they refine those skills prior to arriving at their first duty station. Once new airmen arrive, they are followed by their supervisor until signed off on all core tasks.

Once a supervisor feels the airman is fully trained, a certifier evaluates the skills they have obtained. Then they are followed for six weeks on skills such as patient care before they perform solo. Even after that, there are a number of resources available if a question should arise.

"The training is ongoing and fast paced, but I really love my career," said Airman Suzanne Steenerson, 437 MDG Family Practice Clinic medical technician. "I like to help people and have been doing that my

whole life."

Along with Air Force technical training, the technicians are held to the same national standards as their civilian counterparts, and all maintain emergency medical technician certification.

"The National certification for EMTs requires 64 hours of training annually," said Sergeant Liggon. "In addition to the mandatory national training, we also train with the local emergency services in a mass casualty bi-annual exercise.

"This training is extensive, and we go above and beyond to ensure our people are trained and ready for deployments," he continued. "We have a lot of top-notch medical technicians who really love what they do and are in the career field for that reason."

However, it is not just the training that drives the medical technicians, but the care of Team Charleston.

"My job is very rewarding," said Staff Sgt. Katherine Hartley, 437 MDG medical technician. "The best feeling is to have someone recognize you off base, stop and thank you for delivering their baby or saving their life."

Chapel schedule



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

Phone: 963-2536.

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

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

Protestant Services: *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Bldg. 217 (old Chapel).

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

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

Jewish: Synagogue Emanu-El, 5 Windsor Dr., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 571-3264.

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

Movie schedule

Admission: 99 cents for adults and children.

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



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

which are subject to change.

Today, 7:30 p.m.

***"Dumb and Dumber"* – Eric Christian Olsen and Derek Richardson**

In 1986 mentally challenged best friends, Harry and Lloyd, were teenagers. This is the comic tale of their attempt to get out of the "special needs" department and into regular high school life. **(PG-13) 85 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

***"2 Fast 2 Furious"* – Tyrese Gibson and Paul Walker**

Former cop Brian O'Conner teams up with his ex-con pal Roman Pearce to transport a shipment of "dirty" money for shady, Miami-based import-export dealer, Carter Verone. O'Conner and Pearce are working with undercover agent Monica Clemente to bring Verone down. **(PG-13) 108 minutes**

July 25, 7:30 p.m.

***"Wrong Turn"* - Eliza Dushku**
(R) 84 minutes

SPORTS & FITNESS

CES and AMXS 1 split twinbill to tie for second

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber
437 AW Public Affairs

In a tuneup for the playoffs, two of the top three teams, Civil Engineering and Aircraft Maintenance No. 1, split a doubleheader in intramural softball action Tuesday.

AMXS won the opener 13-9 to finish a twice-suspended contest, while CES took the second game 13-6. Both teams are tied for second place at 18-5.

"We batted well, but our defense didn't win it," said AMXS coach John Forsythe. "It was good to get it over after the third try."

"They're a good team that hit the ball and we didn't," said CES coach Donald Covert.

Brian Scroggs had four hits, including two home runs to pace AMXS. Wallace Willoughby hit a homer. Josh Bettinger had three hits, while Dan Small, Forsythe and Kurt Brown each had two hits.

Dan Ritchings led CES with four hits, including a homer and a triple. Paul Legg added three hits and Gerald Amidon had two hits.

AMXS had an 8-3 lead in the second inning when the game was suspended due to weather.

CES took advantage of some AMXS defensive miscues and cut the lead to 8-7 in the bottom of the second.

AMXS padded its lead to 13-9 in the sixth inning and then stopped a CES rally with

some sharp defensive play. Centerfielder Aaron Parker fired the ball to the shortstop Scroggs whose throw to catcher Forsthye nailed Legg sliding at the plate.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements
Dan Ritchings, centerfielder for Civil Engineer Squadron, hauls in a fly ball. Ritchings sparked on defense and collected 10 hits to help CES split a doubleheader with Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 1.

The start of the second game was delayed for several minutes when eight members of CES responded to a C-17 ground emergency.

They returned to bang out 24 hits with every starter getting at least one hit.

"We hit the ball much better than the first game," said Covert. "They had some defensive errors that allowed us to open up a lead. Our defense contained them by not allowing a big inning."

Covert said shortstop James Berry, centerfielder Ritchings and leftfielder Bryan Oliver paced the CES defense, which has been the team's strength this season.

Ritchings continued his batting streak with six hits and scored five runs. Berry had four hits and Alan Proo had three hits. Robert Brown, Donald Covert, Paul Legg and Tim Owsley each had two hits.

Marc Stone paced AMXS with three hits and Bettinger had two hits.

Nursing a 3-0 lead, CES outscored AMXS 10-6 over the final three innings of the game.

"Their shortstop (Berry) won the game for them," said Forsythe, "He was awesome."

Both coaches say their teams look forward to the playoffs.

"We expect to be right there in the thick of it for the championship," said AMXS's Forsythe.

Covert says CES "will have to pull completely together as a team and continue good defense and not struggle at the plate."

Workout to Walt Disney World

Sports and Fitness Center offers 90-day fitness challenge

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber
437 AW Public Affairs

Twenty people are taking on a 90-day exercise challenge that sends them "around the nation".

"Exercise Road Rules," sponsored by the Sports and Fitness Center, started July 1 and finishes Sept. 1. The challenge takes participants on an imaginary trip through major cities in the U.S., including visiting Mickey Mouse, according to coordinator Brandi Jensen.

The 90 days are divided into three, 30-day increments.

Participants are issued a card for each 30-day period. During that period, the participant must complete the 16 tasks on each card, even though tasks don't have to be done on consecutive days.

For example, participants starting at Charleston AFB get to Washington, D.C., by cycling for 30 minutes.

Then, to get to Trenton, N.J., they have to run for 30 minutes or walk for one hour and use at least eight weight-training machines or eight free-weight exercises.

The challenge ends with a visit to Mickey Mouse in Or-

lando, Fla.

One of the participants, Maria Mroczek, who had been working out five days a week, said she likes the variety of this exercise challenge.

"It helps work out different parts of the body that I may not have used during my normal routine," Ms. Mroczek said.

To enter the exercise challenge, participants must first complete a 12-item health questionnaire. If any of their answers are yes, they have to get their doctor's approval before starting the program, Ms. Jensen said.

Safety is important during

any exercise challenge, and Ms. Jensen recommends the following workout tips:

- Warm up at least five to ten minutes.
- Stay hydrated by drinking water before, during and after workouts.
- Use proper form and technique. Assistance is available from the Fitness Center staff.
- Cool down at least 5-10 minutes.

For more information and to sign up, call Ms. Jensen at 963-3347. People who sign up now would have to catch up and finish the 16 tasks by the end of July, Jensen said.