

DISPATCH



AIRLIFT

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437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

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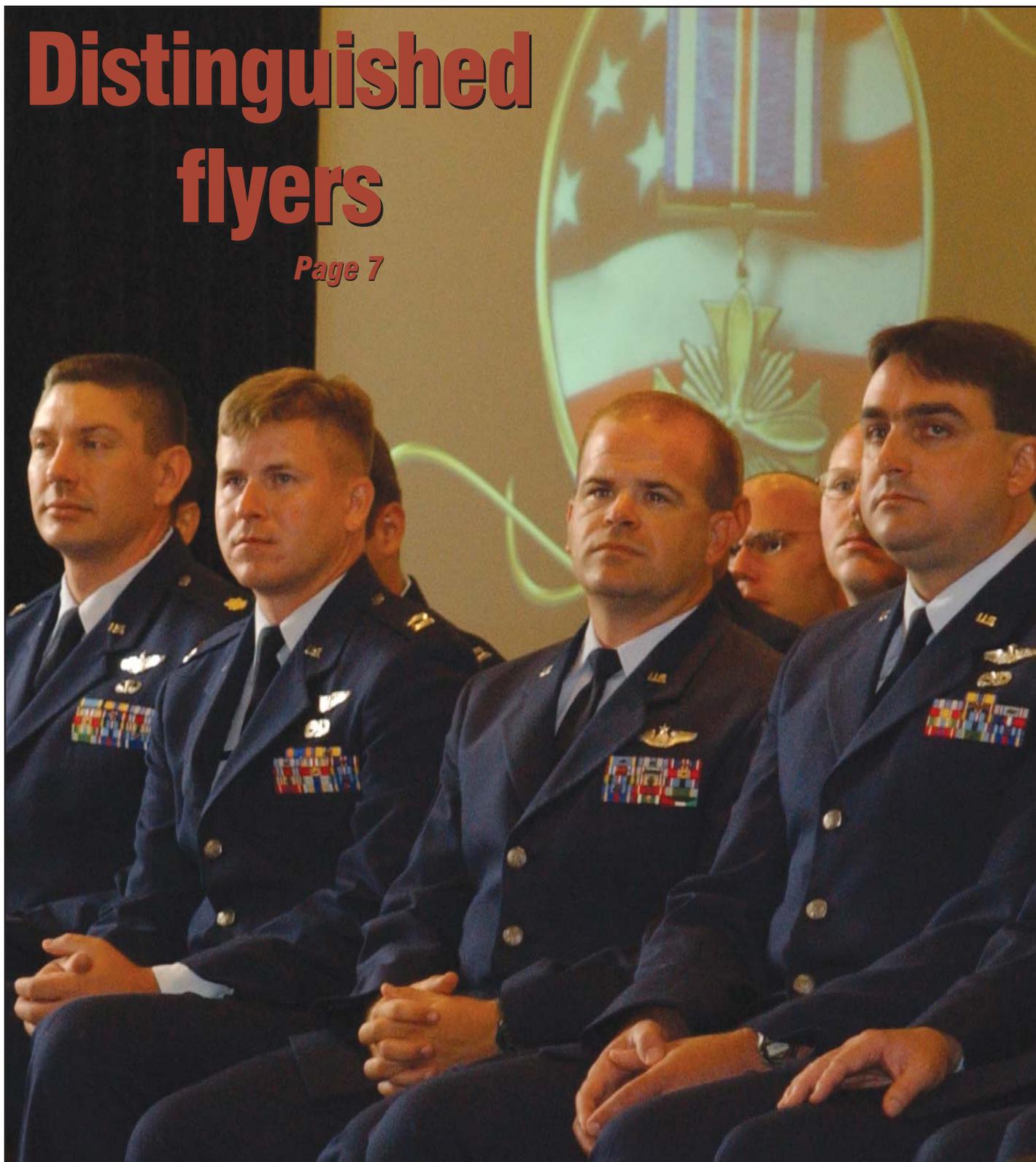
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Maj. William Spangenthal and Capt. Tony Carr, 15th Airlift Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Dean Irwin and Staff Sgt. Kenneth Kluge, 437th Operations Support Squadron, were among 35 Charleston AFB airmen awarded Distinguished Flying crosses for humanitarian airdrop and combat troop insertion missions during Operation Enduring Freedom. The DFCs were awarded in a Tuesday ceremony at the Charleston Club.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

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

COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash
437AW Commander

Awards

Congratulations to all Team Charleston members who have performed magnificently in recent operations, and special congratulations to our **Distinguished Flying Cross** and **Bronze Star** recipients. These awards recognize record-breaking aviation feats in delivering humanitarian supplies and combat power to Afghanistan; those missions would never have gotten off the ground without a long line of maintainers, trainers, and other support personnel behind them. You can all take pride in your part of making these missions successful. Read more about the missions and awards on page 7.

This week, I had the privilege of going to Washington, D.C., to meet with Senators Lindsey Graham and Fritz Hollings, and Congressman Henry Brown. They are so proud of what **Team Charleston** has done and truly appreciate the sacrifices our folks have made.

All of you who live in **CAFB family housing** can pat yourselves on the back for helping earn an AMC Energy Award by reducing housing energy consumption 60 percent over the 1985 baseline. Much of the savings came from installing geothermal heat pumps in all housing units, but those individual energy-saving initiatives pay off too. The wing was awarded \$125,000 for our energy-saving effort.

The **437th Aerial Port Squadron** also received recognition this week. Air Mobility Command headquarters showed particular appreciation for APS' efforts, presenting a crystal globe award to symbolize their accomplishment. Our aerial porters continue to set the pace for the command—I could not be more proud.

We also gave warrior coins to a number of people last week: **Lt. Col. Ron Grickis** wrapped up nearly six months of service as the CAFB airlift stage manager, where he headed the best-operating stage in the Air Force. He has saved us 3-4 aircrew equivalents by serving as stage manager, and we salute him for a job well done. **Master Sgt. Patrick Tustin**, 437th Maintenance Squadron Aircraft Structural Maintenance shop NCOIC, leads 46 military and 31 civilian technicians and is a recognized expert in his field, often called upon by AMC headquarters for his knowledge and experience.

Coins

We also recognized a number of the Army National Guardsmen who have integrated into our security forces, inspecting more than 300 vehicles per day at gate checkpoints, and doing it all with professionalism and a positive attitude: **Sgt. Tommie Fowler** and **Specialists Ronnie**



Photo by Britt Lock

A record 333 people participated in last Friday's "Fun in the Sun" commander's fitness run. The 437th Security Forces Squadron and their Army National Guard augmentees earned the commander's spirit award. The next fun run is July 23 at 7 a.m.

Arthur, William Bail, Matthew Hinton, and Brandon Greene. Well done!
Farewell

We bid farewell to **Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Jon Stovall** Sunday. Thank you, chaplain, for your faithful service and encouragement. Godspeed!

Family Fun Day

Come out for the family fun extravaganza June 27, beginning at 11 a.m. with the opportunity to tour a C-17. Aircrews from the 14th Airlift Squadron will be on hand to answer questions through 2 p.m. At 1 p.m. the base pool ribbon-cutting kicks off activities to include an ice cream social and an Asian Pacific Heritage celebration. Join us in the pool area and behind the fitness center for crafts, pony rides, jump castle, dunk tank, mascots, pool games and lots of other fun activities.

There will be a hula-dancing workshop at 2 p.m., Filipino dancers at 3 p.m., and a 4 p.m. hula show. The event ends at 5 p.m. Come back at 7 p.m. for the Mission Support Group Luau which includes a Hawaiian style pig roast. Luau tickets are available for \$13 at the base swimming pool or from your squadron representative. Purchase tickets by Wednesday.

Great work

Thank you, Team Charleston, for your continued hard work. We have been doing our mission exceptionally well—as evidenced by numerous awards—and doing it for the long haul, but most importantly, we continue to do it safely. Great work, and stay safe!

Dispatch

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Manpower: 'Push it up' for freedom

By 2nd Lt. Sean Heup
and Master Sgt. Terry Ray
437 AW Manpower Office

In the past, a visit from the wing Manpower and Organization Office often meant you were being informed of organizational changes that would greatly restrict the way you managed your unit.

Although this scenario can still happen today due to constricting budgets and dwindling manpower resources, MO also provides a wide range of services to assist with improving the working environment of all units at Charleston AFB.

Process improvement innovations, Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, Air Force Productivity Enhancing Capital Investment program and facilitation services are making the MO one of the most active organizations here.

MO is also involved in the ergo testing

worth repeating

"Even though we are not deployed with the warfighters, we are there with them in spirit and mind."

– 2nd Lt. Sean Heup and Master Sgt. Terry Ray
437th Airlift Wing Manpower Office



program. Four manpower technicians are experienced ergo test administrators.

In keeping with CAFB's push for fitness, readiness, and the One Family, One Mission, One Fight motto, MO is tying physical fitness with a desire to honor those fighting on the front lines in Iraq and Afghanistan. Every weekday morning, at approximately 8:30 a.m., MO civilian and military personnel can be found face down ready to push it up to support all deployed troops.

Push it up is just what you're thinking – the all mighty push-up. The first week of the endeavor took a little coaxing and bantering to get everyone on board but the end result was full participation.

The push up is a push for freedom, a push for everyone's safety and a push in support for the best military in the world. An unexpected bonus came to the MO while "pushing it up," as the days went by, we began to see camaraderie build within the office, and it even became a source of friendly competition as the older personnel pushed themselves to do more pushups than the younger folks.

Even though we are not deployed with the warfighters, we are there with them in spirit and mind. As our bodies are getting in better shape, our minds and spirits are focusing on the real reason we serve: to protect our freedoms that many people around the world do not enjoy. So the next time you see a Manpower technician, don't hide from them, join them to push it up for freedom.

Airlift Dispatch editor explains editorial policies

The Airlift Dispatch provides the commander a primary means of communicating mission-essential information to the Charleston AFB community.

In accordance with policy signed by the 437th Airlit Wing commander, printing and copy deadlines set by contract means articles and announcements submitted to the *Airlift Dispatch* for publication must be received by the Friday before the intended publication date. Due to limited space, the public affairs officer and/or editor reserve the right to run articles on a *space-available* basis. *Airlift Dispatch* articles are coordinated with affected agencies as deemed appropriate.

Because of Air Force, Air Mobility Command and local policies, the staff of the *Airlift Dispatch* must ensure all stories follow a specific format. All copy submitted to the *Airlift Dispatch* is edited to ensure it conforms to Air Force journalism guidelines for news writing; conforms to the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual and local procedures for abbreviations, capitalization, etc.; and meets appropriate story length to facilitate layout and design.

Recurring columns from base agencies are discouraged. This helps ensure each organization receives a fair amount of coverage for its missions and people.

Articles longer than 50 words must be e-mailed to dispatch@charleston.af.mil or saved on a disk as a word document and submitted, along with a hard copy, to the *Airlift Dispatch* office, located in Bldg. 1600, room 224. The disk must be labeled with the name of the article and author. Articles or announcements of less than 50 words may be submitted by fax to the public affairs office at (843) 963-5604. Articles that violate Department of Defense, Air Force or base instructions will not be published.

Agencies submitting articles can have the public affairs officer or editor review an article before publication. The requester must then be available to review the article prior to the printing deadline. This review phase is to allow for correction of errors in fact or misleading statements.

All advertisements and classified ads are placed through the civilian publisher. To submit a classified ad, e-mail the ad to Classified@DigglePub.com. For more information about *Airlift Dispatch* policy and procedures, call 963-5571.

CPTS: Don't abuse travel card

By 2nd Lt. James Cohn and
Michele Arnold
437 Comptroller Squadron

Remember the Golden Rule? It states, "Do unto others as you would have done to you."

Now it's time to revise that and apply it to your Government Travel Card. The Golden Rule for using the GTC is "If you can't claim it on your travel voucher, you can't purchase it with the GTC." The GTC is intended for all authorized expenses incurred during official Government travel, including PCS, DITY moves and TDYs.

For example, the GTC is authorized, and should be used while on official travel for airline tickets, lodging, pre-approved rental cars and meals. Any questions on whether something is a reimbursable expense should be directed to your squadron GTC Agency Program Coordinator.

Golden rule #2, "Pay unto your GTC bill what you have charged against it." How do you pay the bill, especially if you are on an extended TDY? Split disbursement is the answer. What that means is you specify an amount to be sent directly to your GTC account on your travel voucher. In the past, split disbursement was an option: it is now mandatory. If you go TDY and are required to use the GTC, you must elect to split disburse funds to cover the balance on your

GTC account.

When going TDY for more than 45 days, requesting an accrual payment every 30 days with the split disbursement option will enable you to pay off your GTC bill as it comes due each month. Accrual vouchers can be faxed to the comptroller squadron at 963-3780. To obtain an accrual voucher form prior to leaving on TDY, access the unit Web site at <https://Globemaster>. The form can be found under the Air Wing tab. Select Travel Issues/Forms/Accrual Form. The deployed finance office also has the forms. Upon completion of the TDY, people are required to submit a final settlement voucher. This must be done within five days of the return. A few tips to remember when using the GTC:

- Do: Use your card for authorized charges while TDY or in a PCS status
 - Do: Notify your unit APC of any problems with respect to your card
 - Do: Pay all charges upon receipt of your bill
 - Do: Mark split disbursement and identify the amount owed on your card
 - Don't: Use your card as a personal credit card
 - Don't: Use your card for expenses not reimbursable on your travel voucher
- For more information, call 437 CPTS at 963-3700.

NEWS

Boating safety: keep afloat this summer

What will most people do at least once this summer while stationed in Charleston?

The answer is go boating! Charleston has some of the most beautiful waterways in the country, but the water and the machines being operated on it demand respect.

There are multiple things to be concerned about if you are unfamiliar with boating and the Charleston waterways. People can prevent several types of boating mishaps with a little knowledge.

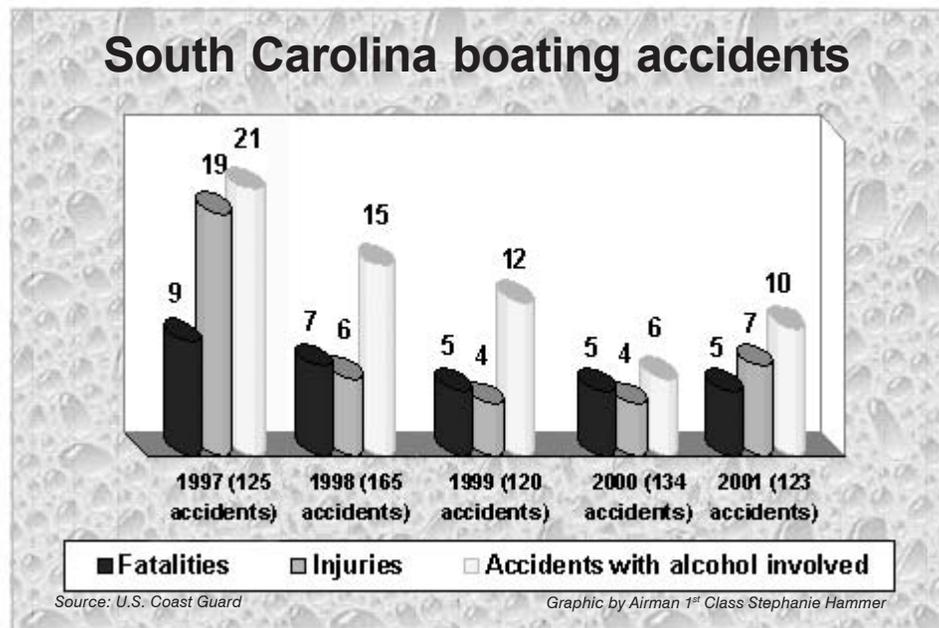
- Take an introductory boating safety course, which is typically eight hours long

- Invest in a \$20 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather radio and listen to the report before hitting the water

- Review navigation maps and the corresponding water depths in the Charleston area

- Invest in a communication device that will allow you to contact your local Coast Guard station

- Go out with a fellow boater



- familiar with the local waterways first

- Respect mother nature and the power of your watercraft

- Don't consume alcohol if you are the captain of the ship

- Stay clear of large vessels in

restricted channels.

- Assign life jackets to each passenger, and make sure they fit, the straps are secure and adjusted properly and are readily accessible to that person should the need arise. Do this before you depart. It's too

late when you're in the water.

- Prepare a simple checklist to keep on board, and leave a float plan with a neighbor or family member stating where you are going and when you plan to return.

The U.S. Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety (www.uscgboating.org) is dedicated to improving the knowledge, skills and abilities of recreational boaters with the ultimate goal of reducing the loss of life, injuries and property damage that occur on U.S. waterways.

This is a good place to start the boating education process, but there are many other training resources including: introductory safety training resources such as your local Power Squadron; Coast Guard Auxiliary; Red Cross or State Department of Natural Resources.

For more information on training, call the 437th Airlift Wing Safety office at 963-5595.

(Courtesy of the 437 AW Safety office. Statistical information was taken from the USCG Web site.)

Girl Scout receives highest honor

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber
437 AW Public Affairs

A military family member at Charleston AFB recently achieved the highest award for Girl Scouts.

Rebekah Bevins, a Senior Girl Scout and daughter of Tech. Sgt. Michael Bevins, 17th Airlift Squadron information management and personnel chief, and his wife, Angela, received the Gold Award, which is equivalent to the Eagle Scout award in Boy Scouts.

To earn the award, Rebekah completed the required activities to earn certain badges and 50 hours of community service.

For her award, she made 40 bags by hand and filled them with items for family members of deployed 14th Airlift Squadron airmen and prisoners of war who had returned from the war in Iraq.

The bags for family members contained things like cake mix, crayons, combs, stationery, pencils and chewing gum. The bags for the POWs contained socks and personal items requested by Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

"I did this because I am aware of how hard it is for families to stay in touch during a time of emergency," Rebekah said. "I'm aware that many families are torn apart and have to face

life-altering challenges with husbands and fathers away overseas, trying to take children to school and extracurricular activities, and going to work."

The 16-year-old said it was an honor to get the award.

"I started scouting when I was five years old, and the last 11 years have led up to this," she said.

Rebekah said the Gold Award will also help with her college education. Recipients of the Gold Award are eligible for scholarships.

She just completed her sophomore year at the Charleston County School of the Arts, where she majors in creative writing. She's been accepted to the South Carolina Governor's School of the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, S.C., which she'll attend her junior and senior years. When she finishes high school she can use her scholarship to continue her education.

Angela Bevins, Rebekah's mother and a Girl Scout troop leader, said she is proud of her daughter's accomplishments and the way she gave back to the military community.

"Her dad has been in the military more than 20 years, and she knows about deployments and the sacrifices that families and military members have to make," Ms. Bevins said. "She's a role model for the younger girls in scouting."



Courtesy photo
Rebekah Bevins, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Michael Bevins, 17th Airlift Squadron, and Angela Bevins, fills bags of goodies she made for families of deployed airmen. Rebekah earned the Gold Award, the highest award for Girl Scouts.

Warriors in flight

CAFB aircrews receive DFC

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
437 AW Public Affairs

Thirty-four Team Charleston aircrew members received the Distinguished Flying Cross Tuesday for their contributions to Operation Enduring Freedom.

Eight of the DFC recipients earned their award during the first night of humanitarian relief operations in Afghanistan. The remaining members earned the DFC while participating in the insertion of Marine forces at the Rhino Landing Zone.

Maj. Gen. Nick Williams, 21st Air Force commander, presented the medals during a ceremony at the Charleston Club.

"These are excellent, excellent people, the highest caliber our country ever produced," General Williams said of today's airmen. "And they are well-led by superb officers and NCOs."

The wing's leadership echoed General Williams remarks, pointing out that every mission is a team effort.

"Although these individuals

have received special and well-deserved recognition, we can all be proud of the total wing effort to ensure they could perform," said Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander. "The maintenance, support, and training all culminated in these aircrews being able to magnificently meet the commander in chief's intent for the mission."

One of President George W. Bush's goals was to show the people of Afghanistan that the war on terror was aimed at terrorists, not at the civilian population. Aircrews from the 437 AW helped meet that goal by delivering humanitarian daily rations.

During a flight over Afghanistan Oct. 7-8, 2001, eight Team Charleston members made aviation history, recording a number of firsts.

Not only did these eight airmen fly the first-ever C-17 combat airdrop, they also were part of the longest continuous C-17 mission; the highest-altitude airdrop; the first operational use of an aerial delivery system; and the first use

of night vision goggles in a C-17 formation airdrop.

"The night of the mission I thought 'Wow, this is what we train to do, and we're actually doing it,'" said Tech. Sgt. Chris Lemons, 437th Operations Group loadmaster. "I couldn't believe we were doing it for real."

The extraordinary achievements of Team Charleston's DFC recipients didn't seem like such a momentous accomplishment while the mission was underway, said Lt. Col. Matthew Whelan, 17th Airlift Squadron director of operations and DFC recipient.

"You know you're going into combat, and you're concerned – will there be ground support? Will we be shot at? – but you stay focused on the mission," Colonel Whelan said. "It's not until you get the stuff on the ground and get home that you think 'Wow, this is something monumental.'"

Colonel Whelan and twenty-six other aircrew members earned their DFCs Nov. 28-30, 2001, during the insertion of combat forces into the Camp Rhino Landing Zone near Kandahar, Afghanistan.

In addition to accomplishing the deepest combat insertion of Marine combat forces into hostile territory in Marine Corps history, these aircrew members established a number of milestones for the C-17.

These milestones included the first-ever C-17 combat landing on an unimproved dirt strip; the first-ever use of a special operations low level aircrew under threat of hostile action; and the first-ever use of night vision goggles to fly blacked-out approaches and landings in enemy territory.

The work these aircrews performed resulted in 2.9 million pounds of cargo and 481 ground combat troops carried into battle.

"I'm very honored to be up there with a lot of distinguished Americans," Colonel Whelan said. "It's a great honor to be part of that group."

Maj. Donald Himebaugh also received a DFC during a recent retirement ceremony, bringing the total Team Charleston DFCs to 35.



Ground support:

14 AS commander earns Bronze Star

In addition to earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, one Team Charleston warrior was also awarded a Bronze Star during Tuesday's ceremony.

Lt. Col. Steve Groenheim, 14th Airlift Squadron commander, earned the Bronze Star while serving mission commander of deployed forces at three locations in Southwest Asia, from Nov. 26, 2001 to Feb. 24, 2002.

During that period, Colonel Groenheim commanded C-17 aircrews that performed under exceptional circumstances and led those crews through many "firsts" for the C-17. His leadership allowed airlift missions to continue, uninterrupted, through three relocations in a seven-week period.

"Aviation 'firsts' happen through careful planning and precise execution, especially combat aviation. These men turned two theories into combat successes and airlift history. It's extremely humbling to be in the company of these extraordinary airmen." Colonel Groenheim said.

The Bronze Star was authorized by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1944, in response to a request by Gen. George Marshall. General Marshall was concerned about the morale of soldiers on the ground, who weren't eligible for the Air Medal, created to boost the morale of airmen.

The medal is awarded to those who distinguish themselves by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving aerial flight, while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States.



'Real American heroes' make history at CAFB

The Distinguished Flying Cross was established by the Air Corps Act in 1926.

Initial awards of the DFC were made to people who broke records for long-distance and endurance flights, and who set altitude records.

The first DFC recipient was Capt. Charles Lindbergh.

Other famous airmen to earn the decoration include the Wright Brothers, Amelia Earhart and Commander Richard Byrd.

The following Team Charleston airmen received the award:

Humanitarian Relief Operation:

Maj. Corey Martin
Maj. William Spangenthal
Maj. Stan Davis
Maj. Donald Himebaugh
Capt. Anthony Carr
Capt. Bradley Cochran
Tech. Sgt. Charles Irwin
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Lemons

Rhino Landing Zone:

Lt. Col. Steve Groenheim

Lt. Col. Michael Thayne
Lt. Col. Matthew Whelan
Maj. Richard Sheetz
Maj. Richard Williamson
Capt. Edward Kaufman
Capt. Christopher Henslee
Capt. Gregg Johnson
Capt. Kevin Minor
Capt. William Ormiston
Capt. Joseph Sanduk
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Capt. Eric Skipper

Capt. Patrick Winstead
Capt. Joseph Szucs
Master Sgt. John Bishop
Master Sgt. Scott Wetzel
Tech. Sgt. Gary Ferguson
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Schick
Staff Sgt. Kenneth Kluge
Staff Sgt. Charles Lauderdale
Staff Sgt. Corey Carter
Staff Sgt. James Lewis
Staff Sgt. Toby Thompson
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Roberts

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Short-tour credit authorized for deployments

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas—A temporary exception to policy will award permanent change-of-station short-tour credit to many airmen deployed overseas for recent contingency operations, according to Air Force Personnel officials.

Eligible airmen must have been on temporary duty starting on or after Sept. 11, 2001, for at least 181 consecutive days at an overseas location designated as a hostile-fire or imminent-danger pay area.

This credit is intended to reduce the chances of people being sent as nonvolunteers to an unaccompanied short tour soon after a prolonged contingency deployment, officials said.

The change is an exception to current policy, which only authorizes short-tour credit for airmen accumulating 300 or more days on TDY overseas during an 18-month period.

This exception is not without precedent. During operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, an exception was approved to authorize short-tour credit to people who deployed for at least 181 consecutive days from Aug. 1, 1990, to June 10, 1991.

Airmen are responsible for requesting short-tour credit through the military personnel flight's personnel employment element at their permanent duty station. The TDY travel voucher must be completed before airmen can apply for credit. The paid voucher will be the source document used to verify the dates of the deployment and if the location qualified for payment of hostile-fire or imminent-danger pay. **(Air Force Personnel Center News Service)**

Completed vouchers ensure speedy pay

ARLINGTON, Va.—Department of Defense travelers can help ensure their travel vouchers are paid promptly by preventing common mistakes, according to Defense Finance and Accounting

Service officials.

Some of the biggest sources of delay in the travel-pay process are incorrect or incomplete information on travel vouchers, officials said. The most common errors include:

- No traveler's signature or date
- No reviewer's signature
- No orders attached
- Blank, incomplete or erroneously filled out itinerary
- Orders do not match itinerary dates or location

"Double checking the voucher before submitting it can prevent the voucher from being rejected or paid partially," said Claudia Bogard, director of corporate communications for DFAS.

DFAS employees try to help people by partially paying vouchers that contain some errors rather than rejecting the entire voucher, officials said. In these cases, the payable amount is given to the customer with an advice of payment, which explains the reasons for only partial payment. The customer may then submit a supplemental claim for the remainder. Before making partial payments or returning the claim for a cor-

rection, DFAS customer-service representatives attempt to contact customers and allow 24 hours to correct the voucher. **(Air Force Print News)**

Civil Reserve Air Fleet call-up ends this month

SCOTT AFB, Ill.—Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, has determined that continuing the Civil Reserve Air Fleet call-up is not required. Fleet carriers have been notified that passenger aircraft called up to support Operation Iraqi Freedom were released Wednesday.

The passenger airlift requirements for OIF can now be met by air carrier volunteers through normal contract procedures.

Stage 1 of the call-up began Feb. 8 to provide the Department of Defense with additional airlift to move U.S. troops during the buildup of forces in the Southwest Asia. Fleet aircraft are U.S. commercial passenger and cargo aircraft activated when DOD airlift requirements exceed the capa-

bility of U.S. military aircraft.

"Even before we activated (the fleet), our commercial carriers volunteered their tremendous capability to airlift troops and cargo for DOD," said Handy. "We are thankful to these airlines that have played a major role in supporting U.S. military forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom. We simply could not have met the massive, fast-paced demands of our troop deployment without the dedication and determination of the men and women of CRAF."

From Feb. 8 through June 2, 11 fleet carriers flew more than 1,625 missions and airlifted 254,143 troops to destinations worldwide, the majority of those missions going to the Middle East.

The activation of the fleet in support of OIF marked only the second time in history commercial air carriers have been called up to augment Air Force air mobility missions. The origins of the fleet date back to 1951 when commercial airlines agreed to make aircraft available for DOD deployments in exchange for peacetime military business. **(AMC News Service)**

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Senior Airman JoAnn Makinano

Unwound

Members of the 615th Air Mobility Operations Group lay concertina wire to secure the perimeter of a forward-deployed location in Iraq supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

NEWS BRIEFS

Around the base

MPF: The 437th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight will be closed for an official function today, 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Anyone needing an ID card during these hours can go to the 315th ID card section, Bldg. 51, room 129, or the Naval Weapons Station Charleston ID card section, Bldg. 302.

The 437 MSS will also be closed June 27, 9-11:30 a.m., for a change of command ceremony.

Career seminar: A “Marketing Yourself For a Second Career” seminar is today, 9-11:30 a.m., at the Family Support Center. The free seminar is geared toward those who plan to leave the service in the next one to five years. For more information or to make a reservation, call the FSC at 963-4406.

Heart Link: The next Heart Link spouse orientation program is Tuesday, 8:45 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Family Support Center. Reservations are required. For more information or to make a reservation, call the FSC at 963-4406.

CLEP exams: Some College Level Examination Program exams are going to Computer Based Testing June 30. June 27 is the last day the Community Education Center can test anyone on the following CLEP exams: General – Humanities; Subject exams - Gen-

eral Chemistry, College Level German, General Biology, and Western Civilization I and II. For more information, call CEC customer service at 963-4575, or 963-7201.

Red Cross Dental Assisting Program: The 437th Dental Flight is now accepting applications for the

Red Cross Dental Assisting Program beginning in August. This program includes hands-on dental assisting training with a qualified dental assistant. Some duties include preparing a dental treatment room, taking and recording vital signs, preparing dental materials for use and administrative tasks.

The program lasts approximately six months, with a 40-hour workweek. Benefits of completing this program include certificate of training, certification in CPR and exposure to a wide variety of dental specialty procedures. To apply for the program, pick up an application at the dental clinic’s reception desk. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Zelma Garcia at 963-6842. Deadline for applications is July 1.

Youth Soccer: Youth Soccer registration begins July 1. Volunteers are needed. For more information or to sign up, go by the Youth Center or call Allen Fleming at 963-8326.

Housing Office closure - Due to the Fourth of July holiday, the Housing Office will be closed July 3. For emergencies, call the Fire

Department at 963-3777.

School physicals: The Family Practice Clinic is performing school summer and sports physicals, for Family Practice patients only, Thursday and July 30. To schedule an appointment, call 963-6880. Patients must bring shot records.

Serviceable XB3 Turn-in points: The following turn-in points for serviceable XB3 assets are:

- Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and Maintenance Squadron – Bldg. T-80: Senior Airman Jayson Tebbe-Harris at 963-3090

- Civil Engineer Squadron – Bldg. 625: Tech. Sgt. Edgar Brewer at 963-5059

- Transportation Squadron – Bldg. 407: Staff Sgt. Larry McGee at 963-4205

- Communications Squadron – Bldg. 129: Staff Sgt. Thomas Ferguson at 963-3508

Please contact squadron POCs to make drop off arrangements. To arrange for special pickup and resolve problems involving serviceable XB3 pickup points, contact the Cargo Movement Team at 963-2267.

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Staff Sgt. Ryan Wilson 437th Aerial Port Squadron

Staff Sgt. Ryan Wilson is an aerial delivery craftsman for the 437th Aerial Port Squadron. His duties include recovering airdrops and rigging air drop loads for the aircraft.

Sergeant Wilson said the best thing about his job is the people he works with.

He joined the Air Force “to travel and have a good job while being able to go to college.”

His future goals are making technical sergeant and completing his degree.

The Malone, N.Y., native has been at Charleston AFB for two years.

“The base is nice and I like the ocean,” said Sergeant Wilson. “I like going to the beach and just hanging out.”

His hobbies are playing video games and working on his truck.

“I like to make people laugh, and I am a hard worker,” said Sergeant Wilson.

FEATURE

Wanted: People interested in people

By Master Sgt. Angel Newman
437 AW Public Affairs

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," is the opening line of a famous novel. The famous phrase could just as easily begin the memoirs of an Air Force first sergeant.

"Being a first sergeant is about taking care of folks in good times and bad," said Chief Master Sgt. Melvin Willis, 437th Comptroller Squadron superintendent and first sergeant. "It's a challenging job with tremendous satisfaction."

The Air Force is looking for people to meet this challenge. Charleston's senior leaders and first sergeants are on a mission to spread the word about this opportunity.

"Our first sergeants are enormously important," said Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander. "They're involved in a little bit of everything from births and deaths to promotions and PCS. Taking care of each other is what family is all about, and first sergeants have a big role."

The job description for a first sergeant is somewhat vague by design. When dealing with people there aren't always cut and dry situations. In addition to being an advisor to the commander, the first sergeant is tasked to "exercise general supervision over all enlisted people" within their unit. This responsibility is something Charleston AFB first sergeants don't take lightly.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

"A first sergeant must have a genuine concern for people and be willing to truly put service before self," said Master Sgt. Janet Osborne, 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron first sergeant and president of the base First Sergeants' Council. "If you want to make a difference, this position gives you the opportunity to influence and help people on a larger scale than at the work center level."

With more than 400 people working in her squadron, Sergeant Osborne knows the larger scale. While she said the best part of her job is helping people work through difficult problems, she also sees a big challenge in finding the right tools to help people change behaviors that aren't compatible with today's Air Force.

Master Sgt. Gregory Brown, 437th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant, knew he wanted to be a first sergeant at his first duty station.

"My first sergeant had such an influence on me that I always said if I ever got to the rank of master sergeant, I would become a first sergeant," he said. "I love to help people and see them succeed, and I also try to help folks avoid the mistakes I made."

HAVING WHAT IT TAKES

People interested in applying for the first sergeant special duty must have 36 months retainability and meet several basic requirements including weight and body fat standards with overall image exceeding minimum standards; be able to speak distinctly; prior qualification at the 7-9 skill level in any career field; completed SNCO Academy correspondence course and have a minimum general Air Force Qualification Exam score of 58, administrative score of 45.

Though personality attributes are not a part of the qualification list, Sergeant Brown said people should be caring, compassionate and be

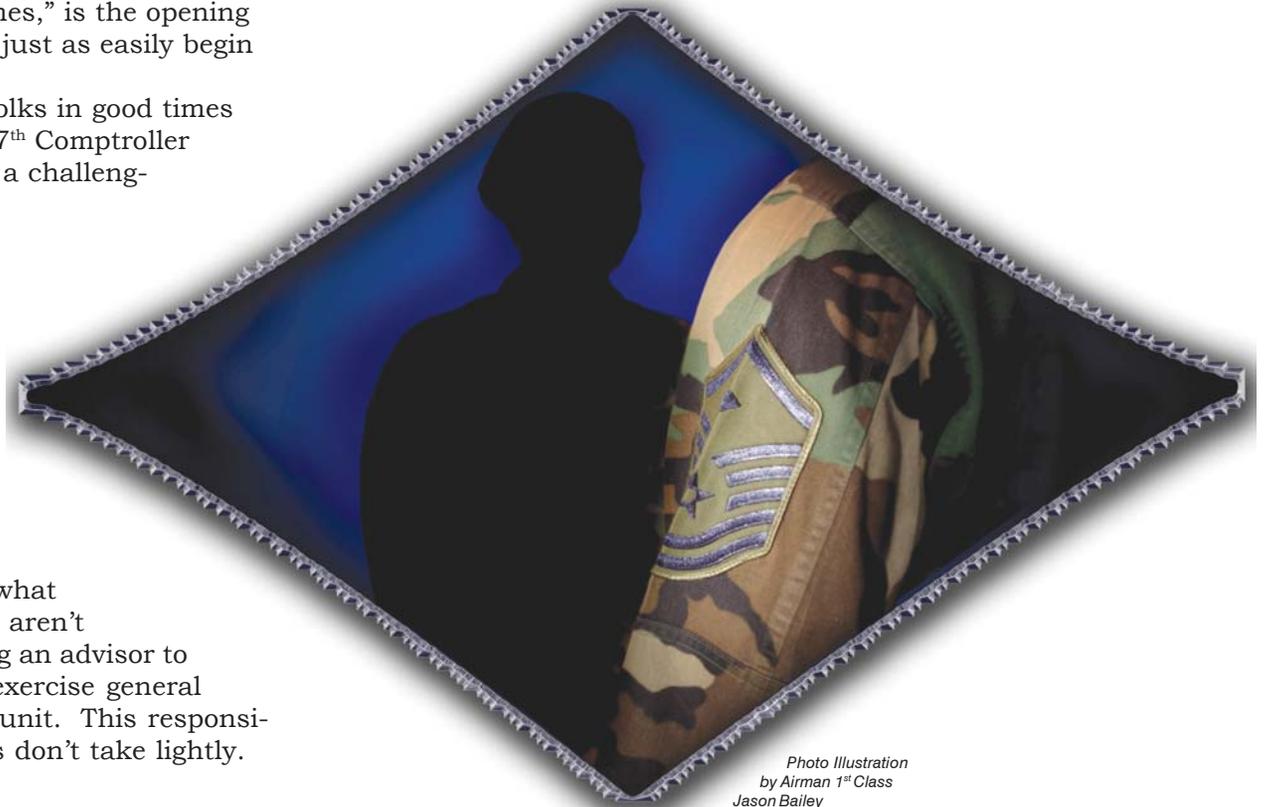


Photo Illustration
by Airman 1st Class
Jason Bailey

able to "put themselves in the troops' shoes. Being humble never hurts either," he added.

MAKING THE MOVE

"I truly believe it's the best job in the Air Force," said Sergeant Brown. "If you are looking for awards and kudos, then it's not the job for you. But, if you really want to help people and be sincere about it then you should become a first sergeant."

The first step in becoming a first sergeant is to meet with your commander and Chief Master Sgt. James Roy, 437 AW command chief.

"First sergeant duty is one of the most demanding yet rewarding positions in our Air Force," said Chief Roy. Our first discussion focuses on not only the member's ability to perform, but also the member's family's acceptance of the position."

Next, people get to shadow two first sergeants for a total of 30 days. "This gives applicants a chance to experience life with a first shirt and see first-hand the challenges and reward this duty offers," said Master Sgt. Wesley Prillaman, 437th Services Squadron first sergeant. "One of the best parts of this program is you get the chance to ask a lot of questions and see the solutions in action."

Potential first sergeants then meet a base board for final approval to submit a special duty package. The board focuses on why people want to become a first sergeant and takes into account the person's skills for dealing with people.

Once all these steps are taken, an electronic special duty package is submitted. If approved, an assignment and class date flows to the person.

The only part left is to enjoy the best of times and learn from the worst of times. That's what memoirs are all about.

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.
"Identity" – John Cusack

During an unrelenting rainstorm, with all roads washed out and all forms of communication dead at an isolated motel in Nevada, a group of people become stranded. Soon, the waterlogged lodgers start dying in mysterious ways. The dwindling number of survivors must discover the killer to prevent their own deaths. **(R) 90 minutes**

Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
"X2: X-Men United" – Patrick Stewart

The X-Men have opponents new and old to face this time around. Magneto is back, but there is a threat to Professor Xavier's school for mutants led by a human named Stryker and a vicious woman named Yuriko, who have it in for Wolverine. **(PG-13) 133 minutes**

June 27, 7:30 p.m.
"Daddy Day Care: - Eddie Murphy
(PG) 94 minutes

SPORTS & FITNESS

CES defeats LRS Monday 13-7

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber
437 AW Public Affairs

Civil Engineer Squadron scored 18 hits in a 13-7 victory over Logistics Readiness Squadron #1 Monday in intramural softball.

Second place CES (11-1) bounced back from losing its first game of the season 15-11 to Security Forces Squadron June 12, while seventh-place LRS fell to 7-7.

Gerald Amidon paced CES with three hits and drove in three runs. Paul Berry chipped in three hits, while Scott Schwede had two hits and three runs batted in. Also collecting two hits were James Berry and Michael Karascony.

CES coach Daniel Ritchings said his team has been in a hitting slump lately.

"At the beginning of the season we were averaging about 25-30 hits a game," Ritchings said. "It was better last night, but not up to our potential."

However, their defense has been solid this season, according to Ritchings.

"If our hitting is off at all, our defense keeps us in games," he said.

Shortstop James Berry led the CES defense with seven assists.

Mike Krawzak led LRS with 3-3 including two home runs and three RBIs. Jason Reinke went 2-3 including a home run and two RBIs. Matt Hughes and Tyrone Robinson each had two hits.

Not having five starters hurt LRS, said coach Richard Roberts.

"Whenever you lose half of your team, especially starters, it is difficult to play with the same chemistry," said Roberts.

"Offensively, we struggled a little with the absence of Brian Langley and Butch Reinhard," said Roberts. "We just couldn't put the hits together. Defensively we did not play the way we usually do, and that hurt us."

However, Roberts said, "the CES defense in the infield played great. On offense, CES had the base hits we couldn't produce."

LRS took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on Krawchek's solo homer to left and an unearned run. CES scored four runs in the bottom of the second inning to take a 4-2 lead and never looked back. Schwede's run-scoring triple and a two-run triple by Bryan Oliver highlighted the inning.

CES extended its lead to 7-3 after three innings and then outscored LRS 3-0 in the fourth and fifth innings to pad their lead to 10-3.

"The turning point was when we were able to shut them down for two innings in a row," said Ritchings.

LRS cut the lead to 10-6 with three runs in the top of the sixth. Krawzak led off with a homer to left, Hughes singled to center, and Reinke blasted a two-run homer to center.

In the bottom of the sixth, CES added three runs on Schwede's two-run single, which scored Erik Luna and James Berry, and Amidon singled to drive in James Brown.

LRS cut the final margin to 13-7 in the top of the seventh as Krawzak's two-out single scored Joe Torres.

Despite suffering their first loss of the season, Ritchings said CES is optimistic about the rest of the season.

"We all stand determined to make up for that loss and finish the season strong," he said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Pitcher Gerald Amidon, Civil Engineer Squadron, led his team to victory over Logistics Readiness Squadron #1. Amidon also starred at the plate with three hits and three runs batted in.

'SPRING INTO FITNESS'

Team Charleston conquers cardio challenge

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber
437 AW Public Affairs

A Charleston AFB fitness competition last month featured 33 teams and 132 participants who accumulated 2,037 hours of exercise in 30 days.

May's "Spring Into Fitness" Challenge 2003 had more than twice as many as the 14 teams that participated last year, despite high operations tempo, according to Jason Ham, CAFB's "spring into fitness" director and the competition coordinator.

"The competition was much bigger this year, and the base was much busier this year as well," Ham said.

A June 6 awards ceremony recognized the top three finishers - Team Sloth, Gator Gals and Charlie and his Angels.

Team Sloth consisted of Todd Mingin, Allen Harris, Joel Obman and Cecil Wilson.

"I've never worked out 28 days straight," Mingin said. "Going to the gym every day gets old, but you have to keep pushing. It feels good in the end."

Mingin, who lost 10 pounds during the fitness challenge, said the competition was an excellent idea.

Second place Gator Gals consisted of Nita Corbin, Sara Scivally, Sue Wilburn and Cindy Ebeling.

"The road to fat and lazy is paved with good intentions," said Ebeling. "I can make excuses to myself, but three other women would hold me accountable."

Ebeling said her routine "varied from swimming and playing tennis with my 12-year-old daugh-

ter, to running around McComb's Way, to hogging the treadmill in the hotel gym."

Third place Charlie and his Angels consisted of Janet Osborne, Leda Feaster, Stephen Cristofori and Lara Kalin-Cristofori.

Ham said he was impressed with this year's challenge.

"I was really happy to see more leadership involved in the competition, which helps pass along the importance of fitness and wellness to young airmen," Ham said.