

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

Vol. 42, No. 19

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

Friday, May 9, 2003

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cycle-safety class

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Charleston nurses  
provide caring touch



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## VOLLEYBALL

Regular season ends  
as intramural begins

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie Streefer

### Mother's Day gift

Kristen Welch, wife of Staff Sgt. Jed Welch, 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron, rocks her new baby girl, Ryleigh, and looks forward to celebrating her first Mother's Day Sunday. Ryleigh, born on her father's birthday, April 19, helped Kristen make the cutoff by just three weeks. The Charleston Club is offering a special Mother's Day brunch buffet Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

# COMMENTARY

## Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash  
437AW commander

Last week I flew overseas and visited some of our deployed folks—the great work our airmen do everyday continues to impress me. Flying with our aircrews staged at Rhein-Main AB, Germany, I had a chance to see some of our aerial porters in Baghdad, working hard and getting the mission done. The work our people are doing overseas and here at home is truly amazing.

### Outstanding troops

A number of Charleston AFB people and organizations earned awards presented at the South Carolina Air Force Association state convention awards luncheon on Saturday. The winners included **437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing**, Outstanding Active Duty Wing; **437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group**, Outstanding Active Duty Group; **1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron**, Outstanding Small Unit; and **John Geraci**, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, as Outstanding Civilian.

In recognition of that work, this past week Col. Karl Young presented some coins on my behalf. **Staff Sgt. Adam Siempa** earned a coin for his work overseas in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His coordinated maintenance operations—including changing four C-17 tires in only one hour—that enabled on-time launches of key missions in the operation.

Several medical logisticians and readiness experts from the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group received coins for meeting short-notice taskings to prepare, pack and deploy 19 aeromedical in-flight kits containing life-saving supplies and equipment. Receiving coins were **Tech. Sgt. Shaun McEvoy**, **Tech. Sgt. Ernest Walters**, **Mr. Eric Walke**, and **Tech. Sgt. Sabine Charls**.

We also recognized our Diamond Sharp winners this week. First sergeants chose **Staff Sgt. Joseph Grunditz**, 373<sup>rd</sup> Training Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Stephen Thompson**, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron; **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jason Stonehocker**, 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron; and **Staff Sgt. Jesse Hardy III**, 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron, as representing the best of Team Charleston's airmen. Congratulations to all our outstanding performers!

### Airman Leadership School

We are honored to have former Chief Master Sgt of the Air Force Eric Benken here this week to speak at the Airman Leadership School graduation dinner. Check next week's *Airlift Dispatch* for a list of ALS graduates and award winners.

### Upcoming events

The Charleston area community has designated May as Armed Forces



Photo by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jason Bailey

**Col. Brooks Bash, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander, leads the 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron in the Bunny Hop Commander's Fun Run April 24. The next run is the Armed Forces Fitness Run Tuesday at 7 a.m.**

month and has scheduled a variety of events in honor of local military members. Several local sports teams are hosting military appreciation nights, offering free or reduced rate admission to games. Check page 17 for a listing of events.

I hope to see lots of people at the Armed Forces Fitness Run Tuesday at 7 a.m. I especially encourage squadrons to come out and run together—and to bring your unit flag or mascot! There will be free T-shirts for all participants.

### Swimming Pool Grand Opening

On May 23 we will celebrate the swimming pool grand opening with activities beginning at 1 p.m. and the ribbon-cutting at 2 p.m. There will also be Asian Pacific Islander festivities, to include traditional dancers in the afternoon and a luau in the evening. That same day, we will have a C-17 on display 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. for anyone on base to walk through. Circle that date on your calendar to bring your family to the flightline to tour an airplane, then head to the pool for some family fun.

### Safety

As we continue on a wartime pace, it is tempting to become complacent and start to cut corners when it comes to safety. We absolutely cannot let this happen; continue to keep safety uppermost as you work the mission. I am very proud of the work Team Charleston is doing. Keep it safe out there!

## Action Line caller expresses concern for CAFB motorists

**Q: On the corner of East Jackson Drive, there is a tree with limbs that block the view of traffic coming in from the front gate. On a slightly windy day, the limbs blow enough to obstruct any view of a car until it is right there on that intersection. This is a hazard for the traffic attempting to leave the housing area and merge onto the main road. If it could be trimmed back, that would make that intersection much safer.**

**A: Thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. The tree in question did present a problem with the visibility of on-coming traffic. The 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron has pruned the limbs. Visibility from the stop sign is no longer obscured. If you have any concerns with the trees or the grounds maintenance on base, please notify the Civil Engineer Quality Assurance Evaluator at 963-4144. Again, thank you for your concern for the safety of motorists on Charleston AFB.**

The Commander's Action Line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston AFB a better place to live, work and play.

First, give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at **963-5581**, or send an e-mail to [action@charleston.af.mil](mailto:action@charleston.af.mil).

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.



**Col. Brooks Bash**  
437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing  
commander

# NURSES

## Making a difference in war and peace

By Lt. Col. Nancy Dezell  
437MDOS commander

As I see it, I have the best of both worlds. I am proud to be both an Air Force officer and a nurse! I have enjoyed every opportunity (and challenge!) I've encountered in my almost 18 years. I believe that being a nurse is who we are, not just what we do.

Most nurses are drawn to this profession out of selfless compassion to help others; the very word "Nurse" comes from the Latin word "nutrire," meaning "to nourish." As we celebrate National Nurses' Appreciation Week culminating Monday with Florence Nightingale's birthday, please indulge me as I share a bit about my proud profession with you.

We have come a long way from our "Angels of Mercy" days in realizing the tremendous humanitarian impact of nurses both during war and while at peace. Most notably, "the lady with the lamp", Florence Nightingale, worked tirelessly using her nursing and statistical talents to reduce infection and death rates by 60 percent for soldiers during the squalor of the Crimean War in 1864. She reformed hospital sanitation, formalized nursing education and elevated the stature of nursing to a profession, becoming the first woman to receive the British Order of Merit. Famed authors Walt Whitman and Louisa May Alcott served our country as Civil War nurses, witnessing the grim results of amputations, mutilations, disease and death first-hand.

Public health nursing pioneers, Lillian Wald and Mary Brewster, served New York's poor and indigent, crossing the city by rooftop to navigate the overcrowded streets of the 1890's. Where would our American Red Cross be today without Clara Barton, who cared for wounded soldiers and later persuaded Congress to establish the Red Cross peacetime disaster response mission.

Our formal military roots are in the Army Nurse Corps, celebrating their 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday this year. The Air Force Nurse Corps was

### worth repeating

"I believe that being a nurse is who we are, not just what we do ... we have come a long way from our 'Angels of Mercy' days in realizing the tremendous humanitarian impact of nurses both during war and while at peace."



— Lt. COL. Nancy Dezell  
437<sup>th</sup> Medical Operations Squadron commander

established in 1949 with the transfer of 1,199 Army nurses just prior to the Korean conflict. More than 75,000 nurses served in every war since the 1700's.

Hundreds became POWs and thousands received combat decorations, including the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Air Medal, Legion of Merit, Commendation Medal and Purple Heart. The Vietnam Memorial and the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery pay great tribute to their selfless contributions.

Tremendous opportunities abound in nursing! In addition to inpatient, outpatient and administrative nursing career tracts, we have more than 100,000 nurse practitioners who provide primary health care for adults and children, 9,200 nurse midwives, and another 30,000 nurse anesthetists. There are hundreds of accredited nursing schools across the country providing undergraduate and postgraduate

degrees in nursing and more than 100 professional nursing organizations that promote excellence and offer specialty certification.

Today, all states require significant continuing education to maintain professional nursing licensure.

In addition to meeting these civilian nursing requirements, the Air Force nurse officer of today has a minimum of a bachelor's degree, upholds all the standards of an Air Force member, and stands ready for world-wide deployment in support of various war-time and peacetime medical missions.

Led by Major General-select Barbara Brannon, the Air Force Assistant Surgeon General for Nursing Services, the Air Force Nurse Corps is home to 3,700 active duty nurses out of the 19,000 Air Force nurses, including Reserve and Guard, serving side-by-side in mirror-force fashion. The majority of Air Force nurses have a master's degree and many have a Ph.D. General Brannon is the first nurse to command a medical center, and many nurses commanded medical squadrons and groups throughout the Air Force.

As General Brannon pointed out in her last testimonial address to Congress, Air Force nurses were in the trenches on Sept. 11, 2001, when American Airlines Flight 77 hit the Pentagon—triaging, rendering first aid, and saving lives on the front lawn with their superb skills. Air Force nurses were deployed to far forward locations in support of all conflicts since 1949 — and now in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The annual National Nurses Week sponsored by the American Nurses Association, honors nursing professionalism and the tremendous contributions nurses have made across the nation. Our proud heritage shaped our present and we are poised to eagerly meet our future challenges. The 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group will honor our Air Force nurses with luncheons throughout the week and culminate with a "Thank you for Caring" reception for all military, VA and spouse nurses today, 4-7 p.m. at the Charleston Club. Please join us.

## Dispatch

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Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

### Deadlines

The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is prior to noon of the Friday preceding

the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* staff reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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Editorial content is provided and edited by the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1600, Rm. 224. Phone: (843) 963-5608, Fax: (843) 963-5604

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## NEWS

# Motorcycle-safety month throttles up with rider training

## Mandatory safety class teaches Air Force military personnel riding responsibility

**Story and Photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzycny**  
437 AW Public Affairs

The motorcycle season is primarily between April and October, with motorcycle safety month in May.

Air Mobility Command officials stress that this is an important time to focus on safe riding practices and situational awareness to prevent injury and the loss of life.

Military people buying a motorcycle should remember, according to AFI 91-207, all Air Force military personnel who operate a motorcycle, on or off duty, on or off a Department of Defense installation, and regardless of their decision to register their vehicle on a DoD installation, are required to attend an approved motorcycle-rider safety course.

"This training is not only required by the DoD, but it teaches riders to be aware of the potential dangers inherent with riding a motorcycle and also impresses upon them to be responsible and to ride safely," said Lt. Col. A.J. McMillan, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing chief of wing safety and a rider himself.

The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Safety Office provides pamphlets, briefings and classes on motorcycle-rider safety training, which can also be

found at [www.charleston.af.mil/wingsafety](http://www.charleston.af.mil/wingsafety).

"Wing and unit safety offices have a partnership with security forces to make sure the riders are identified and get the training they need," said Mr. Luttrell.

"Classes are held on an 'as needed basis,'"

said Chief Master Sgt. Rick Cross, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Viper flight chief and CAFB motorcycle-rider safety instructor.

"These classes are very important to military riders because DoD regulations now state that this class must be taken to ride a motorcycle – on and off base," he continued. "Whether you take the class here on base (for free) or at a facility such as Trident Tech [for \$12], a safety class is a prerequisite to riding your motorcycle."

The goal is to make riders smarter



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzycny

**Students in a recent Motorcycle-Riders Safety Course await instruction. The course is mandatory for all military personnel before operating a motorcycle in any way.**

and safer.

"Risk Management 'Stop and Think before you Act' goes hand-in-hand with motorcycle rider's safety training and is the most important defense in preventing motorcycle fatalities," said Mr. Luttrell. "The training presents unique situations to the riders and teaches them how to avoid

accidents.

"It also instills confidence in the riders so they can safely operate their bike," he continued. "Using defensive driving on the streets is basically the key to avoiding motorcycle mishaps."

Motorcycle rider safety training and personal protective equipment is mandatory but it also has other advantages.

"Training is attractive because insurance companies will give lower insurance premiums," said Mr. Luttrell. "And some states won't

issue a license or motorcycle endorsement without the training," said Luttrell.

"While the relatively low cost of a hot sport bike may be an attractive purchase, potential riders must keep in mind that rarely does a rider walk away from an accident without any injuries. Often those injuries are severe or lethal," said Colonel McMillan. "Just because your bike can go 140 mph, doesn't mean you should do so."

"With the increased number of motorcycle riders, we've seen a drastic increase in motorcycle related deaths," said Mr. Dave Luttrell, 437<sup>th</sup> AW ground safety manager. "Last year there were 19 motorcycle fatalities in the Air Force, contributing to the second worst year in the history of DoD for motorcycle fatalities."

"The Air Force depends heavily on the valuable contributions of each of its airmen," said Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command. "We simply can't afford to lose any of our people to motorcycle accidents."

For more information about the motorcycle safety courses or to sign-up for the class contact Mr. Luttrell at 673-5605 or 673-5603.

# Air Force technology, flexibility counter enemy threat

**By Maj. Linda Pepin**  
437 AW Public Affairs

Flexibility, new technology and new approaches will help the Air Force meet growing and diverse threats in the coming years, according to the service's top strategic planner.

"The future looks good, but the future is hard; the future is tough out there," said Maj. Gen. Ronald Bath, director of Air Force strategic planning, addressing attendees at the South Carolina Air Force Association's annual convention and awards luncheon here Saturday.

The general said the old rubric of strategic planning as a long look into the future is being replaced by what he calls "dynamic planning" as concepts, technology, and organizational structure continue to change and respond with greater precision to new threats.

"The concept we came out of the Cold War with was we knew who the enemy was, we

knew where the enemy was, and we knew how we were going to have to engage that enemy," General Bath said. "We have a completely new strategic environment on the horizon, and that came on the horizon rather rapidly as of 9/11. We were hearing that the strategic environment was going to change, but I don't think we ever thought it would change so rapidly."

The Air Force must be prepared to respond to a variety of threats, including a proliferation of more sophisticated surface-to-air missiles and theater ballistic missiles, highly capable enemy fighter jets, and a "constant threat from cyberspace," the general said.

Aging weapon systems exacerbate the threats. "We've got the best aircrews in the world, there's no doubt about it," General Bath said. "But our equipment is getting older." For instance, the Air Force would like fighters to have an average age of 15 years, he said, noting that the current average age is 16-17

years, and will be 24 years even with the modernization programmed in the budget through 2023.

How does the Air Force contribute to the joint effort to overcome new threats? "We're going to have to be more expeditionary," the general said, citing as an example Operation Iraqi Freedom, where the U.S. Air Force was operating out of 32 bases in 11 countries, noting how air mobility makes that possible.

"Nothing touches the capabilities we have to move things around the world. You folks here [at Charleston AFB] with those things right there," referring to a picture of a C-17, "are why we bring decisive combat power anywhere in the world at the direction of the president."

"There has never been an organization that has responded to change, that has been more ready to change itself, than the U.S. Air Force," General Bath said. "The U.S. Air Force has in its genes the idea of continual flexible change."



Photo by Andre Bullard

**Retired Col. Henry Wurster, who gave 28 years to the Air Force as a pilot, flew again April 20 with Aero Club assistant manager Jeffery Elliott as part of the Heart's Desire program. The program aims to make Heartland Care Center's patients' dreams come true.**

## Heart's Desire Retired AF pilot returns to sky

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. JENNIFER ANDREWS  
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For almost half his life, he flew – for 28 years as an Air Force pilot and 20 more as a commercial airline pilot. Then tragically, retired Col. Henry Wurster was grounded because of symptoms resembling Alzheimer's Disease.

However, he soared through the skies again here April 30, thanks to a combined effort by the Aero Club and Heartland Care Center's Heart's Desire program. The Heart's Desire program is comparable to the "Make-A-Wish" program, aimed at Heartland Care's patients.

"The program really works to make the residents' dreams come true," said Kim Finkelstein, Heartland Care Center admissions director.

Colonel Wurster arrived at the Aero Club at 10 a.m. and was ready to fly.

"It was an honor to do something like this for him," said Dick McCleran, Aero Club manager. "I think this is an excellent example of how military take care of their own."

It was a day that had been long awaited.

"He has been really looking forward to this for the last two weeks," said Valeria Wurster, his wife of 56 years. "This is his day."

Jeffery Elliott, the assistant manager for the

Aero Club, flew Colonel Wurster along the Charleston coastline.

"I actually let him take control of the plane, but he gave the controls back to me after a few minutes," said Mr. Elliott. "He hasn't forgotten how to fly. I don't think any pilot forgets how to fly."

Colonel Wurster speaks often to fellow residents about flying.

"He always talks about flying and entertains other residents with his stories," said Ms. Finkelstein. "Every time he talks about flying, his face lights up."

Now Colonel Wurster will be able to tell residents of his latest adventure.

"Flying is his life," said Mrs. Wurster. "Today brings back a few memories for him."

It was flying that brought Colonel and Mrs. Wurster together in the first place. He met Valeria on an airplane when he was catching a ride back to his base and she was his flight attendant.

"I remember walking down the aisle and he threw a pillow at me," recalls Mrs. Wurster. "The rest was history."

The love of flying was passed on through the Wurster generations. His children flew in the Air Force and his grandchildren fly commercially.

## Suicide: it can be prevented

Suicide is our most preventable cause of death," said Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Paul Carlton Jr. "Leadership and mentorship are our two most important tools in preventing these tragic losses."

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for active-duty Air Force people, surpassed only by unintentional injury. Awareness of suicide and the risk factors associated with suicide are key to the prevention of such loss of life and its traumatic consequences for families and communities.

But how do others know when someone is in significant distress? A misconception about suicide is that it occurs with little or no warning. There are often many clues.

High risk factors that should alert us to vulnerability include abuse of alcohol or other substances, financial and legal problems, few social ties or loneliness, prolonged unmanageable stress, and feelings of depression or worthlessness.

A key signal of distress is obsessing or talking about death, dying, and violence, as well as purchasing fire-

arms or other weapons

This runs counter to another misconception: those who talk about suicide will not do it.

Other significant signs include withdrawing from friends and family or suddenly making amends with others, sudden changes in behavior, loss of interest in work or usual activities, and giving away possessions.

What can be done to help? Talking with them may open doors to assistance to help them through their distress. Some buy into the myth that talking about suicide with someone will give that person the idea to harm him or herself. This belief is not only wrong, it also creates barriers to preventing suicide.

The key to the prevention of suicide is early intervention. Seeking assistance and encouraging others to do the same when having difficulty coping helps prevent more serious problems from developing. If serious warning signs are present, including threats of suicide with a plan, do not leave the person alone. Call 911 or seek emergency services immediately. **(Air Force Print News)**

Photo by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jason Bailey

### Time-out Teddy

**The national mascot for Prevent Child Abuse America, Time-out Teddy, conducted a short, informational abuse-prevention program for children and parents at the Youth Center's Before and After Program April 24 as part of Child Abuse Prevention month.**

# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Air Force preparing for next contingency

**WASHINGTON**—Even as deployed airmen return home from Operation Iraqi Freedom, Air Force officials are focusing on what they need to do to reload the service for the next contingency.

According to Lt. Gen. Ronald Keys, deputy chief of staff for air and space operations, the three priorities in reconstituting the Air Force are people, units and the overall Air Force.

“In the people category, we need to give our people the time to reunite with their families, take care of personal things and decompress,” the general said.

The service is also committed to helping airmen get their career progression requirements back on track, General Keys said.

“We have to give them a chance to study for their promotion exams and get them into professional military education classes or other professional training,” he said. “We’ll make sure they don’t lose those classes by virtue of having answered the call to go to war.”

Unit reconstitution will consist of getting local training programs back on track, restocking supplies, and repairing and maintaining equipment.

At the Air Force level, General Keys said senior leaders would have to face challenges ranging from personnel management to completely reloading the air and space expeditionary force rotation schedule.

“The AEF construct is a crisis-contingency mechanism for scheduling people to (deploy),” he said. “We froze AEFs 7/8 in place, added 9/10, then added parts of 1/2 and 3/4. There are a lot of people over there, and the AEF is not in sequence.”

General Keys said he expects the AEF cycle to be back on track by early 2004. In the meantime, the Air Force will weave together interim AEF pairs to meet upcoming deployment requirements.

“We’ll take the (people who did not deploy) from AEFs 5/6, 1/2 and 3/4, and package them into a temporary AEF,” General Keys said. “As we get the force reconstituted, we’ll come off the interim AEF and start the normal rotation with everyone

back into an AEF window.”

The AEF Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va., is a key component to the reconstitution effort, because they are the ones charged with keeping track of people, equipment and deployment requirements, the general said.

“The AEF Center is absolutely critical because they know where all the people are and what the capability is,” he said. “They have a tough job, and the world doesn’t stand still. We still have requirements in the Pacific, (for) the global war on terror and in the Balkans, so it’s not as simple as just focusing on Iraq.”

It is the service’s commitment to meeting the challenges of those and other potential requirements that are driving the Air Force to reconstitute as quickly as possible, General Keys said.

“The people of the United States expect us to be ready when called upon,” he said. “The longer you wait to reconstitute, the more difficult it becomes. For every day we lose, down the line there’s some training event that’s been missed.”

General Keys said a highly coordinated “surge” operation would be required to work through the train-

ing backlog caused by instructors and equipment being deployed. Part of that coordination includes working with the various major commands to address their unique concerns and requirements.

“We have to go through this whole gamut — people, units and big Air Force,” he said. “You can’t do any of them in isolation because everything you do in one place causes a ripple effect. You have to coordinate; you have to have a policy across the force.

“The end game, where we’re going, is to get back into the AEF battle rhythm,” General Keys said. “The AEF is the way we do business in the Air Force. That’s the way we provide forces to the combatant commanders.” **(Air Force Print News)**

## Ceremony ends Operation Northern Watch

**INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey** — The Combined Task Force Operation Northern Watch guidon was encased May 1, in a ceremony signifying the successful end to its mission of enforcing U.N. Security Council Resolutions north of the

36th parallel.

ONW began Jan. 1, 1997, and succeeded another coalition effort, Operation Provide Comfort, which began in April 1991 and delivered more than 12,400 tons of food, supplies, medical aid and fuel to more than one million Kurdish refugees along the Turkish and Iraqi border.

More than 100,000 U.S., British, Turkish and French airmen rotated through Incirlik AB to support the operations.

The United States, England and Turkey contributed more than 1,400 troops and approximately 50 fighter, tanker, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft to ONW at any given time.

The U.S. contribution was a total-force effort, including soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen from active duty, National Guard and Reserve units serving 45-to-90-day tours. Despite facing Iraqi fire on nearly every mission, coalition forces never lost an aircraft to enemy fire over Iraq.

CTF ONW headquarters was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award six consecutive years. The unit received its seventh during the ceremony.

## Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

### Medical evac

**U.S. Air Force aeromedical-evacuation technicians carry Army Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jeffrey Wolf from the medical airlift staging facility at Baghdad International Airport to a C-130 Hercules April 22. The 15 people who staff the MASF are responsible for getting sick and wounded people out of the combat environment and into a hospital where they can receive more extensive care.**

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

**SFS safety tip:** Do you know what to do in case of any type of terrorist attack? Although not all attacks are preventable, there are some steps you can take to help ensure your family's safety. According to the Red Cross, there are three basic steps to better protect your family. First, find out what type of terrorist threat you would be vulnerable for. For example, if you live in a small and less populated area, a hostage situation would be unlikely to take place. The second step is to inform your family about the type of possible threats out there. Make sure they know what could happen. Third is to develop a plan of action. Plans should include an out of town contact, a meeting place for all family members and safety kits to include medical supplies and food. Remember, being vigilant is the best way to stay safe.

**Retirement:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Camera Squadron hosts a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Brian Smart today, 3 p.m., at the Community Education Center. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Gary Robinson at 963-4432.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron will host a retirement ceremony for MSgt Thomas Foster May 16, 3 p.m., at the Reserve Auditorium, Bldg 60. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Anthony Coney at 963-4594.

**Dorchester Gate closure:** Starting Monday, the area around Dorchester Gate will be repaved. The repaving project will last until May 18 unless affected by inclement weather. From May 12-15, the Dorchester Gate outbound lane will be closed from 6-12 a.m., and the inbound lane will be closed from 9-12 a.m.

Drivers should use the Commissary or Rivers Gates to depart the installation. The Dorchester Gate Visitor's Center will move to the Commissary Gate, and the new phone number during this short relocation will be 963-5686.

For more information, call the Security Forces Control Center at 963-3600.

## Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

### Staff Sergeant Aubrey Buhr 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing

Staff Sergeant Aubrey Buhr is the assistant NCOIC for the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Chapel, where he helps provide for the religious needs of the base population.

"Boosting morale by handing out snacks and refreshment during visits with other troops is what I like best about my job," said Sergeant Buhr.

Sergeant Buhr joined the Air Force for job security, school and to serve his country. The Albuquerque, N.M., native plans to finish college, possibly go to officer's training school and eventually retire at the age of 38.

Sergeant Buhr has been at Charleston for five months.

"So far it's been great, I take frequent trips to the Regal Theater and an occasional visit to a club or two while I wait for the summer and the beaches," said Sergeant Buhr.

During his off-duty time Sergeant Buhr said he likes to play basketball, spend money at the mall and go to parties.

He also said his will to succeed and his positive attitude are what make him unique.

## Community support

**Oil changes:** Ravenel Ford is offering free oil changes and half-off repairs under \$1,500 for spouses of deployed military personnel. The offer is good on all Ford and GM light-duty personal vehicles through June. Participants will need to show their identification cards. Call 889-8500 for appointments.

## Around the base

**Top 3:** The Top 3 Association annual Golf Tournament is today, 11 a.m., at the Wrenwoods Golf Course. The cost is \$15 plus green fees and cart. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Matt Harless at 963-8004, or e-mail at [matt.harless@charleston.af.mil](mailto:matt.harless@charleston.af.mil).

The Top 3 Association will also hold its annual Steak Out June 4, at the base picnic ground. Top 3 ticket point of contacts are needed from each unit. For more information, call Master Sgt. Charles Gosner at 963-7133.

**Vendor fair:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Contracting Squadron hosts a GPC/

Vendor Trade Fair Tuesday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Cardholders, approving officials, resource advisors and anyone dealing with ordering products can take this opportunity to meet companies who can help make their jobs easier. For more information, call Ms. Mandy Butler at 963-6305.

**Screening:** The Navy Hospital of Charleston's Urology Clinic will have a free prostate cancer-screening clinic May 19, 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. The clinic is by appointment only for all active-duty and retired males more than 45 years old. To schedule an appointment, call 743-7583.

**OSA:** The Officers' Spouses' Association hosts its Bingo night at the Charleston Club May 20, beginning at 6 p.m. The cost is \$15. For more information or to make a reservation, call Donna Baker at 207-0401 or Kathy Braunbeck at 767-2375.

**FOD Walk:** The base is conducting a semi-annual Foreign

Object Damage walk May 23 at 9 a.m. All base personnel are encouraged to attend and asked to arrive 15 minutes early.

The walk starts on the south end of Hangar 700 and sweeps the entire length of the flight line. Line badges are not required, and transportation will be provided to return individuals to Hangar 700.

Several "Golden Bolts" will be hidden, and participants who find them will be awarded prizes for exceptional attention to detail. Prizes include dinner for two at Bocci's Italian Restaurant and a one-night stay at the Charleston Place Hotel valued at over \$450. For more information contact 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt George Cole at 963-2791.

**Sick call:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group provides sick-call appointments for active-duty members by appointment only to improve the timeliness and efficiency of health care needed and to reduce lost-duty time.

To make a sick-call appointment, call central appointments at 963-6880, or Flight Medicine at 963-6923.

## FEATURE

**By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Shaloma McGovern**  
*437 AW Public Affairs*

They are the soothing voices on the other end of the phone when patients are concerned about making medical appointments. They are concerned with patients' personal health and that of their family members. They are the nurses of Team Charleston.

"In addition to keeping active duty members 'fit to fight,' our overall medical mission is keeping family members healthy so active-duty members can focus on the mission and not have to worry about the health of their loved ones," said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kelly Barbour, 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group nurse.

Keeping more than 14,000 enrolled patients healthy requires a great deal of manpower from nurses, administrative and medical technicians, and primary care managers, according to Lt. Col. Nancy Dezell, chief nurse and 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Operations Squadron commander.

Charleston AFB is home to 15 registered clinical nurses, one family nurse practitioner, two women's health nurse practitioners, two civilian licensed vocational nurses, a breast cancer education nurse and five individual mobilization augmentees.

"Our nurses work hard to keep more than 4,000 active-duty members 'fit to fight,' keep their families healthy and take care of more than 5,000 proud patriots who served our country in years past," said Colonel Dezell.

Obtaining any degree can be challenging and expensive, but the Air Force offers a variety of programs to recruit and retain nursing staff, said Colonel Dezell. The Air Force recently implemented a 100-percent tuition assistance program, offsetting the cost of a master's degree in nursing. Additionally, nurses can apply to the Air Force Institute of Technology to become a nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist or specialize in other specific aspects of nursing.



**Capt. Melinda Alsabrook, Team Nova nurse, examines a with patient.**

*Photos by Andre Bullard*

# Nurses Team Charleston's 'angels of mercy'



**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kelly Barbour, Team Phoenix nurse, performs a check-up with an patient.**

"I came into the military for education and travel," said Capt. Claudette Derossset, 437 MDG nurse. "It really helps with triage that I can pull from 15 years of experience, which ranges from floor nursing, surgery, emergency room and telemetry units."

The nurses here specialize in clinical nursing in an outpatient environment, according to Maj. Brian Hubbard, nurse and 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group chief of human resources and development. More than half have five to 10 years of

nursing experience prior to coming into the military, which enhances the quality of care at the clinic.

"We have several real-life nursing heroes right here at Charleston," said Colonel Dezell. "Just to name a few, Capt. Mindy Alsabrook deployed to El Salvador last year to care for hundreds of medically-deprived citizens; Capt. Abdol Hajiaghamohseni rescued volunteer firemen from a burning building while on vacation with his family; Capt. Ryan Murray is a volunteer firefighter in his St. George, S.C., hometown; Lt. Col. Judy Rosen was named Air Force's 2002 Field Grade Nurse of the Year; and Col. Regina Aune, prior 437 MDG commander, was a hero during the Vietnam Baby Lift assisting others after their C-5 crashed, although seriously injured herself."

Discussing health questions and concerns initially by phone has become the standard in both the civilian and military settings for nurses and requires nurses to have a strong background in disease management, triage and good judgment, according to Colonel Dezell.

"Although most minor illnesses and injuries can be treated by the patient at home with proper health advice, your Primary Care Manager team nurse is your partner in health care and don't hesitate to bring patients in to be examined if needed," she said. "Your Charleston nurses are your healthcare partners, liaisons and advocates. We care for you, and I am proud to be an Air Force nurse."

# Armed Forces Month

## Charleston communities show their appreciation

By ROSETTA ALEXANDER  
437 AW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Charleston-area communities are celebrating Armed Forces Day May 17, and Armed Forces Week May 10-18, with a variety of events planned throughout the month of May.

"The Chamber understands the enormous value of the military to not only our region's economy but also its people," said Mr. Charles Ryselberge, chief executive officer of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. "Therefore, it is only natural that we would celebrate Armed Forces Month each year."

On Aug 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration on the third Saturday in May was a result of the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense. Armed Forces Week begins on the second Saturday of May and ends on the third Sunday of May.

The Charleston-area communities' month-long Armed Forces celebration kicked off Sunday with a Freedom concert sponsored by the Clarion Hotel and several local businesses and celebrities. More than 200 military members, spouses and children were treated to free food and drinks, live entertainment, and children's games and activities.

Other events scheduled throughout the month are:

■ Saturday, 7:30 p.m.: Military Appreciation Night at the Charleston Battery vs. Charlotte

Eagles soccer game at Blackbaud Stadium. Free tickets can be picked up at the 437 Public Affairs Office, 437 Services Marketing Office or the 315 Public Affairs Office. Parking is \$3.

■ May 14, 7:05 p.m.: Military Appreciation Night at the Charleston Riverdogs vs. Del Marva Shorebirds baseball game at Joe Riley Stadium. Free ticket vouchers can be picked up at the 437 PA Office, 437 SVS Marketing Office or the 315 PA Office. Parking is \$4.

■ May 17, 7:30 p.m.: Military Appreciation Night at the SwampFoxes Arena Football game at the North Charleston Coliseum. Tickets are \$6 with military ID, and parking is \$4.

■ May 21, 7:30-9 a.m.: Joint Area Business Council Breakfast at the North Charleston Performing Arts Center. The Metro Chamber of Commerce will recognize two airmen from the 437 AW

and 315 AW as the Airmen of the Quarter for their volunteer activities in the community. Tickets are \$10 with a reservation and \$12 at the door. To make a reservation, call 577-2510, Ext. 2212.

■ May 21, 6-8 p.m.: "Saluting Our Troops" Military Appreciation Reception on the USS Yorktown hosted by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. The cost is \$15. To make a reservation, call 577-2510, Ext 2212 by May 16.

■ May 21-24: Wendy's/Pepsi Cola Southern Conference Baseball Tournament at Joe Riley Stadium. Tickets are discounted 50 percent with military ID. For more information, log onto the SOCON web site at [www.soconsports.com/section\\_front.asp?arttypeid=166&sportid=16](http://www.soconsports.com/section_front.asp?arttypeid=166&sportid=16).



Courtesy photo

## 437 SFS to celebrate National Police Week

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. In observation of this, the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces plans the following activities:

■ **Today:** 2:15 -5 p.m. Parade with McGruff and candy through housing area beginning at Lambs School gate

■ **Saturday:** 9-11 a.m. Bike Rodeo in the Behavioral Sciences parking lot. A gift certificate for a bicycle and helmet will be donated by the Base Exchange

■ **Monday:** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Security forces weapons, vehicles, and equipment display at the BX

■ **Tuesday:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Car wash at the Shoppette

■ **Wednesday:** 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. K-9 demonstration at base picnic grounds

■ **Thursday:** 8 a.m. Base flag will be flown at half staff in honor of slain police officers

■ **Friday:** 4:30 p.m. Retreat ceremony at the Base Flag Pole

## 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.**

**"The Core" – Hilary Swank**

A geophysicist discovers that an unknown force has caused the earth's inner core to stop rotating. With the planet's magnetic field rapidly deteriorating, the atmosphere literally starts to come apart at the seams with catastrophic consequences. **(PG-13) 137 minutes**

**Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

**"Daddy Day Care" – Eddie Murphy**

Free sneak preview (seating first come first serve) – Two fathers join the ranks of the unemployed and are forced to take their sons out of the exclusive Chapman Academy and become stay-at-home fathers. With no job possibilities on the horizon, the two dads decide to open their own day care facility, "Daddy Day Care," which boasts some unconventional and sidesplitting methods of tending kids. As competition with Chapman Academy's director increases, it becomes dads against the baddest mother of them all. **(PG) 90 minutes**

## SPORTS & FITNESS

# LRS leads the way in intramural volleyball

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Kleber  
437 AW Public Affairs

Bump, set, spike! It's a common volleyball ritual on the Globemaster court at the base gym. Intramural volleyball is coming down the stretch as the regular season concludes and teams prepare for the post-season tournament.

Logistics Readiness Squadron (10-1) leads the 14-team league as of Monday's standings. Security Forces Squadron (7-2) and Communications Squadron (8-3) are second and third. The Flyers and Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (7-3) are tied for fourth place.

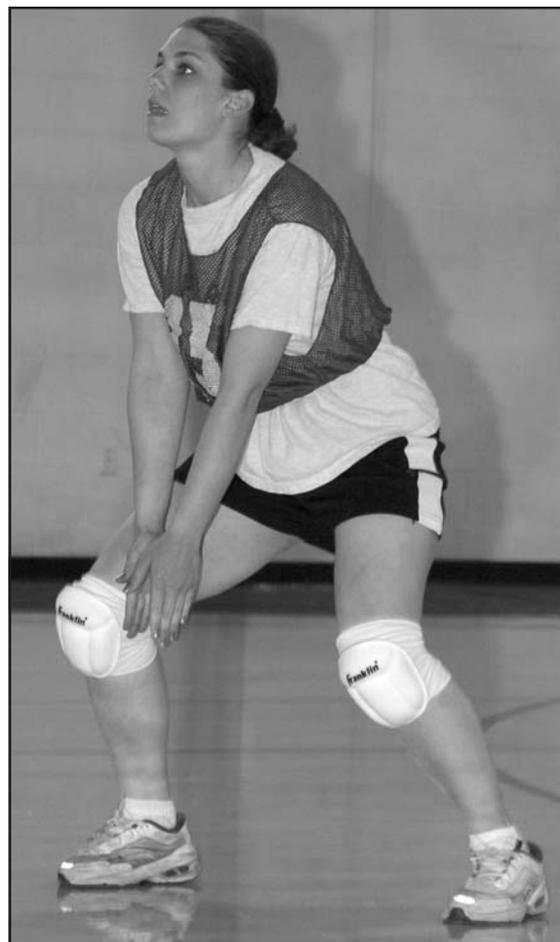
Regular season games are scheduled to finish Tuesday, and then the top eight teams advance to the double elimination post-season tournament set to start May 19.

SFS will be one for the teams to give LRS a run for their money in the tournament as they did in the regular season, said David Follmuth, LRS coach. LRS defeated SFS 2-1 in their regular season and all three games were close.

AMXS will be a tough opponent as LRS saw in their regular season loss, said Follmuth. AMXS defeated LRS 2-0 on April 30. Follmuth said the Flyers have been playing exceptionally. Follmuth attributes LRS's successful season to teamwork and experience. "There are no individual star players," he said. "There's just a lot of players with athletic talent." His team features experienced players who have been together for a while.

Last year LRS finished second in the regular season and exited early from the tournament. However, this year they are hoping for a tournament championship.

Good floor coverage, really wanting to get hands on the ball, and communication are the key elements coach Follmuth is using in his



Brandy Skoofalos, SFS, sets up to return the ball.

tournament winning strategies. "Lack of communication will raise the score in the wrong direction," said Follmuth. "The rest is fundamental and doesn't worry me when it comes to this team."

"Intramural volleyball is a great way outside the job to get to know the people you work with and even those you don't work with," said Follmuth. "All in all it's good clean fun."



Nick Brooks, 1 CTCS, spikes the ball over the net in the game against SFS.  
*Photos by Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey*

### Intramural Volleyball Standings (as of Monday)

Team	Won	Loss	Tie
LRS	10	1	0
SFS	7	2	0
CS	8	3	0
AMXS	7	3	0
Flyers	7	3	0
1 CTCS	6	4	0
NAV HOSP	6	5	0
SVS	5	5	0
MXS	5	6	0
MDG	3	7	0
CES	3	8	0
MOS	3	8	0
APS	2	9	0
CPTS	2	10	0