

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

Vol. 43, No. 31

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

Friday, August 6, 2004



## Slip sliding away ...

*Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady*

Staff Sgt. Remone Richardson, 437th Civil Engineer Squadron, catches his sons Jaylan and Deandre Richardson as they go down a slide during the Around The World in Ninety Days base picnic. The event was held July 30 and Saturday and sponsored by the 437th Services Squadron and various local businesses. For more photos, see Page 8.

## JUST VISITING

**62nd MXS TDY to  
CAFB for 6 weeks**



Page 5

## GOODBYE

**DFAS to stop issuing  
printed pay statements**

Page 5

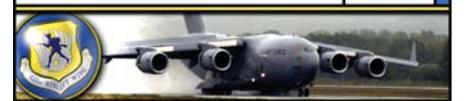
## CHAMPIONS!

**AMXS sinks Navy, wins  
second softball title**



Page 21

MISSION POSSIBLE	
Charleston departures	10,445
Maintenance reliability	94.4%
Cargo moved (tons)	48,829
Personnel deployed	620
Reservists activated	716
<i>Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady (Jan. 1 to Aug 3, 2004)</i>	



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



## Tragic loss

Team Charleston is mourning the death of one of our Airmen this week. Tech. Sgt. Randy Westervelt Jr. from the 315<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group died Friday evening as a result of a traffic accident. We are saddened by this untimely death and extend our deepest sympathies to his family and friends.

## Award winners

We had a chance to recognize the 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing's top performers this week in the Quarterly Awards Ceremony. Congratulations go to: **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Derek Machen**, 437 CES **Staff Sgt. Brenda Roberts**, 437<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Dental Operations Squadron; **Master Sgt. Vanessa Smallsbryant**, 437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron; **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William Johnson**, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Capt. Cynthia Clefisch**, 437<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron; **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jonathan Brooks**, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron, as Honor Guard member of the quarter; **James Oakley**, 437 LRS, Category I civilian; and **Joseph Vinson**, 437 LRS, Category II civilian. Great job to all our winners.

I'd also like to congratulate this month's Diamond Sharp award winners, selected by first sergeants for setting the standard for their fellow Airmen.

The winners are: **Staff Sgt. Cassandra Rainey**, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Martha Ridgway**, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Squadron; **Senior Airman Kristy Dawbarn**, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; and **Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Adam Hart**, 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron.

Keep up the great work!

## Kudos

A big thanks to the 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron for doing such a great job on the wing picnic! It was a great chance to spend some down time with friends and family.

Check out pictures from the event on Page 8.

## New commander

Team Charleston would like to say welcome back to **Col. Luis Vazquez**, the new 315<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group commander. Colonel Vazquez is returning to Charleston after his Pentagon assignment.

## Safety emphasis item

Home improvement projects are very popular these days. Before your next project do an ORM assessment. Ask yourself if you're taking the same risk-reducing steps as you would on the job. Use appropriate eye, hand and fall protection. Never cut safety corners just to save money or time or, because you lack safety equipment. A mishap will cost far more in personal grief than hiring a professional.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Darrell Cannady

**Col. Sam Cox, 437th Airlift Wing vice commander, hands over the Spirit Award to Capt. Jason Nulton, 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron during the Wing Quarterly Award Ceremony July 26.**

## Get fit

One week remains before the commander's 5K fun run, beginning in front of the Fitness and Sports Center at, 7:30 a.m. Aug. 13. The Spirit Trophy is up for grabs again, so get your squadrons together and let's see what you've got.

## Mission

Our maintenance and flying crews continue their hard work. In the month of July alone, we launched 388 C-17's from Charleston AFB. Keep up the great work!

Our Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection is coming next spring and to get ready we will be doing a few mobility exercise; the first is in about 60 days.

Although we are working hard daily on our wartime mission, his inspection will also test and evaluate many other aspects of our jobs, and we need to ensure we focus our attention on those areas well. Make sure you are getting ready.

## Safety

This weekend's tropical storm should serve as a reminder that hurricane season is here! Be sure everyone in your unit has an evacuation plan in place and don't forget the families of those deployed from your unit. Waiting until we are under a hurricane watch is too late to begin planning.

Have a great week!

# AIRLIFT Dispatch

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The deadline for submitting stories for space-

available publication is prior to noon of the Friday preceeding 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 Mail to: 437 AW PAI, 102 East Hill Blvd. Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154 E-mail to: [airlift.dispatch@charleston.af.mil](mailto:airlift.dispatch@charleston.af.mil)

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**Photo and graphic support provided by 437<sup>th</sup> CS Visual Information**

Support and defend:

# Constitutional oath of office brings responsibility

**Maj. Roger Klaffka**  
437 MOS commander

Why do we serve? If you ask fellow Airmen, civil servants, government contractors, family members, retirees or community members who support Team Charleston, you will hear a variety of answers. The answers would probably highlight the benefits of military service, ranging from secure employment to educational programs; medical benefits to travel opportunities and even patriotism. I propose the answer is more fundamental and often overlooked. We serve to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Pause and think about it for a moment. Upon entry into military and civilian positions serving the Department of Defense, as well as elected and appointed government positions, the first requirement is to raise your hand and take an oath of office.

Each of us repeats words along the lines of: "I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic ..." What an enormous responsibility.

Over 200 years ago our founding fathers their shed blood and chartered a

**worth repeating**

"... We must have a renewed appreciation for the charter we so proudly support and defend."



**Maj. Roger Klaffka**

437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Operations Squadron Commander

course for our great nation. It is with pridethat, Americans to this day are willing to give their lives to support and defend the standards and ideals of this charter. Many of us have not taken the time to look at the Constitution of the United States or its ammendments since high school. I urge you to take the time to read the few pages that make up our Constitution and provide for the foundation of our government and the laws by which we abide. But don't stop there. Take note of the Constitutional Amendments as they guarantee our freedoms of religion, speech, assembly, the right to bear arms, the right to a speedy and fair trial by peers, the abolishment of slavery, the right to vote, and all the truths we hold so dear.

While examining these documents, I urge you to simultaneously pay attention to the

struggling nations across the globe.

How many nations and people around the world are shedding blood in an attempt to establish a government "for the people, by the people" and a system that guarantees the freedoms and rights we so often take for granted.

From their example, we must have renewed appreciation for the charter we so proudly support and defend.

Next time you take your oath or hear the words, "I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States ...," take time to reflect on our Constitution and its amendments and truly appreciate what we are so willing to fight, and ultimately, give our lives for.

Finally, in addition to reading the Constitution and its Amendments, I encourage you to take advantage of the fundamental rights provided for by these documents.

With national elections in the near future and local elections occurring frequently, there is no greater opportunity to exercise your rights than through the voting process.

Ours is a noble and honorable profession, and as an American your service and support for our great nation, its Constitution, and the ideals and beliefs we hold dear, is appreciated.

## Charleston chat

### What are you doing to prepare for a hurricane?



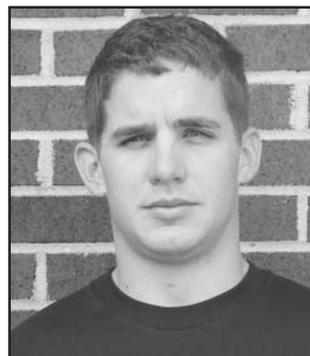
"I am new to the area, so as far as preparation I have not done anything, but I do watch the news."

— Tech. Sgt. Matthew McElreath  
437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron



"I always have plywood for windows, batteries, and a generator. I have all the necessities."

— James Hampton  
Retired, chief master sergeant



"I check the Internet everyday, and keep plenty of water on hand."

— 2nd Lt. William Minor  
437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron



"I go over my emergency list to be sure I have everything I need. I try to be ready for an evacuation."

— Master Sgt. Sarah Coleman-Lee  
437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group



"I have my hurricane checklist on my fridge."

— Tech. Sgt. Bernice Moragne  
437<sup>th</sup> Contractin Squadron

## McChord maintenance Airmen TDY here

**Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo**

437 AW Public Affairs

Eighty-four individuals from McChord AFB, Wash., arrived at Charleston AFB July 26 for a six-week temporary duty while the runway is reconstructed at their home station.

The maintenance personnel TDY to CAFB include crew chiefs, engine mechanics, a scheduler, a supply troop and various specialists who help maintain McChord C-17s while the planes are away from their home station according to 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jason York, 62<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance flight commander from McChord.

Though they brought all the personnel they need to accomplish the mission here, they still need support from Charleston AFB.

"We are supplying McChord troops with vehicles from the 437<sup>th</sup> Logistic Readiness Squadron, and aerospace ground equipment from our own squadron," said Capt. Kirsten Palmer, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron operations officer.

AGE equipment consists of generators, heaters, air conditioners and hydraulic units used during the maintenance of aircraft.

McChord C-17s are also temporarily stationed at McGuire AFB, N.J., along with aircrews and maintenance personnel to support them while

at the temporary location, Lieutenant York said. If any routine maintenance is required on an aircraft, it's flown down to CAFB for that type of work, he said.

The group has only been here a week, but their time has already been put to good use Lieutenant York said.

A C-17 from McChord AFB landed at CAFB with a bad engine Saturday, he said.

"Our troops were able to take the old engine off and put on the new engine within 12 hours," the lieutenant said.

A young troop was able to put his training to good use during the engine change.

"We were able to take the old engine off within two hours," said Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Corey Dawson, a 62 MXS jet engine mechanic.

While performing the maintenance necessary to keep their C-17s up and running, the maintainers are using this time to learn from each other.

"Though Charleston and McChord have the same mission, this is a good opportunity for both bases to learn from each other on how to do things better," Lieutenant York said.

Even though he is away from his family, Airman Dawson has a positive outlook on his first experience being TDY here.

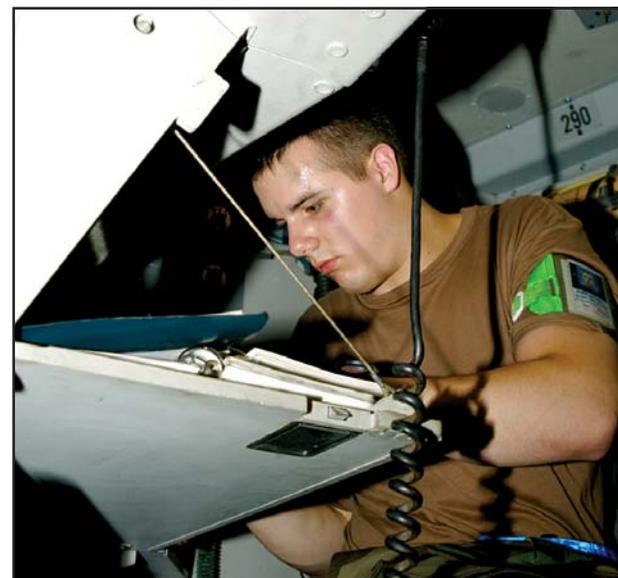


Photo by Senior Airman Tyrone Pearsall

**Airman 1st Class Anthony Bemis, 62<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Squadron, performs a home station check inspection on a McChord C-17.**

"Besides the humidity, Charleston is a nice place. The facilities are great," he said.

As a team, they also have a favorable outlook on Charleston AFB.

"This is the best support we have received from a host base," Lieutenant York said. "There is a little bit of healthy sibling rivalry, but it's good."

## Blotter

### Cops nab teens on the prowl near Youth Center

The following are some of the responses by the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron from July 26 to Sunday and are printed to raise awareness of resource protection and safety.

Anyone with information regarding these or any other incident,

please call security forces at 963-3600.

#### Vehicle accidents

■ An Airman reported an accident in the parking lot of the shoppette. Security forces responded, and the Airman said he was not paying attention as he backed up. He was cited for inattentive backing.

#### Traffic

■ Security forces cited 32 drivers for failure to stop at a posted stop sign or traffic light, 20 drivers for speeding, six for not providing current proof of insurance, three for expired registration tags, two for making an illegal u-turn, one for failure to obey a traffic signal, one for

displaying an expired license plate, and one for displaying current registration tags incorrectly.

■ A civilian was stopped for excessive speed driving 43 mph in a 20 mph zone. Security forces apprehended the individual and transported him to the security forces office. The individual stated he was using his cell phone and did not realize how fast he was going. He was issued a citation for reckless driving.

■ In two separate incidents, security forces officers stopped two vehicles at the Rivers Gate and discovered the drivers were operating their vehicles without a license. CCSO responded and issued each driver a \$672 fine for driving without a license and no proof of insurance with a court date for both drivers.

#### Crime watch

■ An Airman reported he observed three individuals attempting to gain access to the rear door of the Youth Center. When he attempted to make contact with the individuals, they fled the scene. Security forces responded and chased the individuals on foot, and detained them adjacent to the power station on Hill

Boulevard. Security forces performed a narcotic search of the power stations after the officers observed one of the individuals throw an object toward that area. It was discovered the thrown object was a cigar. CCSO responded and transported two of the individuals to the Commissary Gate and detained them until their parents picked them up. The third individual was released to his parent.

#### Eagle Eyes

■ A retiree reported a red backpack was left unattended in the Bldg. 166 parking lot by an unknown person. Security forces responded and cordoned the area, then conducted a sweep around the area without finding the owner of the backpack or any other object.

■ An Airman reported a vehicle approached the Rivers Gate, entered the search area the wrong way and made a u-turn. Security forces conducted a traffic stop, and the individuals in the vehicle were only able to produce social security cards for identification, which turned out to be fraudulent. CCSO responded and took one individual into custody for driving without a license and had the vehicle towed.

### DUI/DWI Statistics

**Last incident: 27 days**

**2004 total: 14**

**2003 total: 18**

*Members receiving a Driving Under the Influence must report to the wing commander the following duty day in full service dress accompanied by their supervisor, first sergeant and squadron commander.*

**AADD** 53 saves  
AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING  
963-0437 this year

**Charleston AFB's Airman  
Against Drunk Driving offers  
free, confidential rides home.**

## Team Charleston mourns Airman

A 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Airman died July 30 of injuries sustained in a moped accident on James Island July 27.

Tech. Sgt. Randy Westervelt Jr., 28, a 315<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group Quality Assurance inspector, was laid to rest Wednesday in his hometown of Megget, S.C. Plans for an on-base memorial service are being finalized.

Sergeant Westervelt is survived by his wife Laura, parents Randy and Barbara Westervelt Sr., brother Travis, and father- and mother-in-law Steven and Betty Mikesell.

"In the short time Randy was assigned to Quality Assurance, he made a tremendous effort to be fully qualified as soon as he walked in the door," said Master Sgt. Doug Earle, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group Quality Assurance chief inspector. "Most inspectors require at least a month of training before they are allowed to 'fly solo' but Randy did it in just two weeks."

Previous to his most recent duties, which began in July last year, Sergeant Westervelt served as an aircraft maintenance craftsman for 10 years.

He deployed to three different Southwest Asia locations between November 2001 and January 2002, performing maintenance on C-17s supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, including those involved in the airdrop of humanitarian daily rations in Afghanistan.

"Randy was a man who was devoutly loyal to his country, his family, co-workers and friends," said Master Sgt. Ken Gregory, 315



*Courtesy photo*  
**Tech. Sgt. Randy Westervelt reviews aircraft forms aboard a C-17 tasked for a presidential support mission in this July photo.**

MXG Quality Assurance chief inspector.

"We deployed to the desert together shortly after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Our mission there was very demanding, but Randy never complained. He was very proud to serve his country."

Sergeant Westervelt completed the NCO Leadership School in 1998 and held a Community College of the Air Force degree in aircraft maintenance technology.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with one device, Humanitarian Service Medal and Armed Forces Reserve Medal with five M devices.

"Randy was recently promoted to technical sergeant, and if anybody deserved two stripes at once it was Randy," Sergeant Earle said. "I know he would have made an outstanding senior NCO, and the Air Force lost one of the best when we lost Randy."

## Scholarships awarded

**By Airman Sam Hymas**  
*437AW Public Affairs*

Two military family members were awarded scholarships at the Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation Scholarship Award Ceremony here July 21.

Robert Yawn and Meredith Hagen each received \$1,500 scholarships for their accomplishments in pursuit of higher education.

Col. Chris Doran, 437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group commander and Capt. John Nowak, 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron commander presented the awards.

Ms. Hagen, daughter of Chief Master Sgt. Don Hagen, 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Group, plans to use the scholarship to continue her education at Florida State University where she will be a sophomore majoring in mass communications.

Mr. Yawn, son of James Yawn, an Air Force retiree, will begin his freshman year at Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is funded by the manufacturers and suppliers that provide support for commissaries worldwide and administered by Fisher House Foundation.

Applications can be picked up at the commissary and are also available at <http://www.commissary.com> starting in November.

For information go to <http://www.militaryscholar.org> or contact Ivy Jemison at 963-5709.

## MyPay enrollment mandatory for all Airmen Oct. 1

**By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Katherine Kebisek**  
*Air Mobility Command Public Affairs*

**SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, III. (AMCNS)**— Starting Oct. 1, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will no longer issue printed copies of military leave and earning statements.

Secretary of the Air Force James Roche and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John Jumper are urging all Airmen to register with myPay by that date.

MyPay is an automated Web-based system that allows members to conduct pay transactions, even when deployed, in a secure electronic environment 24-hours a day, seven days a week. To ensure everyone has access to their personal financial information after Oct. 1, Air Mobility Command has kicked off a campaign to get all its Airmen signed up for myPay.

"The use of myPay empowers military members and translates into increased capability for the Air Force," said Gen. John Handy, commander, U.S. Transportation Command and AMC in a recent memorandum. "Please encourage your troops to get on board and sign up for myPay as soon as possible."

Personal identification numbers are used to control access to personal accounts and ensure privacy for all users. Right now, only 82 percent of AMC's Airmen have a PIN. Airmen can get access to myPay through desktop computers at work, home, the base library and orderly rooms. In addition, to make myPay more convenient to Airmen, especially those without computer access, the AMC comptroller has begun to set up customer service kiosks at several bases

including Charleston AFB. At the kiosks, people can easily access pay accounts and print a LES and forms.

The kiosks also provide access to other customer services such as the Virtual Military Personnel Flight, Services information and even local weather forecasts. The kiosks are located in high-traffic areas such as the base exchange, pharmacy and dining hall.

Col. Tony Levy, chief of AMC Financial Services Division said myPay gives Airmen the flexibility to manage their pay and make personal adjustments to their finances at their convenience, rather than only when the finance office is open. In fact, tests results from kiosks have shown about 75 to 80 percent of use is after duty hours.

Senior Master Sgt. Mary Taitano, AMC Financial Services Division, added myPay is a user-friendly system, and all bases will provide unit training.

MyPay enhancements this fall will allow Airmen to make allotments to financial institutions online and issue "informational" PINs to family members. The informational PINs allow family members to view and print pay statements when the military member is on temporary duty or deployed.

Although myPay will be mandatory only for military members, officials encourage civilians to also use the system.

The Web site for myPay is <http://mypay.dfas.mil>, or members can use the myPay menu on any AMC base comptroller Web site. The 437<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron customer service section can also assist with sign-up. For questions, call the 437 CPTS at 963-3700.

# Base focus groups aim to prevent sexual assaults

By 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Kristy Miller  
437 AW Public Affairs

Numerous research studies show that rape or attempted rape happens to many women. Studies conducted in the Air Force and at several colleges and universities also show a very high percentage of sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows, and many of these incidents are never reported.

Responding to these statistics, the Air Force has increased emphasis on reporting sexual assault and providing victim support. In early April, Charleston AFB officials discussed initiating a prevention program here in response to emphasis from Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff, and Dr. James Roche, secretary of the Air Force.

"Prevention programs at other bases were reviewed, and ultimately we recommended the focus group approach to Col. (Brooks) Bash, (437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing commander), in early July," said Maj. Michael Lewis, 437<sup>th</sup> deputy staff judge advocate. "Neither (Air Mobility Command) nor the Air Force has specifically directed focus groups, but they do expect each base to run a prevention program."

The first step in Charleston AFB's prevention program is finding out from Airmen themselves where the problem areas are. This information is being gathered through a series of focus groups.

"We're using focus groups instead of a standard briefing format as a tool to help us help Airmen," said Lt. Col. Brian Anderson, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Medical Group commander.

The reason for the focus groups is a shift of emphasis to prevention rather than just incident response. The groups provide interaction and foster discussion at the level that change and awareness are needed.

"Prevention is extremely important to Air Force leadership," said Major Lewis. "One sexual assault involving a military member is one too many."

A focus group is a form of qualitative research in which a group of people are asked about their attitude toward a concept, in this case toward sexual assault. Focus groups are an informative tool for acquiring in-depth feedback. Questions are asked in an interactive group setting where participants are free to discuss their feelings and personal experiences anonymously.

These sexual assault focus groups are targeting an audience of Airmen mostly from grades E-1 to E-4, said Jim Hernandez, 437<sup>th</sup> AW Medical Group family advocacy. Airmen of these ranks are usually the most active in the dating scene and are therefore more vulnerable.

"We're addressing the higher risk audiences initially, but the majority of wing personnel need the training and will receive it," Colonel Anderson said. "If you ask most males if they care if their sister was assaulted, that would make a big impression on them. Our Airmen need to understand it is really their 'sister

in arms' who was injured and that is not acceptable. The 'wingman principle of taking care of each other is critical to reducing the incidences."

The focus groups begin with a few briefings defining sexual assault and some of the legal ramifications involved. Airmen are then broken down into groups of about 15.

The most recent focus group, held Monday, consisted of three groups — one of women and the other two of men. In the comfort of these small groups, Airmen were able to talk freely about their feelings toward sexual assault and some even talked about their own personal experiences.

"Not a day goes by that I don't think about it," one female focus group member

said. "He was convicted, but that doesn't change the fact that it happened. It doesn't make it go away."

Topics ranged from Airmen's thoughts on why most incidents of sexual assault go unreported to issues of confidentiality when they are reported.

"People are afraid to report it because they don't want to be labeled as being promiscuous," one Airman said. "There's also the fear of letting everything out."

The information gathered from these focus groups will be used to assess the way we do business at Charleston AFB so future cases can be prevented, Major Lewis said.

The sessions are also intended as a venue for Airmen to air concerns so base officials can address those concerns and correct misperceptions.

The feedback from the first focus group was already presented to Colonel Bash, and several of the ideas proposed are now being studied by the responsible agencies. The focus groups are expected to be completed in the beginning of December.



## Steps to reduce risk of sexual assault

Although personal safety can never be guaranteed, there are steps you can take to reduce your risk of being the victim — or perpetrator — of sexual assault.

- Communicate your wants early and know your limits.
- Trust your instincts — if a situation feels uncomfortable, leave before things get out of hand.
- Be aware of the effects of alcohol because it jeopardizes your ability to get and give consent.
- Avoid being alone with an unfamiliar person, especially when alcohol is involved.
- When on a date with someone new, make sure you are responsible for your own transportation.
- Don't leave your drink unattended, especially at a bar or a party.
- Make sure your door is locked — when you are home and when you are out.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Look out for your buddies!

## What to do if assaulted

- Get to a safe location at once.
- Call the authorities as soon as possible. **Call the security forces law enforcement desk (963-3600) or 911.**
- Go to the Medical University of South Carolina Hospital emergency room or the nearest emergency room.
- Call a friend to come and be your support, or request a Victim Support Liaison volunteer be assigned to you by the CAFB Sexual Assault Response Team.
- **Preserve the evidence.** Don't shower, or wash clothes or bedding.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady



Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady

Top left: Airman 1st Class Toby Housey, 437<sup>th</sup> Aerial Port Squadron, watches as Zachery Smith fishes for a prize at the 437 APS fishing game. Top right: Melissa Coulter gives her son Devin a push on the swing during the base picnic. Below: Picnic-goers take a spin around the park on the train.

# ATWIND base picnic

Team Charleston took some time for fun and relaxation at the annual base picnic July 30 and Saturday. A special thanks to event sponsors: Sprint, USAA, Coca Cola, US Airways, Saturn, Thomasville, LifeFitness, Aspen Marketing Services, Tyson, Boeing and Trident Health System.

(No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.)



Photo by Airman Sam Hymas



Photo by Airman Sam Hymas



Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Cannady

Far left: Tech. Sgt. Herman Gipson, 437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron and Cristian Maurin, wife of Staff Sgt. Joseph Maurin, 437<sup>th</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron, play ATWIND at the gazebo. Left: Master Sgt. Ted Gorman, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadrons' first sergeant, prepares burgers for the base picnic.

## General denies Schmidt appeal

**LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va.** — A U.S. Air Force general has denied the appeal of an Illinois Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot regarding the punishment he received for his role in a 2002 friendly fire incident in Afghanistan.

Gen. Hal Hornburg, commander of Air Combat Command, denied Maj. Harry Schmidt's appeal Aug. 3. The appeal asked General Hornburg to set aside the punishment imposed last month by Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson, 8th Air Force commander.

Major Schmidt was found guilty of derelictions of duty, received a reprimand and will forfeit \$5,672 pay for dropping a 500-pound, laser-guided bomb from his F-16 fighter jet, killing four Canadian soldiers and wounding eight more in the incident. **(AFP)**

## Promotion study list now available

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Promotion-eligible enlisted Airmen can now find which materials to study for the 2005 testing cycles.

The most current Weighted Airman Promotion System catalog, which lists the materials used by test writers to develop the 2005 promotion tests, is now available on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/testing>.

The catalog lists study references for those testing for staff through chief master sergeant.

The institute staff will begin shipping the course study material in September for people testing for staff, technical and master sergeant. If career devel-

opment study material is not received by November, Airmen should contact their unit promotion testing monitor to initiate follow-up actions, said officials.

Test administration dates for the 2005 chief master sergeant cycle are Sept. 7 to 10. The dates for senior master sergeant testing are Dec. 6 to 17, while testing for technical sergeant and master sergeant takes place Feb. 15 to March 31. Senior airmen will test for staff sergeant May 1 to 31. **(AFP)**

## Cycling team finishes 500-mile ride

**CLINTON, Iowa** — More than 100 Air Force cyclists wheeled into Clinton, Iowa, at high noon July 31.

It was the end of a week and almost 500 miles on the road for the riders participating in the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa.

Team Air Force arrived in Clinton in a two-column formation led by three-wheelers bearing the U.S. and Air Force flags.

The arrival of the 100-plus-member team into the last town on the route has become a RAGBRAI tradition.

The ride began July 25 in Onawa, on the western edge of the state, with a two-column formation led by Brig. Gen. Robertus "Dutch" Remkes, commander of Air Force Recruiting Service.

Team Air Force cyclists come from Air Force bases worldwide to ride in RAGBRAI, now in its 32nd year. It is the oldest and longest touring bicycle ride in the world. **(AFP)**

## ACC releases accident report

**LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va.** — A bird strike

caused an F-15E Strike Eagle's engine to fail, forcing the crew to eject during a training mission May 6 near Callaway, Va., according to Air Force investigators.

The pilot and weapons system officer ejected safely and were not injured.

The \$42 million aircraft, assigned to the 335th Fighter Squadron at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., crashed in a field and was destroyed upon impact.

According to an Air Combat Command accident investigation board report released Aug. 2, investigators determined a large black vulture was ingested into aircraft's right engine, causing the engine to fail

and starting a fire.

The report cited several contributing factors including damage to multiple control and mechanical systems that rendered the aircraft uncontrollable. **(AFP)**

## JEFX '04 tests new technology

**NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev.** — A new set of synchronization capabilities are being tested and experimented with here at Joint Expeditionary Force Experiment 2004, the fifth in a series of major chief of staff of the Air Force-sponsored experiments that test new and emerg-

ing technologies.

Global Concept-of-operations Synchronization means presenting information about aircraft and flight-path constraints so all interested players know where, when and how to interact in that airspace.

Those nodes include civil control, mobility air forces and combat air forces. Officials at the Tanker Airlift Control Center and at wing or combined air operations centers are also involved. The goal is to synchronize or link together these areas like gears in a machine, so everyone can accomplish their separate missions through a combined knowledge of the big picture.

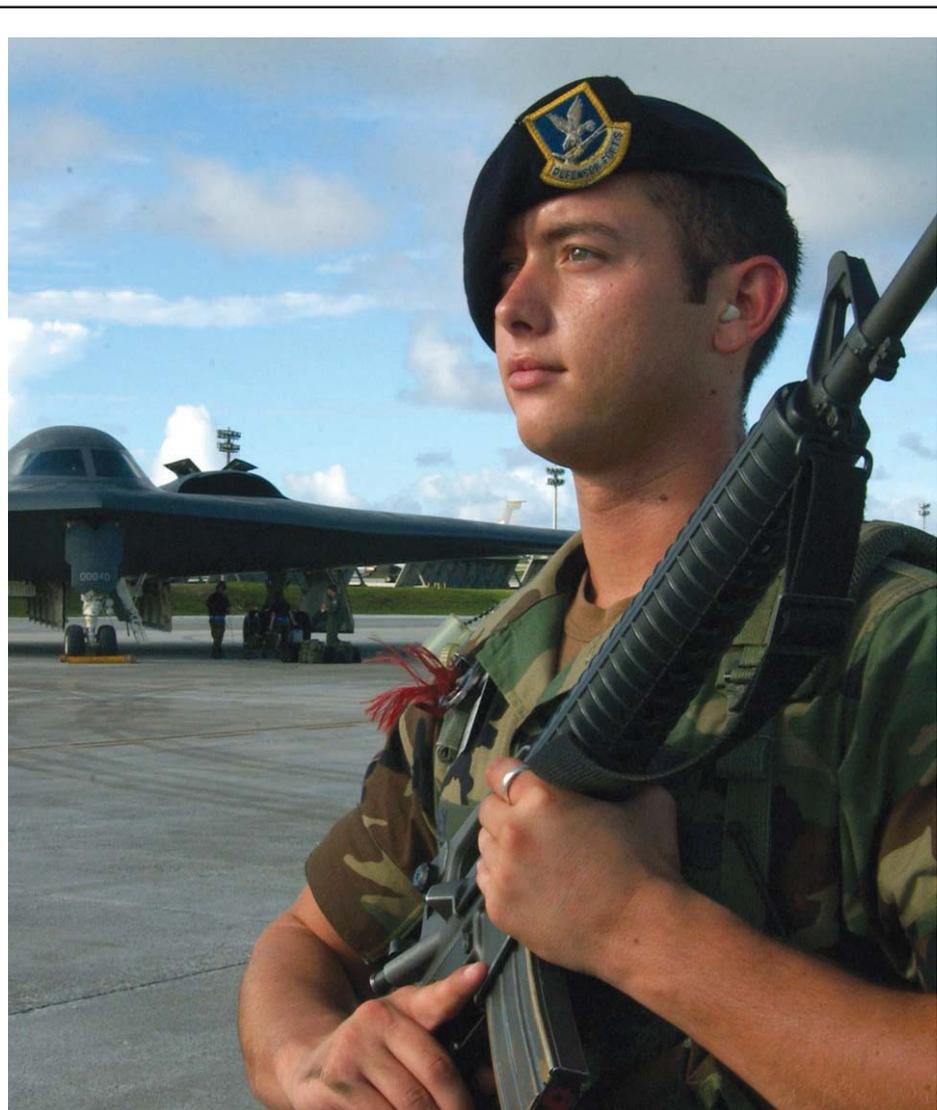


Photo by Staff Sgt. Tia Schroeder

## Guarding the spirit

Senior Airman John Key, 509th Security Forces Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo., guards an entry-control point near a B-2 Spirit bomber recently during a Coronet Bugle 49 exercise at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

## Spotlight

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron hosts a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Timothy Buchholz at 3 p.m. today in Bldg. 700. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Rodney Mason at 963-4689.

**Retirement:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Support Squadron hosts a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Sabine Charls at 2 p.m. Monday in Bldg. 54 in the Yonkie Auditorium. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Angela McVane at 963-6569.

## Around the base

**Summary court officer:** 1st Lt. Renee Zimmerman, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is detailed as summary court officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of Tech. Sgt. Joseph Gardner III. Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to the deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, please contact Lieutenant Zimmerman at 963-2192.

**Hurricane seminar:** The Family Support Center hosts a one hour hurricane seminar at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Monday with guest speaker Bill Walsh from Channel 5 News. Due to limited seating, please RSVP by contacting Chris Nelder at 963-5630 / 5784 or by e-mail at [christopher.neldner@charleston.af.mil](mailto:christopher.neldner@charleston.af.mil).

**AFSA:** Chapter 306 of the Air Force Sergeants Association will hold its monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Charleston Club. For more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. John Danko at 963-5324 or visit <http://afsa306.org>.

**Baseball game:** The RiverDogs baseball team sponsors a military appreciation night Aug. 19 at Joe Riley Stadium. Admission is free for military ID card holders. Vouchers are available at the 437<sup>th</sup> AW Public Affairs office, 315<sup>th</sup> AW Public Affairs office and the Outdoor Recreation Center. For more information, contact the PA office at 963-5608.

**Farewell party:** There will be a farewell party for Lt. Col. Sowers Aug. 19 starting at 6 p.m. at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to wear their tackiest 80's golf

# Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman Sam Hymas

## Senior Airman Shawn Downey 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group

Senior Airman Shawn Downey is a command and control, communications, computers and intelligence specialist, working with the 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group in the C-17A special operations low level II program.

His primary duties include providing communication computer support for C-17A special operations and managing the second largest communications security account on base.

"What I like best about my job are the challenges it provides and the opportunity to travel," said Airman Downey.

"We provide communication for the planning and execution of SOLL II missions and reach-back capability from deployed locations," he added.

The Sandusky, Ohio, native joined the Air Force four years ago to finish up school and for the job experience.

Airman Downey was selected as the Air Mobility Command's Defense Message System Administrator of the Year for 2003.

His future plans include earning his bachelor's degree in computer science at Limestone College.

"Senior Airman Downey is the most dedicated Airman I've ever had the pleasure to work with," said Tech. Sgt. Stephen Jenkins, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group chief of network operations. "He's definitely the go-to guy when it comes to complex network issues."

attire. RSVP by Aug. 13 by calling 963-2200. Cost is \$16 for club members and \$18 for non-club members.

**Toddler story hour:** The base library hosts a toddler story hour every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. There will be storytelling and an art project. For more information, contact Jaime Gronau at 963-3320.

**Advanced education:** The National Reconnaissance Office is looking for candidates for advanced education opportunities offered through the 2005 Air Force Institute of Technology program. Thirteen positions are being offered to meet the NRO's advanced academic degree needs with schools beginning in the fall of 2005. There is no specific officer grade requirement for applying. For more information, contact formal training at 963-2394/4565.

**NCO retraining:** Air Force officials have announced the start of the 2005 noncommissioned officer retraining program. The '05 NCORP will target approximately 1,098 NCOs to retrain from career fields with NCO overages to those with NCO shortages. The voluntary phase of the program runs through Sept. 30, 2004. If necessary, an involuntary phase will begin shortly afterward. Some restrictions apply, depending on grade and Air Force specialty. Contact the Mili-

tary Personnel Flight at 963-4567 or 963-4506 for complete details and a list of available careers to retrain to.

**Work from home:** The Family Support Center offers a work-from-home program for military spouses. Pre-register by completing an online application at [http://www.msvas.com/MSVA\\_Training.htm](http://www.msvas.com/MSVA_Training.htm) and contact 963-4406 by Monday.

For more information call 963-5782.

To submit information for News Briefs, send an e-mail to [airlift.dispatch@charleston.af.mil](mailto:airlift.dispatch@charleston.af.mil) with subject: **NEWS BRIEFS**; or send a fax to **963-5604, ATTN: NEWS BRIEFS**. Submissions must be received no later than close of business Friday, the week before publication.

# Command Performance

## Mark calendars for Air Force Ball

By Master Sgt. Angel Newman  
437 AW Public Affairs

Team Charleston is preparing for the 2004 Air Force Ball scheduled for Sept. 11 at the Charleston Area Convention Center.

Sponsored by the Air Force Association, the annual event is open to all ranks — active duty, reservists, civilians and retirees — and features dinner and dancing.

“We invite everyone to come out and celebrate the traditions of our Air Force,” said Senior Master Sgt. Janet Osborne, Air Force Ball chairman.

Dress for the evening is semi-formal; meaning military members can wear the messdress or semiformal uniform, and civilians can wear black tie or evening gown. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7. The menu includes musclin greens with artichokes, olives, Belgian endive and white bean salad with mustard vinaigrette, chicken marsala, garlic mashed potatoes, grilled vegetables, rolls, and chocolate lovin’ spoon cake or cheesecake.

Entertainment is provided by the local group “MacDaddy,” playing a variety of hits from several musical categories.

The 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Comptroller squadron will provide valet parking and the First Six Association will offer on-site child care, both for a small fee to support fundraisers. The 437<sup>th</sup> Logistic Readiness Squadron will supply free transportation from the base to and from the event.

“There is a tremendous amount of planning, energy and organization that goes into making an event like this happen,” said Kathy Knichel, Air Force ball committee member and veteran of organizing last year’s event. “But, the best part of it all is standing in the back of the room and seeing the Airmen, both officers and enlisted, retirees and supporters from the civilian community, enjoying the fellowship of this first-class event.”

To be a part of this tradition, purchase a \$25 ticket online at the Globemaster Web site. For more information contact Kathy Knichel at 963-8013. Reservists can contact Debra Brown at 963-2034 for tickets.

## Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive  
Office: Monday-Friday, 9 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 - 4:15 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass. Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children’s Church. Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. Daily Mass is from 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Fridays.

**Protestant Services:** Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children’s Church. Sunday - 5 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service. Wednesday - noon Protestant Bible Study.

For information on other faith groups, call the Base Chapel at 963-2536.

## 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 the start of the 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 Notebook” – James Garner

A man reads from a notebook to the woman he regularly visits. His words bring to life the story of a couple who are separated by World War II, then passionately reunited seven years later, after they have taken different paths. Though her memory has faded, his words give her the chance to relive her turbulent youth and the unforgettable love they shared. (PG-13) 121 minutes

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

“White Chicks” – Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans

Two FBI agents, to get back into their boss’s good graces, take on a job guarding the Wilton sisters, two New York City hotel heiresses, from a serial kidnapper. They fail, and the two women are abducted. The agents then go undercover, dressing up as the so-called “white chicks” to solve the crime and rescue the victims (PG-13) 105 minutes

Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

“Sleepover” – Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem (PG) 90 minutes

## WELLNESS TIP

~~HDLs~~  
Keep your friends close;  
~~LDLs~~  
Keep your enemies even closer

- Cholesterol is differentiated by Low Density Lipoprotein (bad) and High Density Lipoprotein (good)
- 22,000 AMC people had high cholesterol this past year
- New government guidelines recommend LDL levels in high-risk patients be decreased from 100 mg/dL to below 70 mg/dL
- Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of men and women in the United States; cholesterol is a risk factor for coronary heart disease
- Cholesterol can be lowered using a variety of methods, including exercise, diet modification, weight loss and medications (after lifestyle changes)

# AMXS wins championship 10-9

By Tech. Sgt.  
Mark Kleber  
437 AW Public Affairs

Jeremy Lemieux hit a no-out, bases-loaded single in the bottom of the seventh inning to give Aircraft Maintenance Squadron No. 1 a come-from-behind 10-9 victory over the Navy Brig in the base intramural softball tournament championship July 29.

Top-seeded AMXS #1 lost its opening tournament game and then won seven straight games, including two against the seventh-seeded Navy Brig, to claim its second-consecutive base championship.

With the Navy Brig outfield drawn in and the bases loaded, Lemieux lifted a fly ball over the center fielder's head to clinch the victory for an AMXS team pushed to its limit.

AMXS blanked the Navy Brig 14-0 in the first game to force the decisive game. Mark Stone, Eric Schroeder, Brian Scroggs, Lemieux, Dave Stinard and James McBath each had two hits as AMXS shut out a Navy Brig team averaging more than 16 runs per game in four previous tournament games.

"Offensively and defensively, we played to our capabilities. We had no errors in the field and the bats were alive from the first inning to the seventh," said Assistant Coach John Forsythe.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo

**Catcher Bryan Scroggs of AMXS #1 hits one of his two singles in a 14-0 victory over the Navy Brig during the base intramural softball tournament. AMXS went on to defeat the Navy Brig 10-9 during the second game to win the tournament.**

On the other hand, the Navy Coach Paul Ahlberg said, "Our defense was okay, but offensively we didn't show up ready to hit."

However, the winner take all game was a different story for the Navy. Coach Ahlberg said he changed the defense and batting order somewhat to shake things up. "We can't win ball games not hitting the ball, and we are better than this," he told his team.

"The strategy in the second game was to continue our play from the first game and keep the intensity up,"

said Coach Forsythe. "I told the guys we worked too hard coming up through the loser's bracket to let it slip away now."

So AMXS jumped to a 4-0 lead in the first inning of the champion-

ship game, but the Navy Brig bounced back with six runs in the top of the second inning to take a 6-4 lead. The Navy rallied with five hits and two walks as Rob Reuille and Leroy Williams each had two-run singles.

AMXS #1 cut the lead to 6-5, but the Navy padded its advantage to 9-5 in the top of the sixth inning and looked like they might upset the top-seeded team.

However, AMXS scored four runs on six hits in the bottom of the sixth inning to tie the game 9-9. Matthew Morrison hit a two-run double, while Dennis O'Callaghan and Stinard had RBI singles.

After the Navy Brig went down 1-2-3 in the top of the seventh, AMXS came to the plate in the bottom of the seventh.

With cow bells ringing and fans screaming, Stone and Schroeder drew walks. Craig Lanahan singled to center to load the bases and set the stage for Lemieux's game-winning hit.

"After we rallied to tie the game, I had no doubt we were going to win the game," said Schroeder, who was selected most valuable player for the tournament.

"Eric Schroeder on both sides of the ball was very good," said Coach Forsythe. "He played outstanding throughout the entire playoffs."

Lanahan and Lemieux had three hits to lead AMXS's 15-hit attack in the final game and Salcedo chipped in two hits.

The Navy, 7-10 in the regular season, finished 11-12 with a strong tournament showing.

"This team has some good talent as shown by this year's second place finish in the Naval Weapons Station intramural league and a third place at the naval tournament in Jacksonville, Fla.

AMXS #1 finished 22-3 with the regular season and tournament titles to its credit. "This year's team showed a lot of heart coming through the loser's bracket to win it, even missing three starters out of the lineup," said Coach Forsythe. Looking toward next softball season, Coach Forsythe said "Three peat baby!"

## Sports shorts

**Intramural volleyball:** Intramural volleyball season begins Aug. 17 and the entry deadline is Tuesday.

A mandatory coaches' clinic will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Health and Wellness Center classroom. Commanders who want to enter their units should designate a coach/team representative and complete their statement of intent.

For more information call 963-4321.

**Intramural flag football:** Letters of squadron intent are due to the Sports Office on Aug. 31.

**School and sports physicals:** Call 963-6880 to schedule your appointment for youth physicals.

**Youth Soccer:** Coaches and officials are needed for youth soccer which opens Sept. 18. For more information, call the youth center at 963-5684.

## Fitness tips

How can you prevent ankle injuries?

The best ways to avoid ankle and foot injuries are:

- Wear stable shoes designed for your activity
- Play on even, non-slippery surfaces
- Stay fit
- Work on your balance

Aerobic conditioning is vital to overall fitness. Aerobic exercises use large muscle groups and get the heart pumping oxygen to all parts of your body. Walking, jogging, bicycling and swimming are all aerobic exercises that strengthen your heart and lungs.