

AIRLIFT **Dispatch**

Vol. 43, No. 28

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, July 16, 2004



Fill 'er up

Photo by Airman 1st Class Darnell Canndy

Airman 1st Class David Mathis, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft hydraulic systems apprentice, takes a water break while working on the flightline Tuesday. Base personnel are reminded to take precautions during the hot weather; stay out of the heat unless necessary and drink plenty of water. Temperatures are expected to stay in the mid-90s through next week.

SEND OFF

**15 AS members deploy
in support of OEF, OIF**

Page 8

EDUCATION

**Counselor shares
experience**

Page 17

MISSION POSSIBLE!

Charleston departures	9,411	Personnel deployed	696
Maintenance reliability	92.3%	Reservists activated	719
Cargo moved (tons)	43,380	<i>(Jan. 1 to July 14, 2004)</i>	

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



Recognition

My visit to a number of **437th Maintenance Group** workcenters this week reinforced how proud I am of the great work accomplished every day by our Airmen and civilians! Thanks to the 437 MXG, our aircraft have a phenomenal maintenance reliability rate — 92.3 percent as of Wednesday. I want to thank every person who contributes to that effort; you are keeping aircraft in the air, enabling us to get desperately-needed supplies and equipment to the front lines.

I also visited the **Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures shop**, where Airmen and civilians are doing an incredible amount of work to keep our aircraft and crews safe as they fly missions into battle zones. You are helping us win the war on terrorism; keep up the great work!

We congratulate **Capt. Jake Raser**, 17th Airlift Squadron, the 437 AW nominee for Air Combat Command's "Sword Look" program. The program brings together the Air Force's best captains as part of a cooperative leadership development exchange between Air Mobility Command and ACC.

We also thank our **437th Airlift Wing Inspections and Evaluations** staff and **exercise evaluation team** for planning and running Thursday's exercise to test our ability to respond in a crisis. Thank you to everyone who "played." This and other exercises increase our effectiveness if we ever have to do it for real.

Tie one (or two) on!

Slip into your running shoes and head to the Fitness and Sports Center Monday for the 7:30 a.m. start of this month's commander's fun run. Bring your enthusiasm and creativity, as the Spirit Trophy is up for grabs again. This month, you will receive a coin if you complete the 5K course.

Change of command

Following the fun run, we will formally say good-bye, thank you and



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo

Tech Sgt. John Andrews, 437th Maintenance Squadron home-station check inspection team, shows Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, the new paperless process AMC uses in an effort to reduce paper waste.

"hooah" to **Lt. Col. Robert Blue**, 437th Comptroller Squadron commander, and welcome to **Maj. Charles Shea**, who comes to us from Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

One family . . .

As we prepare our offices for the fiscal year closeout, please also check your leave and the leave balance of people you supervise. No one should lose leave. After another year of record-setting operations tempo, it is more important than ever to take time off to relax and refresh.

Take care of each other, and watch for signs of stress. Be mindful of the principles of suicide prevention, and do not be afraid to engage your subordinates, co-workers, friends and acquaintances to ensure they are handling their stress in a healthy way. If you are feeling too much stress, tap into any of the base helping agencies — Family Support Center, chaplain, life skills or primary care provider — to get the help you need.

Be safe out there!

Action Line

Visible operating hours requested

Q: Nowhere on the base web site are there operating hours of support sites such as the base exchange and the commissary. I tried calling the commissary three times and got no answer.

A: Thank you for your inquiry about the hours of operation to the base commissary and exchange. Public Affairs is in the process of updating the base public Web site to include the hours and numbers of these base agencies.

You can call the commissary at 963-5695 or 963-5703 and their hours are: Sunday, Monday and holidays, 11 a.m. to 6

p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The number to the base exchange is 552-5000, extension 130, and the hours of operation are: Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thank you for the call.

— **Col. Brooks Bash**
437 AW commander

437AW.action@charleston.af.mil or 963-5581

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Flight focuses on child care, family

By Debbie Ross

437 SVS Family Member Program Flight chief

One of the most important aspects of the 437th Services Squadron's mission is to contribute to the readiness of the warriors stationed at Charleston AFB, and a way the services squadron contributes to the readiness of the installation is through the valuable programs offered by the Family Member Programs Flight.

Under this flight, where quality is the standard, families may choose exceptional childcare and youth activities from the Child Development Center, Family Child Care and Youth Programs.

The Child Development Center and the Youth Center have great reputations for the service they provide, but less well known is the exceptional service provided by the caregivers in the Family Child Care Program.

Most do not know, but the Family Child Care Program offers the same great care as the CDC, but on a smaller scale in a home environment. The providers who offer child care from their homes are licensed based on the National Association of Family Child Care accreditation standards.

There are four levels of license:

- Provisional – which is a probationary period.
- Standard – achieved after the probationary period is complete. This level focuses on the continued training of the provider and ensuring the safety and health of the home.
- Developmental – This level of licensing adds an increased emphasis for the provider to provide developmental learning activities for

worth repeating

"The Family Members Program Flight advocates for children, families and the early childhood professionals within our programs."



Debbie Ross

437th Services Squadron Family Member Program Flight chief

those in their care. After being licensed for two years, providers must advance to the developmental level in order to maintain their licenses with the Air Force.

■ Accredited homes – This level of license is achieved after a trainer from NAFCC comes and validates the provider's home based on NAFCC standards. Over half the Family Child Care homes on Charleston AFB are either Developmental level or Accredited.

Because of the flexibility of the program, Family Childcare now provides special programs by licensed providers in their homes to further assist DOD families with child care. Some of these special programs include:

■ Extended Duty Care Program – The purpose of this 24-hour childcare program is to support parents who need care beyond their normal child care requirements (if they work longer hours, evenings, weekends, experience temporary shift changes, etc.). To be eligible for this program, at least one parent must be a member of the mili-

tary (active duty or activated Reservist or Guard member) or DOD civilian employee.

■ Returning Home Care Members Program – Active duty, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve members returning from a 30-day or more deployment may be eligible for 16 hours of free childcare for each child within their family 12 years of age and under. Child care must be used within 30 days of the member's return to their home station and family. However, if care is not available when requested, the FCC office will work to have it reserved at a later date

■ Child Care for PCS Program – This jointly sponsored Air Force Aid Society/Family Child Care Program is intended to help relieve some of the stress felt by parents in the process of a PCS move.

■ Child Care for Volunteers Program – That AFAS/FCC Program recognizes the importance of volunteers to the base community. AFAS will provide up to \$1,000 per month to pay childcare expenses in AF-licensed or affiliated FCC homes for volunteers who are engaged in supporting programs, which benefit the AF community.

The Family Members Program Flight advocates for children, families and the early childhood professionals within our programs. Give your child the very best care available, and visit the Charleston Child Development Center, the Family Child care program or Youth Programs.

The Family Members Program flight is another area where the 437th Services Squadron is working to make Charleston AFB a great place to live, work, and in this case grow!

Charleston chat

What are you doing to beat the heat?



"I am staying inside and when I am outside I use sunscreen and stay hydrated."

— Staff Sgt. Karender Coutee
437th Traffic Management Office



"I don't mind being out in (the heat), but I do like being in an air-conditioned area. I also like going to the beach"

— Jim Doswell
437th Contracting Squadron



"I beat the heat by walking or running to the closest building with air conditioning. I also drink a lot of water."

— Airman 1st Class Daniel Gagne,
14th Airlift Squadron



"I head to the beach."

— Andrew Snavelly,
437th Airlift Wing Legal Office



"I try to take care of outdoor activities during the evening. If I need to be outside during the day I drink a lot of water."

— Senior Airman Brent Tatum
437th Security Forces Squadron



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo

Staff Sgt. Michael Kochanski, 437th Security Forces Squadron, uses a radar gun to monitor drivers near the base chapel Tuesday.

Traffic violations up in 2004

The 437th Security Forces Squadron has issued 1,121 moving violations since January, compared to 689 citations issued the same period last year.

Parking violations declined this year; 47 since January compared to 116 to January through July 2003.

The top three violations recorded for 2004 are:

- Speeding 11 to 15 m.p.h. over posted speed limit: 288 violations

- Failure to obey traffic signals, signs, or traffic instruction from official: 268 violations

- Speeding one to 10 m.p.h. over posted speed limit: 182 violations

Most of the listed speeding violations have occurred on Arthur Extension and Arthur Drive.

Areas with the most failure to stop offenses are at the intersections of Hill Boulevard and Arthur Drive, and Davis Drive and Simpson Street. **(Information submitted by 437th Security Forces Squadron)**

Heisted handguns, misplaced marijuana found on base

The following are some of the responses by the 437th Security Forces Squadron from July 5 to Sunday and are printed to raise awareness of resources protection and safety.

Anyone with information regarding these or any other incident, please call security forces at 963-3600.

Traffic

- Security forces requested a license check on a civilian driving without a license.

Charleston County Sheriff's Office responded and issued a \$2,100 fine with a court date for driving under suspension and being a habitual offender.

- Security forces requested a license check on a civilian driving without a license.

CCSO responded and issued a ticket for \$232 with a court date. The individual's base driving privileges were suspended.

- Security forces requested a license check on a retiree during a traffic stop. The check showed the license was suspended.

CCSO responded and issued three \$415 citations for driving under suspension with a court date. Also, the individual was issued a suspension of base driving privileges letter.

- Security forces requested a check on the status of an

Airman's vehicle identification number, and showed that the registration tag had been expired since November 2001.

Charleston County Sheriff's Officer responded to the scene and issued a \$232 citation with a court date.

- CCSO issued a citation to an Airman for \$648 for driving under suspension with a court date.

Security forces requested a check on a family member operating a vehicle with a beginner's permit and not accompanied by a licensed driver over 21. The check showed the individual had a valid beginner's permit, but did not have a driver's license.

CCSO responded to the request, and released the individual on her own recognizance. She was issued a suspension of base driving privileges.

- A civilian was stopped by security forces after going through the commissary gate

without stopping. The individual stated he had missed the turn around at the gate and proceeded out the base exchange and commissary parking lot to exit.

He was briefed on proper exiting procedures and released on his own recognizance.

Crime watch

- An Airman found an unknown leafy substance in a clear small plastic bag lying on a table at the base fitness center.

The Airman moved the plastic bag containing the substance to another area and notified security forces. The substance tested positive for marijuana.

- An Airman from the 437th Aerial Port Squadron reported two weapons that had been shipped from overseas to Charleston AFB, and the owner could not be located.

The Airman transported the

weapons to security forces center for safekeeping.

A background check on the weapons discovered a weapon of the same make, model and serial number was stolen in 1996 in San Francisco.

Further investigation revealed there was an airline ticket in the gun case. The owner was contacted. It was discovered that the owner had reported the gun stolen when he was in San Francisco, and later found the weapon.

For an unknown reason, the gun was never removed from the San Francisco Police Department list of stolen weapons. Arrangements have been made for the owner to pick up the weapons.

- A trailer reported stolen April 20 was located at a house on base.

The Airman who lived in the house stated he had borrowed the trailer from another Airman. The second Airman stated he had purchased the trailer from an individual who resided near his off-base house.

The trailer was seized and is being held at the security forces impound lot.

- An Airman notified security forces her vehicle was struck by an unknown individual. The accident occurred when she was driving southbound on Arthur Drive, and she did not get the other driver's information.

DUI/DWI Statistics

Last incident: 6 days

2004 total: 13

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
AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

963-0437

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

**51 saves
this year**



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pamela Smith

Mason Anthony, 3, holds on to his father, Tech. Sgt. Christopher Anthony, as long as he can before Sergeant Anthony, a C-17 loadmaster deploys to Germany Saturday.

15 AS deploys two groups to Germany

By 1st Lt. Shaloma McGovern
437 AW Public Affairs

Thirty Airmen from the 15th Airlift Squadron deployed to Rhein-Main AB, Germany, July 8, and an additional 38 left Saturday.

The two groups took over the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron from a McChord AFB, Wash. unit and are expected to be there for approximately 90 days.

Lt. Col. Manson Morris, who assumed command of the 15 AS June 29, also became the 817 EAS commander July 29 and said he looks forward to the challenge.

"I'm excited about deploying with my squadron," he said. "During my first few days in command, I had the opportunity to see the top-notch capabilities of the 15th's Airmen as they finalized our preparations for the deployment. They have the right mindset and capabilities to ensure the EAS's critical combat missions are handled the right way, the first time."

Lt. Col. Bob Holba, 15 AS director of operations, said the experience of the deploying personnel will keep the 817 EAS mission running smoothly.

"We have a solid cadre of folks who have

deployed previously to support the 817 EAS," he said, "and we aim to tap into their experience to 'raise the bar' and support flying operations out of our deployed locations to the best of our abilities."

Colonel Morris said he believes deploying as a unit is important to the overall success of the C-17 mission.

"Deploying an integral unit to provide front-line oversight for this portion of the C-17's contributions to the global war on terrorism ensures those executing the mission are provided the best possible support," he said. "From expert tactics instruction to cargo loading to aircrew scheduling, the members of the 15 AS, and the other members of Team Charleston deploying with us, will fulfill an essential role in keeping America secure."

This is the second time the 15 AS has deployed as a squadron and the eighth time a flying squadron has deployed from Charleston to support current operations.

They will fly missions to Afghanistan, Iraq and Southwest Asia in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and the War on Terror.

New protections offered under Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

By 1st Lt. Ryan Jones
437 AW Legal office

Congress recently signed the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, updating the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940. Congress decided to revise the SSCRA to modernize the law and clarify the previously vague areas of the SSCRA.

Some of the key provisions of the SCRA are the following:

■ **Termination of Residential Leases:** Military members are allowed to terminate their leases without penalty after initial entry into military service, or if they have orders to PCS out of the local area or have orders to deploy for 90 days or more.

When terminating leases, members should give their landlord at least 30 days written notice and a copy of their orders. This clause of the SCRA eliminates the need for military clauses in rental leases; however, it's still good practice to include them.

The SCRA does not protect mem-

bers who must terminate their leases to move into on-base housing, so members should incorporate a clause into their lease covering them for this possibility.

■ **Automobile Leases:** An automobile lease entered into prior to entry into military service may be cancelled if the servicemember receives active-duty orders for a period of 180 days or more.

Auto leases entered into while on active duty may be terminated if the member receives PCS orders to a location outside the continental United States or deployment orders for a period of 180 days or more.

■ **Postponement of Court Proceedings:** Active-duty members who are unable to appear in civil court or administrative hearings due to military duties may submit a written request to postpone the proceedings during the members military service and for a minimum of 90 days after its termination.

Courts have discretion to delay civil or administrative proceedings when the requirements of military

service prevent the member from being able to either assert or protect a legal right.

For example, a stay in a court proceeding is appropriate when a servicemember is the defendant in a civil action (i.e. auto accident) and due to a deployment or other active duty service, he is unable to appear at the court hearing.

■ **Maximum Interest Rate:** The SCRA provides a 6 percent interest rate cap on loans and obligations entered into prior to activation into military service.

If the member meets the requirements, the interest in excess of 6 percent per year will be forgiven. To obtain this cap, the member must send the creditor a written request for the reduction in writing and include a copy of his orders.

A servicemember may not be entitled to the cap if the creditor can convince a court that the member's ability to pay the debt did not suffer a material affect as a result of his military service. For example, if a member is doing better financially

on active duty than he was prior to entering the service, there is no material affect and he should not apply for the interest rate reduction.

■ **Rental Evictions:** Without a court order, a landlord cannot evict an active-duty servicemember or their dependents from housing for nonpayment if the monthly rental payment is \$2,465 or less.

■ **Installment Contracts:** An installment contract is a contract requiring payments in separate increments. Under the SCRA, those contracts cannot be terminated and property cannot be repossessed during the member's military service without a court order.

This protection is only applicable when a member makes a deposit or payment on a contract for the purchase or lease of real property (i.e. house) or personal property (i.e. motor vehicles) prior to going on active duty.

For more information, stop by the base legal office during legal assistance hours or call 963-5502.

Wing commander addresses base personnel concerns

(NOTE: Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, held commanders' call May 19-21. The following is a list of concerns addressed and their responses)

Can the back door to the gym be opened earlier for access to the track?

The back door is now open 4:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. It can't be opened on weekends due to limited staffing at the facility.

What are the hours for lap swimming at the base pool?

The pool hours are as follows: Tuesday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. for adult lap swimming only. 11 a.m. to noon is the adult fitness hour. Noon to 5 p.m. is recreational swimming with a minimum of two lanes open for lap swimming throughout the day. The pool is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday with a minimum of two lap lanes open.

Can we put a female softball team together? There has been considerable interest by 40+ women on base.

That depends on interest and available funding to conduct the league. The first question is "Is there enough interest?" The base sports staff is not aware of much interest for a women's softball program. In fact, the base tried to put a team together in 2003, but did not have enough interest to start a women's softball program at all.

Why does a spouse, who works at CDC, have to go through a probationary period and work flex

time each time the family PCS's?

The 437th Services Squadron employee union contract requires a new probationary period be served when there is a break in service of more than three days. If the individual is hired without a break in service, 437 SVS will honor the probationary period already served at the losing installation. Flex employees are hired based on the category of the position. The decision is not made at the time of the hiring, nor is the individual's PCS status considered.

Can they install lights above the counter in the women's bathroom at the gym?

They were installed June 15.

Are there plans for expanding the Child Development Center?

The 437 AW wants to build a new, bigger CDC on Chance Drive, behind the base fitness center. It's the number one Quality of Life construction project. The good news is the design has been funded and approval of construction is expected in Fiscal Year 2006.

Are there plans for a new BX?

Not currently. AAFES is the primary decision maker regarding the base exchange and has a process for reviewing and prioritizing facility projects. Base leadership has expressed high interest and encouraged AAFES to review the facility. AAFES has visited the Charleston AFB facility and it's included in their master planning efforts. There's the possibility of renovation or expansion of the current BX,

but no firm plans have been provided to the base.

Can a speed bump or crosswalk be installed in the commissary parking lot (walking from commissary to parking lot)?

A speedbump was installed June 20.

Can all the crosswalks, from the new security fence near the maintenance hangars to Burger King (along Graves Avenue), be adjusted? The crosswalks are not lining up with the exits and may potentially cause an accident.

We will discuss improving these crosswalks at the next Traffic Engineering Working Group.

What's being done to address security issues in Hunley Park?

Prior to 9/11, entry was not controlled into the Hunley Park housing area. After 9/11, due primarily to the increased Force Protection Conditions at that time, an entry control point was established at the Maryland Avenue entrance and vehicle traffic was blocked at the Michigan Avenue entrance. The decision for the ECP was based on the primary threat of explosives, vehicles carrying bombs.

All entrances to Hunley Park are blocked to stop that threat and there is a manned ECP, as well as a dedicated patrol for this housing area. Hunley Park will be completely enclosed by a new fence, which is expected to be completed by the end of summer, and a permanent ECP will go up at the Michigan Avenue entrance.

If maintenance and security forces are working 12-hour shifts, why are they cutting Airmen?

To reach the mandated end strength of 359,700 personnel by the end of FY05 and in keeping with the guidance from the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the AF and AF Chief of Staff, force shaping's goal is to reduce the size of our force while rebalancing manning in the specialties.

Initiatives such as reinstatement of the career job reservation for Airmen helps ensure a skills balance by constraining Air Force Specialty Codes for first-term airmen in specific AFSCs. Overstressed AFSCs, such as security forces will benefit from this rebalancing effort. The bottom line is that within our mandated ceilings we theoretically have enough people to do the job; they just are not working in the right specialties.

Can civilians work flexible hours during the gate renovations?

Civilians need to discuss changes in work schedules with their supervisors. Supervisors can approve temporary changes at the employee's request, or supervisors may direct changes to the work schedules if needed. We are currently negotiating this suggestion with the union and changes to bargaining employee's work schedules must be coordinated through the union. Some work schedule options are listed in the Memorandum of Agreement, Article 14, and include an option of flexible work schedule.

Road closures

Gross Avenue will be closed beginning at 7 a.m. Monday for brick installation at the jogging trail crossing near the Base Chapel.

Pavers will be installing bricks simultaneously at the intersection of Gross Avenue and Batson Drive. Weather permitting, the roads will reopen by July 26.

Residents may enter housing via the side streets off Hill Boulevard or Spur Avenue. Entrances to the golf course and chapel will not be affected.

Joggers and residents are advised to be cautious of construction vehicles during the performance of this work.



Photo by Airman Sam Hymas

Scenic stroll

Bill Reece, a U.S. Navy retiree, walks his dog on tree-lined McCombs Way Tuesday night. The South Carolina State Forestry Commission recently awarded Charleston AFB the Tree City USA award. The award, sponsored by the National Arbor Association, goes to communities that designate an office to manage tree resources, celebrate Arbor Day each year, have tree ordinances, and spend at least \$2 per capita annually on forestry management. Charleston AFB has earned the distinction for the last 10 years.

Spotlight

Change of Command: The 437th Comptroller Squadron hosts a change-of-command ceremony at 11 a.m. Monday at the Charleston Club.

For more information contact 1st Lt. Patrice Coffman at 963-3750.

Retirement: The 437th Maintenance Squadron hosts a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Elton Kelly at 2 p.m. today at Bldg. 60.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. William Baumgartner at 963-4671.

Around the base

Summary court officer: Maj. Steve Bruce, 14th Airlift Squadron, is detailed as summary court officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of 1st Lt. Steven Hatton.

Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to the deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, please contact Major Bruce at 412-6879.

Summary court officer: 2nd Lt. Nicole Drummond, 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron, is detailed as summary court officer to secure and make proper disposition of the personal effects of Capt. Daniel Pope.

Anyone having knowledge of money or property due to deceased or claims against the deceased's estate, contact Lieutenant Drummond at 963-5889.

Chapel: The base chapel will not be holding Daily Mass until July 27. If anyone is in need of reconciliation or to speak with a priest, call 767-9621.

On-base colleges: Registration at all on-base colleges for term one begins Monday at the Education Center and continues through the end of the month.

For more information, contact the Education Center at 963-4575 or 963-7201.

Restricted area badges: The 437th Security Forces Squadron started a mass re-issue of the restricted area badges Tuesday which will run through July 23.

Each individual will need to bring their original AF Form 2586 and their old line badge. SFS pass and

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Photo by Airman Sam Hymas

Airman 1st Class Jessica Hurst 437th Medical Group

Airman 1st Class Jessica Hurst is a Health Administrative Journeyman for the 437th Medical Group. She is responsible for the commander's support staff's administrative actions for all the squadrons in the MDG and the medical group command staff.

"What I like best about my job is having the satisfaction of enjoying what I do and the great people I work with in the MDG," said Airman Hurst.

The Cambridge, Md., native joined the Air Force two and a half years ago for the opportunity to continue her education and the chance to travel to new places.

Airman Hurst is actively involved in the Charleston First Six Association, helping them with administrative tasks. She also was selected as Airman of the Quarter for the MDG.

"Airman Hurst is an incredibly driven troop whose personal pride in her work is evident in everything she does," said Tech. Sgt. Brandy Alexander, 437th MDG commander's support staff NCOIC. "She isn't afraid to step up and learn things outside her career field and always goes above and beyond no matter what she is working on. I wish the Air Force had a thousand more like her."

"The personalized administrative support Airman Hurst provides allows our group personnel to focus on their primary task: keeping Team Charleston's warriors healthy and fit to fight," said Sergeant Alexander.

registration office will not be able to issue new line badges during this time due to the mass re-issuing. The pass and registration office will start issuing new line badges on July 26.

Commissioning briefing: The 437th Education and Training Flight is holding the monthly commissioning briefing at 9 a.m. Wednesday at the Base Education Center. This briefing is mandatory for anyone interested in applying for a commissioning program. Call 963-4575 or 963-7021 today to enroll.

Public Health Office: The public health office offers a hazard communications training class 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. July 30 in Bldg. 1000. To enroll contact Staff Sgt. Tiffany Richardson at 963-6928.

Energy conservation tips

Expected high power requirements combined with extreme temperature and humidity conditions during July and August require energy conservation. Some examples of things Team Charleston can do include:

- Not using big electricity-consuming shop equipment unless absolutely necessary.
- Setting air conditioning thermostats to 78 degrees or higher.
- Ensuring all windows and doors are shut when air conditioning is on.
- Turning off all office equipment when not in use.
- Minimizing lighting in the office, home and shop and turning off nonessential lighting.

For more information, email darrel.guidry@charleston.af.mil or william.gaines@charleston.af.mil or call 963-5029 or 963-5019.

Paper Pay Statements End July 31

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — This month's Leave and Earnings Statement is the last paper copy military members assigned to Air Education and Training Command bases will receive.

Also affected are military servicemembers whose pay information is handled by an AETC finance office.

As of July 31, myPay, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's web-based pay system, will be the primary means for military personnel to get an LES and mid-month pay information.

MyPay allows service members to view, print and save payroll documents, update address changes for correspondence, review W-2 forms and update changes to Thrift Savings Plan accounts.

Efforts are currently underway for additional features such as self-service processing of allotments, a single sign-on between Air Force Portal and myPay, and personal identification numbers that will provide spouses or other designees read-only access to the system.

Members can now request and obtain a myPay PIN at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. **(AETCNS)**

Rewritten Airman's Manual coming

WASHINGTON — An Airman's most important deployment tool just got better.

"Within four weeks, we will distribute more than 675,000 copies to every active-duty member, reservist and guardsman," said David Epstein, the training and publications manager for the Air Force civil engineer readiness branch. An electronic version is already available on the Air Force portal.

An important feature is the addition of about 20 pages of potential life-saving information, Steve Prier said. He is the Full Spectrum Threat Response publication manager and program manager for the Airman's Manual at the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

The section is tabbed, in easy-to-read simple text, and states specific "need-to-know-now" actions such as post-attack and shelter-in-place

actions, weapons jam procedures, self-aid and buddy care and how to identify unexploded ordnance. It can even be read using night-vision goggles.

"It's weather-proof, tear-resistant and just about indestructible," Mr. Epstein said. **(AFPN)**

MedFlag 2004 underway in South Africa

DITHOLO, South Africa — About 250 Airmen from bases in Europe and the United States joined their South African defense force partners here July 2 to begin Exercise MedFlag 2004.

The annual two-week joint-combined medical training and civil assistance exercise includes units under U.S. European Command.

It provides rare medical training for U.S. Air Force medics and their host-nation counterparts.

Once the interoperability training, medical assistance and civil-engineering projects are complete, both U.S. and South African forces will respond to a simulated plane crash July 16 as a final "test" of what they have learned.

The Airmen work side-by-side with their South African counterparts to provide health-care services focusing on pediatrics, general medicine, dentistry and optometry.

"The mass casualty exercise will help all participants practice the skills and lessons learned during the weeks leading up to this (event)," said Col. William Gardner, 322nd Air Expeditionary Group commander. "We've got a long way to go and a lot to learn before then, but we're enjoying working with our South African counterparts and helping out the local communities along the way." **(AFPN)**

After 4 year wait Air Force symbol official

WASHINGTON — The Air Force symbol is now official, four years after the service first applied for trademark protection.

When Air Force officials began testing the symbol in 2001, it appeared on a limited number of base entry signs and water towers and a small number of aircraft and vehicles.

Acceptance during the testing phase was so widespread that in 2002, 90 percent of Airmen surveyed thought the symbol was already official.

The service is licensing use of the symbol on a variety of commercial goods, from candy and furniture to tires and jewelry, which allows Airmen to display their service pride off-duty. **(AFPN)**



photo by Master Sgt. Doris Libby

Caring for Others

Capt. Karyn Ayers, a family practitioner assigned to the 89th Medical Group at Andrews AFB, Md., listens to a child's breathing patterns to determine what kind of medical treatment she needs. Captain Ayers is part of a team of medics participating in MedFlag 2004 at .

Vet's passion for learning helps Airmen

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Arredondo
437 AW Public Affairs

Once in the Air Force, deciding what to do with the rest of your career can be a challenge, especially with only a high school education to your credit.

Bill Kaseman, a guidance counselor at the base education center, would agree to a degree ... especially an advanced one.

Mr. Kaseman started his military career without even a high school diploma, but eventually received one. He continued to take advantage of the military's educational benefits by getting his bachelor's degree and went on to receive a master's degree.

Mr. Kaseman joined the Army in 1963 as a flight engineer. After 2.5 years, he entered the Army Reserves. He came back on active duty joining the Air Force in 1967.

The Air Force offered more in educational benefits than the Army did at the time, he said.

During his time in the Air Force, he served three years in Vietnam as a flight mechanic, flight engineer and a helicopter door gunner.

"The high operations tempo in Vietnam was the same as today. Everyone (in Vietnam) who was pursuing a degree had to piecemeal it — a course here, a course there, until (their degree) was completed," he said.

"(For me) school was put on hiatus. I was more committed to the job," he said.

It wasn't until 1988 that Mr. Kaseman received his associate's degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technology from the Community College of the Air Force. After being stationed at Osan AB, Korea, he returned to Kirkland AFB, N.M., where he received his bachelor's degree in vocational education from Southern Illinois University.

In 1992, after retiring from active duty, Mr. Kaseman pursued his master's degree with the money he had saved under the Montgomery G.I. Bill. In 1996, he received his degree in counseling and human development from

Troy State University, Ala.

"I had seen the benefits and took advantage of it," he said.

As an educational counselor, Mr. Kaseman wants to provide Team Charleston's members the opportunity to receive a higher education. "The advice I would give to a person in the military (wanting) an education, is take it one step at a time," Mr. Kaseman said

Military members must first complete on-the-job training to be proficient in his or her job. Once he or she achieves that, they need to balance their education and job commitments. This can be done by taking a CLEP test, or taking a college course to complete his CCAF degree.

Mr. Kaseman advises officers to complete their Air Command Staff College and Air War college requirements.

By getting an education, Airmen are already showing they're willing to accept more responsibilities and advancement both professionally and personally. (An education) is definitely going to benefit them, Mr. Kaseman said.

"Younger troops should really concentrate on finishing their Career Development Course, and then start working on their CCAF requirements," he said. "This is where supervisors are a key element to balance the priorities of the job and education."

This enthusiasm for wanting others to receive an education and finding ways for them to attain a degree is evident to his coworkers.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Bailey

Base Education Center counselor Bill Kaseman shows Kimberly Caver how to access the Air Force Virtual Education Center Web site, <https://afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec>. This site has study guides, which can help in taking a CLEP or DANTES test at the center.

tions, Ms. Caver said. "Where there is a will, there is a way."

"The benefits he received from the military, such as tuition assistance, have given him a real heart and passion to help people accomplish their degree goals," said Diana Roebuck, Education and Training Flight chief. "That is what has impressed me the most during his short time here."

"Because of my experience in the military and educationally, I have a lot of empathy and understanding of the situations Airmen face daily in finding that fine balance of an education and a job," Mr. Kaseman said.

He not only finds satisfaction in helping troops find that balance so they can finish their degree, but also in seeing troops reach their goals.

"The best example is going from enlisted to being an officer, or completing all the professional requirements, which allows them to grow through promotion and accept higher levels of responsibility," he said.

According to Ms. Roebuck, getting enlisted members commissioned was one of Mr. Kaseman's specialties at his last duty station.

"He came to us with wonderful recommendations. Over a two-year period he had an 83 percent success rate in getting members commissioned," she said. "If he had to take paperwork on a Saturday to have the individual sign something, it was not an ordeal, but part of his responsibility."

Mr. Kaseman said, "We're here to help people, if we can't do that we might as well not be here."

Charleston AFB higher education statistics

The following statistics were compiled from the Base Education Center and are current as of September 2003:

- 76 percent of CAFB Airmen on Charleston AFB are without an associate's degree.
- 369 individuals on base are within 15 hours of receiving their associate's degree.
- 423 individuals have their associate's degree, with 125 receiving the degree in 2003.
- 489 individuals have associate's and are now pursuing a bachelor's degree.
- 700 individuals on base are within 30 hours of their bachelor's degree.

Command Performance

United on Uniforms

By Senior Master Sgt. Jose Aleixo
437th Maintenance Squadron first sergeant

Time after time Airmen, noncommissioned officers and officers have asked me when the BDU uniform can be worn.

AFI 36-2903, Table 2.7 states the following: While traveling on AMC aircraft during intratheater deployments and as the command directs, a BDU uniform is authorized.

The BDU uniform can be worn when an Airman deploys to perform emergency or periodic maintenance and does not travel through commercial airports. It can also be worn when eating lunch at local establishments where people wear comparable civilian attire or when making short convenience stops to include shopping malls and gas stations.

Members in uniform need to remember that a hat should be worn at all times when outside, unless in a designated no-hat area.

The BDU uniform is not authorized to wear when in establishments that primarily serve alcohol or in restaurants where people wear business attire.

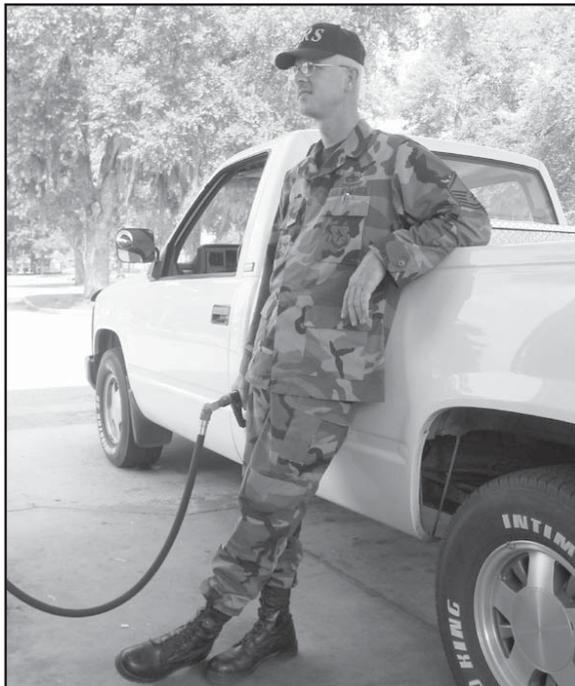


Photo by Airman Sam Hymas

Master Sgt. Gary White, 437th Vehicle Maintenance Flight superintendent, demonstrates proper wear of the BDU uniform while pumping gas at the shoppette.

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* - 4:15 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 Chronicles of Riddick" – Vin Diesel

Riddick, on the run from mercenaries eager to claim the price on his head, seeks refuge on the planet of Helion, only to discover he's walked into a world of chaos. **(PG-13) 119 minutes**

Saturday, 2:00 p.m.

"Shrek 2" – Voice of Mike Myers

Shrek and Fiona return from their honeymoon to find Fiona's parents inviting them to dinner, but no one could have prepared them for the sight of their new son-in-law. **(PG) 93 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Harry Potter & The Prisoner of Azkaban" – Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint

A dangerous mass murderer, Sirius Black, has escaped the Azkaban Fortress and there's only one thing he wants: Harry. While learning to cope with the Dementors sent to protect Hogwarts, school of witchcraft and wizardry, Harry learns the disturbing story of Sirius Black and more of his own history. **(PG) 142 minutes**

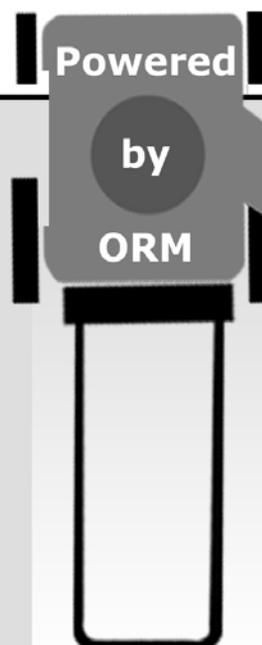
SAFETY SENSE

Mower Safety

Lawnmowers are responsible for 75,000 trips to the emergency room each year

Guidelines to ensure your safety:

- ▶ Read the owner's manual before using the lawnmower
- ▶ Know controls so you can act quickly in an emergency
- ▶ Wear non-slip shoes, long pants, ear plugs and eye protection
- ▶ Never leave mower running unattended
- ▶ To avoid objects becoming airborne, dispose of rocks and debris before you mow
- ▶ Disconnect spark plug wire before working on the mower



Most mower accidents are the result of human error, not mechanical failure



Photos by David Williams

Goin' for birdie

John Kelly (left) and Julian Kuer (above) work on their short game during the youth golf clinic July 7 at Wrenwoods Golf Course here. The clinic included five lessons and a mini tournament which will take place Thursday with different starting times for the various age groups.

Sports Shorts

Fitness and Sports Center – The new hours are Monday through Friday, 4:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and holidays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Base Pool – The base pool, located at the Fitness and Sports Center, is closed Monday; open Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 963-5271.

Youth Soccer: Registration is underway 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays ending July 30. Current cardholders pay \$35 and those without a current card pay \$47.50. All youth need to have a current physical on file now or when they register. Registration can't be processed without the necessary documents. A \$10 late fee will be charged after July 30. For more information call 963-5684.

Youth Soccer Coaches: Applications are being taken for the upcoming season. The program is for ages 5 to 18. Coaches' certification training is 4:30 p.m. Thursday at Youth Programs. All coaches must be certified before receiving a team assignment. For more information call

Youth Programs at 963-5684.

School and Sports Physicals: Call 963-6880 to schedule your appointment.

Fitness tips

■ The difference in activity and exercise is the ability to sustain your target heart rate for at least 20-30 minutes. During activities, there is no target heart rate. To add more physical activity, try taking a brisk walk around the block, rake the leaves, play softball, play half court basketball, or simply interact with your kids at the park.

■ Strength training will help you meet the recommended minimum of 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity each day. It will help you burn calories, increase bone mineral density, and increase overall muscle strength. Allow two to three days a week, with one full day of rest between workouts to allow your muscles to recover.