

Brotherhood of the Brave

Two local war vets
bridge the
generational divide

page 6



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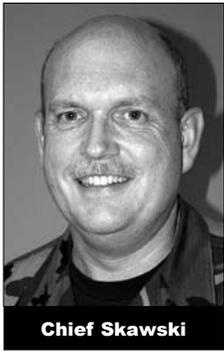
ADMINISTRATION
Senior Airman Julie Novak



courtesy photo

EYE TO EYE >> Capt. Steven Tittl, chief ophthalmologist at the 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, fits a Senegalese woman for glasses while deployed to Senegal during MedFlag06, an annual Air Force humanitarian aid exercise.

EDITORIAL | Team of professionals moves on to the next level



Chief Skawski

As I look back at the August Operational Readiness Inspection, it is very clear that Patriot Wing members once again rose to the challenge and were once again successful!

What makes our wing successful? I suppose the obvious answer is our Airmen, but in my opinion,

it is more than just our Airmen. It is the teamwork that became most evident during the ORI. Each organization is a team of highly-skilled and motivated professionals. The ORI brought these professionals together with a common goal – to pass the ORI.

With the ORI now past, what is next for these teams of motivated professionals? There is only one option: move on to the next level!

During the October A UTA, senior leadership held introductory meetings for two new organizations, the Top 3 and Company Grade

Officers Councils. These two new councils join the Junior Enlisted Advisory, First Sergeants and Chiefs Councils in providing feedback and advice about concerns and issues affecting Team Westover. The goal of these organizations is to improve the well-being of our Airmen.

As this wing's command chief, I meet with many people – from Airmen to officers – each UTA. Given the limited time on the weekend, there is never enough time to visit with every unit or Airman. These councils allow the wing commander and me a chance to hear what the concerns are out there in the squadrons. We need your discussion to hear the issues that could have a negative impact on this wing's ability to complete its mission. I'm sure there are many great ideas and suggestions on how we can make Westover a better place. We need to hear them.

The Junior Enlisted Advisory, First Sergeants and Chiefs Councils have existed for quite some time. These groups of dedicated Airmen have made a difference here. They have brought Family Day, charity drives to benefit the local community and wing mem-

bers, visits to a nearby veterans' home, and our new running track, just to name a few examples. I look forward to what the Top 3 and Company Grade Officer Councils will contribute to this wing.

Please talk with your unit's representatives to these councils. Better yet, put your thoughts into actions and become involved to help take our wing to the next level. No one individual can take us there. We as a collective team, calling on our years of experience and knowledge— and more importantly those great ideas, will make this base better than when we first arrived at the gates.

I'll close with a final thought for you – a quote from pro football's coaching legend Vince Lombardi:

"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined efforts of each individual."

**Chief Master Sgt.
Zigmund Skawski
Command Chief Master Sgt.**

BRIEFS |

Top 3 Toys for Tots

The senior enlisted members of the Patriot Wing's recently formed Top 3 Council have launched a Toys for Tots collection to provide holiday gifts for underprivileged children around the area.

Toys for Tots donors can drop off gifts at boxes which council members have set up at locations in every 439th Airlift Wing unit. The boxes will remain in place through the December A UTA. Donated toys will be delivered to the Westover Marine Corps reservists who will distribute them to area children.

For more information about the Toys for Tots or the Top 3 Council, call Master Sgt. Elaine J. Perreault at Ext. 2067.

New lodging rates

Lodging rates for Airmen and officers at the Flyers Inn have been increased by \$11 to \$33. The new rate for distinguished visitor quarters is \$40.

Angel program helps needy families

The Angel Tree Program begins Nov. 4 for 439th Airlift Wing members experiencing financial hardships during the holiday season.

The Airmen and Family Readiness Center staff runs the annual program. It benefits wing assigned personnel (reserve and Department of Defense civilians) and their families. Interested members should contact their first sergeants. The support center acts as the liaison between sign-ups and sponsors to ensure program anonymity.

For more information, contact the center at Ext. 3024 or (866) 690-2161 (toll free).

Base campaign drive raises over \$500

Two popular events held on the October A UTA helped push the Patriot Wing's annual Combined Federal Campaign drive totals over \$500.

The ice cream scoop-a-thon, held at the Westover Club, raised \$170, while the 5-kilometer run brought in \$350. The 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron also held a dinner for the CFC Oct. 25.

Additional donation forms will be available on the November and December A UTAs.

The drive kicked off Sept. 26 at Westover, and wraps up Dec. 15.

The Patriot Wing had raised more than \$9,000 by mid-October. This year's campaign goal is \$42,000.

For more information, contact any campaign key worker or the CFC chairperson, Robert Perreault, at Ext. 2128.

Three earn Chiefs Council scholarship

The Chiefs Council awarded three Patriot Wing Airmen \$500 scholarships Oct. 15 to:

Staff Sgt. David Speckman, 439th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Lauren Narkiewicz, 439th Services Squadron

Senior Airman Brian Tse, 439th Maintenance Operations Squadron.

The council donated a portion of the scholarships to the memories of Winston Gaskins and Chief Master Sgt. Richard Gingras.

Blood drive brings 30

Thirty donors provided 38 units of blood during a drive held Oct. 14 in the Base Hangar.

The next drive will take place early next year.



SOARING SKYWARD >> The spires of the Air Force Memorial each soar 270 feet into the air above Arlington, Va. Its design resembles the contrails from the Thunderbirds' most popular maneuver, the "bomb-burst." The Air Force dedicated the memorial Oct. 14. (photo by Master Sgt. Gary R. Coppage)

Air Force Memorial opens

Spires resemble famous "bomb-burst"

The nation's youngest military service kicked off its 60th anniversary observance Oct. 14 with the official dedication of the Air Force Memorial at Arlington, Va.

The memorial, composed of three bold and graceful spires soaring skyward to a height of 270 feet, was dedicated and given to the nation by the Air Force Memorial Foundation at an official ceremony on a three-acre promontory next to Arlington National Cemetery and a short walk from the Pentagon.

Officials said the memorial honors the millions of men and women who have served in the Air Force and its

predecessor organizations, including the U.S. Signal Corps, the Army Air Corps and the Army Air Forces. It pays tribute to the dedication, sacrifice and contributions of those who pioneered the skies, those who shape the air, space and cyberspace victories of today, and those who will continue to do so in the future, officials said.

The memorial features a paved "Runway to Glory" at the site entrance; a larger-than-life bronze Honor Guard statue; two granite inscription walls located at either end of a central lawn; and a glass contemplation wall that reflects the missing-man formation, the final tribute given to fallen airmen. The

memorial's surrounding spaces will be landscaped to create a memorial park and parade ground overlooking the nation's capital.

The dedication ceremony included an aerial review consisting of aircraft from the 1930s through modern day, from the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator of World War II fame to the B-2 Spirit and C-17 Globemaster III, as well as a five-ship "Heritage Flight" featuring the P-51 Mustang, the F-86 Sabre, the F-4 Phantom, the F-15 Eagle and the F-22 Raptor. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds also performed a flyover and "bomb-burst" maneuver reflecting the design of the memorial's three spires.

The open house featured performances by the U.S. Air Force Drill Team and the U.S. Air Force Band's high-energy "Max Impact" ensemble,

a "Heritage Parade of Uniforms," a concert by country singer Lee Ann Womack and a variety of interactive displays and exhibits showcasing America's airmen, Air Force equipment, technology and aircraft.

The weekend concluded with a memorial service at the site. Officials participated in a wreath-laying ceremony punctuated by a missing-man formation flown by F-16 Fighting Falcons.

The memorial was the final work of famed American architect James Ingo Freed, who died Dec. 15, 2005 before construction was completed. Mr. Freed also designed The Jacob K. Javitz Convention Center in New York City and the Ronald Reagan Building and Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C.

(Air Force News Service)



courtesy photo

COMMAND NEWS >> Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force chief of staff, announces plans for Air Force Cyber Command to be discussed at the Cyber Summit in November.

AF Chief establishes new cyber command

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders are gathering in early November to discuss plans for creation of a new command, one chartered with flying and fighting in cyber space.

Cyberspace became an official Air Force domain, like air and space, on Dec. 7, 2005, when Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley introduced a new mission statement.

In a letter to Airmen, they said the new mission was to “deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests -- to fly and fight in air, space and cyberspace.”

Now, Air Force leaders are planning to stand up a new “cyber command,” to be responsible for fighting in that domain, said General Moseley.

“To deliver the full spectrum of effects we will evolve a coherent enterprise, with warfighting ethos, ready

to execute any mission in peace, crisis and war,” the general said. “We will foster a force of 21st century warriors, capable of delivering the full spectrum of kinetic and non-kinetic, lethal and non-lethal effects across all three domains. This is why we are standing up an operational command for cyberspace, capable of functioning as a supported or supporting component of the joint force.”

Air Force leaders begin planning for the new cyber command Nov. 16 at the Cyber Summit. During the summit, Air Force leaders will chart a way ahead for the Air Force’s role in cyberspace, also called the cyber domain, said Dr. Lani Kass, director of the Air Force Cyberspace Task Force.

“The chief of staff of the Air Force is going to gather his senior officers and talk about the new domain, in which, according to our mission, we are going to fly and fight,” she said. “Our objective is to come out with a course, a vector, that will set us up for transforming our Air Force, to get us ready for the fight of the 21st century.”

RESERVE TAX BREAKS

WASHINGTON — Military reservists called to active duty can receive payments from their individual retirement accounts, 401(k) plans and 403(b) tax-sheltered annuities, without having to pay the early-distribution tax, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

The newly-enacted Pension Protection Act of 2006 eliminates the 10-percent early-distribution tax that normally applies to most retirement distributions received before age 59½. The new law provides this relief to reservists called to active duty for at least 180 days or for an indefinite period.

Eligible reservists activated after Sept. 11, 2001, and before Dec. 31, 2007, qualify for relief from this tax. This tax is often referred to as the 10-percent early-withdrawal penalty. Regular income taxes continue to apply to these payments in most cases.

Early distributions from both Roth and traditional IRAs received by a reservist while on active duty qualify for this relief. Likewise, a reservist’s elective contributions and earnings distributed to him or her by employer sponsored 401(k) plans and 403(b) tax-sheltered annuities also qualify for this relief.

Because this relief is retroactive, eligible reservists who already paid the 10-percent tax can claim a refund by using Form 1040X to amend their return for the year in which the retirement distribution was received. Eligible reservists should write the words, “active duty reservist,” at the top of the form. In Part II Explanation of Changes, the reservist should write the date he or she was called to active duty, the amount of the retirement distribution and the amount of early-distribution tax paid. (AFNS)

Govt. Service Awards

Six Westover workers earned awards in September for their service to the federal government.

Members of the Federal Executive Association of Western Massachusetts (FEAWM) honored the employees during the annual awards luncheon held

Sept. 29 at the Log Cabin Restaurant in Holyoke.

Brig. Gen. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, was the guest speaker for the luncheon.

The awards included:

- Distinguished Federal Manager | Ruth A. Parker, 439th Operations Support Squadron Distinguished Federal Supervisor | Donna Dismukes, Springfield Military Entrance

- Processing Station (MEPS) Administrative Assistant of the Year | Lisa A. McCurdy, 439th Operations Group Support Person of the Year | Peter McCarthy, Springfield MEPS Service or Trade Employee of the Year | Edward A. Carain, 439th Operations Support Squadron aircrew life support Outstanding Community Service | Gregory Malecki, 439th Mission Support Group fire and emergency services





U.S. ARMY
U.S. VETERAN

COMBAT WOUNDED

LEGION OF MERIT
PURPLE HEART



photo by Senior Master Sgt. Sandi Michon

<< SALUTE TO THE PAST

World War II veteran Armond J. Baron and Tech. Sgt. Christopher Harry salute the flag at the base ellipse.

BROTHERS IN ARMS

by Senior Master Sgt. Sandi Michon

Armond Baron's sacrifices in World War II are not lost on current combat veteran Christopher Harry. The 24-year-old technical sergeant has deployed to Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Kuwait, and serves at 80 military funerals a year – to make sure every veteran is properly honored.

The young 42nd aerial port sergeant listened intently as Baron told his story.

At one point in the interview, 83-year-old Armond J. Baron slowly rose from his chair and sank to his knees to show how he hunkered down in the landing craft during the two-hour, pre-dawn channel approach to a beach in France. He raised his arm to show the 4-foot height he had to keep his head under to keep from being shot.

The date was June 6, 1944. The beach was Omaha Beach – the most heavily fortified beachhead at Normandy. Dark, choppy seas foreshadowed what would be the bloodiest D-Day battle. Then 20-year-old Baron listened to the other 15 guys in his craft as some prayed, some talked and some were silent. “Everyone wondered who was going to get it, but in the end, what the hell you going to do?” Baron said. “If you want to live, get the hell out of the boat and make it to the beach.”

Baron was one of the four infantrymen in his squad that made it safely to the beach as the famed German 352nd Infantry Division incessantly fired on them from machine gun nests, pillboxes and con-

crete fortifications. Although they made it out of the water, they were pinned down. He can't remember all the details, but distinctly recalls the "screaming meemies" – German, multi-barreled Nebelwerfer mortars. "They didn't do a lot of damage, but the incoming sound was scary," he said. "After the first night on the beach, it takes some of the starch out of you, but you just had to deal with it." While he struggled with the details, he unconsciously clenched and unclenched his left hand, suggesting the deep anguish the memories still hold.

The young infantry scout spent 12 days on the beach, and the battle for Normandy continued for more than two months. When they began the march through France, Baron patrolled towns looking for

“ I didn't have to know them and it didn't matter what branch. We are a 'brotherhood' serving a common goal. We do it to pay respect and as a gesture of gratitude. ”

German soldiers. During one building search, he was face-to-face with an armed enemy soldier. "It was him or me. I had to shoot him," he said. "There is no easy part to war."

War got much harder for Baron just outside the town of Lemans. Baron and his patrol were up on a hill when a German tank rounded a corner and fired on them. "I heard a huge blast and the next time I woke up, I was in a British hospital. The attack blew a hole in my head and my helmet probably saved my life," said the Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient. After three months in the British hospital, Baron learned he was no longer eligible for infantry duty. After a 90-day furlough, he began a three-year hitch with the Army Air Corps at Westover Air Force Base, just 15 miles from his hometown of Southampton, Mass. He served three years with the 1600th Maintenance Squadron painting insignia, lettering and weather-related treatments on C-124 Globemaster transports and other aircraft. He then filled his own military vacancy as a civilian and remained at Westover another 14 years.

After listening to Baron's "living history" accounts, Sergeant Harry could relate on several levels. Both entered the military as teen-agers, both are tall and lanky, patriotic, love sports – and respect each other's service to country. But Baron's blue eyes, white hair and weathered, lined face stand in stark contrast to Sergeant Harry's dark brown eyes, crew cut, and youthful, lean face. "If we served together today, I think we'd be friends," Sergeant Harry said.

At honor guard events, Sergeant Harry has heard lots of war stories, but, unlike the narrators, they never get old. "If they didn't do what they did, our military would not be what it is," he said. In fact, the young sergeant followed the military heritage set by his father and two grandfathers who set the pace in the Army and Navy. His Air Force choice was formed through Westover air show visits from his home town of West Brookfield, Mass.

The significance of Veterans' Day deepened for Sergeant Harry during his 2004 deployment to Kuwait. Just before Christmas, he was on duty when aircraft arrived carrying soldiers killed when insurgents



SUITED UP >> Infantryman Armond J. Baron is pictured in his World War II army uniform while serving in Europe. (courtesy photo)

bombed their dining facility in Mosul. Aerial porters stood at attention in two lines and saluted their fallen comrades as they passed. "I didn't have to know them and it didn't matter what branch. We are a 'brotherhood,' serving a common goal. We do it to pay respect and as a gesture of gratitude," he said.

When he got back to Westover, Sergeant Harry joined the honor guard for more opportunities to show respect and showcase the military. Although they serve at many celebratory events, he values the funerals. "We fire the shots, play taps, and present the flag to family members. It's the last thing they remember," he said of the poignant events.

"Veterans' Day is not just another day off," he said. "People should take a closer look and take the time to thank a veteran."

Sergeant Harry leads by example. He shook hands with Armond Baron and said, "Thank you."

DEPLOYED IN DUST >>

Members of the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron are deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan for a four-month stay.



BAGRAM HUSTLE

courtesy photos

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

Since September, the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron Red Hats have been at the center of Afghanistan operations, moving cargo and passengers in and out of Bagram Airfield.

Bagram, 36 miles northwest of the capital of Kabul, is the hub of military and commercial air operations for the Afghanistan area of responsibility.

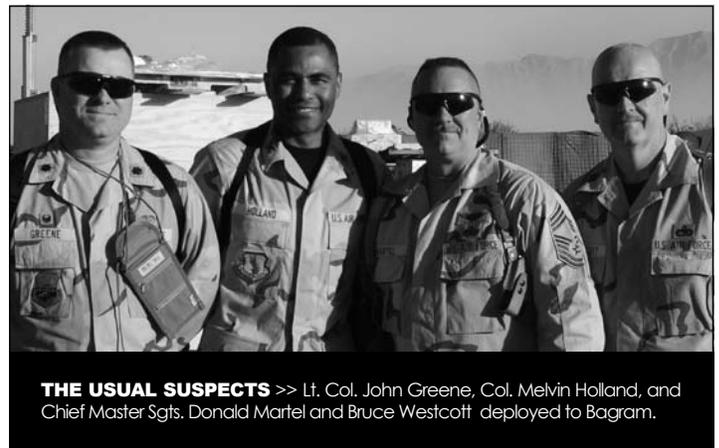
More than 50 Patriot Wing aerial porters are members of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing. The expeditionary wing of active duty, Reserve and Guard Airmen serves at Bagram among a much larger Army contingent, as well as the United Nations authorized International Stabilization Assistance Force including Canadian and other forces.

Five years after the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan drove Taliban forces into hiding, air operations in Bagram supports far-flung military operations across Afghanistan to include about 21,000 U.S. troops and about 40,000 international troops from 40 nations.

"Everyone coming in and out of Afghanistan passes through Bagram. The days are long and it's very busy," said Chief Master Sgt. Bruce L. Westcott, 455th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron superintendent. He is the 42nd APS ATOC superintendent when at Westover. The squadron's Airmen work 12-hour shifts six days a week conducting planning and reconstruction of Bagram facilities.

"There's a lot of construction. Everyone is involved -- the Air Force, the Army, civilian contractors, Afghans, Red HORSE units," Chief Westcott said.

The Patriot Wing aerial porters are a driving force behind the mission. Lt. Col. John R. Greene, 42nd APS commander, serves as 455th ELRS commander and Senior Master Sgt. Michael R. Brunetti, the Red Hat first sergeant, is first shirt of the 455th Mission Support Group. Most of the Red Hats work on the flight line and in hangars moving cargo and passengers. Chief Master Sgt. Donald R. Martel, 42nd APS air freight superintendent, is the aerial port superintendent at Bagram. On the administration side of the house, Senior Airman Ryan M. McKenna is serving as information management specialist at Bagram.



THE USUAL SUSPECTS >> Lt. Col. John Greene, Col. Melvin Holland, and Chief Master Sgts. Donald Martel and Bruce Westcott deployed to Bagram.

The Patriot Wing aerial porters are serving at an airfield which combines the characteristics of both the exotic and the routine. They live eight to a tent in plywood reinforced tents, browse well-stocked Army post exchanges and eat in dining facilities that serve four meals per day to accommodate night workers.

But they also see bearded Afghans employed as contract workers on base and visit the Friday bazaar at Bagram where bargaining with merchants is deeply ingrained in the nation's culture. With enough determination, an aerial porter can reach agreement on the price of Central Asian rugs, coins and even antique rifles. They can talk to their families at home by e-mail, but have to make accommodations for an 8 1/2 hour difference in time.

It's a life of long hours and they are a long way from home, but the Patriot Wing aerial porters have forged a team spirit with the various contingents of active, Reserve, Guard, Army and international troops at Bagram. "We work very close, hand in hand. People know it is one mission one fight. We understand what we are doing out here means something to the Soldiers," Chief Westcott said.

The aerial porters are scheduled to return home early next year.

WESTOVER PATRIOTS |



Chief Malek in one of his first military photos

Chief wraps up 29-year career

by Senior Airman Timm Huffman

Chief Master Sgt. Randy J. Malek, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, whose legacy was helping others “get the job done” for almost 30 years, recently retired.

Following five years on active duty, the chief arrived at Westover in 1977 as a civilian employee working as a high voltage electrician. Chief Malek joined the wing as a reservist in 1979.

Out of the 29 years spent at Westover, Chief Malek said the 12 years he spent as a first sergeant held some of his favorite memories. During this time, he worked on projects that made Westover into what it is today.

“Working with the first sergeants to accomplish the many things we did for the wing personnel are some of my most rewarding memories,” he said.

The chief’s contributions are as broad as the time he spent at Westover. In the 1980s and ‘90s, he helped start what has become the annual Wing Family Day. He also assisted with the purchase and installation of the Memorial Head Stone, located on the base ellipse.

Chief Malek also helped coordinate Military Appreciation Day for all military services from New England at Riverside Park in Agawam, Mass. Following Desert Storm, he helped organize a Patriot Wing celebration in which 5,000 wing members and their families enjoyed steak and lobster.

His contributions to the Patriot Wing also involve the wing’s current mission. During the C-5 change-over in 1987, Chief Malek worked with the Army Corps of Engineers as a construction inspector. He worked on the demolition of the old nosedocks to make way for the C-5s on the flight line. He was also involved with the construction of the “pull-through” hangar in 1990 and the renovations to the wing headquarters building.

Chief Malek was activated twice during Desert Storm and Desert Shield. During his second activation, he served as first sergeant for more than 200 members of the 439th CES.

“I had a great career here at Westover as a civilian and as a reservist because I have always been in a position to help people get the job done,” he said.

Westover wins 5 AFRC medical awards

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — The Association of Military Surgeons of the United States selected seven units and 17 reservists as winners of Air Force Reserve Command’s 2005 AMSUS awards.

More than half of the individual award winners were from Westover and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Airman assigned to an aeromedical staging squadron: Senior Airman David P. Meulenaere, 439th ASTS

NCO assigned to an aeromedical staging squadron: Tech. Sgt. Mary D. Grasso, 439th ASTS

Officer assigned to an aeromedical staging squadron: Maj. Reid A. Squier, 439th ASTS

Air reserve technician NCO assigned to a deployable medical unit: Master Sgt. Emiliana C. Harris, 604th Medical Squadron, Fairchild AFB, Wash.

Airman assigned to a deployable medical unit: Senior Airman Joshua W. Ratcliffe, 419th MDS, Hill AFB, Utah

NCO assigned to a deployable medical unit: Tech. Sgt. Sarah L. Rowley, 419th MDS, Hill AFB

Airman assigned to a non-deployable medical unit: Senior Airman Paul H. Driscoll, 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Westover ARB

NCO assigned to a non-deployable medical unit: Tech. Sgt. (now Master Sgt.) Darlene C. St. George, 439th AMDS

Officer assigned to a non-deployable medical unit: Maj. Susan C. Beylotte, 315th AMDS, Charleston AFB, S.C.

ART NCO assigned to a non-deployable medical unit: Chief Master Sgt. William H. Millar, 445th AMDS, Wright-Patterson AFB

ART NCO assigned to an aeromedical staging squadron: Master Sgt. Becky S. Smith, 914th ASTS, Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station, N.Y.

Brig. Gen. Beverly Lindsey Administrative Excellence Award: Col. Laura A. Talbot, 440th MDS, Gen. Mitchell IAP ARS, Wis.

Aeromedical staging squadron (100 bed): 908th ASTS, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Aeromedical staging squadron (250 bed): 433rd ASTS, Lackland AFB, Texas

Lt. Gen. George E. Schafer Trophy: 440th MDS, Gen. Mitchell IAP ARS

Aerospace medicine squadron with a generation mission: 445th AMDS, Wright-Patterson AFB

Aerospace medicine squadron with expeditionary medical support: 440th MDS, Gen. Mitchell IAP ARS

Medical quality initiative award: 914th ASTS, Niagara Falls IAP ARS

Aeromedical evacuation squadron with C-130 as primary aircraft: 908th AES, Maxwell AFB

Aeromedical evacuation squadron with aircraft other than C-130: 445th AES, Wright-Patterson AFB

ART officer assigned to an aeromedical evacuation squadron: Maj. Todd E. Mulhorn, 445th AES, Wright-Patterson AFB

Officer assigned to an aeromedical evacuation squadron: Capt. Jameson C. Durham, 908th AES, Maxwell AFB

Airman assigned to an aeromedical evacuation squadron: Senior Airman Caterina J. Durham, 908th AES, Maxwell AFB

NCO assigned to an aeromedical evacuation squadron: Master Sgt. Joseph C. Kotsko, 445th AES, Wright-Patterson AFB

PATRIOT PEOPLE |



Airman Young

NAME : Tasha R. Young
 RANK : Airman first class
 AGE : 28
 HOMETOWN : Hartford, Conn.
 UNIT : 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
 POSITION : Health services management
 CIVILIAN POSITION : —
 FAVORITE FOOD : Crab legs
 YEARS OF SERVICE : One
 FAVORITE SPORT : Basketball
 FAVORITE HOBBY : Reading
 IDEAL VACATION : Trip around the world
 BEST WAY TO RELAX : Sleep
 PREFERRED ENTERTAINMENT : Movies
 FAVORITE HERO : Jesus
 FAVORITE MUSIC STYLES : R&B/Gospel
 FAVORITE MOVIE : Temptations
 FAVORITE AIRCRAFT : F-16
 PET PEEVE : None
 WHAT WOULD I DO IF I WON \$1 MILLION : Take that trip around the world

Looking back at Westover history

On Nov. 11, 1957, Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, flew a KC-135 tanker on a non-refueled flight of 6,322.85 miles from Westover to Buenos Aires, Argentina, establishing a world record nonstop 13 hours, 2 minutes and 51 seconds. General LeMay was also assigned to Westover in the early 1940s as a lieutenant colonel. He later rose to four-star general and became commander in chief of the Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC).



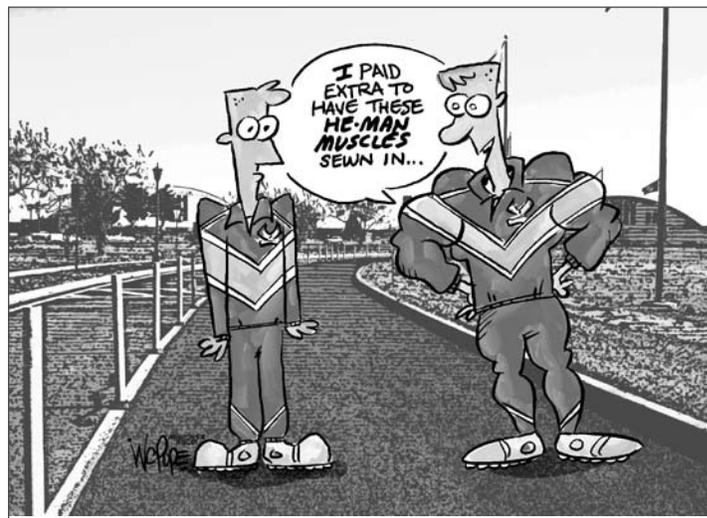
General LeMay

Then brand-new, the KC-135 had begun joining Westover's fleet of B-52 bombers and KC-97 tankers that belonged to the Strategic Air Command (SAC), in August 1957.

SAC's "Mighty Eighth" Air Force was assigned to Westover from 1955 until 1970.

SAC operated Westover from 1955 to 1974.

PATRIOT PUNS |



PATRIOT PRAISES |

Selected for promotion

Lieutenant colonel

Timothy Donnelly
 John Healy
 Dorothy Kleinert
 Edward Miller
 William Rolocut
 Anthony Sheeran
 Donna Snyder
 Reid Squier
 Michael Szostak
 Darcey Thureson
 Richard Tilburg
 Mark Tirrell

Matthew Warren

Major

Kelly Braudis
 Donna Snyder

Reenlistments

Senior master sergeant

Ann M. Cartelli
 Robert W. Karrasch

Master sergeant

Amel L. Carter
 Richard A. Martin

Joseph P Pangilinan
 Donald R. Pare
 William A. Solomon
 Gary M. Weber

Technical sergeant

Paul J. Barboza
 Jeffrey M. Cahill
 Michael J. Carey
 Michael E. Companik
 David A. Langhill
 Carlos H. Lopez
 Timothy K. MacDonald
 Desmond B. Mullally
 David J. Pelletier

Scott A. Taylor
 Michael J. Welch

Staff sergeant

Russell E. Finnegan
 Julia R. Hobart
 Blayne K. Lum
 Kristen E. Mahoney

Senior Airman

Michael R. Russo

photo by Master Sgt. Steven Ross, 439th Maintenance Squadron



GALAXY OF FOG >> New England fog shrouds the flight line of Patriot Wing C-5s during a recent sunrise at Westover.

PATRIOT |

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