

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

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SSgt. Nancy Robbins

ON THE DECK – Employers of reservists get a look at the flight deck of a C-5 during an Employer Appreciation Day held during the November A UTA. A total of

67 bosses spent the day visiting Westover while a similar number came during the B weekend.

Westover welcomes employer partners

by Capt. Paul Koscak

Barbara Cardinal, nursing director at Holyoke's Providence Hospital squeezed between the copilot's seat and the cockpit window, jockeying for a better view.

Leo Salvatore, an assistant superintendent for the Windsor, Ct. school department, crouched low, trying to glimpse New Hampshire's Hampton Beach.

Bill Hoch of White Plains, N.Y. who owns a resort in the Berkshire mountains, stared straight ahead, mesmerized as Martha's Vineyard passed under the C-5's fuselage.

The wide-eyed passengers in their

cardigan sweaters and polo shirts who rubbed elbows on the flight deck of the Galaxy, were among the 67 employers who participated in Employer Appreciation Day during the November A UTA as guests of their Reservist employees.

Although their two-mile high ride that looped over Cape Cod, Nantucket Island, Maine and Quabbin Reservoir, was the day's highlight for the bosses, the event focused on a more essential goal--educating employers to the changing role of the Air Force Reserve.

"Without your support, we could not do our job," said Col. James P Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing. "But we know that support hurts. It hurts

when your vice president of advertising goes away for three or four weeks. It hurts when your best salesperson unexpectedly asks for more time away from the job."

The commander didn't soft-pedal his message. He told the employers--mostly administrators, middle managers and business owners--that Reservists may be away from their civilian jobs even more in the future. The Air Force's thinning rank, he said, means more work for the reserve forces and a pivotal role for Westover as world events unfold.

"Things that happen in the world are going to affect us," Czekanski said. "It's
(Continued on page 6)

Cleaning up after Andrew

Westover uses SABER to help Homestead cut red tape

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

When Hurricane Andrew flattened Homestead Air Force Base in Florida on Aug. 23, 1992, the 439th Airlift Wing swiftly offered a helping hand. Fifteen months later, Westover is still helping out.

In Andrew's wake, Westover aircrews flew a total of 12 missions into Homestead AFB and Opa Locka Coast Guard Station, laden with Federal Emergency Management Agency personnel, Army civil engineering and hospital units, an infantry brigade and other much-needed supplies.

Westover's assistance this time, is in the form of contracting know-how and expertise.

Michael I. LaFortune, Westover's chief of contracting, has been providing SABER contracting services to help Homestead get back on its feet.

SABER--Simplified Acquisition of Base Engineering Requirement--is a program civil engineers at AFRES bases are using to slash time and red tape on some construction projects.

"The devastation (at Homestead) is incredible, I've never seen anything like it," said LaFortune.

"What we're trying to do for them with SABER is to get approximately 16 buildings cleaned up and repaired," he said.

The base, which will become an Air Reserve Station, is due to become operational on April 1 when their first F-16s arrive.

"We will be spending about \$2 million this year on SABER contracts and about the same next year," LaFortune said.

Once a SABER contract is awarded, LaFortune explained, delivery orders are negotiated and issued against the contract by the contracting office. Typical delivery orders cost between \$2,000 and \$200,000. Negotiations are by quantity using standard prices as guides.

"The SABER program eliminates the need for a detailed design which may add as much as 10 percent to the project's cost," LaFortune said. A SABER computer software program can save even more money, he said, "by cutting the research time for prices from hours to minutes."

Hilton F. Culpepper, chief of the facility maintenance branch in the Head-



TSgt. Sandi Michon

ANDREW'S WAKE -- This was a typical scene after Hurricane Andrew clobbered Homestead AFB, Fla. in August 1992. Westover's contracting office is helping, through the SABER program, to rebuild the Florida base.

quarters AFRES Directorate of Civil Engineering at Robins AFB, Ga. urges bases to use the program when they need to get a job done quickly.

"SABER is a legal, congressionally approved program that's been around for years. It originated with the Army and two of our bases have been using it for four years."

Typical SABER projects include painting, paving, renovating facilities

and repairing roofs and utility systems, Culpepper said.

"Use of SABER contracts should be saved for projects that are simple or need to be done quickly," he said. "They should be used wisely and not abused. If the work does not need to be done quickly, it should be bid."

SABER expenditures during fiscal year 1993 by Westover totaled \$2,776,363.

C-5 crew members to receive medal

ROBINS AFB, GA. -- C-5 Galaxy aircrew members who airlifted soldiers and armored equipment directly to Mogadishu, Somalia, or Mombasa, Kenya, in October will receive the Aerial Achievement Medal.

Gen. Ronald R. Fogelman, Air Mobility Command commander, plans to personally present the awards.

Air Force reservists from Westover's 439th Airlift Wing as well as crews from the 349th AW (Associate) from Travis AFB, Calif.; the 433rd AW from Kelly AFB, Texas and

the 512th AW (Associate) from Dover AFB, Del., participated in the airlift.

To qualify for the award, they had to transport troops and equipment in one trip from the United States to the East African cities. The missions demonstrated sustained activity by lasting up to 30 hours and required four or five aerial refuelings.

These missions were exceptional feats, demonstrating AMC's Global Reach capability to meet national objectives, said AMC officials.

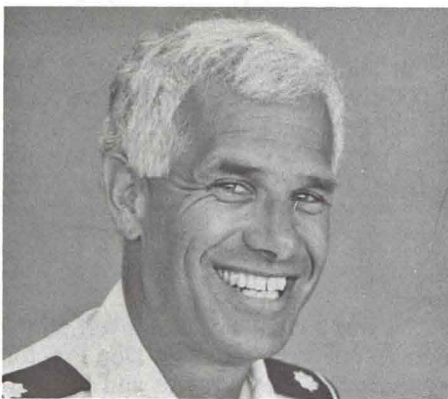
New safety officers spreading the message

by SSgt. Christine Mora

When it comes to safety, Lt. Col. Bob Martens and Capt. Keith Guillotte have got quite an attitude. They want this attitude to rub off on all 439th personnel.

The two officers have new titles and new outlooks in Westover's 439th Airlift Wing Safety office. On September 6, Martens assumed a new role as chief of safety, and Guillotte took over as flying safety officer and Air Reserve Technician wing safety officer.

"People usually think of 'safety' as a



Lt. Col. Bob Martens

dusty old binder to be pulled out around inspection time," Guillotte said. "Safety is not a just a set of regulations, but more importantly, an attitude: of self-preservation and helping friends."

The captain said that, unfortunately, many people only worry about safety after an accident, not before. "It's time to put the emphasis on foresight instead of hindsight. Accidents are a tough price to pay for not taking safety seriously," he said.

According to the duo, they hope to make the safety system more user-friendly. "We want to make friends not enemies," Martens explained.

The traditional mindset of safety officers and inspections usually put people on the defensive, said the colonel. "Consequently, they are not enthusiastic about sharing problems. We don't want people to clam up. We can't fix something if we don't know it's broken," Martens said.

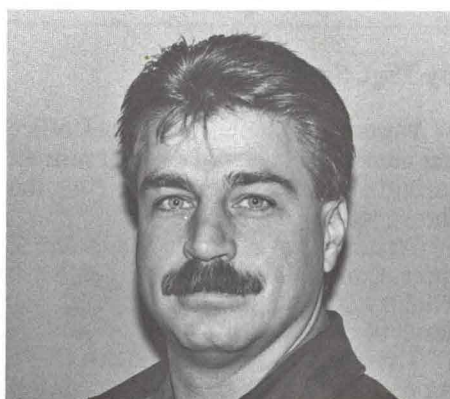
The colonel explained that "when people approach us about problems, we want to work together to solve them, not hide them. If we demonstrate we can help, word will spread."

A new slogan was designed to help spread the word about the new image of

safety. Guillotte created the motto, "Friends don't let friends get hurt," that illustrates the new teamwork emphasis.

"We want the whole base tuned in to safety," Martens said. He proposed that reservists use a buddy-system approach to point out potentially dangerous situations.

Both Martens and Guillotte bring a variety of experience to the safety office. Martens has been a pilot with the 337th since 1977. As civilian, he works for the Federal Aviation Administration as an Accident Prevention Program Manager.



Capt. Keith Guillotte

Got a story idea? Contact your unit PA representative

Each of the 20 units assigned to Westover Air Reserve Base as well as four Geographically Separated Units, have members who have been appointed Unit Public Affairs Representatives.

These individuals, listed below, act as the eyes and ears

of the Patriot, Westover's award-winning newspaper.

If you have an idea for a story that you would like to see published, please contact the UPAR assigned to your unit who will in turn, pass the information to the Public Affairs staff.

23rd APSS
Maj. Jane Sbardella

42nd APS
SSgt. Louis Curto
SSgt. James Garrity

58th APS
MSgt. Jane Dumont
AIC Brenda Labelle

74th AES
Capt. Elaine D'Aprile

337th AS
Lt. Col. Pete Gray
Lt. Col. Dave Moore

439th AGS
SrA. James MacDonald
SrA. Heather Carrier

439th ALCF
Maj. Wayne Petitto
SSgt. Betty O'Brien

439th AW/HQ
Maj. Tom Gray

439th CES
SSgt. Greg Zakrzewski
Fire Dept.
MSgt. Arthur Flynn
TSgt. James Beauregard

439th CF
TSgt. Dennis Leydet
AIC Jason Smith

439th CRS
SSgt. Shelli Kotfila
MSgt. Steve Gusan

439th EMS
Maj. Jackie Brill Crothers
SMSgt. Edward Guenther

439th LSS
Maj. Diane Hamer
MSgt. Robert LePage

439th MSS
Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

439th MWRSS
SMSgt. Mike Spano
MSgt. Paul Gilman

439th OSS
SSgt. Kelly Dawson
TSgt. Kim Stillely

439th SPS
MSgt. Tim Murphy

439th USAF Clinic
Maj. John Adams

639th SPF
TSgt. Patrick Whelan

Geographically Separated Units:

34th APSS
1st. Lt. Paula Bloome

85th APS
MSgt. Robert Haring

933rd CES
TSgt. Robert Reimann
SSgt. William Pope

Civilian personnel branch chiefs



William J. DeSantis



Julie Fitzgerald



Michael Kennedy



Freeman Wiley

Civilian personnel downsizing increases Westover's role

By TSgt. Sandi Michon

Westover's civilian personnel office has emerged a leader in a recent restructuring of civilian personnel function throughout Air Force Reserve.

Westover has been selected as one of three Consolidated Civilian Personnel Flights (CCPF) throughout AFRES, as a result of downsizing for cost savings.

The reorganization created one CCPF for each numbered Air Force, and Westover now functions as the 22nd AF CCPF. Westover's civilian personnel hub assumed new responsibilities on Oct. 1, becoming the first of the three installations to go fully online under the new concept.

Under the new system, Billy Mitchell Field, Wis., will service 4th AF, and Carswell AFB, Texas, will service 10th AF. They are expected to be operational by fiscal year 95.

As a new CCPF, Westover has doubled the population serviced from 1,300 to 2,600, and has broadened the scope of responsibility servicing satellite offices.

"We are basically doing what we've always done for Westover, but now we provide many of those services for the satellite offices," explained Norman Lorange, civilian personnel officer.

According to Lorange, the new CCPF format delegates more authority to installation commanders, and ultimately, to the CCPF at Westover. "The satellite offices administer programs that require face-to-face contact such as outside hiring, employee relations advisory services, injury compensation administration, and resource management to local commanders. Those offices also function as a liaison for the CCPF to the local customer," said Lorange. "Everything else is

referred to Westover," he said.

To manage the increased responsibility, eight new positions were authorized at Westover. The restructuring also changed key positions within civilian personnel. The four main branches were realigned to conform with the new CCPF format.

Norman Lorange remains the civilian personnel officer, and four chiefs manage key areas. William J. DeSantis is chief of the workforce effectiveness branch and handles labor and employee relations. A New York native, DeSantis transferred from Griffiss AFB, N.Y. with 24 years civil service.

Julie Fitzgerald is chief of the personnel management branch and is responsible for staffing and equal employment opportunity. She is from Springfield, Mass., and has 52 years civil service experience.

Michael Kennedy is chief of plans and requirements branch and handles classifications and data management. Another New York native, Kennedy transferred from Griffiss, but formerly worked at Westover. He has 26 years in civil service.

The fourth branch chief is Freeman Wiley who manages the career programs branch. He is responsible for employee development and training, and administering the civilian career programs and the ART officer career program. He is from Houston, Texas with 26 years of civil service.

After almost two months under the new system, the new responsibilities have produced an increased workload. "With any major change there is a transition period," said Fitzgerald, referring to the large numbers of personnel actions. "But we can do it!" she said enthusiastically.

In addition to servicing more than 1,000 civil service and Air Reserve Technician personnel, Westover now maintains personnel records for four satellite offices, which include Dobbins ARB, Ga., Pittsburgh IAP, Pa., Willow Grove ARS, Pa., and Niagara IAP, N.Y. All data management is now centralized at Westover.

"It was a challenge to convert all the data to our systems," said Don Proctor, systems manager. Proctor and his staff were responsible for coordinating the computer network that added hundreds of names to Westover's data base.

Proctor, Bob St. Lawrence and Ken Cunningham, senior specialists under the new structure, were all instrumental in the physical reconfiguration of the civilian personnel section to streamline work processes.

Westover now exercises classification authority for all installations under our CCPF umbrella, as well as internal placement authority. All civilian training is managed at Westover, in addition to labor relations.

"We now negotiate and administer seven separate labor agreements with different unions," said Lorange, as he elaborated the challenges of the CCPF.

Whatever the challenges that lie ahead, Westover's civilian personnel staff is pursuing quality service for everyone. "Just being chosen as the CCPF for 22nd AF is recognition of the fact that Westover is held in high esteem," Lorange said.

"Providing first-rate support is paramount to our philosophy of service. The staff is exceptionally talented and works together as a team," Lorange said. "Everyone of them is a key element to our success."

Westover Club undergoing three-phase facelift

by SSgt F. X. Kelley

Following five years of planning, the Westover Club's facelift began in October. In 222 days, the club will be transformed into one of the area's trendiest entertainment meccas, according to club manager John Filler.

The \$900,000 renovation will be handled by Enfield Builders, a Connecticut-based company which was the successful bidder for the project, which is funded jointly by non-appropriated and appropriated monies.

"The club modernization will be done in three phases," said Filler.

The first part of the project got underway Oct. 28 with the renovation of the casual lounge, blue room, rear restrooms, offices and hallways. "The blue room and the casual lounge will be merged into one large complex, with two modernized bar areas and a raised stage. This will allow us to divide the complex for either smaller or simultaneous functions as well as to open it up to accommodate larger groups such as those which attend during the UTA's," Filler said.

A futuristic illumination system will showcase the only link to the club's past, a model of a World War I biplane, which will remain as a permanent fixture suspended from the lounge ceiling.

Phase two will commence just after the new year and will feature the transformation of the presently staid ballroom into a multi-functional facility "generic enough to stand the test of time, yet flexible enough to allow for periodic updates and atmosphere changes," said Filler. Renovations include a new stage, canopy, and dance floor, as well as a state-of-the-art halogen lighting system, which allows a 30 to 100 percent variance in light intensity. The main bar, which abuts the ballroom, will become a special function room, according to Filler.

The final phase will mean a new dining room, front hallway, lobby and bathrooms. "Updated window treatments featuring vertical blinds and modern wall sconces will be eye-appealing additions to the dining area," said Filler.

"The elimination of booths and the minimization of kitchen noise will be positive additions to the dining ex-

perience," Filler said.

Concurrent with the interior improvements, exterior enhancements include a new roof and landscaping.

"We anticipate minor inconveniences during construction, but we will meet customer needs. As each dining or bar area is closed for construction, food and beverage will be made available in another area," Filler said.

New policy will parallel the new look. An expanded menu, high-tech electronic

games, and a hefty slate of family-oriented activities are intended to broaden the club's customer base. "We also plan to take a strong stand on membership. Club cards will be checked at all entrances. Only members and guests will be allowed," said Filler.

The club plans a grand opening complete with a Taste of Westover featuring "steak in the kitchen and sizzle in the bar", a house specialty Filler will keep secret until the big day.



SSgt. Christine Mora

BUILDING BOOM – Construction workers install drainage materials for the new parking lot in front of the Wing Headquarters building. That job, plus a new front entrance, and sidewalk, are among approximately 65 projects underway at Westover. During fiscal year 1993, the base spent \$12 million on construction. All construction project bids are placed locally whenever possible.



TSgt. Sandi Michon

Bosses have their day

(Continued from page one)

only going to continue."

Today, about 430,000 people make up the active duty Air Force, down from 630,000 in 1988 and by the turn of the century the number will drop to about 375,000, the commander told the employers.

But the upshot of having employees who are Reservists, is the skill and knowledge they bring to the job, Czekanski said.

"We train our people to be responsible, to be leaders, and we hope you see this in the work place."

"Furthermore," he pointed out, "the Reserve can be more responsive to an employer's needs because it operates independently of the active duty Air Force, with its own structure of command."

In addition to the C-5 flight, employers got a personal tour of Westover from their Reservist employee, who later treated them to lunch at the base dining facility.

Most of the bosses were surprised at the level of activity at the base.

"I was quite amazed to learn that nearly 3,000 people work here," said John

Walachy, director of information services for Sisters Providence Health System, a Springfield company which owns a network of hospitals and nursing homes. "I was amazed to learn about all of the overseas flights that originate from Westover. That is something I was not aware of."

Sue Carroll, a regional supervisor for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, only thought about Westover when she spotted a C-5 flying overhead.

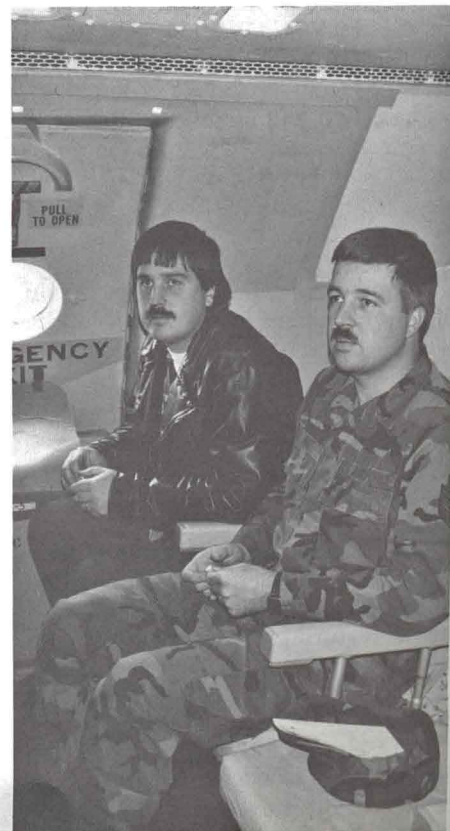
"I can see them right out my window at work," she said. "This place is a lot more active than I had imagined. I guess I never realized how much time is required of Reservists."

Massachusetts State trooper Richard Catellier is a staunch supporter of the Reserve. He called the event "a super idea."

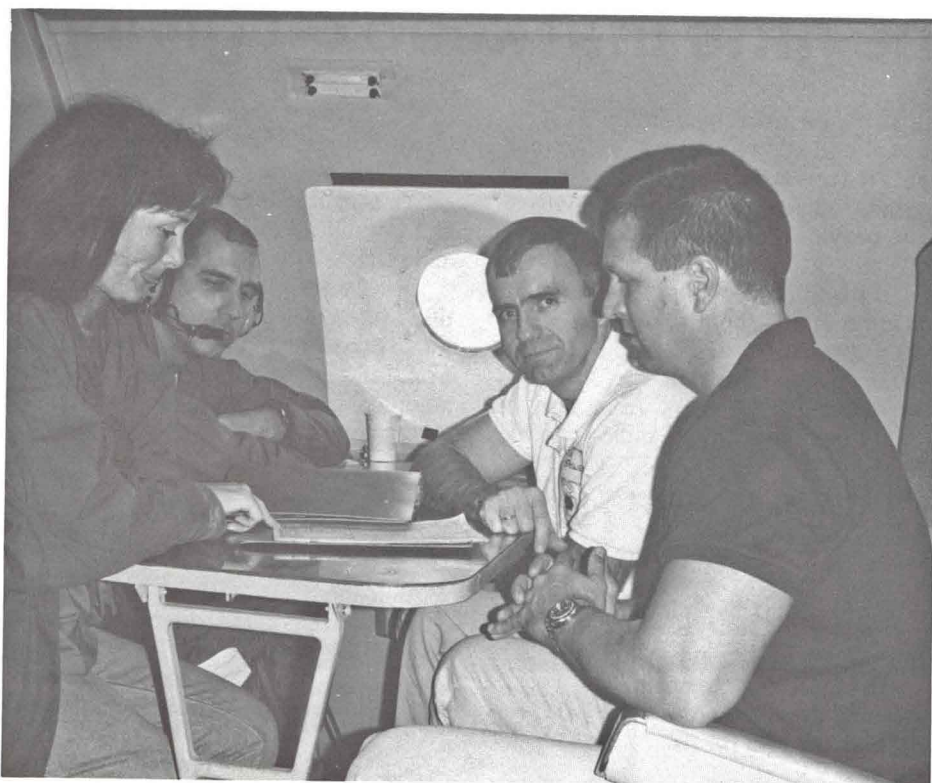
"We give them (Reservists) our full support," Catellier said. "Asking for the day off is only a formality."

"This is a big operation," said Leo Salvatore. "Westover is an entire community unto itself. I have been very impressed."

BOSSSES' DAY -- Col. James P. Czekanski, 439th AW commander, (top) welcomes employers to Westover, while SSgt. Joseph Hart, (bottom right), shares a C-5 ride with his employer.



SSgt. Nancy Robb

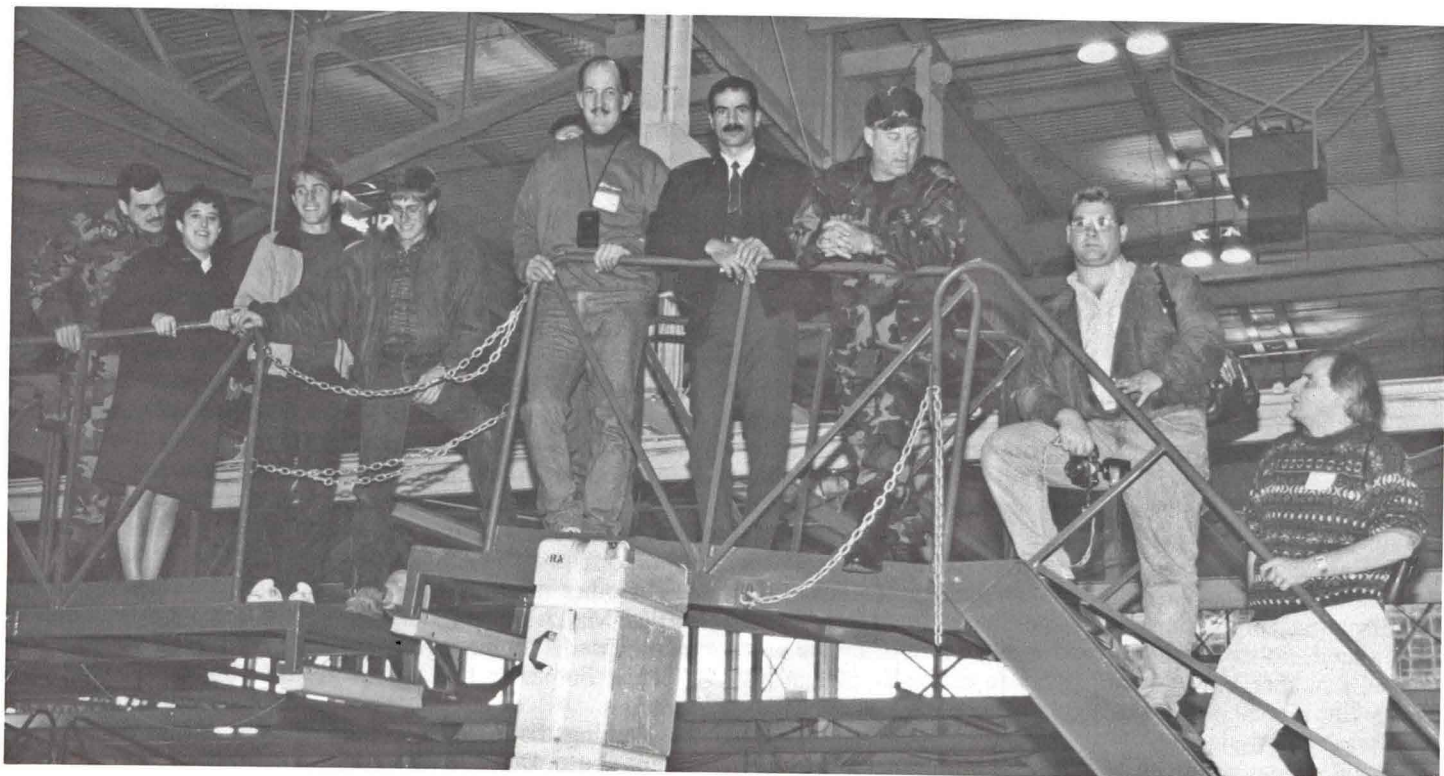


SSgt. Nancy Robbins

THE GRAND TOUR -- Three employers chat with loadmaster TSgt. Bill Carroll, second from left, during an orientation flight. Also shown are, Sue Carroll (no relation), Lt. Richard Catellier and Lt. Dan Jamroz of the Massachusetts State Police. At right, another employer climbs down the crew ladder of a C-5. Below, visitors and reservists pose during a tour of a maintenance area in the isochronal dock in the DC Hangar.



SSgt. Nancy Robbins



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

Reservists are the gifts that keep on giving

by Tsgt. Sandi Michon

The spirit of giving is practiced year round as Westover Reservists routinely reach out to the community they serve.

Many give back to those who have gone before them.

Recently, various Reservists have been recognized for their civic contributions to veteran groups.

Five 439th AW members volunteered their time and skills to home less veterans in the Boston area.

The veteran outreach, termed Boston "standdown", mustered professionals to provide a variety of services to more than 600 homeless veterans. A tent city was erected in a Boston park which provided practical needs such as clothing and food, as well as legal assistance, job training and medical treatment and referrals.

Capt. Chuck Kerr, 74th AES flight nurse, has been with the Veterans Administration for 11 years. He spearheaded the medical services of the event. Assisting Kerr for the three-day event was SSgt. Gary Van Wie, 74th aeromedical technician, and 439th USAF Clinic members: Maj. Robert McAnaw, flight surgeon, MSgt. Mark Gilyard, and TSgt. Robert Driscoll.

"As Reservists in medical career fields, we are trained to respond to contingency situations. This event allowed us to use our skill to meet actual needs in the community," said Kerr. "The standdown blew away everyone's expectations."

For Driscoll, who recently par-

ticipated in a medical mission to Honduras, the standdown stirred similar feelings. "It feels great to help people, and anything outside of a military environment provides unique experience," he said.

Members of 85th Aerial Port Squadron at Hanscom AFB, Mass. also have a consistent track record of giving. Thanks to the efforts of the Airman's council, directed by MSgt. Allen Soucia, SSgt. Leonard Stanwood and SSgt. Don

MacGee, the squadron has "adopted" a ward at the Bedford VA Hospital. Members visit patients each month to play cards, organize bingo and other games, and lay out a table with icecream, cake and gifts.

For the past nine Christmas holidays the 85th aerial porters have taken gifts and provided entertainment for Christmas parties for special education students in Waltham. More than 200 youngsters attended last year's party.

Driscoll reaps double honors

TSgt. Robert Driscoll, from the 439th USAF Clinic, has received dual honors this past month.

Driscoll has been selected the 439th AW NCO of the year for fiscal year 93.

He was also named distinguished graduate of the Air Mobility Command Noncommissioned Officer Academy on Oct. 28.

The NCOIC of nursing services at the clinic, Driscoll attended the NCO academy at McGuire AFB, N.J. from Sept 19 through Oct. 29. He was the only Reservist designated as distinguished graduate among the 120

participants.

Driscoll has also distinguished himself as an outstanding NCO in the wing. He has served at Westover for seven years.

"Having witnessed his dedication to duty and his efficient performance at the clinic, I'm not surprised at the latest honors," said Col. Warner Jones, 439th USAF Clinic commander. "I am proud of his accomplishments."

Driscoll is a resident of Somerville, Mass. and is a civilian postal worker in Cochituate, Mass.



TSgt. Robert Driscoll

Kirschling promoted to colonel during 42nd APS ceremony

by Paul P. Koscak Jr.

It's up, up and away.

Robert C. Kirschling, an aerial port commander and former navigator, marked what could be the apex of his lofty career--his promotion to colonel--during a squadron-wide celebration. Now he's looking for a job.

Kirschling said he's exploring opportunities within Air Mobility Command, the Pentagon and other federal agencies.

The up and out maneuver is common among Reservists promoted beyond the authorized rank of their present job.

Kirschling's promotion party at the Consolidated Open Mess during the October B UTA took a nostalgic turn when the new colonel's mother traveled from Ohio to officially pin on his eagles. She pinned on her son's gold bars in 1968, when Kirschling was commissioned.

A guidance counselor at Wilbraham's Minnechaug Regional

High School and a Somers, Conn. resident, Kirschling flew more than 4,000 hours. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for an emergency air refueling mission while serving in Vietnam.

Assigned to Westover in 1969 when the base was an active duty facility, Kirschling flew KC-135 tankers. After completing graduate school, he returned to Westover as a reservist. But when the base converted to C-5s with their electronic navigation system, Kirschling was out of work. He then became a transportation officer.

In other 42nd Aerial Port Squadron awards, operations officer Maj. Al Harrington, received the U.S. Army's Commendation Medal for managing the deployment of the Army's 10th Special Forces to the Middle East during the Persian Gulf conflict.

Earning the Air Force Achievement Medal were SSgts. Louis Curto, Dan Turner and Tim Lapinski.



SSgt. Nancy Robbins

Hernandez again triumphs in Turkey Trot

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Highlights of November's annual MWR Turkey Trot included a veteran runner's record-setting win, a young potential challenger who's coming on strong, and a spirited effort by a team in black that captured one first place.

TSgt. Celio Hernandez, 40, continued construction on his one-man dynasty when he won the 16th annual grind for the third year in a row.

The 439th EMS hydraulics specialist ran the five miles course in 29 minutes, 32 seconds, about one minute behind last year's winning time.

Hernandez, who has run in most of the annual races, is a member of the Springfield Harriers running club and logs about 40 miles a week. In 1984 he won the New England Marathon.

A runner with the potential to be a future threat to Hernandez is Brian Dyer, 11, a middle school cross-country runner who won the boys' 8-12-year-old category for the second straight year. The son of Lt. Col. Rick Dyer, 439th MSSQ commander, Brian ran one and a half miles in 11 minutes, 47 seconds.

The 439th ALCF fielded a team of six runners clad in black T-shirts. TSgt. Jake Negrotti set the pace, covering the five miles in 35:57 to take top spot in the men's 32 to 39 age category. His ALCF teammate were Maj. Thomas Mauzaka, SMSgt. Fred Fraini, MSgt. Greg Morin, TSgt. Tracey Turner and SSgt. Dave

Brainard.

Lisa Herbert, daughter of TSgt. Harry Herbert, won the girls' 13-16-year-old category, running one and a half miles in 11:50. The Chicopee Comprehensive High School cross country runner had competed the day before in a 3.1 mile race.

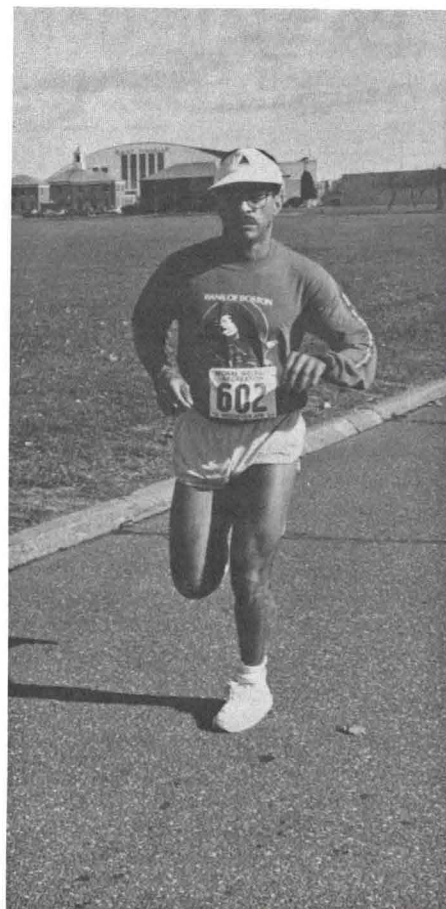
Other winners included Michelle Hunt, daughter of Gordon Hunt of MWR, women's 17-23-year-old category; TSgt. Diane Thaxton, women's 24-31-year-old category; TSgt. Linda Ryan, women's 40-47-year-old category; SSgt. Dave Adams, men's 24-31-year-old category; and SSgt. John Aukstikalis, men's over 55-year-old category.

Aukstikalis, 56, a 42nd APS cargo specialist, is a veteran of two Boston Marathons. He didn't run his first marathon until he was 48 years old. Since then he has completed 19 marathons and stays fit by running 30 miles a week in the winter and up to 60 miles weekly during the summer. He ran the five miles in 36:03.

Another veteran runner was retired Marine chief warrant officer Ted Buckhout, 66, who crossed the five mile finish line in 38:08. He ran in the first nine Marine Corps Marathons in Washington, DC from 1976 to 1984.

Winners in each category received a turkey from MWR. The annual Turkey Trot was organized by Mike McNichols, Gordon Hunt and TSgt. Rick Oliver of MWR.

BEGINNING AND END -- Runners step out at the start of the 16th annual Turkey Trot (top photo) which ended in familiar fashion with Celio Hernandez (bottom) cruising to yet another victory.



SSgt. Christine Mora

Patriot People

Name: Alan J. Gardeski
Rank: 1st. Lt.
Age: 33
Address: Kingston, N.Y.
Unit: 439th Communications Flight
Position: Operations Officer
Civilian position: Programmer
Favorite food: Italian
Years of service: 4
Favorite sport: Judo and volleyball
Favorite hobby: Building
Ideal vacation: European tour
Best way to relax: Playing sports
Preferred entertainment: Playing sports
Favorite celebrity: none
Favorite music: Rock
Favorite book: *Sherlock Holmes*
Favorite color: Green
Favorite car: Porsche 911
Pet peeve: Miscommunication
Best thing about Westover: People, spirit
Worst thing about Westover: Work building



SSgt. Nancy Robbins

1st. Lt. Alan Gardeski

PA staff dominates media contest again

The 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs staff has again captured a number of awards in the 1993 Air Force Reserve media contest.

The base newspaper, the **PATRIOT** was selected as the best newspaper in AFRES as well as the best funded newspaper in the 'small' category.

Capt. Paul Koscak was named Journalist of the Year and was a second place finisher in the Newswriting category.

SrA Michael Lyman took two first place awards, one for picture stories and the second for a photo supporting a story.

TSgt. Sandra Michon placed first in the single photo category and took second place in feature writing.

Other Westover winners included SSgt. Christine Mora who was second in the single photo category and MSgt. Thomas Allocco who placed third in newswriting.

First place winners will now be entered in the Air Force media contest.

Patriot Praises

PROMOTIONS

CMSgt. Brosseau, Roy R.
 SMSgt. Adams, John C.
 SMSgt. Bailey, Angus C.
 SMSgt. Baker, Donald C.
 SMSgt. Edwards, Lawrence L.
 SMSgt. Morin, Donald A.
 SMSgt. Racicot, Gerald J.
 SMSgt. Scaparo, Carl L.
 SMSgt. Szewc, John F.
 MSgt. Barnes, Allen T.
 MSgt. Carter, Lewis G.
 MSgt. Dumont, James M.
 MSgt. Galloway, Thomas F.
 MSgt. Keitt, William Jr.
 MSgt. Kellar, John M. Jr.
 MSgt. Murphy Brewer, Jean
 MSgt. Robert, John F.
 MSgt. Rowanstern, John F.
 MSgt. Sobers, Rudolph Alphonse
 MSgt. Southard, Walter F.
 MSgt. Sullivan, Thomas E.
 MSgt. Tryba, Bradley S.
 MSgt. Visbeck, Sydney C.
 MSgt. Yankus, Paul A.
 MSgt. Yost, Kathleen M.
 SMSgt. Thibodeau, Dianne M.
 TSgt. Cleckley, James D.
 TSgt. Dirienzo, Michael F.
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 SrA. Sawyer, Jacqueline E.
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 A1C Clark, Dean M.
 A1C Heath, Marlene D.
 A1C Jaczyk, Michael J.
 A1C Marrota, Michael J.
 A1C Montanez, Joseph W.

EDITORIAL

Employers are team players

Some of the most important members of Westover family were recognized in November when more than 100 employers spent a day on base as guests of the 439th Airlift Wing.

The Employer Appreciation Day activities on the A and B UTA weekends were an appropriate way to say thank you to those men and women. Without them on our team, sharing the sacrifices with us, we could not be citizen airmen.

Over the years our employers have stood by our side through the Cold War, humanitarian missions and peacekeeping missions.

They made the small sacrifices, like juggling a weekend work schedule for us. And they stayed steadfastly behind us through the major efforts, like the many months of Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

The importance of the team effort between employer and Reservist is growing as the role of Reservists and the U.S. military's worldwide mission grows. In the future we are going to continue to call on the goodwill of employers.

As with any good team, the benefits flow to all its members. Employers know that having Reservists on the payroll makes good business sense. Employers benefit from the Reservists' military training, experience and motivation.

We keep the team strong and help assure future cooperation when we give our employers our best efforts on the job.

It's our job as citizen airmen to remind our employers by our actions every day that we are their best employees. That's an appropriate way to say thank you to the men and women who are with us on every mission.

By MSgt. Thomas Allocco
Public Affairs Specialist

Briefs

Rodeo '94 to be held at McChord

ROBINS AFB, Ga. -- Rodeo '94 is moving farther west and will be conducted under the flag of the U.S. Transportation Command.

TRANSCOM will sponsor next year's air mobility competition from June 25 to July 2 at McChord AFB, Wash. Air Mobility Command will act as executive agent for the event, and McChord's 62nd Airlift Wing will host the more than 1,500 anticipated competitors.

C-130 aircraft, while transferred from AMC to Air Combat Command, are able to compete with other airlifter units under TRANSCOM's joint command umbrella.

Aircraft competing in the Rodeo will include C-5, C-130, C-160, C-141, C-17, KC-135 and KC-10.

Travelers will use American Express

American Express will take over the government travel card program when the General Services Administration contract with Diners Club expires Nov. 29.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service headquarters, GSA, and the two credit card companies are working to ensure a smooth transition between contracts, officials said.

Officials said activities should continue to use the current government travel card in the interim.

MWRS new name

Air Force Morale, Recreation, Welfare and Services will soon shorten its name to Services, according to Chris Menard, Westover's director of that organization.

"The new name reflects the merger's success and focuses directly on what we're all about--service," he said.

The merger between Services and MWR began in 1991.

PATRIOT

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Westover's pull-through hangar transformed into business fair

By MSgt. Gordon A. Newell
Photo by SSgt. Francis Kelly

Commerce '93, a business fair held in Westover's cavernous "pull-through" hangar in early November, drew 163 exhibitors and thousands of people eager to see what area businesses had to offer.

"We are thrilled with the way Commerce '93 turned out," said Deborah Boronski, director of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce who along with the Holyoke Chamber and Westover's Galaxy Community Council sponsored the fair on the base for the second straight year.

"Last year we had 119 booths so we had substantial growth in a year" she said. A new addition this year was a financial section that attracted some 20 exhibitors. "We expect that next year the financial section will be expanded as the area's economy continues to recover from the recession," Boronski said.

Keynote speaker for a breakfast attended by more than 600 prior to the opening of the fair, was Gloria C. Larson, secretary for economic affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Another guest speaker was Dr. Paul A. London, deputy undersecretary of economic affairs for the Clinton administration.

Both spoke in favor of the North



COMMERCE '93 --Westover's huge "pull-through" hangar was converted into the site of Commerce '93, a business fair sponsored by the Chicopee and Holyoke Chambers of Commerce.

American Free Trade Agreement, focusing on the benefits the controversial pact will have on the economy of Massachusetts.

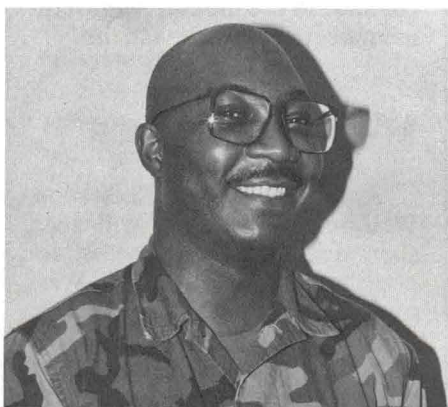
Col. James P. Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing greeted the enthusiastic crowd to Westover.

"I applaud the Chambers of Commerce from Chicopee and Holyoke for the marvelous job of putting this event together. It is a tremendous undertaking

but as I look around, I can see that their efforts were certainly worthwhile," he said.

"We're already working on Commerce '94," Boronski said. "We're looking forward to even more exhibitors next year. This (hangar) is the perfect place for an event like this. We must thank Westover for their cooperation and support. Everyone here has been marvelous to work with."

PATRIOT



Published monthly for Patriots like SSgt. Euclid Ritchens of East Hartford, Conn., and 2,945 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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