

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING

AIR FORCE RESERVE

WESTOVER ARB

VOLUME XX, NUMBER 3

APRIL 1993

Galaxies to compete in Volant Rodeo '93

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

A Westover team of aircrew, aerial port, maintenance and security police members will test their skills in international competition during Volant Rodeo at Little Rock AFB in June.

The week of competitive events from June 5 - 12 will pit representatives of every active duty and reserve airlift wing, as well as teams from NATO and other allied forces. In the past the international competition has included teams from the United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Australia and the Middle East.

The 1993 Volant Rodeo is an expanded version of past rodeos among C-130 crews which were held at Pope AFB, N.C. The Little Rock rodeo will bring together aircrews flying C-5s, C-130s, C-141s, KC-10s and KC-135s.

Lt. Col. Gale French, Operations Support Squadron commander, will lead the Westover contingent. French and unit commanders are selecting the 26 Westover team members from among the most qualified volunteers.

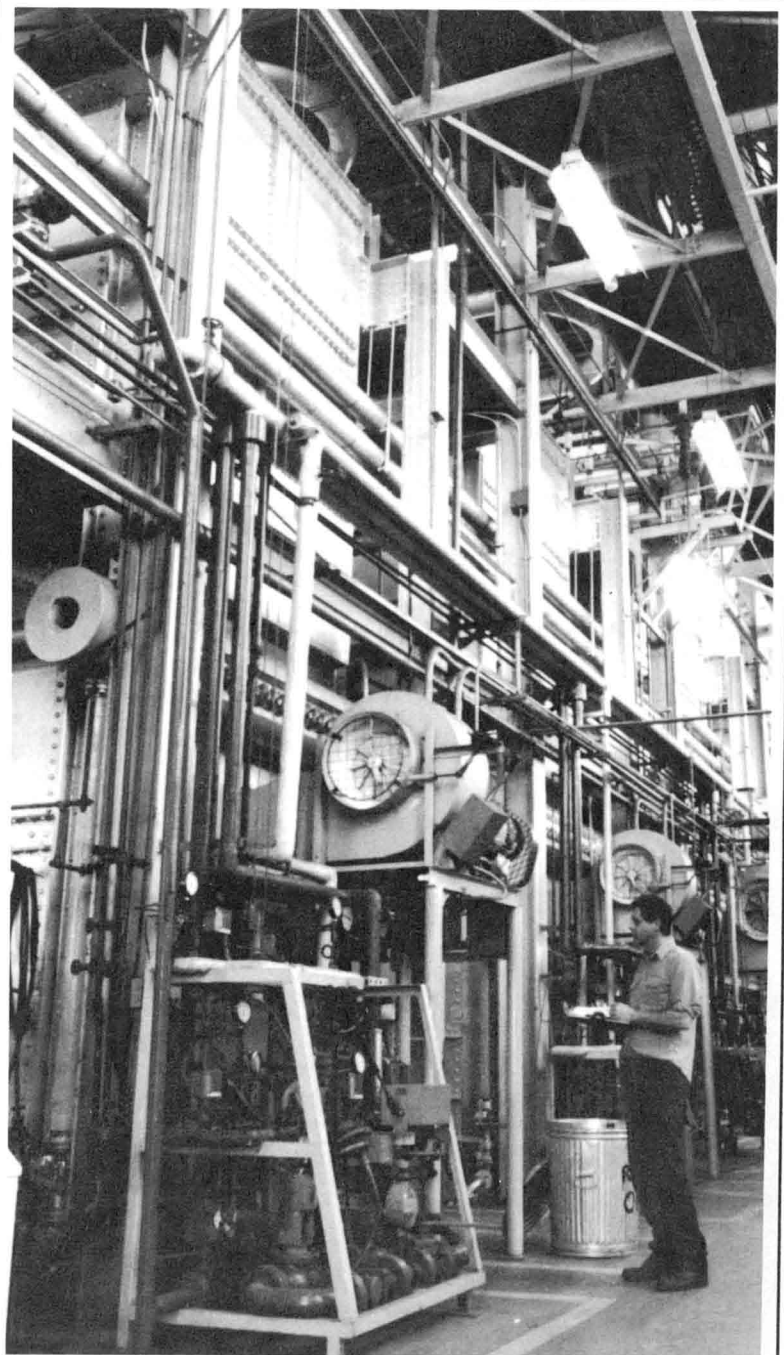
French competed in Volant Rodeo competition with other Westover aircrew members in the 1980s when the wing flew C-130s.

This year, teams will compete for trophies in events including aerial refueling missions, an engine running off-load and preflight and postflight maintenance inspections.

Both security police and aerial port members will be judged on a combat endurance course. Teams will have a maximum of 44 minutes to run through a course of 23 obstacles. They will climb a wall, crawl through a trench, wrestle themselves over log obstacles, swing and jump from a rope and face other challenges with such descriptive names as the "belly buster," "the dirty name" and "the Tarzan."

"The Air Force takes competition like Volant Rodeo very seriously as a way to train and to build esprit de corps. It brings together the best airlift teams from around the world for an intense week of events during which everyone learns from each other," French said.

"We at Westover work hard during the year and we're looking forward to showing what we can do when we go to Little Rock," he said.



WORKING UNDER PRESSURE -- Chief Operating Engineer Bob Krysten Jr. monitors steamflow through the labyrinth of pipes and gauges in the base Central Heating Plant. (See related article on page 6.)

EDITORIAL

The big picture

As the most violent century in history comes to a close, the United States has begun to cut its military.

During this century, America has sent her military abroad many times to fight tyranny and injustices against man. In fact, in almost every instance, our commitment to fight aggression has depended solely on the use of our military.

While some cuts in defense spending are necessary, we must be careful not to weaken the military to the point where we cannot defend ourselves, our allies and our economic interests abroad.

Although the Soviet Union is no longer an entity, the politically unstable Confederation of Independent State governments have retained the entire USSR weapons arsenal and thus remain a potential threat to the West.

Furthermore, CIS governments may deem it necessary at some point in the future to sell some of their nuclear and conventional weapons to gain economic stability. In the hands of potentially hostile Second or Third World nations, these weapons pose possibly an even greater threat.

Regardless of the potential problems within the CIS, the world remains a volatile place.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is a prime example of just how unstable the world is today. The invasion also points out the vulnerability of our economy when our economic interests abroad are threatened. Hindsight shows that it was only the quick, decisive intervention by our military, not the economic sanctions, that was responsible for ending the aggression. We must profit by this experience.

At the present, our efforts in Somalia and Bosnia would indicate that we will remain committed in the fight against aggression in the years to come.

At the same time, our government is proposing to close 120 military installations, thus eliminating 80,000 military and civilian jobs. Though these cuts may be necessary, these reductions, combined with the loss in defense contracts throughout the country, could have grave consequences.

We must not lose sight of the big picture.

SrA. Mike Lyman
Public Affairs Technician

PATRIOT

"This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the **PATRIOT** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force."

"The content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover Air Reserve Base."

439th AW Commander

Col. James P. Czekanski

Chief of Public Affairs

Gordon A. Newell

Wing Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Rick Dyer

Base Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Paul Koscak

Public Affairs Specialist

Monica M. Lindberg

Editor/NCOIC

MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Deputy NCOIC/Media

Relations

MSgt. Tom Allocco

Deputy NCOIC/Assistant

Editor

TSgt. Sandra M. Michon

Staff

SSgt. Vincent Blanchard

SSgt. Francis Kelly

SSgt. Joe Menna

SSgt. Christine Mora

SSgt. Kymberly Saganski

SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

SrA. Michael Lyman

Karen Paquette

Briefs

Eight base employees get \$\$ for suggestions

Eight employees of Westover Air Reserve Base are a little richer today, thanks to the base's Suggestion Program.

The largest single award was \$1,000 going to Byron T. Labreche who also claimed \$300 for another idea.

Richard W. Halla had three suggestions accepted, one netting him \$500, a second \$250 and a third \$25.

Other cash winners were John B. Perkins, \$200; Edward J. Green wood and Stephen E. Burek, \$100, James Pinard and John E. Miller II, two \$25 awards each, and Lawrence E. Weir, \$50.

Anyone wishing to submit a suggestion for the program may contact Susanne M. Schmidt at ext. 2355.

AF Reserve changes inspection frequency

ROBINS AFB, GA. -- The Air Force Reserve will now conduct Quality Air Force Assessments every four years instead of every three years.

AFRES officials decided to reduce the frequency of management inspections because of an increased workload and funding limitations, said Lt. Col. John A. Blackburn, chief of the AFRES Inspector General's Operations Division.

The Headquarters' AFRES team recently began performing management inspections on all reserve units.

Previously, reserve team members augmented Air Combat Command's numbered air force inspection teams.

This decision does not affect frequency of Operational Readiness Inspections which are conducted by gaining commands.

AAFES offers plastic

AAFES and First USA Bank will soon be offering qualified customers the opportunity to apply for a new Gold (Armed Forces) MasterCard/Visa Gold. The card is competitive by industry standards, carrying a 12.5 percent interest rate and no annual fee. Card applications will be available in all AAFES locations this month.

AFA membership drive underway at Westover

By Maj. Rick Dyer

Forget about a few good men. The Air Force Association is looking for everyone.

"Everyone--active personnel, reservists, civilian employees, family members and retirees--should join the AFA," said Lt. Col. Forrest D. Price Jr.

Price, a logistics plans staff officer, is heading the annual AFA membership drive at Westover this year.

Founded in 1946, the association is a nonprofit organization which advocates a strong and independent Air Force.

It currently has 190,000 members nationwide, and Price is hoping to increase the ranks of the Pioneer Valley Chapter 111 here.

"In this time of force reductions and large budget cuts, it's vital that we have a strong advocate who can tell the Air Force story to Congress and our national leadership," the colonel said.

According to Price, the AFA has played a key role during the past five decades in promoting legislation which improved Air Force technology

"In this time of force reductions and large budget cuts, it's vital that we have a strong advocate who can tell the Air Force story to Congress and our national leadership."

Lt. Col. Forrest D. Price, Jr.

and the quality of life enjoyed by Air Force people.

Among the current legislative issues being promoted by the AFA are pay raises for federal civilians and military personnel, an increase in temporary lodging expenses, equitable benefits for individuals who voluntarily leave the service during the drawdown and full cost of living adjustments for retirees.

"We are fortunate to have AFA on the Air Force team, and they deserve our full support," said Gen. Merrill A. Mc Peak, Air Force Chief of Staff.

"The AFA is truly our voice for the future," Price added.

He indicated that some of the other benefits of AFA membership--which costs \$25 per year or \$60 for three years--include reduced rate insurance, discounts on lodging, car rentals and other services, low-rate credit cards, transition services and an annual subscription to Air Force Magazine.

Additional information and membership applications are available from local AFA members, or by calling Price at ext. 3316.

Colonels Hargis, Monahan moving on to new positions

By Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

Two base commanders are going south. South of New England, that is.

Col. Thomas G. Hargis commander of the 439th Support Group will work in Washington, D.C. as chief of the programs division for the office of the chief of the Air Force Reserve.

Although the job conveys a somewhat onerous title, Hargis said "it's very simple."

In his new Pentagon-based job, which he expects to begin by mid-April, the colonel will evaluate major decisions, trends and directions established by reserve commanders.

"Let's say the reserve wanted to fly B-52s," Hargis offered as an example. "I could get involved in decisions affecting location, manpower and maintenance."

The research that went into the reserve's recent decision to establish a satellite monitoring unit is another example, Hargis said, of where a program

chief's expertise would be needed.

Hargis' military career includes more than 6,000 flying hours. Since earning his commission in 1966, Hargis has piloted transports, tankers and bombers. He flew more than 900 combat missions over Vietnam and later was commander of the 914th Tactical Air lift Group at Niagara, N.Y. before he became Westover's base commander.

Deputy Base Commander Col. Barry F. Monahan, an assistant vice president at Wellesley College, will work in Fort McPherson, Georgia as the Air Force liaison officer to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's regional headquarters.

He will gauge the Air Force's ability to aid FEMA during national emergencies. FEMA drew national attention when it assisted victims of Hurricane Andrew in Florida.

A 23-year reserve veteran, Monahan also served more than four years of active duty, including a Gulf war tour of duty.



Col. Thomas G. Hargis

Springtime postponed

By SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

March came in like a lion, but it seems the lamb will have to wait until April.

According to the calendar, spring officially began at 0941 hours on March 19. Taking a look out the window, though, reveals a chilling picture.

Around the base, snow removal trucks have been shifting around tons of snow. A blizzard blasted New England on March 12, leaving behind 14.6 inches of snow locally.

But despite groans from commuters and weary snow removal personnel, there is at least one area on base that is smiling all the way to the bank.

Chief of Recreational Services Mike McNichols said that seasonal rentals overall have risen 35 percent; ski rentals have doubled during the season.

"We have 6-8 snowmobiles rented every weekend - people are having a lot of fun in the snow," he said.

Chief Meteorologist Curt Osgood and his staff have had their hands full in recent months. "Last year we received 24 inches of snow. This year, we've received 60.2 inches from mid-November through March 22. Almost 30 inches of that was received in the first two weeks of March.

"There are a lot of things we can't see on radar - the March 5th storm that dumped up to three inches an hour came off the ocean - that kind of moisture is hard to pinpoint where it'll hit," Osgood said.



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

TWIN TOWERS -- A Westover snow removal vehicle creates a billowy white tower while clearing tons of snow from base ramps and runways.

Navy chaplain will address Clergy Day

Westover Air Reserve will host its annual Clergy Day, May 1 in the Blue Room of the Consolidated Open Mess, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Lt. Cmdr. James Robert Fisher, a Navy Chaplain, will describe experiences of his ministry in the Persian Gulf during Desert Storm. Chaplain Fisher is an ordained minister of the Evangelical Covenant Church. He is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University at Blacksburg, Va., and he obtained a master of divinity degree from North Park Theological

Seminary in Chicago. He is presently in a program of study at Yale Divinity School, working toward a Master of Sacred Theology in the area of ethics.

In addition to his military service, he has served congregations in the Appalachian Mountain communities of Jonesville and Wallens Creek, Va. and in Eskimo villages in Alaska.

Area clergy and the religious leaders of congregations serving Westover reservists have been invited to attend.

Pre-registration is required through the base Chaplain's office at ext. 3031.

Staff shuffle results in new unit; 439th LSS

By Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

In an effort to increase efficiency, personnel--both military and civilian--from four base units have been brought together to form Westover's newest unit, the 439th Logistics Support Squadron.

The move is part a new Air Force-wide policy that is structuring base organizations by function to make better use of their resources, said Lt.Col. Robert Dutton, 439th LSS commander.

Personnel from supply, transportation and the administrative staff attached

to the deputy commander for maintenance were assigned to the new unit. Supply and transportation is now managed by the squadron, which has existed since October and numbers 274 people, 148 of whom are reservists.

"Since supply and transportation work with maintenance, it made sense to put them in one organization," reasoned Dutton, who formerly commanded a mobility support flight and worked as a wing supply officer. "It's too early to tell if it's working."

Under the new system, there are no

civilian supervisors--it's an entire military structure. Dutton is commander during UTA weekends, while Capt. Cam LeBlanc, an air reserve technician, manages the unit during the week. SMSgt. Patricia Byrnes is the unit's first sergeant. Both officers report to Col. Harold Lawrence, deputy commander for maintenance.

The new squadron is one of four aircraft maintenance squadrons.

"We didn't lose any people," Dutton said of the reorganization. "We just wear different hats."

Mom and daughter Ranck near the top

Article and photos

By TSgt. Sandi Michon

Lisa Ranck doesn't take offense when someone says that her mother wears combat boots.

She wears them too.

The mother/daughter duo have seen their career paths - military and medical - cross twice. They are both reservists, both work at a local geriatric hospital, and they are scheduled to graduate from nursing school on the same day this May.

With a name like Ranck, it's only natural that military service is a family tradition. And it's only natural that such warm and compassionate women would become nurses.

The Rancks are a close-knit family, and while Lisa modeled the military example, her mom, Eleanor, led the way in the nursing field.

Actually, SSgt. Lisa Ranck, base operations specialist, was the first "Ranck-in-file" to follow her father's military footsteps, when she joined the Army in 1977. She is the oldest of five children and all but one have embraced military life. Her father, Robert, retired from Westover in 1984 after 28 years in the avionics field.

Lisa served four years as an air traffic



YES, MOM, ER, MAAM -- SSgt. Lisa Ranck, base operations specialist, returns a salute to 1st Lt. Eleanor Ranck, her mom, and U.S. Army nurse with the 405th Combat Hospital. In the background are other Ranck military members.

controller at Fort Carson, Colo., and joined the Air Force Reserve at Westover in 1981 as an operations specialist with the 731st TAS. During a two-year break-in-service, she worked for an insurance company in California from 1985-87.

Still searching for her career niche, she joined the Air National Guard in Westfield in 1987, and returned to college, earning an associate's degree in liberal arts.

In 1989, she rejoined the Air Force Reserve at Westover, and finally settled on a nursing career. "My mom said I always talked about being a nurse when I was growing up, but it didn't click until I began to work with my mom as a nurses' aide," explained Lisa.

Meanwhile, after the bumps and bruises of five children, Eleanor had plenty of informal medical training, but in 1983, she earned her formal LPN certification. She received her associate's degree in nursing in 1988. While pursuing her bachelor's degree in nursing, Eleanor struck up a conversation with a military recruiter in a shopping mall. "At 49-years-old, I thought I was just browsing, but I was also looking for some method of tuition assistance," she said.

Because of military medical staffing needs, she obtained an age waiver, and on Veteran's Day in 1989, she was sworn in as a U.S. Army nurse. She is now a first lieutenant with the 405th Combat Hospital in West Hartford, Conn.

"I've always been 'the wife of' or 'the mother of' someone. It's interesting to

see firsthand what my husband and children have experienced," said Lieutenant Ranck.

According to Eleanor, her husband and children have been very supportive of both her medical and military endeavors. It is obvious that they form a mutual admiration society, full of encouragement and respect.

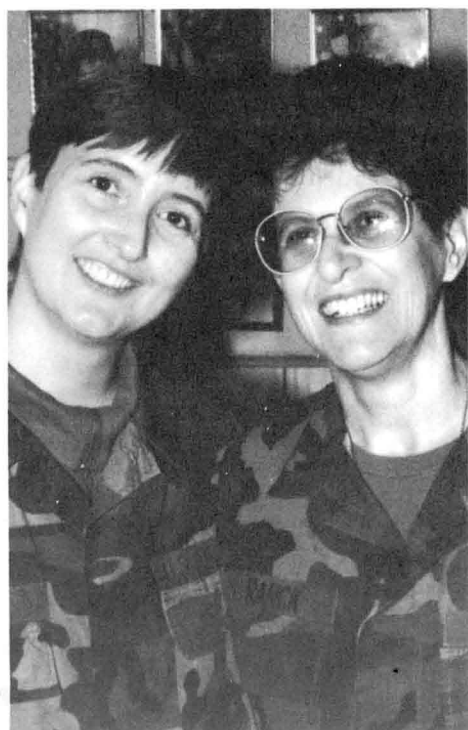
The mother-daughter relationship, though, is more like one of close friends. When they are together, good-natured banter is the order of the day as daughter inspects mother's uniform wear, and mom teasingly corrects her daughter's salute.

"We all get a kick out of seeing her in fatigues," said Lisa. "But we are very proud of what she has done. She's always been there for us."

Eleanor performed a tour of duty in Germany in 1990, and found the time working on a maternity ward an interesting change from her normal civilian job in geriatrics. She said she enjoys the people and the travel opportunities the military provides.

Lisa will graduate from American International College this spring, and her mom from Elms College the same day.

Whether playing the role of nurse or military officer, Eleanor remains devoted as a wife and mother. As her husband lamented over the graduations scheduled for the same day, Eleanor gently but firmly deferred the limelight to her daughter. "I want every one to celebrate Lisa's graduation," she said.



AT EASE -- Lisa (left) and her mom, Eleanor share military and nursing careers.

Keeping the heat on

Article and photos
by SrA. Mike Lyman

When Bob Krysten Jr. lets off a little steam on the job, every one at Westover knows it.

As the chief operating engineer for Westover's Central Heating Plant, Krysten's job is full of pressure--in fact, about 140 pounds of pressure per square inch.

As Westover's primary boiler room, the Central Heating Plant has the enormous task of heating most of the base's buildings. To do so, the plant pumps steam at temperatures of more than 300-320 degrees Fahrenheit through miles of underground pipes to reach the buildings.

Under this searing heat and pressure, mishaps occur all too frequently which threaten to shut down the boilers and cut off the heat. Yet, the plant's operating engineers and maintenance mechanics, working as a team, make constant adjustments and repairs to keep the buildings warm.

The operators, whose primary concern is to keep the boilers running, monitor oil consumption, steam production and water usage. When faulty readings reveal a problem, the maintenance mechanics must immediately locate and repair the culprit.

"If we had to shut down a boiler for any reason, it would take up to two days to get back to full production," said Chief Operating Engineer Bob Krysten Jr. "In the meantime, pipes could freeze up causing a lot of damage. That's the primary reason we have four boilers. Normally, we run on one boiler in 30-degree weather, two in 20-degree weather or below.

"Lighting a boiler is an experience in itself," Krysten said. "In some ways it's like flying an airplane in that it's taken for granted until something goes wrong. With two of the four oil-fired boilers standing nearly three stories high, one mistake lighting a boiler would easily level the building."

Maintenance mechanics face a different set of problems.

"We're always doing a lot of maintenance repair," said maintenance mechanic Neil Major. "The challenging part is trying to locate the specific problem. A single room may contain 20 to 30



THERMAL ENERGY--The Central Heating Plant (right), supplies heat to most of the buildings on base throughout the winter months. Mechanic Neil Major (lower right), makes repairs in a steam pit. The pits house much of the support which allows pipes to safely expand. A 100-foot-long pipe, for example, can expand in length as much as one foot, creating extreme gasket problems where the pipes connect. Escaping steam inside the pits can raise temperatures to 140 degrees Fahrenheit and above. Operator Roger Martin (left) checks one of many boiler controls in the heating plant's control room.



pieces of equipment that could have a defect or a leak. Ninety-nine percent of the time you're relying on your past experience to solve the problem."

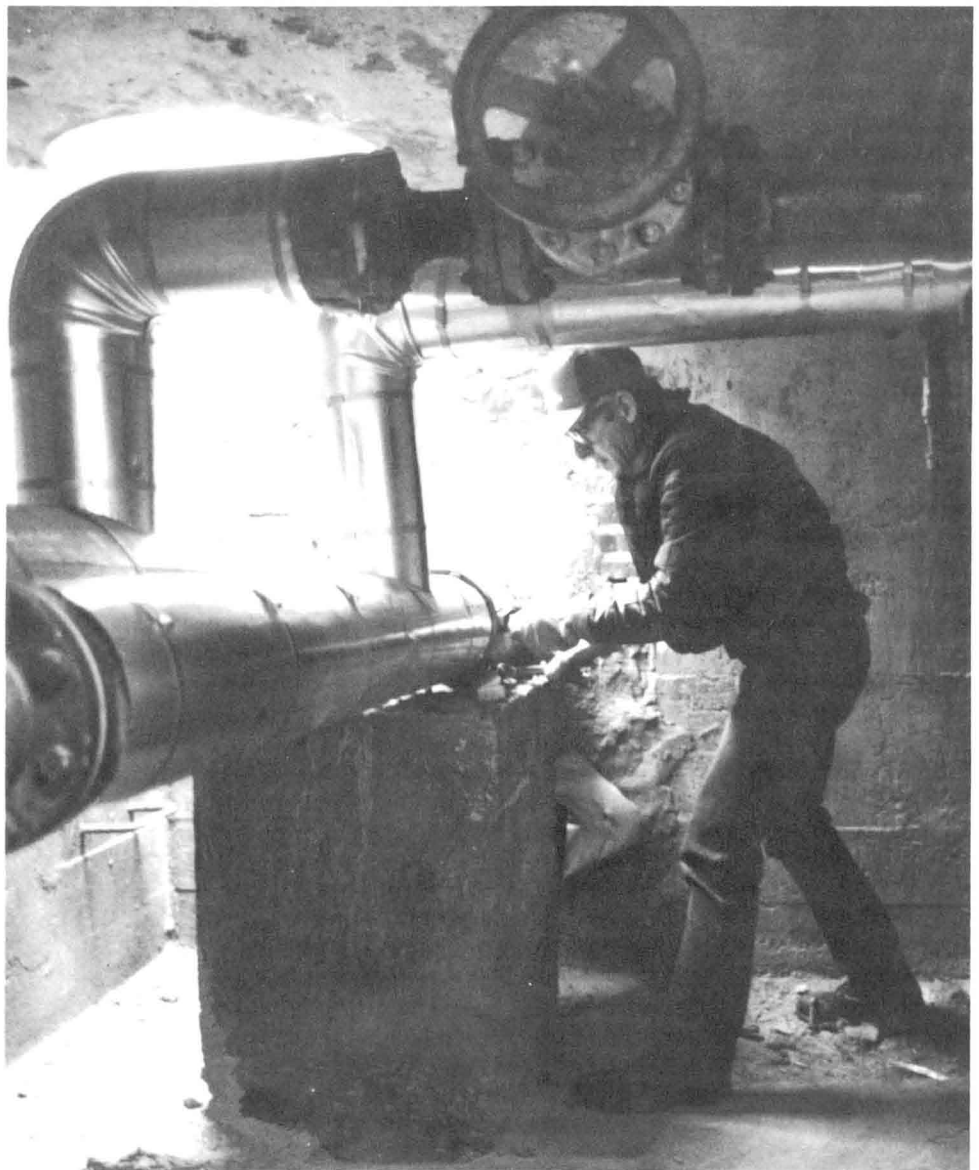
Although most leaks occur in the gaskets which secure the pipes, finding them requires the most time and risk.

"Anytime you're working under a lot of pressure it's very dangerous," said boiler operator Wayne Fuller. "With steam temperatures in excess of 150 degrees (Fahrenheit), even a small leak could have severe consequences if you were in a confined area. Just touching the pipes would be like putting your hand on a hot stove."

Even without mishaps, a smooth-running system doesn't guarantee a satisfied customer. Hangars seem to create the biggest headaches.

"The hangars are challenging for a couple of reasons," said boiler operator Lou Braica. "First, if you open one hangar door on a cold day, 10 to 12 heaters start crying for steam. To meet the need, we may have to light another boiler. Secondly, people don't realize the hangars were not originally designed for offices and with our present system, it's impossible to keep them heated at a constant temperature--but we'll keep trying."

Though the passing of winter will ease the heating plant's burden, warmer temperatures bring the operators and mechanics little respite. For the next six months they will clean the boilers and make major repairs in the piping system in preparation for next winter. If all goes well, Westover will have another season of taking their heat for granted.



Diffley's retirement leaves void in budget office

Article and photo by SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

After more than 40 years of planning military budgets and managing Air Force funds, retiring Base Budget Officer John Diffley is thinking about the "bottom line."

"I look at retirement as living your life to the fullest - especially doing all those things you've wanted to do in the past years, but never seemed to find the time then."

The 65-year-old Indian Orchard resident started yet another chapter in his life as a newly-retired person at the close of the work day on March 3.

Comptroller Ray Gilbert said that with the retirement of Diffley, there is a tremendous void in the office. "To me, he's like a brother. He's a top-notch person who has had a tremendous impact on the entire operation here."

Gilbert added that not only did he feel like he was losing a good friend, but that the base was losing an extremely talented man as well.

"It will be impossible to find someone with as much knowledge as John has," Gilbert said when asked who would fill Diffley's shoes.

In 1966, Diffley retired with 20 years of Air Force active duty service, and since 1967 has been working as a civilian in the budget and accounting and finance fields.

Diffley is no stranger to Westover. After serving an active

duty tour here from 1960 to 1965, Diffley returned in civilian capacity in 1967 as the Budget Officer with the Eastern Communication Region, (Air Force Communication Service). He remained there until 1970.

After a seven year absence, Diffley returned to Westover as the non-appropriated funds financial management officer with the 439th Combat Support Group.

Diffley was then transferred to Air Force Reserve Headquarters at Robins AFB, GA., in 1985, but was forced to resign due to an illness in Feb., 1986.

In July, 1987, Diffley re-entered civil service here as the Personal Budget Accounting Service budget analyst for the 439th CSG, and was promoted to budget officer in November of that year.

Two major highlights of Diffley's career came in 1991 when he was named Air Force Budget Civilian of the Year, as well as AF Reserve Unit Budget Officer of the Year.

"Those awards showed exactly what we had here at Westover," Gilbert said, "the best of the best."

As he sits at his desk and reflects on his long career, Diffley's tanned, somewhat weathered face floods with memories.

"It was a tough decision to retire - this has been my life, but I'm tired now."

It is time to do the things my wife and I have been wanting to do for years."



John Diffley

SMSgt. James Hughes retires, ends 33-year career

By MSgt. Tom Allocco

SMSgt. James Hughes retired at the end of March as airfield management superintendent to conclude a 33-year career.

Hughes joined the Air Force from his home in Ohio in 1955 and served on active duty for five years as an air operations dispatcher, including duty in Spain.

As a reservist he served as an air operations dispatcher from 1962 to 1964 in an Air Force Reserve recovery squadron in Boston. He also served at Grenier AFB, Manchester, N.H. and from 1966 to 1974 he was command post controller at Hanscom AFB with the 901st TAS. He came here with the squadron in 1974 and was shortly after named airfield management supervisor.

A CB enthusiast, Hughes helped organize other hobbyists in a Community Action Team in Boston. They have been widely praised for assisting police and touring in high crime areas.

As airfield management supervisor he supervised and trained 16 dispatchers.

Hughes lives in Mattapan, outside Boston, and has been employed as a Sears sales representative since leaving active duty.



SMSgt. James Hughes



50 years ago

Demise of the wolf packs

the losses are critical. The U-boats continue to overwhelm the escorts and sink the merchant ships faster than they can be built. In 1942 alone, U-boat wolf packs account for 7,700,000 tons of shipping, sinking 1,675 cargo ships.

As a result, the defeat of the U-boat is given top priority by Roosevelt and Churchill in January 1943.

But U-boat production has been Germany's top priority since late 1942 and by early 1943, the U-boat fleet has doubled in size from the previous year.

The Battle of the Atlantic reaches a climax in early March when two large convoys totaling 77 merchant ships, sailing from Halifax to Britain, are intercepted by a wolf pack of 20 U-boats.

The decisive encounter begins disastrously for the Allies. Within three days, 12 merchant ships are sunk. After two weeks, 21 merchant ships have been sunk for the loss of one U-boat.

Though there is no doubt that this particular convoy battle is a serious defeat for the Allies, there is a glimmer

of hope.

By the end of the month, escort carriers and support groups, having been released from the North Africa "Torch" convoys, begin operating in the U-boat infested mid-North Atlantic waters providing the convoys with maximum protection.

The escort carriers and support groups enter the conflict with a dazzling array of new technology, tactics and air cover which bring about a swift, decisive change in the Battle of the Atlantic.

By the end of April, Allied shipping losses have dropped considerably, losing 245,000 tons of merchant shipping for the month while the escorts sink 15 U-boats. Though the four-year-long battle is far from over, the tide has finally turned.

Elsewhere in the war, German troops in occupied Russia uncover a mass grave with 4,500 Polish officers, once Russian prisoners. German propagandists fail to create a rift between the Russians and the West as the Allies shelve the whole question of responsibility until war's end.

By SrA. Mike Lyman

In the Atlantic, Germany's biggest threat to Allied shipping--the U-boats--continue to take a tremendous toll of merchant shipping and threaten to cut the lifeline between the U.S. and Britain.

Even with the U.S. industry's ability to build a cargo ship in less than a day,

AFRES band brings anti-drug message to area students

WEST SPRINGFIELD-- They belted out their message with unmistakable clarity to hundreds of fascinated students: **DON'T DO DRUGS, STAY IN SCHOOL!**

The mix of pop music combined with strong anti-drug messages provided a unique way of educating children ages eight and up as to the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

They are the Command Band of the Air Force Reserve's popular musical combo, "Reserve Generation." Like all members of the bands, they are active duty Air Force musicians who work to support various Air Force Reserve community relation objectives.

Band publicist and saxophonist Sgt. Keith Munn said that Reserve Generation is the only show band in the Air Force Reserve with a drug-free theme.

"This is the most worthwhile program I have been in for the Air Force-- obviously other bands also feel the same way because some will soon start to incorporate shows with similar messages."

The band made four performances in the area over a two-day period in early March, singing out their message to a

total of 4,000 school children and area youth groups. All of their shows were played at West Springfield High School's auditorium.

Dr. James Mundy, who is occupational, educational and technical services director for West Springfield High School, was instrumental putting the performances together.

"The positive response to the band has been tremendous - we hope that they can return next year. Their message fits right in with the area D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse and Resistance Education) programs.

The group is assigned to headquarters AFRES at Warner-Robins AFB, Ga. "We are funded by the Air Force Reserve and since Westover is a Reserve base, we

were able to make the trip here. Normally, our territory is the southeastern part of the country. It will be a great addition to have other bands in different regions able to bring the drug-free message to more kids, Munn said."

TSgt. Bob Chagnon, a reserve recruiter assigned to Westover, helped co-ordinate the tremendous effort. "It involved a lot of help from the aerial ports units, base transportation and billeting. Everything went well, and I'm pleased that the group could bring their message to Western Massachusetts," he said.

All concerts were presented free as a public service by the U.S. Air Force.

SSgt Nancy Wilochka

Patriot Tiger to be held here again

Westover Air Reserve Base will again this year, host Patriot Tiger, a 14th Air Force exercise designed to train aerial port personnel in support of airlift operations.

CMSgt. Ron Ploof, who organizes the exercise, said 11 aerial port units will be participating from July 11 to Aug. 15 in the Dogpatch area.

"We will be training with C-130s, C-141s and C-5s and will support regional military units in their deployments," he said.

Units training include: 53rd MAPS, 51st APS, 90APS, 76APS, 49APS, 85 APS, 80 MAPS, 38 APS, 32 MAPS, 40 MAPS and 87 APS.

Chiefs' Council offering 10 scholarships again this year

By MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

The Westover Air Reserve Base Chief's Council will again this year, award 10 \$300 scholarships to eligible applicants.

According to CMSgt. Larry Lose, chairman of the scholarship committee, candidates must be either dependents of current 439th Airlift Wing enlisted reservists or be reservists themselves.

Lose also said candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have been accepted by or are attending any accredited college or

university, carrying a minimum of six credit hours per semester.

2. If entering college, an applicant must have maintained a scholastic rating of a "B" average or better during their senior year of high school. If in college, have a cumulative average of at least 2.75.

3. Submit an autobiography, to include any outside extracurricular or scholastic activities.

4. Submit a letter of recommendation from a school official.

All candidates and their applications will be screened by the chiefs' council scholarship committee and winners will

be notified prior to the awards being presented.

A presentation dinner for winners and their guests is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 8. Scholarship winners will be guests of the Chiefs' Council at the dinner while parents and guests will be expected to pay their own way.

All applications must be submitted no later than June 20, 1993.

Application forms are available at unit orderly rooms or the one shown on this page may be used. Completed applications should be mailed to CMSgt. Larry Lose, 439 MSSQ/CES, 250 Patrick Ave Suite 2, Westover ARB, Mass. 01022.

439th AW Westover Chiefs' Council scholarship application

Student's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ School attended _____

School address _____

Class standing _____ Scholastic rating _____

College desired _____

Address _____

Date accepted _____ Major/course selected _____

Name of 439th AW reservist/parent _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit assigned _____ rank _____

Length of service _____

Length of service in 439th AW _____

Return to: CMSgt. Larry Lose, 439th SG/CES, Westover ARB, Mass. 01022

Patriot People

Name: Larry Parker
Rank: Sgt.
Age: 41
Address: Turners Falls, Mass.
Unit: 439 AGS/Iso Dock
Position: Crew Chief/Iso inspector
Civilian position: ART
Favorite food: Chinese
Years of service: 21
Favorite sport: Stock car racing
Favorite hobby: Fixing cars
Ideal vacation: Trans Atlantic cruise
Best way to relax: Hiking/playing with kid
Preferred entertainment: Movies
Favorite celebrity: Patrick Swayze
Favorite music: Country
Favorite book: WWII stories
Favorite color: Green
Favorite car: 57 Chevy
Pet peeve: None
Best thing about Westover: People I work with
Worst thing about Westover: Commuting



SrA. Mike Lyman

TSgt. Larry Parker

PROMOTIONS

CMSgt. Brogis, Roger J.
 SMSgt. Cole, Earl W. Jr.
 SMSgt. Kurek, Richard S.
 SMSgt. Speidel, John J.
 MSgt. Benoit, Ronald R.
 MSgt. Bronner, Doreen A.
 MSgt. Castro, James A.
 MSgt. Gallagher, James J.
 MSgt. Gundersen, David H.
 MSgt. Hirschler, Richard
 MSgt. Labrecque, Richard N.
 MSgt. Lacasse, David P.
 MSgt. Rosen, Mary A.
 MSgt. Sweet, Richard R.
 MSgt. Tinnemeyer, John W.
 MSgt. Wilson, John J. Jr.
 TSgt. Anthony, James F.
 TSgt. Nichols, David L.
 SSgt. Beach, Jeffrey S.
 SSgt. Benjamin, Robert P. Jr.
 SSgt. Bernier, Mark R.
 SSgt. Biron, Kenneth E.
 SSgt. Charest, Kenneth T.
 SSgt. Clement, John N.
 SSgt. Difabio, William E.
 SSgt. Green, Lawrence D.
 SSgt. Hunter, Marla W.
 SSgt. Kelso, Donna J.
 SSgt. Leamy, Gerald M.
 SSgt. Mills, Leonard
 SSgt. Myrdek, Renee A.
 SSgt. Perkins, Leone D.
 SSgt. Robinson, Alan J.
 SSgt. Santamauro, Andrew
 SSgt. Smith, Anthony N.
 SSgt. Smith, Glenn R. Jr.
 SSgt. Steiner, Donald M.
 SSgt. Thivierge, Robert J.
 SSgt. Torres, Raymond
 SrA. Balfe, Patrick E.
 SrA. Coughlin, Warren M. Jr.
 SrA. Delano, Robert J.

SrA. Downs, Michael J.
 SrA. Dyer, Jon E.
 SrA. Early, Kimberly A.
 SrA. Flatten, James D.
 SrA. Forrester, Dana S.
 SrA. Gauntt, Kevin P.
 SrA. Gilbert, Stephen M.
 SrA. Girard, Nicole J.
 SrA. Jolicoeur, Dwayne D.
 SrA. Laurie, Matthew S.
 SrA. Lockwood, Jared M.
 SrA. Merrill, John R.
 SrA. Ransom, Gregory T.
 SrA. Rodriguez, Ruth J.
 SrA. Rondeau, Thomas P. Jr.
 SrA. Smallidge, Andrew J.
 SrA. Valez, Johnny W.
 SrA. Vona, James F.
 SrA. Warmesley, Floyd III.
 SrA. Williams, John H.
 A1C Anderson, Allen M. Jr.
 A1C Daddona, Michael K.
 A1C Graham, David H.
 A1C Green, Kendall C.
 A1C Joyner, Keith J.
 A1C Moskal, Richard A.
 A1C Walker, Christopher C.
 Amn. Beaudry, Keith M.
 Amn. Smith, Jason E.

REENLISTMENTS

SMSgt. Head, George E.
 MSgt. Andreoli, Robert J.
 MSgt. Bronner, Doreen A.
 MSgt. Frappier, Paul L.
 MSgt. Gadbois, George F.
 MSgt. Godek, Frank S.
 MSgt. Herens, Michael L.
 MSgt. Hoagland, John L.
 MSgt. King, Kenneth B.

Patriot Praises

MSgt. Mascaro, Robert L.
 MSgt. Whitehead, Jeffrey A.
 TSgt. Alken, Jerrold, J.
 TSgt. Bogner, Richard T.
 TSgt. Bowman, Samuel G.
 TSgt. Faust, Peter A.
 TSgt. Frankiewicz, David J.
 TSgt. Gaglione, Thomas G.
 TSgt. Hirschler, Richard
 TSgt. Lucas, Jack A.
 TSgt. Moul, Richard A.
 TSgt. Parker, Lawrence E.
 TSgt. Pierce, Thomas J.
 TSgt. Ross, Steven E.
 TSgt. Ryan, Lester W. III.
 TSgt. Talbot, Donald R.
 TSgt. Vaughan, Heidi
 TSgt. Yankus, Paul A.
 SSgt. Abood, Mitchell D.
 SSgt. Ash, Deborah E.
 SSgt. Bates, Randy J.
 SSgt. Beaman, Glenn A.
 SSgt. Benmaor, Steven
 SSgt. Bennett, Ernesto A.
 SSgt. Bergeron, Richard
 SSgt. Border, Michael T.
 SSgt. Burnell, Timothy A.
 SSgt. Cameron, Anthony C.
 SSgt. Cline, Vonzell C.
 SSgt. Cormier, Jeffrey M.
 SSgt. Dunne, Edward W.
 SSgt. Fields, Richard L.
 SSgt. Geissler, Eric H.
 SSgt. Goodman, James
 SSgt. Hathaway, David J.
 SSgt. Konunchuk, James J.
 SSgt. LaFlamme, Paul C. II.
 SSgt. Laroche, James B.
 SSgt. Lawlor, Daniel P.
 SSgt. Lee, Roderick M.
 SSgt. Martuzas, Richard J.

SSgt. Morgenstern, Peter T.
 SSgt. Morton, John C.
 SSgt. Nuendom, Surat
 SSgt. OBoyle, Edward R.
 SSgt. Parise, Andrew P.
 SSgt. Perno, Bradley T.
 SSgt. Ritchens, Euclid B.
 SSgt. Sherter, Saul
 SSgt. Smith, Dirk N.
 SSgt. Sneed, Robert R.
 SSgt. Tanguay, John R.
 SSgt. Tatko, Lauraine N.
 SSgt. Turner, Daniel J.
 SSgt. Williams, Thomas R.
 SSgt. Wood, Jean-Pierre
 Sgt. Hooker, David
 Sgt. Kolis, Michael S.
 SrA. Anderson, David L.
 SrA. Boucher, Daniel R.
 SrA. Galligan, Dean P.
 SrA. Gevry, Mark H.
 SrA. Hovick, Michael A.
 SrA. Larson, Wesley G.
 SrA. Lavardi, Dominic L.
 SrA. Williams, Ronald
 SrA. Thompson, Wayne C.
 A1C Albland, Andrew J.
 A1C McNichol, Craig C.

ENLISTMENTS

MSgt. Lozanski, Barbara A.
 SSgt. Aaron, Douglas F.
 SSgt. Houghton, Joseph J.
 SSgt. Thomas, Glenn W.
 Sgt. Manning, Lowell T.
 SrA. Allen, Charles D.
 SrA. Brown, Andre
 SrA. Poltrino, Dennis P.
 SrA. Roblyer, Eric J.
 SrA. Santore, Joseph M.
 A1C Acker, James W.
 A1C Destefano, Teri A.
 AB Buck, Samuel W.

Base Exchange payback aids MWR

By SSgt F. X. Kelley

On any given UTA weekend, chances are some of us will overlook the opportunity to purchase quality merchandise at the lowest possible price and devoid of sales tax. It's not due to passing-up a visit to the local strip mall or shopping center, either, but rather by neglecting to stop into the home of the area's best buys--the base exchange (BX).

"The base exchange belongs to every service member and is operated for two purposes only: to provide merchandise and service and to fund local morale and welfare activities," says acting chief, MWR Services John Filler.

The exchange endeavors to supply a wide variety of products to serve individual and family needs. Whether it's stocking merchandise items like chewing gum or refrigerator freezers, or providing personal services such as cutting hair or cashing checks, BX officials are sensitive to customer wants, brand preferences, and pricing.

A strict and aggressive quality control program, a satisfaction guaranteed policy, and a commitment to providing an average 20 percent savings to exchange shoppers are key elements in encouraging customers to return.

The exchange also serves as a consumer watchdog by constantly monitoring savings goals, thereby ensuring that only first-quality merchandise is provided at the possible lowest price.

According to WARB officials, approximately \$100,000 annually is returned to base MWR services via profits from exchange sales.

As a matter of fact, an independent survey conducted for the exchanges by the A. C. Nielsen Company ensures that the 20% savings goal is maintained.

On a worldwide basis, exchanges have poured more than one billion dollars back into the military community in the form of libraries, youth centers, hobby shops, recreational areas and athletic equipment over the past 10 years, according to Westover base exchange manager, J.A. Bustamante.

"Shopping at our exchange, both saves servicemembers money and assists in funding the MWR program. A percentage of total base exchange sales remains here to fund local Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities," says Bustamante. According to WARB officials, approximately \$100,000 annually is

returned to base MWR services via profits from exchange sales.

Perhaps one of the best options available to exchange shoppers is the "guaranteed best price" in the area for all goods. The exchange features a "Dare to Compare" display, which illustrates the savings one can realize by shopping on base by listing prices at off-base stores with those at the exchange.

And in the event a product is offered for less elsewhere, shoppers need only to bring in the competition's price brochure or flyer and the price will be matched. And of course, there's no sales tax whatsoever.

When one combines these features with that of the convenience of on-base shopping, it makes no sense to buy elsewhere.

PATRIOT



Published monthly for Patriots like SrA. Charles Gablaski of Spencer, Mass., and 2,926 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB.

HQ 439TH AIRLIFT WING
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE, MA 01022-5000
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BULK RATE
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
PERMIT NO. 61