

PATRIOT

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439th cops Rodeo event at Little Rock

Article and photos
by SrA. Mike Lyman

LITTLE ROCK AFB, ARK.-- Fierce competition and grueling 95-degree heat were the highlights of this year's Airlift Rodeo.

When it was all over, the 439th C-5 "A"-team had overcome both to win a security police event while placing second in the air refueling competition.

This year's Rodeo was hosted by Little Rock AFB, Ark., June 5-12. Like the Navy's "Top Gun," the competition is designed to strengthen individual skills and promote teamwork while fostering friendly interservice and international relations.

This year marked the first time since 1986 Westover has sent a contingent to compete in the Rodeo. Not surprising, this was the first year C-5s were scheduled to compete in the event with Westover entering the only "A" model of the four Galaxies taking part in the competition.

The other three C-5 teams included an active duty unit from Travis AFB, Cal. and both an active and reserve unit from Dover AFB, Del.

In addition to the C-5 teams, C-130, C-141, KC-130, KC-10 and KC-135 teams from 11 different countries also competed in Rodeo '93. All totaled, some 68 aircraft and over 1,500 competitors were on hand for the 13th international air mobility competition.

Westover's 28-member contingent, lead by Lt. Col. Gale French, included

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ARMED FORCE--SSgt. Richard Hooper, 439th SPS security policeman, cleans his M-16 moments before beginning the Rodeo 1993 combat patrol event at Little Rock AFB, Ark. Westover's five-man security police team would rely heavily on Hooper's right arm which provided the event-winning grenade toss.

AAFES Deferred Payment Plan debuts at Westover

By SSgt F. X. Kelley

Envision a credit program which accepts just about everyone, requires no plastic card other than a military ID, has no annual fee, and extends payments up to three years in palatable monthly doses.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES) now offers just such a program -- the Deferred Payment Plan (DPP).

"The DPP has been in Europe for approximately 10 years, but has been just recently implemented in the continental United States," says Westover base exchange manager Javier Bustamante.

The plan favors lower-income applicants, who usually don't qualify for credit through traditional means.

"The DPP facilitates credit to junior-ranking members since it requires less disposable income than plans offered by other retailers," says Bustamante.

DPP users are allowed to purchase almost any exchange product under extended payment terms of up to 36 months. An annual interest rate, currently 12 percent, is charged for the service.

Since making its debut here June 4, the DPP has encouraged more than 160 BX patrons to apply for the opportunity to buy now and pay later.

The DPP can also be used to charge special orders, home delivery, product assembly and automotive repair. It may not be used at Class Six stores, theaters or food activities, or for alcohol and gasoline purchases. Present layaway program users may immediately convert to the plan.

This new AAFES credit service is available to active duty personnel from all branches of service, Reservists, National Guard members, AAFES associates, military and AAFES retirees, and family members with exchange privileges. Ineligible are those whose check cashing privileges have been

suspended, and individuals in paygrade E-1 with more than six months of service.

For reservists, DPP eligibility processing requires the presentation of a military identification card, a copy of a Leave and Earnings Statement, proof of additional outside income, and the completion of an application form, which is available at the exchange customer service counter. Application review is performed locally. In most instances, applicants can receive "on-the-spot" approval. Concurrently, a credit line is established. Once approved, the DPP can be used immediately.

Since making its debut here June 4, the DPP has encouraged more than 160 BX patrons to apply for the opportunity to buy now and pay later.

Westover base exchange officials are projecting a 10 percent boost in sales because of the DPP. In addition, an anticipated increase in the purchase of major items, such as computers, appliances and entertainment systems, will drive an expansion of the "big-ticket" product line to meet consumer demands.

Sand and sun -- but little fun -- for 74th medical team

A three-person medical team from the 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron will be spending the next two months rotating week-long stays between Cairo and Mogadishu.

TSgt. William Carter, 33, of Worcester, 1 Lt. Martha Soper, 32, of Nashua, N.H. and SSgt. Jason Harder, 25, of Northampton are serving voluntary tours which have included evacuating injured United Nation peacekeepers ambushed by Somali forces.

The attack--the most deadly on U.N. forces in 32 years--killed 23 Pakistani soldiers. It left three Americans and 54 Pakistanis wounded.

Harder was part of a medical team of four nurses, four medical technicians and three interpreters who accompanied

the wounded Pakistanis back home. He said that despite their grim condition, the soldiers remained upbeat.

"There were lots of amputations," Harper said in a telephone interview from Cairo after returning from Pakistan. "They were traumatized, but their spirits were high."

The wounded were flown to Pakistan by a C-141 Starlifter assigned to Charleston AFB, S.C.

Evacuation missions leave Cairo each week for Somalia then return to Cairo where a fresh crew then flies the remainder of the trip to Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Harder, who just extended his tour another 30 days, is staying at a Cairo hotel. Soper and Carter are in Somalia.

A fulltime sociology student at the University of Massachusetts with an eye on law school, Harder said the tour came at an opportune time.

"It was ideal for me," he said. "My professors let me take my finals two weeks early."

But the experience isn't your typical summer break.

"Within five minutes you're soaked," Harder said of the stifling 90-110 degree daily temperatures.

Harder said he stayed in a U.N. Somali compound restricted to military personnel.

"Helmets and flak vests are mandatory," he said.

Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

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439th AW Commander

Col. James P. Czekanski

Chief of Public Affairs

Gordon A. Newell

Wing Public Affairs Officers

Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

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

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SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

SrA. Michael Lyman

Karen Paquette

Reserve represented for first time

Maj. Denny Jobses attends NATO women's conference

By Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

The world became a bit smaller, and the horizon a bit taller, for Westover's Maj. Denny Jobses recently.

Jobses, the 439th Airlift Wing's director of military personnel, was one of 30 U.S. representatives at the Conference on Women in NATO Forces which was held in Brussels, Belgium, May 31- June 3.

Armed forces personnel from 14 of the 16 NATO nations attended the meeting at NATO headquarters and dealt with such issues as integrated training, the growing worldwide role of women in the military, leadership training and family support.

"I was amazed to discover that despite our differences as nations, the problems and issues were the same regardless of whether you were from the United Kingdom, Greece or the United States, Jobses said.

This year's conference marked the first time that NATO invited reservists to attend, and Jobses was selected to represent the Air Force Reserve.

The Westover officer said that participating at the NATO meeting was one of the highlights of her military career.

"There's no other forum like it in the world," she said. "It promotes international friendships and a spirit of cooperation which are extremely worthwhile."

According to Jobses, one of the most

interesting speeches at the conference was an address by Maj. Svetlana N. Churkanova, a military officer from the Confederation of Independent States (formerly the Soviet Union.)

Churkanova, an officer with the CIS defense ministry's department of ecology and special protection, spoke about the role of military women in Russia before and after the collapse of communism.

"Her main message was that opportunities should not be limited due to gender," said Jobses. Jobses added that the irony of a female Russian officer addressing a meeting of the organization formed to counter the "Soviet threat" was "not lost" on any of the NATO representatives.

The major said that she was also very impressed with the remarks given by Ellen P. Murdoch, the primary U.S. delegate, and Chairperson of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

Murdoch provided the conference with an update on military women's issues within the United States, and highlighted the significant changes in assignment policy which were announced April 28 by Secretary of Defense Les Aspin.

"By including women in our armed forces, we increase the talent pool—we gain access to high quality recruits,"

Murdoch said in her address to the NATO group. "That can only improve the quality of the force. In opening additional positions to women, Secretary Aspin has moved the services in the direction of choosing the best person for the job, regardless of gender."

Jobses said that at the conclusion of the four-day conference, the delegates voted to make several recommendations to their national military leadership.

Among them were recommendations that individual member countries promote the use of women in NATO's new, multi-national force structure, increase their awareness of the growing importance of adequate family support policies, promote equity in training and educational opportunities, and foster training for officers and enlisted personnel which includes positive attitudes about the utilization and integration of women.

"I was really impressed," said Jobses, who has recommended that the Air Force continue to send Reservists to future NATO conferences. "The conference significantly increased my level of understanding, not only about women's issues, but also about international military and geopolitical events.

"It was a tremendous honor and privilege for me to attend," she concluded.

Shoppette under construction

Mr. Javier Bustamate, (left) general manager of the Westover Exchange, and Col. James Czekanski, 439th AW commander, begin the new shoppette project with the traditional ground breaking during a ceremony July 7. The new shoppette will be built at no expense to the taxpayer. The funds are generated through AAFES facilities. The complex is being built at the corner of Second Avenue and Outer Drive by Springfield-based Fontaine Bros. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Photo by SrA. Mike Lyman



Booker assumes command of the 439th CES

by SSgt. Christine Mora

In one way or another, Lt. Col. Wayne Booker has been a co-pilot his whole Air Force career. Now, he's finally ready to fly solo.

The former B-52 flier assumed command of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron May 3, and it's a job he's been practicing for a long time.

"I worked with Lt. Col. William Garrity (the previous CES commander) for the past 14 years," he explained. "We had a good working relationship, and I gained great insight about the inner workings of the squadron."

Booker cites his active duty tour during Desert Storm as another good primer for his new role as commander. When more than 120 members of his unit were activated in 1991, he served as officer in charge.

The new commander said he hopes to maintain a good relationship with his troops. "I want to be a very people-oriented leader," he said. "It is the people who make the unit run-- they are the lifeblood of the program."

Booker's people-first mentality makes him an ideal choice, according to MSgt. Mike Garceau, supervisor of the squadron's Roads and Grounds Shop. "There's no way they could have picked a better commander," Garceau said. "Colonel Booker is honest and straight



"It is the people who make the unit run -- they are the lifeblood of the program."

Lt. Col. Wayne Booker

forward, and our people respect and look up to him. I can't say enough good about the man."

Booker said he feels it's important to keep people motivated and well-cared for, and he finds this task one of his biggest challenges.

"I don't want to be an office manager, I want to be out there with my people," the colonel said. "I'm going work harder to manage my time so I can spend more time in the shops."

This will probably be very difficult, he said with a smile, "because my first UTA has been filled with a barrage of meetings and a mountain of paperwork."

The younger troops are also top priority with the new commander. "I

want to identify and nurture the potential of our younger personnel," he said. "Too often they are influenced by experienced, older troops. I want them to realize that their input is valuable and encourage them to speak up."

He applauds his predecessor Garrity and hopes to maintain his tradition of readiness. "The colonel got us where we are today, and handed down a great deal of knowledge and experience," he said.

As a civilian, the New Jersey native has worked as a design supervisor with the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics in Groton, Conn., for the last 19 years. He resides in Noank, Conn., with his wife, Joan, and daughters, Jennifer and Nancy.

Cintron has busy first day as social actions chief

by SSgt. Christine Mora

On his first day as Westover's new Social Actions officer, Maj. Carlos Cintron started learning under fire.

The 439th's latest addition began his new career on the June UTA and in addition to unpacking boxes and moving furniture, immediately jumped into the social issues that come with the job. Cintron responded to a test that came back positive for drugs at the USAF Clinic and counseled two reservists who had alcohol-related problems.

While this hectic introduction might overwhelm some, Cintron eagerly sinks his teeth into his new job. He filled the position formerly held by his new boss, Col. Ben Goff, now 439th Mission Support Squadron commander.

"This job is a challenge I've been waiting to attack for many years," said the soft-spoken major. "I've been interested in the Social Actions field, but was always told I had more expertise in computers."

Cintron had been a commander and data processing officer for 14 years at Barnes ANG. Prior to his commission in 1981, Cintron was an enlisted computer operator.

While he spent most of his time helping computer operators

solve programming problems, Cintron yearned to reach out and help on a more personal level.

"I've known many problem folks," said the major. "My brother was one of many I've known with drug problems and sadly, he was killed in a drug-related incident."

The major is a native of Puerto Rico and moved to East Harlem, N.Y., as a young boy. "My upbringing in the ghetto environment gave me great familiarity with problem-stricken people," he said.

Cintron now lives in East Longmeadow and said he sees many troubled people in the suburbs as well. "My exposure to both sides of the spectrum gives me a great understanding of all kinds of people," he explained. "I hope to bring this empathy to my job here at Westover."

Cintron's new boss said he's confident that the major will be very effective in his new role. "I've known Major Cintron to be a sincere, diligent, hardworking person who is extremely interested in helping people," said Goff.

As a civilian, Cintron is a systems analyst at Mercy Hospital in Springfield. He has been married to his wife, Marie, for 31 years and they have four children: Natalie, Nicholas, Nanette, and Michael.

Humorist knows where to draw the line

By Kymberly Saganski

SSgt. William C. Pope is a funny guy.

A member of the 933rd Civil Engineering Squadron, Griffiss AFB, N.Y., the young man is also the creator of Pope's Puns, a popular cartoon featured regularly in Citizen Airman magazine.

His artist's eye sees humor in everything and no situation, or high-ranking official, is sacred.

While on active duty at Kadena AB, Japan, Pope heard a story about a crew chief who liked to chew tobacco while working on the flightline. A full-bird colonel was walking beneath the plane when the crew chief leaned out a window and spit on him. Pope's subsequent cartoon of the sputtering colonel quickly drew the officer's wrath.

Although his cartoons are usually more than well received, Pope has had to accept that sometimes his subjects just don't have a sense of humor.

Pope has been drawing all of his life. According to an article in Citizen Airman, December 1992, "I can't remember a time when I wasn't drawing, sketching or doodling," he said. There were even a few times when I doodled myself right into the hallway. You see, my teachers didn't always appreciate my drawing during their classes."

This creative penchant soon manifested itself on the walls and lockers of the civil engineering building at Griffiss.

Annual tours and other events unique to military life provide Pope with a constant source of new -- and funny -- material.

"People are usually able to laugh at themselves when they do something embarrassing and all of my ribbing is meant in good fun," said Pope, referring to the many caricatures of fellow unit members he has drawn during his six years in the reserve. The artist absorbs his surroundings daily and looks for special achievements or actions that make individuals stand out. He then applies his pen to paper and designs a "crying towel" to recognize special efforts. "This kind of a keepsake is not as formal as a plaque,"

he said, "but people really like to have something that is personalized."

The engineer's creative side has added a special flavor to drill weekends and annual tours as well as raised the general morale of the 933rd CES. His talent was duly recognized last March when Maj. Gen John J. Closner, Chief of the Air Force Reserve, sent the Citizen Airman magazine featuring Pope to the governor of New York state, Mario M. Cuomo.

Cuomo sent a letter commending the young artist for his contributions to boosting the morale of his fellow reservists at Griffiss AFB and across the nation.

"It was great," said Pope, "I never expected anything like that at all."

While Pope's artistic graphics have spilled over into his engineering position, his engineering skills have proven to be invaluable in fixing-up the "antique" home that he and his wife Sue purchased a few years ago. Pope, a carpenter, is able to do all of the walls, plumbing, paneling and floors by himself.

"My wife is a teller at a local bank and my dream is to be able to draw full time," said Pope. According to Citizen Airman, "(He) would cheerfully stay home, draw, wash dishes and be a house husband if Sue wanted to keep working, but it's a very difficult field to break into. I'm beginning to have a little success in getting my work published commercially," he said, "but it's been a struggle."

In addition to so many other things going on in his life, the sergeant also takes plenty of time out to spend with his young daughter Katie. The Air Force Reserve allows him to have the best of every aspect of life he is involved in. Pope can create a home-life without the fear of upheaval, follow his dream of becoming a civilian artist

and also remain a part of the defending force of the country, which is very important to him.

"I wouldn't have it any other way," he said.



Westover's TQM program looking for qualified volunteers

By SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

With a total of nearly 3,000 personnel still left to receive cascade training, Westover's Total Quality Management staff has its work cut out - but as the result of a recent process action team's evaluation, their workload may lessen.

According to Maj. Armand Tourangeau, quality officer, one key outcome of the evaluation was the proposal to involve base civilians, reservists and ARTs as quality specialists.

"What we will be looking for are VOLUNTEERS - and I stress the word volunteer because no one will be assigned to this additional duty - we want qualified, motivated people who really

want to get involved in the TQM process," Tourangeau said.

He added that the duties of these volunteer quality specialists will be two-fold - that of a trainer and a facilitator.

Tourangeau went on to explain that as a trainer, the quality specialist will be tasked in the actual preparation and delivery of specific training modules throughout the quality curriculum.

As a facilitator, he said that the quality specialist serves as an "uninvolved", unbiased participant at a meeting in order to assist the leader in keeping the group on track. In this capacity, the facilitator/specialist also guides the process along.

A specially designed course is being

offered to individuals who are to fill quality specialist positions.

The Quality Specialist Workshop is held on the "B" UTAs, and will continue to be offered as long as the timeframe is acceptable, and there is an interest. The same or similar workshops will be offered to civilian personnel during the week.

Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to select individuals willing to assume the responsibilities of quality specialists.

For additional information, or to register for a quality specialist workshop, please contact the Wing Quality Center at extension 2273.

Fire department reaches out into the community

Story and photo
by Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

Westover Head Start youngsters are learning that some fire trucks are green. They're also learning how to save themselves if their clothes catch on fire. It's all part of the show as base fire fighters visit area schools, like Westover Day Care, a private facility located outside the Fairview gate.

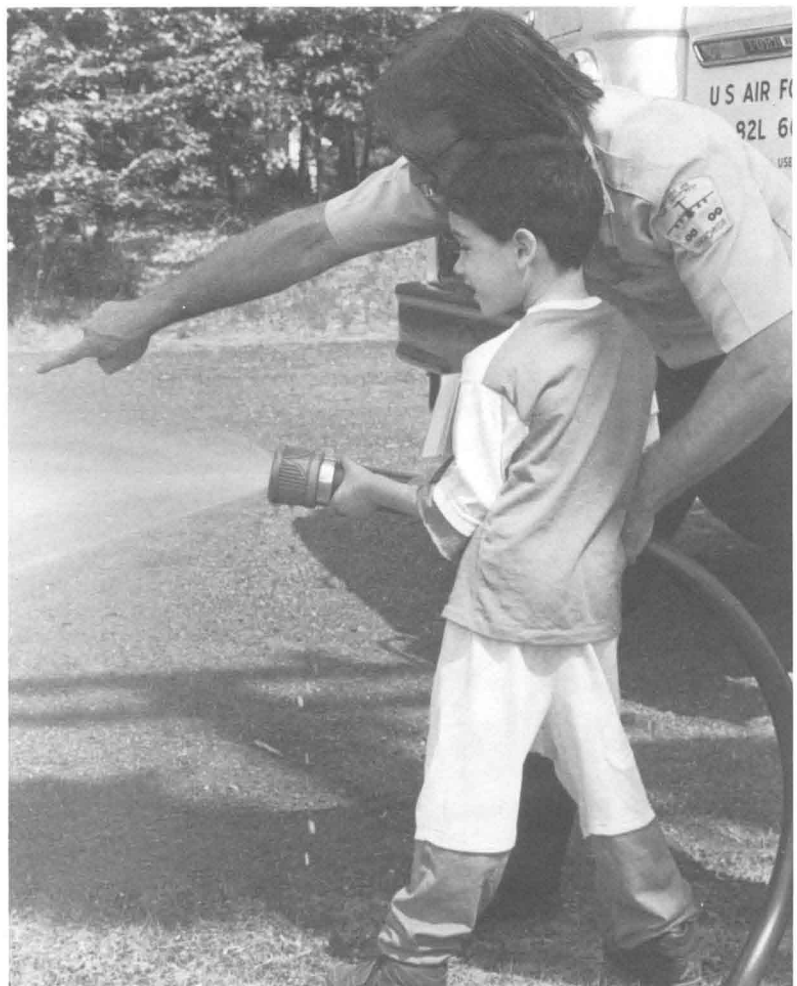
Dazzled by the gadgetry, the tots clamored to try on silver fire protection suits, operate a fire hose and take home a base coloring book. Then fire fighter Joseph Jude Kara spoke about the dangers of matches and lighters--and a maneuver called the Stop, Drop and Roll.

"We tell them not to run if their cloths catch on fire," Kara said. "They should drop to the ground and roll until the fire is out."

It's just some of the life-saving education provided by Kara, a certified fire service instructor, when he talks to kids. He specifically plans his presentations for children 2-5 years old, mixing simple, fire-safety advice with hands-on demonstrations.

Westover fire fighters are visiting other area schools and day-care centers.

"We're covering new ground by coming off base," Kara said.



HAVING A BLAST -- Westover firefighter Rick Fritsch helps a Chicopee youngster aim the fire hose during a fire safety demonstration at the Westover Day Care Center.

42nd APS developes TQM process to cure rescheduling woes

By SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

The 42nd Aerial Port Squadron has developed their own answer to a problem not unique to them - how to provide an effective, efficient means of training personnel during rescheduled UTAs.

Training manual

Now, all of those answers for the 42nd AP are provided in a manual called the Mission Support Team (MST) Training Book, developed by SMSgt. James Gillett, 42nd AP air transportation supervisor.

The manual provides a schedule of training in different areas of aerial port duties, and is written and taught with built-in flexibility to cater to the changing needs of the job.

Personnel who must reschedule to non-UTA weekends get the training they need to remain proficient, and receive additional training in a part of the aerial port that can help them do their jobs better.

TSgt. Christine Willett, an air transportation specialist assigned to the load planning section at the air terminal transportation center (ATOC), explains that a tremendous benefit of the program is that of two-sided training.

"Both the students and the instructors are receiving excellent training," Willett said, adding "the instructors are getting hands-on experience teaching, and the students are receiving a well-rounded curriculum."

TQM in action

Chief Robert Adams, air transportation manager, said that the program was developed utilizing the Total Quality Management process - the senior enlisted staff worked together to identify and solve the problem, and then implemented their solution.

Adams said the first MST weekend was held in March, and they have been running successfully since.

"An additional advantage to having these makeups on non-UTA weekends is that now the wing has seven-day a week coverage, and we're able to support the missions with a qualified, capable staff," Adams added.

Willett said that with the combination



SSgt. Christine Mora

SAFE AND SECURE -- SSgt. James Garrity, an air cargo specialist with the 42nd APS, secures the tow bar used to load an Army National Guard attack helicopter onto a C-141 during the June UTA.

of the written, "canned" lesson plan, and the various missions that come up on weekends, the rescheduled weekends provide the same beneficial training that the regularly scheduled UTAs do. And sometimes, even more.

"The two-day lesson plan exposes people to all aspects of Aerial Port jobs - for example, you'll have a class on what the people in Special Handling do, and it

will be attended by people who normally work the Ramp Section, or in Cargo Processing. And once again, it is also good exposure for the instructors," Willett said.

She added that most of the teaching is done by NCOs; the staff and technical sergeants who wouldn't normally have an opportunity to teach in a classroom or hands-on environment.



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

BIKER PRIEST -- Capt. Jim Decker, a 439th AW chaplain, shows off his Yamaha motorcycle during a recent UTA. Decker is a long-time biking enthusiast, and often rides to Westover from Keene, N.H.

Aircrew places second in air refueling

Continued from page 1

four teams which competed in the aircrew, maintenance, security police, and aerial porter events.

For Westover, the competition began in earnest on June 8 when the five-member security police team, lead by Capt. Roger Summerlin, performed their second of four events, the combat patrol, while the aircrew took to the air for the first of two air refueling missions.

The combat patrol event provided the top finish of the week among Westover's teams. The competition required the SPs using laser-scoring weapons to conduct a patrol through a narrow, horseshoe-shaped course filled with booby traps and snipers to secure a bunker within a time span of 20 minutes.

Halfway through the course Capt. Summerlin's strategy to "take the inside track and run like hell!" was paying big dividends. With nearly ten minutes left to complete the course, SSgt. Richard Hooper finished off the bunker with a long grenade toss. The outstanding effort was good enough to take first place among the 35 competing teams.

But while Lady Luck was shining on the SPs, the sky grew ever-darker in front of the C-5 and crew, lead by Lt. Col. Jay Lacklen, as they headed toward a rendez-

vous with a KC-135 on the fringe of a thunderstorm.

Lacklen, by his own admission, performed one of his best refueling efforts in his 23 years as a pilot, yet, ironically, received the fewest points for it. Amid tremendous turbulence and monsoon-like rain, the C-5 was forced to make two contacts.

Two days later the aircrew performed their second air refueling mission without a hitch. The two scores combined were good enough to earn the aircrew a second place in the C-5 air refueling competition.

Following the second air refueling mission, the loadmasters and aerial porters performed the Engines Running On/Offload (ERO) event. Though the aircrew and aerial porters were pleased with their effort, according to Lacklen, the ERO scores were not indicative of the performance.

The four-man aerial porter team, lead by TSgt. Mike Edwards, came back with a vengeance the next day, June 11, when they completed the obstacle course ahead of the other C-5 teams despite losing SrA. Derron Johnson halfway through the course to a hand injury.

Yet, Westover's busiest team during

the week was the 10-man maintenance team. Lead by SMSgt. Bob Pratt, the maintenance team had to prepare for daily aircraft inspections, preflight and postflight inspections in addition to keeping the aircraft ready for operation.

Though the team did not score well, Pratt was very pleased with his team's effort and was quick to point out that while his team had been together for a little over two weeks, they had competed against teams that had worked together for months.

Overall, the 439th AW finished in third place behind the Travis and the Dover active duty teams.

The SPs finished in 12th place among the 35 in competition.

"We did real well in a lot of areas," said French. "This was a brand new program (C-5), and much of the rules were vague. They will need some tightening up in the future, especially in the ERO to make it more competitive."

"Every year these types of events get more difficult," said Summerlin, with an eye toward the future. "Next year we plan on coming back bigger, stranger and faster...one trophy just won't be enough to meet our expectations."





RODEO ROUND-UP—The Patriot Wing C-5, (left) lead by Lt. Col. Jay Lacklen, connects with a KC-135 during the second air-refueling mission. After a disappointing first A/R score, Lacklen and the rest of the aircrew earned a perfect score for the second. The two scores combined would be good enough to take second place in the C-5 A/R competition. Maintenance Mechanics TSgt. Ron May and TSgt. Jay Summons, (above) both of the 439th Aircraft Generation Squadron, check the cockpit controls prior to the first air refueling mission. TSgt. Mike Edwards, (right) an aerial porter with the 42nd Aerial Port Squadron, tackles the 40-foot-high, "slide for life" during the aerial porter obstacle course event June 11.



EDITORIAL

The Winning Spirit

When Westover's team went to Little Rock AFB for Rodeo '93 last month they hit the ground running and didn't look back until they crossed the finish line seven days later. In taking on a big league challenge, the 28-member team gave the Patriot Wing plenty to be proud of, including best Security Police combat patrol and second place in the aerial refueling event.

The rodeo brought together top competitors from across the U.S., plus a half dozen allies, to match their skills in events involving C-5, C-130 and C-141 aircraft.

The Patriot Wing team was tested in the nerve-racking precision of aerial refueling at 20,000 feet, the frenzied rush of engine running onloads and offloads on a tar melting flightline, and the muscle wrenching, lung burning climb over the obstacle course. Caught up in the excitement of the challenge, the aircrew, maintenance, aerial port and security police members went at it full throttle every day. When the dust settled, they and the other competitors had done more, done it faster and done it better than anyone had a right to expect.

That was the big pay-off of Rodeo '93. A lot of people who were already very good were forced to reach down into themselves and be even better.

That's a main reason the Air Force and our allies invest so much in these tests of skill. Competition makes us tap our resources. We show what we can really do when we're too hot on the flight line and we're too tired from a 5 a.m. showtime and we're under too much pressure from the umpires.

The Patriot Wing team had that winning spirit from the time their C-5 tires lifted off the Westover runway. Their job wasn't just to tally up points against other equally highly trained and motivated teams. The really important thing they gave us was a display of how well we can perform when we put our hearts into it.

They came home feeling like winners and they liked the feeling.

There's not one member of the Patriot Wing who can't do the same thing. We can turn loose the winning spirit and surprise even ourselves by how much we can accomplish. Maybe we can't sprint every day, but we can go an extra mile every day.

MSgt. Tom Allocco
Public Affairs Technician

439th USAF clinic 'majoring' in doctors

The 439th USAF Clinic is promoting doctors in a major way.

Three clinic physicians were recently notified of their promotion: Majors Joel S. Bogner, Robert R. McAnaw, and Michael A. Palmer.

Bogner, a general duty physician with the clinic, has been with Westover for three years and is a family practitioner in Connecticut.

Palmer commutes to Westover from

Philadelphia where he is a resident in neurology and rehabilitation, specializing in spinal disorders. He is a flight surgeon at the clinic and is originally from Springfield, Mass.

McAnaw is also a flight surgeon at the clinic and practices radiation oncology in Boston.

According to Col. Warner E. Jones, clinic commander, the timing of the three promotions is coincidental, but deserved.

Briefs

AFSC deletions can effect CCAF

MAXWELL AFB, Ala. -- People who retrained because their career fields were deleted by draw-down actions must act quickly to continue with their Community College of the Air Force degree.

CCAF officials said students who lost their program-relevant speciality code can either pursue a degree in their career field, or ask for a "no fault exception" and continue with their original program.

The exception allows students up to one year to complete degree requirements, however, they must apply for it within one year of the date their original Air Force speciality code was deleted.

For more information, contact the local base education services office.

Blood drive

The American Red Cross collected a total of 116 units of blood during a drive at Westover Air Reserve Base June 5 and 6.

Diane Johnson, of the local Red Cross office, said 32 pints were taken on Friday and 84 on Saturday.

Golf tournament

The Pioneer Valley Chapter USO conducted a golf scramble at Westover Golf Course in early June drawing nearly 100 participants.

The winning team was comprised of John Hoagland, Dan Fortin, Al Fortin and Steve Skowron. Last place went to the team of John Wagner, Belitza Morales, Elaine Bernache and Rosa Rivera.

Bill Lee won the closest to the pin contest, Joe Curley the putting contest and Ruth Krynicki, the women's long drive contest.

Exie Holl, executive director of the USO said the event was a huge success. "We owe much thanks to Bill Lee, Gerry Gagnon, Paul Tetrault and Mike Major for their hard work in getting the tournament going."

New Westover budget officer returns home to New England

By TSgt. Sandi Michon

Westover's new budget officer is excited about the challenges of her new position and happy to be back home in New England.

A Nashua, N.H. native, Carolyn Hayward bring years of finance experience to her new job. She worked in the finance field at Hanscom AFB from 1979 - 1988. "I started out as a clerk typist, but I was blessed to be in the right place at the right time, and came up through the ranks," she said.

After Hanscom, Hayward spent the next five years at Falcon AFB, Colo., where she was a cost analyst involved in the Strategic Defense Initiative. "It was pretty exciting to be involved in SDI. We tracked cost and contract performance on some very large contracts," she said.

Hayward's newest defense initiative is keeping Westover's "checkbook" balanced. "Most of my experience has been in the research and development field where project outcomes are long term," she explained. "In accounting and finance, you see a tangible result of dollars spent as you see the C-5's take off, and watch the base perform the mission."

According to Management and Comptroller Chief Ray Gilbert, Hayward has already settled in at Westover. "She fits right in with the great team we have," he said.

The immediate challenge for Hayward is getting used to the Reserve side of the house.

Hayward joined the finance staff on April 12. She resides in Chicopee with her two cats, Keeper and Cory.



Carolyn Hayward

TSgt. Howard Garbarsky

USAF Clinic throws surprise retirement party for Schroder

Article and photo by
TSgt. Sandi Michon

MSgt. Donna Schroder's retirement came as no surprise, but the party thrown by fellow workers sure was!

At the close of the duty day on June 5, Schroder was asked to report to the classroom area of the clinic. When she entered the room, friends and family rose to commemorate her 21 years of military service.

Schroder broke down in tears in response, and struggled to maintain composure as fellow workers offered tribute to her 19 and one-half years at the USAF Clinic. Mixed with the tribute were generous amounts of love and appreciation.

Schroder's final work assignment was to cut her retirement cake. The only thing sweeter than the cake are her memories.

"I graduated from high school in 1962, and military service was always held up as the patriotic thing to do," said Schroder. Ten years later, she joined the military. After 18 months of active duty, she joined the 901st TAC Clinic at Westover.

She described her military career as wonderful. "There has never been a dull moment," she said. According to Schroder, Desert Storm was her most



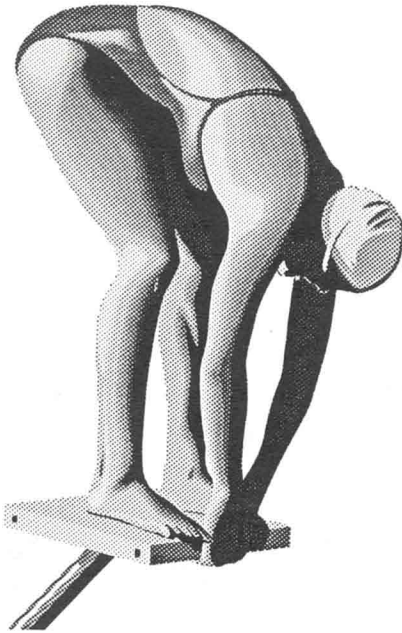
STANDING OVATION - MSgt. Donna Schroder struggles to hold back tears as fellow workers give her a standing ovation at her surprise retirement gathering. To her right is her daughter-in-law, Tracy Schroder who, along with Donna's son Edward, added to the surprise by attending.

memorable time, with the camaraderie being the highlight. "I will miss everyone," she said sadly.

But Schroder looks to the future with the same professionalism with which she served the Clinic. She looks to her civilian retirement in five years, not as an

end, but a new beginning. Schroder has worked as an audiology technician at the Groton Navy Base, Conn. for 14 years. Recently she has been taking courses at the Groton Hospital, and plans to pursue a job in the ear, nose and throat field of medicine.

MWR section sets plans for busy summer season



Westover's Morale, Welfare and Recreation section can keep the sizzle in your summer.

Whether you want to keep the sweat off your brow with a refreshing dip in the base pool, or you want to work up a sweat at the tennis court, MWR has what you need.

- The **base pool** is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; all base personnel and their dependents may use the pool for a daily fee of 50 cents. Season passes are available.

Swimming lessons will begin after the Fourth of July weekend; call extension 2532 for more information.

- The **Four-Seasons Recreational Rental Store**, located at Building 1601 (the former gas station) has a large supply of summer rentals available, including camping equipment, water sport equipment, boats and trailers.

The store will also host their annual

ski sale at the end of August. Call ext. 2974 for additional information and rates.

- Two **base picnic areas** are available at no cost for your next family or unit outing; one by Wade Lake, and one by the Base Exchange.

Schedule your event by calling Rick Oliver at ext. 2532.

- A weekly **children's day camp** will begin in mid-July. For more information and sign-ups, call Christine Mencarelli at ext. 2328.

- The **Fitness Trail** and the **Tennis Courts** are fully operational; no reservations are needed for either.

The **bowling center** offers air-conditioned bowling lanes and snack bar.

MWR frequently offers discount tickets to local amusements, and organizes special trips. Any questions regarding MWR activities should be directed to Rick Oliver, ext. 2532.

Health news you can use: Heat disorders

Summer is here along with the heat and humidity. These two factors alone (heat and humidity) are enough to cause a person many problems.

Heat is created in the body with physical activity (exercise and hard labor.) The body reacts by trying to rid excess heat through sweating. When the sweat evaporated off the skin, it cools the body. Salt and water equal sweat. If these elements are not replaced, heat injuries can occur.

Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms of the arms and legs. This occurs when both lost water and salt in the body are not replaced. This problem is easily resolved by drinking salt water (one teaspoon salt to one quart of water), and applying pressure to the muscle.

Heat exhaustion (also called heat prostration) is a mild form of shock caused by decreased blood flow to vital organs. This occurs with sweating and widening of blood vessels in the skin to aid in the release of heat. Symptoms are weakness, dizziness, faintness, headache, loss of appetite and nausea, and the skin may feel cool

and clammy. Treatment is to move to a cool place and remove as much clothing as possible, drink salt water, and rest to allow the body's blood flow to return to normal.

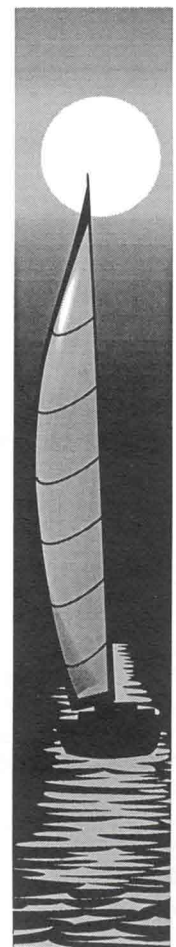
Heat stroke is less common but far more serious. This is when the body is exposed to heat for a long period of time and sweating stops. Heat builds up in the body and cell damage occurs. Symptoms are hot, dry, and flushed (red) skin, fainting, and muscle twitching. If left untreated, the person can go into a coma and possibly die, or they may revive and suffer permanent brain damage.

Recovery depends on how quickly treatment begins. The first step is to call for an ambulance. While waiting, place the person in a tub of cool water and ice, or remove all clothing and place a wet sheet over the body and fan the body.

All the these heat injuries can be easily prevented by using common sense.

1st Lt. Paula J. Martel
Health Promotions Officer

- * *Limit activity in hot, humid weather.*
- * *Drink plenty of salted water during activity.*
- * *Take frequent rest periods in a cool environment.*



Maj. Waterman brings medical skills, gifts to Honduras

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Twenty three members of the 439th USAF Clinic performed their annual tour in Honduras the first two weeks of June. They provided medical services to both U.S. military personnel and local Hondurans. The following story and photo were furnished by Sgt. Carolyn Tenney, a public affairs specialist from the Iowa Army National Guard, while serving in Honduras.*

SOTO CANO AB, HONDURAS --

A missionary family living in Honduras recently viewed a U.S. Air Force Reserve nurse working here as truly an angel of mercy.

Upon learning her destination for her two-week annual training, Sarah Waterman, a major with the 439th USAF Clinic, contacted John Macdonald, his wife, Gail, and their three children, Alec, Timmy and Parry. The Macdonalds have been living in Honduras for two years.

Waterman, a Wilbraham, Mass. resident, is nursing director for a private medical office. She knew of the family through her church, St. Mark's Episcopal in East Longmeadow.

John Macdonald served as assistant rector at St. Mark's sister church, St. Andrew's, in nearby Longmeadow. He made a 10-year commitment to serve as vicar at the Episcopal mission in Tegucigalpa.

Waterman asked the Macdonalds what items they were doing without that they would like to have. The family's wish list included fun cereals and books in English for the kids, chunky peanut butter and a mattress pad.

Parishoners from both churches collected the requested items -- and more -- and wrote letters and cards to the family. Waterman presented everything to Macdonald and his son Alec, who drove to the post from Tegucigalpa.

"He seemed very pleased that people sent things," she said.

A 1975 Vermont College graduate in nursing, this was her first military duty in a remote area. "I chose to come to Honduras because I've never been to this part of the world," she said. "I wanted to see what was here."

She served as an adjunct staff member in the Joint Task Force, Bravo Medical Element at Soto Cano Air Base.

Soto Cano is the home of the task force, an Army and Air Force operation



MISSION FROM GOD -- Maj. Sarah Waterman, 439th UASF Clinic chief nurse, unpacks a care package for an Episcopalian missionary family serving in Honduras. Donations came from host churches in the U.S.

of approximately 1,500 personnel who support training, assist the Honduran government's counter-drug trafficking effort and participate in numerous humanitarian and nation assistance programs.

Waterman's primary mission was to coordinate training for 23 medical people in her unit. The humanitarian mission they participated in, dubbed Southern Samaritan/Southern Hope, musters Reserve, Guard and active duty

medical personnel to Honduras.

Southern Hope provides medical specialty teams twice yearly for specific health treatment.

"It's been absolutely fantastic training," said Waterman. "It was a great experience. It was wonderful to learn about the people here. Some of the diseases you don't see in the United States.

"We worked hard and enjoyed every day," she concluded.

"Late starter" wins USO's Runway 33 road race

By Lt. Col. Rick Dyer

He didn't start running until he finished law school, but Dan Feder is clearly making up for lost time.

Feder, a 30-year-old attorney from Simsbury, Conn., easily out-distanced a field of 150 competitors at Westover June 6 to win the second annual Runway 33 road race.

Feder covered the course--which brought runners over the base's runways and central roads--in 32:57. His effort was a personal best for the 10-kilometer distance, and marked the first time he had ever won a road race.

Competing for the Hartford Track Club, Feder moved into the lead at the race's halfway point. He broke the tape 50 yards ahead of runner-up Bob McKinney, who was clocked in 33:11.

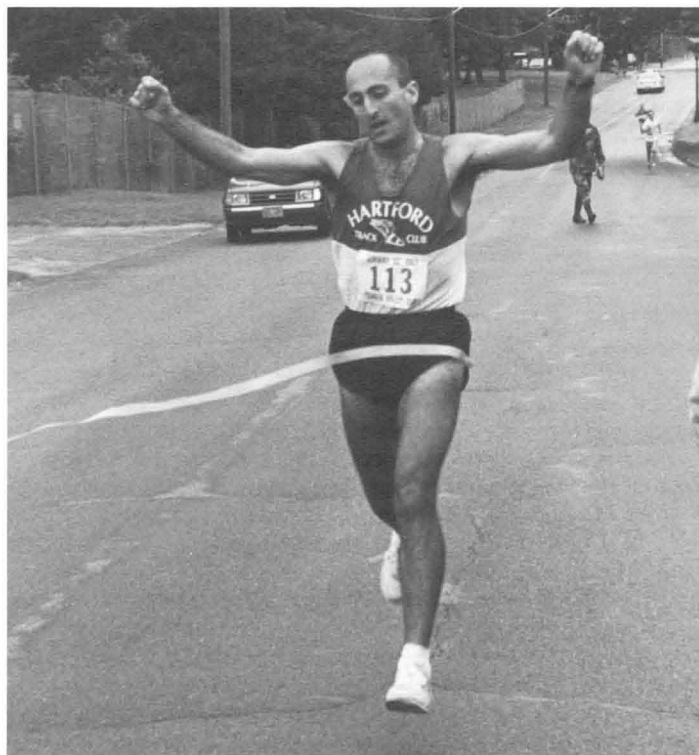
"It hurt, so it must have been a good run," Feder said later.

The smooth-striding winner said that he did not run in high school or college, and only turned to the sport after he earned his law degree. "At first I just ran to stay in shape, but I got addicted to it, he said.

Other top finishers in the men's overall competition included Ken Clark, Steven Piascik, Don Grant and Celio Hernandez of the 439th EMS.

Cheryl Dube won the women's 10-K event in 39:51. Allen Hoffacker of the 439th AW won the men's three-kilometer walk, and Julie Hornadell captured the women's walking event.

The day's other big winner was the sponsoring Pioneer Valley USO. According to Sandy Wakefield, race coordinator, proceeds from the race will be used to fund the USO's food pantry and other projects which assist armed service members and their families.



SSgt. Vin Blanchard

AHEAD OF THE FIELD--Dan Feder, an attorney from Simsbury, Conn., is the first of 150 competitors to cross the finish line to win the second annual Runway 33 road race.



By SrA. Mike Lyman

On the Russian Front, the decisive front of the war, the Germans launch a third major offensive against the Soviet Union culminating in the greatest tank battle in history.

With the defeat at Stalingrad, the

WWII reflections: Kursk and Sicily

Wehrmacht no longer holds the strategic initiative against the Red Army. Yet Hitler, unable to accept a defensive strategy, decides to launch an offensive to cut off and destroy the large Russian forces near the city of Kursk.

Unbeknownst to the Germans, however, the Soviet High Command is alerted of the upcoming assault via the Lucy spy ring (Lucy is actually Rudolf Rossler, a Swiss publisher and Communist sympathizer).

Forewarned, the Red Army postpones its own offensive and awaits the onslaught behind an almost impregnable network of defenses.

The Battle of Kursk, simply, is a case of the irresistible force meeting the immovable object.

When the German attack begins on July 5, the elite spearhead units, equipped with some of the largest, most formidable tanks of the war, are halted with severe losses after minimal gains.

On July 10, Hitler learns of the Allied

landings in Sicily and within three days, calls a halt to the operation.

By the end of July, the Soviets have retaken all of the ground lost during the recent German offensive.

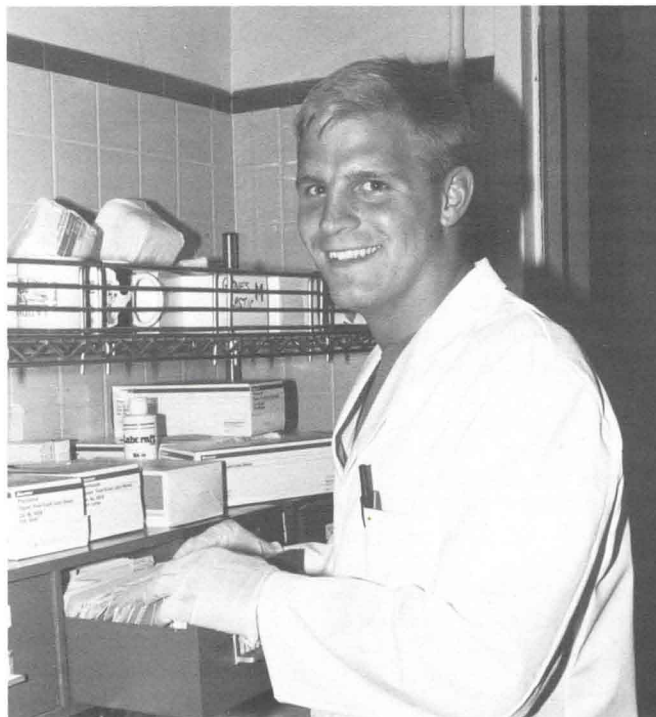
Like the battles of Moscow and Stalingrad, Kursk is fought on a scale unseen on other fronts. In a battle featuring more than 2,000 tanks, the Germans fail disastrously in an attempt to regain the initiative on the Russian Front.

With an abundance of armor and an influx of American lorries now available, the Red Army--now the largest land force in history--is poised to begin the liberation of the Soviet Union.

As previously mentioned, the Allies begin the liberation of Western Europe with the invasion of Sicily with a two-pronged assault lead by Montgomery and U.S. Army Lt. Gen. George S. Patton. As the month comes to an end, the two Allied commanders begin a heated rivalry over the conquest of the island's ultimate prize--Messina.

Patriot People

Name: David Sala
Rank: SrA.
Age: 22
Address: Albany, N.Y.
Unit: 439th USAF Clinic
Position: Lab technician
Civilian position: Student
Favorite food: Pasta
Years of service: Four
Favorite sport: Hockey
Favorite hobby: Vacationing
Ideal vacation: Family vacation
Best way to relax: Weekend getaway
Preferred entertainment: Good movie
Favorite celebrity: Joe Pesci
Favorite music: Classic rock
Favorite book: *The Old Man and the Sea*
Favorite color: Black
Favorite car: Mustang GT
Pet peeve: Tardiness
Best thing about Westover: C-5's
Worst thing about Westover: "?"



TSgt. Sandi Michon

SrA. David Sala

Patriot Praises

REENLISTMENTS:

SMSgt. Richards, Frederick S.
 SMSgt. Smith, Kenneth G.
 MSgt. Bare, Douglas R.
 MSgt. Benson, Paul G.
 MSgt. Bernash, Elaine M.
 MSgt. Bernier, Ronald R.
 MSgt. Early, Daniel J.
 MSgt. Howe, Leslie G. III.
 MSgt. Miller, John C.
 MSgt. Morytko, Kenneth L.
 MSgt. Thibault, Roger C.
 MSgt. Trychon, Albert F.
 TSgt. Andrews, Mabray C.
 TSgt. Barnes, Allen T.
 TSgt. Carroll, William A.
 TSgt. Cubitus, James J. II.
 TSgt. Delgreco, Steven W.
 TSgt. Devaney, Mary C.
 TSgt. Dibrindisi, Michael J.
 TSgt. Donovan, Daniel E.
 TSgt. Gohra, Raymond
 TSgt. Gray, John F.
 TSgt. Josefiak, Gary R.
 TSgt. King, David W.
 TSgt. Myhaver, Glen L.
 TSgt. Porter, Charles E.
 TSgt. Ranford, Thomas L.
 TSgt. Ross, Alberta M.
 TSgt. Sheffield, James A.
 SSgt. Ansara, Peter J.
 SSgt. Ashman, Susan L.
 SSgt. Boudreau, James M.
 SSgt. Cameron, Richard K.
 SSgt. Campbell, Melvin E.
 SSgt. Canuel, Yvonne M.
 SSgt. Combs, Pamela R.
 SSgt. Cushman, Robert J.

SSgt. Delgado, Blanca I.
 SSgt. Eileen, Lawrence
 SSgt. Gorman, Theodore R.
 SSgt. Grant, Anthony E.
 SSgt. Harmon, John J.
 SSgt. Harris, Eric D.
 SSgt. Jackson, Sonia R.
 SSgt. Kelly, Shawn R.
 SSgt. Lablanca, Lewis
 SSgt. Lanney, Donald C.
 SSgt. Latko, Martin J.
 SSgt. Matherin, Edward
 SSgt. Panico, Gabriela M.
 SSgt. Parrish, Jennette R.
 SSgt. Quill, Gregory F.
 SSgt. Reed, Allan J.
 SSgt. Sandman, Richard G.
 SSgt. Sporer, Donna M.
 SSgt. Stevenson, David
 SSgt. Torres, Jose Jr.
 SSgt. Tougas, Kimberley A.
 SSgt. Velky, John S. II.
 Sgt. Cabrera, Jose A.
 SrA. Trivedi, Ketan M.
 Amn. Goldstein, Evan D.

ENLISTMENTS:

SSgt. Cenotti, Daniel L.
 SSgt. Dupont, Richard E. Jr.
 SSgt. Huber, Maureen L.
 SSgt. Mello, Herbert J. Jr.
 SrA. Ingoglia, John V.
 SrA. Podworski, David Z. Sr.
 A1C Obrey, Chad E.
 A1C Shore, Michael E.
 A1C Winters, Stephen D.
 AB Corriveau, Carol A.
 AB Perri, Jeffrey T.



SSgt. Nancy Wilochka

MAKING A DIFFERENCE – That's the motto of the more than 90 Chicopee children who comprise the first Junior USO volunteer corps worldwide. Kevin Moriarty, foreground, and other Junior USO members, plant flowers around a base building as one of their volunteer activities.

Future Marines sample boot camp at Westover

By Capt. Paul P. Koscak Jr.

They're young, they're ready, they're almost Marines.

On June 5, more than 60 would-be Leathernecks from throughout New England sampled the rigors of boot camp through the Marine Corps' Delayed Enlistment Program.

Outside the base gym, ruddy faced recruits--most fresh out of high school--huffed, puffed and wheezed through the physical and mental tests to qualify for island survival, Parris Island, S.C., that is. The gateway to a Marine Corps career, the place is leg end--the military's most intense and challenging basic training course; the boot camp of boot camps, the military's longest--13 weeks.

Delayed enlistment benefits both the applicant and the Marines, says Capt. Mark W. Richter, executive officer of the Chicopee-based Marine recruiting station of western New England. Rather than the traditional, total-plunge approach to military life where Marines-to-be enlist and immediately ship off to boot camp--for some, a shocking experience--the delayed program begins nearly a year before basic training.

With the kind of time and commitment the Marine Corps provides its enlistees, the program is a sound investment.

"Poolies," what Marines call the applicants because they're part of a "pool" waiting for boot camp, attend training sessions designed to help them with the abrupt transition from civilian to military life. The sessions also screen-out applicants not suitable for the corps.

"The fallout has declined," Richter says of the recruits entering boot camp. He credits the program with giving potential Marines a leg-up on the psychology of basic training. "They start at an even level."

Richter says the dropout rate is about five to six percent.

The program keeps recruits focused on the purpose of boot camp. "It's not the job that you do, but that you're a Marine," Richter says.

There are jobs, though. Richter says all the defense cutbacks have a greater impact on larger service branches, such as the Army or Navy.

"A young man can still have a 20-year career," he says.



SSgt. Christine Mora

FUTURE LEATHERNECKS--Drill instructors from Parris Island, S.C. test potential Marine recruits outside the base gym during the June A-UTA.

PATRIOT



Published monthly for Patriots like SrA. Diane A. Whelihan of South Hadley, Mass., and 2,914 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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