

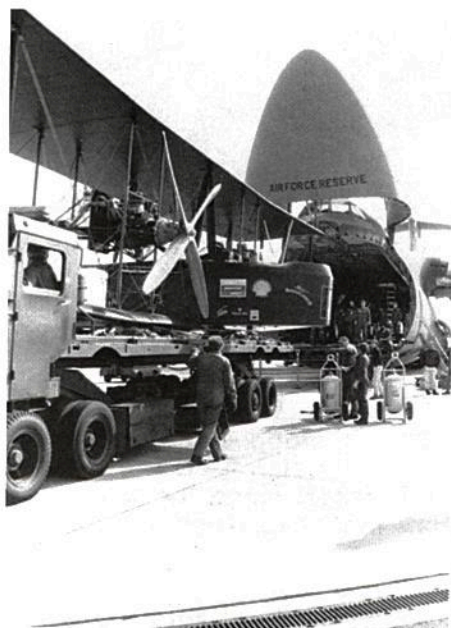
PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

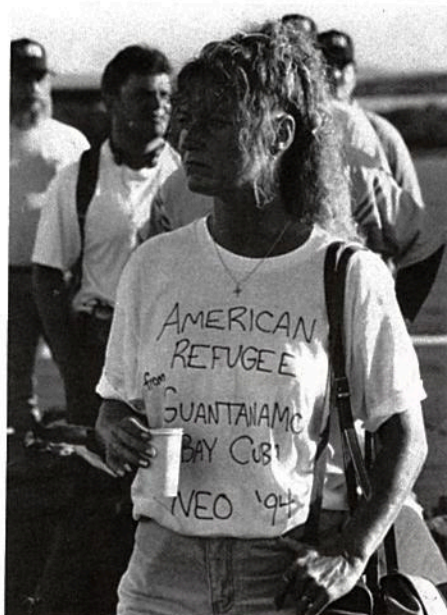
VOLUME 22, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1995

1994 in review



TSgt. Sandi Michon



SrA. Joe McLean



SSgt. Christine Mora

DUTY CALLS – When world events make headlines, the 439th AW makes flight plans. A replica of a 1919 Vicker Vimy bomber is airlifted to England (left), a

tearful military spouse relocates from Cuba to make room for refugees, (center), and an emergency cadre flies to earthquake-stricken California, (right).

Patriot Wing responds to global events

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Westover reservists will remember the year 1994 as a time when the call to duty was heard more often and from more places than anyone could have predicted. At home and around the world, the Patriot Wing was always on short notice for natural disaster, civil war or display of national resolve.

Patriot Wing aerial porters kicked off the year tasked to help with emergency relief for victims of January's earthquake in southern California. The aerial porters loaded a 13-member Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) team of communications specialists and their vehicles on a Dover Galaxy bound for March AFB, Calif.

When President Clinton flew to Keene, N.H. in March, Westover security police specialists SSgt. Michael Gallant and SrA. Michael Wysocki were called to duty to

assist in the security cordon around the President's DC-9.

Ninety-four members of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron remodeled a fitness center, warehouse and housing projects at Bitburg AB and Spangdahlen AB, Germany during the month of March.

During the year, the most tragic loss of life was the unending war pitting Serbs, Bosnians and Croats against each other in the former Yugoslavia. A Patriot Wing aircrew under Lt. Col. Sandy Whittier delivered 260 tons of food during three trips from Ramstein AB, Germany to the city Split on Croatia's Adriatic coast in April. The desperately needed supplies were sent by U.N. lifeline to Moslems trapped in the besieged Bosnian city of Sarajevo.

From May to July, Capt. Martha Soper, TSgt. William Carter and SSgt. Jason Harder of the 74th AES served in Operation Restore Hope in Mogadishu, Somalia. While Harder assisted in aeromedical evacuation flights, Carter

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MSgt. Marshall Hathaway

HOMEWARD BOUND -- Lt. Col. Bob Vaughn, a native of Springfield, and commander of the 41st Airlift Squadron from Pope AFB, S.C., interviews with Channel 40 reporter Monica Evans. Vaughn, and 300

members of his C-130 unit, stopped at Westover on their way home from the Persian Gulf. The airmen, who had been in the desert since the middle of October, arrived home in time for Thanksgiving.

Base cracks down on credit card abuse

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

Westover ARB is cracking down on illegal use of American Express government travel charge cards and is prepared to take legal action against

those who abuse the privilege.

"I have recently received reports that some Westover reservists have used their American Express cards for personal purposes and that some have not paid their balances for more than

90 days," said Col. James P. Czekanski, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing.

"These cards are to be used only for official government travel expenses and the Air Force expects members to pay their just financial obligations in a proper and timely manner," he said.

At the same time, American Express officials said they intend to sue some of those card holders with delinquent accounts, which presently total more than \$13.2 million, Air Force-wide.

"We have a problem," said Ray Gilbert, Westover's financial manager. Too many people are using their travel cards to charge things not associated with official travel," he said.

According to Gilbert, topping the list of offenses are cash withdrawals

PATRIOT

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"The content is edited, prepared, and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover Air Reserve Base. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated."

439th AW Commander

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SrA Joseph F. McLean

SrA. Paul D. Mantikoski

Continued on page 3

Famed U-2 will be staging from Westover

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

The history-making U-2 high altitude reconnaissance aircraft will land regularly at Westover as a staging point for flights to and from Europe beginning early next year.

Fuels Management specialists, under the direction of Wilfred Mathieu, are setting up vehicles and facilities to maintain the aircraft with its unique JPTS high-altitude fuel and solvents. The U-2s will be supported by a team of up to 25 maintenance, life support and other specialists when on base.

Lt. Col. Forrest Price of Wing Plans said the reconnaissance aircraft will stop at Westover for refueling and a maintenance check about every two months.

The U-2s will stage through Westover as they rotate to maintain a presence in Europe. They previously staged through Plattsburgh AFB, N.Y., which has lost its FB-111, KC-135 mission and is being closed as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program.

The Air Force maintains a fleet of about 30 U-2s, all part of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, Calif. Designated as the Dragonlady, the U-2 is a single-seat, single-engine aircraft which flies at 430 mph (Mach 0.57), at higher than 13 miles.

The wide, straight wings with a span of 103 feet give the U-2 a glider-like characteristic.

The U-2 began flying in 1955, followed by the updated U-2R in 1981.



USAF photo

HIGH FLIGHT — A U-2 from Beale AFB, Calif., soars high above California's Golden Gate Bridge. The famed reconnaissance craft will soon become a familiar sight in the skies around Westover.

It was a U-2 that photographed the Soviet offensive missiles in Cuba on Oct. 14, 1962.

The U-2 is equipped with infrared photography and electronic surveillance equipment to provide continuous day or night high-altitude, all-weather, stand-off surveillance of a battle area. It also performs air sampling flights and, occasionally, search and rescue missions.

Numerous U-2 missions have flown in support of the Department of Agriculture land management and crop estimate programs.

The U-2 also has been used to provide photographs for the Army Corps of Engineers in support of its flood control studies, and for state governments to determine damage from floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters.

Credit card abuse...

Continued from page 2

from automatic teller machines.

"People are withdrawing money from ATM machines even though they don't have orders and are not going TDY," he said.

Officially, charge cards may only be used for reimbursable travel expenses or for travel advances authorized by travel orders. Gilbert explained.

"We consider misuse of the government-sponsored charge card to be a very serious matter," said Czekanski.

If a military member misuses the card while he or she is subject to the UCMJ, he may be subject to court martial

or non-judicial punishment. If a member misuses the card while not subject to the UCMJ, for instance, after sign-out or when not on orders, commanders may take administrative action such as reprimands or administrative demotion, the Colonel said.

Disciplinary action is not limited to service members and actions against civilians who abuse the cards can range from reprimands to removal.

"I cannot over-emphasize the seriousness of this matter," Czekanski said. "If commanders need legal advice as to military members who abuse government cards, they should contact Lt. Col. Bruce Hawley at Ext. 3180. Supervisors who seek legal advice about abuse by civilian employees, contact Maj. Bill Wells at Ext. 3513."

Volunteerism is a way of life for TSgt. Roe

by SSgt. Peter Hyde

If you ask TSgt. Thomas Roe III where he was on the evening of March 11, 1989, you won't get an equivocal answer. After all, some things are unforgettable.

"I was with the Westover Honor Guard at the opening ceremonies of the Air Force Tops in Blue at Elms College in Chicopee," says Roe, who works a dual role as an ART and a crew chief for the 439th AGS. "There was a commotion on the balcony and when we arrived, we found that an elderly gentleman had collapsed."

With no time to spare, Roe put his skills as a paramedic to work and helped stabilize the patient until an ambulance arrived.

"He was Gen. McArthur's aide during the war," Roe said distractedly, as if sorting through the memories in a family photo album. "Unfortunately he died later on."

Although the victim was a complete stranger, Roe still shows a twinge of regret at the loss. He cares about people and it shows. Ironically, Roe was on hand in the first place because he founded the honor guard as a service to the community. Service is a tradition in his family.

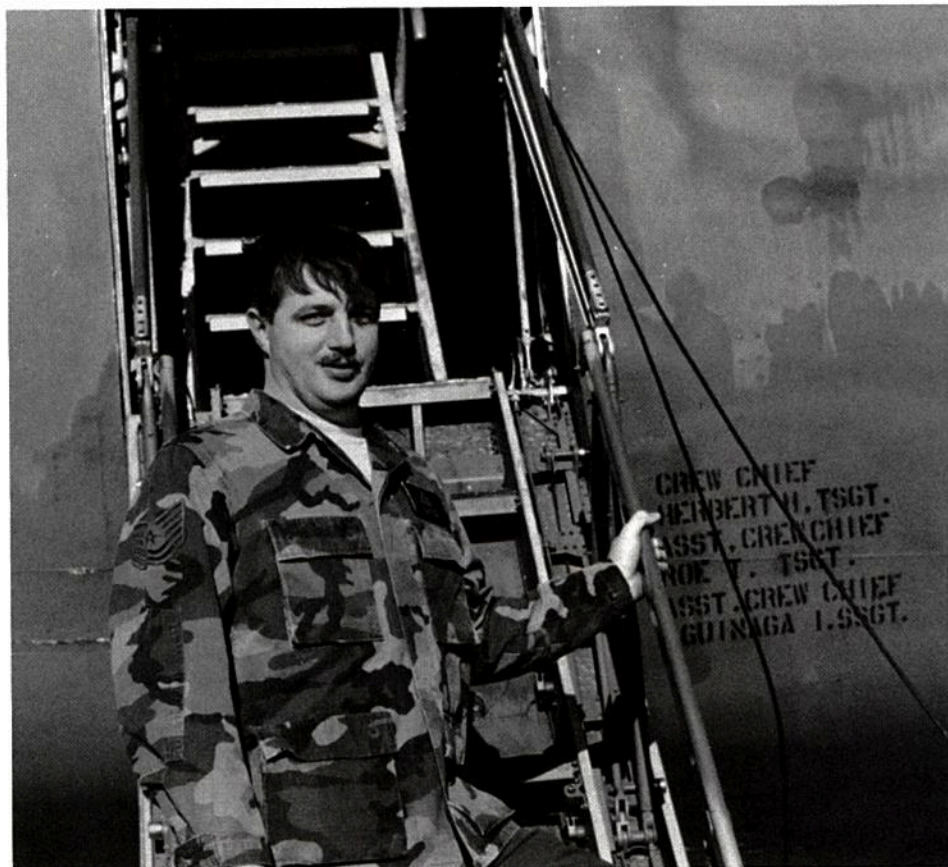
"I've kind of done that all my life," Roe said. "That's the way my parents raised me and it's the way I'm raising my kids. Whether it's helping people or fixing airplanes. I've always wanted to help."

Soft spoken and somewhat retiring, Roe prefers to let his record speak for itself. It does so, and loudly.

"Roe is involved in everything both on-and off-base," said Roe's supervisor, AMU Chief Robert Pratt. "He's always going full steam ahead."

As a senior volunteer with the American Red Cross, Roe helps coordinate the Disaster Action Team as it responds to everything from severe flooding to the needs of individual families left homeless by fire.

When the need arises, Roe dons the uniform of a deputy in the Law Enforcement Division of the Hampden



TSgt. Tom Roe

County Sheriff's Department. The job has special demands for part time volunteers who are sometimes suddenly exposed to violent situations.

"We just completed some special training in resolving domestic violence cases," Roe explained. "Things are getting tougher out there now. In the future the word is that in that type of situation, somebody's going to get arrested. The call was made for a reason and the preferred response is, somebody's going to jail."

Placing himself in different roles has also helped Roe see the world as other see it, which gives him the ability to make the right call in a tough and potentially violent spot.

"You learn to handle each person and each situation differently," he said.

Idiosyncratic behavior also applies to aircraft, according to Roe, who is responsible for all the maintenance of the C-5s under his care.

"Unofficially, they're you property," Roe said, "and you look at it that way. You're responsible for their performance. But I've been a mechanic since I was 15 and I was an Air Force brat. I love flying and my father and grandfather were in the Air Force before me. Now my son Jason wants to do this too."

While he says he loves his job as a crew chief, Roe really wants to study medicine.

"I think I'd like to be a physician or a physician's assistant," Roe said. "My uncle is a doctor and my sister is a nurse and now my daughter wants to be a pediatrician. It's something I'd really like to do."

While he's passed on most of his responsibilities with the honor guard, Roe doesn't see any letup in his career as a volunteer. "I volunteer anywhere from 20-to-30 hours a week as it is," he said. "I do it because I get pleasure out of helping people."



SMSgt Mark Gilyard

A SHOT IN THE ARM -- Team Yankee personnel from Army, Navy and Air Force, host a venipuncture tech-

nique training lab at Holyoke Community College Nursing School in November.

Team Yankee: joint medical training solution

By SrA. Paul Mantikoski

Tough jobs take teamwork. So when Westover medical specialists needed an intensive combat skills training program that stayed within a tight budget they came up with Team Yankee.

Team Yankee is a teamwork solution to the challenge of how to expand training in an era of shrinking defense dollars. The concept has resulted in a medical training program that has Air Force, Army and Navy Reserve and Guard medical units working together at Westover to get the most out of every training dollar.

Reserve medical units have combined resources to form the tri-service medical sustainment Team Yankee training program here for almost five years. Students undergo the eight-month Team Yankee course on non-UTA weekend sessions that begin on Friday evenings.

"We really cram a lot of material into each weekend," said Team Yankee staff member SMSgt. Mark Gilyard, 439th MDS medical services superintendent. "Then we expect them to cover 10 to 15 chapters before the class meets again," he added.

Team Yankee training has evolved over the years. In 1991, the curriculum included material from the Navy Basic Proficiency Course, the medical training which all Navy corpsmen receive. When students were tested by active-duty Navy members, every one passed on the first try.

In 1992, the curriculum added material from the National Registry Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Basic Course. This extensive EMT training does not take precedence in the course. The curriculum remains responsive to unique unit training requirements.

When students pass the course they can take the national EMT qualification test and their state tests. "As long as they're certified, they can then apply for any EMT-related job they choose," Gilyard said.

This feature of the course makes reservists not only more knowledgeable military assets, but can make them a greater asset to their community.

"We have really drawn upon our local, professional services within the communities to provide support for the course," Gilyard said.

"From active duty Navy instructors to civilian volunteers, to facilities at the Holyoke Community College nursing school, we are able to offer truly professional resources to our students," he said.

The results of this are apparent. The passing rate of the first EMT class equaled the national rate and the second class was above the national rate. Fifty students from the past two classes have passed the course, with only one failing the written and practical exams.

Students are primarily from the medical field, but if slots are available the school will accept such non-medical applicants as firefighters and security police.

The basic EMT course contains 110 hours of instruction. Team Yankee expands it to 160 hours, with material geared toward medics and corpsmen. It includes small arms training, suturing, control of bleeding, treating for shock, IV insertion and mass casualty management.

A large part of the final exam consists of the mass casualty practical exercise. Students are expected to take all the steps necessary to save lives under the watchful eyes of instructors.

This extensive course work breeds a pool of talented

Continued on page 10

Excuse Busters!

Gym resources encourage New Year's resolutions

Article and photos by TSgt. Sandi Michon



MIND AND BODY -- Lt. Col. Bob Martens, chief of safety, trains on the NordicTrack, while Capt. Terry Prince, 74th AES flight nurse, climbs the Stairmaster while studying for a class clinical. She is studying for nurse practitioner at UMass/Lowell.

If New England's cold, wintry weather makes you feel like climbing the walls, Westover's recreation center is the place for you.

A new piece of exercise equipment lets you do just that -- climb the wall.

It's a new concept in exercise that combines all four categories of fitness into one activity. As "climbers" gain footholds on protrusions on the scrolling stone wall, they pull their weight to higher ground, er, stone.

"The Air Force is now testing for strength, flexibility, cardiovascular and endurance," said Rick Heller, acting recreation director. "The Treadwall works all areas of fitness with one activity." The angle of the wall and the speed of the climb can be adjusted to match climber skill.

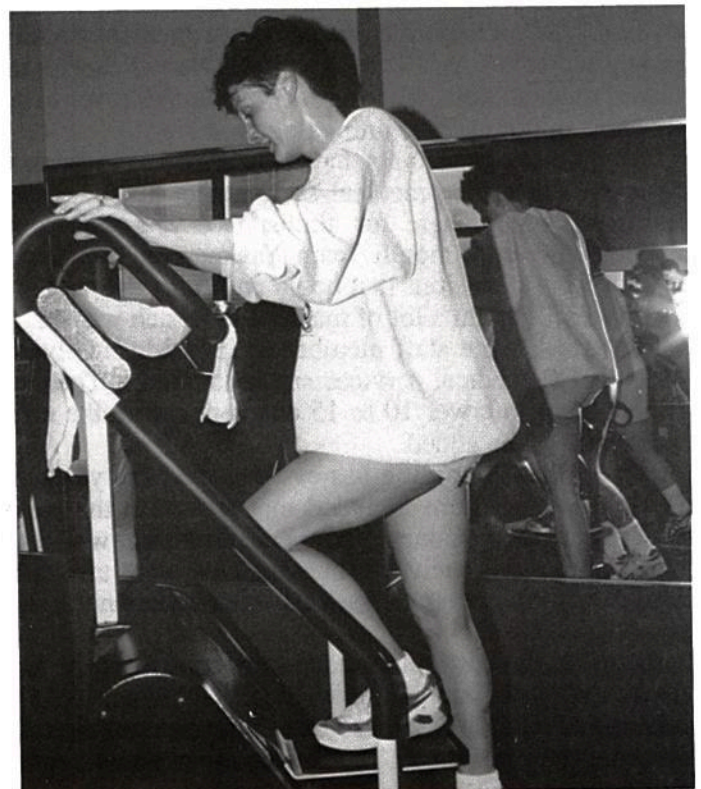
After several minutes climbing the wall, 2nd Lt. Jeff Bruce, 439th AES member, attested to the workout factor as he wiped the sweat from his brow. Another 439th AES member, 2nd Lt. John Galvany has been rock climbing for eight years and scampered up the wall, obviously, not a beginner.

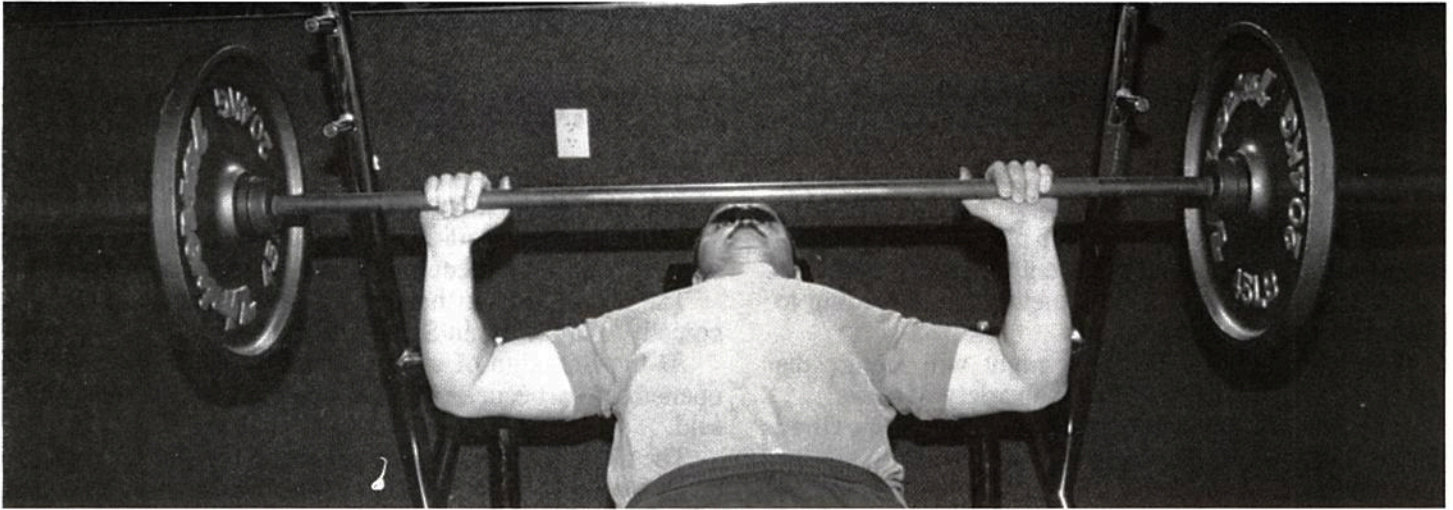
Heller, a ski instructor who trained Army special forces in survival techniques, raves about the fitness features of the wall. He would like to see a similar device installed outdoors and utilized for various mountain climbing skills and competitions.

"We are expanding Services from a singular emphasis on muscle strength, to a much broader approach to fitness and recreation," said Chris Menard, chief of Services.

As the Air Force changes the fitness measurement from walk/run to the ergocycle, Services is hustling to keep pace. "We have six physical fitness assessment cycles due in soon, three treadmills, and two rowing machines to help reservists get in shape," said Menard.

As Lt. Col. Bob Martens, 439th AW chief of safety,





UPWARD -- TSgt. Richard Boyce, 439th EMS aircraft electro-environmentalist, pushes up a bench press, (above), and 2nd Lt. Jeff Bruce, 439th AES corpsman, looks for footing on the new Treadwall.

marked time on the NordicTrack, he praised recreation resources. "It's phenomenal. It's a terrific resource, especially when you consider what similar resources cost on the outside. We know fitness is important, but it is important to get out and do it. I can't afford not to do it," he said. Martens, who uses the gym each time he is on base, commended management for commitment to quality.

"In the 90's, we are learning more about fitness. We now cater to a wider variety of activities," Menard said.

There are weekly aerobics classes at lunchtime and at night, and karate classes for both children and adults. Heller is hoping to organize a "wally-ball" league.

Heller, and his staff, are brimming with enthusiasm, and the focus is on the customer. He said many activities take minimal action to get them up and running. "Once we get the equipment in place, we can go in many directions from there," Heller said.

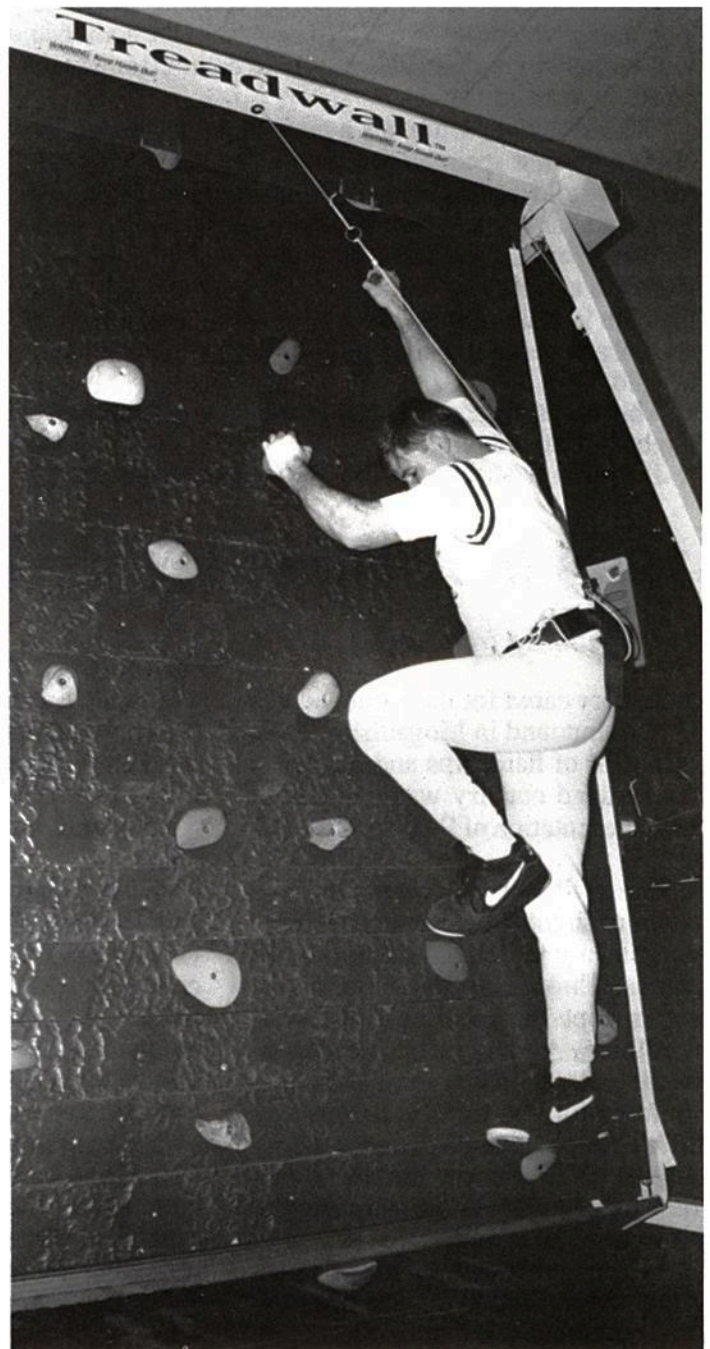
For winter, they hope to flood the lighted ball field for iceskating. The Four Seasons Store has replaced all rental equipment, and offers new weekend specials. A new line of ski equipment, including snow boards, is available for purchase. The snowmobiles are renovated and ready to rent, and Heller hopes to create snowmobile trails with possible cross-country ski trails. Depending on the weather, a winter carnival may be added to the schedule.

Improvements to the bowling alley include a new bumper system for children's bowling, and new masking units to update the decor.

Services personnel are getting ready for spring with plans and new equipment. They currently have mountain bikes and roller blades for sale at Four Seasons, and for rental in the Spring.

Menard stressed the need for customer feedback to insure continued improvement in the recreation program. "We want to tailor our programs to fit the needs of our customer," he said.

Base Services is an excuse-buster for New Year resolutions. With expanded services, anyone can walk, ski, climb, or row to better health and fitness in 1995.



New-look Westover Club offers packed menu

by SrA. Joe McLean

The remodeled Westover Club plans to host a schedule of music, dining and other entertainment that is as innovative as the club's sleek new look, according to John Filler, club manager.

Every Friday and Saturday night will feature the music of DJs and live bands for a variety of tastes.

The January line-up includes rock 'n roll by Hired Help; Carol Hahn & Skylark; and the Who's Who Rhythm Band. A special Country Jamboree with Debby Weyl is on tap at the club Saturday, Jan. 21.

Besides the music, Friday and Saturdays will include gag "sumo wrestling" in which members of the audience will be invited to don rubber suits to demonstrate their amateur wrestling skills.

"The Westover Club has a new menu developed by chefs who first spent a long time listening to what our members told us they wanted. We continue to update the menu, and are glad to hear from our guests," Filler said.

"Members have told me they are proud to bring their guests to a first class dinner at the Westover Club. And the club is making it easier to dine out with a prime rib special and complimentary glass of wine every Sunday," he said.

Thursdays are also special at the club, with Family Night Buffet and bingo.

Pizzas and snacks are on the menu in the casual

lounge throughout the week.

The club offers a quick and economical lunch buffet from a recently updated menu on Tuesdays through Fridays.

The annual dinner theater will feature the Woody Allen comedy "Play It Again Sam" in March.

At the first sign of spring, the club's new patio will be opened for barbecues every Tuesday and Wednesday, Filler said.

The club also offers very attractive packages for wedding receptions and other social events, Filler said. The club manager promises substantial savings, excellent service and attractive surroundings. The newly remodeled ballroom accommodates up to 275 guests, and two other special function rooms are also available.

Starting in January those who are eligible to join, but are not members, will be able to enter by paying a cover charge. There are no cover charges for guests of members. Other membership privileges include 10 percent discounts on meals, not including beverages, and a \$10 certificate towards a birthday dinner.

"The Westover Club has to be self-sufficient, which means it is up to the members to decide the future of their club. The support and input from members will enable the club to serve the Westover community," Filler said.

The Westover Club Advisory Committee meets on Fridays before the "A" UTA and welcomes comments from members.

1994 in review: Westover around the world

Continued from page 1

and Soper cared for the wounded at a U.N. compound in Mogadishu. Their disregard of hardships and danger in the ravaged country was recognized with presentation of Bronze Star medals.

The civil war in Rwanda led to a series of flights to that country beginning in July to deliver aid to refugee camps. Throughout the summer aircrews kept the pipeline filled with medicine, water-purifying equipment, tents, food and more to Goma, Zaire. In July Lt. Col. Fred Castle Jr., 337th AS commander, headed a contingent of 16 aircrew members who flew to Rhein-Main AB, Germany to serve as relief crews.

In September aerial porters loaded a C-5 with 185,000 pounds of medicine and other relief aid collected by

the non-profit AmeriCares. The Westover aircrew delivered it to Germany, where another crew took it on to Kigali, Rwanda. The cargo included 100,000 doses of tetanus toxoid and immune globulin vaccines.

When Cuban refugees from Castro and Haitians filled up tent cities in Guantanamo, Cuba, a 439th AW aircrew was among those called to duty in September. A C-5 carried tents, medical supplies and construction materials from Norfolk Naval Air Station, Va. to Guantanamo.

In October there was a sudden upswing in activity when the wing members were called on to support the Southern Watch troop deployment following Iraqi threats against Kuwait. Iraqi troop movements near the Kuwaiti border prompted President

Clinton to dispatch troops to the Persian Gulf. Two aircrews were dispatched with supplies and more were ready to go. Saddam Hussein's prompt troop withdrawal defused the crisis as additional Patriot Wing reservists were ready to volunteer for duty.

As the year ended, Westover aircrews were ferrying supplies to U.S. troops on peacekeeping and humanitarian missions in Haiti. At the same time, Westover reservists were prepared to answer the call if necessary to back up President Clinton's pledge to deploy ground forces if needed to protect U.N. troops in Bosnia.

The only thing reservists know to be certain about 1995 is that the Patriot Wing will be on short notice call as events unfold around the world.

Readership survey

The 439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office has developed this readership survey to learn how well the "Patriot" is serving its customers.

Your input will help decide the future of the base newspaper.

Please answer all questions and return form to your orderly room or the PA office in Building 1850.

1. How often do you read the "Patriot?"

- a. Always
- b. Usually
- c. Occasionally
- d. Never

2. How much of the "Patriot" do you read?

- a. All of it
- b. More than half
- c. Less than half
- d. None of it

3. How would you rate the contents of the "Patriot?"

- a. Excellent
- b. Good
- c. Fair
- d. Poor

4. How would you rate the overall appearance of the "Patriot?"

- a. Excellent
- b. Good
- c. Fair
- d. Poor

5. What do you like best about the "Patriot?"

6. What to you least like about the "Patriot?"

7. Which areas do you most frequently read? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission stories | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feature stories | <input type="checkbox"/> Patriot Praises |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stores about your unit | <input type="checkbox"/> Commentaries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patriot People | <input type="checkbox"/> News Briefs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unsung Patriots | |

If you have any suggestions our comments about the "Patriot" please write them in the space provided below.

Patriot People

Name: Barbara J. M. Grasso
Rank: SSgt.
Age: 29
Address: Chester, Mass.
Unit: 439 EMS
Position: A/R shop mechanic
Civilian position: ART
Favorite food: Fettucine Alfredo
Years of service: 5
Favorite sport: Softball
Favorite hobby: Jigsaw puzzles
Ideal vacation: Cruise to Caribbean Islands
Best way to relax: In front of fireplace, soft music
Preferred entertainment: John Candy movies
Favorite hero: Captain America
Favorite music: Folksy rock
Favorite movie: *Casablanca*
Favorite aircraft: B-1 Bomber
Pet peeve: Misplacing my keys
What I would do if I won \$1 million: Pay off house, take family on cruise, recondition a 1959 VW Beetle, ski the Alps with best friend



TSgt. Sandi Michon

SSgt. Barbara J. M. Grasso

Team Yankee

Continued from page 5

medical personnel and Team Yankee readily uses them. Former students return as instructors, and student critiques are continually reviewed and incorporated into the curriculum.

Even though the program is only five years old, "it is the largest continuing effort to combine assets and resources to present a joint training curriculum," Gilyard said.

Several Desert Storm veterans, including one corpsman who received the Bronze Star for valor and the Purple Heart, have returned to share their experiences with new students.

The next class will train 100 soldiers of the Connecticut

National Guard in CPR so they can support the World Special Olympics in July, 1995.

Team Yankee proves that interservice training and sharing of resources is an effective course of action against the reality of smaller budgets and reduced personnel of today's Armed Forces.

Coyle commissioned after AMS training

by MSgt. Gordon A. Newell

For the first time since the Academy of Military Science opened its doors in 1971, Air Force Reservists are among the officer candidates of the graduating class and one of them is from Westover.

Second Lieutenant James Coyle, formerly of the 439th Logistics Support Squadron is one of 21 Air Force Reservists of the Air National Guard's training school and he is convinced his experience at AMS will help him in the future.

"I am 100 percent sure I am going to be a better officer because I came here," he said. "They showed me things about myself that probably would have taken years to recognize and improve. This way all the bugs have been worked out in advance."

Coyle, formerly staff sergeant, was in information management for 10 years when he was selected for commissioning. He is now transportation officer for the 58th APS.



Brig. Gen. John Bradley, deputy to the chief of the Air Force Reserve presided over graduation activities and was the principal speaker at the graduation luncheon.

Bradley and others began working on the idea of involving Air Force Reservists in AMS training over a year ago. The six-week course replaced the two-week orientation conducted by the Air Force Officer Training Squadron at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

"This is a very valuable experience for new officers," Bradley said. "I think we sold people short by not providing them adequate training in the past. This school gives them leadership skills and management tools as they return to their units as second lieutenants."

The average officer candidate's day last from 5:30 a.m. to nearly midnight. The curriculum includes classroom studies, heavy physical training and exercise, field training, drill and ceremonies and staff duties.

DWI policy standardized

With a goal of preventing injury or loss of life due to the abuse of alcoholic beverages on base, I have initiated a new policy that will standardize the handling of people stopped on base for suspicion of driving while under the influence.

All suspected cases of driving-under-the-influence will immediately be turned over to the Massachusetts State Police. This includes non-base affiliated civilians, civilian employees and personnel in military status.

The results of being arrested by civilian authorities is both unpleasant and expensive. For starters, suspects will be arrested and transported to a lock up where they will be detained until bail is arranged. In addition to retaining a lawyer for court appearances, the court will assess a \$35 victim/witness fee and a fine up to \$500.

Those found guilty must then complete an eight week long driver's course that costs between \$800 and \$1,200. A \$500 surcharge will then be added to the driver's auto insurance the following year. On top of all this, the guilty driver's license will be suspended for a minimum of 30 days.

As I said earlier, the purpose of this policy is to prevent injury and save lives. If you are at the club and feel you have had one too many, it is just a short walk to billeting. If you will be celebrating off base, use a designated driver or call a taxi.

The consequences of a drunk driving conviction are just not worth the risk.

Commentary

Col. James P. Czekanski
Commander, 439th AW

Shot takes sting out of flu season

Approximately 90 percent, or a total of 2564 Westover reservists, received their flu shot early this winter.

According to clinic officials, the flu vaccine is a derivative of different flu strains from various parts of the world. Flu shots must be repeated yearly because different strains develop and old viruses mutate over time.

While no formal statistics are kept, most reservists report the flu shot is an effective method of avoiding the flu. Some report contracting the flu, but suffer from a much milder case than those not receiving the shot.

"It's [the shot] better than the alternative," said CMSgt. George Kudla, 439th MDS NCOIC.



Briefs

Clinic no longer treatment facility

The 439th Medical Squadron (clinic) is no longer authorized to provide medical care including dispensing prescriptions to local pharmacies for minor illnesses or to conduct FAA physical examinations.

However, it is still appropriate for reservists who become ill or injured while on duty to report to the facility for possible profile change, documentation of the problem and line of duty determination.

This can be done after off-base treatment if the emergency precluded a visit to the clinic first.

For further information, call Ext. 2648 or 3565.

Surplus property lists 800 number

Anyone interested in buying Department of Defense surplus property can now do so without paying for the information.

The new toll free number is 1-800-468-8289 (1-800-GOVT BUY).

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service manages the DoD Surplus Property Sales Program.

When the military services no longer need an item, they turn it over to DRM office for disposal.

Legal reminder

Maj. Bill Wells, Westover's staff judge advocate, has issued a reminder to reservists who are approached by lawyers or investigators attempting to obtain Air Force records or interview Air Force personnel without going through proper channels.

"Any Westover personnel who are contacted regarding any legal or administrative hearing should not discuss these matters with anyone outside the Air Force without checking with the legal office first."

ROA speaker links WWII to today's chaotic world

by Capt. Paul Koscak Jr.

At a time when more bandit governments than ever are foisting their brand of nationalism down the throats of helpless populations, more Americans than ever want to isolate themselves from these global frays.

But lacking the resolve to stand up to international villains only encourages violence. It sends the wrong message to the international community: a message that aggression pays, contends a local expert on foreign policy.

"There is no way America is threatened, and by that definition our foreign policy is in good shape," Vincent Ferraro, a professor of international relations at Mount Holyoke College told Westover officers. "Otherwise, the world is in a state of crisis."

Ferraro's lively address at December's packed Reserve Officers Association luncheon gave everyone some extra food for thought. Heavy food, that is.

Ironically, Ferraro contends, the Cold War was actually a more politically stable period, when most of the world's nations rallied either behind the U.S. or the Soviet Union. The two superpowers - although arch adversaries - at least exerted control over renegade governments.

But the independence of former east block nations and the reluctance of even NATO nations to work together creates a political vacuum. Ferraro cited Norway's recent withdrawal from NATO and the failure of the United Nations to end the turmoil in Bosnia as examples.

"The collapse of the multilateral efforts to restrain Serbian aggression is a tragic and pathetic commentary on the state of the world," he said.

As for the United Nations, Ferraro views it as part of the problem, not the solution. He said the organization governs by trying to force a consensus among member

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Vincent Ferraro
Mt. Holyoke professor
of international relations

nations that are ideologically split, not by asserting direction and leadership.

"The United Nations must decide that some nations do not deserve to be protected," he said.

Meanwhile, it's the U.S. that needs to champion a set of values for the world to judge the actions of other nations. "The will to lead demands a clear vision of what is acceptable and what is unacceptable behavior," Ferraro said. "I'm very disappointed in President Clinton for failing to articulate a position," he said.

And the Mount Holyoke professor fears a parallel in the making to another dangerous time - the period between World I and World War II.

"During that time, Great Britain had the will to remain a world leader, but lacked the power," Ferraro said. "The United States had the power, but lacked the will."

Eventually, that isolationism fueled the Great Depression and the rise of totalitarian regimes in Japan, Germany and Italy.

"And, yes, I do believe that the stakes are just as high today," he said.

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