

PATRIOT

439th Airlift Wing - Westover Air Reserve Base
May 2005 - Vol. 32, No. 5



CHEM CONTEST – Master. Sgt. Michael R. Bellerose, 337th Airlift Squadron first sergeant, dons his chemical warfare defense ensemble during the first-ever 439th Airlift Wing Combat Dining-In held April 9 in the Base Hangar. For more on the dining-in, turn to Pages 3, 8, and 9.

– photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

439th AW MISSION: Actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces

Vice commander bids goodbye

Farewell to Westover.

I've been struggling to write this editorial for the last couple of weeks. After all, it's been almost 30 years that I've been here. I have so many fond memories, stories, and adventures. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd be at one place this long.

I've been very fortunate, mostly lucky, to have spent my whole career in the Air Force all at Westover. In fact, I'm almost certain it's unprecedented in the Air Force Reserve for an officer to have achieved the level of the vice commander at the same base.

I'm also humbled because of the people I've followed. All gentlemen, leaders and strong personalities with one common element that made them successful: They cared about the people they worked with, they cared about the base and what position it has in the history of the Air Force and the military in particular.

What makes the 439th Airlift wing so great and the Team of Choice?

I can't quite put my finger on it; whether it's the strong work ethic in the Northeast, the reputation the wing has in the Air Force system, the water, or what, but it never ceases to amaze me. It's perpetual, it's perennial. No matter what task you're up against, no matter what contingency is happening in the world, no matter what the system throws at you, the people of Westover always rise to the occasion - usually with an "outstanding" or an "excellent" attached to it.

As I reflect back over the years, I think of the things you've been through. From Panama to Grenada, Hurricane Andrew to Mitch, Somalia to Rwanda, earthquakes and other natural disasters, Desert Storm to Desert Fox, Operations Enduring Freedom to Iraqi Freedom. Westover responds. You always respond because that's what makes you great.

This year is yet another one for the annals.

IGX's, SAV's, FAV's, HSI's, UCI's, ASEV's, MSEP's, ATSEP's, IAAP's, OCAMP, ECAMP, Southern Comfort 05, SOA's, self-inspections, checklists - whew, when will it stop?

It will stop when the last inspectors leave toward the end of this year with yet another understanding of how well the folks at Westover work together, and how outstanding you really are.

It's been my distinct pleasure and honor to serve with you. I'm proud to say that I am a member of the 439th Airlift Wing. I'm proud to say that I am a member of the Westover community. Thanks to all of you who have made my professional and personal experience so rewarding and fulfilling over the years. Thanks for being the best of the best!



**Col. Jim
Hosey**

**439th Airlift
Wing vice
commander**

May 2005

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439th Airlift Wing commander

Col. Wade Farris

Chief of Public Affairs

Capt. Jennifer Christovich

Wing Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Wilson Camelo

NCOIC

Senior Master Sgt. Sandi M. Michon

Deputy NCOIC

Master Sgt. Tom N. Allocco

Illustrator

Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

Air Reserve Technician/Editor

Tech. Sgt. Andrew S. Biscoe



Staff

Master Sgt. Anne C. Ward

Staff Sgt. Paul N. Flipse

Staff Sgt. Tom R. Ouellette

Senior Airman Michael S. Lanza

Administration

Stephen P. Lambert

439PatriotEditor@westover.af.mil

- (413) 557-3500 -

www.afrc.af.mil/439aw

Briefs

Retirement celebration set for Colonel Hosey

A celebration of Col. James R. Hosey's retirement will be held May 13 at the Chateau Provost, 85 Montcalm St. in Chicopee, before the A UTA.

The celebration will start with cocktails at 6:30 p.m., followed by hors d'oeuvres and a presentation at 7:30 p.m. The Sun Mountain Band will perform at 8:30 p.m.

Dress is business casual. Tickets are \$28.

The official retirement ceremony for Colonel Hosey will be held May 14 at 10:30 a.m. at the conference center.

For more information, call Lisa Robert, wing protocol officer, at Ext. 3478. Turn to Page 4 for more on Colonel Hosey's retirement and fini flight.

ESGR Bosslift flies employers to Norfolk

Some area employers can fly this summer aboard a Westover C-5 for a tour of one of America's largest military bases.

The Massachusetts Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is organizing a Bosslift flight to Norfolk Naval Air Station, Va., July 20-22. Bosslift flies employers on a military aircraft to a major installation - giving them an inside view of military operations.

The flight is scheduled to leave Westover July 20. Employers will stay at the Navy base for two nights before returning to Westover July 22. Various tours of the base are planned during the visit.

"This ESGR operation is one of the best ways military members can thank their employers for their support," said Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander. "The invitation is extended to all part-time military members, any of which may submit an employer."

For more information, call the 439th AW Public Affairs Office at Ext. 3500.

see BRIEFS continued on Page 11



GILLY GUY – Tech. Sgt. Gerard J. Bernier Jr., 439th Security Forces Squadron, explains his “gilly suit” to Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, Air Force Reserve commander, at the combat dining-in April 9.

General lauds wing at dining-in; tours base

by Capt. Jennifer Christovich

The top leader of the Air Force Reserve stepped down from the Base Hangar stage April 9 to praise the 439th Airlift Wing Dining-In members eye-to-eye.

Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, commander of the Air Force Reserve Command, was the keynote speaker for the first-ever 439th Airlift Wing Combat Dining-In. The general was among more than 500 people who attended the event.

“I haven’t seen spirit and camaraderie like this in years,” he said, as he reacted to the spirited enthusiasm of the crowd.

Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, was the president for the evening, while Senior Master Sgt. Ronald J. LaBonte, 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, was Mr. Vice. Senior Airman Chelsea A. Joyce, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, was Madame Vice.

The general mentioned how impressed he was with the condition of Westover’s C-5s.

“Your C-5s look good, the paint job looks good and thankfully you have an award winning maintenance squadron here,” he said.

Following dining-in protocol, the crowd cheered and thumped their tables with their knuckles.

General Bradley also cited the reliability of the Patriot Wing’s Galaxies. “The average reliability rate is 62 percent, but you guys have a rate of 82 percent. Now that’s impressive! I can’t tell you how proud I am of you,” the general said. “America can’t do its job without Westover.”

Amid more cheers, he also addressed

the Westover troop activation in support of operations following the Sept. 11 attacks.

“I don’t know how you guys did everything you did. We were chosen to open the Baghdad airport; now that’s a big deal. And [Westover] sent the second C-5 ever to arrive at Baghdad.”

He pointed out that the Air Force Reserve component is the only one meeting its recruiting goal and discussed retention rates. “Our retention is higher than it’s ever been. We’re at 90 percent retention and I



photos by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

GALAXY TOUR - Senior Master Sgt. William Carroll, a 337th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, explains the C-5 cargo compartment to General Bradley during the general’s tour of Westover April 10.

attribute that to the fact that people are very proud of what they’re doing.”

Attendees of the dining-in came “armed” with plenty of water and water guns. While volleys of water, rolls, and beach balls soared between tables during the event, many visited the notorious grog bowl. Some, like Col. Udo K. McGregor,

439th Operations Group commander had to make two trips. Colonel McGregor still managed to handle the obstacle course despite being pelted by various flying rolls, silly string, and water balloons.

Also featured was a competition between squadron first sergeants, along with Colonel Farris, to see who could don their chemical gear the fastest. The prize went to Senior Master Sgt. Clifford Wittman, 439th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant.

Each unit decorated their table in hopes they would win the award for best table. The 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron members won the coveted award for dressing their area like a mobilized base at war, similar to a M.A.S.H. unit. The Junior Enlisted Advisory Council (JEAC) organized the Combat Dining-In.

“I want to thank the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council for setting this up,” the general said. “The amount of preparation and work that went into this is extraordinary. We owe them a round of applause.”

After the general’s speech, Colonel Farris called the JEAC members to the stage to lead the dining-in crowd to sing the Air Force Song. Even as the wing commander signaled the end of the dining-in, a few hearty Airmen still had water guns at the ready for one last soaking.

The next morning of the AUTA, Colonel Farris led General Bradley on a tour of selected areas on base. Areas included the control tower, family camping area, dormitories, and a C-5 parked in front of the Base Hangar for the dining-in. “This aircraft is 36 years old?” he asked Colonel Farris while the general sat in a pilot’s seat. “This aircraft looks great. This is impressive.”



HOSEDOWN – Col. Jim Hosey, 439th Airlift Wing vice commander, gets hosed down following his final flight April 8 at Westover. During 30 years here, the colonel was also flight commander, chief pilot, and operations and training officer with the 337th Airlift Squadron.

Colonel Hosey to wrap up 30-year career June 1

Article and photo
by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

Col. James R. Hosey, 439th Airlift Wing vice commander, command pilot and former flight commander, whose 30 years in uniform was capped when he received a Bronze Star Medal for service as a unit commander in Iraq, will retire June 1.

During a long career, Colonel Hosey accumulated more than 6,500 flying hours before the traditional “hosedown” welcome home celebration marking his final flying mission from Mildenhall AB, United Kingdom April 8.

“Westover has been my family for 30 years,” Colonel Hosey said. “I’ve seen a lot of changes here. This has been my life. I have great friends here that I’ll have for the rest of my life.”

Colonel Hosey flew the C-130 Hercules and the C-5 Galaxy as a Patriot Wing aircraft commander before he assumed command of the 439th Airlift Control Flight.

In April, 2003, he led 26 members of the flight to Baghdad International Airport, not long after the former name of Saddam International Airport was torn down by American forces unleashed in Operation Iraqi Freedom. They formed the core of the first tanker airlift control element operation, including maintenance, aerial port, medical and security specialist which conducted airlift of troops, equipment and humanitarian aid into the AOR until July, 2003.

Colonel Hosey earned a Bronze Star when he distinguished himself as commander of the 439th Tanker Airlift Control Element at the newly liberated Baghdad airport. His Bronze Star citation noted that “while exposed to extreme danger from hostile bombing and mortar attacks and enemy intrusions, Colonel Hosey led the highly successful Air Force transition from combat base to sustainment in the newest Middle Eastern hub ... Colonel Hosey played a key leadership role in the rapid build-up and sustainment of coalition and humanitarian airfield operation, while providing complete operational control of all airlift assets.”

As vice commander, Colonel Hosey was responsible for the training and readiness of 2,500 Patriot Wing members and assisted in directing wing activities.

Colonel Hosey grew up in Worcester and graduated from Norwich University in Northfield, Vt. in 1975. He first arrived at Westover in September 1975.

He was commissioned upon graduation and served as a services and logistics officer until beginning pilot training in 1980. Colonel Hosey joined the 337th Tactical Airlift Squadron here as a C-130 pilot in 1981.

From 1987 to 2000, he served as a 337th Airlift Squadron C-5 instructor pilot. During Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990-1991, he earned a Meritorious Service Medal with two devices and an Air Medal when the Patriot Wing played a key role moving troops and heavy cargo to Saudi Arabia.

Before assuming the position of 439th Airlift Wing vice commander in February, 2004, he served for four years as commander of the 439th Airlift Control Flight.

While his ALCF tenure was memorable, Colonel Hosey said Westover’s massive staging operation for Operation Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991 was the premier highlight of his career.

“We had the civilian populace right here in the Base Hangar,” he said. “This (stage) operation solidified Westover’s reputation as a great base. I’ll always remember the atmosphere ... and the genuine treatment of the troops.”

Colonel Hosey couldn’t count how many other recollections he had of his career with the Patriot Wing.

“There are so many fond memories,” he said. “From the leaders to the sweepers, it comes down to the people that made it happen. I’ve really appreciated all of the opportunities I’ve had here. Hopefully, I’ve helped make a difference.”

As a civilian, Colonel Hosey pilots corporate aircraft for a major pharmaceutical company in Rhode Island. He resides in West Yarmouth, Mass.

Commander moves from OSS to 337th AS

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

With the words, "Sir, I assume command," Lt. Col. Louis M. Shogry III accepted the blue flag of command of the 337th Airlift Squadron to succeed Lt. Col. Michael J. Marten during ceremonies April 10. Colonel Marten will serve as 439th Airlift Wing vice commander.

Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, presented the flag during the ceremony held in the Westover Conference Center.

In bidding farewell to the men and women of the 337th AS, Colonel Marten stated, "Other than my family ... this has been the experience that has given me the greatest satisfaction in my lifetime ... the 337th team is the best team in the whole world. I am very proud to have served on that team."

Colonel Shogry called on the flying squadron members to remember the word "focus." He urged them to focus on upcoming missions, inspections and people at a time of increased operational tempo and contin-

gencies. "I am humbled and honored to be commander of the 337th," the new squadron commander said.

Colonel Shogry had served as commander of the 439th Operations Support Squadron since July 2004. As 337th AS commander, he will command the aircrews and support teams who conduct worldwide missions of the wing's fleet of 16 C-5A Galaxies, which deliver heavy and outsized cargo to back up national strategic objectives.

Colonel Shogry, who grew up in Pittsfield, Mass., was commissioned in 1985 following graduation from the Florida Institute of Technology.

He served at George AFB, Calif. and Spangdahlem AB, Germany as an F-4G Wild Weasel pilot. During Operation Desert Storm he flew 35 combat sorties in the Wild Weasel from Bahrain in 1991.

He served as a 337th AS C-5 pilot since 1993, including duty as an instructor pilot and evaluation pilot. He was activated with other squadron members following the



photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

COMMAND CHANGE – Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, presents command of the 337th Airlift Squadron to Lt. Col. Louis M. Shogry III at the conference center.

Sept. 11 attacks on America, flying Enduring Freedom missions throughout the following year.

He and his wife, Jayne, and their two sons reside in New Milford, Conn.

Command pilot takes helm of operations support

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

Lt. Col. Jay C. Milkey succeeded Lt. Col. Louis M. Shogry III as commander of the 439th Operations Support Squadron during ceremonies on April 10 of the AUTA.

Colonel Shogry assumed command of the 337th Airlift Squadron. Colonel Milkey will command a squadron of specialists performing support functions for all C-5 missions, including air traffic control, airfield management, intelligence, aircrew life support, current operations and scheduling, flight records and operational plans.



Colonel Milkey

Colonel Shogry relinquished command with a final order to his troops, calling on them to stand. "It was my distinct pleasure and honor to command you ... I salute you," the departing commander said.

Colonel Milkey expressed appreciation for the confidence shown in him.

"I am truly honored and privileged to be accepted for this post ... my role is to give you the tools to do the mission. I promise to give you 100 percent," Colonel Milkey told the men and women of the 439th OSS.

"I am truly honored and privileged to be accepted for this post ... my role is to give you the tools to do the mission. I promise to give you 100 percent."

-- Lt. Col. Jay C. Milkey, new OSS commander

The new squadron commander paraphrased the words of Gen. John P. Jumper when he called on squadron members to remember that, "Today, there is nothing you can be doing in your lives that is more meaningful and more important than what you are doing."

A command pilot with more than 15,000 flight hours, Colonel Milkey flew in four armed conflicts as a member of the Patriot Wing. In support of the liberation of Grenada, he flew the C-130 Hercules. He was a volunteer flying C-5 missions supporting Operation Just Cause in Panama and was mobilized for Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

A graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Colonel Milkey was commissioned in 1981. He came to the Patriot Wing as a C-130 aircraft commander in the 337th Tactical Airlift Squadron in 1982. In addition to flying, he also served as chief of the Life Support Section from 1984 to 1987.

As a member of the 337th Airlift Squadron, the colonel has served as historian, flight commander and reserve operations officer.

In 2002, he served as chief of C-5 airlift operations of the 17th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Rhein-Main AB, Germany, overseeing a transition from C-5 to C-17 aircraft to the forward-battle area. He later served as commander of the 439th Expeditionary Aerospace Mobility Squadron at Moron AB, Spain, commanding airlift aircrews and maintainers for Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Fundamental Justice.

Colonel Milkey is employed as a B-737 captain for a civilian airline.

Airman attends women in aviation conference

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

Senior Airman Susan M. Bolduc continually looks to where she's planned her future - the sky.

Airman Bolduc, an ambitious 337th Airlift Squadron loadmaster, recently attended the Women in Aviation International Conference held in Dallas. She is also a Westover Human Resources Development Council member.

The 28-year-old became so absorbed in the thrill of meeting people at the conference that she was asked to write about it. She wrote two articles for *Women In Aviation* magazine.

"Anybody who walks, talks, and breathes aviation - like me - was there," she said. "I have a passion for writing. I interviewed exhibitors and military people."

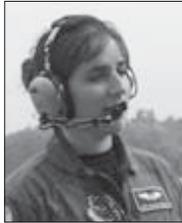
She ended up bringing home a 15-page report on the conference. "Aviation is the greatest and most exciting part of my life," Airman Bolduc said in her report. "My commitment in aviation is exceeded only by my passion for aviation."

Lt. Col. Michael J. Marten, 337th AS commander, and Master Sgt. Lori Boucher, also member of the HRDC, asked Airman Bolduc to attend the conference.

"I jumped at the chance," the Airman said. Airman Bolduc is finishing up her bachelor's degree in aeronautics, with a minor in aviation safety, at Embry-Riddle University, also in Florida. She plans on becoming a C-5 pilot at Westover. "I've wanted to become a pilot since I was four," she said. "I wanted to be enlisted first - so I could have a working understanding of the enlisted workforce."

She has been a loadmaster with the 337th AS since April 2001. A native of Natick, Mass., she lives in Daytona Beach. Besides her commission, Airman Bolduc plans to become more involved in the HRDC too. "I want to get involved with as much as I possibly can," she said.

As for the conference, Airman Bolduc said it provided "in-



Airman Bolduc

Wing human resources council sets goals for 2005

The Human Resources Development Council at Westover primarily comprises four sub-committees.

Three of the four committees are chaired by various 439th squadron commanders: recruiting, Lt. Col. Paul Babin, civil engineering; retention, Col. Belinda Morrone, aeromedical evacuation; mentoring, and Col. Robert Sousa, aeromedical staging. James Kelly, from services, chairs the heritage subcommittee.

The 2005 goals have been defined for each as well the main council, said Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Wood, 439th Airlift Wing performance manager and HRDC member.

"The recruiting subcommittee is partnering with our recruiters to increase the wing family; retention is making great progress tackling issues as addressed by the 2004 leadership summit last July; the mentoring folks are working

to make mentoring a natural process versus a mandated program throughout the wing, and the heritage subcommittee is seeking out ways to identify and celebrate who we are," the chief said.

The main council's goals include finalizing the charter, mission and vision statements, and creating a web site to see the progress being made, Chief Wood said.

AFRC HRDC officials appointed Chief Wood as the 22nd Air Force senior non-commissioned officer representative for this council.

The main council, chaired by Col. Jim Hosey, 439th AW vice commander, meets every other month on Friday before the A UTA at 4:30 p.m. in the wing conference room. The next HRDC meeting will be held June 3.

Anyone wishing to join the council or a particular committee should contact Chief Wood at Ext. 2876.

valuable" information.

"It taught me that my hard work in any of my current and future aviation endeavors affect not only myself, but also the voice that makes up the thousands of women and the men in our diverse world of aviation."

New health plan extends care for activated reservists

WASHINGTON - Health care for reservists got a booster shot April 25. That's when a premium-based health care plan started for those activated for a contingency anytime since 9/11.

Department of Defense officials announced Tricare Reserve Select at a Pentagon news conference March 24.

"We are committed to providing the proper combination of compensation and benefits that will allow us to attract and retain the world's best fighting force," said Charles Abell, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

TRS offers a bridge for reservists entering or leaving active duty who are not covered by a civilian employer or other health insurance plan. It's similar to Tricare Standard and comparable to the Blue Cross

and Blue Shield Plan for federal employees.

Monthly premiums for a reservist are \$75. A reservist and family pays \$233. Premiums will be adjusted annually.

Air Force reservists must serve on active duty for 90 consecutive days or more on or after Sept. 11, 2001, in support of a contingency. And, they must enter an agreement with Air Force Reserve Command to serve in the Selected Reserve for one or more years before leaving active duty. If they got off active duty, they have until October 28 to apply.

Reservists earn one year of care for every 90 days of continuous active-duty service and every year of service commitment. For example, reservists with 360 days of qualifying active duty can get four years of coverage if they sign up for four years in the Selected Reserve.

Coverage ends when the service agreement ends. It stops sooner if the reservist separates from the Selected Reserve, voluntarily withdraws from the program or fails to pay the monthly premiums.

The Tricare Web site - www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect - will have more details. To get updates by e-mail, reservists and their families can subscribe to www.tricare.osd.mil/tricaresubscriptions/

For reservists enrolled in the Transitional Assistance Management Program, coverage will start the day after TAMP ends. Westover reservists with questions should call Kathleen J. Vorse, Tricare representative at Hanscom AFB, Mass., at (781) 266-5980 or e-mail at Kathleen.J.Vorse@healthnet.com. For more health care information, turn to Page 13.

(AFRC News Service)

Volunteers add to strength of family program

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

The Westover Family Support Center's Key Family Member Program (KFMP) continues to gain strength with its staff of volunteers.

Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, took time to recognize the efforts of those volunteers with an awards ceremony held over the April A UTA.

More than 20 volunteers received certificates from the commander as part of his appreciation for their contributions to the wing. In addition, Colonel Farris presented a framed C-5 picture to Laura Coseglia, family support director from Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y. Ms.



Laura Coseglia

Coseglia has been at Westover since February, assisting the family support staff with the KFMP organization and operation. Kim Farris, wife of Colonel Farris, introduced the program to the 439th AW in July 2004.

KFMP members meet monthly at the wing conference room in Bldg. 1850, wing headquarters. The next meetings are set for 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. May 11.

In other family support news, the staff is planning "Galaxy Adventure" to coincide with the wing's annual Family Day set for Sept. 10. Family support, along with the Key Family Member volunteers, are sponsoring the kids day event, scheduled to run from 8 to 11 a.m. that day. Master Sgt. Kimberly A. Babin, family support superintendent, asked for volunteers from all 439th AW units to help with putting on the event.

"In order to do this, we need support from the units," Sergeant Babin said. "Our hope is to have the units set up a display in their areas depicting what they do. This will help the children understand what their parent does while training at Westover."

Plans call for the children to be bused to various display areas. "Galaxy Adventure" is only open to family members of Air Force reservists at Westover, Sergeant Babin said.

Examples of what is planned may include camouflage face painting, a K-9 dog demonstration, fire truck demo, fire extinguisher training, how to make an emergency call, a C-5 static display tour, and much more.

The final event of the morning will include a "mini commander's award" ceremony, when Colonel Farris will make a presentation to the children.

More information on "Galaxy Adventure Day" will follow in the next available

Patriot. For more information, call Sergeant Babin at Ext. 3024.

Veterans committee to honor military members

The Veterans Memorial and Patriotic Committee of Chicopee will honor military members June 4 who reside in Chicopee and have served in the Middle East. Members and their families will be invited to a free dinner at the American Legion Post 452, on Exchange Street. It starts at 4 p.m.

"It is reassuring to know we have a community who shares the same enthusiasm and devotion to supporting our troops," said Master Sgt. Kimberly A. Babin, superintendent of the Westover Family Support Center. "Over the past three years, Airmen from Westover have been called to duty in levels not seen in more than 50 years. It's more important than ever to have a strong support network to help our Airmen and their families during these difficult times."

Military members need to reply by May 21 to Charles Kovitch at (413) 593-3983 or Sergeant Babin at Ext. 3024.

Patriot Wing 'Get One' winners earn awards for referrals

The following 439th Airlift Wing members earned "Get One" awards for the second quarter of fiscal 2005:

Most referrals:

Master Sgt. Jennifer Picard, 439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron (five referrals).

Sergeant Picard will receive early sign out, (one hour - choice of month and coordinated with supervisor); a T-shirt & hat (provided by recruiting) and a certificate signed by Col. Wade Farris, 439th AW commander.

Most accesses (seven-way tie each with one accessed):

Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Colucci, 337th Airlift Squadron

Master Sgts. Mark C. Boganski and Ronald A. Stagg, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron

Staff Sgt. Katie L. Fisher, 42nd Aerial Port Squadron

Senior Airman Jacqueline K. Carey, 439th Maintenance Squadron

Senior Airman Justin Isaacs, 439th Services Squadron

Senior Airman Matthew Swindlehurst, 42nd APS

These members will receive and upgrade to chief/distinguished visitor suite at lodging for one drill weekend; a certificate signed by Colonel Farris, and a commander's coin.

For more information about the "Get One" program, call the recruiting office at Ext. 2125. The office is located on Patriot Avenue near the base ellipse.

Get One referral information

'Get One' referrals need to be sent to Patricia Simonds at the Westover recruiting office. There are three ways the information may be sent:

1. Call Mrs. Simonds at (413) 557-2125 or DSN 589-2125 let her know you have a 'Get One'
2. E-mail: Patricia.Simonds@Westover.af.mil
3. Or fax the information below to: 413-557-2126 or DSN 589-2126

REFERRAL INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name: _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone number: _____

YOUR INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name: _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone number: _____ Unit: _____

Status (Traditional reservist, air reserve technician, etc.): _____

Date of birth: _____ Rank: _____



photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

PATRIOT PRAISE – Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander, praises Westover's hard work in a speech during the dining-in.



photo by Senior Airman Brian Boynton

GROG CHECK – Senior Master Sgt. Ronald J. LaBonte, dining-in vice, prepares the grog bowl for those who would the rules of the mess.



photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

MASSIVE MESS – More than 500 people attended the Patriot Wing's first combat dining-in.



photo by Senior Airman Brian Boynton

GOOD CHOW – Lt. Col. Jay Milkey, 439th Operations Support Squadron commander, enjoys the first combat dining-in.

Water guns, grog bowls, and water balloons at Westover's first...

Combat Dining-In



photo by Senior Airman Brian Boynton

TO THE MESS - (From left) Capt. Jeffrey Milligan, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Capt. David P. Walsh, 439th Maintenance Squadron, and Senior Master Sgt. Earl Duncan, 439th AMXS first shirt, toast the mess.



photo by Senior Airman Brian Boynton

BANG – Tech. Sgt. David Halat, 439th Communications Squadron, has his squirt gun at the ready.



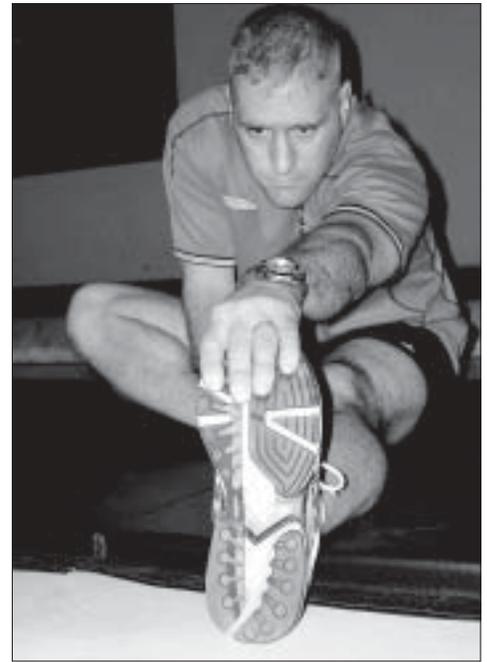
photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope

ONE HELLUVA ROAR – Members of the Junior Enlisted Advisory Council and Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, sing the Air Force Song at the end of the dining-in.

*an Boynton, 439th Communications Squadron
ood at the dining-in.*



RULES OF THE ROAD – Maj. Patrick S. Ryan, 439th Airlift Wing executive officer and wing fitness coordinator, explains the fitness challenge rules to the participants.



photos by Master Sgt. Anne Ward

STRETCH – Master Sgt. Michael P. Bellerose, 337th Airlift Squadron first sergeant, stretches before the fitness challenge.

Commanders lead the way in second annual fitness challenge

by Staff Sgt. Tom Ouellette

More than 60 of the Patriot Wing's highest-ranking members led the charge in this year's Air Force fitness test during the second annual "Fit-to-Fight Commander's Challenge" held April 9 during the AUTA.

"We're trying to set the pace. You don't ask people to do something you wouldn't do yourself," said Chief Master Sgt. David Carbin, 439th MXS first sergeant.

Using the four components of the fitness test, Westover's commanders, chiefs, first sergeants and wing staff traded in their combat boots for sneakers and battled for the top score.

Ratings are based on total points earned in a 1.5 run, crutches, push-ups and waist circumference.

The commanders ran away with top honors for the second consecutive year, compiling an average score of 91.1 percent. Their gutsy efforts not only earned them base bragging rights, but a plaque commemorating their accomplishments to adorn wing headquarters' trophy case.

The wing staff finished second, followed by the chiefs. The first shirts finished last.

PATRIOT PUNS

BY MASTER SGT. W.C. POPE



Panini plate



photo by Senior Airman Michael Lanza

TASTE TEST - Tim Kafel, Westover Club manager, introduces the new Panini sandwich line to customers at the base exchange in April. The grilled sandwich is available in ham and cheese, ham and turkey and vegetarian. Panini sandwiches will be served at the club throughout the year.

Exclusive Manhattan hotel serves armed forces

The Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen's Club, Inc., located in mid-town Manhattan, is a hotel exclusively for members of the Armed Forces. The hotel provides convenient and affordable accommodations, and is in walking distance from Grand Central Station, the Empire State Building, Penn Station and the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

The "club" (as it is commonly referred to) is open to Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Merchant Marines, National Guard and Navy personnel (including active duty, cadets, reservists, retirees and veterans).

Founded in 1919 by Cornelia Barnes, Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. and General John J. Pershing, the hotel is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the general welfare of Service members and their families. Occupation is not based upon rooms available, but the number of beds available. Guests may share a room with one or more guests of the same sex unless registered as a couple. Reservations are required; the maximum stay is 21 days. For more information visit <http://www.ssmclub.org>.

BRIEFS continued from Page 2

Westover wins command installation award

Air Force Reserve Command officials announced in mid-April that Westover was selected as the command's nominee for the Air Force 2005 Commander in Chief's Annual Awards for Installation Excellence.

The award cites the mission, infrastructure, quality of life, customer service, and environment at Westover.

Areas that helped win the award included Westover's joint service installation status, the 2004 Great New England Air Show, and the assistance offered by the Westover Family Support Center.

Results of the Air Force-level contest were scheduled to be announced in late May.

Weapons training times change for two A UTAs

The 439th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms section is changing the fiscal 2005 weapons training schedule for the May and June A UTAs.

This change is necessary to conduct security forces night firing requirements. M-16A2 rifle training for Saturday of the May and June A UTAs will instead be conducted Sundays of the UTAs.

M-9 pistol training for Sunday, May 15 will be rescheduled to July 10. M-9 training for Sunday, June 5, will be rescheduled for Aug. 7. For more information call Tech. Sgt. Quinn D. Moriarty at Ext. 2061.

Logistics readiness gets new plans officer

A former aerial port officer took command of the 439th Logistics Readiness Squadron's plans office in February.

Maj. Joseph M. Revit is also the operations officer at the LRS. "We make sure the squadron is focused to ensure mission accomplishment," he said.

LRS is responsible for supplying equipment, fuel and transportation throughout the base. "LRS helps ensure that we as a wing maintain operational capabilities," he said.

Major Revit is also serves as a unit deployment manager, ensuring that personnel are properly trained to deploy.

Major Revit has served in the Air Force since 1986. He has served with ground safety, education and training, military personnel, aerial port, and logistics squadrons in Willow Grove ARS, Pa. and Grissom ARB, Ind.

Air Force chief of staff, his wife visit deployed services specialist

The Air Force's highest ranking man recently met with some of Westover's deployed reservists at their deployed location in South-west Asia.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and his wife, Ellen, met Senior Airman Aubrey R. Alnutt Feb. 23, during a three-day visit. The deployed Airman recently e-mailed a description of her living and working conditions. Airman Alnutt is among five Westover reservists deployed overseas. The Airman's deployed location cannot be published for security reasons.

"We are actually having fun," Airman Alnutt said in the e-mail. "We work three days on and one day off. We get to go off base and see some places and of course spend some money. Things are stable ... we have a lot of events such as sports and tournaments."

Airman Alnutt is kept busy at the base dining hall. "We escort TCNs (contractors), we watch them to make sure everything is fine and they're not doing anything wrong," she said. "Other than that we are more than half way done, we have a month and a half left and I can't wait to get back. Being here just made me realize how good our unit is back home."

The services deployers were scheduled to return in early May.



Courtesy photo

CHIEF VISITS – Senior Airman Aubrey R. Alnutt, deployed 439th Services Squadron member, stands with Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper and his wife, Ellen, in February. The general visited the deployed location for three days.

New cop shop under way



photo by Senior Airman Michael Lanza

STEEL SKELETON – Civilian workers assemble the complex lattice frame in April that will be the structure of the new security forces building. The building is expected to be completed by October.

ASTS Airman among 17 competitors for annual command honors

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – A 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron staff sergeant was among 17 Airmen who were part of the 2004 Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Airman/First Sergeant of the Year competition.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Carlin, from Ipswich, Mass., was the Patriot Wing's Airman of the Year for 2004. The competition was held April 7 in the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight hangar at Robins AFB, Ga. The sergeant was the 22nd Air Force Airman of the Year. Senior Airman Erik R. Hofmeyer, Eglin AFB, Fla., was named outstanding AFRC Airman of the Year.



Sergeant Carlin

Flexibility key to force development in AF Reserve

by Tech. Sgt. Jason Tudor
Citizen Airman Magazine

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. – Force development for members of the Air Force Reserve will be tailored to meet the needs of Citizen Airmen and be flexible enough to satisfy the career goals of reservists of all shapes and sizes, according to the officer overseeing the program.

Maj. Dean Hicks, force development point person for the Air Force Reserve at the Pentagon, said no one will lose sight of the “unique needs” of Reserve officers, enlisted troops and civilians.

“The vision for Reserve force development – as an element of Total Force development – is to create a Reserve force that is responsive to overall Air Force requirements and can be managed as an integral part of the Total Force,” Major Hicks said. “In doing so, we cannot lose sight of the fact that we are predominantly a part-time force and must respect the fact that we share our reservists with their civilian employers and their families. The challenge is finding a way to deliberately develop our people while still respecting their time and volunteerism.”

“Force development” is the term coined by senior leaders when discussing how the Air Force trains, educates and assigns its Airmen. It includes changes to developmental education and the assignment process. Force development stems from direction given by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper in November 2002.

Much of the force development “foun-

ation” comes from the Air Force Strategic Personnel Plan. It’s also based on the recently published Air Force Doctrine Document 1-1, Leadership and Force Development. Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, Air Force Reserve Command commander, emphasized the importance of the doctrine document in a recent message.

“It lays the foundation for how we deliberately develop the force,” he said. “We have taken its tenets to heart. ...”

In the 18-page document called “Force Development (Reserve Officer) Concept of Operations,” senior leaders pinpointed what’s needed during this transformation.

“(The goal is) translating desired mission effects into capabilities and determining the human competencies needed to satisfy them,” the document said.

Force development, Major Hicks said, will help ensure Reserve officers – be they at the tactical, operational or strategic level of the fight – “will have the requisite occupational and leadership competencies to excel.”

Force development affects each functional area. Similar to the active-duty force, the Reserve formed an integrated process team almost two years ago to look at functional areas across the board. The Reserve organized the team around the various reservist categories – Active Guard and Reserve, individual mobilization augmentee, traditional reservist and air reserve technician. The team met four times with the most recent meeting taking place in February.

Officers have already seen two changes, both in the area of selection for developmental education courses. In a change occurring in 2004, personnel records were also updated to reflect reduced emphasis on secondary degrees.

Much of the early process focused on revamping the career paths of about 16,000 officers, but the command’s top chief mas-

ter sergeant said the same transformation is beginning for the 60,000-plus members of the enlisted force.

“The ultimate goal is to ensure the Air Force Reserve deliberately develops enlisted people to meet future needs,” said Chief Master Sgt. Jackson A. Winsett, AFRC command chief master sergeant.

Meanwhile, as the Reserve enlisted transformation begins, the chief said he has six priorities:

- * Proper utilization of the enlisted force.
- * Developing the enlisted force to assume greater responsibility.
- * Ensuring that families are priority one.
- * Continuing to foster the relationship between the Citizen Airman and the employer.
- * Recognition of the Reserve’s people.
- * Ensuring all enlisted people have a fair and equitable opportunity to succeed.

Chief Winsett described why it is so important to ensure any changes to the enlisted system work.

“Lots of folks – civilian and military – don’t realize there are 60,000 enlisted people in all categories – unit, IMA, AGR, ART and active duty – assigned to the command,” the chief said. “Those men and women are counting on us to make the right call and to ensure that the recommendation or decision is always fair and equitable.”

Chief Winsett met with the enlisted integrated process team March 17 and 18 in Washington, D.C. The outcome of the meeting was not readily available.

With change on the horizon, Major Hicks emphasized the need to tailor force development to the needs of Air Force reservists.

“The continuing goal in Reserve force development is deliberate and organized development tailored to meet AFR needs within the context and culture of the Citizen Airman program,” he said.

(AFRC News Service)

Military health plan achieves enrollment milestone of 10,000

BOSTON - The Military Health System’s US Family Health Plan announced in April that its membership in southern New England has surpassed 10,000 members. Attaining this enrollment milestone reflects the success the plan has had in providing high-quality care and service to its members and maintaining very high levels of member satisfaction.

“We are honored that so many military families have entrusted us with their care.” US Family Health Plan members receive the comprehensive TRICARE Prime medical benefit which includes preventive care, outpatient care, emergency treatment, hospitalization, and prescription benefits through a network of local civil-

ian physicians and hospitals. Active-duty family members, as well as retirees and their dependents with Medicare Part B who join the Plan, receive virtually free healthcare, and pay no enrollment fees or co-payments for covered medical services, except for prescriptions.

Military retirees and their dependents without Part B pay an annual enrollment fee of \$230 for individual coverage, \$460 for family coverage, and have modest co-payments for most medical services.

In addition to TRICARE benefits, US Family Health Plan members have access to special value-added benefits such as chiropractic care, massage therapy, and discounts on eyewear, hearing aids and fitness

centers.

“Reaching this significant milestone reminds us that hard work, a commitment to quality, and our shared efforts result in success. It is important to recognize that this success is due not only to the unwavering commitment shown to our members by our providers and staff, but most importantly to our members themselves, who have placed their trust in us,” added Mr. Chicoine. US Family Health Plan is provided throughout southern New England by Brighton Marine Health Center, through a contract with the Department of Defense. More information about US Family Health Plan is available at:

www.usfamilyhealthplan.org, or by calling 1-888-815-5510.



photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

MARINES RETURN - Westover Marine reservists arrive at the base Feb. 25 following a deployment to Iraq. Hundreds of family members gathered in the Base Hangar to welcome the 180 Marines.

Worker thanks base for camaraderie

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Katrina Bleau, a production controller and vehicle operations dispatcher with the Westover's vehicle operations office, left in February. Ms. Bleau worked at Westover for five years. She sent the following thought in a goodbye e-mail to the base.

In the next few months, my husband, Lt. Joseph Letourneau, and I and our little family will be reporting to Wuerzburg, Germany. We'll be there for the next three years. The contractor change here could not have come at a better time. I will have the next few months at home with my children, and will be able to gear everything up and get ready for the move.

I just wanted to take this time to say good-bye, and to say that I have enjoyed working with and getting to know all



Katrina Bleau

of you. Each of you has touched my life in some small way, and I am grateful for that and for the time I had at Westover.

To those of you who have been more a friend than merely a co-worker (and you know who you are), I thank you for your friendship. Too many times we forget who our friends are, and what really matters in life. We forget that every big picture is made up of tiny flecks and pixels. All of you have been 'pixels' in the 'big picture' of my life.

For those of you who want to keep in touch, or will just be looking for some place to crash in Germany for Oktoberfest, my personal e-mail address is KBleau117@yahoo.com

I hope that many of you will keep in touch over the years. Hopefully our paths will cross again.

New eagles



photo by Senior Airman Kris Denkers, 439th OSS

COLONEL TIME - Lt. Col. Udo K. McGregor, 439th Operations Group commander, is promoted to colonel by Col. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, and Colonel McGregor's wife, Jill, March 2, in the wing conference room.

Patriot People



photo by Senior Airman Michael Lanza

Master Sgt. Bert A. Quick

Name: Bert A. Quick
Rank: Master sergeant
Age: 44
Address: West Springfield, Mass.
Unit: 439th Operations Support Squadron
Position: First sergeant
Civilian position: Payroll manager
Favorite food: Spaghetti and meatballs
Years of service: 22
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: My kids
Ideal vacation: On the beach with my family
Best way to relax: My family
Preferred entertainment: Movies
Favorite hero: My uncle Elvio
Favorite music: Country
Favorite movie: Stargate
Favorite aircraft: C-5A
Pet peeve: Lack of discipline
What would I do if I won \$1 million: Pay for my children to go to college and buy my uncle a snow blower.

Patriot Praises

New arrivals:

Maj. Joseph Revit
 Staff Sgt. Victor Wong
 Senior Airman Ulric
 Musmannobarrera
 Airman Mandy Joann Galia

Retired:

Master Sgt. Frank A.
 Domenichella III
 Tech. Sgt. Fredrick W. Bushnell
 Staff Sgt. Aaron
 R. Charbonneau

Enlistments:

Staff sergeant
 Carlos Bonilladiaz
 Joseph M. Favaloro
 Robert D. Horner
 Aluin Morales
 Wayne R. Petrucci Jr.
 Victor C. Union III

Senior airman
 Bryant K. Bridges
 Gergory J. Dotson
 Geoffrey M. Gallant
 Jenny R. Polanco
 Nathan D. Rayner

Airman first class
 Laura A. Britt
 Mellissa S. Bruso
 Nicole L. Garrison
 Ruben A. Gomez
 Kristin L. Hewitt
 Glenn W. Mcavoy
 Julie A. Novak
 Jeffery E. Pimentel
 Davielle L. Rodgers

Awards and Decorations	
Air Medal	Master sergeant Richard A. Bergeron Bruce B. Buechele* Mark A. Czmyr**
Senior Airman Daniel E. Szafranowicz	Richard E. Ferranti Robert A. Harris Thaddeus M. Malysz Richard R. Michaud* Richard G. Sandman* Robert T. White II
Meritorious Service Medal	Technical sergeant Dale E. Reed Steven J. Wetmore
Lt. Col. Sally N. Morger*	Air Force Achievement Medal
Senior Master Sgt. Wade Tate*	Chief Master Sgt. Michael G. Ingham***
Master sergeant Steven J. Forcum Teresa I. Hendricks Lisa A. Spence-Elder Joseph Szczepanek* Jeffrey A. Whitehead*	Master sergeant Clayton D. Hanright* Robert F. Metcalf
Tech. Sgt. Timothy A. Ford	Air Force Commendation Medal
Air Force Commendation Medal	Robert F. Metcalf
Capt. Lisa B. Houle**	Tech. Sgt. John E. Lawrence**
Senior Master Sgt. Alan P. Dedinas**	

* First oak leaf cluster ** Second oak leaf cluster *** Third oak leaf cluster

Virginia C. Schuett
 Sarah M. Starkey
 Ralph E. Webber E. III

Airman basic
 Henry B. Backus Jr.
 Eric D. Ciborowoski

Cathy A. Loesch
 Amy E. Guertin

Wing invites employers of reservists to Westover

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

Members of the 439th Airlift Wing may invite their employers to spend a day at Westover to learn more about the reserve mission.

Employer Appreciation Day is scheduled for July 14. Col. Wade Farris, 439th AW commander, encourages all wing members to take part in the annual event.

“This is an annual opportunity for employers of our reservists to see what we do first-hand,” he said. “Ask your boss to spend the day with us. I know they will have a greater admiration for what we do if they get to see it up close.”

To have invitations sent to their bosses, reservists should fill out the application form that appears on this page and return it to the Public Affairs Office. Application forms are also available at the PA office. A letter will then be sent to each employer from Colonel Farris.

Appreciation Day will start at 8:30 a.m. at the Westover Club with coffee and refreshments. After welcoming remarks from the wing commander, and activities to showcase reservists challenges, they will board a unit C-5 for an orientation flight. After the flight (which will last about two hours), they will be luncheon guests of Colonel Farris at the club.

After lunch, a tour of a maintenance facility will be offered.

Reservists who wish to join their employers for lunch must pay in advance. The price will be announced in the *Patriot* later this spring.

Each reservist will be allowed to invite

just one supervisor. Only those reservists assigned to the aircrew will be allowed on the C-5 orientation flight.

Further information is available at PA in Bldg. 1850 or by calling (413) 557-3500, or e-mail at patriot.editor@westover.af.mil

Employer Appreciation Day application form

Reservist's name, rank and unit:

Reservist's home address and home e-mail:

Reservist's daytime telephone number:

Employer's name, title and work e-mail:

Employer's company name/address:

Lunch for employer: YES _____ NO _____

Lunch for reservist: YES _____ NO _____

I understand that I may nominate one person annually, and only an individual who is my supervisor, foreman, manager, etc.

Signature _____

(Falsification of information on this form can be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.)

Return this form to:

439th Airlift Wing/ Public Affairs, 100 Lloyd St., East Wing, Suite 103
Westover ARB, Mass. 01022-1825, fax (413) 557-2011

PATRIOT

www.afrc.af.mil/439aw

May UTA schedule
A UTA May 14-15
B UTA May 21-22



439th AW/PA
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE
100 Lloyd Street
East Wing, Suite 103
CHICOPEE, MA 01022-1825

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Published monthly for Patriots like Staff Sgt. Ana Frias, Wareham, Mass., and 2,396 reservists of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and the wing's geographically separated unit.