

Plan B

Westover maintainers
adapt to challenges
with C-5B fleet

page 6

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IN THIS ISSUE |

Briefs | **pg. 3**

Baghdad Flights | **pg. 4**

Family Day | **pg. 5**

C-5B Maintenance | **pg. 6**

Volleyball | **pg. 9**

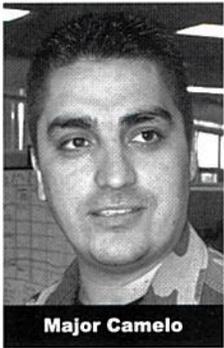
HRDC Highlights | **pg. 10**

Patriot Puns | **pg. 11**



ON THE BALL >> Alexandria Pope reaches for a ball during Family Day Sept. 9 at Westover. Hundreds of family members joined reservists on the September A UTA for an afternoon of kids' games, a dunking booth and volleyball. For more on Family Day, turn to pages 5 and 12. (photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope)

EDITORIAL | Air Force honors Hispanic heroes during heritage month



Major Camelo

You might not have heard of him, but Leo Camelo has contributed to our national defense and to the mission of the 439th Airlift Wing. No, he's not a retired general or Medal of Honor winner, nor will you recognize his name from any

professional military education courses.

He is my dad.

His contributions come from the fact he instilled a sense of patriotism and service to country in me. While a dad inspiring a sense of duty to his son is certainly - and fortunately - not uncommon, what is more interesting is that as first generation Hispanic immigrants from Colombia, I grew up in a household that always felt we should give back to this great country for the freedoms and the endless opportunities we enjoy.

So, on the occasion of Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, when we should rightly recognize all the contributions

Hispanics have made to national defense, I would like us all to also take the time to recognize the fathers, mothers, family members and loved ones who helped inspire our Hispanic men and women in uniform to service.

Looking at history, the contributions Hispanics have made to national defense has been remarkable and important. From the American Revolution to Operation Iraqi Freedom, Hispanics have not only proven valorous in combat - as demonstrated by the 39 Hispanics whose bravery in combat has earned them the Congressional Medal of Honor - but Hispanics also contribute in day-to-day capacities and through personifying our Air Force core values.

It may sound cliché or hokey to some, but the beauty of the Air Force is that it is made up of people of all races and ethnicities all working toward the same mission. Therefore it is incumbent on each of us, regardless of race, to continue to inspire other Hispanics to serve our nation in uniform.

Why is this important? Because Hispanics are still underrepresented in the Air Force and in the Air Force Reserve. So, while I feel proud to be a Hispanic officer, I am saddened by the fact only about 3.5 percent of the Air Force Reserve officer corps is Hispanic. The news is not much better on the active

duty side where Hispanics comprise only six percent of the enlisted force and approximately 3.5 percent of the officer corps, according to the Department of Defense report on social representation in the U.S. Military Services release for fiscal year 2004. This runs in contrast to the civilian sector where the Hispanics population and purchasing power continues to boom in all sectors.

An Air Force that reflects the American public we swore to defend against all enemies foreign or domestic is to everyone's advantage. And, it is up to all of us to inspire the next generation of Hispanics wearing Air Force blue. Without inspiration, we would not have the Hispanic heroes like Lt. Gen. Elwood Quesada, who along with then-Maj. Carl Spaatz proved the importance of air refueling in 1929, or Capt. Manuel Fernandez, an F-86 fighter pilot credited with 14.5 enemy kills during the Korean War.

While our Hispanic military heroes themselves serve as inspiration, we still need everyday people to instill a sense of service and duty to the next generation. In other words, we need more Leo Camelos.

Maj. Wilson Camelo
439th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

BRIEFS |

Command extends patch deadline

The Air Force Reserve Command extended the mandatory wear date of the patch to May 1, 2007.

Due to limited numbers of patches, about one-fourth of the needed patches were available to the field by September, AFRC officials said.

Extending the wear date will allow more time for remaining ordered patches to be delivered to the field for issue.

Daycare begins Oct.

Westover will be offering limited daycare service for reservists beginning on the Oct. A UTA.

The service will be provided in Holyoke, Mass.

For more information, call Chris Menard, base services director, at Ext. 2899.

Top 3 holds first meeting Oct. 14

Organizers invite all Top 3 enlisted members to attend the first Top 3 meeting on the October A UTA.

The meeting will be held Oct. 14 at 3 p.m. at the wing conference center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Elaine J. Perreault at Ext. 2067.

Delinquencies concern commanders

Patriot Wing commanders are very concerned with increasing Bank of America credit card delinquencies at Westover.

Reserve members must take financial responsibilities very seriously, as this can affect their future military careers, said Maj. John J. Ryan, 439th Airlift Wing accounting and finance officer. Unit commanders are dealing with members whose delinquencies run more than 60 days.

To avoid these situations, reservists must ensure they file temporary duty vouchers immediately upon completion of duty, and with correct documentation for processing. Required documentation includes two copies of the travel voucher, orders (all pages) with attachments, lodging, rental car, and ATM receipts, non-availability or contract quarter slips and any other receipts pertinent to the voucher.

Split disbursement is mandatory, and members can indicate a specific dollar amount or choose to have the entire payment applied to their account, Major Ryan said.

For more information, call travel pay at Ext. 3461 or military pay Ext. 3880.

Scholarship deadline extended

Enlisted members of the Patriot Wing can apply up to noon Oct. 7 for one of the three \$500 scholarships the Chiefs Council is offering.

Packages will be boarded that weekend with results announced Oct. 8. Criteria is listed below and application is attached.

To be eligible to apply, applicants must have proof of a 3.0 grade point average, or if entering college for the first time; he or she must provide proof of enrollment. Applicants need to complete the application form to include an essay entitled "My goals as an Air Force enlisted person."

Applications must be submitted to Chief Master Sgts. Joseph J. Cullen, Tammy Vezina, or Kathy Wood.

Recipients will be awarded the scholarship money in October. Questions may be directed to Chief Vezina at Ext. 3428 or Chief Wood at Ext. 2876.



ON APPROACH >> Clouds frame a C-5 on final approach. The 439th Airlift Wing recently began regular C-5 flights directly into Iraq. (file photo)

C-5s begin missions to Iraq

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

Patriot Wing aircrews have been doing it all since 9/11, but since August they have been hearing an order never before given in the 337th Airlift Squadron briefing room:

“We’re going to Baghdad.”

The 337th AS aircrews, for the first time, are taking Patriot Wing Galaxies into what they call BIAP, the former Saddam Hussein Airport, now Baghdad International Airport, near Baghdad’s Green Zone and Balad Air Base, 50 miles north of Baghdad on regularly scheduled missions. They have a continuous tasking of missions to the two frontline airfields for the foreseeable future, said Col. Udo K. McGregor, 439th Operations Group commander.

Many of the pilots, flight engineers and loadmasters flew missions to Baghdad and Balad early in Operation Iraqi Freedom when crews swapped aircraft among flying squadrons to

keep up the high operations tempo. Airlift control specialists of the 439th Airlift Control Flight and security police of the 439th Security Forces Squadron were among the first into Baghdad to set up initial operations.

The current regularly-scheduled missions are unique because they are the first time 337th aircrews have had the opportunity to fly Patriot Wing Galaxies on Baghdad and Balad missions originating and ending at Westover. The new era of continuous Patriot Wing missions to the heart of combat operations adds another laurel to the wartime record of the 337th AS aircrews who have been at it since the first day, five years ago. Before the end of the day, Sept. 11, 2001, a Patriot Wing aircrew and Galaxy were flying across empty U.S. skies from Travis Air Force Base, Calif., to make the first heavy airlift delivery of emergency Federal Emergency Management Agency teams and their equipment to the World Trade Center.

In the years since the World Trade

Center attack, the aircrews have flown missions to airfields throughout Southwest Asia.

In 2004, Colonel McGregor flew C-130 Hercules missions to Baghdad while deployed with the Air Expeditionary Force to Southwest Asia. The experience was useful when he flew the second Patriot Wing mission to Baghdad and Balad in September.

He shares with other crew members the belief that the regularly scheduled missions to Baghdad mark a milestone for the Patriot Wing.

“We are a front line unit and the missions reaffirm that fact. This has been coming for a while. We’ve really been gearing up,” Colonel McGregor said.

The aircrews going to Baghdad are trained in the latest tactics, including lessons learned from the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Aircrews hone skills such as tactical approaches appropriate to combat conditions. To keep aircrews sharp, the 337th AS has specially trained tactician officers who operate a tactics shop.

“We’ve sent people to tactics schools who have spiraled the training to all the crews so they’d be ready. Every air-

crew member has received advanced tactics training in the air, in simulators and in the classroom over the last 18 months,” Colonel McGregor said.

“The tactics shop is the most technologically-adept place you’ve ever been to,” Colonel McGregor said.

Backed by the training and experience, the aircrews take a professional approach to the new missions, he said. “It’s almost business as usual, just a location a little more dangerous than usual...more procedures, lots and lots of traffic. To me, the most dangerous aspect is lots of other planes and UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles),” he said.

With the latest evolution of the Patriot Wing role in the war on terror, aircrews are going to Baghdad and Balad with cargo holds full of the supplies, equipment and tools of war to sustain the troops on the ground. But it’s not a one-way street. The aircrews are coming home with the satisfaction that every successful mission to Baghdad reaffirms that the Patriot Wing is a frontline unit that goes where it is needed the most, Colonel McGregor said.

WESTOVER LANDSCAPE TAKES ON NEW LOOK

by Capt. Justin Manna

The landscape of the largest reserve base in the United States continues to evolve amid its gradual but steady change to a joint service installation.

Westover's growth is a direct result of its new life as a joint military installation. Three of the more well-known examples of improvements at Westover are the renovation of the base gym and dining facility and a new base operations building.

Construction has been steady throughout the first decade of the new millennium on through this year. A new control tower, and security forces and explosive ordnance disposal buildings have risen over where former Air Force buildings once stood. Here is a review of some of the other improvements this year:

In late August, crews completed a \$1 million renovation on the base exchange (BX). A rearranged building – complete with new lighting and a spacious entry to the BX greet customers. "We are extremely pleased with the (renovation) results" said BX Store Manager Debbie Patton. Customers will also notice a better-stocked BX. The improvements are already paying off. "We are receiving great feedback from our customers...and have seen a 20 percent increase in sales," Patton said.

The flight line is also getting a new coat of pain, both literally and figuratively. The most high-profile example is the repainting of the water tower from an old style checkerboard pattern to the current Air Force symbol. In addition, the flight line's North Ramp is also being restored for improved operations and safety. Renovations don't end there. One of the oldest buildings on the base -- the Base Hangar -- will get a new roof.

The Army will also make its presence felt when construction begins on the Armed Forces Reserve Center. It will house between 800 to 1,000 soldiers consolidated from locations throughout Massachusetts as a result of the recent Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) direction. The new structure will rise on the baseball fields currently located by the 439th Airlift Wing headquarters building. The new fields will be located near the base shoppette.

Despite delays with renovations to the base fitness center, completion is expected by early 2007. The renovations will provide a gym that is in line with its counterparts at Air Force bases across the country. It will include an updated cardio room, free weight area, nautilus equipment, locker room areas and modernized plumbing, wiring, heating and air conditioning.

"Westover continues to reap the benefits of the Department of Defense's efforts to create a more joint military," said Brig. Gen. Wade Farris, 439th AW commander. "As Westover continues to grow and take on new missions, so will the quality of the facilities and equipment needed to support the base."



SALUTE TO THE FAMILY >> A youngster returns a salute from Brig. Gen. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, during the Galaxy Adventure Day Commander's Call held Sept. 9. (photo by Master Sgt. W.C. Pope)

Wing wraps up 2006 Family Day

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

It was all for the family during the September A UTA.

Hundreds of children, joined by wives and husbands of the reservists reported to the base Sept. 9, making this UTA the busiest in 2006. Wing leadership had elected to move the September B UTA into the A, to allow as many Patriot Wing families as possible a chance to enjoy the second annual Galaxy Adventure Day, and a more long-standing Patriot Wing tradition: Family Day.

A massive Commander's Call held in the Base Hangar began the Sept. 9 events. Brig. Gen. Wade Farris, 439th Airlift Wing commander, congratulated scores of reservists who earned awards ranging from the Meritorious Service Medal to a wing coin. The general also honored scores of Airmen who deployed on the August Operational Readiness Inspection.

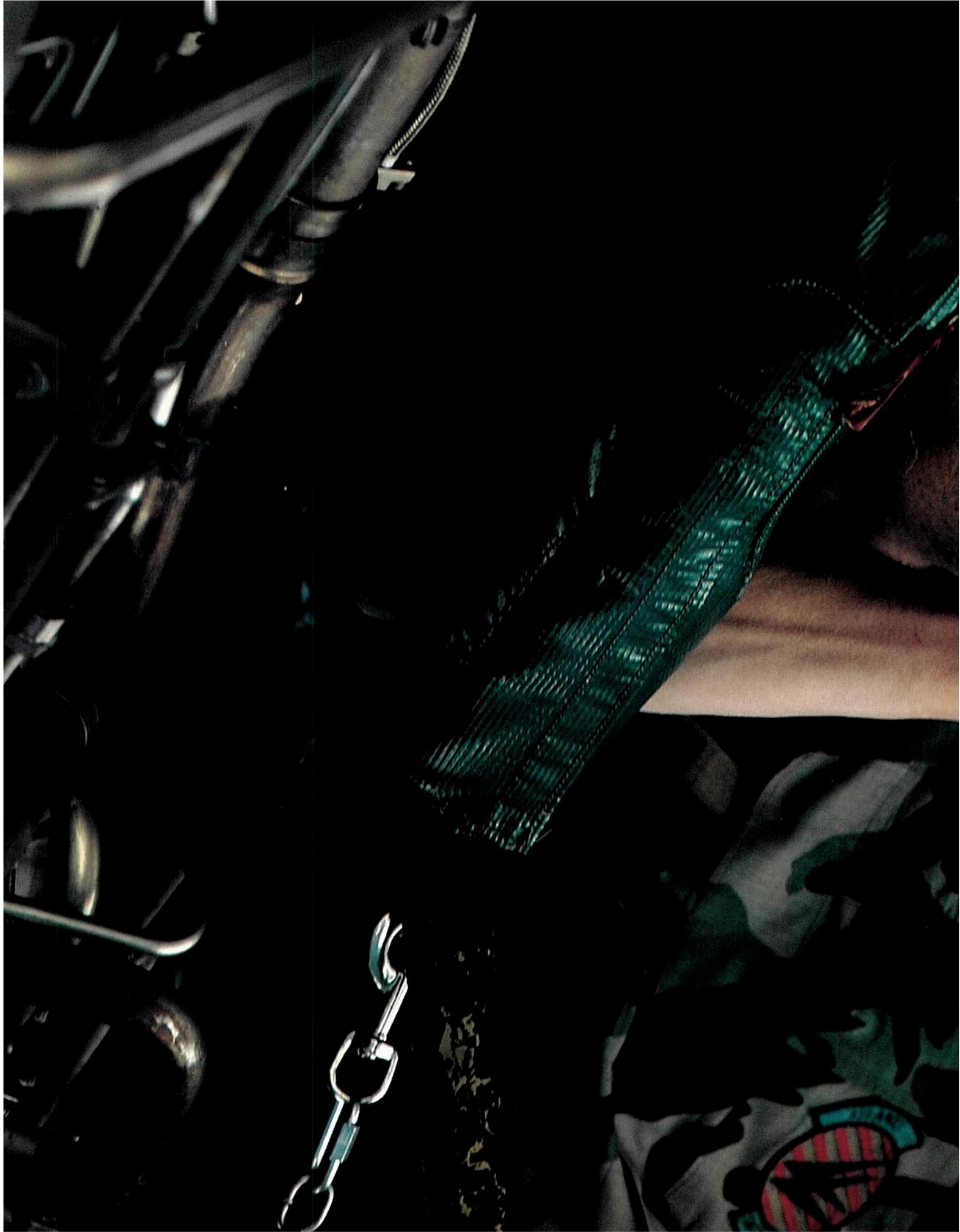
One hundred-sixty children filed into the Base Hangar at the end of

the Commander's Call. General Farris presented each child with a coin to express the wing's appreciation for their support of their mothers and fathers. The general exchanged snappy salutes with each child.

The wing's Chiefs Council and first sergeants joined forces for Family Day – an afternoon filled with heated volleyball games, a dunking booth, and for the kids, plenty of games and prizes. Galaxy Community Council volunteers donated their time to serving hamburgers and hotdogs to long lines of reservists and their families.

Children and their families attended the second annual Galaxy Adventure Day. The family support center staff coordinated buses and tours for the children, who visited the fire department, toured a C-5, saw readiness equipment, and toured the aeromedical evacuation squadron.

Volunteers from the Key Family Member Program joined family support at the wing conference center to assist in the events.





October 2006

439th Airlift Wing

**439th Airlift Wing
Commander**
Brig. Gen. Wade Farris



439th Maintenance Group
Col. Oreste Varela



439th Operations Group
Col. Udo K. McGregor



439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron
Col. Robert A. Sousa
Senior Master Sgt. Michelle M. Dunfield



439th Operations Support Squadron
Lt. Col. Jay C. Milkey
Master Sgt. Bert A. Quick



439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Maj. Mark F. Wilson
Chief Master Sgt. Earl E. Duncan Jr.



439th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Col. Ronald R. Coffey
Senior Master Sgt. Barbara A. Bender



337th Airlift Squadron
Lt. Col. Louis M. Shogry III
Master Sgt. Michael R. Bellerose



439th Maintenance Operations Squadron
Maj. Donald C. Robison
Master Sgt. Scott C. Daigneault



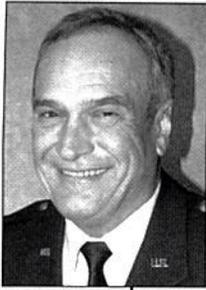
439th Airlift Control Flight
Lt. Col. Christopher D. Kreig
Master Sgt.
Eileen E. Moloney-Cook



439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Col. Belinda R. Morrone
Master Sgt. Michael P. Wright



439th Maintenance Squadron
Lt. Col. Michael J. Barden
Chief Master Sgt. David F. Carbin



Vice Wing Commander
Col. Michael J. Marten



439th Mission Support Group
Col. Dana S. Marsh



Command Chief
Command Chief Master Sgt.
Zigmund C. Skawski



439th Mission Support Squadron
Maj. Gregory M. Federico
Senior Master Sgt. Clifford M. Wittman



439th Communications Squadron
Lt. Col. Keith D. Kennedy
Senior Master Sgt. Michael A. Degiule



42nd Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. John R. Greene
Senior Master Sgt. Michael R. Brunetti



439th Civil Engineering Squadron
Col. Paul T. Babin
Master Sgt. Bruce B. Buechele



439th Logistics Readiness Squadron
Lt. Col. Edward J. Miller
Master Sgt. John R. Monopoli



photo
unavailable

58th Aerial Port Squadron
Lt. Col. Richard M. Cockley
Master Sgt. Michael A. Wysocki



439th Security Forces Squadron
Maj. Wesley A. Thiel
Master Sgt. Mark W. O'Connell



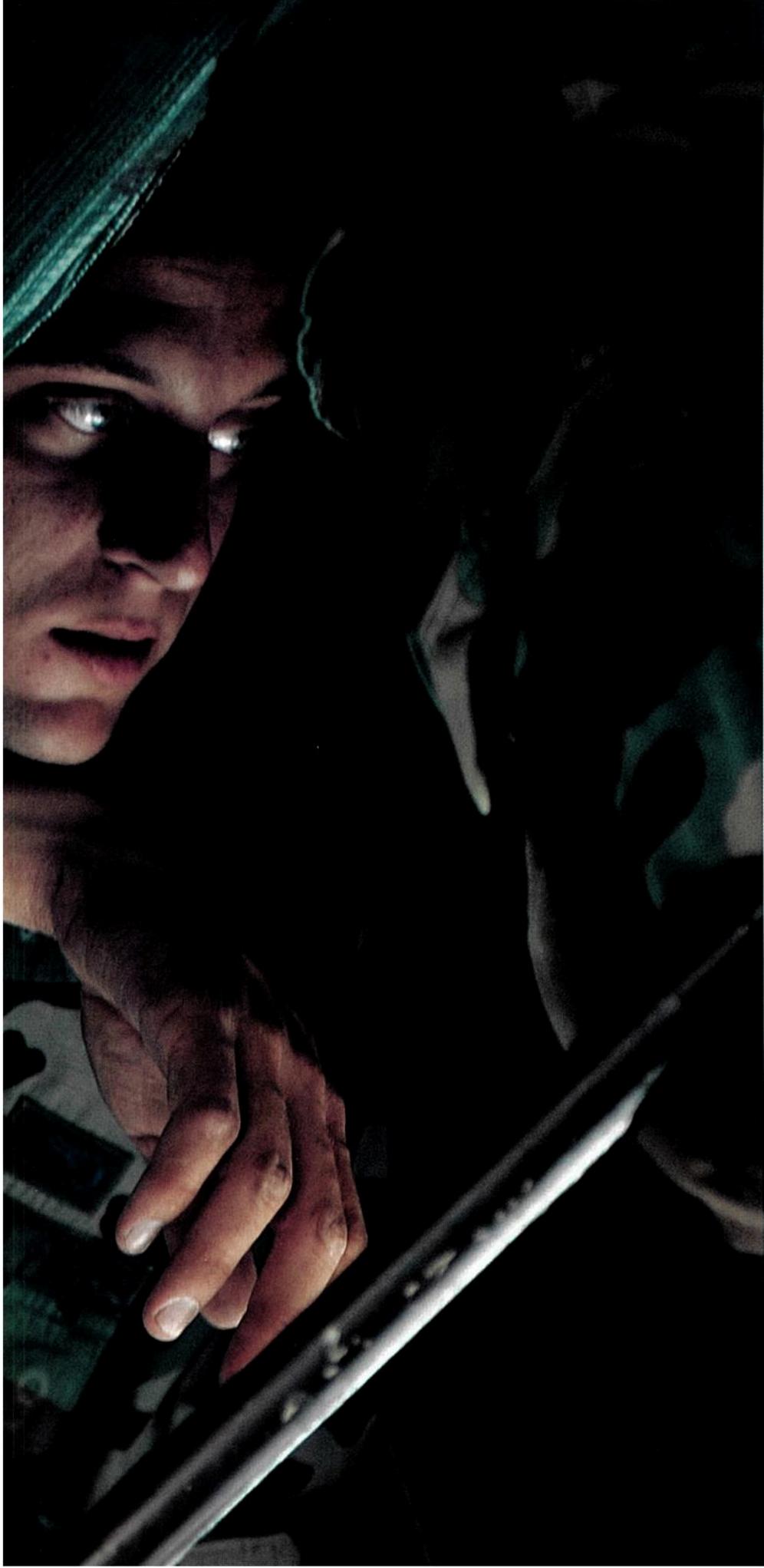
439th Services Squadron
Maj. Patrick L. Dufraine
Senior Master Sgt. McDonald R. Molina



85th Aerial Port Squadron
Maj. John P. Mailo
Senior Master Sgt. James H. Keay

Hanscom AFB, GSU

photo by Senior Airman Michael Lanza



<< TUNE UP

Senior Airman Matthew J. Brown, an aerospace maintenance apprentice, works on a C-5 engine.

THE
FIX
IS IN

by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Biscoe

The renowned Patriot Wing maintenance crews are weathering yet another set of challenges with its fleet of the Air Force's largest aircraft that await their tool kits each day.

Operational, mission, and training challenges have dominated the year for the more than 600 maintenance workers. The strategic airlift mission is a constant, many of whom deployed during the August Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI). In addition, the maintainers generated all 16 C-5s for the ORI.

As if the airlift missions and ORI weren't enough, a huge change can be seen on the flight line just by looking at the C-5 tails looming from the flight line six stories into the air; by mid-September, six C-5B's had joined the 439th Airlift Wing. The B-models will continue to arrive from the active-duty C-5 units at Dover Air Force Base, Del., and Travis AFB, Calif., while the older A-models are sent to units standing up with C-5s at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, Memphis Airport, Tenn., and Martinsburg, West Virginia. >>



TAIL REPAIR >> Scaffolding is positioned around the tail of the C-5 for repairs. The tail is the tallest point of the plane, measuring in at 65 feet tall. (photo by Tech Sgt. Andrew Biscoe)

<< Senior Master Sgt. James T. Mitchell, 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production superintendent, oversees work on eight C-5s each day. The 23-year veteran said that once the giant aircraft land, they immediately get a thorough check from the maintenance workers. "It's a lot of work to get them cleaned up," Sergeant Mitchell said. "We have the ongoing missions each week, and we're sending the A-models to other units as we get the B's. This changeover adds a lot more challenges to the workload."

By mid-2008, 16 C-5B's will be at Westover.

Master Sgt. Jon-Gary Williams is another veteran maintenance member who takes pride in the quality of the fleet – whether the jets are arriving or leaving Westover. He has been at Westover since 1989.

"When an aircrew gets one of our jets, we want them to know it's from Westover," Sergeant Williams said. "When we send the A-models somewhere, we want the aircraft to be in the same condition as when we got them."

The Patriot Wing is the first all-reserve C-5 unit to receive the B-models. The newer jets, built between 1983 and 1989, incorporate newer cockpit avionics, a strengthened wing design that was applied to the A-model fleet in the early

1980s, and other combat capability improvements.

The first C-5B assigned to the 439th AW pulled up to its chalks in June 2006. A Westover maintainer who previously worked on both the A and B-models at Travis, looked forward to the change to the newer airlifters.

"Our maintainers have a level of experience that includes 10 or 15 years here," said Tech. Sgt. Jason W. Reynolds, a maintenance craftsman with the 439th Maintenance Squadron. "That level of experience is why we're so good."

Sergeant Reynolds has worked on C-5s for nine years. He works in the fuel cell hangar. Maintenance crews tow the giant airlifters into the hangar for the most thorough inspections on the base on an average of about one every month. Sergeant Reynolds and his co-workers inspect every inch of the aircraft using a maze of ladders and scaffolding that envelope the aircraft.

"The B-models have little improvements that, when you add them all up, make things a little easier," he said. "The seats move a little better. The fuel gauges in the flight deck are digital – versus the analog ones on the A-models."

Westover's skilled maintenance workers are putting their stamp on the the newer B's upon their arrival – and on the older A's as they leave.

LENDING A HELPING HAND

by Staff Sgt. Tom Ouellette

Westover's Isochronal Inspection team knows how to be good wingmen.

In October they will be teaching Guardsmen from the 167th Airlift Wing, Martinsburg, W. Va., the complex process of conducting C-5 inspections. This isn't the first time the Patriot Wing has hosted the West Virginians. They began their training here June 12-24.

"They're getting six of our C-5As, receiving the first one in 2007," Senior Master Sgt. Robert D. Merchant, ISO chief, said. "They're getting ready now and are visiting C-5 bases looking for advice. We accepted them with open arms and we were happy to help," Sergeant Merchant added.

Inspecting the Air Force's largest aircraft from nose-to-tail, wing-to-wing is no easy task. Everything gets checked out: the hydraulics, electrical systems, fuel cells, etc. Although the ISO Guardsmen are experts with C-130s, their current aircraft, they discovered C-5s entail much more.

"They were amazed at what's involved. They couldn't believe it takes six guys just to tow a C-5 into a hangar" (C-130s need only three), said Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Kaulback, a 439th AMXS production supervisor.

"They have the best attitude I've ever seen," Sergeant Kaulback said, "so even though they seemed intimidated at first, they jumped right in and took off."

"Helping them is an ongoing process," Sergeant Merchant said, "We'll gladly keep training them until they feel comfortable enough to go it alone."



Volley-Brawl

by Master Sgt. Tom Allocco

The crash and roar on the field competed with the rumble and boom in the sky and in the end the sky won.

The annual Patriot Wing Family Day Volleyball Championship started with the boisterous clash of Mad Medics, Dirt Dogs, Redhatters, Supper Troopers, Flaming Shots, Wing Nuts, Ringers, Grave Diggas and more. It ended two matches too soon under thunder and rain.

This year there will be no unchallenged 439th ARB champion, but plenty of bragging rights to go around. Unlimited enthusiasm, speed and experience carried the Mad Medics fielded by the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron to the last round of the hard fought match-up of 16 teams.

The championship was cancelled as the Mad Medics waited for the outcome of the semi-final between the Team Medics of the 439th AMDS and the Ringers fielded by the 439th LRS. When the thunder and rain closed in, the Team Medics were leading at 2-1 and were given the win.

The Mad Medics made it to the last round with a 'never say die' spirit that earned respect even from those on the other side of the net. In a qualifying round against the Ringers, the Mad Medics came back steaming

from a six-point deficit.

"We were up on them 13-7. They just didn't give up. They ran up eight points in a row. They were just scrappier than us," said Patrick Ryan of the Ringers.

The always impressive Ringers fielded a team of only six players, but enthusiasm and raw energy, helped by the strong coaching and playing of David Carbin, carried them to the semi-finals, as it has in almost every year of the series.

Ron Labonte set the pace for the Team Medics, coached by Joel Bogner.

Also earning plenty of applause from fans were the aggressive and always unpredictable Red Hatters of the 42nd APS, who go at it all year against the players of the Dirty Port Dawgs of the 58th APS.

In the end the results were inconclusive, but the 2006 Patriot Wing volleyball championship will have an unchallenged place in the series record books.

"It's a picnic, but people take it seriously. There's bragging rights," Ryan said.

"They take it so seriously that there was arguing with the refs. You can always tell they take it seriously when they argue with the officials," he said.

"They were diving into the dirt, crashing into each other. I'm sure there is some soreness and bruises today," Ryan said.

WESTOVER PATRIOTS |

HRDC members gain self-confidence, pride from conventions

Several 439th Airlift Wing members cited the valuable experiences of having attended conferences honoring Hispanics and women held earlier this year.

The traveling Airmen, members of the Patriot Wing's Human Resources Development Council (HRDC), included Lt. Col. Dale W. Rice, Tech. Sgt. Dana M. Seddon, and Staff Sgt. Chelsey Stead. The three represented Westover at the Women in Aviation Conference, held in Nashville, Tenn., in March.

Two 439th Logistics Readiness Squadron members attended the 77th Annual League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention and Exposition. They were Staff Sgt. Orlando D. Severino and Senior Airman Oliver Del Rosario. James H. Kelly, fitness director at Westover and a retired chief master sergeant, attended the International Black Aerospace Council Co-Conventions held in Phoenix in August. Mr. Kelly is also chairperson of the Westover HRDC heritage committee.

Colonel Rice said the experience was a public relations opportunity for the Air Force.

"Without question, attending this conference was a tremendous experience for me personally ... I was continually impressed and honored by the numerous people who approached us to thank us for our service or to ask a question or two about what we do," she said.

The Westover reservists met various senior leaders and distinguished visitors including retired Air Force Col. Eileen Collins, a veteran of four space shuttle flights.

After hearing a speech from retired Maj. Gen. Betty Mullis at the conference, Sergeant Stead, a member of the 439th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, decided she would set out to finish her bachelor's degree. "General Mullis reminded me that the only person standing in the way of my success is me," the sergeant said.

According to Sergeant Stead, the general was the first woman in the Air National Guard to earn her pilot's wings. "It was amazing to see

and listen to all of the achievements and future goals of these women," she said.

Sergeant Seddon volunteered at the Air Force Reserve recruiting booth, and an exhibit hall and assisted in setting up the Women in Aviation membership booth.

"The best thing about the convention was to see 3,000 women organized and supporting one another," said the 337th Airlift Squadron flight engineer.

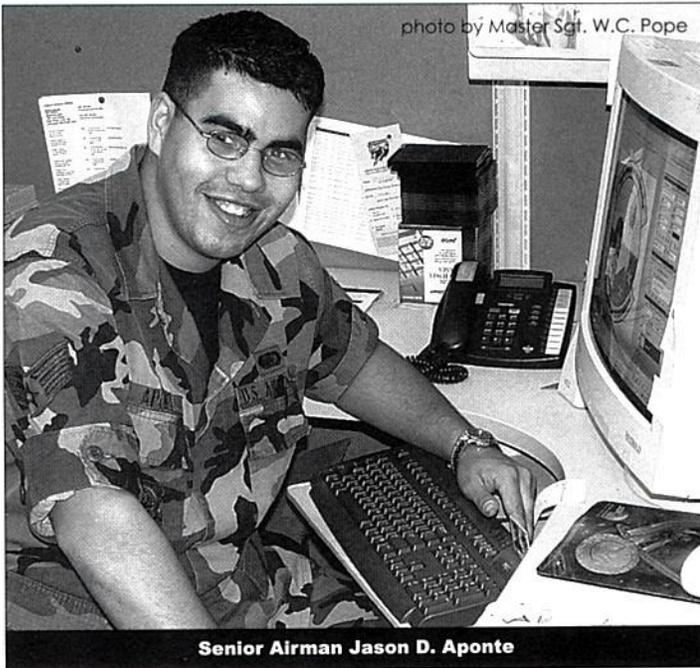
"I learned that your achievements will only be limited by what you give," said Tech. Sgt. Jayme L. Frey, with the 439th Security Forces Squadron. "I truly learned that anything is possible – it just all comes down to how bad you want it, and how hard you are willing to work for it."

The HRDC meets Fridays before each A UTA at 4:45 p.m. in the wing commander's conference room in wing headquarters. For more information, call Col. Robert Sousa at Ext. 3058 or Chief Master Sgt. Kathy Wood at Ext. 2876.



TOP COPS >> In a change of command ceremony held in front of the new security forces building Sept. 10, Maj. Wesley A. Thiel (middle) succeeded Lt. Col. Timothy S. Donnelly (right) as commander of the 439th Security Forces Squadron. Major Thiel was previously the chief of security forces. Colonel Donnelly was SFS commander for three years. Also pictured to Major Thiel's right is Col. Dana S. Marsh, 439th Mission Support Group commander. (photo by Senior Airman Timm Huffman)

PATRIOT PEOPLE |



Senior Airman Jason D. Aponte

NAME : Jason D. Aponte
 RANK : Senior airman
 AGE : 24
 HOMETOWN : Cranston, R.I.
 UNIT : 439th Services Squadron
 POSITION : Storeroom alternate assistant manager
 CIVILIAN POSITION : Computers
 FAVORITE FOOD : Steak
 YEARS OF SERVICE : Four
 FAVORITE SPORT : Baseball
 FAVORITE HOBBY : Playing Flightsim
 IDEAL VACATION : Spain
 BEST WAY TO RELAX : Going online
 PREFERRED ENTERTAINMENT : Listening to Pink Floyd
 FAVORITE HERO : Superman
 FAVORITE MUSIC STYLES : All types
 FAVORITE MOVIE : Titanic
 FAVORITE AIRCRAFT : 747-400B
 PET PEEVE : People who think it's weird that Titanic is my favorite movie
 WHAT WOULD I DO IF I WON \$1 MILLION : What wouldn't I do with it?

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

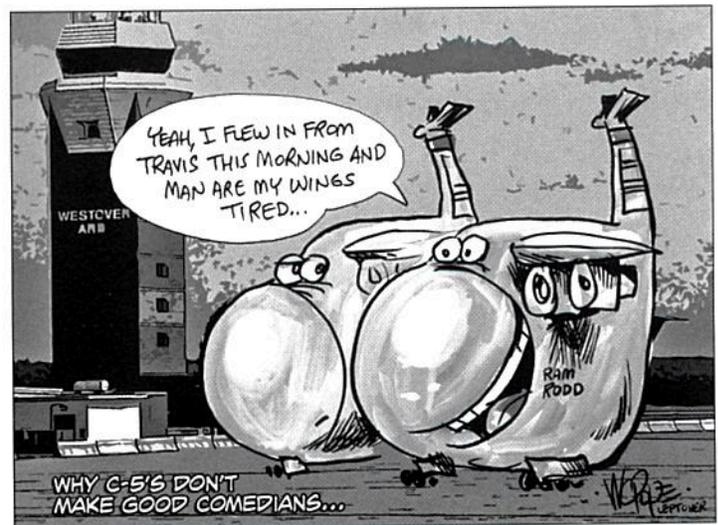
REFERRAL INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home phone number _____

YOUR INFORMATION

First name, middle initial, last name _____
 Home phone number _____ Unit _____
 Date of birth _____ Rank _____

PATRIOT PUNS |



PATRIOT PRAISES |

Civilian Awards

AFRC Aerial Port Civilian Technician of the Year
 Robert Flynn

AFRC Outstanding Contracting Employee
 John Barrett

AFRC Outstanding Education Manager
 Richard Gheen

30 Years Distinguished Service
 Henry Olearecek

Glenna Tobey

20 Years Distinguished Service
 Steven Allen
 Kenneth Boucher
 Todd Chaffee
 Timothy Gable
 Robin Holliday
 Rosalind Hurdle
 Stephen Kida
 John Marshall
 Vernia Mells
 William Mick
 Ruth Parker
 William Richardson

Mr. Jeffrey Roule
 Mr. Robert Snyder
 Ms. Kathleen Yost

10 Years Distinguished Service
 Theresa Dionne
 George Keefe

ORI Performers
 Alan Anderson
 William Archambeau
 David Aucoin
 Michelle Booker z
 Edward Cardin
 James Carmenally

Jennifer Condacuri
 James Kelly
 Roberta Knox
 Robert Perreault
 Michael Pirrone
 Mary Syriac
 Charles Van Gorden



TIKES ON A PLANE >> Angelique R. Harris, daughter of Master Sgt. Robert Harris, 439th Civil Engineering Squadron, and Reilly Hamm, son of Tech. Sgt. William Hamm, 58th Aerial Port Squadron, learn to appreciate the size of Westover's signature plane from the cockpit window. The children, along with more than 150 others, toured the C-5s and some base facilities during the annual Galaxy Adventure in September. (photo by Senior Airman Michael Lanza)

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Published monthly for Patriots like Maj. Linda M. Reichler, Avon, Conn., and 3,053 reservists and civilians of the 439th Airlift Wing and the wing's geographically separated unit at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.

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