



*Core  
values:  
heart of  
all we do  
in blue*

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# VIKING FLYER

934th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve  
Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

# VIKING FLYER

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## On the cover



(Photo by Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly)

Staff Sgt. Sean Phillips, SPS, serves as a member of the wing color guard. See a feature on the team, Page 8, preceded by a special section on core values, Pages 5-7.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Viking Flyer* are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 934th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, 760 Military Highway, Minneapolis, MN 55450-2000, DSN 825-5337 (fax, Ext. 8015) or commercial 612-725-5337. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. The deadline for unsolicited submissions is Friday, one week prior to UTA.

## Commentary

# Pace picks up

*Last-minute challenges provide thrills, chills*

by Col. Michael Gjede  
 wing commander

As many of you may have heard, we have experienced a major change in scenario during our June Readiness Assistance Visit.

Our original Forward Operating Location, Fort Campbell, Ky., has been changed, with the new site yet to be determined. This last-minute change in location, as well as different airlift "customers," will cause a lot of scrambling on our part to find an FOL. I'd like to ask that you all remain as flexible as possible.

I believe flexibility is one of the most valuable "real life" lessons we can learn during exercises. As we all know, real-world contingencies always present us with last-minute challenges and surprises.

The pace is certainly picking up between now and the RAV, with the



Gjede

Operational Readiness Inspection to follow in October, so I ask each of you to remain focused on the task at hand. We know what we have to do, so let's get it done in the outstanding manner we know how. □

# Reserve heritage

Next year sees significant milestone for command

by Maj. Gen. Robert McIntosh  
 chief, Air Force Reserve and AFRES commander

In a little over a year, the Air Force Reserve will celebrate its 25th anniversary as a partner in the Total Force.

Since we are such a relatively young organization, we haven't given much

thought to or celebrated our heroes. Men like Marchbanks, Moore and Verholtz should be as important to the Reserve as Arnold, Spaatz and LeMay are to the active force.

Later this year, our history will be published, "From the Flying Club to the Total Force." This should be required reading for every reservist. I encourage every Reserve unit to celebrate its own history.

Our heritage is impressive and important, and we should all be much more aware of it. □

## UTA schedule

May 4-5  
 June 22-23  
 (RAV)\*\*  
 July 13-14  
 Aug. 3-4  
 Sept. 7-8

October: TBD  
 Nov. 2-3  
 (ORI)\*\*

\*\* Stay alert for additional requirements!

☑ April UTA pay should be deposited by: April 24.

☑ April's lunch entrees should be: Saturday, steak or baked cod Sunday, baked chicken or ham



**World**

**Ralston sworn in**

Gen. Joseph Ralston, former commander of Air Combat Command, was sworn in as the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff March 1.

Ralston was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The fourth officer to serve in that capacity, the vice chairman is the second-highest ranking military officer in the U.S. military. (AFNS)

**Chief achieves milestone**

ChiefMaster Sgt. G.L. Bryant, a reservist with the 707th Airlift Squadron, Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., has achieved the rare 20,000 mishap-free flying hour milestone.

The chief enlisted in the Air Force in November 1956 and has flown in a variety of aircraft, including C-124s, C-130s and C-141s. An interview with the chief will be featured in the May/June issue of *The Mobility Forum*. (TMF)

**Bits & pieces ...**

**Entitlement News:** The 1996 Defense Authorization Act provided several new entitlements for reservists, including mobilization income insurance, dental insurance, 44 days of military leave for technicians participating in noncombat operations outside the United States, and increases in the Montgomery GI Bill.

**Stable future:** Air Force reservists will see less turmoil within their ranks in fiscal year 1997 and more stability "into the next decade," according to command officials. However, 1996 will still see about 5,300 military positions eliminated, mostly involving announced base closings plus cuts in out-of-state units.

**Tax relief:** Service members participating in 11 current operations, including Operation Southern Watch in Southwest Asia, are eligible for income tax filing extensions. Contact the Internal Revenue Service for details.

**Ideas wanted:** The Air Reserve Personnel Center/Air Force Reserve Policy and Advisory Council is looking for reservists ideas on how to make the Reserve more efficient. The deadline for the next council meeting is May 31, and letters should be sent to: HQARPC/XPX, 6760 E. Irvington Place #7500, Denver, CO 80280-7500. Call Maj. Becky Lewis, 1-800-525-0102, Ext. 246, for details. (AFRESNS)

**1997**

**SGLI 'switch' takes effect**

Reservists desiring less than \$200,000 or no coverage from Servicemen's Group Life Insurance should be ready for immediate action during the April UTA.

The 1996 Defense Authorization Act authorized an automatic, 100 percent switch of all SGLI to \$200,000 as of April 1, a change affecting approximately 35 percent of the 934th. Anyone not wanting that amount needs to complete a new SGLI election form during the April UTA. Otherwise, they will be billed \$18 per month in April and May for \$200,000 coverage.

The 934th Military Personnel Flight plans to offer in-unit service during the UTA to avoid "mass conversion" on the customer

service counter. That service schedule will be announced to unit commanders for scheduling purposes. The MPF is also contacting deployed members.

For additional information, see your unit first sergeant or call the MPF, Ext. 5514.

**Family Day '96 cancelled**

The annual 934th Airlift Wing Family Day, normally held in September, has been cancelled for this year.

"Considering our Operational Readiness Inspection in October, we simply could not handle the planning necessary to have a successful event in September," explained Col. Michael Gjede, wing commander. "Also, we need the September UTA for final preparation for the ORI."

The annual Employers' Day and orientation flight, also normally held in September, will take place April 13. Gjede added that the next Family Day should be in September 1997.

**Lodging policies clarified**

The 934th's North Country Inn has announced policies regarding late arrivals and Space Available reservations.

Lodging now holds reservations until 6 p.m. on the arrival date. Individuals must inform lodging at least 24 hours in advance of arrival if they plan on arriving after 6 p.m. to prevent cancellation of reservations. Lodging will make a guaranteed-hold reservation using American Express or other accepted credit cards. If a guest with an on-base, guaranteed-hold reservation fails to show without canceling their reservation, a one night room charge will be billed.

Space-A lodging customers may now make reservations 24 hours in advance of arrival for up to a three-day stay. North Country Inn guests with Space-A reservations will be required to pay in advance at check in. Keys must be returned to the front desk upon departure or placed in the key drop box near the front desk. If there are no unpaid telephone or beverage charges, it is not necessary to check out. Check-out time for Space-A lodging is 10 a.m., which is especially critical on Fridays before Reserve and Guard UTAs.

For more information, call the North Country Inn, (612) 725-5320, DSN 825-5320.

**Lunch rotation set for quarter**

The following lunch schedule is for April through June:

11-11:30 a.m.	MSF, MXS, OSF, AW, SVF
11:30 a.m.-Noon	ASTS, CES, APS, AES
Noon-12:30 p.m.	AS, SPS, CF, LSS

**FRP notes success, plans seminars**

The 934th Family Readiness Program raised \$516 in the Easter basket auction and children's egg hunt during the March UTA. The event was attended by 130 adults and children.

Starting on the May UTA, a series of "Parent to Parent" drug awareness seminars will be offered. Four two-hour sessions will be held, starting Sunday, May 5, 8-10 a.m. The sessions will focus on chemical dependency and its effect on military families.

To get more information or sign up for the first session, call the FRP, Ext. 8057. □

# Meeting Minnesota

## Secretary of the Air Force Widnall visits military units in Minneapolis

by Mark Davidson  
public affairs

The following is an interview with Secretary of the Air Force **Dr. Sheila Widnall**, on March 9 at the 934th Airlift Wing NCO Club. She was here in the Twin Cities as the keynote speaker for the annual Women In Aviation conference.

VF: The Air Force Reserve is scheduled to downsize to 73,000 people in fiscal year 1997. Do you see any more downsizing beyond that for the Air Force Reserve?

Widnall: It's really a question of phasing. The active duty Air Force drawdown has been faster, and there has been a lag with the reserve drawdown. The active duty drawdown is virtually finished, and there will be some continued force structure movement on the reserve side. We want to get the right force structure in the reserve fighter, tanker and airlift communities. We are almost where we ought to be.

VF: The Reserve has picked up

some new missions recently. Will the Reserve pick up any more new missions soon?

Widnall: The Air Force Reserve has recently picked up part of the B-52 mission and the associate AWACS [Airborne Warning and Control System] program. We're very excited about the reserve involvement with AWACS because the AWACS community has seen stressed people and air frames, so the Air Force Reserve will provide some relief to this mission.

VF: The active-duty drawdown has prompted greater reliance on the Reserve. How does your office work with the civilian employers of reservists?

Widnall: I work with **Deborah Lee**, the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, and the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard commanders, who all have programs to work with civilian employers. We do realize that civilian employers are also an important part of the total force. It's difficult to predict, but I don't see this operations tempo changing. We have been in some of these missions for a very long

time and they have become a way of life. Missions such as Southwest Asia, which your unit is involved in right now, has added to the ops tempo.

VF: Secretary of Defense Perry has been quoted as saying, "The reserve forces are not part of the problem, they are part of the solution." Is the Air Reserve Component a model for other reserve forces?

Widnall: The Air Reserve Component is a model for other reserve forces! I hear this all the time at the Pentagon. Maybe it's the distinctive nature of Guard and Reserve forces, flying shoulder to shoulder with the active duty on a daily basis, that makes it what it is, or the associate program, but we are very happy with the Guard and Reserve.

VF: Anything else you would like to add?

Widnall: I was very pleased and impressed by the diverse group of Twin Cities Air Force people I've met here, ranging from the Junior ROTC personnel to the representatives of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve bases here. □



### Viking Victors:

## Larry Schyma

**Honor:** 1995 Air Force Reserve Outstanding Plans Award, Civilian Manager.

**Education:** Associate's in geography, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minn.; bachelor's in geography, Mankato State University, Mankato, Minn.

**Hobbies:** Softball, hunting and fishing.

**Community activities:** Boys' and girls' T-ball, soccer and baseball; hockey manager for Squirt, Pee-wee and Bantam; boys' baseball coach, ages 13-15; girls' fastpitch softball, ages 12-18; St. Luke's Lutheran Church Loaves and Fishes group, helping the needy.

**Family:** Wife, **Connie**; children, **Angie** (19), **Theresa** (17) and **Dan** (15); live in Cottage Grove, Minn. □

# Heart of military service

## Three core values serve as 'beacon toward right path'

"Such times call for a reminder of the core values of our institution, values which serve as a beacon toward the right path ... They enoble us by reminding us of the importance of the profession we've chosen, the oath we've taken, and the demands placed upon us."

— Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall and Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman

The familiar Air Force of the '80s could not be more different today – as if tidy rows of toy soldiers were suddenly swept asunder in a child's game of war.

Recognizing the need for a stronghold amidst a storm of dramatic changes, Air Force leaders initiated a return to home base – the bedrock of military service. That bedrock is reflected in what is now known as the three Air Force core values:

- ♥ Integrity first
- ♥ Service before self
- ♥ Excellence in all we do

"This little life we have here isn't for everybody," said Chief Master Sgt. Dick Grewe, senior enlisted advisor for the 934th Airlift Wing. "With the operations tempo we have now, we get caught up in the ongoing cycle, and we don't take time to reflect

on what we do, to say, 'I'm accomplishing something more out here than just collecting a paycheck ...' We have to look at what we're accomplishing for ourselves, our families and our nation."

"General Fogleman's trying to bring us – and that includes the Guard and Reserve – back to what's basic in the military," said Col. Michael Gjede, wing commander. "We're held to a much higher standard than the average person in the street."

Gjede expressed concern, however, in reservists understanding they are far from part-timers when it comes to accountability.

"People think something they do Monday through Friday while they're not out here doesn't affect their military career," he said. "In fact, we're relearning that we can't just think military on the UTA and annual tour. You have to think about your military career all the time."

"Essentially, we're still asked to go out and die for the good of the country, and that hasn't changed," said Lt. Col. Thomas Linster, 934th Logistics Group commander. "For me, the core values represent a new way of communicating to today's people – today's mindset. The old heads are converting yesterday's processes and ideas into terminology that today's advanced people understand."

The following stories feature 934th members' thoughts on the Air Force core values. □

## Integrity

### Doing the right thing when no one's looking provides basis for essential core value

by Master Sgt. Tim Turner  
public affairs

Webster's Third New International Dictionary defines integrity as, "An uncompromising adherence to a code of moral, artistic or other values ... Utter sincerity, honesty and candor ... Avoidance of deception."

At least two Air Force "highers-up" have given this definition a lot of thought lately – although their interpretation of integrity differs somewhat from Webster's.

Writing for *Policy Letter Digest*, Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall and Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman emphasized the three Air Force core values: integrity first, service before self and excellence. They define integrity as "the inner voice, the source of self-control, the

basis for the trust that is imperative in today's military. It's doing the right thing when nobody's looking."

For five 934th members, integrity is closely defined by their Reserve jobs.

"We're trying to dispel the myth that recruiters are just a bunch of used car salesmen, so for us integrity means truthfulness," explained Tech. Sgt. Phillip Brown, 934th recruiter.

Any implication of deceitfulness on the base recruiters' part will compromise integrity, Brown went on. "For example, if an applicant tells me he's had a DWI charge and I tell him that it's not a problem – that I can get him through the system – then I've misled that applicant.

"We have to be the most truthful people at the 934th, because when you enlist in the military, you're signing a legal contract," Brown added. "If

recruiting has initiated that agreement under false pretenses, then we've failed."

Adhering to a strong code of ethics is what integrity means to Tech. Sgt. Michelle Klingenschmitt, paralegal in the 934th Staff Judge Advocate's office.

"Some 934th members who come to our office with a legal question mistakenly think that everyone in the JAG [judge advocate general] office can give out legal advice," she explained. But while military paralegals can quote Air Force legal rules and regulations, they can't render a legal opinion, she added. "Refraining from doing so helps maintain the integrity of the Air Force legal system."

Honesty is the cornerstone of integrity for Senior Master Sgt. Tim Donnay, superintendent, 934th Financial Manage-

*(Continued on Page 7)*

# Excellence

## Some on-fire units explain role of excellence in their mission, team success stories

by Cherie Huntington  
public affairs

**F**or Lt. Col. Curt Breeding, commander of the 96th Airlift Squadron, "excellence in all we do" represents far more than inspirational buzz words.

"Dedication to excellence is an attitude, a state of mind," Breeding said. "It's the way a person approaches life, family, job and the Reserve. People can get by in anything they do, but it takes a higher character in an individual to go that extra step needed to ensure things are done right."

Capt. Barbara Sullivan, senior air reserve technician with the 934th Aero-medical Evacuation Squadron, agreed, saying the flying mission depends on people aiming for excellence. "We require unique people," she said. "This is an extremely demanding type of Reserve unit. We draw people who

are able to juggle their work and families – and still be ready to do the mission."

For "aeromedics," that means devoting extra time for flying, plus maintaining medical and flight proficiency. "My concern is that we're going to burn people out," said Sullivan.

Non-flying units experience the "burn" as well, as two support units with an award-winning tradition can attest.

"To excel, to do more, is exciting," said Senior Master Sgt. Karen Wilson, senior ART for the 934th Communications Flight. "Change has a lot to do with excellence – changes in people, mission ... It's more of a challenge."

The 934th Civil Engineer Squadron, like the communications flight, has seen its share of change – and both units approach change with the strength of committed people.

"People in the unit take a personal interest in almost everything they do," said 1st Lt. Leslie Canaar, CES supply officer. "With that comes a sense of ownership and pride ... Over the years, our commanders have stressed to us that we own the product we produce. That's how they've helped maintain that fire."

Canaar emphasized the importance of recognizing people for their efforts as well, describing a "cream rises to the top" approach. "We're one big unit, and the best people will go where they belong," he said, rather than getting "stuck" in a specialty, waiting for opportunities to excel.

"We don't promote someone just because they're in a higher-grade slot," explained Staff Sgt. John Kline, senior ART. "We've always believed in pay for performance here." □

# Service before self

Reserve members know this is no profession for 'just getting by'



(Photo by Capt. David Winter)

Staff Sgt. Don Fletcher, air reserve technician (left) and Staff Sgt. Paul Carpenter, 934th Maintenance Squadron, panel up an engine after isochronal inspection during a recent UTA.

by Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch  
public affairs

**A**s part of the three core values of the Air Force, "service before self" is a hallmark of military service, according to Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall and Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman.

Writing in the monthly publication, *Policy Letter Digest*, they explained, "Integrity is the bedrock; next comes service before self ... Every military member realizes, from day one, that his or her individual needs will be subordinated to the need of the nation."

This necessary part of serving others is best exemplified by the unsung efforts of many 934th Airlift Wing members. "We have more than 20 dedicated volunteers," said Patricia Botkins, director of the 934th Family Readiness Program. "These people care enough about the Reserve community to give of themselves, and not to say, 'I'm sorry, it's time for me to go,' when a person who's hurting comes in at the end of the day."

Many volunteers have full-time jobs and still find time to help family members of the Air Force Reserve and other services. "We've helped Navy families in the area," explained Botkins,

# Integrity first ...

(Continued from Page 5)

ment. "People in our office have to be totally up front with reservists who have questions about their entitlements while on TDY or deployment, or about reimbursement on their travel vouchers," he said. "By the same token, we trust that reservists who claim reimbursements on their travel vouchers are up front with us.

"For example," Donnay continued, "if a reservist claims reimbursement for an expense, we have to take their word that it's a legitimate expense. What it boils down to is that both sides have to be honest with each other."

"For us, trust is the key component of integrity," says **Capt. Kathy Bratsch**, 934th chief of social actions. "Our office could potentially get involved in the full spectrum of sensitive subjects - from counseling a reservist on an alcohol abuse

problem to exploring a charge of sexual harassment.

"People who come to us with their problems trust that we're going to keep their name and particular situation confidential," Bratsch continued. "Without trust, our integrity as bases social actions representatives is on the line."

For the members in social actions, integrity also means being open-minded and respectful of the diversity that abounds at the 934th. "Virtually all kinds of people are represented here," Bratsch pointed out. "If the social actions office doesn't respect the uniqueness of every base member, how can we expect anyone else here to?"

**Senior Airman Thomas Olson** is a law enforcement specialist with the 934th Security Police Squadron. Respect of others sums up what integrity means to him.

"As a law enforcement specialist, integrity is the basis of our entire job," he explained. "It's who we are. If we lose that by lying to our commander, or in the worse case scenario, allowing someone on base who could endanger our community, then we no longer have any worth as the first line of defense for the 934th."

Like Bratsch, trust is another key ingredient of integrity for Olson. While a law enforcement specialist on active duty at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., he was the first person who responded to a woman going into labor at home.

"She and her husband basically put the life of their child into my hands," he said. "Even though I was only assisting for five minutes before the ambulance arrived, they trusted that I knew what I was doing. Sure I was scared, but my belief in what I was doing helped me overcome my fear." □

"and will continue to expand our assistance to those in need."

For wing chaplains, service before self is "fundamental to what we do," said **Chaplain (2nd Lt.) John Echert**. "We get out to meet the people wherever they are, wherever that takes us. It's wonderful to see the Air Force take this direction in core values."

But not even chaplain service people are above temptation. When the office received a new computer and was directed to destroy the old software and manuals, **Master Sgt. LaVonne Wier** admitted, "I thought about using the software in my home computer. Why waste this? Who would check on the chaplains' office? It's easy to justify doing the wrong thing. But I and 'Someone Else' would know," she said.

**Staff Sgt. Jan Johnson** agreed. "We put in a full day's work, although it would be easy to waste time. We need to be doing the right thing, even if no one knows but us. We do make a difference."

Another unit that personifies service before self is the 934th Services Flight. "Most of the people here are hard chargers," said **Senior Master Sgt. Ron Holmgren**, SVF supervisor. "Our people regularly put in 12-hour days and will volunteer when they need to."

**Airman 1st Class Deb Hanson**, services apprentice and a new member of the 934th, explained that the reward for her was

"helping people get in shape."

"I don't mind putting in the extra time, even when I'm not getting paid for it, to see students improve," said Hanson.

As **Staff Sgt. Stacy Campbell**, services specialist, put it, "It's just common sense to think of the customer before ourselves. We sometimes put in long days, but I'd rather volunteer and make sure it gets done."

Extra hours and training are common also for the members of the 934th Civil Engineer Squadron's firefighters. "You have to have a willingness to help others," said **Senior Airman John Hengen**, fire protection specialist. "Firefighters have a calling to the profession. We put in extra days for training, on our own time, to provide better service."

Providing fire protection to Army pilots on training missions every other Wednesday is an example of going the extra mile. "We don't have to do that," explained **Senior Airman William Condon**, fire protection specialist, "but we want to. Firefighters don't try to push jobs off on other people. We're very supportive of each other, and there's a lot of leading by example."

Hengen summed up the service before self approach. "There's probably not a job we wouldn't do," he said. "We want to help." □

# Color them proud

## Members of the 934th Security Police Squadron provide patriotic service to military, civilian communities

by Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly  
public affairs

A group of security police members who represent the wing on a regular basis at events throughout the Twin Cities are virtual unknowns here, outside of their own unit.

"I think everyone should know who we are," said Staff Sgt. Anthony Orr, a member of the 934th Color Guard. "Every time we go out to an event, we represent everyone at the 934th."

Orr and several others formed the color guard in 1985 when a commander wanted a retreat ceremony, and the base did not have a guard group.

"Four of us volunteered to form a color guard for the event," said Orr. "It went so well, we pushed to establish the group on a permanent basis and finally did receive authorization."

Ever since, the four-person group has attended numerous events, including parades, dining-ins, military functions such as ROTC and Reserve Officers Association functions, and anytime a joint service color guard needs an Air Force representative, one of them is there.

*Members of the 934th Color Guard practice in the hangar. From the foreground are: Staff Sgt. Sean Phillips, Master Sgt. David Provo, Staff Sgt. Leo Moreno and Senior Airman Shannon Polk.*



(Photo by Capt. David Winter)

"Being part of the color guard is a matter of pride, and it's an honor," said Master Sgt. David Provo, color guard coordinator. "There's a lot of gratification from representing the military. People always come up afterward and thank us."

For Senior Airman Shannon Polk, the only woman in the color guard, it is not only pride, but a family tradition that motivates her.

"I have a long history of military service in my family, from my grandma being one of the first WACs [Women's Army Corps] to my mom, dad and brother serving in the Army; I get a kick out of being in the color guard," said Polk. "At some of these events the retirees aren't used to seeing a woman in the color guard, so initially, it's a little different. But once they see you can do the job same as anyone, they kind of take a shining to you."

The color guard consists of four people, the most senior person holding the U.S. flag, the second most senior person holding the Air Force flag, and the two junior people are guards.

"Sometimes it can be as simple as posting the colors before an event," said Provo, describing the various functions of the group. "Other times we present the colors, which means we have to hold the colors while they play the national anthem."

The color guard meets at the base before attending an event, to make sure everyone's uniform is impeccable.

"Getting our uniforms prepared is very important," said Provo. "We strictly adhere to '35-10' [former regulation on uniform policies]. Then we get to the site of the event and practice."

Often that means figuring out how they can do their job properly, given the restraints of the place where they are to perform.

"We work well together," said Orr. "Most events aren't set up. Everyone's flexible, and we work out a solution together. Whether there's not enough room for the four of us to walk in together, or we're coming in from the opposite side, for example, we work something out."

Performing at the retirement ceremony of General John Vessey, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was a memorable event, according to Provo and Orr.

"Being there, and afterward having General Vessey tell us how much he appreciated it and how good we looked – it meant a lot coming from a four-star general, and the fact that he's from the Army where they have a real emphasis on ceremony. It was very gratifying," said Orr.

"It was an honor to be asked to be there," added Provo.

So whether they're part of the color guard at a local professional basketball game on Armed Forces Appreciation Day or at a military event you may attend, look a little closer and you'll most likely see those Air Force members are from the 934th. □

# 'Aeromed central'

*This team functions at the heart of the aeromedical evacuation mission*

by Mark Davidson  
public affairs

The radio blares information about the inbound C-130 and its load of patients. The "alpha crew" is being alerted to report. An officer and noncommissioned officer post two status boards in three colors. Phones ring. And ring. And ring.

It sounds like another busy day for controllers in the wing command post, except this scene is taking place in the aeromedical evacuation world. The players – members of the 32-person Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Team.

"The AEOT is the aeromedical evacuation system version of command post and current operations," explained Capt. Barbara Sullivan, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron senior air reserve

technician and AEOT senior duty officer.

The first time the AEOT was used by more than just a handful of 934th AES people was last fall at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, Mich., during the Operational Readiness Exercise.

"We did very well according to the exercise evaluation team in the areas of the AEOT, facility management and sweep teams," said Sullivan.

"The AEOT for the upcoming Readiness Assistance Visit and Operational Readiness Inspection will be comprised of AES people from both the 934th and the 911th at Pittsburgh," said Lt. Col. Mary Jo Mazik, squadron commander. "We want to be able to train and practice together so eventually you won't be able to tell the difference between the two units in the AEOT." Local aeromedics trained with 21 Pittsburgh members Feb. 21, with more

joint training planned in coming months.

Aside from operating the AEOT, the members must be able to defend their facility – and survive.

"AEOT facility management will be a 24-hour operation," said Staff Sgt. Scott Rian, facility integration manager for Ability To Survive and Operate. "We will have crews on two kinds of alert, and the AEOT must be able to survive and function so the crews can go fly and do their jobs."

Ultimately, the AEOT function and the training for it will be used in contingencies similar to the Persian Gulf War or Bosnia, according to Capt. Dan Anderson, deputy director of operations.

"We can use the AEOT function in any contingency, since it's the tool that will provide command and control to a situation, and manage information, people and resources," he said. □

## Communications security

Telephone, radio 'protocol' becomes critical during exercises, inspections

Communications security, or COMSEC, remains an important consideration in daily operations, but it often represents a virtual landmine field during exercises and inspections.

In particular, unsecure telephone and radio communications call for special vigilance. According to Rick Ensenbach and Eric Trimble, base COMSEC managers, there are a few basics to keep in mind as the wing approaches June's Readiness Assistance Visit:

□ Do not discuss critical information. That includes any Privacy Act information, aircraft tail numbers, number of wounded or dead, manning statistics or number of people deployed. Security weaknesses would be another area of discussion to avoid – an alarm malfunctioning, a hole in the perimeter fence, or shift changes, which could indicate times when large numbers of people would be congregated in certain places.

□ When answering the phone, remind the caller if the line is unsecure, and give as little information as possible: "Base chapel. This is an unsecure line. May I help you?" Though some people might want to give their last name, ranks should never be used.

□ Do not discuss radio call signs associated with locations.

□ When possible, use secure phones. During the exercise and inspection, secure fax machines will also be available. □



(Photo by Capt. David Winter)

### 'Game gear'

Toting chemical warfare gear on exercise and inspection deployments will be a easier with the new backpacks now being issued by the wing. Pictured is Master Sgt. David Cormier, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

# Viking Victors: civil engineer champs

## Staff Sgt. John Kline

**Honor:** Air Force Reserve Civil Engineer Air Reserve Technician of the Year 1995.  
**Unit:** 934th Civil Engineer Squadron.  
**Position:** Operations noncommissioned officer.  
**Education:** Bachelor's in history, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.  
**Hobbies:** Golf and fishing. "My biggest hobby is work!"  
**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association, Air Force Association.  
**Goals:** "The only goal I have right now is getting through the Readiness Assistance Visit and Operational

Readiness Inspection. That's my whole year right there – and that's enough to keep anyone busy."  
**Family:** Single, live in St. Paul, Minn.  
**Comments:** "I had to tie Senior Master Sgt. Patty Boettner [former civil engineer, now in headquarters section]! We're the first unit to have had two ARTs win. It's kind of a competition – good, clean fun. It's definitely a unit award, though. The commander even took the award off my wall here and put it out front in the trophy case."



Kline



Nicolai

## Tech. Sgt. Steve Nicolai

**Honor:** Air Force Reserve Civil Engineer Noncommissioned Officer of the Year 1995.  
**Unit:** 934th Civil Engineer Squadron.  
**Duties:** Prime BEEF team. Operate/determine requirements for construction equipment; supervise, perform and plan construction jobs.  
**Civilian occupation:** Highway maintenance worker, Minnesota Department of Transportation.  
**Hobbies:** Motorcycling, fishing, camping, reading.  
**Professional organizations:** American Legion.

**Goals:** "Get my children through four years of college."  
**Family:** Single father; children, Theresa (12), Jennifer (11) and Jeremiah (7); live in Wells, Minn.  
**Comments:** "I want to thank everybody for all their cooperation in doing what I asked in getting everything done last year – especially on the projects of tearing down the old Base Exchange and creating the concrete pad for parking the C-130 trainer near aerial port. Without the cooperation and help of everybody, I couldn't have won this award."

## Master Sgt. Dave Rau

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing First Sergeant of the Year 1995.  
**Unit:** 934th Civil Engineer Squadron.  
**Education:** Associate's in business marketing, Normandale Community College, Bloomington, Minn.  
**Civilian occupation:** Owner of a small contracting company since 1984, involved primarily in interior finish carpentry.  
**Hobbies:** Spending time at the cabin, snowmobiling, volleyball, golf and travel.  
**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association.  
**Goals:** "Early retirement!"

**Family:** Wife, Beth; children, Ashley (11), Allison (8) and Eric (7); live in Lakeville, Minn.  
**Comments:** "I would like to thank our squadron commander and members for all the support and dedication they have given me these last four years. Without that, this award would not have been possible. Their constantly positive attitude makes my job fun and rewarding. Also, thanks to my family for all the personal sacrifices they have made over the years so I can further my military career." □



Rau

## Medals

### Meritorious Service Medal

Capt. David Gerken, OG  
Senior Master Sgt. Marc Gilbertson, AS  
Lt. Col. Lewis Luyster (Retired), AS  
Lt. Col. Donald Stockton (2 OLC, Retired),  
MXS

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Master Sgt. Reid Koepp (Retired), CES  
Senior Master Sgt. Donald Lutzke (1 OLC,  
Retired), CES

### Air Force Achievement Medal

Chief Master Sgt. David Chapman, LSS  
Master Sgt. Timothy Payton (1 OLC), LG  
Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Plummer (1 OLC),  
AES  
Staff Sgt. Gary Strauss (Retired), CES

## Promotions

Senior Airman Taj Alexander, OSF  
Staff Sgt. Scott Brown, LSS  
Staff Sgt. Stacy Campbell, SVF  
Master Sgt. Rick Ensenbach, CF  
Staff Sgt. Bradley Fradette, APS  
Staff Sgt. Tracy Goetz, ASTS  
Staff Sgt. Melinda Koukol, AW  
Senior Airman Shawn Legried, AS  
Staff Sgt. Gregory McGowan, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Dana Moog, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Larry O'Connell, APS  
Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford, ASTS  
Tech. Sgt. Randy Schauer, APS  
Staff Sgt. Laura Taylor, MXS  
Airman 1st Class Andrew Thomas, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Tom Thomas, AS

## Newcomers

Staff Sgt. Crealeo Alverio, APS  
Maj. Susan Barry, AES  
Senior Airman Scott Baseler, CF  
Amn. Jovan Braham-Bailey, AW  
Senior Airman Michael Gangl, SVF  
Senior Airman Jeffery Imsdahl, SPS  
Capt. Brian Kohlbeck, AS  
Airman 1st Class Troy Oscarson, CES  
Senior Airman Andreas Regal, MSF  
Senior Airman Michael Sanchez, AES  
Senior Airman Katrina Smith, MSF  
Capt. James Swartz, AS  
Senior Airman Chad Urhammer, APS  
Staff Sgt. James Valentine, MXS

Senior Airman Kevin Wogan, MXS  
1st Lt. Thomas Zutter, ASTS  
Amn. Ricky Yegge, APS

## Honors

♣ Lt. Col. Larry Snider, 96th Airlift Squadron, was selected as a Community Hero Torch-bearer for the Olympic Torch Relay, one of 59 chosen in Minnesota. A total of 5,500 people will carry the torch from Los Angeles to Atlanta. The four criteria used in the selection process were outstanding volunteer work; community leader, role model or mentor; acts of generosity or kindness; and extraordinary feats or accomplishments, locally or nationally.



Snider

♣ Master Sgt. Dave Hammer, AW historian, earned an Air Force Reserve Special Achievement Award for his work on the wing quarterly history.  
♣ Staff Sgt. Robert Benson, APS, was selected as Porter of the Quarter, January through March. Honorees receive their choice of annual tour in the next year, a reserved parking spot for three months and a gift certificate from the Base Exchange.  
♣ Staff Sgt. Connie Henke, MXS, was selected Avionics Reservist of the Quarter, January through March. Staff Sgt. Alan McCann was selected for April through June. Honorees receive a certificate, three-month parking spot, donuts for the flight, their photo in the trophy case and a banner in the work area.

♣ Joanne Bentley, 934th Base Civil Engineering, has been awarded the 1995 Environmental Restoration Award. She was cited for her efforts to clean up groundwater and soil contamination as well as her work with local communities and environmental regulators. The award was achieved in the Air Force Reserve 1995 Civil Engineer Environmental Awards program.

♣ Also in civil engineer environmental

achievements, the 934th Airlift Wing and BCE were awarded the Air Force Reserve's General Thomas D. White Environmental Quality Award for accomplishments from January 1994 through December 1995. The base was also noted for its efforts to prevent pollution by reducing solid waste 50 percent and encouraging recycling of waste products.

♣ The 934th Civil Engineer Squadron was selected as runner-up for the Air Force Reserve CE Squadron of the Year 1995. This year's winner was the 908th CES, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

## Reenlistments

Staff Sgt. Steven Arndt, LSS  
Senior Airman Ruth Beecher, AS  
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Dentz, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. William Doty, APS  
Staff Sgt. Michael Eastridge, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Gary Ford, MXS  
Senior Airman Michael Gangl, SVF  
Staff Sgt. Chester Gronewold, APS  
Tech. Sgt. David Hall II, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Randy Hanson, APS  
Tech. Sgt. Michael Harnish, SPS  
Tech. Sgt. Daniel Headman, LSS  
Senior Airman Angela House, ASTS  
Tech. Sgt. Timothy Jackson, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. James Jansen, LSS  
Tech. Sgt. Genel Kampf, OSF  
Staff Sgt. Kevin Klefsaas, SPS  
Staff Sgt. Phillip Kvamme, MXS  
Master Sgt. Dan Loftus, LSS  
Tech. Sgt. David Nelson, CES  
Staff Sgt. Jay Redfield, MXS  
Tech. Sgt. Douglas Roden, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Mark Scheib, AS  
Master Sgt. Roy Schwegel, MXS  
Staff Sgt. Cory Stapelmann, ASTS  
Senior Airman David Stevenson, SPS  
Staff Sgt. Allan Teich, CF  
Tech. Sgt. Caprice Williams, AW  
Staff Sgt. Brian Wollak, ASTS  
Senior Airman Kevin Wogan, MXS

## Retirements

Master Sgt. Dennis Dodge, MXS  
Chief Master Sgt. Larry Hanson, CES  
Senior Master Sgt. Kirk Hendrickson, SVF  
Master Sgt. Augusto Molina, MXS  
Master Sgt. David Olson, AS □

# Ice wars

## Fledgling unit hockey team offers chance for amateurs to give hockey a try

by Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly  
public affairs

The advent of women's and girls' hockey in Minnesota recently seems to have opened a floodgate of "wannabe" hockey players of both sexes.

Most of us have grown up watching the state high school hockey tournament or some form of organized hockey, and many of us sitting on the sidelines secretly harbored the wish to get out there and give it a try.

The 934th's Flying Vikings hockey team is no exception. While a few of them are "real" hockey players, most are recent converts, striving each week to play a game that looks deceptively easy from the bleacher seats.

As the team straggles in for their weekly Sunday night game, the bleachers are empty. The players amble stiffly across the ice, trying to get their hockey legs moving.

After a few cursory warm-up laps, the game is underway. Tonight, the purple-clad Flying Vikings square off against Deloitte Touche, "a bunch of accountants," as one player refers to them, in black.

The teams seem evenly matched, and both teams have their chances to score. There's no checking allowed in this league, so there's a lot of skating back and forth, trying to get a little lumber on the puck before you're exhausted and need to take a breather.

Some players skate, stop and turn fluidly; some are hesitant, abrupt and a bit shaky. Most players come off the ice breathing hard, while a few of the better skaters look as if they could handle another shift.

The mood is light. As the Viking goalie faces a sudden flurry of shots and stops them all, someone yells from the bench: "Way to keep us in the game, goalie!"

When the referee doesn't make an offside call, someone suggests, "Magnifying lens, ref." The ref glides away with a smile and a shake of the head.

"Good hustle guys! Okay, switch 'em, let's go," shouts Tom Anderson, a navigator with the flying squadron, who stands behind the bench and fills in as coach, since he's sitting out the game with a leg injury. He holds the most hockey experience on the 934th team,

playing high school, college and junior A, and even trying out with the Cleveland Barons pro team. He has been the impetus behind the hockey program here.

"When I was on active duty with the Minnesota Air National Guard, I helped run their team," he said. "When I came here three years ago, I helped organize a team here; it's purely for fun."

"The big thing is to meet people from different shops, to be able to socialize, both officer and enlisted; just get out there and have fun," said Toby Hammer, a pilot with the flying squadron.

One player who joined the team just for the fun of it, Mark "Woody" Woodson, from the maintenance squadron, has caught on quickly. "You can see what a superb athlete Woody is," Hammer comments.

Woody, at 6-foot-6-inches, 220-pounds, may not look like your average hockey player. But looks are deceiving - he's quick and agile, despite his size. His long legs flash quickly over large sections of ice - stride, stride and he nearly covers the distance between both blue lines. He leans over his stick, causing his jersey to ride up in back.

"Woody's the only one who makes these jerseys look small," another player comments.

On this night, Woody's wrist shot to the upper left corner late in the second period ties the score at 1-1.

In the third period with two minutes left, Jamie Canniff of life support beats their goalie with a shot from the point, putting the Flying Vikings up 2-1. Despite pulling their goalie, the other team is unable to score even with the extra attacker. The win boosts the 934th record, which is currently five wins, eight losses.

Most players quickly change and head home. It has been a long day for people like Hammer, who arrived at his Stillwater, Minn. home at 5:30 p.m. after a regular UTA Sunday. Hammer got his kids fed, bathed and in bed in time to leave for his 8:40 p.m. hockey game. By the time the game's over and he's loading his equipment in his truck for the 30-minute drive home, it's after 10.

But they're here every Sunday night through the winter, despite the obstacles. The team welcomes new members, both male and female, who might be sitting on the sidelines, dreaming of giving hockey a try. □

## SERVICES BRIEFS

### LSS wins tourney

The annual 934th Bowling Tournament was held March 2, with 41 bowlers competing.

First place team, with a score of 2212, was the 934th Logistics Support Squadron: Sherri Kennedy, Dave Wagoner and Scott Sippel.

Second place team, with a score of 2108, was the 934th Communications Flight: Doug Kveene, Becky Bean, John Bean and Tim Mikesh.

Third place team, with a score of 2105, was the 934th Services Flight: Ruth Duffy, Ronna Puck and Ron Holmgren.

High-game winners were Duffy, SVF, with a score of 175, and Mikesh, CF, 202.

### Softball action starts soon

The 934th Softball League begins play on May 4. All rosters must be turned in by noon Saturday, April 13. Also, managers must pick up team schedules on Sunday, April 14, at the fitness center.

### Fun run/walk set

The Herk Hustle 5K Fun Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, May 4, after sign-out. Registration forms are available at the fitness center.

### Fitness managers meet

There will be a mandatory meeting of all Unit Fitness Program Managers at the cycle center, Saturday, May 14, 7:45 a.m. □

934th Recreation Services  
Bldg. 802, Ext. 5316