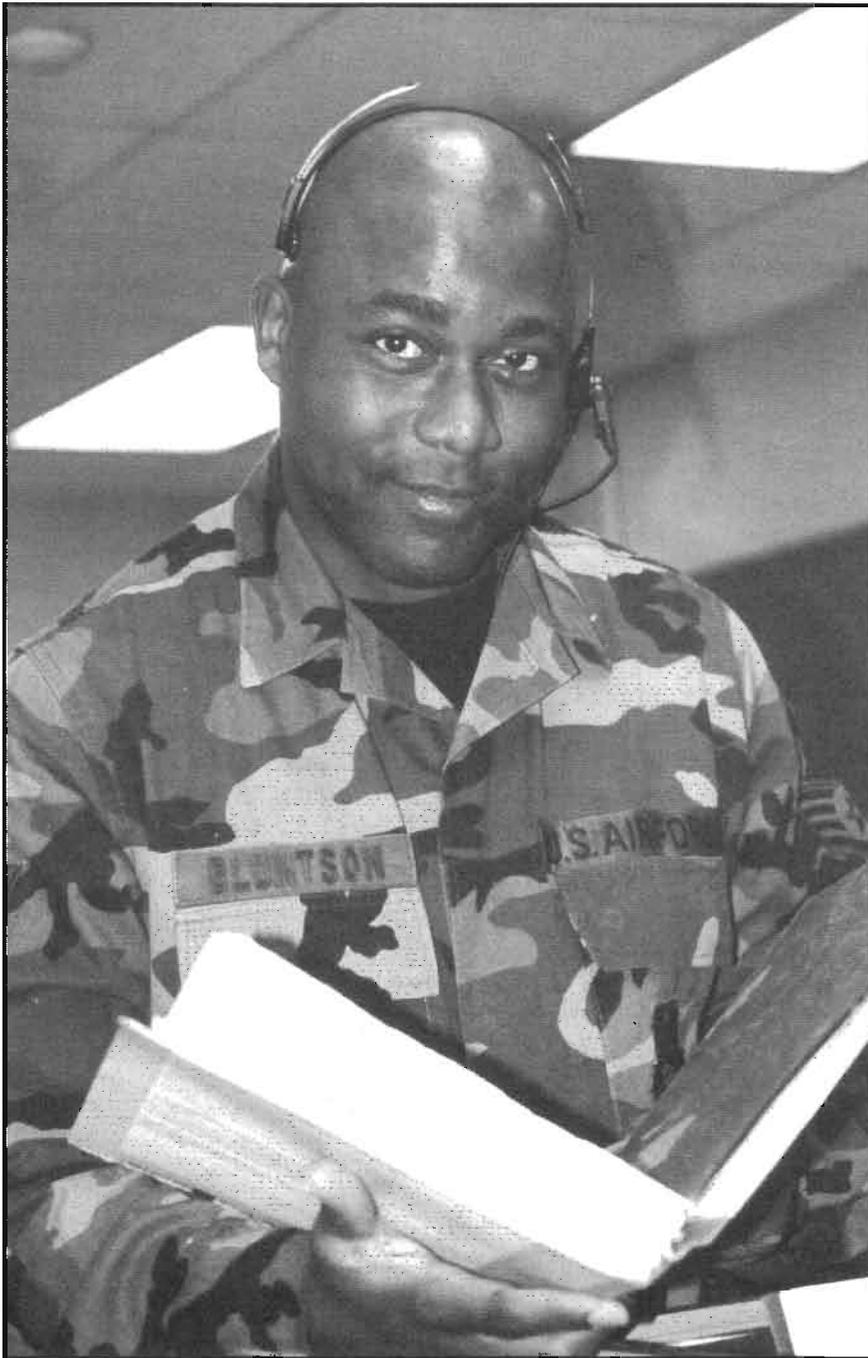


Vol. 22, No. 6
June 2000

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

VIKING FLYER



934th Aeromedical
Staging Squadron
meets a busy
peacetime mission
of ensuring a

Fit force

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Staff Sgt. Suzzanne Runtsch

Col. Dean Despinoy,
Wing commander
Capt. Mick Gleason,
Acting chief of public affairs
Master Sgt. Darrell Habisch,
Public affairs superintendent
Cherie Huntington,
Editor/public affairs specialist
Tech. Sgt. Larry Dean,
Staff Sgt. Robert Butterfield II,
Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch,
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams,
Public affairs staff
Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz,
Staff Sgt. Stephanie Robinson
Photographers

On the cover

Staff Sgt. Michael Bluntson, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, helps direct patient flow during physical exams. For more on exams and related medical issues, see Pages 5-7.



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch

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News on the run ...

- June lunch entrees: Not available at press time.
 - UTAs: July 8-9, Aug. 5-6, Sept. 9-10, Oct. 14-15, Nov. 4-5, Dec. 2-3.
- See complete fiscal 2001 schedule, Page 3.
- June UTA pay date: June 15.

Commentary

On a personal note

Commander's family finally heads to Minnesota

Col. Dean Despinoy
Wing Commander

I have really enjoyed the first six months that I have had the privilege to be your wing commander. The reputation of this wing continues to be outstanding, and I constantly am reminded of my good fortune to have so many dedicated professionals in the 934th Airlift Wing. I appreciate the great welcome I received and feel that I am not only the commander but also a part of the "family."

As many of you know, the timing of this assignment was not ideal for me personally or for my "real" family. My oldest daughter, Jennifer, had just started her senior year of high school when the orders came through. It took little discussion to realize that the only choice was to leave my two daughters, Jennifer and Natalie, and my wife, Judy, back in Wichita, Kan., until graduation. The ceremony was this past weekend, and I am the proud father of a new high school graduate.

We have sold our house in Wichita and purchased a house in Woodbury, Minn. Yes, we decided on Woodbury even though we are almost in the same neighborhood as the Rudins [Lt. Col. John Rudin, 96th Airlift Squadron commander and Lt. Col. Kristin Rudin, 934th Mission Support Flight commander]. I am not sure whose property value is affected by this action and in what direction!

We have started cleaning out the basement to try to bring our moving weight down to an

acceptable level. We will have the movers start packing on May 30 and close on our house in Woodbury on June 5.



Despinoy

During the past six months I have tried to balance my temporary duty schedule, C-130 conversion school, trips home and my duties as wing commander. Some weeks have been better than others, but with lots of help from lots of people, I think I have done it successfully. On May 26, I will go back to Wichita for the last time and bring the family to Minnesota.

I can't express how much it will mean to me to have us all together again. Jennifer has been accepted to the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, so although she will be starting college, she will be close enough for those important pizza and laundry runs back home. Natalie has her freshman year of high school under her belt and is looking forward to being a Woodbury High School sophomore.

I am realistic enough to know that my TDY schedule will probably remain similar to what it has been. However, I am looking forward to more time here at the wing and, of course, more time at home with the family.

Thanks to everyone for helping me get through this difficult separation. We, the Despinoy family, look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. □

Reserve

Paper Course 8 'goes away'

Effective Oct. 1, Air Force reservists will no longer be authorized to enroll in the paper-based Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy Correspondence Course 8.

Instead, they will sign up for the SNCOA Multimedia Course 5 or attend the academy in residence. Air Force Reserve Command receives 80 slots annually for unit program master sergeants and senior master sergeant selectees to attend the academy at Maxwell Air Force Base

Gunter Annex, Ala. In addition, 10 individual mobilization augmentees can go in residence each year.

People enrolled in Course 8 before the Oct. 1 cutoff date will be allowed to complete the course. However, reservists in full-time Active Guard and Reserve status, as well as active-duty members, will not be allowed to enroll in Course 8 as of June 1. (AFRC News Service)

Local

New drill schedule released

The fiscal 2001 unit training assembly schedule has been announced:

Oct. 14-15	Feb. 3-4	June 2-3
Nov. 4-5	March 3-4	July 14-15
Dec. 2-3	April 7-8	Aug. 4-5
Jan. 6-7, 2001	May 5-6	Sept. 8-9

The maintenance alternate UTA schedule, normally the second weekend after drill, was released also:

Oct. 21-22	Feb. 24-25	June 16-17
Nov. 18-19, 25	March 17-18	July 28-29
Dec. 9, 16-17	April 21-22	Aug. 18-19
Jan. 20-21, 2001	May 19-20	Sept. 22-23

Club membership drive starts

The Fort Snelling Officers Club annual membership drive runs until Sept. 1, with a goal of 300 new members.

Under new management, the club provides fine dining, a lounge and a variety of entertainment. Members receive the same benefits at a lower price than at an active-duty base. Monthly dues are \$9 within the seven-county metro area; and for those living outside that area, dues are \$6 for retired officers, \$4 for drilling reservists.

Current members sponsoring new members will receive incentive gifts. A dinner for two at the club is awarded for sponsoring one member; dinner for two and a play at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater for sponsoring two new members; and a three-day, two-night family vacation for bringing in five or more new members. The grand prize is a four-day, three-night family vacation. All sponsors are eligible but must be present at the Oktoberfest Celebration to win.

☎For details, call the club at Ext. 3678 or FORT.

Base supply store opens

The new base supply store, operated by Associated Industries for the Blind, is now open for purchase of government office supplies.

The store is located upstairs in the supply facility, Bldg. 801. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

☎For more information, call (612) 970-4010 or 1011.

Charity golf tournament set

A summer golf tournament is set for Tuesday, June 27, with all net proceeds dedicated to the Joint Services Family Readiness Center.

Participants will meet at the Officers Club at 10:15 a.m. for coffee and sticky buns then head to River Oaks Golf Course to meet a noon tee time. After play, it's back to the club for dinner and awards. Cost is \$60, including golf, cart and dinner.

The joint center is the first of its kind in the nation, meeting special needs of military families from all branches of service.

☎For more information, call the center, Ext. 1516. ☐

Blueprint for success

Staff assistance team arrives for functional review, crossfeed

Maj. Doug Kveene
Wing Executive Officer

A 99-person team from 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., will arrive on Wednesday, May 31, for a staff assistance visit at the 934th Airlift Wing.

Nearly all functional areas will be evaluated during their five-day stay. An in-brief will be held at approximately 12:45 p.m. on Thursday in the NCO Club for team members, commanders and division chiefs.

The SAV team will work in the all-purpose room in Bldg. 760, and a major aircraft response exercise, or MARE, will be

conducted during their stay to test our response capabilities.

The remaining portion of their visit will be devoted to looking at programs within the functional areas. Areas that have used the checklists found on the Air Force Reserve Command Web page and received from 22nd AF will be successful throughout the visit. The out-brief is scheduled for 8 a.m., June 4, in the NCO Club for team members, commanders and division chiefs.

As with all visits and inspections, we have only one opportunity to make a first impression. If we, as a wing, project a professional image, demonstrate our job knowledge and show an eagerness to learn, we will pass the SAV. ☐

Anthrax: Reserve keeps program on track despite negative 'media blitz'

Capt. James Bishop
Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

As of April 19, 11,014 Air Force reservists have begun the six-shot, 18-month anthrax vaccine series, according to program administrators.

A total of 40,125 doses have been given to "blue-suit" reservists. The Air Force's Selected Reserve has about 70,120 reservists in the unit and individual mobilization augmentee programs.

Another 5,406 Army Reserve members and 3,468 from the Naval Reserve have begun the series. Eventually, all 2.4 million military members, including about one million in the reserve forces, will be vaccinated.

In March, Air Force Chief of Staff **Gen. Michael Ryan** ordered that all airmen, including reservists, receive briefings on the anthrax immunization by the end of August.

Consequently, Air Force Reserve Command formed three briefing teams, one for each numbered air force, led by **Col. (Dr.) Patricia Nell**, chief of aerospace medicine and professional services at Headquarters AFRC, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

"Proportionally, we have immunized more of our people than the active duty," Nell said.

Side effects remain low

The number of side effects from the anthrax vaccine so far remains low, however.

As of March 29, nearly 1.6 million doses of vaccine had been given to 422,946 service members. Of those, 674 people have submitted reports of adverse reactions to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

An independent panel of civilian medical experts found just 396 of the 674 reports were "certainly or probably caused by anthrax vaccine," according to a report by the Anthrax Vaccine Expert Committee.

"Right now, everything is being blamed on anthrax," Nell said.

Because the reporting system is voluntary, if a member doesn't choose to report, "we can't track it," she said. "Inherently, the vaccine has expected side effects, but it's a safe vaccine."

The number of complaints reported is typical of any immunization, according to Nell. She said a vaccination should, by its nature, produce a response from the body. "If it's any good, you're going to have a side effect," she said.

Along with the increased number of vaccinations comes an increased number of side effects.

Responding to news media reports in which a disproportionately high number of pilots in the 9th Airlift Squadron at Dover Air Force Base, Del., reported side effects from the anthrax vaccination, Nell said; "Every, single vaccine released has had a report of nausea, chills and fever" at some point.

Though the most severe reactions may temporarily disqualify a pilot from flying status, they are rare and short-term, she said. Most adverse reports are for skin rashes and bumps on arms.

Reports requested

Nell noted that, as with any vaccine, if an adverse reaction occurs, reservists should first seek medical attention as necessary, then follow up with their Reserve medical unit. Then they should submit a report through the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System in writing, by calling (800) 822-7967 or online at:

www.anthrax.osd.mil/vaers/vaers.htm

"In looking at the anthrax vaccine issue and the media blitz highlighting people's fear of immunization, we need to focus on the real issue," said **Lt. Gen. Charles Roadman II**, former Air Force surgeon general who retired in December. "People need not be afraid of the immunization; they need

No refusals accepted

What if a reservist refuses the shot?

First, a commander would take steps to educate the member on the seriousness of the threat and the effectiveness of the vaccine. Then the member would be given a written order.

After that, the price for refusing the vaccine escalates from receiving letters of counseling to reassignment to the inactive reserve.

The bottom line about refusals is that commanders choose consequences from a range of options, and no member can consistently refuse to take the anthrax shot and stay in the Reserve, said **Col. Carl Behrens**, deputy staff judge advocate at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

"We're not trying to punish people who don't take the shots," he said. "We're trying to protect our troops from a deadly weapon." □

to be afraid of the disease."

Reservists can obtain further information by contacting their medical unit or visiting these sites:

www.anthrax.osd.mil

www.af.mil/current/anthrax/

www.aviationmedicine.com

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

www.cdc.gov

World Health Organization:

www.vetmed.isu.edu/whocc/

anthrax.htm

Mayo Clinic:

www.mayohealth.org/mayo/

9803/htm/anthrax.htm

Johns Hopkins News:

www.intelihealth.com

(AFRC News Service) □

Let's get physical

Required periodic exams ensure fit force

Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch
Public Affairs

It's a lot more than open your mouth and say, "Aaahh."

Through the process of performing periodic physicals, professionals in the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron examine every member of the wing.

Starting with paperwork

Obtaining a physical exam starts with the correct paperwork.

"The whole function of the medical records unit is to ensure members are physically ready for deployment," said Staff Sgt. Michael Bluntson, health services management. "We do more than handle medical records — we manage information."

Process improvements

In response to feedback, the physical exam process has implemented changes this past year to improve quality and customer satisfaction.

"Each individual is unique and so is the type of exam they receive," said Master Sgt. Tim Atchley, noncommissioned officer in charge of aeromedical services. "We handle all the wing's periodic physical exam needs, and we also perform ROTC, enlistment, retirement and flight physicals."

Three recent changes improved the physical exam process:

- Physicals are completed over two unit training assembly periods,
- Missed tests can be rescheduled for the next UTA, and
- Physical exams are no longer an all-day process.

"All these changes enable doctors to see more patients and obtain a complete medical history," said Atchley.

Productivity further improved with the addition of the headsets medical technicians wear to direct patient flow.

"Patients can be redirected from congested areas to other non-busy testing



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Senior Airman Sonny McKinney, left, checks a new recruit's blood pressure.

areas, eliminating delays," said Atchley. "We're hearing a lot of positive feedback now. People are saying the new physical exam process is less time consuming."

Physical exam requirements

Here are tips for a smooth exam process:

- Do not eat or drink anything except water for 15 hours prior to appointment time.
- Contact lenses may be worn to the exam, but bring glasses and any prescription changes. Contacts need to be removed for checking uncorrected vision, so bring a storage case and saline solution.
- Basic activities required include having blood drawn; recording height, weight and blood pressure; vision testing; hearing testing; electrocardiograph; dental exam; and a doctor's interview.
- To help keep patient flow smooth, follow the check-in process listed on the exam sheet. □

Physical exam schedule

Non-flyers: Complete physical every five years

Flyers: Complete physical every three years, with interim flight physicals annually

All members: Air Force Form 895, Annual Medical Certificate, annually. List any significant change in medical history, such as surgeries, elevated blood pressure or anything requiring regular medication

Women: Obstetric/gynecological, every five years; age 40, base line mammography, then every three years for complete flying physical exams, every five years for non-flyers. The member's private physician conducts mammograms; however, if a member does not have private insurance, an exam at Air Force expense can be arranged through the medical squadron.

Special Exams

• **DNA registration:**

One-time blood sample, all members

• **Occupational health program:** Hearing conservation program requiring annual tests for people exposed to high noise levels on a consistent basis

• **Respiratory protection program:** Required training for people exposed to certain hazardous fumes □

'You can't duplicate the flying experience in a civilian job.'

— Col. (Dr.) Harvey Smith, at right with patient



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch

FLYING DOCS

A life of medicine, but a dream of flying

Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch
Public Affairs

Blame it on the call of the wild, blue yonder. With successful medical careers spanning specialties such as emergency medicine, family practice and pediatrics, doctors in the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron must find something worthwhile in their Reserve careers — but what?

"Flying is a major attraction for many doctors," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Jorge Llambes, an emergency medicine/urgent care doctor at St. Luke's Hospital, Duluth, Minn.

The wing has nine doctors, five who are flight-surgeon qualified. Flight surgeons have completed the aerospace medicine primary course, which offers specialized training in the medical aspects of flight.

"The course includes assessing oxygen needs, altitude and G-force stress and the medical regulations that apply to flyers and the flying environment," Llambes said.

He identified many interesting opportunities the military offers doctors, such as managing medical programs like immunizations or occupational medical safety, and

assisting in the training of other medical paraprofessionals.

"We usually see more experienced doctors who choose to join the military — they're established in their civilian practices and are more able to meet Reserve duty time requirements," Llambes said. "This unit has a great reputation among physicians."

The aircraft likely have something to do with that reputation, considering the choice of Lt. Col. (Dr.) Dale Ernster, who came here for the opportunity to fly on transport planes.

"I like doing something entirely different one weekend a month and having the chance to fly," said Ernster, a family practice doctor in Jamestown, N.D.

Others had earlier military careers and longed to return to the flying life.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Ray Kundel and his wife recently added staff to their pediatric practice, enabling him to return to military duty after a four-year break in service.

"I enjoyed attending the combat medical readiness training at Sheppard," he said. "It was something I hadn't done before. It was great to see everyone working together and bonding."

"The Air Force Reserve has an important mission, and reservists choose to serve because they want to be here," said Col. (Dr.) Harvey Smith. "You can't duplicate the flying experience in a civilian job."

Smith was active duty for six years after medical school and missed flying upon leaving.

"For 18 years, I have enjoyed belonging to this professional organization," he said. "I've seen a lot of changes in the mission, and the squadron has grown immensely."

Smith commented that the recent joint-force exercise, Northern Eagle, was a valuable learning tool.

"The opportunity to triage in a mass-casualty situation forces medical personnel to decide quickly where to concentrate resources to do the greatest good for the greatest number," he said. "Exercises like this enhance the mission readiness of the squadron." □

Saving lives in war

Critical care teams boost life-saving efficiency

Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch
Public Affairs

Saving lives on the battlefield demands speed and skill, and critical care air transport teams provide the means to master those challenges.

Three CCAT teams are now assigned to the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, enhancing the quality of battlefield medical care.

"The philosophy of the role of aeromedical evacuation has changed over the years, with better medical assets in forward operating areas," said Col. Mary Kay Hanson, ASTS commander.

Now, battlefield patients are triaged, stabilized and moved out for further care more quickly. Flowing through aeromedical evacuation stages, stabilized patients with severe critical injuries can now be transported more efficiently, thanks to CCAT teams.

Each team consists of one physician, one critical care nurse and one cardiopulmonary technician. The squadron has physician and nurse candidates for these new positions, but two technician positions need to be filled. *(See recruiting information at right.)*

"The CCAT team helps carry out the mission of the aeromedical evacuation



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Runtsch

A visit with a squadron physician, such as Lt. Col. (Dr.) Ray Kundel, left, is required to complete a physical exam.

system," Hanson said. "Team members ensure that critically-ill patients receive continuous stabilization while en route to a hospital for care."

Patients must meet the following four criteria to be eligible for aeromedical transportation:

- Open airway,
- Treated for shock,
- Bleeding under control, and
- Fractures splinted.

"It all comes down to saving lives," said Hanson. "CCAT teams enhance the ability of the aeromedical evacuation system to save lives." □

Critical care technicians needed locally

Cardiopulmonary technicians remain in demand, both in the military and the civilian workplace. They work with doctors and other health professionals in diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the heart and lungs.

These specialists are involved in three areas of medical care: respiratory therapy, pulmonary diagnostic studies and cardiology.

Technical training includes a 12-week course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, followed by 30 weeks of on-the-job training at a medical facility. The course is accredited with the National Society of Cardiovascular Technology/ National Society of Pulmonary Technology.

☉Anyone interested in becoming a cardiopulmonary technician should call a wing recruiter at (612) 713-JOBS or (800) 257-1212. □

Shot snapshot

It's no mystery —
chart your
due dates to avoid
'sticker shock'

Vaccine

- Anthrax
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Influenza
- Measles, mumps, rubella/MMR
- Meningococcal/MCG
- Polio
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria/tuberculin/IPPD
- Typhoid
- Yellow fever

Required frequency

- Initial series of six with yearly booster
- Every 15 years
- One series of three (medical, first responders only)
- Yearly
- One
- Every five years
- One
- Every 10 years
- Yearly
- Every two years
- Every 10 years □

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson
Last drill, the squadron provided its Humvee and trailer rigged for air drop at the Badger drop zone in Wisconsin. This was the first time the flying squadron performed a sequential air drop with real vehicles. Members were busy also with engines-running on-load/off-load operations at Camp Ripley, Minn. We also loaded 62,000 pounds of humanitarian cargo onto a C-17 bound for Honduras. Finally, five members departed for Pope Air Force Base, N.C., to compete in Rodeo 2000, the worldwide air mobility competition, May 6-13.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

Maj. Dan Anderson
The squadron has been busy preparing for the 22nd Air Force staff assistance visit, May 31-June 4, and Global Medic in June. This joint service field exercise at Fort Gordon, Ga., will involve 35 members deploying after the June drill. We had three people supporting members of a 22nd AF team as they conducted a readiness assistance visit for the 914th Airlift Wing at Fort McCoy, Wis., in mid-May. Several members received certification training on the KC-135R through a joint cross-country mission with aeromedics from March Air Reserve Base, Calif., to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. We then provided reciprocal training for some of their members on a wing C-130.

Wing roundup



Capt. Mick Gleason

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Gino Marchetti
A few members were tasked to give staff assistance to the 512th ASTS, Dover Air Force Base, Del., in preparation for their Health Services Inspection. The squadron also provided medical support in May by giving physicals and immunizations.

96th Airlift Squadron

Senior Airman Jess Lind
The Rodeo 2000 team departed for competition Friday before May drill. Members trained at Camp Ripley, Minn., during the drill, including assault landings and engines-running on-load/off-load.

934th Civil Engineer Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews
Eighty members processed during May's mobility exercise, and 30 members performed support functions. Tempo is up this month as we prepare for our annual tour to England in June, along with final preparation for the staff assistance visit. The disaster preparedness/readiness section conducted four ability to survive and operate training classes for wing

members and four squadron representative training classes. Three firefighters attended Readiness Challenge competition at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. — one as a competitor and two as volunteers supporting the fire and rescue team.

934th Communications Flight

Senior Airman Chris Krug
The unit held its annual tour at home station. Four members participated in honor guard training in May.

934th Logistics Support Squadron

Master Sgt. Tom Stratton
The squadron spent the May drill participating in the mobility exercise. All members are gearing up for the staff assistance visit.

934th Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken
Squadron members continued preparing for the upcoming staff assistance visit. We also launched and recovered eight assault landing missions for the flying squadron during the May drill. Eleven members participated in the mobility exercise on Saturday, and several others attended



Wing around the world: June

- 27th APS:** Georgia, New Jersey, Texas
 - 934th AES:** Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Ohio, Texas, Wisconsin
 - 96th AS:** Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky
 - 934th ASTS:** Alabama, Maryland, Netherlands Antilles, Texas
 - 934th AW HQ/MSF:** California, Georgia, Puerto Rico, Texas
 - 934th CES:** England, Florida, New York, Texas
 - 934th CF:** California, Georgia, North Dakota
 - 934th LSS:** Missouri
 - 934th MXS:** Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Nebraska, Turkey
 - 934th OSF:** No travel
 - 934th SFS:** England, New Jersey
 - 934th SVS:** No travel
- This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. Call the 96th Airlift Squadron, Ext. 1741, or the local Air National Guard wing, Ext. 2450, for space available travel information. □*

combat arms training, the annual three-mile walk, technical course exams and other ancillary training items.

(ROUNDUP, continued on Page 12)

Viking Victors: 27th Aerial Port Squadron

Members win transportation honors

Capt.
David Mattson

Honor: U.S. Air Force Transportation Company Grade Officer of the Year, Air Reserve Component.

Position: Squadron mobility plans officer, B Flight officer in charge.

Education: Bachelor's in history, University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minn.

Civilian position: Account representative, Integra Telecom, Prior Lake, Minn.

Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, history, flying.

Professional organizations:

Lifetime member, Reserve Officers Association; Air Force Association.

Goals: "My next goal is to make major."

Home: Live in St. Louis Park, Minn.

Comments: "It's great to represent



Mattson

the 27th APS and the 934th Airlift Wing and let folks know what an outstanding unit we have in Minneapolis." □

Senior Master Sgt.
Tracy Tratar

Honor: U.S. Air Force Transportation Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Air Reserve Component.

Position: Terminal services NCO in charge.

Civilian position: Clerk/supervisor, White Bear Lake Post Office, Minn.

Hobbies: Woodworking, fishing, daughter's softball team.

Goals: "To enjoy the rest of my Reserve career, pursue a management career at the post office and find more time to travel with my wife."

Family: Wife, **Kathy**; children, **Troy**, 20, **Jacob**, 17, and **Mollie**, 16.

Comments: "I was surprised and honored to receive this award. I gained valuable experience working on active duty for 120 days last summer at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in support of Joint Endeavor." □

R-e-s-p-e-c-t

More aerial port members log 1999 as banner year for individual achievement

Two additional members of the 27th Aerial Port Squadron won honors in the year's transportation competitions.

- **Michael Dressen**, senior air reserve technician, was selected as the Air Force Reserve Command Transportation Civilian Employee of the Year. (See news on another honor achieved by Dressen, next page.)

- **Staff Sgt. Richard Rowcliffe**, air cargo journeyman, was chosen as the 22nd Air Force Air Reserve Component Transportation Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. □



Dressen



Rowcliffe



Tratar

Cherie Huntington

Viking Victors: Wing's top civil servants selected

Sally Poindexter

Position/unit: Commander's administrative assistant, 934th Support Group.



Cherie Huntington

Poindexter

Hobbies: Reading, boating, the arts, European history.

Professional organizations: Brownie leader, Girl Scouts of America; fund raising for the American Heart Association and breast cancer.

Goals: "To be a full-time member of the 934th Honor Guard and bring the team to be the best in the Air Force Reserve Command."

Family: Children, **Jessi**, 15; **Erica**, 14; **Lauren**, 7; live in Blaine, Minn.

Comments: "I've been pretty fortunate in my time with the 934th. I guess I've always been in the right place at the right time and been given the opportunity to work in many areas that are interesting and exciting. I enjoy challenging my own capabilities and have truly been given that chance. I've worked many special projects that most people don't get the chance to do. The most important thing is the people I work with have given me so much support over the years and have made coming to work every day fun!" □



Cherie Huntington

Dressen

Michael Dressen

Position/unit: Senior air reserve technician, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

Education: Bachelor's in East Asian studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Hobbies: Photography, taking video, "walking my big dog, which is a Great Pyrenees, so maybe I should say I let my dog take me for a walk!"

Professional organizations: Air Force Association, Air Force Sergeants Association, National Defense Transportation Association.

Goals: "To continue working hard toward making the 27th APS an even better unit."

Family: Wife, **Michiko**.

Comments: "I was very surprised and pleased to have been selected. It is truly the good people of the 27th APS and all those people assigned to the 934th Airlift Wing who make awards like this possible." (See news on Dressen's recent Air Force Reserve Command honor, Page 9.) □

Curtis Nelson

Position/unit: Interim avionics flight chief, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

Hobbies: Softball, fishing, movies, hiking.

Goals: "To get my kids through high school and to further my Christian education."

Family: Wife, **Laura**; children, **Kevin**, 18; **Kali**, 16.

Comments: "I am honored to be counted among those who have previously received this award!" □



Cherie Huntington

Nelson

Medals

Meritorious Service Medal

Senior Master Sgt. Sharon Blalock, AES
 Master Sgt. Michael Gough, MXS, retired
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Rivard Jr., SFS

Air Force Commendation Medal

Master Sgt. Janet Dalton, AW
 Tech. Sgt. Edwin Grant, CES, retired
 Master Sgt. Anthony Polisenio, MXS, first oak leaf cluster
 Tech. Sgt. Richard Reinhart, MXS
 Capt. Randall Rydberg, AES
 Master Sgt. Roy Schwegel, MXS
 Senior Master Sgt. Gregory Wright, CES, first OLC, retired

Air Force Achievement Medal

Capt. Elliot Brubaker, ASTS, first OLC
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Buie, OSF
 Tech. Sgt. Harold Gentz, LSS
 Staff Sgt. Curtis Hochstetler, MXS, first OLC
 Tech. Sgt. Gregory Jacobson, MXS
 Staff Sgt. David Lunde, MXS
 Tech. Sgt. Timothy McCullum, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Brent Moller, MXS
 Tech. Sgt. Lee Nupson, MXS
 Master Sgt. Gary Rolli, LSS
 Capt. Lynn Rydberg, AES, first OLC
 Master Sgt. David Strande, MXS
 Senior Airman David Witherspoon, MXS

Promotions

Master Sgt. Daniel Addabbo, APS
 Master Sgt. Patti Amos, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Rodney Bledsoe, APS
 Senior Airman Rebecca Collins, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Melissa Cogar, AW
 Tech. Sgt. Edward Cox, CF
 Master Sgt. Janet Dalton, AW
 Staff Sgt. Mandy De Forrest, ASTS
 Tech. Sgt. James Fritzen, SFS
 Master Sgt. Geraldine Garoutte, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Martha Grimes, APS
 Master Sgt. Chester Gronewold, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Paul Gulenchyn, CF
 Staff Sgt. Edgar Hamm III, MSF
 Master Sgt. Vicky Kuntz, AW
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Kuntze, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Robert Lee, AS
 Master Sgt. Richard Loesch, CF
 Tech. Sgt. Martin Maher, LSS
 Tech. Sgt. Todd Moucha, APS

Master Sgt. Timothy Mutch, LG
 Master Sgt. Charles Nelson, APS
 Master Sgt. Larry O'Connell, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Eric Ortiz, CF
 Tech. Paul Oven, MXS
 Master Sgt. Martin Paprock, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Donald Paserba Jr., APS
 Staff Sgt. Ryan Pierce, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Dale Place, APS
 Tech. Tracy Reese, ASTS
 Master Sgt. Randy Schauer, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Michele Sciarra, APS
 Master Sgt. Mark Sidla, MXS
 Master Sgt. Thomas Stratton, LSS
 Master Sgt. Eric Sund, APS
 Senior Master Sgt. Adan Sylva, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Wheeler, APS
 Tech. Sgt. Thomas Whiteford, CES

Newcomers

- Senior Airman Jose Aviles-Flores, ASTS, *Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.*
- Capt. Donald Brock, ASTS, *Minnesota Air National Guard*
- Airman 1st Class Rebecca Collins, ASTS, *Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver*
- Airman 1st Class Daniel Dlugiewicz, ASTS, *non-prior service*
- Senior Airman Todd Erpelding, SFS, *prior service Air Force*
- Staff Sgt. Stefan Halushka, APS, *Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.*
- Tech. Sgt. Robert Henn, LSS, *Homestead ARB*
- Senior Airman David Her, CES, *Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom*
- Senior Airman Brian Hoff, LSS, *Hill AFB, Utah*
- 1st Lt. Angela Jones, ASTS, *Minnesota ANG*
- Capt. Paul Knabenshue, OSF, *ARPC*
- Senior Airman Kevin Lynch, APS, *Marine Reserve*
- Airman 1st Class Jonathan Maas, APS, *non-prior service*
- Airman 1st Class Kenneth McIntosh II, MXS, *non-prior service*
- Airman 1st Class Joshua Nelson, MXS, *non-prior service*
- Staff Sgt. James Palo Jr., CES, *ARPC*
- Airman 1st Class Adam Peterson, MXS, *non-prior service*
- Staff Sgt. Amy Peterson, ASTS, *Minot AFB, N.D.*

- Senior Airman Bobby Reese, CES, *ARPC*
- Senior Airman Jason Tacheney, MXS, *Holloman AFB, N.M.*
- Senior Airman Steven Ward II, LSS, *Grand Forks AFB, N.D.*
- Senior Airman Lance Werth, CES, *Grand Forks AFB*
- Staff Sgt. Tammy Wochnick, SVS, *Individual Mobilization Augmentee*
- Senior Airman John Zembrycki, CF, *ARPC*
- Capt. David Zenner, MXS, *prior service Army Reserve*

Air reserve technicians

- Tech. Sgt. Robert Braesch II, MXS, *from traditional position*
- Tech. Sgt. Charles Keller, MXS, *from traditional position*
- Staff Sgt. Marc Lemaster, AES, *Hickam AFB, Hawaii*

Civilians

- Daniel Delgado, CE, *Naval Activities Guam*
- Scott Garrett, SF, *payroll supervisor, Regis Corporation, Edina, Minn.; also prior base security force, 1997-1999*
- Louvell Hechanova, CE, *Naval Activities Guam*

Achievements

- The 934th Communications Flight selected **Maj. Kirby Bauer**, commander, for its "Look Sharp Award" for April.
- **Master Sgt. Edward Johnson**, CF, received a letter of appreciation from **Mayor Bob Cardinal**, Maplewood, Minn., for his participation in Maplewood Community Cleanup Day, April 8.
- **Master Sgt. Mike King**, LSS; **Tina Trimble**, Rothe Development; and **Maj. Grelon Williams**, AS; were awarded outstanding performer coins from the Air Force Communications Agency for their additional duty work in information assurance and security awareness training education. Three members of each Air Force Reserve Command wing were recognized for these annual awards.

(PEOPLE, continued on next page)

News

People ...

(Continued from previous page)

• Commander's coins are presented by the wing commander to deserving members following recommendation by unit commanders and chiefs. The coins recognize outstanding professionalism and dedication. Members recognized in May include:

Staff Sgt. Deborah Edwall, ASTS
Master Sgt. David Fischer, AW
Master Sgt. Michael Ginapp, MSF
Capt. Leslie Kirkpatrick, AES
Tech. Sgt. Michael McGuire, CES
Master Sgt. Timothy Mutch, MXS
Master Sgt. Sally Poindexter, AW
Master Sgt. Roy Schwegel, MXS
Capt. Gordon Sigl, AES

Education

The following members achieved scores of 90 percent or higher on required course exams:

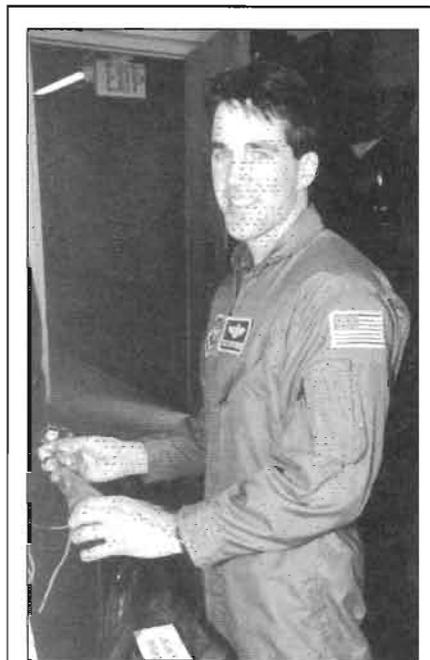
- **Master Sgt. Tim Atchley**, ASTS, passed his aeromedical specialty career development course with a score of 91.
- **Staff Sgt. Randall Husser**, MXS, scored 92 on his five-skill level course exam.
- **Staff Sgt. Daniel Roth**, MXS, achieved a score of 95 on his five-skill level course exam.
- **Staff Sgt. Robert Zak**, CF, passed his final exam for his career development course with a score of 92.

Family matters

- **Dennis Maddox**, MXS, and his wife, **Samantha**, have a new daughter, **Marisa Rose**, born April 21, weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces.
- **Rachel Curilli**, SVS, married **Eric Nelson** at Hapuna Beach, Hawaii, on March 16.

Retirements

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Slavik, APS, 20 years
Col. Ronald Weight, AW, 28 years



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Get ready

Members of the 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, including Tech. Sgt. Chris Reese, received orientation in May on the unit's new aeromedical in-flight kits.

Civilians

Charles Cunningham, LG, training technician, 19 years
Joseph Erickson, LGT, motor vehicle operator, 27 years
Carolyn Farley, LGS, general supply specialist, 30 years
Karen Hoppe, LGS, supply systems supervisor, 36 years
Thomas Jirovec, SF, security guard, 11 years
Gordon Maier, CE, motor vehicle operator, 25 years
Janet O'Brien, LGS, materials handler, 34 years
John O'Neal, CE, facilities maintenance controller, 32 years
Robert Priest, LGS, materials handler, 37 years
Russell Rondeau, CE, pipefitter, 24 years
Georgia Steffe, FM, budget analyst, 24 years
Bill Tartini, CE, electrician, 27 years
Gregory Ward, CE, pipefitter, 30 years □

Roundup ...

(Continued from Page 8)

934th Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Cara Utecht

Two members are serving on the wing's Rodeo 2000 team. **Maj. Dick Gabe** is the mission commander and **Maj. Mark Vijums** is the aircraft commander. Four members performed their annual tour at Davis Montham Air Force Base, Ariz., in March.

934th Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Barry Haukoos

Members assisted Secret Service staff in providing security for the president during two visits last month. During May drill, squadron members participated in a mobility exercise in preparation for the upcoming annual tour in England. The unit's staff assistance visit was completed last drill.

934th Services Squadron

Senior Airmen Melissa Putnam and Kristen Maloney

Five members deployed in April to Dover Air Force Base, Del., for mortuary services support following the Osprey MV-22 accident in Arizona in which 19 Marines were killed. Deploying members were **Tech. Sgt. Steve Kern**, **Master Sgt. Brian Lloyd**, **Senior Airman Kristen Maloney**, **Senior Master Sgt. Dennis McLean** and **Airman 1st Class Lia Monette**. The Readiness Challenge team returned from competition in Florida. Team members were **Staff Sgt. Stacy Campbell**, **Staff Sgt. Dennis Johnson**, **Master Sgt. Ron Knutson**, **Staff Sgt. Mary Miller-Huff**, **Staff Sgt. James Rutz** and one augmentee, **Tech. Sgt. Al Greener**. **Senior Master Sgt. David Halverson**, a firefighter in the civil engineering squadron, also participated.

Wing Headquarters/

934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez

The majority of unit sections participated in the May mobility exercise. All unit supervisors received supervisors safety training. The unit completed its annual fitness walk. □