

2003 YEAR IN



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chuck Hinrichs

Above, members of the 20th Security Forces Squadron respond to a "threat" with their M-870 shotguns as part of tactical weapons training at Shaw's combat arms shooting range Feb. 14.



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Holcomb

Left, members of the 20th Civil Engineer Squadron participate in the tug of war as part of the Viper Challenge Oct. 10. Individual and team activities were held throughout the day across the base. Other events included kickball, softball, trap shooting, bowling, table tennis and horse-shoes. The day emphasized the wing's focus on fitness.

Aiming

By Col. Sam Angelella
20th Fighter Wing commander

As we begin the new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on 2003 and our vision for 2004.

The past year was full of challenges, and I'm proud to say the men and women of Team Shaw rose to face each of them. From crises to real-world contingencies, we once again proved ready and capable of facing Any Challenge.

Since we can't predict what challenges and contingencies may come, we must maintain readiness.

Being ready means staying sharp, being physically and mentally fit, and maintaining standards and keeping current.

This year, Shaw will undergo a major inspection. Though the time is now, we have everything ready to be reported as outstanding.

Remember, we are all in this together, and let's continue to be a great place to work, live and serve.

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Airmen

Jan. Feb. March April May June

- Shaw receives a prepare to deploy order for Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- The 20th Logistics Readiness Squadron wins an Air Combat Command-level Daedalian award.
- Official opening of the Airmen and Retiree Activity Center.

- 55th Fighter Squadron jets begin transfer to Cannon AFB, N.M.
- Shaw members deploy for OIF.
- Col. Sam Angelella takes command of the 20th FW.
- Army National Guard members arrive to augment Shaw's security.

- Shaw conducts its first antiterrorism exercise.
- A former Tuskegee airman opens Shaw's ALS Tuskegee Airmen Heritage Library.
- The new dining facility is dedicated to retired Chief Master Sgt. Emerson E. Williams.

- The 55th Fighter Squadron returns from Operation Northern Watch.
- The 20th Medical Group begins the Open Access program.
- The 28th Operational Weather Squadron is chosen best in the Air Force for the second year in a row.

- Shaw members return from OIF.
- The Shaw Conference Center undergoes remodeling.
- Shaw conducts its first counter-chemical warfare Phase II exercise.
- A ceremony is held for the 78th FS's inactivation.

- Shaw transfers obstetrical services to the community.
- Shaw hosts its first retraining job fair.
- Sumter hosts a Shaw Appreciation Picnic.
- The old dining facility is demolished.
- Shaw airmen save a local youth from drowning.

ANNUAL REVIEW

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be the best wing in the Air



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lee Watts

An excavator was used to demolish the front of the Carolina Pines Dining Facility June 5. The area became additional parking for dorm residents.



Photo by Dean Johnson

Above, Shaw's 20th Civil Engineer Squadron responded to the scene of a chlorine leak on base Nov. 25.

Right, Senior Airman Jermaine Harcum, 55th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, inspects an F-16CJ to ensure it's ready for launch during a Phase II exercise Oct. 28.



Photo by Master Sgt. Paul Holcomb

Items attacked/destroyed or damaged by the 77th FS during OIF

- 104 surface to air missile/integrated air defense system components
- 46 aircraft on the ground
- 26 trucks/tanks/military vehicles
- Six buildings as "time sensitive" targets

20th FW sorties for FY 03

Operation	Sorties	Hours
Iraqi Freedom	558	3,152
Northern Watch	502	1,919.8
Southern Watch	235	1,236.6
Noble Eagle	480	1,874.5
Local Sorties	12,549	18,131.2
Total	14,324	26,314.1



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lee Watts

Above, Airman 1st Class Mari George, 20th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, rides with a crash test dummy here July 25 as she demonstrates how driving skills are impaired while wearing Fatal Vision Goggles, which simulate the effects of alcohol on perception.

July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.

- South Carolina's governor visits Shaw.
- Shaw conducts a rapid runway repair exercise.
- Shaw participates in S.C.'s America 2003 Patriotic Celebration.
- Shaw hosts annual July 4th celebration.
- Shaw members get new Common Access Cards.

- Col. Billy Uhle Jr. becomes the 20th FW vice commander.
- Gen. T. Michael Moseley becomes vice chief of staff of the Air Force.
- Gen. Walter Buchanan III takes command of 9th Air Force and U.S. Central Command Air Forces.

- Security enhancement construction begins on Shaw's Main Gate.
- Toyland opens at the Base Exchange.
- Construction for new aircraft maintenance unit facilities begins.
- 20th CES helps in hurricane damage repair at Langley.

- The 20th FW finishes the flying year with zero mishaps.
- Two former chief master sergeants of the Air Force visit Shaw.
- A new Satellite Pharmacy opens.
- Construction begins on Shaw's new Education Center.

- Shaw begins the annual Airmen's Cookie Drive.
- A Navy jazz band performs in Sumter.
- Shaw members participate in the read aloud Children's book week at local schools.
- Shaw exceeds its goal for Combined Federal Campaign donations.

- Shaw increases readiness by conducting an exercise with local emergency responders.
- Each unit selects Physical Training Leaders for the Fit to Fight program.
- Saddam Hussein is captured during Operation Red Dawn.

Shaw member strives to keep base safe, receives ACC award for commitment

By Airman 1st Class Susan Penning
Editor

The Air Force relies primarily on airmen to accomplish its many missions. However, members of other military branches continue to help out the Air Force as well. One soldier, in particular, received Air Combat Command recognition for his commitment to support Team Shaw during 2003.

Sgt. 1st Class Brian Gowen, 20th Security Forces Squadron augmentee from Troop B 202 Cavalry Army National Guard Unit in Beaufort, S.C., was recently named 2003's ACC Soldier of the Year.

"The award, which was created this past year, recognizes an Army member stationed at an ACC base who displays exceptional professionalism, military bearing and perform-

ance," said Chief Master Sgt. Louis Demonte, 20th Security Forces manager.

"Sgt. Gowen goes beyond the call of duty," said Spc. Richard Stafford, 20th SFS augmentee. "He's a great mentor."

"He looks out for his troops and is always there to step in. The ACC award he received was well-deserved," said Sgt. Leonard Green, 20th SFS augmentee.

Sgt. Gowen said the performance of his team helped him earn the nomination, and ultimately the award.

"In 2003, my team made numerous searches and seizures of vehicles attempting to get on base carrying drugs, illegal aliens, guns or ammunition," he said. "Because of the training I and other members received, we were able to thwart these unauthorized entries."

In addition to his record of success with searches and seizures, Sgt. Gowen also helped update and rewrite operations orders for the 20th SFS search area.

"There were several things on the old orders I felt weren't covered," he said. "The world has changed. Because of the war on terrorism, I felt the need to add some additional security procedures."

Although he personally worked on updating the operations orders, Sgt. Gowen insisted it was the collective support of his team and Chief Demonte who ultimately helped him earn the award.

"My team made it all possible. They're sharp," he said. "You can put a lot of faith in these guys...and Chief Demonte, he really worked hard in submitting my nomination. I am overwhelmed and honored."

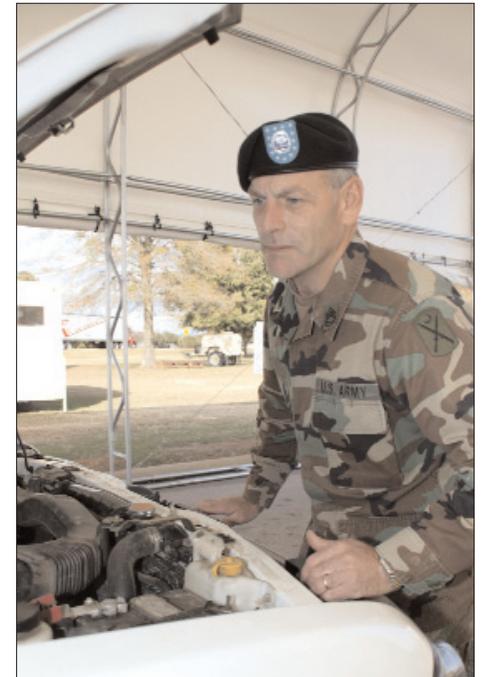


Photo by Airman 1st Class Susan Penning

Sgt. 1st Class Brian Gowen inspects a vehicle on base recently at the 20th SFS search area.

Holiday trees go from *merry* to mulch

By Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash
Staff writer

The winter holidays have come to an end. It's time to shed Christmas decorations and toss the tree ... or is it?

Shaw has a way to make live trees spruce up landscapes instead of cluttering landfills.

Now through the end of January, an area is set up outside the recycling center on base for the Shaw community to bring live, undecorated trees for disposal. The area is not gated off, so trees may be dropped off 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Anyone with access to Shaw may drop off a tree. There is no size limit, but the tree must be real and

free of all decorations.

In February, the trees will be ground into mulch for the base population to take advantage of at no charge.

Currently, there is close to 40 tons of mixed mulch already available from previous tree grinding, accord-



ing to Tech. Sgt. Andrew Teague, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron solid waste manager.

Sgt. Teague said fees are charged by the ton for trees dumped in landfills.

"Grinding trees saves money and gives a new product [mulch] to the Shaw community," said Sgt. Teague.

The holiday tree-recycling program has been in place for several years. Sgt. Teague said he intends to heighten awareness about this and other recycling projects on base.

"Making it known and then making it convenient is the key to a successful recycling program," said Sgt. Teague.

If assistance is needed with a tree, call Sgt. Teague at **895-5000**.

Other tree options

For those not quite ready to grind their greens, there are other things to do with a live holiday tree.

- Make it into a bird feeder by using orange slices and other attractions for the winged creatures.

- Residents living by a private pond or lake may reuse holiday trees by creating a feeding area for fish. The tree provides shade and hiding spots for fish.

(Information courtesy of the South Carolina Wildlife Federation.)



Shaw's recycling center is open Mondays to Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, call Mr. Dewayne Cranford at **895-9711**.



Spirit Spotlight



Airman 1st Class Tyler Kirkland



Organization: 609th Air Communications Squadron
Duty title: Ground radio maintenance apprentice
Job duties: Maintaining radio communications for the Air Operations Center
Hometown: Sarasota, Fla.
Time in service: One year
Off-duty interests: Working on cars and playing golf
Other assignments: Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Words I live by: "Good things come to people who wait."

Staff Sgt. Christian Werley



Organization: 20th Medical Support Squadron
Duty title: NCO in charge of Resource Management
Job duties: Managing manpower and financial resources
Hometown: Sumter, S.C.
Time in service: 12 years
Family: Wife, Andrea
Off-duty interests: Playing golf and softball and spending time with family
Other assignments: Royal Air Force Upper Heyford, England; Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

Words I live by: "Your habits in life determine your future."