

WARRIOR



TEST FOR THE BEST

EOO WARRIOR CHALLENGE ■ P. 8

FLYING OVER THE INDY 500

B-2 SPIRIT WOWS CROWD ■ P. 3

The power of leading with a positive attitude

By Maj. Timothy M. Liebold

Former 509th Munitions Squadron commander

As my time as the commander of the 509th Munitions Squadron ends on May 30, I have spent numerous hours reflecting on the past 24 months at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. My main contemplation is, "Have I been an effective leader in the ever-changing Air Force in which we live, work and operate?"

Some would say "yes" because we were successful in events such as the Nuclear Surety Inspection, Operation ODESSEY LIGHTNING, Conventional Readiness Assessment, and countless other Wing and MAJCOM inspections. While those accomplishments prove our mission readiness and compliance with all directives, I would say that the interpersonal relationships that we foster and build with our fellow Airmen play a significant role in being a successful leader.

As a commander, it is easy to get bogged down with negative events. Therefore, during my time at Whiteman, I made a conscious effort to focus on the positive actions of the Airmen who work in the squadron and the Airmen I have interacted with throughout the base. The more positivity we develop and propel, the more resilient we become. Author Jack Canfield explains the philosophy well when he said, "Successful people maintain a positive focus in life no matter what is going on around them. They stay focused on their past successes rather than their past failures, and on the next ac-

tion steps they need to take to get them closer to the fulfillment of their goals rather than all the other distractions that life presents to them."

Cultivating optimism reduces negativity within us and across the Air Force. We live in a culture where it is common to assume worst case scenarios for most encounters, causing us to overlook the amazing things our members do on a daily basis. Expecting the worst often gets us the worst, and this behavior creates fear in the workforce. On the other hand, looking for the positive and focusing on the positive shows Airmen you truly care about them as individuals verses seeing them as a number. Musician Willie Nelson summarizes the power of being positive: "Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results."

The power of positivity is enormous and can motivate an organization to accomplish amazing things. If you come into work with a positive attitude and a smile on your face, you can transform your organization into a place where everyone will want to come to work. Motivational speaker Les Brown said, "Your smile will give you a positive countenance that will make people feel comfortable around you."

Followers mirror the actions of their leaders and when we lead positively, we are training Airmen at all levels to do the same. In the end, it is important to remember that most Airmen will not remember what you said to them, but they will always remember how you made them feel.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jovan Banks

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Mark Riselli passes the 509th Munitions Squadron guidon to Lt. Col. Allison Barkalow at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 30, 2018, as outgoing commander, Maj. Timothy Liebold, watches. The passing of the guidon signifies the assumption of command from one commander to the next.

THE WARRIOR

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On the cover

U.S. Air Force photo by
Airman 1st Class Taylor Phifer

A U.S. Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician performs a sweep of the area with a metal detector during the Full Spectrum EOD Warrior Challenge at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, May 24, 2018. Six EOD teams from across the country competed for the title of Top EOD Team. The competition included heavy weapon firing, large scale demolition, chemical operations, homemade explosive lab processing, evidence collection and more.

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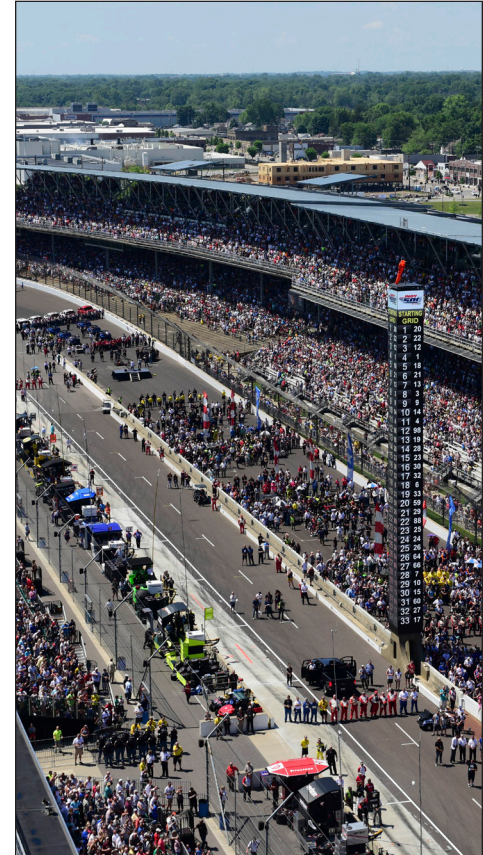
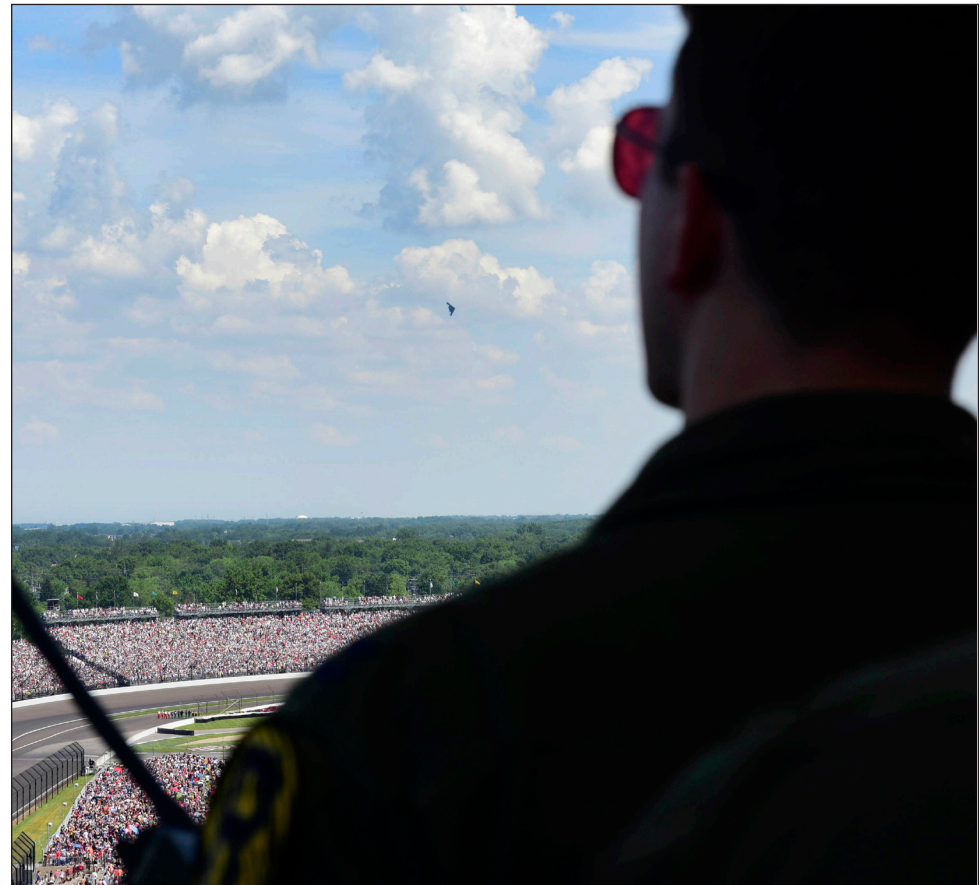
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WEATHER

Friday	Saturday
Sunny	Chance of Storms
Hi 92	Hi 89
Lo 66	Lo 70

Sunday	Monday
Sunny	Mostly Sunny
Hi 84	Hi 84
Lo 70	Lo 61

B-2 wows crowd at Indy 500



A B-2 Spirit performed a flyover before the start of the 2018 Indianapolis 500, May 27, 2018. Flyovers showcase American airpower to positively affect recruiting and retention, while enhancing community relations. They also honor the sacrifices of those currently serving, as well as the sacrifices of past war heroes.

U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Joel Pfiester

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Team Whiteman honors fallen heroes during Memorial Day ceremony



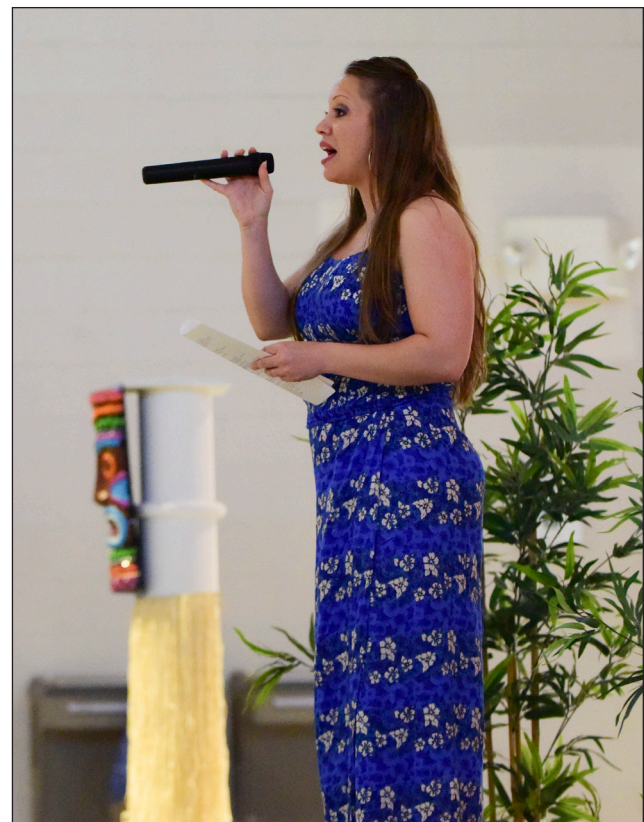
Airmen stand in formation at parade rest before the annual Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 24, 2018. The ceremony honors those who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces.



Members of Team Whiteman prepare to lay a wreath during the annual Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 24, 2018. Veterans' wreaths symbolize honor, respect and victory; the evergreen leaves represent longevity and endurance.

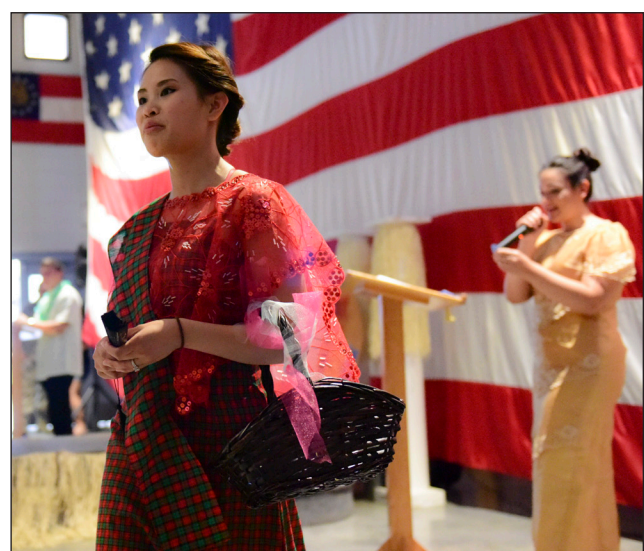
U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla

Asian and Pacific Islander Culture and Food Expo



The Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month concluded with a Cultural and Food Expo at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 30, 2018. The event featured food tasting, a fashion show of traditional Asian and Pacific Islander clothing, a martial arts demonstration, and Hawaiian songs. The month commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese to the U.S. on May 7, 1843. In May, Asia and the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia are celebrated.

*U.S. Air Force photos by
Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla*



509th LRS hosts Airmen exchange program

By Staff Sgt. Joel Pfiester

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Seven materiel management Airmen from Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, visited the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron at Whiteman AFB this month as part of a two-day Airman exchange program.

For the last few years, Whiteman's 509th LRS and Scott's 435th and 437th Supply Chain Operations Squadrons have participated in this program, where Airman travel to each other's installations to get a glimpse of different missions their career field supports. Although the host Airmen and visiting Airman share the same Air Force specialty code, 2S0X1, their day-to-day duties are different.

"At Whiteman, the materiel managers oversee a single base-level supply," said Master Sgt. Martina McLeod, the 437th SCOS systems flight superintendent. "At Scott, we are responsible for an entire enterprise comprised of 78 host bases and 186 satellite accounts providing 24/7 support to 16,000 customers across 10 major commands, and over 4,000 aircraft across the globe."

Scott does have its own LRS; however, it is run by civilian contractors,



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Pfiester

Staff Sgt. Hector Reyes, an inspection technician from the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron, gives a tour of his section to visiting materiel management Airmen at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 15, 2018. Airmen from Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, were part of an exchange program giving them insight into what different missions their career field can support.

so materiel managers aren't assigned to that squadron. Instead, they perform their duties in the SCOS, overseeing more of the enterprise as a whole.

"Because the SCOS Airmen work behind the scenes fulfilling requirements worldwide for multiple bases, they may never talk to the customer

or see what equipment item they are directly supporting. These visits provide them with an inside look at the functions that the base-level LRS supports," said Master Sgt. Marie Lee, 509th LRS customer support section chief.

See LRS, Page 12.

Test for the best: Full Spectrum EOD Warrior Challenge



By Airman 1st Class Taylor Phifer
509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

Sweat poured down their faces as they threw their body armor, helmets and gloves on top of their uniforms. The heat and humidity couldn't distract them as they took their positions behind the weapons.

They laid motionless, waiting to pull the trigger. Then came the all clear. Loud, powerful booms from their machine guns filled the air. One by one the bullets came flying out from the barrels of the guns through the air until they collided with the targets.

This was just one daunting task of the Full Spectrum Explosive Ordnance Disposal Warrior Challenge at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, May 22-24, 2018.

"We hosted six, three-person Air Force EOD teams from across the country to compete against one another for the title of Top EOD Team," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Matthew Workoff, the NCO in charge of EOD training assigned to the 509th Civil Engineer Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base.

After the three grueling days, this year's winning team was from McConnell AFB, Kansas. The team consistently scored well during the obstacle course, land navigation and weapons firing events.

Other participants included EOD teams from Moody AFB, Scott AFB, Joint Base San Antonio, Davis-Monthan AFB and Minot AFB.

"The purpose of this event was to evaluate teams on their full-spectrum capabilities," Workoff said. "Most training events focus primarily on counter-IED operations, but this event encompassed multiple mission areas. As Air Force EOD technicians, we are expected to be proficient in 10 core mission areas and this challenge covered many of those."

The competition began with a timed obstacle course, followed by a land navigation challenge.

On the second day, teams were strapping on their body armor for the heavy weapons firing and buried ordnance location and attack tasks. The EOD teams were evaluated well into the night, as they used flashlights and night-vision devices to guide their way.

The challenge culminated in a four-event round robin that encompassed counter-improvised explosive devices, chemical operations, unexploded ordnance cache with tactical combat casualty care, homemade explosive lab processing and evidence collection.

The tasks EOD performs take a lot of patience and precision, Workoff said, adding that one wrong decision could cost someone's life. The EOD Warrior Challenge forced the Airmen to utilize many of their core mission areas, such as counter-IED, UXO recovery, countering weapons of mass destruction, operational range clearance and irregular warfare. Additionally, Airmen had the added pressure of competing against other teams.

"This event was a true test of the teams' endurance and stamina," Workoff said. "It was designed to push them to a point of both mental and physical exhaustion, while still testing their ability to operate at a high tempo. It truly gauged their technical proficiency and capabilities that are directly in line with the current National Defense Strategy."

EOD technicians deploy when the mission needs them. Challenges like this help to keep them sharp and ready at a moment's notice.

"I know that this training event will have lasting strategic level effects that were generated at the tactical level," Workoff said. "The fact that we were able to leverage local training venues within our joint force exemplifies the innovation necessary to enact change at the speed necessary to enhance our enterprise capabilities. My hope is that events like this will become the model for how our enterprise continues to refine and develop its future, full-spectrum capabilities."



More photos may be found online at www.whiteman.af.mil.

U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Taylor Phifer

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394th CTS panther mascot finds new home



Whiteman Elementary first-grader Ayden Clear, son of U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Charles McClung II from the 13th Bomb Squadron, and second-grader Eri Steeves, daughter of Lt. Col. Geoffrey Steeves, 13th BS commander, unveil a life-sized panther statue at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 24, 2018. The 394th Combat Training Squadron, known as the Panthers, was inactivated last month and its personnel are now the 13th BS Reapers. The statue was donated to the school because its mascot is also a panther.



U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Geoffrey Steeves, the 13th Bomb Squadron commander, and Senior Airman Charles McClung II, an administration journeyman in the 13th BS, present Jessica Stewart, the Whiteman Elementary School principal, with a plaque and a panther statue. Steeves' daughter, Eri, and McClung's son, Ayden, helped reveal the statue during a school assembly at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 24, 2018.

*U.S. Air Force photos
by
Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla*

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LRS

Continued from Page 6.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Pfister

Airman 1st Class Diana Coronell, an Airmen Exchange Program participant assigned to the 437th Supply Chain Operations Squadron, puts away items in the central storage and issue warehouse at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, May 15, 2018. Material management Airmen visited different sections of the 509th Logistics Readiness Squadron to include the different warehouses and customer support sections to see how they directly interact with customers.

The visiting Airmen spent time at several different sections and warehouses, including the flight line, to see how they directly interact with customers.

“Having the opportunity to see supply functions performed first hand, instead of just reading about them in their career development courses was a valuable experi-

ence for our Airmen who have not been anywhere other than Scott AFB,” said McLeod. “In fact, by the end of the trip, many of them were ready to update their base preferences so they could get assigned to an LRS. We appreciate the 509th LRS for giving us the opportunity to visit and allowing the Airmen to learn more about their career field.”



Air Force strengthens partnerships through International Enlisted Engagements Program

By Staff Sgt. Rusty Frank
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Air Force educates and trains more than 11,800 international partner air force members each year. Historically, enlisted airmen have made up a relatively small subset of this total. But the U.S. Air Force believes there is an opportunity to apply the world-class skills and expertise of the enlisted corps far more effectively to international partnering efforts.

The International Enlisted Engagements Program seeks to do just that, while also supporting the Air Force's priorities of strengthening international relationships and building global airpower capabilities, using enlisted engagement as a tool for achieving security cooperation objectives.

"One of the goals of this enlisted engagement is to assist our partner nations with enlisted development while also developing culturally competent Airmen within our own forces," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright. "It's part of our talent management plan, helping to build a well-equipped, professional corps or international senior enlisted leaders who are able to lead their forces in the advancement of national and international strategic objectives and interests."

U.S. Air Force senior noncommissioned officers are employed as strategists to develop requirements and implementation plans for engagement with specific partner forces. IEE program activities are designed to establish and promote mutual trust and respect among par-

ticipants, and to facilitate information sharing among partner personnel.

Success factors include the degree of interoperability between U.S. and partner airmen as well as partner forces' responsiveness and collaboration with the U.S. Air Force during future coalition operations.

"IEE provides a unique opportunity to foster the enlisted development of partner nation militaries," said Senior Master Sgt. Jennifer Johnson, Air Force international enlisted engagements manager. "We are constantly learning of new opportunities for cooperating with partners and then evaluating those against U.S. and (Defense Department) priorities to determine what we should move out on."

"There is no doubt that our enlisted force is the most professional and capable force in the world," Wright said. "Sharing that with our partners while capitalizing on unique opportunities to foster the enlisted development of our Airmen and those of our partner nation militaries is vital to carrying out our national security strategy."

There are three IEE positions Air Force-wide. However, Johnson said the service will add another by the end of 2018, and will look to continue adding positions where they can benefit the Major Command and Combatant Command Senior Enlisted Leaders. Since its inception in 2015, 11 SNCOs have participated in the IEE program.

"This job is challenging and incredibly fast-paced," Johnson said. "But it's also thrilling, because we're enabling the Air Force to break new ground with so many international partners and enlisted Airmen are front and center."



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