

# THE CARGO COURIER

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville, Ky.

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## Nelson helps coordinate relief to Pakistan

Deployed commander directs mobility forces to provide humanitarian aid

By Staff Sgt. Kali Gradishar  
U.S. Air Forces Central Public Affairs

CHAKLALA AIR BASE, Pakistan - A number of Pakistan, U.S. and international organizations, both military and civilian, gathered here Aug. 28 to form an air coordination cell aimed at streamlining air operations supporting Pakistan's flood relief efforts.

"There are a considerable amount of organizations [helping with flood relief in Pakistan]," said Travis Betz, a logistics officer on the U.S. Agency for International Development Disaster Assistance Response Team who assisted in bringing together the United Nations "logistics cluster and government of Pakistan and the U.S. military [to] have a coordinated air planning session."

The meeting was chaired by the commander of the Pakistan Army Aviation Command with representatives from U.N. Logistics Cluster, World Food Program, U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Defense Representative Pakistan and representatives from Air Force Central Command. Also present were representatives from the Pakistan army and air force and Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority.

"The biggest success we've had ... is the consolidation of the air coordination cell here," said Col. Greg Nelson, 123rd Airlift Wing Commander who is currently serving as director of mobility forces for humanitarian assistance.

After torrential rains pounded the country and a surge of water jetted through towns and villages, many were left without food, water, shelter and other basic necessities. The Pakistan Air Force's Central Flood Re-



Lt. Col. Patrick Ryder/USAF

**Airmen place equipment and prepare to establish operations with the Pakistan Air Force's Central Flood Relief Cell in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Col. Greg Nelson, 123rd Airlift Wing Commander, directed mobility forces providing humanitarian aid to the country.**

lief Cell stood up at Chaklala AFB to direct relief toward areas most in need, but there was still a communication gap between the many involved nations' militaries, governments and international organizations.

"Coordination up to the merging or forming of the air coordination cell has been fragmented," said Colonel Nelson. "The lead civilian agency is the National Disaster Management Authority of Pakistan ... They have received support and commodities from all over the world, but it's just individual nations to them. Until we formed this coordination cell, the [various entities] weren't able to merge together and bring that requirements and commodities picture to an organized air flow capability."

The purpose of the air coordination cell meeting was to discuss available food and supplies, requirements in flooded areas throughout Pakistan and means for transporting the items throughout the country. It was also necessary within the meeting to facilitate communication between the countries and agencies involved and to bet-

ter accommodate the many donations, air assets and collaborators.

Besides enhanced communication, the creation of the air coordination cell also provides the opportunity for a planning process that looks further into the future than the one-day-in-advance effort the relief cell had previously been putting forth.

Up until the establishment of the air coordination cell, the requirement for various commodities was passed on to the air cell to develop an "air flow plan immediately for the next 24 hours," said Colonel Nelson. "Now we're starting to look at a week out."

Getting lead representatives from each entity was not an easy task, but the change will likely be beneficial for relief operations now and in the near future.

"It took a while to get it together, but this will really increase the efficiency of air delivery of the needs across the country of Pakistan. But it's all in support of the government of Pakistan through the NDMA, and this cell puts the whole thing together."

## Remembering 9/11 and all we've given

This month we celebrate Labor Day, Constitution Day, POW/MIA Recognition Day and Patriot Day. Each calling for our reflection on sacrifices made and service rendered. But the events of 9/11 are moments in our lives that we'll never forget.

We will never forget where we were or what we were doing when we paused to watch those events unfold in New York. The disbelief when we saw the plume of smoke pushing from the North Tower is a picture burned into our psyche. We recall the shock we felt when the second plane slammed into the South Tower and the helplessness that sunk in when we realized an invisible enemy had attacked our way of life.

By the time we found out that a third airline had slammed into the Pentagon and a fourth had taken the lives of so many of our brave fellow citizens in rural Pennsylvania and before those towers fell to rubble, the world we'd known at 8:45 that morning was gone forever.

This month, our nation commemorates those events that shook our lives and changed our perspectives. For those who were in the military at that time, whether we were in uniform or in civilian status, the meaning of our service took on a new passion. For those who've joined since, that day inevitably shaped the decision to one day join the fight. And for our families, that day brought home the meaning of their support and changed our outlook on the role we play as "Traditional Guardsmen".

Since those unconscionable attacks, we've all been asked to carry a heavier load. As in the past, we've honored our traditional commitment to our state and nation in the face of natural disasters. We've responded, many of us on multiple occa-



**Col. Bill Ketterer**  
Interim 123rd Airlift Wing Commander

sions, with tremendous honor.

I want to thank each of you for what you've done for our country in the last nine years and throughout your careers. I want to recognize those among us who have deployed for representing our commonwealth with honor and an unflappable sense of duty. I want to thank those who've kept the home fires burning and all who've remained ready for the inevitable call to arms.

I especially want to thank the people in our lives who support us and make it possible for us to serve. We have, time and again, asked so much of each of you. We've taken your parents, your loved ones, your sons and your daughters away from you. We've put them in harm's way. We've

asked them to be absent from your dinner tables during the holidays, the birthdays and even some of the births.

We cannot say enough about your contributions or the burdens you shoulder that allow us to advance with our mission. But I can assure you that we couldn't do it without your support. We call 9/11 Patriot Day for a reason – and for you patriotism isn't a word, it's a lifestyle.

I wish I could tell you that the long-term deployments were behind us. While we celebrate that our contributions in Iraq have led to so many of our fellow servicemembers coming home, we still face a very determined enemy and a fast-approaching Air Expeditionary Force rotation that will again intrude on our lives and put us in a foreign land supporting combat operations.

What is critical now, is that each of us recognizes the importance of our efforts. It's a time for us to remember the lessons of 9/11 that united us as a country.

The support we provide one another can make all the difference as we face trying separations from the ones we love. You never know how important a phone call can be to someone who is facing a challenge at home that seems insurmountable. You never know the difference you can make through simple acts of kindness or the sense of security you can provide your fellow family member or Airman when they know you're there for them.

Remember 9/11. Remember that you are part of something bigger than each of us. Enjoy the time we have with our loved ones and be prepared for all that lies ahead.

Thanks for all you do!

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**Our office is located in the Wing Headquarters Building.**

**We welcome your feedback. Please contact the Public Affairs Office directly if you have suggestions for articles or photography. Publication deadline for submissions to the next issue is Oct. 8.**

### 123rd Airlift Wing Editorial Staff

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Interim Wing Commander.....	Col. Bill Ketterer
Wing Public Affairs Officer.....	Maj. Dale Greer
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Photo Editor.....	Tech. Sgt. Dennis Flora
Staff Writer.....	Tech. Sgt. Diane Stinnett
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Staff Photographer.....	Airman 1st Class Max Rechel

**Address:** 1101 Grade Lane, Louisville, KY 40213-2678  
**Phone:** (502) 413-4484 • **Fax:** (502) 413-4676  
**E-mail:** daniel.clare@ang.af.mil

**For more information on the 123rd Airlift Wing and the Kentucky Air National Guard, visit [www.123aw.ang.af.mil](http://www.123aw.ang.af.mil)**

## Free school supplies

The KYANG Key Volunteer Group, formerly known as the Family Readiness Group, will be handing out school supplies to any interested members this UTA. The Group will be set up outside of the dining facility entrance on Sunday from 10 a.m. until noon. Group representatives will offer free paper, pens, pencils, high lighters, calculators, and many other school supply items.

Interested members with school-age children are encouraged to take advantage of the Key Volunteer Groups efforts to provide this service.

## TAG golf tourney to benefit memorial

Kentucky National Guard advocates and golfers are encouraged to participate in The Adjutant General's Open Championship Oct. 14, at the Shelby County Country Club in Shelbyville.

All proceeds from the tournament benefit the Kentucky National Guard Memorial Fund, which is building a memorial at the Boone National Guard Center. The cost is \$60 per player. Participants can register as individuals or teams.

For more information, e-mail the KYNG Memorial Fund at [info@kyngmemorial.com](mailto:info@kyngmemorial.com).

## Flu shots on the way

With the flu season approaching quickly, National Guard officials have released guidance for their annual vaccination campaigns, and units are scheduled to receive their doses of the vaccine before the end of October.

The biggest change to this year's vaccine is that it combines H1N1, H3N2 and an influenza B virus vaccine into one. For more information on the listed influenza viruses and the vaccines, visit [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).

## Bluegrass Airmen named softball champs

By Tech. Sgt. D. Clare  
Cargo Courier Editor

The 123rd Airlift Wing Coed Softball Team was named the top team in the Air National Guard after sweeping a tournament in Panama City Beach, Fla., Aug. 11 to 15.

To win, the Bluegrass batters had to best six previously undefeated teams of the 16 competing units. In their final game, they bested Ohio's 178th Fighter Wing, 22-16. They defeated their foes with a combined score of 106 to 58.

According to team coach, Master Sgt. Ralph Barney, an information technology specialist for the 123rd Communications Flight, the squad won on the backs of powerful hitting and a strong defensive work ethic.

"We were playing a lot of very strong teams. We came in with a great chemistry. We're good friends for the most part. We played together and things fell into place," Sergeant Barney said.

The sergeant has coached the team for more than five years and has been playing on the squad since 1985. He said it was the first top finish for a Kentucky team since he's been playing. In 2008, Kentucky finished second in the tournament. In 2006, they came in third.

"When we go out, we're carrying the Kentucky name. We're going out with everything

this unit stands for," said Senior Master Sgt. Greg Lucas, an airfield services specialist with the 123rd Contingency Response Group who was named one of the team's MVPs at shortstop. "We do the best we can to be good sportsmen and to represent the unit well.

"People don't want to play us because we go out and win, but win or lose, they know we're going to be good sports about everything."

According to Sergeant Barney, the team is always looking for players both for national competition and in local leagues where they compete throughout the year. Playing gives Airmen the opportunity to become more familiar with unit members off duty and builds camaraderie. Members, their families and even retirees are welcome to participate.

"I'm extremely proud of our Coed Softball Team who've been trying so hard over the years to bring home the gold and now they have had success," said Col. Bill Ketterer, interim 123rd Airlift Wing Commander. "It's always exciting to be associated with a winning program, so a special thanks goes out to the team for bringing home the gold and the national recognition to the Kentucky Air National Guard."

Those interested in playing or learning more about the 123rd Airlift Wing Coed Softball Team can contact Sergeant Barney at (502) 413-4326 or [ralph.barney@ang.af.mil](mailto:ralph.barney@ang.af.mil).



Courtesy photo

The 123rd Airlift Wing team was named the 2010 Air National Guard Coed Softball Champions after sweeping the tournament in Panama City Beach, Fla.



# Yellow Ribbon Support Program begins on base

## Wing adds staff member to assist the deployed and their families

By Tech. Sgt. D. Clare  
Cargo Courier Editor

When it comes to connecting Wing families with information, services, referrals and outreach surrounding deployments, it could be said that the unit takes support so seriously, it's called in the Marines.

Or, at least, one Marine.

Cecil Goodloe, a retired Marine first sergeant, was recently appointed the 123rd Airlift Wing Yellow Ribbon Program support specialist. As an infantryman who retired in 2008, Mr. Goodloe deployed extensively. As a father and war veteran, he knows the importance of taking care of members and their families.

"When we came back from Desert Storm we didn't have this program and we could have used it. The Yellow Ribbon Program is going to be a tremendous benefit for these servicemembers now who are coming back from Iraq, Afghanistan or any other place after a period of time," Mr. Goodloe said.

As the program coordinator, Mr. Goodloe will be working closely with every deployed member to identify needs and help with reintegration. When Airmen return, they can expect to spend some time with the former Marine, who will be on a mission to ensure they transition smoothly back to civilian life.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is a mandatory, Defense Department-wide initiative to ensure Reserve and Guard members get the help and resources they need when they're called to active duty.

In addition to his personal experience as a veteran and five years as a family readiness officer on active duty, Mr. Goodloe has extensive training on post-traumatic stress disorder recognition and familiarity. His job is to ensure members – especially those facing or returning from deployments – know about their benefits and entitlements.

He'll engage returning members and bring additional resources to their attention. Returning members can count on learning about the VA, TRICARE benefits and other



Tech. Sgt. D. Clare/KyANG

**Left, Mr. Cecil Goodloe, a former Marine family readiness officer, was recently appointed Yellow Ribbon Support Program coordinator. Mr. Goodloe will work closely with Mr. Dave Rooney, Family Support Program director, right, to ensure families and members are connected with needed resources before, during and after deployments.**

military and civilian support providers. He'll be available for family members who need special resources or counseling.

"We're dealing with a totally different post-9/11 world. The ops tempo is incredible. It wasn't 10 years ago, many people in the Guard joined for schooling or extra money," said Mr. Rooney. "Now we're seeing our Guard members in combat support roles throughout the world. There's a new purpose, and with that purpose comes the need for extra support and resources."

The Jeffersontown native will work closely with Dave Rooney, Family Support Program director.

"I don't think people know how fortunate the Wing is to have someone like Mr. Goodloe on our team. He's one of the most respected Yellow Ribbon Coordinators in the country," said Mr. Rooney.

"It's stressful to have a family member leave for duty and it's difficult to ease back into life at home for members and their families. But there's no reason for anyone to feel alone or like they don't have resources," Mr. Rooney said. "Cecil and I are here. We're going to work together

and if you need help or anyone you know needs help, please help us serve them and let us know what we can do to make an even greater impact."

Mr. Goodloe, who has established identical programs for the Army, said he hopes to provide some solace to deployed members and their families while supporting the Wing's mission abroad.

"We've learned long ago how important family readiness and support is in accomplishing our military mission. Frankly, when a member deploys, he or she can face any number of challenges in a remarkable way - but for them to perform to the best of their abilities, they need to know there is some peace at home," said Col. Bill Ketterer, interim 123rd Airlift Wing commander. "Our Yellow Ribbon Support Program is going to give our members and families that much more peace of mind knowing they are not alone during these challenging times even after they return home."

For more information on the Yellow Ribbon Support Program, contact Mr. Goodloe at (502) 413-4646 or at [cecil.goodloe.ctr@ang.af.mil](mailto:cecil.goodloe.ctr@ang.af.mil).



Spc. Scott Raper/KyNG

Civic leaders pause before a Kentucky Air National Guard C-130 Hercules aircraft at Fort Knox, Ky., during the 'Boss Lift.'

# Bluegrass reservists recognize civilian employers

## Event provides hands-on show of gratitude for employers, community leaders

By Spc. Scott Raper  
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FORT KNOX, Ky. – A group of the Commonwealth's civic leaders were treated to a day of excitement at Fort Knox, Ky., as part of the 2010 Boss Lift sponsored by Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve on August 13.

Service members from the Army, Army and Air National Guard and Marine Corps Reserve gave the civic leaders a taste of what their employees do during a drill weekend or Annual Training.

The day started off with a flight on a Kentucky Air National Guard C-130 Hercules aircraft from the Air Guard Base in Louisville to Ft. Knox.

"People got a kick out of being on the big birds," said retired Army Maj. Gen. Bob Silverthorn, State Chair of the Kentucky Committee, Employer Support of Guard and Reserve. "When civilians get a chance to fly on any of our aircraft, it makes for a very memorable experience."

The civic leaders then boarded a UH-60 Blackhawk for orientation flights over the area. They landed at the Advanced Drivers Course to meet members of the 4th Tank Battalion, 4th Marine Division, where they rode M1-A1 Abrams tanks.

According to General Silverthorn, the challenges employers face with citizen soldiers and airmen gone for multiple deployments make events like the boss flight more critical.

"This gives civilian employers and the military a chance to interact, to understand where each is coming from," said Master Sgt. Eric Hagen, a loadmaster with the 123rd Airlift Wing. "Anytime you get that kind of communication it is great for both sides."

"Employers have a cost inherent in employing deployable servicemembers. But they're proud to be a part of the national security team," he said.

"The purpose of a civic leader/ESGR boss lift is not just to expose them to their service members' operating environment, but also to pay our respect to the sacrifices they make to make it possible for that service member to serve our country."



Spc. Scott Raper/KyNG

Master Sgt. Eric Hagen, a loadmaster with the 123rd Airlift Wing, discusses flight operations with a civic leader. Dozens of employers and civic leaders flew from Louisville airport on Kentucky C-130 Hercules aircraft to Fort Knox to take part in a recent "Boss Lift" that recognized their contributions in supporting members of the Guard and Reserve components.



# Medical officers named top in the Air National Guard

## Majors recognized for performances above and beyond the call

By Tech. Sgt. D. Clare  
Cargo Courier Editor

The 123rd Medical Squadron was honored recently at the Medical Readiness Frontiers Conference in Minneapolis when two of its own were named the top in their field Air National Guard-wide.

Maj. Carolyn Congleton was named the ANG Public Health Officer of the Year and Maj. Chris Howell was named the ANG Physician Assistant of the Year, both for their service in 2009.

"It's a great honor. There are a lot of tremendous medical officers in the Air National Guard and to be named among the top is humbling," said Major Howell after receiving the award.

"I was surprised; shocked, in fact. We're a very busy Wing. We deploy a lot. The numbers we turn over and deploy constantly makes a difference. But there was a lot that went into the award," said Major Congleton. "I'm grateful to be in a position to serve my community, my state and the country, but getting an award for it was a surprise."

The majors both credit their work above and beyond the call of duty.

Major Congleton is responsible for helping deploy every member of the 123rd Airlift Wing. She makes sure members of some of the busiest units in the Reserve component, like the 123rd Contingency Response Group, have all the shots and are medically prepared for what lies ahead of them when they ship out and facilitates post-deployment screenings when they return home.

She handles occupational health exams for firefighters and monitors exposures on base and at deployed locations. She inspects all food and even military rations consumed by unit personnel.

Interestingly, her award recognized her role in the community in addition to her military service. The major, who is the staff veterinarian for Louisville Metro Animal Services, was noted for speak-



Courtesy photo

**Majors Chris Howell and Carolyn Congleton flank their commander, Col. Diana Shoop, 123rd Medical Squadron commander, in Minneapolis where they were recognized as the top medical officers in their respective fields. Major Howell was named the Air National Guard Physician Assistant of the Year. Major Congleton was named the ANG Public Health Officer of the year. Both were recognized for additional service outside of their standard job duties.**

ing before a national convention of her civilian peers and caring for 550 animals who were displaced during a flash flood on Aug. 4, 2009.

Likewise, Major Howell said his leadership above and beyond the call of duty contributed to his honor. A patient safety manager for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Lexington, he was the only health care provider deployed for the historic ice storms.

The former enlisted Army National Guardsman maintains a top physical fitness test score and serves as health promotions officer helping wing members improve their lifestyles and physical readiness.

"I believe that if you are an officer you need to lead from the front," said the Hodgenville native who gives classes and lectures medics whenever possible. "Leadership is really what makes an organization do well, especially in a medical setting."

"I'm profoundly grateful for the display of professionalism and positive attitude that won both of them this recognition," said Col. Bill Ketterer, interim 123rd Airlift Wing Commander. "Our readiness and ability to serve our state and nation defines us as an organization. Their award-worthy efforts ensure we maintain our edge as fighting Kentuckians."

# A new way to reach out

Wing hosts 'Rise to the Challenge' tour at 2010 Kentucky State Fair

By Tech. Sgt. D. Clare  
Cargo Courier Editor

Visitors to the 2010 Kentucky State Fair received more than information about the Air National Guard – they were able to experience it.

At this year's fair, the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Airlift Wing played host to the ANG's "Rise to the Challenge" tour, which featured hands-on challenges to educate the public, highlight the benefits of service, and identify opportunities that could help prospective Bluegrass Airmen achieve their educational and career goals.

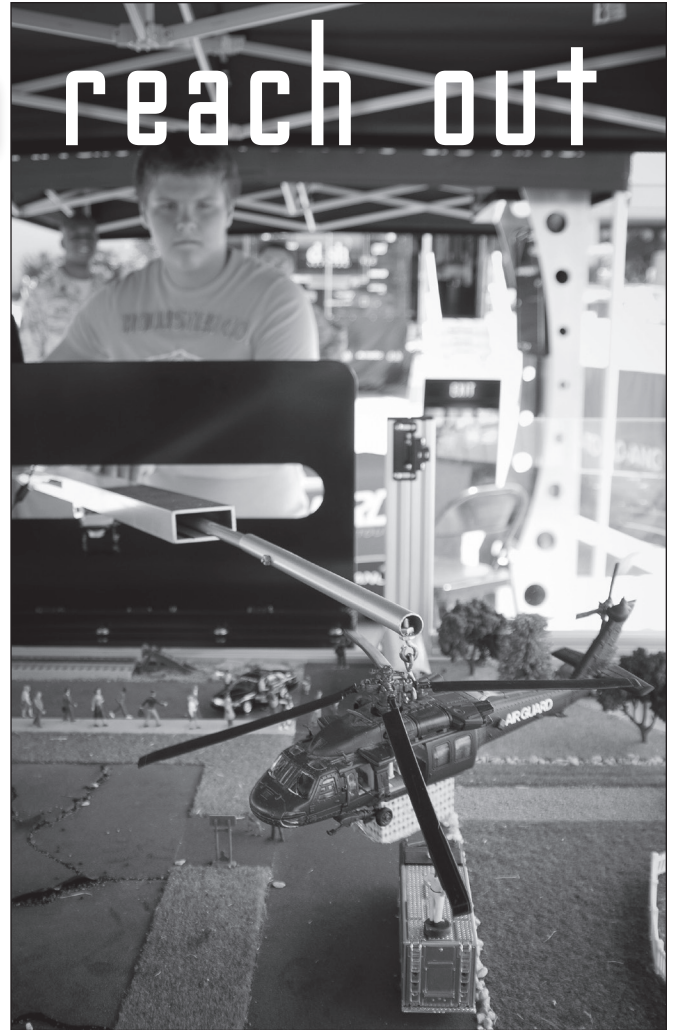
"A lot of people see this elaborate set up and think they have to pay to get involved. One of our biggest jobs is engaging the audience and letting them know they can come experience the Air National Guard for free," said Eric Tylar, tour driver. "This is always one of the top attractions at any event we attend and we're proud of how many people want to learn more about the guard long after they experience the tour."

Members start the tour at a mission control center where they provide their contact information. Then the tour begins in earnest with the Aerospace Mechanical Challenge. There, participants are graded on their mechanical aptitude by using different connections to repair a simulated jet engine.

From there, visitors could participate in a "cargo challenge" multi-dimensional puzzle that challenged fair-goers' spatial reasoning. If the moderate intensity of those activities and the August sun left members warm, the next stop was a climate-controlled trailer where the public could get a high-tech taste of the unique and varied opportunities the Air National Guard offers.

There, with a specially configured video gaming system, prospective members and citizens could undertake the "Battlefield Airman Challenge." On another gaming console, they could attempt an aerial refueling while controlling a B-2 Spirit bomber. They were given a reconnaissance quiz after being

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Photos by Tech. Sgt. D. Clare/KyANG

**ABOVE:** Cole Sherman of Morganfield, Ky., lowers his helo to rescue a man stranded on a rooftop in a scale model simulating a disaster torn city. **BELOW:** Even before it officially opens, members of the public line up to participate in the "Rise to the Challenge" tour at the 2010 Kentucky State Fair.





123rd Airlift Wing  
Public Affairs Office  
Kentucky Air National Guard  
1101 Grade Lane  
Louisville, KY 40213-2678

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

## ‘TOUR’

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shown surveillance images from an MQ-1 Predator remotely controlled aircraft. They even participated in a medical challenge where they were able to perform simulated lifesaving procedures on screen.

“In addition to giving one of our guests a unique experience, these challenges give us some talking points when we identify someone who might be interested in joining the Guard,” said Master Sgt. Thomas Caruso, 123rd Airlift Wing recruiter. “I’m not saying we’re going to get an intelligence analyst from these challenges. But we’re going to be able to talk about an individual’s strengths and give them some areas in the Guard where they can put their natural skills to good use.”

While the event might not lead directly to enlistments, in just four days, Sergeant Caruso said he made nearly 550 contacts – a quarter of which demonstrated interest in joining the Kentucky Air National Guard. The leading ANG recruiter for the commonwealth said he believes he is planting the seeds for a harvest of quality individuals in the future.

“I never really thought about joining the military. But I might think about it now. I didn’t know there was that many things to do,” said Cole Sherman, a student from Morganfield, Ky., who scored high in each of the various challenges. “I respect what people in the military do. I’m not sure about joining. I hadn’t thought about it before. But maybe, maybe I will.”



Master Sgt. Phillip Speck/KyANG

A potential Air National Guard recruit ponders answers after seeing an MQ-1 Predator surveillance image as part of the reconnaissance challenge portion of the “Rise to the Challenge” tour.