The Warrior

Editorial Staff

Brig. Gen. John J. Nichols
509th Bomb Wing Commander

Capt. Keenan Kunst
Chief, Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Kayla White
Editor

Tech. Sgt. Alexander Riedel
Brye Steeves
Copy Editors

Staff Sgt. Danielle Quilla
Airman Parker McCauley
Photojournalists

The Sedalia Democrat
Layout and Design

Published by the **Sedalia Democrat**, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Whiteman Air Force Base.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of **The Warrior** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the **Sedalia Democrat**.

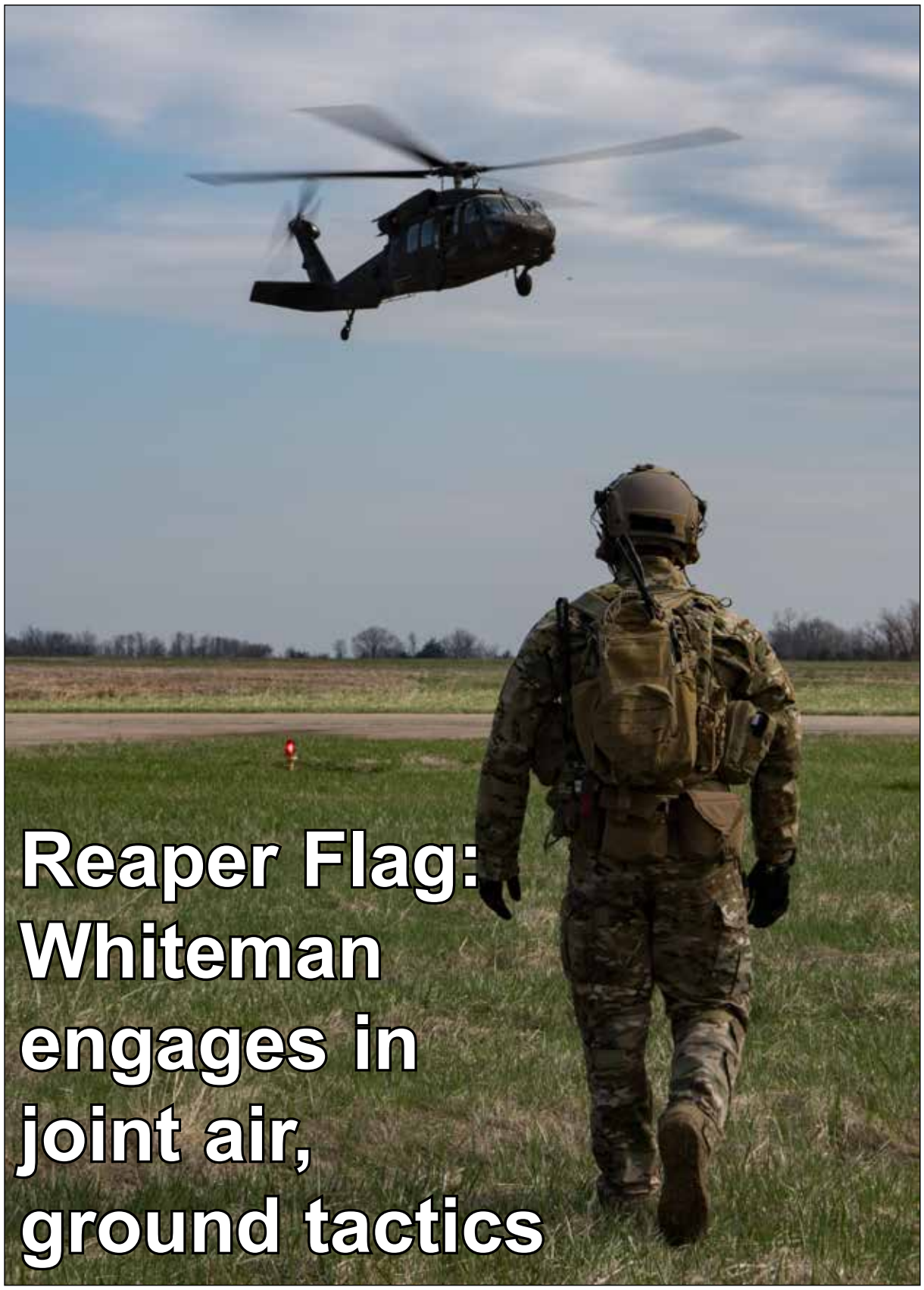
Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs office of 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman Air Force Base. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The deadline for article submissions to the Warrior is noon Friday. If a holiday falls on Friday, the deadline then becomes 4 p.m. Thursday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis. Submissions do not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the Warrior office at 660-687-5727, email 509bw.public.affairs@us.af.mil, fax 660-687-7948, or write to us at Whiteman Warrior, 509thth Bomb Wing, 509thth Spirit Blvd. Suite 116, Whiteman AFB, Mo., 65305.

To advertise in The Warrior, call the Sedalia Democrat at 1-800-892-7856.

Reaper Flag: Whiteman engages in joint air, ground tactics



Senior Airman Ricardo Lucero, a joint tactical air controller (JTAC) with the 7th Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS) from Fort Bliss, Texas, walks towards a UH-60 Blackhawk while it lands during the Reaper Flag exercise April 2, 2019, in Sedalia Missouri. The exercise provides an opportunity for soldiers and Airmen from Team Whiteman to work together and with the 7th teams to hone their abilities and increase their cohesion in a joint environment. The UH-60 is assigned to the Missouri Army National Guard. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman Parker J. McCauley)

To see more photos from Team Whiteman's Reaper Flag exercise, visit The WAFB Flicker page.

Two joint tactical air controllers (JTAC), with the 7th Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS) from Fort Bliss, Texas, call in simulated air strikes during the Reaper Flag exercise on April 2, 2019, near Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. The exercise challenged the seven JTAC Airmen, Missouri Army National Guards UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter crew, and the 13th Bomb Squadron, with B-2 Spirits and T-38 Talons, to strengthen ties and operate more efficiently in a joint environment.

On the cover

Tech. Sgt. Darius Charles, NCO in charge of information technology asset management assigned to the 509th communications squadron, poses for a portrait, on April 2, 2019, at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Charles, earned a 2019 annual wing award winner, earned an incentive flight in one of the base's B-2 Stealth Bombers. The 509th Bomb Wing leadership recognized Charles for his contributions and excellence, both stateside and while deployed to Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kayla White)