

Lajes Field MLK Sports Celebration, a “Slam Dunk” Success



**By Tommy Brooks
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On January 15th, Team Lajes came together with the help of the Chace Fitness Center staff, the African American Heritage Committee sponsored a day-long sports celebration in honor of the Martin Luther King holiday. The celebration was open to ages five and older and included a Dribble, Pass & Shoot competition, 3-Point Shooting competition, Top Gunner High Scorers Challenge, and more.

“It’s events like this, that make you proud to be a part of Team Lajes”, said Lt Col John Oliver, 65th Services Squadron Commander. “A close knit community is the key to holding fun and successful events, and is definitely one of the perks to being a part of the 65th Air Base Wing”, added Oliver.

The event was capped off with a thrilling All-Star basketball game in the Lajes High School gymnasium, two all-star basketball teams, comprised of 9 base intramural athletes and 1 high school athlete per team, competed for bragging rights in a fast paced, high flying display of talent. Col Winston, 65 ABW Commander was the honorary head referee, Col Derrick, 65 ABW Deputy Commander was honorary coach for the “white” team and Col Davis, 65 MSG Commander was the honorary coach for the “red” team. The Red team prevailed. Col Davis received the championship trophy and Capt Brandon Wengert, 65 ABW was voted game MVP by the players and coaches.