



## **NEWS from Defiance College**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Defiance College hosts remote cyber camp with National Museum of the US Air Force**

DEFIANCE, Ohio – In an innovative partnership with the National Museum of the United States Air Force (NMUSAF), Defiance College proudly hosted the first remote adaptation of the traditionally on-site AFA Cyber Camp. This week-long remote Cyber Camp marks a significant step in expanding the educational outreach of NMUSAF's programs.

The Cyber Camp, facilitated by Ohio Cyber Reservists Aaron Napierala and Roger Spears, provided an enriching environment for students to explore the essentials of cybersecurity. Utilizing Defiance College's advanced cyber range, the camp offered hands-on learning experiences in securing both Windows and Linux operating systems, which are foundational skills in today's digital landscape.



Pictured (L-R): Roger Spears, Aaron Napierala

Throughout the week, students from grades 7-12 engaged in activities designed to enhance their understanding of cybersecurity. The program included daily sessions, culminating in a national competition. Competing against nearly 200 teams from various AFA Cyber Camps across the country, one of our teams achieved an impressive 13th place, showcasing the effectiveness and impact of our training.

Defiance College's cyber range played a pivotal role in the success of the camp, providing a controlled and responsive environment that facilitated uninterrupted learning. Plans are already underway to discuss with NMUSAF staff on utilizing this model, aiming to extend the reach of remote camps to other educational institutions throughout Ohio next year.

"This initiative underscores Defiance College's commitment to cutting-edge educational opportunities and its dedication to preparing the next generation of cybersecurity professionals," stated Aaron Napierala, Defiance College's Assistant Professor of Computer Science. "We are excited about the future of this program and look forward to its expansion, further empowering students across the nation."

Chartered in 1850, Defiance College is a non-profit, liberal arts-based institution in Northwest Ohio, offering more than 40 undergraduate programs of study as well as graduate programs in education and business. Defiance College has received national recognition for its educational experience of service and engagement, enhanced by an award winning and unique career readiness program called Jacket Journey to help students learn career skills in and out of the classroom. The college mission has four pillars: To Know, To Understand, To Lead, and To Serve.