

Heartland WARRIOR

Volume 16, Issue 12

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Heartland **WARRIOR**

Vol. 16, No. 12
December 2011

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Heartland 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 editorial content is edited, and prepared by the Public Affairs Office of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, IN, 46971-5000.

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On the cover...

Rick Vining, lodging operations manager, plows mounds of fresh snow in front of Grissom Inn Nov. 29. Grissom received a record breaking nine inches of snow, which is the most Grissom has had on that day in history. Snow blanketed the area causing widespread power outages and dangerous roadways. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

Grissom ATC reaches new heights



During a recent air traffic system evaluation, Grissom scored a 98.8 percent in the field of operations. (U.S. Air Force graphic/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

By Senior Airman Damon Kasberg *Public Affairs staff*

Being evaluated on more than 500 items can be daunting, but Grissom personnel rose up to the challenge and sent new standards for the Air Force.

During a recent air traffic system evaluation, Grissom scored a 98.8 percent in the field of operations.

"Last evaluation we got a 96," said Bob Ulibarri, 434th Operations Support Squadron airfield operations manager, about the inspection which takes place every two years. "That was the best we've ever done, and now we surpassed that mark."

The evaluation aimed to provide an assessment of the quality, adequacy and safety of the air traffic system supporting flying operations at Grissom.

The Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command inspection team evaluated Grissom's air traffic system capabilities, air traffic and flight procedures, air traffic control, air management, terminal instrument procedures, airspace, ATC and landing systems support, weather

support and civil engineering support.

During the week-long evaluation, Grissom received excellent scores including a 94 percent in training, 96.5 percent in quality assurance and 94.8 percent in administration.

A couple of Grissom's programs were so exceptional, they'll now be used as a bench mark for other Air Force units in the future. These include Grissom's training and standardization program as well as its mid air collision avoidances program.

According to the evaluation report "the unit's MACA Program was first identified as a bench mark program in 2006; it continues to be the 'best seen' in over 100 unit assessments. This program is an Air Force Reserve Command bench mark for ATC training."

Many of Grissom personnel were also noted by the inspection team as outstanding performers during the evaluation, including Bob Ulibarri, Kari Ellis, Mindy Conner, Bob Moore, Mike Lang, Paul Colburn, Marlene Seneca, Michael Thompson, Joe Finnerty and Theresa Wilson.

Amend takes command of 434th OG, gets back to roots

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner
Public Affairs staff

The sight of cornfields, farm tractors and the occasional horse-and-buggy is typical around Grissom just like any other small town, and it's that small-town atmosphere to which the new 434th Operations Group commander was glad to get back.

Col. Christopher Amend took command of the 434th OG, the largest KC-135R Stratotanker flying unit in the Air Force Reserve Command, during a special ceremony held here Nov. 6.

"My wife and I are from small towns, and we like the work ethics of the Midwest," said Amend, who is a native of Quincy, Wash., and first joined the Air Force through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1986.

And, it's those work ethics, found in small towns throughout the U.S. heartland and evident at Grissom, that excited Amend the most about his assignment here.

"We get here and see the pride and professionalism with the work and the job they do," Amend elaborated. "It's very refreshing to see that still exists."

However, it wasn't just the hard work ethics of Grissom's Airmen the colonel was excited about. While he has never served at Grissom before, he said he was keenly aware of the 434th Air Refueling Wing's capabilities and reputation of getting the job done before he even stepped

onto the base.

"Grissom has an outstanding reputation; we all know Grissom's reputation," explained Amend. "I've deployed with Grissom personnel and aircraft, and because of that there's a sense of being familiar with the people."

The colonel has deployed numerous times and is a veteran of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Provide Comfort, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Prior to taking command of the 434th OG, Amend served as a mobilization branch chief for AFRC's Force Generation Center.

"My time at AFRC headquarters opened my eyes to how headquarters worked, how we impact other commands, and I got a broad view of what the Air Force Reserve is involved with," he said. "That's one thing I can bring to the job, so when an issue happens locally or headquarters asks us a question, I have a better understanding."

During his time here, the colonel said he has a two-part focus, with the first part being on mission accomplishment.

"I think the goal is to continue to perform the mission for AFRC, (Air Mobility Command) and the rest of the Air Force," he elaborated. "I have no doubt in my mind the 434th (ARW) will fully accomplish the mission as it has a long history of doing."

The colonel's second focus is on the Air Force



Col. William T. "Tim" Cahoon presents Col. Christopher Amend with the 434th Operations Group guidon during Amend's assumption of command ceremony held in Gus Grissom Hall Nov. 6. During the ceremony, Amend took command of the 434th Operations Group, the largest KC-135R Stratotanker OG in the Air Force Reserve Command. Cahoon is the 434th Air Refueling Wing commander. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)

families, which he called his family.

"My goal is to take care of those families while military members are away on missions," said Amend. "After all these years the stress is starting to build and take its toll; we need to help families through these situations.

"We're a family," he added. "This family took my wife, (Kari), and me in and treated us like a family, and it's our job to keep that family strong

and provide the resources needed to look out for it."

However, the colonel said taking care of both those goals may not be as easy now as it was in the past.

"We look at all the budget constraints and the direction the (Department of Defense) is going, and there are uncertain times ahead," he explained. "We need to help each other like a family, just

Grissom Inn scores 'outstanding' again

By Senior Airman
Damon Kasberg
Public Affairs staff



Dusty Sowards helps Maj. Joel Brecount, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight commander, as he checks into his room Dec. 2. The Grissom Inn recently scored another outstanding during a recent accreditation inspection here.

With combined efforts from lodging and dining facility personnel the Grissom Inn scored another outstanding during a recent accreditation inspection here.

"It's a great feeling to have everyone work together like that all the time," said George Baylor, Grissom Inn assistant general manager. "It couldn't be done without everyone... it's nice to be surrounded by good people."

During the week-long process, two inspectors reviewed the Grissom Inn on more than 400 items with a total of 1,515 points possible. Last year Grissom scored an outstanding for the first time in 10 years. They followed that up with another outstanding this year with a 94.4 percent.

"It was a group effort," said Mary McLean, Grissom Inn general manager. "During the inspection



Diana Wheatley makes up a room Dec. 2. Wheatley and the housekeeping staff are just one reason the Grissom Inn scored well on a recent inspection.

we were short-staffed, but dining facility personnel helped us Thursday and Friday, and the Monday before the inspection."

Each year an Air Force accreditation inspection team updates its checklist, adding new items and taking away others, or implementing new ways of doing things. The inspection team notifies Grissom Inn personnel two weeks prior to an evaluation to let them know they are coming, which creates a unique challenge for them.

"Two weeks is not enough time to make sure we comply with the checklist," said McLean. "That's only enough time to let us work on details. We have to ensure that we are always ready for an inspection all year."

While Grissom personnel continue to earn outstanding evaluations, they also continue to aim higher.

"It might be impossible to get a 100 percent, but we are always shooting for that," said Baylor.

George Baylor, left, looks over the books with Mary McLean at the Grissom Inn Dec. 2. The Grissom Inn recently scored an outstanding for the second year in a row during a recent lodging accreditation inspection here.

McLean is a general lodging manager, and Baylor is an assistant lodging manager. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Mark Orders-Woempner)



Heartland Warrior

Air Force refines force presentation, generation

By Mitch Gettle

Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON -- Air Force officials have been working for more than two years to develop a more consistent force presentation model for the Air Expeditionary Force deployment system.

Future changes in how the Air Force presents its forces in the joint environment and generates forces to support combatant commanders will be simplified under the new construct, called AEF Next.

Although these changes will be virtually transparent to the combatant commanders, the Air Force will continue to present an Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force commanded by a Commander Air Force Forces and an Air Operations Center and executed by air expeditionary wings, groups and squadrons -- AEF Next will focus on teaming, at the unit/installation level, and increase combat capability and unit cohesiveness.

The current AEF system, which uses unit type codes and tempo banding, is not easily communicated to external audiences and Airmen alike.

AEF Next is designed to simplify the presentation of Air Force forces, similar to sister services, using right-sized, capability-based airpower teams.

Air Force officials are not looking to create new capabilities, but rather take the committed forces the Air Force currently uses and simplify the nomenclature to ease translation for external audiences, said Col. John Long, the Air Force's chief of war planning and policy division. AEF Next will capture available, committed-in-place and deployed APTs, giving a

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Future changes in how the Air Force presents its forces in the joint environment and generates forces to support combatant commanders will be simplified under the new construct, called AEF Next. (U.S. Air Force graphic/Corey Parrish)

full account of all Air Force forces.

"For most Airmen, the differences will be minimal," Long said. "Rather than Airmen deploying as individuals or in small groups from many locations across the Air Force, troops would deploy with their unit commanders as part of an 'Airpower Team.'"

The AEF Next concept improves Air Force leaders' visibility over stressed career fields and provides opportunities to mitigate stress, whenever possible, he said.

"We want to get the commander and immediate supervisors

back into the deployment decision process," Long said. "This will allow commanders to make key deployment decisions about their unit personnel rather than relying on functional managers at the major command or headquarters Air Force level to make those decisions ... commanders decide

and FAMs advise.

"Most Airmen's deployments will remain at six-month rotations, and we are looking to posture the Air Force at a 1:2 deploy-to-dwell ratio," Long said. "Although we are still refining the generation model, we expect the 1:2 deploy-to-dwell time ratio to be the target. For example, Airmen who deploy for six-months should not deploy for 12 months after returning home. Some exceptions may apply, depending on an Airman's skill set and demand for that capability."

The Air Force wants to improve predictability, visibility and stability for units and Airmen while maintaining the flexibility to satisfy combatant commander requirements.

"The new system will adjust deploy-to-dwell ratios to account for varying (operations) tempo, i.e. from peacetime to surge events and back to peacetime ops," Long said.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz approved AEF Next as the Air Force's new methodology in presenting and generating Air Force forces. The implementation of this construct will take approximately two years to be fully operational. (AFNS)

"Most Airmen's deployments will remain at six-month rotations, and we are looking to posture the Air Force at a 1:2 deploy-to-dwell ratio..."

- Col. John Long

Fit to Fight: NCO pays price, earns sweat equity



Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays, 434th Air Refueling Wing public affairs superintendent, sweats it out at Grissom's fitness center. Hays lost 40 pounds in his quest to be fit to fight. (U. S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

**By Senior Airman
Jami Lancette**

Public Affairs staff

"You could time my fitness run with a sun dial."

That's how Tech. Sgt. Doug Hays used to joke about his running prowess when the fit to fight program first began.

Hays, 434th Air Refueling Wing public affairs superintendent failed his first test and went to work to

improve slowly but steadily.

Using the tools that Grissom offers, Hays cut nearly seven minutes off of his run to pass his fitness assessment.

"I'm still not going to impress anyone with my running," he said, "but after dropping 40 pounds I'm not running carrying the equivalent of kindergartner on my back."

Hays' transformation started with a visit to Juli Phelps, Grissom's exercise physiologist. Who out-

lined a program for weight loss and improved fitness.

"That first step was easy," he laughed. "It was eliminating the excuses that proved most difficult. It's easy to make excuses not to go workout, but you need to make an excuse to go."

In the end Hays said he was glad he pushed himself.

"There were many times I didn't want to go, but I pushed myself and was so glad I went."

While getting off on the right foot and committing to the race were good standing points, it was putting one foot in front of the other in the marathon of fitness where Hays found true rewards.

"It took me a long time to gain that much weight, so I knew that it would take a long time to lose it," he explained. "But, after a while you could tell my uniforms were getting loose, and people started commenting. It made me feel better about my efforts."

Calling it sweat equity, Hays mixed up his workout routines spending at least three days in the gym doing elliptical and aerobic exercises, and then spent at least two days away from the gym running and working out.

"I even retired my riding mower for most of the year, and my yard takes six hours to mow," he joked.

In addition to exercise, the public affairs superintendent changed his diet as well.

"I begrudgingly traded pizza and chips for grilled chicken and steamed vegetables," he said. "But, as it went on, I began to enjoy the foods I was eating.

I also cut way back on soft drinks, opting for water instead," he added.

Even though Hays passed his fitness test, he still continues to follow the program outlined for him.

"I had to sweat out passing this last time, and I don't want to have to worry about it from here on out," he concluded.

(Editor's note: This is the first in a four-part series of four Grissom Airman and their Fitness Journey.)

Fit to Fight: Maintainer improves fitness score, life

By Senior Airman
Jami Lancette
Public Affairs staff

Making the decision to stick to a strict diet-and-exercise program can take strong willpower, and such was found in one determined Grissom Airman as he beat the odds and took back his health.

Master Sgt. Robert Sucharski, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight maintenance operations coordinator, refused to let his blood pressure and weight take control of where he wanted to be in life.

“My doctor said I needed to be on blood pressure medicine, and I knew something had to change,” said Sucharski, who had his sights set on losing weight during a recent deployment.

“I was 240 pounds when I deployed,” he said.

Once deployed, Sucharski he said he started making wiser choices on eating and exercise.

“When you’re deployed they provide healthy and not so healthy foods, so it’s up to you what you decide to eat,” he said. “I would eat healthy foods in the dining facility.

“The biggest thing I had to do was to cut out (soda),” he added.

In conjunction with diet changes, Sucharski started running like his life depended on it, because in some ways he said it did.

“In the beginning I would be gassed after one-quarter-of-a-mile, but by the end of my two months over there I was running three to four

miles a day,” he said. “And I enjoy running now I have helped four other people improve their pace.”

Sucharski returned home to the United States 45 pounds a lighter and new man.

“After diet and exercise, I returned back home weighing 195,” said Sucharski. “I then took my (fitness) test and got an excellent on my run.

“Nowadays the fitness weighs a lot on your career,” he said explaining one of his reasons for getting in shape.

Not only has the weight loss improved his fitness scores, but it has also improved his whole way of living.

“I come home and have more energy to do stuff around the house,” elaborated Sucharski. “I am able to keep up with my kids a lot better.

“I challenge them to race and I am able to keep up and sometimes even win,” he added.

His run time wasn’t the only thing that had improved. Once he returned back to the United States Sucharski said his doctor reevaluated his need for blood pressure medicine.

“When I got back from deployment my doctor took me off my blood pressure medicine,” said Sucharski.

He said through it all only he could change the way he lived and help himself get back on track.

“Unless you do it for yourself, it’s not going to happen,” Sucharski stated.

(Editor’s note: This is the second in a four-part series.)



Master Sgt. Robert Sucharski, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight maintenance operations coordinator, crosses the finish line during the 5-Kilometer ‘turkey trot’ here Nov. 15. Sucharski said he has more energy since losing 45 pounds (U. S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

Former prisoner of war receives Purple Heart

Master Sgt. Raheem Moore
Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Almost 67 years after being shot down during a bombing raid during World War II, former 1st Lt. Edward J. Moppert Jr. received his Purple Heart medal Nov. 26 at the World War II Memorial.

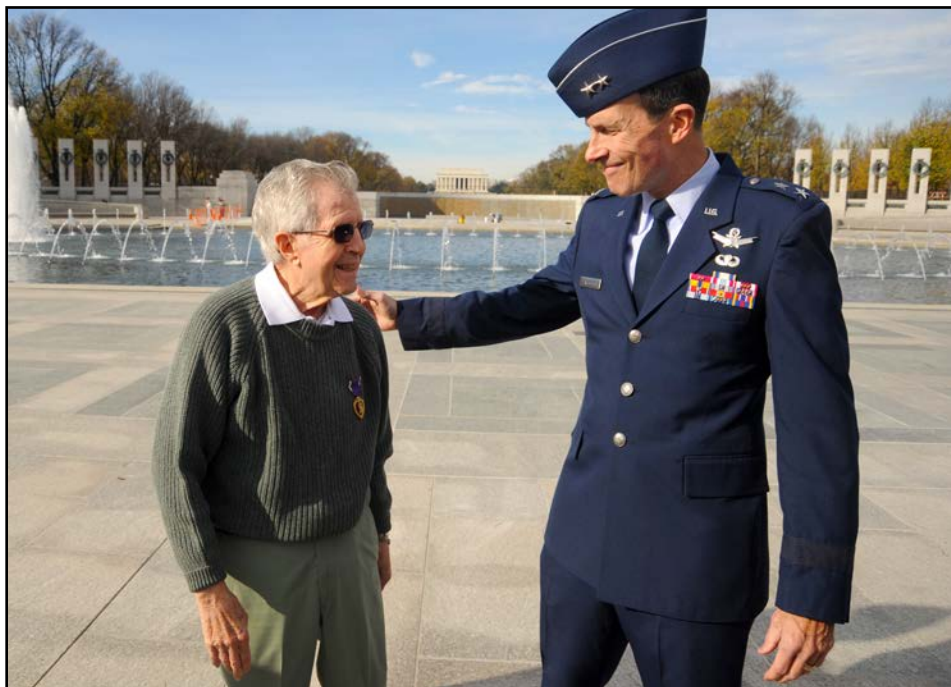
A few years ago, Moppert's daughter, Lorene Moppert-Keipper, started organizing his military records and realized he was never formally presented his Purple Heart medal. Through a friend, she contacted Maj. Fred Hixson at the Pentagon and asked if there was anything he could do. Hixson enlisted the help of his co-workers and went about the task of getting the medal presented to Moppert.

Moppert-Keipper's plan was to get her father presented the medal at the World War II memorial on his 90th birthday. Working with the volunteers, they were able to make this request a reality.

Working behind the scenes, Hixson and Sheila Mulhern, in concert with their team were able to put together the ceremony honoring Moppert's service. Next up was to have the medal presented to Moppert, and retired Maj. Gen. Robert M. Worley II, the former Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Programs, volunteered.

"I was very excited for my dad, as I know how proud he was to serve his country in World War II", Moppert-Keipper said.

When Moppert and his family arrived at the memorial, they were greeted by Worley, Hixson and Mulhern and he was told he would be



Retired Maj. Gen. Robert M. Worley II presents former 1st Lt. Edward Moppert, a World War II Airman, with a Purple Heart medal Nov. 26, at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Raheem Moore)

formally receiving his Purple Heart.

Worley presented Moppert with his Purple Heart, and he was also presented with an Eagle Cane. The cane, which is presented to veterans injured in combat, was presented by retired Master Sgt. Hank Cloutier.

"It was an honor for me to present Lieutenant Moppert with his Purple Heart," Worley said. "He is a part of the greatest generation and part of Air Force history. Without the sacrifices of Airmen like Lieutenant Moppert, our Air Force would not be the greatest air and space force in the world."

Moppert served as an Army Air Force bombardier on a B-24 Liberator during a raid over an oil refinery in Germany. While parachuting

from the heavily damaged aircraft, he was shot in the foot while landing. He was captured and held as a prisoner of war for almost seven months at the infamous Stalag Luft I allied POW camp in Barth, Germany.

He was liberated from Stalag Luft I in May 1945 and repatriated back to the U.S. He served another year on active duty and was honorably discharged a year later. Moppert was contacted by the pilot from his last mission, and told him to expect his Purple Heart in the mail in a few weeks. The medal arrived with his name engraved on the back, epauletts and a lapel pin in an embossed leather case, but it was never officially presented.

Amend, from page 3

like a brother and sister would do."

Amend, who is a command pilot with more than 5,800 flying hours, went on to talk about his love for flying, something he had not had the chance to do a lot of during his last assignment. He recently got his opportunity to get back in the cockpit of a KC-135 and said he loved it.

"It was kind of like meeting an old friend," he recalled. "I took a deep breath, looked around, and said

'I remember this.'

"I had big grin on my face for the first hour of the sortie," he added. "It was very exciting."

Wrapping things up, the colonel said he and his wife are not only excited to be a part of the Grissom team, but hope to make a lasting impression.

"We hope to be here for a long time and have a positive influence on the mission of the wing and the people who make this all operate," he concluded.



Happy Holidays!

Chief Master Sgt. Karen Perkins, 434th Air Refueling Wing command chief, hands an Airman a Thanksgiving meal Nov. 5. Grissom leadership served servicemembers to thank them for their dedication and sacrifice during a Thanksgiving dinner held at Grissom's dining facility. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

CFC drive underway at Grissom

The Combined Federal Campaign is underway here, and opportunities to make contributions are drawing to a close.

The annual charity drive is the Air Force's only official charity drive and ends Dec. 4.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, with more than 200 CFC campaigns throughout the country and internationally to help to raise millions of dollars each year. Pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors during the campaign season support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

Contributions can be made via
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payroll deduction for Department of Defense civilians and air reserve technicians. Traditional reservists may donate via cash or check.

For more information about the charity contact unit CFC workers or Maj. Shane Toomay at 688-2419.



Maj. Shane Toomay, Grissom's Combined Federal Campaign project officer updates the status sign near the front gate. The annual campaign is underway and ends Dec. 4. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Douglas Hays)

Don't let Jack Frost ruin holidays, drive safe

As the winter weather rolls in, the 434th Air Refueling Wing's safety office has a few reminders for how to stay safe while traveling during the season.

Make sure vehicles are ready for winter driving by doing the following:

- Check fluid levels, service belts and hoses.
- Make sure heaters and defrosters are working.
- Ensure tires have good traction and tread.
- Make sure brakes have been checked within the last 5000 miles by a certified mechanic.
- Test turn signals, brake and headlights, and four-way hazard lights.
- Change worn out windshield wiper blades.

Even if a car is complete ready for winter driving, it's out on the road where accidents take place. Use the following safety tips while driving:

- Reduce speed on snowy and icy roads.
- Double stopping distances for wet conditions.
- Watch for ice on bridges and overpasses.
- Turn on headlights during low light conditions.

If an accident should occur, it's always best to be prepared. For this reason, the safety office recommends having an emergency survival kit in the car at all times. This kit should include chains, a shovel, blankets, flashlights, matches, candles, a first-aid kit, water, quick energy food, flares and jumper cables.

Whenever going out in the cold, travelers should dress appropriately. Wear of several layers of thick loose-fitting clothing and always wearing a hat, scarf and gloves as the head and neck lose heat faster than any other part of the body.

Should the need arise to dig a vehicle out of snow or push it, avoid overexertion as the strain from cold weather and heavy labor could cause back strains and heart attacks.

The biggest safety tip for this winter season the safety office has is often the least followed. Travelers should allow for extra time when traveling in bad weather and drive with caution. The key is planning a trip in advance.

Grissom on 'right track' with new construction

By Senior Airman Jami Lancette
Public Affairs staff

Construction crews hit the ground running on a new track here at Grissom.

The crews have been laying the foundation for a new three-eighths of a mile running track, set to be finished in April of 2012.

The new track will be beneficial for the base because it not only will help address some safety concerns, it will also help runners time themselves better.

"First of all, it's a controlled area, so we don't have to block the road and the runners don't have to worry about car fumes," said Juli Phelps, Grissom's exercise physiologist. "Second, it's four laps to a mile-and-a-half, so you'll be able to pace yourself better.

"Third, it's going to be rubberized, so it's going to be easier on your body with more absorption, which is better for your joints," she added.

The track will be located off Warrior Avenue and will make use of vacant space in front of Grissom's fitness center.

"The nice thing about it is we're reclaiming land that was unused,"



Grissom's new track, which is still under construction, is scheduled to be open for business in April 2012. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Jami Lancette)

said Wayne Raby, 434th Mission Support Group base architect. "The more we can use of the stuff we have, the better it is for the base."

The second round of construction, which will take place in the spring, involves the laying of rubber material and will take place when the temperature reaches 70 degrees for 10 days to insure proper curing.

While the crews wait for warmer weather, they continue to work on making it easier for people to access the track and improving the aesthetics of it.

To make access easier for pe-

destrians, construction crews have started laying sidewalks that will connect from the fitness center and from the backside of the Grissom Inn to the track.

The crews have also planted new evergreens around the perimeter.

"Were trying to make this a place where people want to come and run," said Raby. "Quality of life in the Air Force is important."

While construction on the track continues, everyone is reminded that the track will not be open for use until the spring of 2012 for safety reasons.

Trotters race into holidays



Grissom personnel take off from the starting line for a 5-kilometer 'turkey trot' here Nov. 15.

By Senior Airman Jami Lancette

Public Affairs staff

While most didn't gobble, several grissom personnel turkey trotted their way to a more fit to fight holiday season.

Twenty-eight took part in a 5-Kilometer 'Turkey Trot' at the fitness center here Nov. 15.

The runners guessed their estimated finish time prior to the race and the top three that finished closest to their time took home a turkey for the

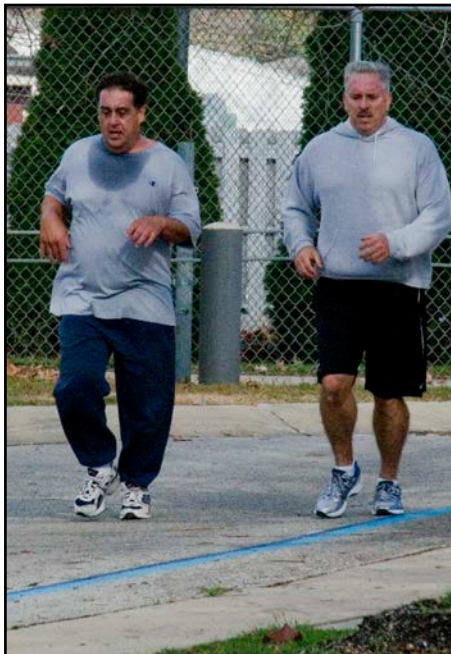
holidays.

This years, turkey winners gobbled up the competition. Paul Weimer and Robert Sucharski were 10 seconds away from their predicted time with Chris Feltis only 17 seconds away from his.

While not taking home a bird, Bob Atkins flew past the competition as the fastest runner of the race.

Participants included Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, civilian and contractor personnel.

Paul Weimer, left, and Robert Sucharski head to the finish line during a 5-kilometer 'turkey trot' here Nov. 15. The runners predicted their finish time prior to the race, and those who completed closest to their time bagged a turkey for the holidays. It was Weimer, Sucharski and Chris Feltis who took home a bird. (U.S. Air Force photos/ Senior Airman Jami Lancette)



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In the limelight

Medals

Meritorious Service

Medal -- Col. William Mason, 434th Operations Group; Lt. Col. Lewis Poore, Jr, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Paul Houser, 434th Operations Support Squadron; Master Sgt. Mark Ashbaugh, 434 Civil Engineer Squadron; Master Sgt. Chris Heston, 434th CES; and Tech. Sgt. William Whitcomb, 434th CES.



Commendation Medal

-- Capt. Carmella Percy, 434th Aerospace Medicine Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Brett Jaynes, 434th Communications Squadron; Tech. Sgt. Leslie Nance, 434th Security Forces Squadron; Tech. Sgt. David Rooke, 434th SFS; Staff Sgt. Chris Bolen, 434th Air Refueling Wing; and Staff Sgt. Gabriel Girard, 434th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Air Force Achievement Medal -- Master Sgt. Cathleen Castleberry, 434th AMDS; Tech. Sgt. Trisha Best, 434th AMDS; and Staff Sgt. Clayton Duncan, 434th AMDS.

Promotions

Master Sergeant -- Anthony Krisher, 434th OSS.

Technical Sergeant -- Mickey Bates, 434th AMXS; John Borland, 434th ARW; Michael Cochran, 434th SFS; Sean Cooper, 434th Maintenance Squadron; Thomas Engelhardt, 434th SFS; Stephan Hudak, 434th CES; Nicholas Obusek, 434th MXS; Timothy Holmgren, 434th SFS; Lance Pryor, 434th AMXS; Joshua Stedman, 434th AMXS; Erica Suchovsky, 434th AMXS; Danielle Taylor, 434th Force Support Squadron; Josh Thompson, 434th AMXS; Jesse Wims, 434th Logistics Readiness Squadron; Jordan Winans, 434th Maintenance Operations Flight; and Anthony Woods, 434th SFS.

Staff Sergeant -- Christena Alotaibi, 434th SFS; Blake Cortelyou, 434th MXS; and Brandon Galus, 434th AMXS.

Senior Airman -- Cameron Harney, 434th AMDS; Mark Houlihan, 434th SFS; Christopher Miller, 72nd ARS; Brittany Ridge, 434th AMDS; and Marshall Vondy, 49th Aerial Port Flight.

Airman First Class -- David Culhane, 434th CES; Jasmine Nicholas, 434th MXS; Brandon Roberts, 434th CES; and Ryan Wright, 434th SFS.

Airman -- Patterson Burks, 434th CES; Alexander Hartman, 434th AMXS; Zacheriah Merkle, 434th CES; Caroline Taylor, 434th LRS; and Jazmine Ware, 434th LRS.



★

NOMINATE YOUR SUPPORTIVE EMPLOYER

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Nominate your supportive employer for the
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