

FMA installation, dinner-dance slated Feb. 11; all invited

The public is invited to join with members of the Federal Managers' Association at a dinner-dance and installation of officers to be held on Friday, Feb. 11, at the Chief Petty Officers' Club.

The evening will begin with a social hour at 6 o'clock that is to be followed with a brief installation of officers at 7 and dinner at 7:30. Music for dancing will then be furnished by "Sunlight," a local instrumental group.

Reservations are requested for the evening's dinner. Menu choices are prime rib of beef at \$9.50 per person, or Icelandic cod at \$5.50 per person. Reservations are due by Feb. 10, and may be made by telephoning Brandi Williams at 3411, ext. 365; Donna Gonder, NWC ext. 3488, or Dennis Rowell, NWC ext. 3466.

Officers to be installed include Dennis Rowell, president; Steve Sanders, first vice president; Wayne Jackson, second vice president; Donna Gonder, secretary; Brandi Williams, treasurer; Ron Metevier, sergeant-at-arms; Les Saxton, historian; Gale Poppen, three-year director; Nils Wagenhals, two-year director; and Beth Janish, one-year director.

Special events on tap

Feb. 11-13 at Magic Mt.

Magic Mountain in Valencia is offering two special events in honor of Lincoln's birthday: Feb. 11 is a double ride special (anyone can ride any ride twice without having to get off and get in line again first), and on Feb. 12 and 13 all video games in the amusement park can be played free.

Special discount coupons for Magic Mountain can be obtained at the Community Center. Anyone over 48 inches tall can be admitted to the amusement park for \$10 with one of the coupons, and anyone less than 48 inches tall will be admitted for \$5.95.



RESERVE READINESS DISCUSSED — Commodore R. G. Gibson (standing in center) discussed the importance of reserve readiness during a recent management assistance visit to China Lake Detachment 0217 of the Seabee Reserves. Commodore Gibson was accompanied by Command Master Chief John Fix (at right), of Reserve Naval Construction Regiment 1 headquartered at Los Alamitos. The local unit meets for drill one weekend a month. — Photo by CM2 Jerry Morrison, USNR-R

Managem't assistance visit paid to local SeaBee Reserve unit

Mission critical is a term to express the readiness of the Reserve Naval Construction Force (RNCF).

Total onboard manpower, equipment and critical Navy Enlisted Codes (NECs) were just a few items covered in a recent two-day management assistance visit by Commodore R. G. (Randy) Gibson and Command Master Chief John Fix, Reserve Naval Construction Regiment One, (RNCR-1) to China Lake Detachment 0217, RNMCB-17.

Commodore Gibson reported on where the RNCF is today and where it's going to be tomorrow. One of the major changes calls

for increasing the number of reserve and active Naval Construction Battalions.

Changes also are forthcoming in the types of weapons, training and equipment assigned to each battalions, all of which are intended to enhance the mobilization readiness of the construction forces.

The key reason for mobilization readiness, Commodore Gibson pointed out, is to be able to support the Fleet (Armed Forces) in a timely manner during a national emergency or war.

The increase in battalion numbers also will increase the number of assigned air detachments, which are essential for the rapid deployment of advance units. This, in turn, will improve upon the capability of the construction forces to secure areas identified as construction sites or disaster zones.

Military leaders have recognized the need for a rapid deployment construction force to assist the Armed Forces with construction of assault airfields and hospitals. The addition of ten battalions will provide the manpower and equipment to fulfill the needs identified by those military leaders, Commodore Gibson stated.

One such need is the rapid building of hospitals. It will take a Seabee battalion a month to erect a 1,000 bed Fleet support hospital covering 58 acres. This process includes leveling and grading the area, trenching and putting in place all needed plumbing, electrical power supply and communication systems, as well as the erection of all buildings, tents and roads.

Building advance assault airfields is another requirement that may be needed by the Armed Forces. This is an area where some Reserve Seabee battalions have experience.

"Building up the strength of the RNCF is the responsibility of everyone and this calls for more recruiting, retention, identifying critical specialties, getting them assigned and recorded. Mission critical means we are ready and prepared to answer the call if needed," Commodore Gibson concluded. — by CM2 Jerry Morrison, USNR-R

Valentine's Day special

at COM is crab dinner

A Valentine's Day special is scheduled at the Commissioned Officers' Mess on Friday, Feb. 11. All members and guests are invited to dine out for the evening.

The buffet specialty will be a crab crack. The seafood is being shipped from Newport, Ore. Dinner will be served starting at 6 p.m., and the price is \$7.50 per person.

Make reservations in advance by calling the COM, 446-2549, before tickets are sold out. The deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 9.

MOVIES

(G) ALL AGES ADMITTED
General Audiences
(PG) ALL AGES ADMITTED
Parental Guidance Suggested
(R) RESTRICTED
Under 17 requires accompanying
Parent or Adult Guardian

FRI., SUN. FEBRUARY 4, 6
"POLTERGEIST"
Starring
Jobeth Williams and Craig T. Nelson
(Horror/Drama, rated PG, 114 min.)

SAT., WED. FEBRUARY 5, 9
"LET THERE BE ROCK"
Starring
AC/DC
(Musical Documentary, rated PG, 98 min.)

MONDAY FEBRUARY 7
"STUNTWOMAN"
Starring
Raquel Welch and Jean Paul Belmondo
(Action/Romance, rated PG, 92 min.)

How time flies . . .

This week's "Remember When . . ." personality is Hale Herold, a management assistant in the Records Management Branch of the Office of Finance and Management.

During the seven years that she has been an NWC employee, she also worked in the TID staff office before moving into an Upward Mobility Program billet in Code 08 with the intent of getting into the administrative officer field.

At the present time, however, she is responsible for the Reports Program and the Files Program in the Management Division of Code 08, and also teaches classes in general filing and the Navy filing system. Her work involves her in record keeping and anything that applies to record management.

Traveling to scenic points of interest in the U.S. is one of the main things that she and her husband, Bill, enjoy doing. Particularly memorable, Hale recalls, was a trip they made to the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park.

He is an avid fisherman on outings that the family takes, but when Bill gets out the fishing pole and reel, Hale prefers settling back with a good book to read.

The Herolds have a married daughter and grandson living in Ridgecrest and a son living at home who attends Cerro Coso Community College.

Be wary about problem of contaminated water

Owners of wells or those who subscribe to small water systems need to be especially careful of contaminated water following storms or heavy rains, according to Leon M. Hebertson, M. D., Kern County Health Officer.

Anyone suspecting that water from a well is contaminated should use bottled water or should boil water for at least 10 minutes before using it.

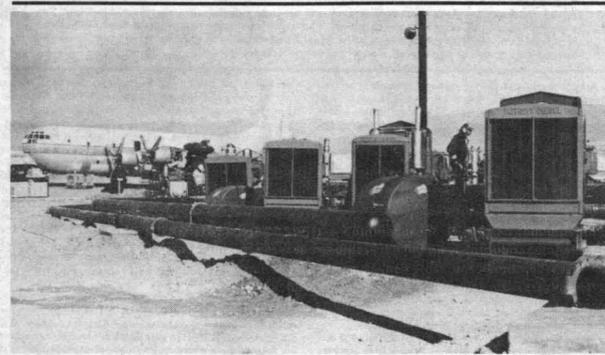
The Environmental Health Division of the Kern County Health Department can provide more information about decontamination of polluted water. Locally the information can be obtained by telephoning the Sanitarian at 375-1306; the Bakersfield office can be reached by calling (805) 861-3631.

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MASSIVE OPERATION — Four diesel pumps are required to pump the 11,000 to 12,000 gallons per minute that the monitor shot at fires during recent tests at the Minideck.

Fire tests are conducted to simulate conditions of blaze on deck of carrier

If the latest test series at the Naval Weapons Center's Minideck facility show the results that Naval Sea Systems Command personnel expect, the danger to aircraft carrier personnel by ordnance that cooks off during carrier deck fires will be significantly reduced.

Firefighters who have to man hoses around burning aircraft on a ship's deck are as apt to lose their lives due as much to overheated ordnance on the aircraft as they are to the actual flames. For example, two

firefighters were killed by a Sparrow missile that cooked off during the fire on the USS Nimitz in May 1981.

Scoping tests held at China Lake in December and January tested the capabilities, limitations, and operational parameters of firefighting monitors — a monitor is a nozzle mounted on a base or platform rather than on a hose carried by people.

The monitors tested were "off the shelf" equipment originally designed for fighting fires on off-shore oil drilling rigs. The December tests used a nozzle capable of delivering 6,000 gallons per minute of either water or aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) or a mixture of the two; the tests just completed used a 10-inch nozzle capable of delivering 11,000 to 12,000 gallons per minute. During the two tests series, flows were varied from 250 gallons per minute to nearly 12,000 gallons per minute.

Depending on the flow (and the type of fire against which the nozzles were tested) monitors were set at varying distances from the flames. At maximum flow, the monitor was 350 feet back from a shielded and an unshielded debris fire on the Minideck. (Monitors are being considered for use on a carrier deck to be able to immediately train firefighting liquids on flaming aircraft as soon as a fire breaks out.)

The Minideck is an ideal facility for such fire tests because it simulates the size of half a carrier deck, and wind on the deck can be simulated by prop wash from a

(Continued on Page 3)

Disaster drill held to practice for emergency

Although no Indian Wells Valley residents felt it, last Wednesday morning a severe earthquake "struck" the local area, causing local disaster operations to be activated.

The earthquake was a simulated one only, not an actual ground-rattler. The purpose of the simulation was to "walk through" a practice disaster in order to plan how to handle a genuine emergency should one arise. An earthquake was chosen as the disaster to simulate because it would be more likely to occur here than a flood or some other type of natural disaster.

Personnel from NWC and from the adjoining community joined in activating the Emergency Operations Center located in the Ridgecrest Police Department spaces in downtown Ridgecrest. A scenario for the quake disaster was written by Bill Cooper, associate division head of the Engineering Prototype Division in the Engineering Department, who is Assistant IWV Emergency/Disaster Coordinator, and Dr. Pierre St.-Amand, consultant to the Technical Director. ("We designed the script to cause maximum consternation and confusion," Dr. St.-Amand said, "so that those who were planning could be exposed to a series of problems worse than any that they will probably ever have to have to face.")

Some examples of the kinds of situations dealt with during the simulated exercise were propane gas fumes spilling from a large punctured propane tank; buildings that collapsed, trapping those within; streets made impassable by fallen power lines and uplift along the earthquake fault that presumably had caused the quake.

Heading the team in the Emergency Operations Center was Bill Davis, head of NWC's Safety and Security Department, who is the IWV Emergency/Disaster Coordinator. Aiding him were Steve Kaupp, Alternate Disaster Preparedness Officer for the Center, and Bob Norman, Ridgecrest Chief of Police, who functioned as their respective disaster representatives.

They were assisted by law enforcement personnel from Ridgecrest, China Lake, Kern County and the California Highway Patrol; by firefighters from NWC and the Kern County Fire Department; by the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service; and by others with expertise that would be essential in any disaster.

The exercise proved so valuable that another "expanded tabletop" disaster exercise will take place in a month.

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EXCITING MOMENT — The mockup of an aircraft at the Minideck blazes furiously as the first of the fire fighting agent pours onto the flames from a monitor set more than 300 feet away. — Photos by PHAN Rebecca Carpenter

Beneficial Suggestion

VX-5 officer gets \$s for practice bomb redesign

How many practice bombs are used annually by the Navy and Air Force isn't known locally, but it's a safe bet that the requirements for a high state of readiness and proficiency on the part of the Armed Forces make this a significantly high total.

One measure of it is the fact that Lt. Tom Frey, of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five (VX-5), recently received a \$1,240

Beneficial Suggestion award for his work on improving the design of the miniature bombs.

The award was based on estimated savings of \$500,000, as well as the saving of two years of procurement time that would have been needed had it been necessary to design and install modified bomb rack brackets on U.S. tactical aircraft.

Presentation of the Beneficial Suggestion award to Lt. Frey, who is the A-7 Systems Officer for VX-5, was made by Capt. P. F. Hollandsworth, Commanding Officer of the squadron.

Lt. Frey entered the picture of what might be done to remedy problems with the Mk. 106 5 lb. practice bomb at a time when attention was being focussed on the development of a new bomb rack bracket, which, as it turned out, satisfied neither the need for improved weapon separation upon release from an aircraft, or the need for more accuracy in flight toward the target.

The VX-5 officer began his efforts by modifying the design of the Mk. 106 and was successful in meeting both improved weapon release and flight accuracy goals.

In a period of six months' time, he was able to redesign the Mk. 106 practice bomb in such a way as to correct the separation problem as it left the aircraft.

He also took this matter one step further by designing another practice bomb (BDU 48) that weighed an additional 5 lb. and in use provides a more accurate representation of the Mk. 82 Snakeye retard ballistic profile.

The design modifications, which were tested by VX-5 before being recommended for use, have the desirable result of providing a more realistic simulation of aircraft bomb drops using the miniature practice bombs.

Lt. Frey, a Navy pilot with eight years of active duty to his credit, was transferred to

(Continued on Page 4)



PRACTICE BOMB REDESIGNED — Congratulations and a check accompanied the Beneficial Suggestion award presented by Capt. P. F. Hollandsworth, Commanding Officer of VX-5, to Tom Frey, the squadron's A-7 Systems Officer, for redesigning the Mk. 106 practice bomb. The modified version is now in operational use by both the Navy and the Air Force. — Photo by PHAN Greg Hogan

Message from SecDef

Pay increase for military now appears doomed in FY 84

Recently, you may have read about overwhelming budget deficits facing the government this year and next, and the President's decision that there will be no annual cost of living pay raise for all military and federal civilian employees in FY 1984.

This is necessary to help reduce the deficit in an effort to restore our nation's economy to long-term real growth. Difficult decisions had to be made to achieve an \$11 billion reduction in the Defense budget without severe adverse impacts on our programs to restore the combat strength of U.S. military forces.

This decision was made very reluctantly by the President, and we all share his disappointment because this Administration came into office committed to making military pay competitive with private sector pay.

The President and I have expressed particular regret that the government-wide pay cap for next year had to apply to the military too.

The overwhelming Soviet threat does not permit us to slow the momentum in our efforts to provide you the necessary modern equipment, training, and sustainability to be a viable, deterrent military force.

In my two years as Secretary of Defense, I have continuously admired the outstanding efforts you are making in the interest of national security.

You can be assured that I will continue to press for appropriate financial and moral recognition of your efforts, and that I will strongly urge that the 1985 budget provide for the full recovery of the pay cap in 1984.

Caspar W. Weinberger Secretary of Defense



NEWLY QUALIFIED — Latest person to qualify as a Navy test parachutist is PR1 Larry D. Crowder of the Aerosystems Department, who is being congratulated by PRCS Bob Hudson, head of the Parachute Test Operations Branch.

The Rocketeer

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News Stories deadline Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. Photographs Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. The Rocketeer receives American Forces Press Service material.

Promotional opportunities

Applications (Standard Form 171) should be put in the drop box at the Reception Desk of the Personnel Dept., 595 Blandy. Unless otherwise specified in an ad, applications for positions listed in this column will be accepted from current permanent NWC employees only.

Announcement No. 35-123, Interdisciplinary Position; Physicist, Electronics Engineer, Mathematician, DP-855/1310/1520-3, PAC No. 823580E, Code 3512 — This position is a readvertisement of Announcement 35-120.

Announcement 24-043, Firefighter, GS-081-5B, PD No. 7924016N, Code 242 — This position is located in the Fire Division of the Safety and Security Department.

Announcement No. C-44-03, Equipment Specialist (Operations Technical Support) DS-1670-2, PAC No. 8364520, Code 64204 — This position is administrative in nature as well as technically oriented to telemetry systems.

Announcement No. 34-002, Television Production

Specialist, DA-1071-1, PAC No. 8334527, Code 3403 — This position is located in the Video Projects Office, Technical Information Department.

Announcement No. 08-006, Budget Analyst, DA-569-2, PAC No. To be assigned, Code 0834 — This position is in the Office of Finance and Management Budget Division, T&E Budget Branch.

Announcement No. 31-089, Interdisciplinary, General Engineer, Electronics Engineer, Computer Scientist, Physicist, Mathematician, Aerospace Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, 801/855/1550/1310/1520/861/830, DP-2, Code 3111 — Position is in the AV-8B Facility Branch, Avionic Facilities Division, Aircraft Weapons Integration Department.

Announcement No. 2522 1995, Director of Religious Education (DRE) (Catholic Education Program), permanent part-time, Chaplain's Office Code 021 — This is not a Civil Service position.

Announcement No. 2522 2005, Director Music Program (Protestant Chapel), permanent part-time Chaplain's Office, Code 021 — This is not a Civil Service position.

Discussion slated about appropriate attire in workplace

"Personnel Issues Surrounding Appropriate Dress for the Workplace" will be the main topic for discussion at a meeting of Federally Employed Women (FEW) to be held from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. next Thursday, Feb. 10.

The meeting, which will be a brownbag luncheon, will be held in Conference Room BC of Michelson Laboratory, and everyone who is interested is invited to attend.

Leading the discussion will be Belle Hervey, the Center's Federal Women's Program Manager, and Mary Kilpatrick, an administrative officer in the Aircraft Weapons Integration Department.

The seminar is not a "dress for success" or fashion show presentation, but will be a question and answer session dealing with appropriate attire for work, how to deal with a supervisor who tells an employee to go home and change clothes, what the supervisor's responsibilities in this area are, how to determine if the attire is really inappropriate or if it is a case of sexual harassment, and similar issues.

DIVINE SERVICES

Table listing religious services: PROTESTANT (Sunday Worship Service 1000, Sunday School 0830), ROMAN CATHOLIC (Sunday Masses 0830 & 1130, Daily Mass except Saturday 1135, Sunday Religious Education Classes 1000), JEWISH (Friday in the East Wing 1930), UNITARIAN (Sunday, Annex 95, as announced 1930).

NWC Varsity cagers place 2nd in regional tourney at San Diego

It was close but no cigar for the NWC Varsity basketball team, which finished in second place last Friday in the finals of the Southern Pacific Regional Basketball Tournament staged at the North Island Naval Air Station in San Diego.

The China Lakers went down scrapping as they lost the title-decider to the host quintet from North Island by a final score of 81-77.

Enroute to the tourney championship clash, the NWC Varsity squad was knocked into the losers' bracket in the very first game — losing 82-71 to the same North Island team that went on to win the tournament.

This set the stage for four straight wins by the China Lake hoopsters. In the order that their games were played, the NWC varsity battered the Naval Amphibious Base team 115 to 65; trounced the Naval Station San Diego 112-93; and then edged both the USS Cape Cod and the NAS Miramar teams by scores of 112-111, and 73-69, respectively.

Highlight for the China Lakers of the basketball tourney in San Diego was the NWC Varsity's 112-111 win over the USS Cape Cod in a triple-overtime contest.

The score was tied 84-84 after the regulation 40 min. of play, and it subsequently was tied 94-94 and 103-103 at the end of the first and second overtime periods.

In the third overtime, the China Lakers broke through for a 1-point victory — thanks in part to a blocked shot at the buzzer by Brian Manns, one of three players from the USS New Jersey team, who were "augmented" to the NWC Varsity for the

Buggy Bath keglers regain hefty lead in Premier League

The Buggy Bath keglers forged into a 14-point lead over the second place ERI Hustlers during Monday night's Premier (scratch) League action at Hall Memorial Lanes.

The league leaders took full advantage of this "position" round matchup to outscore the Hustlers and thereby solidify their long-standing hold on the league lead.

Team honors for the night went to the Hideaway bowlers, who rolled a 1002 high team game and a high team series of 2859.

Premier League bowlers who topped the 600 series mark were Bob Branson (663), Earle Roby (639), Steve Zissos (613), and Barney Brush (602).

Those who had single game scores of more than 220 were Branson (257), Roby (234 and 234), Mark Barkemeyer (229), Charles Goff (223), Sam Schoenhals, Zissos and Hub Zimmerman (222), and Ray Freascher and Bob Hooper (221).

Current standings in the Premier League are:

Table showing Premier League standings: Team, Won, Lost. Buggy Bath (229, 170.5), ERI Hustlers (215.5, 184.5), National Car Rental (215, 185), Killeen & Hutchison CPA (213.5, 186.5), Hideaway (204, 196), Raytheon Sidewinders (195, 205), Turner's Real Estate (193, 207), Elks Lodge (191.5, 208.5), Sports of All Sorts (188.5, 211.5), The Place (154.5, 245.5).

Advanced lifesaving class slated; registration open

For those who are qualified to attend, registration is open in an advanced lifesaving class that will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturdays at the NWC indoor swimming pool.

The class, which is to be taught by Peggy Burke, will begin on Feb. 12 and continue each Saturday thereafter through May 7.

Students must have completed the ninth grade and be 15 years of age or over. In addition, they must be able to swim 500 yds.

There is a registration fee of \$20 per student, and those who complete the class will be issued an advanced lifesaving card. Enrollment is being handled at the NWC gym office on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

tourney competition in San Diego.

As was the case in all of the games played at North Island Naval Station by the China Lakers, Skip McIntosh was the local team's top scorer with 33 points, while Manns, a center, contributed 23 points and grabbed 15 rebounds.

Other leading scorers for the NWC Varsity in the game against the USS Cape Cod quintet were Millard Bell and Basil Robinson, who tallied 15 and 12 points, respectively.

McIntosh, who earned a berth for the past two years on the all-Navy basketball team after participating in a training camp to select the top cagers in the seagoing service, was the NWC Varsity's top scorer in all six of the Southern Pacific Regional Basketball Tournament games.

In the two games that the China Lakers lost to NAS North Island, McIntosh was held to 22 and 24 points. On top of the 33 points he tallied in the USS Cape Cod game, he ripped the net for 30, 33, and 35 in games against NAS Miramar, the Naval Station San Diego, and the Naval Amphibious Base, respectively.

In addition to those already mentioned, other NWC Varsity players who hit the double-figure scoring column for the China Lakers in one or more games during the tourney at San Diego were Jeffrey Jenkins, Stanley Patterson and Kent Daniels.

Girls unbeaten . . .

(Continued from Page 6) The final 1 1/2 min. of the third period, when Charlene Kessler hit two field goals that enabled the Burros to breathe a bit easier with a 30-24 lead as they started the fourth quarter.

The visitors from Palmdale rallied one more time, as they cut the BHS lead to 30-28 during the first minute of play in the final period, but the Burroettes, led by two field goals by Kris Kinkennon and four by Andrea Veatch, got their offense rolling and pulled away to win by a 9-point margin of 48-39.

Kessler of Burroughs was the game's top scorer with 17 points on 6 field goals and 5 free throws. Other BHS players in the double-figure scoring column were Kinkennon with 11, and Veatch and Cecilia Scanlan, who tallied 10 points each.

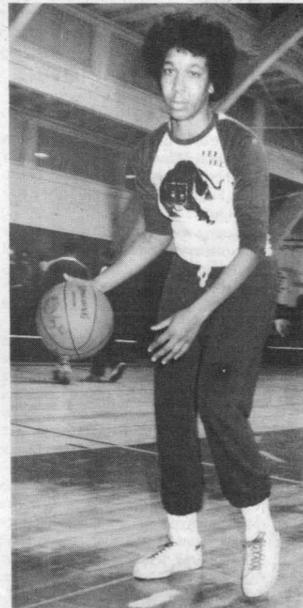
Juniel led the Palmdale team in scoring with 16 points and Rae Spears added 10 more for the visitors.



IT'S A WAR — The action gets fast and furious under the hoop, as can be seen in this photo taken during the varsity girls' basketball game between Burroughs and Palmdale. Two Palmdale players (Tracy Preter and Rae Spears) are double-teaming Kris Kinkennon of Burroughs, who has the ball.



HM3 Patti Spencer



YN3 Felicia Ellison

2 enlisted women will attend Navy basketball training camp

Two Navy enlisted women from China Lake have been chosen to attend the Navy women's basketball training camp that will be held from Feb. 10 through March 19 at the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va.

The training is in preparation for selection of an all-Navy women's basketball team that will vie in an inter-service basketball championship tournament (also at Little Creek) March 20 to 26.

The local nominees for the all-Navy team are YN3 Felicia (Blackburn) Ellison and HM3 Patti Spencer.

This is the second year in a row for YN3 Ellison to be singled out for this distinction. A member of VX-5 who is now assigned to the Master-at-Arms office, she has been at China Lake for three years, following her transfer from Yeoman A School at Meridian, Miss.

Before enlisting in the Navy, YN3 Ellison was a member of the girls' basketball team at Pascel High School in Kansas City, Mo.

The 6 ft., 1 in. tall woman athlete hopes to play at one of the forward positions on the all-Navy women's basketball team.

HM3 Spencer is a hospital corpsman assigned to the X-ray department at the branch medical clinic. She was transferred to China Lake six months ago from the branch medical clinic at the Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Va.

She played basketball for a Navy women's team at Oceana and also while attending high school in York, Neb.

The women's interservice basketball tournament at Little Creek, Va., will be followed by the selection of an all-star women's military team to compete in the national AAU championships that will be held April 11 to 16 in Beaumont, Tex.

BHS boys win . . .

(Continued from Page 6) Palmdale cashed in on as many charity tosses in the final period of play as the BHS cagers did in the entire contest. To their 11 points at the free throw line, the Burros added 26 field goals in 54 attempts (48 percent) for a total of 63 points that kept them in the game.

According to Coach Larry Bird, the key was not so much the number of missed free throws, as the fact that the Burros couldn't get the ball to drop through the hoop when the freebies were badly needed early in the fourth quarter. This put the Ridgecrest team in the position of having to commit fouls in the closing moments of the game, and greased the skids for the defeat suffered by the home team.

Danny Means led the Burros in the scoring department with 24 points on 11 field goals and 2 free throws. In addition, John Fry tallied 14 and Bobby Bruce had 10.

Top scorer for the Palmdale Falcons was Rob Beauchamp, whose total also was 24 points. He had 9 field goals and 6 charity tosses. Dave Craft with 14, and Mike Jennings, who had 10, were the other Falcons who made it into double-figure scoring column.

Ocean fishing slows down

The rough weather off the California coast limited the number of anglers who headed out to sea for one-day fishing trips from the Central California port of Morro Bay last week.

Those who dipped their lines averaged a catch of 13 fish each, mainly assorted varieties of bass.

Surf fishermen are reporting that they are doing well, however, and the storms have encouraged anglers who try for steelhead.



High-scoring tilts feature play in Intramural League

Two high-scoring games highlighted last week's action in the Open Division of the NWC/Ridgecrest Intramural Basketball League at the Center gym.

Emhiser took it on the chin in both games, losing to JB's Pizza by a score of 78-57, and being outscored, 95-74, by Sierra Auto Recycling.

Darryl Moline paced the victory by JB's Pizza over Emhiser by scoring a total of 33 points in the 30-min. contest. Tom Chapman was the leading scorer for Emhiser with 13.

High point man for Sierra Auto Recycling in its lopsided win over Emhiser was William Blankenship, who tallied 20, while Tim Higgins pumped in 16 for Emhiser.

The Rookies continue to be easy prey for other teams entered in the Recreation Division of the Intramural Basketball League as they lost two more games last week.

The Brews Brothers battered the Rookies 71-32, and Butler Vending defeated the Rookies 47-37.

Brant Tungent's 18 points were tops for the Brews Brothers in their win over the Rookies. Mike Hamblin hit 12 in a losing effort for the Rookies.

Butler Vending's 47-37 win over the Rookies was highlighted by the 21-point scoring effort of Larry Haack, while Paul Crosswait tallied 13 for the losers in this contest.

Results of other Recreation Division games played last week were: Uno Two 56, Poochies 50; Pearson/Loewen's 62, Uno Two 58; Poochies 46, PRC 39; Floorburners 55, NWC Bombers 41; and PRC 59, Butler Vending 49.

Joe Esparza tallied 30 points to lead Uno Two to its 6-point (56-50) win over the Poochies. Top scorer for the Poochies was Terry Mangrum, who hit 14.

In what was a close game from start to finish, Pearson/Loewen's led 30-27 at the half and defeated Uno Two by a final score of 62-58. The game's leading scorers were Larry Edman, with 24 for the winners, and C. D. Waugh, who tallied 20 for Uno Two.

Despite 16 points by Pat Noland, his team (PRC) came out on the short end of 46-39 final score against the Poochies, who were led by Terry Mangrum's 10 points.

The Floorburners, who led 26-23 at the half, went on to win by 14 points (55-41) over the NWC Bombers. Jerry Polly of the Floorburners was tops in the scoring department with 19. Jim French pumped in 14 for the Bombers.

PRC led 31-25 at the half and kept the pressure on to defeat Butler Vending 59-49. Leading scorers for these two teams were Tim Hudson of PRC, who hit 22, and Larry Haack, of Butler Vending, with 21.

Results announced of racquetball tournament

Two dozen racquetball players took part last weekend in a doubles racquetball tournament sponsored by the NWC Recreation Services Department.

The open division, in which four teams were entered, was won by the duo of Steve Finnegan-Kirk Hoffner, who outscored the second place team of Verl Lillywhite-Ron Derr in the title-deciding match 21-18, 21-16.

Eight doubles teams vied in the intermediate/novice division of the tourney.

The father and son team of Claude and Mike Brown was undefeated with four straight wins in the intermediate/novice division. The Browns knocked off the duo of Keith Becker-Bill Stuart 21-19, 21-15, to win the title.

BHS boys' team back on track after 2 losses

The Burros' basketball express — rolling along during the first part of the Golden League season with four straight victories — was derailed by back-to-back defeats, the latest of which was suffered last Friday night at Palmdale, where the BHS varsity boys' team came out on the short end of a 70-63 final score.

The Ridgecrest team was able to regroup, however, and resumed its drive toward a fifth straight league crown by a 68 to 61 homecourt win on Tuesday night over the Quartz Hill Rebels.

Considering that the Burros had clobbered the Quartz Hill team 98 to 46 on the Rebels' homecourt during their first meeting this season between the two teams, the Quartz Hill squad showed a remarkable improvement in a few weeks' time.

The Rebels had a hustling, hot-shooting offense going for them, but the Burros had stellar guard Danny Means, and that was enough to make the difference in game's final outcome.

In a dynamite first quarter, the Rebels started off strong and were then able to

capitalize on the fact that the Burros got into team foul trouble midway through the first period.

In the opening 8 min. of action, Quartz Hill tallied 10 of its 22 points on free throws, but Means rang the bell for 16 of the BHS 26 points in the first quarter as he hit 6 field goals and 4 charity tosses.

Means' hot streak tapered off some in the second period of play, when the BHS scoring dropped off to 11 points, while the Rebels were able to catch up and go ahead 39-37 at the mid-game break.

The game was still very much a toss-up during the first 4½ min. of the third quarter with the Rebels clinging to a 45-43 lead. At that juncture, however, the Burros went on a 10-point scoring surge that enabled them to pull ahead 53-45 as the final period of play began.

Means tallied 6 of the 10 BHS points in the closing moments of the third quarter, including a long shot from the corner and another from center court outside the key. He also fed the ball off to John Reynolds on an assist that added 2 more points to the

BHS total.

BHS total.

With an 8-point lead, the Burros were able to control the pace of the game in the fourth quarter — scoring 15 points compared to 16 for the Rebels.

Eleven of the 15 points tallied during the final period of play were chalked up at the free throw line by Burroughs, compared to 6 charity tosses that were hit by the Quartz Hill team. The Rebels picked on the wrong man to foul when they tangled with Means, as the latter scored 8 points at the free throw line in the fourth quarter.

When the final buzzer sounded, the Burros had wrapped up a hard-fought 68-61 over the Quartz Hill Rebels, and tonight can look forward to another rugged task when they take on the Antelope Valley High School cagers from Lancaster.

The tip-off time is 8 p.m. for the varsity contest, which will be preceded by freshman and junior varsity tilts at 4:45 and 6:15 p.m., respectively.

Means was the high point man in the Burroughs vs. Quartz Hill game with 37 on 12 field goals and 13 out of 15 free throws. John Fry added 10 more points to the BHS total. The Rebels were led by Dave Pastor, whose 31 points were tallied on 11 field goals and 9 free throws. Also in the double-figure scoring column for the Quartz Hill team was Randy Moore, who chalked up 11.

One of the key factors in the Burros' loss to Palmdale, other than the fact that they were outplayed by the Falcons, was that the Burros suffered a strange malaise when it came to hitting free throws during the fourth quarter.

The BHS cagers muffed their first seven attempts from the charity stripe during the final 8 min. of play and ended up cashing in on just 2 of 10 free throws in the fourth quarter, compared to Palmdale's 11 for 16 accuracy at the free throw line.

Despite this disparity, the Ridgecrest team was able to stage a comeback, after trailing 53-45 at the end of three periods of play, and was down by just 3 points (61-64) with 36 sec. remaining before the final buzzer.

The Burros also had the ball at this juncture and had a golden opportunity for a field goal that would have reduced the Falcons' lead to 1 point, but failed to cash in and Palmdale regained control of the ball. Forced to foul in order to have any kind of a chance to get the ball back, the Burros gave their opponents additional opportunities to rack up points at the free throw line, which they did as they pulled away to win by a 7-point margin of 70-63.

In the game played earlier in the season between these two teams, the Burros were the winners at home by a score of 65-56.

Last Friday night's game at Palmdale for the Burroughs High School varsity boys' basketball was tied 35-35 at the half, after the Falcons got off to a 20-17 first quarter lead.

Except for the fourth quarter, the Burros shot reasonably well at the free throw line as they had 11 of 13 for the game, however

(Continued on Page 7)



POISED FOR SHOT — Charlene Kessler, leading scorer for the BHS girls' varsity basketball team, ignores the attempts by Palmdale players Michelle Jennings (No. 21) and Jackie Weddle to rattle her as she gets off a shot at the hoop during last Friday night's game at the Burroughs High gym. The Burroettes racked up their sixth straight league victory as they defeated the Falcons 48-39. — Photo by PHAN Rebecca Carpenter

Burros girls unbeaten in league with 7 wins

Burroughs High School's varsity girls' basketball team continued its rampage toward another Golden League championship by rolling up two more victories last week.

The Burroettes, who are undefeated in league play and have lost just one game during the 1982-83 season, defeated their counterparts from Palmdale 48-39 in a home game last Friday night, and were 59 to 25 winners over Quartz Hill on Tuesday night at Quartz Hill.

Despite a sluggish first quarter, the BHS girls put their Quartz Hill opponents away early as they piled up a 22-6 halftime lead, after getting off to a 6-2 advantage in the first 8 min. of play.

A total of 18 turnovers in the first half by the Burroettes was something that Coach Jack Clark worked at correcting during the mid-game break, and the fired up BHS squad came out with a pressing defense and good scoring to go with it as they rambled to a 42-14 lead after three periods of play.

Tammy Anderson sparked the BHS girls' third quarter rampage. She tallied 10 of her game-high total of 18 points in the third period as she hit from the corner and also scored on fast break plays.

Keeping the pressure on during the final period of play, the varsity girls' team from Burroughs outscored Quartz Hill 17-11 to win, going away, by a score of 59-25.

Kris Kinkennon was the only BHS player, in addition to Anderson to get into the double-figure scoring column, and she tallied 10, while top scorer for the Quartz Hill Rebels was Lisa Geddes, a forward, who had 8 points.

The BHS girls face a big hurdle tonight, when they will be on the road at Antelope Valley High School in Lancaster. The 'lopes were the toughest foes for the BHS girls so far this league season as they led most of the way before losing 52-49 to the Burroughs team here on Jan. 13.

In last Friday night's home tilt against Palmdale, a team that defeated the BHS

(Continued on Page 7)

The Skipper sez



All China Lakers, including military personnel, civilian employees, and their dependents are invited to submit questions to this column. Such queries must be in good taste and pertain to matters of interest to a large segment of the China Lake community. Answers to these questions are directly from Capt. Lahr. Please call NWC ext. 2727 with your question and state whether you are a military member, civilian employee or dependent. No other identification is necessary. Since only three or four questions can be answered in the Rocketeer each week, anyone who would like to ensure getting an answer to a question may leave name and address for a direct contact, but this is not required otherwise. There is no intent that this column be used to subvert normal, established chain-of-command channels.

QUESTION

Retired dependent — I am concerned about the work being done on the streets. It seems to me the streets could have been done one section at a time instead of disrupting the whole base all at one time and all of the main streets.

You mentioned in the Jan. 7 Rocketeer that "we are almost done now and I'm sure that we'll all agree that the end product justifies the inconvenience." It doesn't seem to be completed yet, and I'm just wondering if there is a time limit, and if the project is going to be completed on time. There are still a lot of holes and ridges in the streets and they don't appear to be almost complete to me.

ANSWER

Well, as it turns out, I unwittingly told a falsehood on 7 Jan., and you are quite correct we are a long way from being done. Furthermore the end product in totality is in no way satisfactory at this point. That's the major problem!

The contractor has completed his curb and gutter work, but the overlay of asphalt on East Inyokern Road just doesn't measure up. Therefore, all overlay work was stopped until the contractor can get squared away, which is one reason work has stagnated on Blandly Avenue.

The other reason is that we have had a run of miserable weather that makes road work difficult. All pavement patching, seal coating and restriping is now scheduled for completion by March 21, 1983. Here's hoping I don't get another call on that date with the same question.

QUESTION

Military Dependent — Why can't the Child Care Center take children over 8 years old, and what priorities do the military have over civilians on enrolling their children into the Child Care program?

ANSWER

The space where the Children's Center After School Program is housed is not conducive to providing a quality program for children who are older than 8 years of age. Children in the age range from 9 to 14 need an after school program of sports, physical activities, gross motor games, sewing or cooking classes which require more space than we have in the small 12-by-15-ft. classrooms.

Also, the Child Care Center is a tenant in Buildings 462 and 463, which are used for the All Faith Chapel's Sunday School program, and are even limited by movement of furniture, i.e. tables, chairs, pianos, which makes providing the kind of program suitable for an older age group difficult, if not impossible. A Youth Center is required for this type of programming.

Priority for participating at the Children's Center is as follows: (a.) military, (b.) retired military, and (c.) DoD civilian.

When the renovation project at Building 461 is completed in early spring, the Child Care Center will be able to accommodate the 39 children on our waiting list, none of whom are presently military.

QUESTION

Civilian employee — Is there any way that the Center could give out a 35-year NWC pin? Only a few of us now reach that length of service on this base, and since the Demonstration Project is going the way it is, I don't think very many of us are going to make it to 40 years of service here.

Can the Center give out a 35-year pin? I thank you.

ANSWER

The regulations which govern incentive awards allow activities to establish their own programs for recognizing length-of-service. When the Naval Weapons Center length-of-service emblem program began years ago, it was patterned after the Federal program which, at the time, gave emblems (pins or tie tacs) for 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 years of service.

Several years ago the Federal program was revised and Federal emblems are now given for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service. At the time that the Federal program was revised, NWC decided not to simply duplicate the Federal program and left the local program as it was.

NWC continues to recognize 5, 10, 20, 30, and 40 years of service. Employees who reach the 35-year mark are presented with a Federal length-of-service emblem. Some departments at NWC have elected to accompany the Federal emblem with an NWC plaque.

I don't understand your comment since the Demonstration Project has not changed anything relative to length-of-service.

Fire tests conducted here . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

permanently emplaced overage transport aircraft located adjacent to it. Fires here can be instrumented by thermocouples so that the heat of the flames can be measured before and during the firefighting efforts.

For these tests, a dummy Sidewinder missile, heavily instrumented, was covered with debris that was torched (if and allowed to burn for 45 seconds before the monitor was trained on the flames to extinguish the blaze. Other tests in the series included unshielded fires and running fuel fires in which 50 gallons per minute of JP5 fuel and aviation gasoline were fueling the flames.

Test director for the scoping tests was Edwin (Jake) Jablonski of the Naval Research Laboratory. He was joined by Robert Darwin of the Naval Material Command, who is Coordinator and Director of Fire Protection Programs for the Navy.

China Lake Fire Division personnel under the direction of Fire Chief L. O. O'Laughlin

and Deputy Fire Chief D. R. Johnson carried out the fire fighting efforts. The expertise gained by China Lake's firefighters in carrying out numerous tests at the Minideck throughout the decade that it has been operational is a major factor in successful firefighting research and development.

Observing the tests were members of the CV Firefighting Flag Level Steering Committee that included Rear Admiral Richard M. Dunleavy, Director of CV Programs Division and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare); RADM. James L. Webber, committee chairman and Vice Commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command; RADM. George W. Davis; RADM. Frederick J. Johnson; RADM. Ted C. Steele; RADM. Ralph G. Bird; RADM. J. K. Nunneley; Commodore Myron C. Ricketts; RADM. L. C. Chambers; and Capt. Fred Richmond.

Further tests of equipment are planned.



INTERESTED IN SOFTWARE FOR F/A-18 — Brigadier General Luis Azqueta, of the Spanish Air Force, was a recent visitor to the Naval Weapons Center. The purpose of his visit was to discuss possible Navy support for software engineering and system integration of any F/A-18 Hornet aircraft that are purchased by Spain. As he sits in the cockpit of the Navy's newest fighter aircraft, Brigadier General Azqueta gets a few pointers on the aircraft's operation from Cdr. Jack Connell, deputy program manager for the Weapons System Support Activity in the NWC Aircraft Weapons Integration Department. The distinguished visitor was accompanied by three Spanish Air Force Majors and by an escort, Major Tom Speelman, from the U.S. Air Force.

Musical program Sunday opens Black Progress Week activities

Black Progress Week, which will be observed Feb. 6-11 at the Naval Weapons Center, will begin with a musical program on Sunday afternoon at 4 at the Union Baptist Church, 312 Mono St., Ridgecrest, and will culminate with a banquet and dance on Friday, Feb. 11, with activities planned for each day.

A film festival will highlight the day on Monday and Tuesday. Two films, "I Have a Dream," the story of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and "Overcoming Obstacles," a film made at NWC with emphasis on employee goals and career development, will be shown at Michelson Laboratory Conference Room 1000D on Monday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and in Warehouse 17 at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

The two films also are available to be shown at department meetings or division or branch meetings throughout the week.

The program, which is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., will feature a talk by Dr. Mitchell entitled "Going to the Mountaintop: Black Progress and Black Leadership from Allen to King."

Members of the Black Original Social Society will present excerpts from their production "Echoes of Ebony." Dancing to the music of Glass Band, a group from Bakersfield, will conclude the evening's activities.

Cost of the evening, including dinner and dance, is \$7.50 per person.

New procedures for military pay increases announced

The Navy Accounting and Finance Center recently announced new pay procedures for pay increases as the result of promotion or advancement. These changes are part of the revised pay policy announced last July.

Military personnel who are advanced as a result of Navywide examinations or board selections will have their increased pay automatically reflected in advance by the leave and earnings statement (LES) received the month of their promotion. This will provide a forecast of pay for the new pay grade that the individual will receive after the promotion is effective.

Disbursing officers will be permitted to continue to override leave and earnings statements for locally approved E-2 to E-3 advancements through March 15, 1983. This extra time will permit local procedures to be developed so that pay documentation is in place and increased pay is authorized on the date of the advancement.

Dr. Mitchell through her varied background in teaching, behavioral research, and sociolinguistics.

On Friday morning anyone who has not seen the films will have an opportunity to do so at 10 o'clock in Conference Room 1000D in Michelson Laboratory.

The highlight of the week will be Friday evening's banquet and dance. Anyone who has not yet purchased a ticket or made a reservation still has the opportunity to do so by getting in touch with members of the Black Interest Group committee or by telephoning the EEO Office at NWC ext. 2438 or 2738 before close of business on Wednesday.

The evening's festivities will begin with a social hour from 5:30 to 6:30, followed by a ham and turkey buffet dinner at 6:30 at the Enlisted Mess.

The program, which is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., will feature a talk by Dr. Mitchell entitled "Going to the Mountaintop: Black Progress and Black Leadership from Allen to King."

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WELL DONE — Capt. P. F. Hollandsworth, Commanding Officer of VX-5, pins a Navy Achievement Medal onto the dungaree shirt of AD1 Glen D. Craver, who was cited for his outstanding performance of duty while a member of Patrol Squadron 8.

Navy Achievement Medal given to AD1 Glen D. Craver of VX-5

AD1 Glen D. Craver, petty officer in charge of the tool room in the VX-5 Material Division, was the recent recipient of a Navy Achievement Medal.

The medal was presented by Capt. P. F. Hollandsworth, Commanding Officer of VX-5, acting on behalf of Rear Admiral E. A. Wilkinson, Jr. Commander Patrol Wings, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

AD1 Craver was commended for the superior performance of his duties while serving as supervisor of the Power Plants Branch with Patrol Squadron 8 (VP-8) from June 17, 1979, to June 6, 1982.

VP-8, homebased at Brunswick, Me., was involved in two deployments to Rota, Spain, during this three-year period, and AD-1 Craver was responsible for mechanical care of the squadron's P-3 Orion patrol-reconnaissance aircraft. His secondary duties were supervision of mid-shift

Members sought by Federal Women's Program committee

The Federal Women's Program committee is actively seeking new members. Anyone from the Center's workforce will be considered — male or female, military or civilian, professional or administrative, clerical or wage grade.

The FWP committee fosters the effectiveness of the Federal Women's Program by providing guidelines for implementation of the local program, by supporting the FWP manager in her or his interface with Center management, and by attempting to improve the organizational climate with respect to employment opportunities for women, through special programs, training curricula or in other ways.

Approximately six to eight hours per month of time is required of each committee member during that person's four year term of office. Personal qualifications required of applicants include maturity, objectivity, and a commitment to helping better the employment climate of women.

Those who wish to be considered for membership are asked to contact Belle Hervey, FWP manager, by calling NWC ext. 2738 or 3129, or Jo-Ellen Ming, who heads the FWP committee, at NWC ext. 2880

VX-5 officer...

(Continued from Page 1)

VX-5 from flying duty with Attack Squadron 97 based at the Lemoore Naval Air Station.

His background for the successful bomb redesign work he has been involved in includes a degree in naval engineering that was received from the U.S. Naval Academy when he was graduated in 1975.

maintenance control.

AD1 Craver, who is a veteran of 17 years of service in the Navy, was cited for "his detailed design and aggressive implementation of a highly effective on-the-job training program that was reflected in the unparalleled professional performance of the Power Plants Branch.

"His willingness to work long, arduous hours under often stressful conditions was indicative of his total dedication and desire for excellence," it also was noted in the citation that accompanied the Navy Achievement Medal.

AD1 Craver was transferred in July 1982 from VP-8 to VX-5.

Federal employees now covered by Medicare hospital insurance

A law that provides federal government employees with Medicare hospital insurance (Part A) coverage went into effect on Jan. 1, 1983, and that's when the payroll deductions to help pay for it also started.

Medicare costs employees 1.3 percent of their annual salaries up to a maximum amount, estimated at \$35,100 in 1983. For those earning \$35,100 or more this year, biweekly deductions will be taken out of their paycheck until the maximum annual Medicare tax of \$456.30 has been paid.

The 1.3 percent employee tax represents half the cost of Medicare hospital insurance. The Federal Government, acting as employer, matches this amount from general revenues.

Biweekly deductions for Medicare will range from approximately \$4 to \$29, depending on salary.

In return for their contributions, Federal employees will have hospital insurance protection at age 65, or earlier if they become disabled (and meet the Social Security definition of disability) or if they suffer permanent kidney failure. When an employee becomes entitled to Medicare, his or her spouse also is eligible at age 65.

For those working for the Federal Government in January 1983, years of Federal service before 1983 will count toward Medicare eligibility. As a result, employees age 65 or over who have Federal service before and after Jan. 1 will be eligible for Medicare immediately. However, employees already retired (or who retire before January) will not be covered unless they qualify through outside employment.

When people become eligible for hospital insurance, they can rely on it to help pay for inpatient hospital care, inpatient care in a skilled nursing facility and home health care. For example, it helps pay for kidney

Mobile blood bank schedules visit to Ridgcrest Tuesday

Another of the regularly scheduled visits to Ridgcrest by the Houchin Community Blood Bank's mobile unit from Bakersfield will take place on Tuesday from 1 to 6 p.m.

Pints of blood contributed to the Indian Wells Valley's Advanced Fund will be collected at the Ridgcrest Elks Lodge, 200 E. Church St.

According to Kay Thoms, chairman, individuals may designate the person to whom their blood is to be given, or contribute a pint of blood to the IWV Blood Bank's Advanced Fund for whoever may need it.

During five visits made to Ridgcrest last year by the blood bank's mobile unit, local residents donated 695 pints of blood.

Those who give blood in a particular patient's name must follow up and contact Mrs. Thoms by calling 375-4323, since she is the only person in this part of Kern County who can arrange for the release of blood from the Houchin Blood Bank.

On Tuesday, prospective blood donors will be checked by a nurse at the blood bank. It has been determined that, in most cases, it is permissible to consume a small amount of

CofC has passes for admission to see Space Shuttle landing

Passes good for admission to the area from which the landing of the space shuttle Challenger can be viewed can now be obtained at the Ridgcrest Chamber of Commerce office, 301-A S. China Lake Blvd. The CofC office has 500 of the passes that will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

The maiden launch of the Challenger, which had been planned on Feb. 1, has been delayed because of a potentially dangerous hydrogen leak. The launch is not expected to take place now until mid-March at the earliest.

Federal employees now covered by Medicare hospital insurance

transplant surgery. Additionally, there is the option to enroll in the medical insurance part of Medicare, Part B. Voluntary medical insurance covers doctors' services, outpatient hospital services, outpatient physical therapy and many other services.

Most of the services and supplies needed by people with permanent kidney failure are covered by medical insurance. For example, medical insurance covers outpatient maintenance dialysis, self-dialysis training and home dialysis. The monthly premium for medical insurance is currently \$12.20.

Like other workers, Federal employees will be able to qualify for Medicare on the basis of disability if they meet the Social Security medical definition of disability for 24 months and go through an additional 5-month waiting period. However, employees will not be able to start this qualifying period until Jan. 1, 1983. And disabilities occurring prior to 1983 will count toward Medicare eligibility only if employees were still in pay status on Jan. 1.

For this reason, the earliest that disabled Federal employees generally would be able to get Medicare under this provision would be June 1985. Federal employment will not entitle them to monthly Social Security cash-benefits.

Medicare benefits can begin almost immediately for people with permanent kidney failure. Federal employees — and their spouses or children — who need a kidney transplant or dialysis can be covered by hospital insurance and medical insurance without meeting the 24-month requirement.

More information can be found in the pamphlet, "Medicare for Federal Employees," that is scheduled for release to all employees.

food before donating blood. This will reduce the chance of feeling faint at the time that blood is being drawn.

Donors are still asked, however, to refrain from consuming fatty foods or alcohol for a minimum of three hours before giving blood. Those who are taking any kind of medication should let the nurse know what they are taking and the dosage.

Clerical help during the mobile blood bank visit will be furnished by the Ridgcrest Emblem Club.

Remember when...



An evening out on the town in Washington, D.C., was being enjoyed by this week's "Remember When..." personality of the week when the above photo was taken more than 25 years ago.

At her side at the time was her husband-to-be, who was then a senior enrolled in engineering courses prior to his graduation from the University of Maryland.

The newlyweds left the nation's capital, which was the birthplace of the new Mrs. _____, and she accompanied her husband to Fort Wayne, Ind., where he landed a job as an engineer with International Harvester.

At the same time, this week's "Remember When..." personality went to work as a service representative for the General Telephone Co. in Fort Wayne. Her husband's next job move took them to Zanesville, Ohio, where he worked nearly 3 years for RCA while she kept busy as a housewife and mother.

The family saga had one more move — this one to New Hampshire — before they headed for the desert area of China Lake, Calif., in January 1967, and they have remained here ever since.

Her husband had been recruited for a job here in the Engineering Department by Burrell Hays, while the latter was attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1966 on a Sloan Fellowship.

Nine years later (in 1976), this week's "Remember When..." personality joined the work force at China Lake as a secretary in the Technical Information Department's Print Shop. In 1980, however, she transferred to a branch of the Office of Finance and Management, and has remained with Code 08 ever since.

If you haven't recognized this week's "Remember When..." column personality, turn to page 8.

Editor's note: Reader's contributions of old photos for the "Remember When..." column can be made by delivering them to the Public Affairs Office, Code 003, attention Beth Holtermans, phone NWC ext. 3511. Please include a telephone number at work so that information to accompany the photo can be obtained.



MEDAL PRESENTED — During a recent morning quarters ceremony in Hangar 3 at Armitage Airfield, Capt. Lahr presented a Meritorious Service Medal to LCdr. Delbert Oakes, Jr., who now heads the Ordnance Division in the NWC Aircraft Department. LCdr. Oakes was honored for his performance of duty as officer-in-charge of Mobile Missile Maintenance Unit One at Cubi Point in the Philippines.

Unusually cold weather brings soaring utility bills for Center

Despite the current appearance of a world oil glut, utility bills for the Navy are soaring as much as they are for homeowners, the Center's Energy Program Office says.

That's why the requirement to keep work spaces heated to no more than 65 degrees in winter is still in effect, with sweaters and long johns substituting for space heaters.

Since the weather has proven unusually uncooperative to energy saving efforts — this winter has brought unusually low temperatures — it is doubly important to remember to switch off any unnecessary lights, to ensure that thermostats are set to no more than 65 degrees (and that they are set lower during the night and weekend period when offices are empty), and to turn

off any electrical equipment that is not in use.

Equally, for those who live in Center housing, it is vital that all energy possible be saved there as well. For instance, porch lights should be left off at night unless someone is expected and should not be left burning all night, radios and television sets should be turned off when a room is empty (and so should the light), and hoses shouldn't be left running because the water pumps use electricity.

Keeping energy use within the mandated guidelines is going to require the cooperation of all China Lakers, says the Energy Program Office. Energy use must be cut down because of the pressure of increased utility costs.

Free immunization clinic slated in Ridgcrest Monday

Children between one and two years of age probably need an immunization right now.

That's the view of Dr. Leon M. Herberston, Kern County Health Officer, who reports that another opportunity will be provided for infants, children and young adults (from 2 months through 17 years of age) who are not yet fully protected against common childhood diseases to obtain shots free of charge at a county Health Department immunization clinic.

The next such public clinic to be held in the local area has been scheduled on Monday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 3 p.m. in the Health Department Office located at 250 W. Ridgcrest Blvd., Ridgcrest.

Immunizations to protect against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, polio, measles and mumps will be administered.

No appointments are necessary, but parents or legal guardians must accompany their children to the clinic and sign consent forms.



TEAMWORK — Breaking the ground for a 16,000-square-foot aircraft modification facility at the Inyokern airport are (l.-r.) Capt. Lahr; James Kunkle from the Kunkle-Andrews Corporation, which holds the contract for constructing the facility; Paul Colter, field representative for Kern County Supervisor Gene Tackett; and Donald McInnis, president of the Northrop Services Corp. The facility will be used by Northrop Services, Inc., as the site at which F-86 aircraft will be overhauled and modified with drone avionics. Both ground and flight testing will take place at Inyokern prior to delivery of the modified F-86s to the Navy. — Photo by PHAN Rebecca Carpenter

LCdr. Delbert Oakes recipient of Meritorious Service Medal

LCdr. Delbert Oakes, Jr., a recent arrival at the Naval Weapons Center from Cubi Point in the Republic of the Philippines, is the recipient of Meritorious Service Medal that was presented to him on Jan. 28 by Capt. Lahr.

The medal and citation that accompanied it were awarded in recognition of LCdr. Oakes' outstanding performance of duty while serving for two years (November 1980 to November 1982) as officer-in-charge of Mobile Missile Maintenance Unit One at Cubi Point.

The presentation by the Skipper was made to LCdr. Oakes on behalf of Admiral S. R. Foley, Jr., Commander in Chief, U.S.

Free help available for persons with simple tax problems

Senior citizens, college age adults, low income renters, and others with simple tax situations can receive free help with filling out the tax forms each Tuesday between 9 and 11 a.m. from now through April 12 at the Ridgcrest Senior Citizens Center, 125 S. Warner St., Ridgcrest.

Volunteers who have completed an intensive training program under the direction of the Internal Revenue Service and the California Franchise Tax Board will be on hand to assist.

Persons paying rent in California on March 1, 1982, are entitled to a Renter's Credit, whether the rent is space rent for mobile homes or trailers, apartments or houses.

Tax-paying renters will have this credit deducted from the amount they pay in state income tax, but those whose income is tax free (such as persons on Social Security, recipients of veterans benefits, or SSI payments) need to file State Form 540A to receive the refund.

Further information on the Volunteer Tax Assistance program may be obtained by contacting the Cerro Coso Information and Referral Office during the mornings by calling 375-8322.

Home visits to shut-ins or individual appointments for those who are unable to meet the regularly scheduled hours may also be arranged by calling the same number.

Pacific Fleet. LCdr. Oakes was commended for his outstanding effort as officer-in-charge of Mobile Missile Maintenance Unit One, a group that performs intermediate level maintenance on most of the air-launched missiles carried by Navy ships and aircraft in the Western Pacific.

Under his command, it was noted in the citation, this unit showed "vastly improved capabilities, increased efficiency, and was more responsive to the missile support needs of Seventh Fleet units." In addition, considerable savings of scarce funds were realized.

Due to the personal efforts of LCdr. Oakes in the cross-training of assigned personnel, and the planning and implementing of upgraded maintenance capabilities, additional forward area missile support that was urgently needed was provided. This increased missile test and repair turnaround time support improved in-theater missile inventories, it was stated in the citation that was received by LCdr. Oakes, who heads the Ordnance Division in the NWC Aircraft Department.

LCdr. Oakes is a veteran of 28 years of service in the Navy. He came up through the ranks and was an aviation ordnance chief prior to being commissioned as a Warrant Officer One on June 15, 1968. He was commissioned a Limited Duty Officer (Aviation) on Oct. 2, 1972.

Get tickets now for annual CPO Ball scheduled Feb. 19

One of the major social events of the year at the Chief Petty Officers' Club — the annual CPO Ball — is just two weeks away.

This festive affair is scheduled on the evening of Saturday, Feb. 19, and tickets, priced at \$10 per person, can be purchased from the CPO Club manager between now and Feb. 18.

All active duty, reserve and retired Navy chiefs (E7s, E8s, and E9s) and their guests are invited to attend. The evening's activities will begin with a social hour at 6 o'clock, followed by a prime rib of beef dinner that will be served at 7.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Capt. Lahr, and the evening will be rounded out by listening and dancing to the music of a Navy band from San Diego.

The uniform for the occasion will be service dress blues and correspondingly appropriate dress for all others. Groups wishing to reserve a table for the CPO Ball, or anyone seeking additional information on tickets, should contact the CPO Club office by calling NWC ext. 3633.

Police reports...

A grand theft involving the loss of \$2,500 worth of tools was reported on Tuesday to China Lake police.

Victim of the theft was Kirtland Enterprises, a contractor employed to handle the demolition and removal of the old Barracks 880 building that was located near the corner of Hussey and E. Inyokern Roads.

The tools reportedly were stolen sometime Monday night from a pickup truck that had been left parked at the work site.

TAPE CASSETTE DEVICE STOLEN
Theft of a tape cassette equalizer from an unlocked vehicle was reported last week to China Lake police.

The incident occurred in the parking lot outside the Naval Weapons Center gym sometime between 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27. Estimated value of the stolen item is \$50.

NINE DUI ARRESTS MADE
During the month of January, China Lake police made nine arrests of motorists who were charged with driving under the influence (DUI) on the Naval Weapons Center.