



**READY** — Stan Ricker and his all volunteer play at the Change of Command Ceremony held last "military/civilian team" orchestra await their cue to Friday morning.

## Civilian/Military team band plays

When no Navy band proved to be available for the Change of Command ceremony last Friday when Capt. K.A. Dickerson retired, Stan Ricker volunteered to put together a band to perform the traditional music for this time-honored ceremony.

Ricker, an electronic equipment specialist working in the Management Data Processing Division of Central Staff, put out a call in the Rocketeer for volunteers who "can read music" and had 46 responses to his request.

Among those appearing were active duty military, Civil Servants, dependents of both and even one former Navy officer now living in Ridgecrest. The group was able to rehearse only two evenings and had one morning dress rehearsal on the lawn of the Headquarters Building, yet, at the ceremony itself, their performance was first rate.

Long-time China Lakers agreed that the "military/civilian team" band was outstanding.

Capt. Dickerson expressed his appreciation for their "can-do spirit," noting that this exemplified China Lake personnel's attitude to meeting any challenge. In a ceremony in his office, he presented Ricker with a Commander's Award for Mission Support and certificates of appreciation were presented to all band members at a reception following the retirement ceremony Friday.

Ricker, on receiving his award, said that "I'm too proud for me to say many sensible words."

## Movies

FRIDAY	CLOSED	JULY 4
SATURDAY, SUNDAY	"THE BEST OF TIMES"	JULY 5, 6
	Starring Robin Williams and Kurt Russell (Comedy, rated PG-13, 104 min.)	
MONDAY	"JAGGED EDGE"	JULY 7
	Starring Glenn Close and Jeff Bridges (Drama, rated R, 109 min.)	
TUESDAY	MATINEE "PETE'S DRAGON"	JULY 8
	Starring Helen Reddy and Mickey Rooney (Musical Comedy, rated G, 103 min.)	
WEDNESDAY	"THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL"	July 9
	Starring Geraldine Page and John Heard (Drama, rated PG, 108 min.)	
THURSDAY	MATINEE "E.T., THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL"	JULY 10
	Starring Peter Coyote and Dee Wallace (Fantasy Adventure, rated PG, 115 min.)	
FRIDAY	"THE HITCHER"	JULY 11
	Starring Rutger Hauer and C. Thomas Howell (Drama, rated R, 97 min.)	

Starting Times: Matinee / 2 pm Evening / 7 pm

ALL AGES ADMITTED  
General Audiences  
PG: ALL AGES ADMITTED  
Parental Guidance Suggested  
R: RESTRICTED  
Under 17 Requires Accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian

## Help sought

Although the Christmas season seems a long way in the future, planning for the annual presentation of Handel's oratorio "The Messiah" is already underway.

Anyone who is willing to assist in administrative duties such as mailing letters, obtaining sponsors, devising programs, helping with seating arrangements and any of the other myriad of details needed for this major production is asked to get in touch with Bill Werback, 375-5204, promptly.

Singers will be asked to attend the first rehearsal on September 21. Solo auditions will start on October 5. The actual performances at the All Faith Chapel will be at 4 p.m. on December 7, and at 7 p.m. on December 8.

## Officers elected

New officers of the NWC Hebrew Congregation include Rose Varga, president; June Wasserman, vice president; Eileen Livingston, secretary; Art Spiegel, treasurer; Dr. Robert Schwartz, past president; and Carey Schwartz and Robin Nissan, members at large.

Heading the Religious School are Mrs. Wasserman as principal and instructor, and instructors Peggy Busch and Shirley Reinhart.

Services are conducted every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the east wing of the All Faith Chapel and are open to the public. Further information can be obtained by telephoning 446-3939.

**NWC HOTLINE**  
Integrity, efficiency program  
Call: NWC ext. 3636 (24 hrs.)  
or call the Inspector General at:  
(800)522-3451 (toll free)  
288 6743 (Autovon)  
(202)433-6743 (commercial)

★ U.S. Government Printing Office: 1986-40072

FROM \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

TO \_\_\_\_\_ STAMP \_\_\_\_\_

## Celebrations set

Fourth of July celebrations from Independence to Bridgeport will dominate recreation activities in the eastern Sierra region this weekend.

One of the biggest bashes will be in the small town of Independence, about 100 miles north of China Lake on Highway 395. The Independence Day Parade in Independence is traditionally the community's big event of the year. A giant picnic in Dehey Park at the north edge of town and a fireworks show at the Independence Airport will follow.

At Mammoth Lakes, the weekend activities include a Blue Grass Festival, National Carriage and Wagon Exhibition and a fireworks display at Crowley Lake. Also, tomorrow marks the opening of the Crowley Lake water skiing season.

Further afield, Columbia, in the western Sierra Nevada foothills, will host a gala Fourth with a parade and the annual firemen's muster including water fights by hand-driven pumps.

## Fun(d) Run tomorrow 8 a.m.



	Max	Min	Peak Gust
Fri.	106	69	21 knots
Sat.	104	71	23 knots
Sun.	103	70	24 knots
Mon.	101	60	20 knots
Tues.	105	68	21 knots
Wed.	109	68	19 knots

All measurements are made at Armitage Airfield.



Everyone in the Indian Wells Valley who enjoys an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration is invited to the Desert Empire Fairgrounds tomorrow.

Festivities will begin with a flag-raising at 1 p.m. and the afternoon will be filled with lots of games and activities for the whole family. Barbecues will be available, but everyone will have to bring his or her own meat. And, of course, bring a full picnic chest to provide munchies for the family.

The day's activities will finish with that most traditional of all celebrations: a major fireworks display at 9 p.m.

Have dinner at the Chief Petty Officers' Mess on July 4. A special dinner of Mini-Chateaubriand with mushroom sauce and onion rings will be available in addition to the regular menu. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 9 p.m. and the Bar Lounge will be open from 4 to 10 p.m.

Due to the holiday weekend, the Commissioned Officers' Mess will be closed July 4, 5 and 6.

Enjoy the Disco contest being held during the month of July at the Enlisted Mess. Every Wednesday, vote for the best DJ. At the end of the month, votes will be tallied and the winner will play at the Enlisted Mess on July 30. This Wednesday, Digital Display will be the featured DJ, playing from 8 until 11:30 p.m. Admission is only \$1 for authorized patrons and guests.

Mars will be the topic of an illustrated talk at Monday's meeting of the China Lake Astronomical Society at the Ridgecrest Library. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and the public is invited.

Jim McMahon will show slides of the best earth-based pictures taken of the planet, as well as images taken by Mariner and Viking spacecraft. On July 16, Mars will be closer to earth than at any time since 1971 and can be seen as the bright reddish object low in the southeastern sky late in the evening during this month.

Because of summer temperatures that can run more than 120 degrees (with ground temperatures of more than 200 degrees), a number of roads in Death Valley National Monument have closed until next October. Roads that are closed include Titus Canyon, West Side Road, Natural Bridge and Sand Dunes Road. All other roads will remain open.

The visitor center, open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. year round, offers a pamphlet of hot weather hints and other monument information.

## Capt. Dickerson ends outstanding Naval career

"Fair winds and a following sea" was the wish that Vice Admiral J.B. Wilkenson, head of the Naval Air Systems Command, expressed for Capt. K.A. Dickerson as the former Skipper of NWC retired following his Change of Command ceremony.

VAdm. Wilkenson, a long-time friend of Capt. Dickerson, commended him for the dynamic and enviable record that he had built here during the three years that he served as Commander, NWC. He especially commended Capt. Dickerson's support of the EEO program, the Civil Service Reform Act Demonstration Program and his vigorous efforts to modernize and upgrade facilities.

As VAdm. Wilkenson made the second award of the Legion of Merit to Capt. Dickerson, he noted that the Secretary of the Navy on behalf of the President had awarded this because Capt. Dickerson's dynamic leadership, professionalism and sound judgment had permitted innovation and productivity to thrive at NWC.

The Commander of NAVAIR added that he knows NAVAIR has always gotten top value for the dollars sent to China Lake and that he applauds the strong contribution made to the nation and the Navy by the Center.

Capt. Dickerson told the audience of dignitaries, family, friends and military and

civilian personnel of the Center that, "This magnificent place is in a class by itself, and you — the men and women, military and civilian — are in a class by yourself."

His remarks concluded with "To each and every one of you, I extend the highest praise any Naval officer can... a traditional Navy 'Well Done.' Well done for where you have been, well done for where you are today, well done for where I know you will take this great place in the years to come."

Capt. J.W. Patterson, who assumed Command of the Center, said that he is looking forward to the next couple of months. "There can't be a better job in the Navy," he added, regarding his taking over as Skipper of NWC.



**FAREWELL REMARKS** — Capt. K.A. Dickerson, former NWC Commander, expresses his feelings about China Lake and its people as VAdm. J.B. Wilkenson, Commander of the Naval Air Systems Command, pays close attention during last Friday's ceremony.

## Center's T&E Director still likes challenge

### Russell praises NWC experiences

While most young scientists and engineers who are employed at NWC are recruited while they are in college, Jack Russell, the Center's Test and Evaluation Director, planned to work for what was then the Naval Ordnance Test Station by the time he was a sophomore in college in Idaho.

He says he was working as a survey crew member during the summer between his first and second years of college in 1953 when he met an ex-Navy pilot who told him the only place for someone with his interests in aircraft and missiles was NOTS. The ex-pilot also advised him to major in physics so that he'd have a strong technical background. This advice, Russell adds, he took, getting his degree from the University of Idaho with a double major in physics and mathematics.

"I planned to spend two years at NOTS to get good experience, figuring that then I'd go to work for private industry," Russell says, "and I'm still here. I've not been disappointed, either. I can't think of a day that I've not been totally challenged and that there hasn't been more work to be done than I could possibly do."

He adds he feels really fortunate he was one of the handful of engineers and technicians that worked on the early Shrike missile. ("In fact, I flew in the plane that fired the first Shrike in 1959," he says.) He feels that design and buildup of those first missiles was invaluable experience.

His Shrike experience included making trips to Vietnam to help squadrons with the early use of the missile. "What makes China Lake so good," Russell notes, "is that not only can you see the results of your work on the ranges here, but also you can follow it out to the fleet. Talking with and working with the guy who's risking his life on using a weapon you've helped design adds a whole new dimension to how you see your work."

Later in his career he was selected by then Technical Director Dr. Walter LaBerge to head a committee to review what the Center should be doing in electronic warfare. The resulting projects were centered in Code 35 (the old Aviation Ordnance Department) along with the anti-irradiation missiles and the newly formed electronic warfare threat simulation (EWTES) range. This increased emphasis led to a change of name for that department. Russell was appointed the first head of what was called the "Electronic Warfare Department," and spent five years in that job, one year as acting head and four years as the appointed head.

This experience, he believes, provided

some excellent test and evaluation background for his current job because of his close involvement with EWTES in the department.

Russell says he was engaged in looking at his career and trying to decide just what he wanted to do with his future when the Seventh Fleet requested a Naval Science Assistance Program advisor with an electronic warfare background. He applied, was accepted and prepared for this assignment by visiting each of the laboratories to determine their areas of expertise so he'd know whom to call to meet needs that might arise in the fleet. He then headed off to Japan for a year — "the best year that I've spent on the job," he notes. "Working directly with the fleet is very fulfilling, especially when you can see the effects of your efforts on fleet readiness. That makes for an interesting and exciting time."

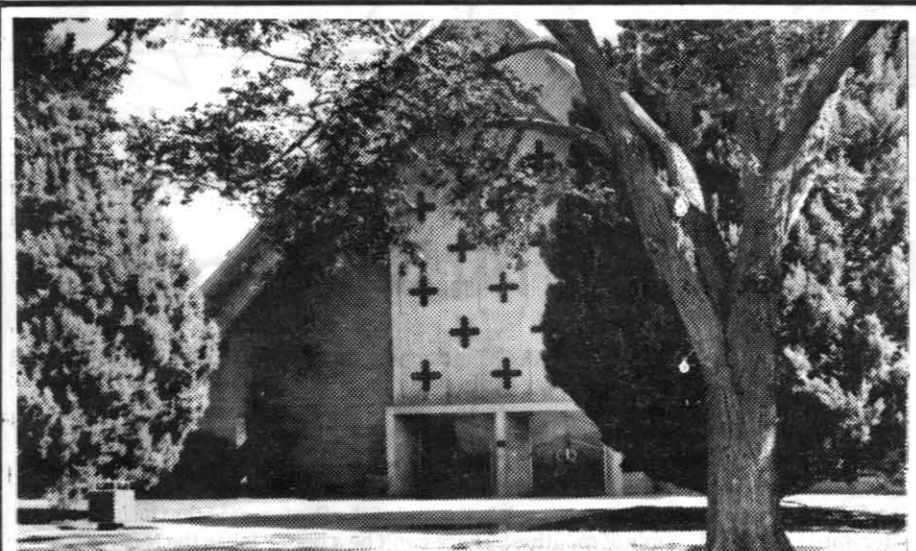
He adds he felt at home and welcome with the various fleet units and rode a

(Continued on Page 3)



**FINAL DEPARTURE** — Capt. K.A. Dickerson and his wife, Cecile, are "piped over the side" at the conclusion of the traditional retirement ceremony held following the Change of Command.





## Divine Services

**PROTESTANT**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE** 10:30 a.m.  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL (Annexes 1, 2, 4, and the East Wing)** 9 a.m.  
**BIBLE STUDY (East Wing)**

Wednesday 11:30 a.m. Sept. through June  
 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Officer's Christian Fellowship  
 Christian Military Fellowship  
**ROMAN CATHOLIC**

9:00 a.m.  
 8:15-8:45 a.m.  
 11:35 a.m.  
 11:35 a.m.  
 4:30-5:00 p.m.  
 10:30 a.m.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES (Sunday) Sept. to May**  
**JEWISH**  
 7:30 p.m.  
 9 a.m.  
 1 p.m.

Chaplain J. Milton Collins, Capt., CHC, USN  
 Chaplain A. J. Smith, Cdr., CHC, USN  
 Hearing impaired equipment available. Nursery available.  
 Phone NWC ext. 3506, 2773

## Promotional opportunities

Applicants for positions listed in this column will be accepted from current, permanent NWC employees and from eligible employees of attached activities who are permanently assigned to NWC unless otherwise specified in the ad. Alternative recruitment sources may also be used in filling these positions; vacancies are subject to restrictions imposed by the DOD Priority Placement Program. Applicants must meet all legal and regulatory requirements including minimum qualification requirements by the closing date. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of experience, education, training, performance ratings and awards as indicated in the SF-171 along with any tests, medical examinations, performance evaluations, supplemental qualification statements and/or interview that may be necessary. Career ladder promotions are subject to satisfactory performance and cannot be guaranteed. **APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** Candidates must submit a current SF-171, along with a supplemental qualifications statement (if required) and should submit a copy of their latest Annual Performance Evaluation if relevant to the vacancy. If a supplemental statement is not required, candidates are encouraged to submit additional information which addresses the specific Knowledge/Skills/Abilities (KSAs) cited in the ad. Write the position title/series/level and announcement number on the SF-171 and all attachments. Be sure that your forms are complete and accurate since you cannot be rated on missing data nor will be contacted for additional information. Be certain the SF-171 and supplement are dated and have original signatures in ink.

All applications will be retained in the vacancy announcement file; they will not be returned or filed in official personnel folders. Applications and supplements are accepted at the Reception Desk, Room 100, Personnel Department, 506 Blandly. Ads close at 4:30 p.m. Friday one week after the announcement unless otherwise specified. Applications received after 4:30 p.m. on the closing date will not be considered. The Naval Weapons Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer; selections are made without discrimination for any nonmerit reason.

No. 00-011, Legal Clerk/Technician, GS-986-4/5/6, Code 022 — This position is located in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. The position provides accurate information and timely assistance to personnel regarding legal affairs; evaluating and formulating various courses of action. Knowledge: of administrative and legal recourses available to clients; of regulations. Skills: in compiling and reporting data; in preparation of legal documents independently except in complex or unusual situations requiring attorney expertise. Abilities: to initiate correspondence as required; and to communicate orally and in writing. Promotion potential to GS-7, but not guaranteed.

No. 08-035, Payroll Supervisor, GS-544-6/7, Code 0853 — Incumbent serves to supervise 7-10 payroll clerks. Duties include: assigning and scheduling work; establishing procedures; training new employees; providing guidance and assistance; spot checking the work of subordinates; maintaining basic master control accounts for leave and payroll; preparing special reports as required; serving as the control point and liaison for all payroll accounting data to and from the data processing group and handling special accounts. Knowledge: of computerized payroll system; of federal payroll and leave regulations; of leave and labor accounting. Ability: to supervise. Willingness to support EEO goals and objectives. Promotion potential to GS-7.

No. 08-036, Management Assistant, GS-344-4/5, Code 0821 — Incumbent provides support to the branch and serves as a contact point for its programs. Duties include: preparing requisition for printing of forms and directives; designing simple forms; revising forms; editing simple directives; maintaining action logs and indexes for the forms and directives programs; and providing reference service and liaison for the branch programs; maintains office files; prepares timecards; processes mail; types as required; and provides clerical support. Knowledge: of Navy and NWC directives, correspondence, forms, files and reports. Ability: to plan and organize work; to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; to work under pressure; to interface effectively with all levels of personnel; to work independently with little supervision; to type. Promotion potential to GS-5.

No. 09-097, Equal Employment Manager (Deputy EEO Officer), DAJ/DP-368-3, Code 0901 — Incumbent is deputy to the EEO Officer (Base Commander) and is head, EEO Division, Personnel Department. Responsible for EEO/AA program management, including supervision of five full time staff and 50 collateral duty employees. Administers the complaint process. Elements: Ability: to communicate orally; to communicate in writing; to manage programs and processes; to identify and solve EEO-related work force and employment problems/complaints; to supervise. Knowledge: of Federal Equal

Employment Opportunity and Personnel Management regulations, practices and precedents. Supplemental Education and may be picked up in Room 100, Personnel Department. Promotion potential to DP-3. Previous applicants need not reapply.

No. 22-8623, Snack Bar Operator, PS-2091-2, 94.33 per hour, Temporary Not to Exceed 8-15-86, Code 2227 — Incumbent ensures all areas are clean, maintains adequate stock for the next shift, vendors popcorn, soda, candy and beer, prepares hamburgers, hotdogs, french fries, etc. Abilities: Must be able to handle money, make change, deal with the public and fill out inventory reports accurately. Must be able to handle objects up to 40 lbs. and must be at least 21 years old. This is not a Civil Service position.

No. 22-8624, Offset Press Operator, NA-4417-4/7, Regular Part-Time, \$5.74-94.83 per hour, Code 2202 — Incumbent will prepare a single color or multicolor offset press for production runs, maintains quantity/quality control on production runs and will be responsible for ordering and stocking supplies necessary for operation of press equipment. Qualification Requirements: Preparation, adjustments, operation and maintenance of single color or multicolor offset press equipment. Inexperienced operator will be hired at NA-6 level with promotion potential to NA-7. Experienced operator will be hired at NA-7 level. This is not a Civil Service position.

No. 24-015, Electronics Technician, DT-856-1, Code 2431 — This position is located in the Inspection and Technical Services Section of the Physical Security Branch, Safety and Security Department. Incumbent performs maintenance, testing, trouble-shooting and installation of Intrusion Detection Systems. Responsible for supporting specific projects/programs and assisting senior personnel. Also responsible for accurate reporting of work results and performing specific detailed tasks as assigned. Skills: in using standard and specialized test equipment such as voltmeters, ohmmeters, test board, test lamp and transistor testers. Knowledge: of electronics, electricity and solid state equipment. Promotion potential to DT-2.

No. 25-019, Contract Specialist, DP-1102-3, Code 252 — Incumbent is responsible for negotiating, awarding and administering complex contracts based upon job relevant criteria. The incumbent is responsible for acting independently and creatively in solving problems that may arise during the contract award and administration process. The incumbent is expected to be creative, forward-thinking and service oriented in the exercising of all

responsibilities. The incumbent facilitates close liaison with the codes supported by the Section. Job Relevant Criteria: Ability to deal effectively with personnel at many levels; ability to communicate orally; ability to communicate in writing; ability to work as a member of a team. Knowledge of DOD and NWC contracting policies and procedures; knowledge of current business practices including business law and accounting. Status eligibles may apply.

No. 25-026, Procurement Clerk, GS-1106-4/5, Code 2323 — Incumbent is responsible for providing clerical support in the form of typing (utilizing Xerox 800 word processors), filing, compiling data, maintaining logs and performing follow-up on action item suspense dates for a wide variety of contractual actions. Incumbent maintains instructions and DAR Clause Books; reviews correspondence and suspense action items and receives visitors and telephone calls. Uses a wide variety of guidelines including DOD and Navy instructions, Contract Division Operating Procedures on Defense Acquisitions Regulations and Clause Books. Elements: knowledge of correspondence regulations and contractual terminology; ability to meet with people effectively and prioritize work under heavy workload conditions. Promotion potential to GS-7, however not guaranteed.

No. 25-040, Clerk-Typist, GS-322-3/4, Code 2636 — Incumbent will provide clerical support to the Civil/Structural Branch. Elements: Knowledge of grammar, punctuation, spelling, proper format; of filing systems and files management. Ability to receive and refer phone calls and visitors; receive and distribute incoming mail; to prepare timecards, personnel forms, travel orders and itineraries. Promotion potential to GS-4.

No. 36-170, Engineering Data Management Specialist, DS-301-2, Code 3651 — This position is located in the Data Acquisition and Control Branch, Technical Data Division, Engineering Department. The incumbent will assist senior specialist to plan, program, implement and monitor the acquisition of the technical documentation required throughout the life cycle of a weapon system. Elements: Knowledge: of program life cycles; of governing standards, directives and specifications. Ability: to prepare data packages for new requirements; to communicate orally; to communicate in writing; to do the work of the position without more than normal supervision. Promotion potential to DP-3, however promotion is not guaranteed.

## Reassignment opportunities

This column is used to fill positions through reassignment only. For this reason, the Reassignment Opportunity Announcements are separate from the Promotion Opportunities column in the Rocketeer. Applications will be accepted until the date stated in the announcement. Employees whose work history has not been brought up to date are encouraged to file an SF-171 or 72. All applicants must meet minimum qualification requirements established by the Office of Personnel Management. Information concerning the recruitment and placement program and the evaluation methods used in these reassignment opportunities may be obtained from Personnel Management Advisors (Code 096 or 097). Applications should be filed with the person whose name is listed in the announcement. The Naval Weapons Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

No. 31-151, Interdisciplinary, Electronics/General/Mechanical/Aerospace Engineer/Physicist/Mathematician/Computer Scientist, DP-855/801/830/861/1310/1520/1550-3, Code 3103 — Weapons Integration Engineer for the AV-8B Weapon System Support Activity. Establish integration and avionics requirement for the integration of weapons such as Maverick, HARM, Sidewind, etc., into the AV-8B Weapon System. Also requires coordinating and managing NWC Matrix organizational activities, liaison with NWC upper management, NAVAIRSYSCOM, other Navy laboratories and prime contractors and project planning. Contact Steve Underwood, NWC ext. 5785 for additional information. Submit SF-171 to Code 3103.

No. 31-152, Interdisciplinary, Electronics/General/Mechanical/Aerospace Engineer/Physicist/Mathematician/Computer Scientist, DP-855/801/830/861/1310/1520/1550-3, Code 3103 — Test and Evaluation Project Engineer for the AV-8B Weapon System Support Activity. Establish test requirement and plans for the AV-8B development and weapons integration projects. Also requires coordinating and managing NWC matrix organizational activities, liaison with NWC upper management, NAVAIRSYSCOM, other Navy laboratories and prime contractors as well as project planning. Contact Steve Underwood, NWC ext. 5785 for additional information. Submit SF-171 to Code 3103.

## Secretarial opportunities

This column is used to announce secretarial positions for which the duties and job relevant criteria are generally similar. Secretaries serve as the principal clerical and administrative support in the designated organization by coordinating and carrying out such activities. Secretaries perform numerous tasks which may be dissimilar. Positions at lower grades consist primarily of clerical and procedural duties and, as positions increase in grade, administrative functions become predominant. At the higher levels, secretaries apply a considerable knowledge of the organization, its objectives and lines of communication. Depending on grade level, typical secretarial duties are implied by the following job relevant criteria indicated below.

Applicants will be rated against 4 or more of the following job relevant criteria: (1) ability to perform receptionist and telephone duties; (2) ability to review, track, screen and distribute incoming mail; (3) ability to review outgoing correspondence and/or prepare non-technical reports; (4) ability to compose correspondence and/or prepare non-technical reports; (5) knowledge of filing systems and files management; (6) ability to meet the administrative needs of the office; (7) ability to train clerical personnel and organize workload of clerical staff processes; (8) ability to plan and coordinate travel arrangements; (9) ability to maintain and coordinate supervisor's calendar and to arrange conferences.

Unless otherwise indicated, applicants for Branch Secretary will be rated on elements 1/2/3/5/8; Division Secretary applicants will be rated on elements 1/2/3/4/7/8/9; Program Office Secretary applicants will be rated on elements 1/2/3/4/5/8/9; and Department Secretary applicants will be rated on elements 4/7/8/9. A SUPPLEMENTAL FORM IS REQUIRED AND MAY BE OBTAINED IN ROOM 100 OF THE PERSONNEL BUILDING.

No. 22-213, Secretary (Typing), GS-318-5/6, Code 326 — Provides secretarial support to the Conventional Weapons Division. Knowledge and working skill on Xerox 840 desirable. Promotion potential to GS-6.

No. 25-037, Secretary (Typing), GS-318-4/5, Code 3546 — Incumbent provides secretarial support to the Threat Simulator Systems Branch. Knowledge of and working skill on a Xerox 800 is desirable. Promotion potential to GS-5.

No. 25-032, Secretary (Typing), GS-318-5/6, Code 3506 — Provides support to the HARM Program Office. Promotion potential to GS-6.

No. 28-032, Secretary (Typing), GS-318-5/6, Code 355 — Provides secretarial support to the RF Division. Promotion potential to GS-6.

## Recent Separations

01A2	Arp, David L.	Mathematician
0808	Morrison, Richard W.	Accountant
0833	Naumu, Nadine H.	Clerk
24213	Whiteley, Michael J.	Freightier
2522	Trent, Castella E.	Purchasing Agent Supry.
26417	Lafontaine, Joseph F.	Pneumatic Tools Operat.
26446	Smith, Larry J.	Electrician
3242	Peppers, Garry J.	Mechanical Engr.
3268	Bryant, William R.	Mechanical Engr.
3442	Lindstrom, Linda E.	Clerk-Typist
35511	Wagon, Donald A.	Operations Research An.
36534	McDonald, Sean C.	Engrg. Tech.
36824	O'Donnell, Donald J.	Qual. Assurance Spec.
3894	Backman, Marvin E.	Research Physicist
62221	Rush, Marvin E.	Electronics Tech.
62222	West, Robert W.	Machinist
6414	Winningham, William W.	Engrg. Tech.

# Hueber, Webster capture tennis tourney title

Peter Hueber and Danny Webster were China Lake Tennis Club Doubles Tournament winners in the men's A division last week. They defeated Rex Ribultan and Dr. Lon Graves, the second place duo, for top honors in the annual tourney. Brett Halpin and Mick Rindt were third.

Ribultan and Suzanne Haney in second place. Peter Hueber and Karen Archuleta were third place finishers.

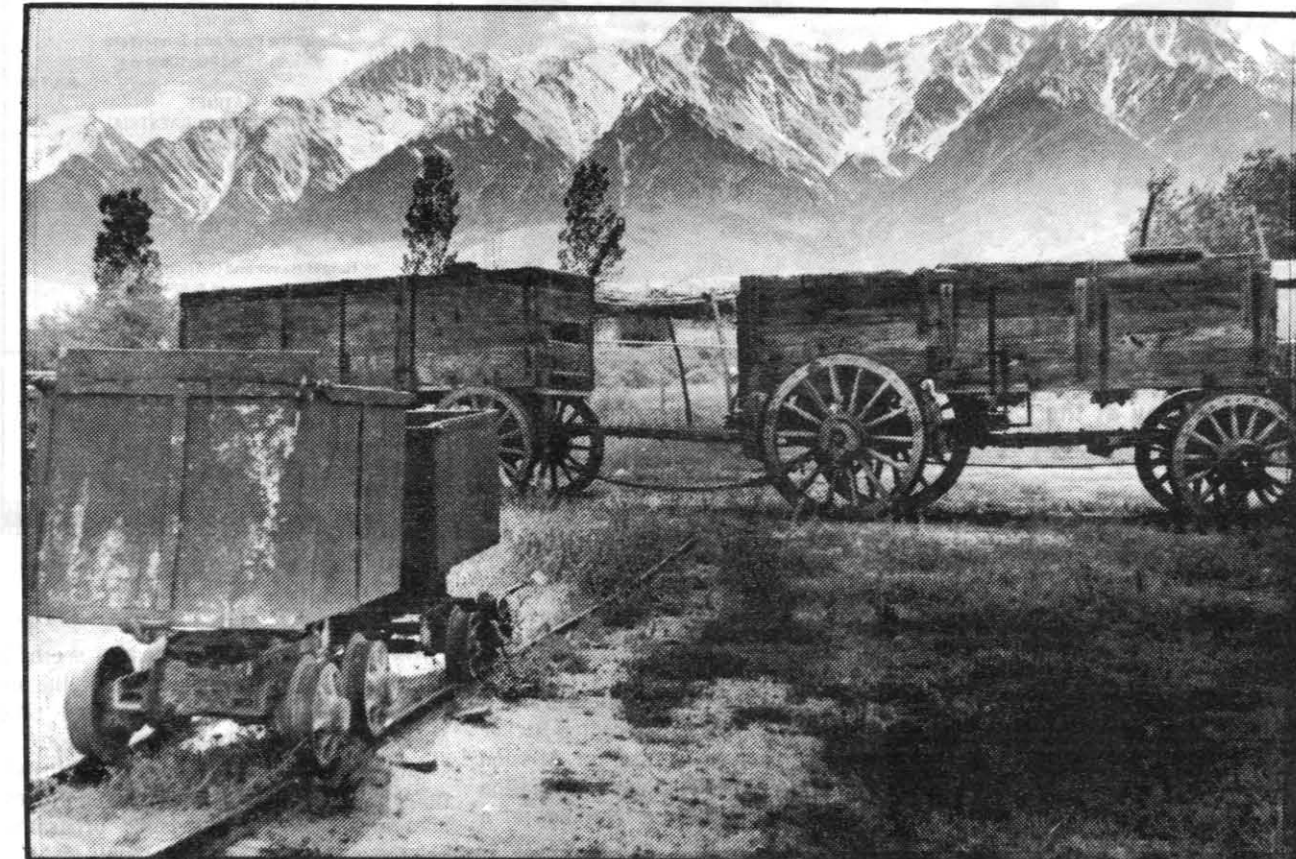
Taking the lead in women's B division action was the team of Mary Alvarado and Shana Packer while Terry Rowell and Cheryl Coughlin were second and Gloria Turner and Thelma Kailiwal were in the number three slot.

Al Alvarado and Dale Lint won the men's B division title followed by Bob Forrester and George Hayes. The consolation round went to Tom and Tim Wee.

In the mixed B division doubles, Dale Lint and Mary Alvarado were the winners with Tim Higgins and Laurie Scharff in second place. Consolation round honors went to Craig Rindt and Cheryl Coughlin.

Hot August Night Fun Tournament on Saturday, August 2 and the Club Junior Tourney on August 23-24. Also coming up is the singles tourney on September 6-7 and the annual Haugen Memorial Tourney on October 18-19.

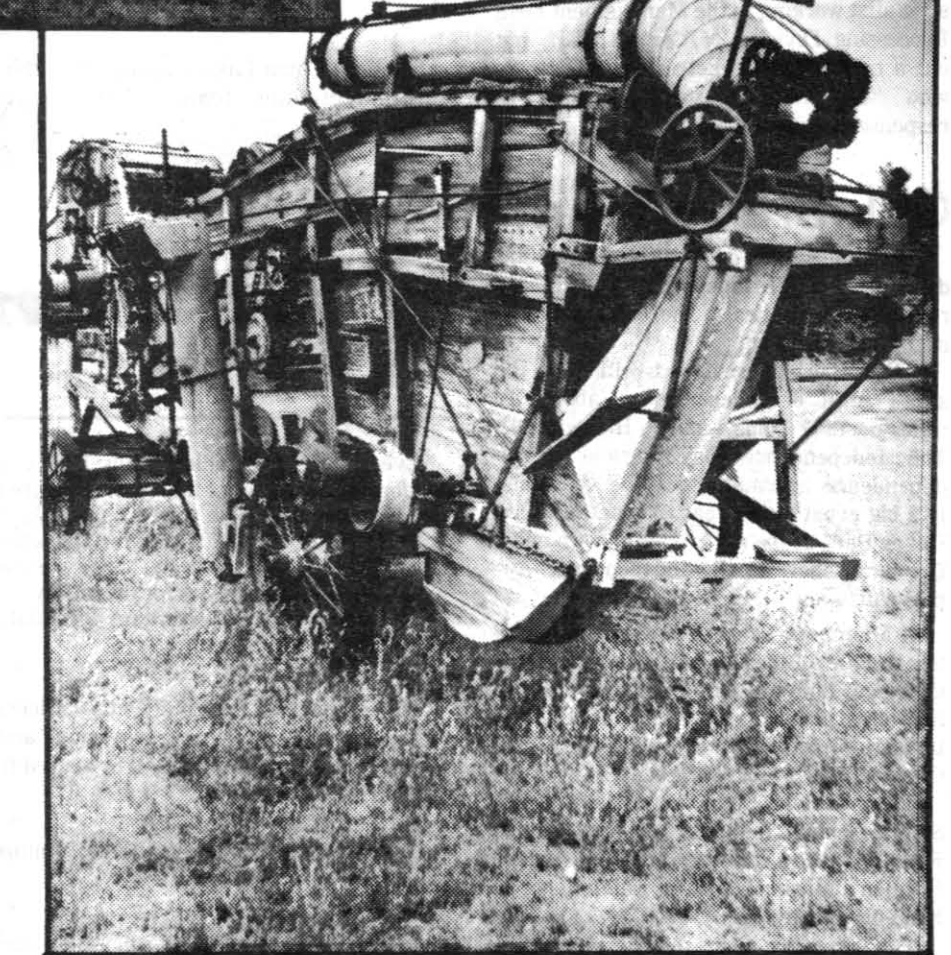
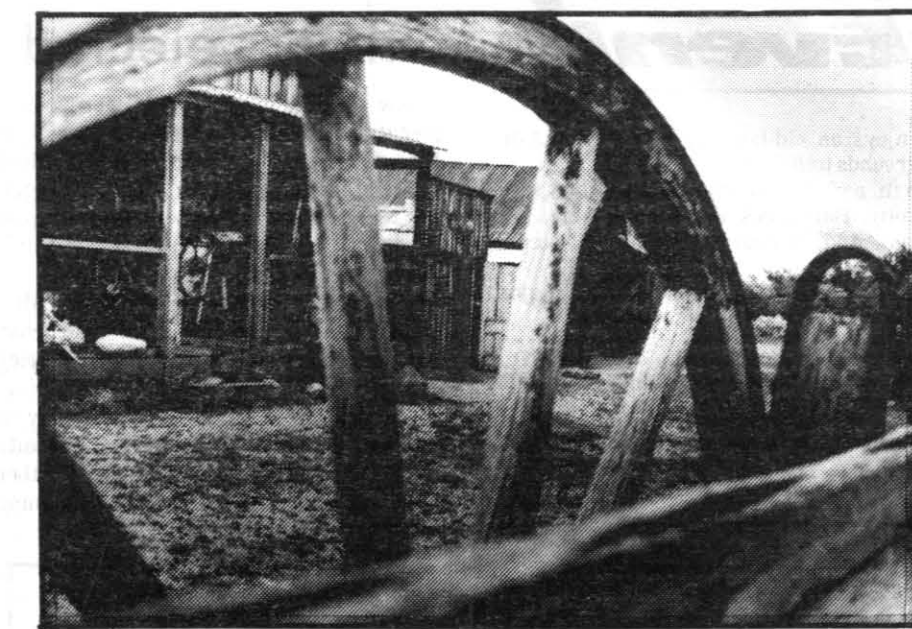
Anyone interested in joining the China Lake Tennis Club can write to P.O. Box 1530, Ridgecrest or pick up an application at the NWC tennis courts.



WHAT IS IT? — Both farm and mine equipment intrigue modern visitors who can only guess at the purpose of some of the strange vehicles.

Story and photos by Mickey Strang

BIT OF HISTORY — Ore wagons that have carried their last load of ore on their way to Inyo County smelters sit in the sun near the village of buildings that also had their heyday a century ago.

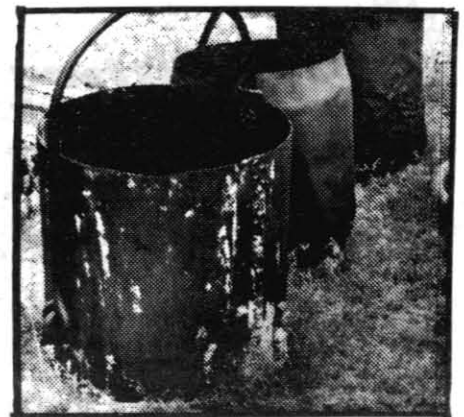


# Museum preserves visions of pioneer times

Displays of Indian arts and crafts, a pioneer collection and a natural history collection are only a few of the items on display at the Eastern California Museum located in Independence, about 90 miles north of Ridgecrest on Highway 395. The museum, which is three blocks from the highway in the town itself, is open to the public (free) Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. during the winter. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, it is open weekdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

collection contains glassware, furniture, clothing, railroad memorabilia, mining equipment, toys and signs. Mining tools and photographs of the mining districts, local guns and railway equipment can also be found, and a special display represents the Japanese Relocation Camp at Manzanar.

For natural history buffs, there's a big display of fossils, rocks and minerals as well as pressed botanical specimens. Outside, one large area contains farming tools and mining equipment and tools as well as wagons and automotive garage accessories. In Little Pine Village, historic buildings that are reconditioned are on display for visitors to wander through and photograph. Also on display is a Paiute-Shoshone shelter constructed by Indians at Fort Independence.



Within the building is a massive collection of photographs and memorabilia from the Owens Valley and its inhabitants. A large collection of Indians arts and crafts, such as basketry and beadwork, is on display. The pioneer

**NWC Rocketeer**

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Official Weekly Publication  
 Naval Weapons Center / China Lake, California 93555-6001  
 (619) 939-3354 or 939-3355

Deadlines: News Stories-Tuesday, 4:30 pm / Photographs-11:30 am

The Rocketeer receives American Forces Press Service material. All are official U. S. Navy photos unless otherwise identified. Printed weekly with appropriated funds by a commercial firm in compliance with NAVSO P-35 revised May 1979.

Office at Nimitz and Lauritzen. Information published in the Rocketeer does not necessarily reflect the official views of the Department of Defense. Information in the Rocketeer is authorized for public release by the Naval Weapons Center Public Affairs Officer, Code 003.





# Anglers finding better fishing in high country

Fishing is picking up as the runoff in eastern Sierra streams finally begins to subside a little. While most streams are still running higher than normal, the peak appears to have passed and anglers are finding the fishing better as time goes by.

Golden trout are being taken from many high country waters, including streams inside Yosemite National Park.

The exception to the improved fishing is lower Rush Creek, where gates from Grant Lake have been opened and the water is much faster and higher than it has been this season.

The Walker River in northern Mono County and the creeks leading into the lower Owens River (around Big Pine and Independence) are some of the best spots for skilled anglers who know how to fish

fast, high water. Anglers with fly fishing skills or with small, flashy lures seem to be making the biggest dent in trout populations.

At Lakes Sabrina, South and North, anglers using yellow and red eggs are catching pan-sized rainbow plants. South Lake is now full enough for boating.

Pleasant Valley Reservoir is giving up lots of limits to anglers fishing early morning or evenings, after the sun is off the

water. Small lures and most baits produce results.

Most back country lakes are at least partly ice free. Lakes above 10,000 may still have small amounts of broken ice on them. Below 11,000 feet mosquitoes are fierce.

Rainbows and browns are being taken from Mammoth Lakes area waters. Fishing is best from boats in Lakes Mary, Mamie and George, while Twin Lakes are giving up fair numbers of limits to shore-

based anglers using baits and small yellow lures.

On the June Lake Loop, June and Gull Lakes produced the best results. Trolling with Needlefish or still fishing with eggs and marshmallows were top means of landing trout.

The stream between Gull and Silver Lake was also popular for anglers using flashy lures of mosquito pattern flies.

At Crowley Lake, the Sacramento perch are the hot item. Purple or yellow crappie jigs produce the best results. Water skiing starts at Crowley tomorrow (Friday) and may change fishing patterns.

Bridgeport Reservoir, Twin Lakes and Virginia Lakes are all giving up catches of salmon in addition to many limits of pan-sized rainbow trout.



## Sports

### DFG stocking most streams

California Department of Fish and Game employees will stock most eastern Sierra waters with catchable size rainbow trout for this holiday weekend.

Barring adverse weather, water or road conditions the following lakes, streams and rivers will be stocked with hatchery-grown rainbow trout.

In Kern County: Alder Creek, Cedar Creek, Erskine Creek, Kern River and Lake Isabella.

In Alpine County: Carson River (east and west forks) Markleeville Creek, Pleasant Valley Creek and Silver Creek.

Inyo County sites: Baker Creek, Big Pine Creek, Bishop Creek (lower, middle and south forks), Georges Creek, Independence

Creek, Lake Sabrina, South Lake, Lone Pine Creek, Owens Lake, Shepards Creek, Taboose Creek, Tinnemeha Creek and Tuttle Creek.

In Mono County: Bridgeport Reservoir, Buckeye Creek, Convict Creek, Gull Lake, Glass Creek, Grant Lake, Hilton Creek, June Lake, Lee Vining Creek, Little Walker River, Walker River, Lundy Lake, Mammoth Creek, McGee Creek, Owens River, Pleasant Valley Reservoir, Reverse Creek, Robinson's Creek, Rock Creek, Rush Creek, Rock Creek Lake, Sherwin Creek, Silver Lake, Swauger Creek, Trumbull Lake, Bridgeport Twin Lakes, Mammoth Twin Lakes, Virginia Creek and Virginia Lakes (upper and lower).

### Little luck at Lake Isabella

Fishing at Lake Isabella has not been very good lately.

Very few crappie or bluegill are being caught and only small white and channel catfish. The catfish are mainly being taken at Camp Nine and in the south end of the lake.

A few trout are being caught in the north fork area and at least one king salmon.

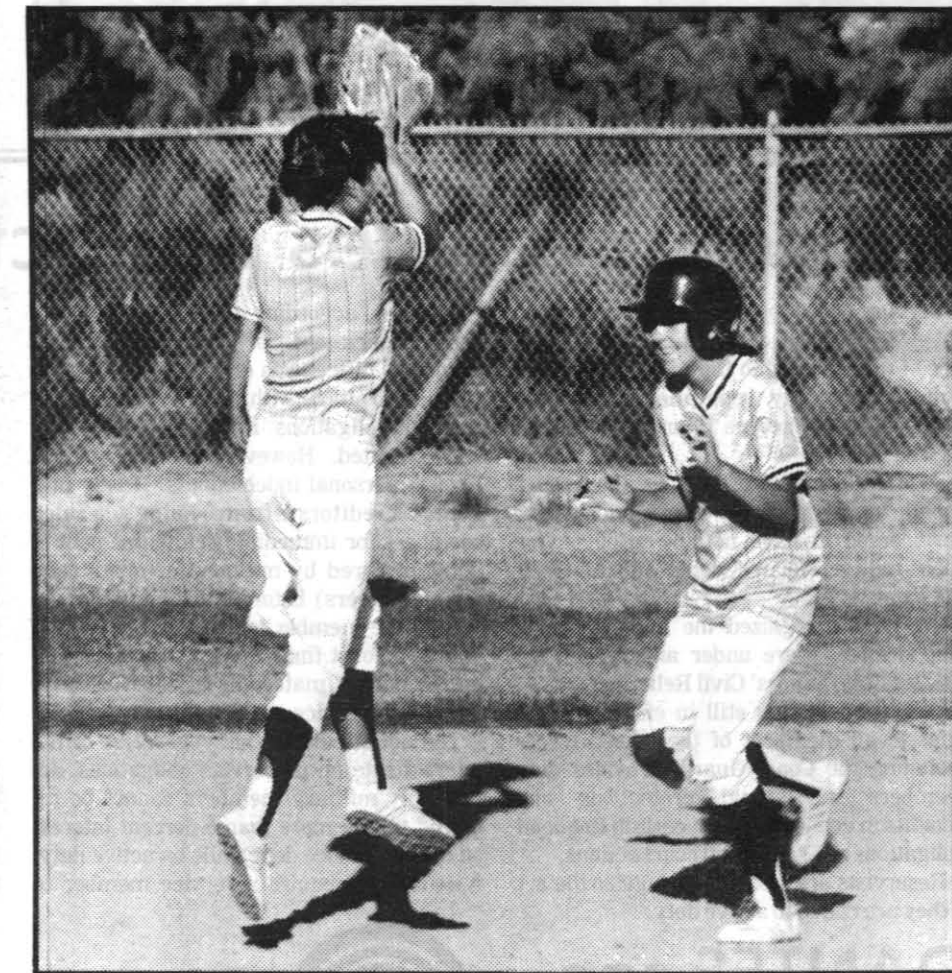
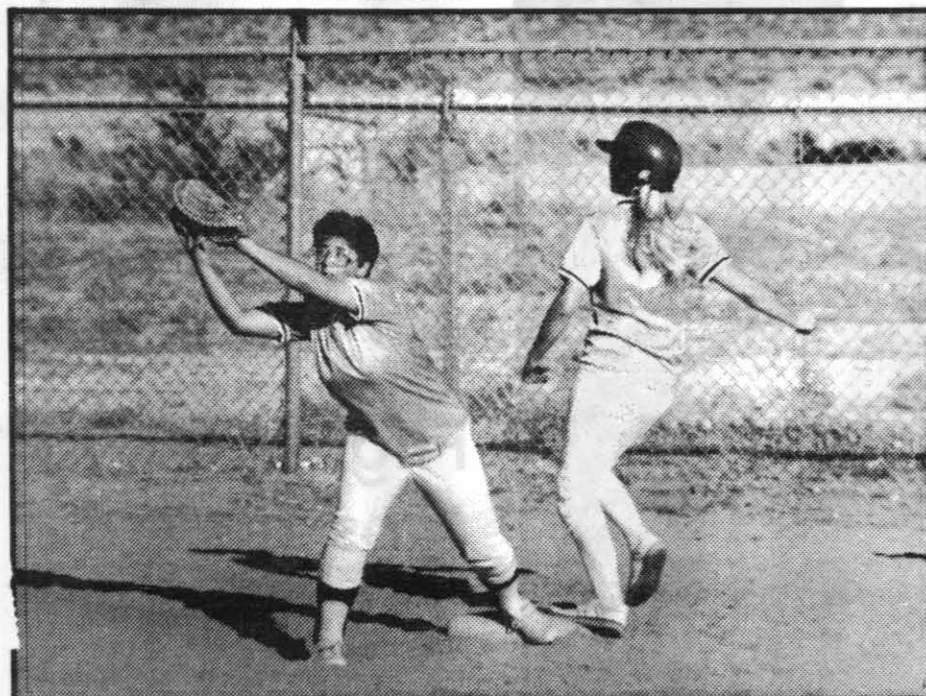
Anglers hitting the Kern River below the dam are doing well for both freshly planted trout and those who have evaded capture for some time. Best spots are Miracle Flats and Hobo. Anyone fishing the river, however, is advised to be extremely cautious because so far this year a minimum of 10 people have drowned in this section of the Kern.

### More than fish are biting

Summer is rapidly coming to the high country of the eastern Sierra. With the arrival of summer-like weather have come mosquitoes in swarms. Anyplace below 10,000 feet expect large numbers of the pesky insects while fishing or hiking.

Again this year visitors are being urged

to use insect repellent because mosquitoes in parts of Inyo County have been found carrying the encephalitis virus, according to county health officials. No reports of the disease in humans have been made this year, but caution, in the form of insect repellent, is being urged.



**ALL-STARS — Bobby Sox League all-stars from the Bobby Sox and American Girl divisions will compete in western division tournaments this month. The girls represent the best from six teams in each division.**  
— Photos by PH2 Rick Moore

### Bobby Soxers ready skills for tournament competition

Girls taking part in the Ridgecrest Bobby Sox Softball League are now looking forward to all-star tournament action later this month. There are about 200 girls, ages six to sixteen, taking part in the local league. Three divisions; Minis (ages six to eight), Bobby Sox (ages nine to twelve) and American Girl (ages 13 to 16) make up the Ridgecrest Bobby Sox League. There are about six teams in each division.

On July 12-17 the Bobby Sox Division All-Stars will travel to Las Vegas for the Western Division Tournament. And, on Ju-

ly 19-24, the American Girl Division All-Stars from Ridgecrest will be competing against eight other teams in the division tourney at Bullhead City, Arizona.

Each all-star is required to raise \$50 from sponsors in order to defray tournament costs. League officials said anyone interested in being a sponsor of the all-stars can call Norm Brown, league president, at 375-2946. He can also provide information to parents about the 1987 Bobby Sox League plans and sign-up schedules.

### Sports Branch now planning for fall intramural sports

It may still be the middle of summer, and just July, but NWC's Recreational Services Department's Sports Branch is already planning for a busy fall of intramural sporting activities.

September will highlight intramural flag football and bowling competition. Team racquetball begins in October, while in the

cool of November, basketball action is scheduled to begin.

Meanwhile, several NWC teams are busy with the final round of play in the Naval Weapons Center's Intramural Softball League. Games are played Monday through Thursday nights at Schoeffel Field starting at 5:30 p.m.



## The Skipper Sez...

I welcome the opportunity to continue the Skipper Sez tradition of providing a means for two-way communication between Naval Weapons Center Command and the China Lake community at large.

Community members are encouraged to call the Skipper Sez phone line or write to express their concerns that may be of a general interest to China Laker. I also encourage employees to find other means of addressing problem areas, means that are less cumbersome for all involved and maybe much faster in eliminating problem areas.

Efforts to resolve issues should be handled at the lowest level whenever possible. The caliber of personnel at China Lake makes this an easier task than it might be elsewhere. I encourage employees to use informal means to solve problems before they need to go to more formal procedures.

I do, however, plan to use the Skipper Sez a little differently than my predecessors in an effort to reach a broad spectrum of the Center community.

The column may not follow a strict question and answer format, but may address general concerns, needs as seen by Center Command, as a means to give a broad-base "atta boy" to Center employees or to address problems that must be dealt with on Center.

Skipper Sez has proven a valuable means for Command to gain insight into what China Laker see as problem areas in need of attention, and I hope it continues to provide this kind of forum for the community at-large.

I look forward to addressing the concerns of the community and of letting the community be aware of the concerns that Center Command has as we all strive to keep China Lake an outstanding place to live and work and to carry out our mission in support of the fleet.

All China Laker, 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. J.W. Patterson. 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.

### Russell likes challenge...

(Continued from Page 1)

variety of ships. He was later joined by Dr. Guenther Winkler from NWC to address a serious fleet problem regarding radar detection of aircraft. Together they laid out a series of actions and recommendations later adopted within Seventh Fleet.

The interaction between civilian and military was very good, Russell says. "They listened to what I had to say, and I brought back a deep appreciation for the problems they have. Now, when addressing local problems, I always try to ask myself, 'What's best for the fleet?'"

On his return to China Lake, Russell was given the opportunity to become head of the Engineering Department. He accepted that position primarily because they work more directly with the fleet.

"Moving into the job provided some surprises for me," Russell says, "because I had underestimated the size and the breadth of that department's activities. It took me a long time to get on top of that new job."

When he started as head of Code 36, there were about 500 people in the department; by the time he left, the department had grown to 750 and, if there was no hiring limitations, he feels there's enough work for at least 900.

Reason for the increased size, he says, is

#### Drivers cautioned

Drivers are asked to exercise particular care in the area of Richmond and Lauritsen Roads starting Monday.

Work will begin at that time to widen and

Secretary Lehman's emphasis on competition and improved quality in weapons. "Suddenly the disciplines that we'd worked so hard to sell were in demand — disciplines such as quality assurance, documentation, reliability, systems safety, soldering technology, producing engineering, Integrated Logistics Support — all in the Engineering Department," Russell continues. "These needs will continue to grow."

He says he's had the opportunity to work in Washington, but "I felt I could learn much more working with the fleet than being a Washington bureaucrat."

While he says that he had misgivings about leaving the Engineering Department because "I left so many outstanding people," he again has found that he is surrounded by outstanding people in the T&E Directorate, and he has the excitement of learning this part of the Center's mission as well.

Off-duty relaxation for him includes outdoor activities such as exploring the surrounding desert area and, a particular interest, dirt biking.

Throughout the years he's done some racing, taking part in events such as the Barstow-to-Las Vegas motorcycle race and he's also done some riding on roads. "Either one," he continues, "is a good outlet for frustration."

improve Richmond Road from Lauritsen to Highway 178. Two-way traffic will be maintained at all times, but this traffic may be over a dirt detour.

### New retirement system update

**UPDATE OF NEW FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (FERS)**  
The following is a broad outline of Disability Benefits under the provisions of the new retirement system. The new retirement system applies to those hired after Dec. 31, 1983.

**DISABILITY BENEFITS**  
A. Administration and eligibility: Disability benefit paid if employee has 18 months of civilian service.  
B. Definition of disability: Employee must be unable, because of disease or injury, to render useful and efficient service in the employee's position. Employee will also qualify for Social Security benefits if unable to work in any substantial gainful activity. Employee may not decline reasonable job offer in the same agency and commuting area, at the same pay grade.  
C. During disability, total income from work may not exceed 80 percent of former job's current pay level. Employee may be given physical exams.

1. In the first year of payments: 60 percent of high-3 minus 100 percent of any Social Security benefit payable to the employee.
2. After the first year, up to age 62: 40 percent of high-3 minus 60 percent of initial Social Security benefit payable to the employee, increased by annual COLA percentage (same as allowed for basic annuity at age 62 and over), but not below annuity earned to date.
3. Retirement benefits after disabled employee reaches age 62: Recalculated from basic annuity formula, but limited to benefit payable to individual who gets Social Security (40 percent less 60 percent formula). Employee gets credit for years of disability toward basic annuity formula and salary for purposes of the high-3 goes up at annual COLA percentage.

### Head of Housing Division given Commander's Award

Dwight W. Holford, who was head of the Center's Housing Division until his retirement last week, received the Commander's Award for Mission Support in a surprise ceremony held in his office on June 26.

Capt. K.A. Dickerson, then Center Commander, told Holford that "Nobody takes more harrassment than the person who heads up the family and bachelor housing. With the courage and stamina that you've shown, you have done an outstanding job."

The Skipper continued, "In recognition of your outstanding performance — as well as the exceptional courage that you've shown in taking it on — I'm happy to present you this highest award that I can give."

The letter of recommendation for the award written by Commander J.E. Ealy, Acting Public Works Officer, points out that during the period of January 1984 through

June 1986, Holford not only provided the occupants of Navy housing on board with the best possible accommodations, but also housing expenditures were reduced by more than \$1.2 million.

He led the effort to identify the Center's required housing inventory for the next five years, worked with the Professional Recruitment Coordinator to ensure on-Center housing availability to newly hired Junior Professionals and played a major role in revising and rewriting Center housing policy.

The letter continues by noting that Holford directed accomplishment of more than \$2 million in housing repair projects during his tenure. Holford also, according to the letter, provided outstanding leadership for the employees in the Housing Office so that they could develop personally and professionally.



**EXCELLENCE RECOGNIZED — Dwight Holford receives congratulations from Capt. K.A. Dickerson, who has just presented him with the Commander's Award for the superb way that he has run the Housing Division.**

### Measles shots in order

In the first four months of this year, a major outbreak of measles has been underway in British Columbia. Anyone who plans to attend Expo '86 should be sure to have measles immunity.

Dr. Leon Hebertson, Kern County Director of Public Health Services, says that almost anyone born in the United States before 1957 has been infected with measles naturally and could be considered immune. Anyone born after that date should check immunization records for a measles shot before venturing to British Columbia.

Recommendation for measles immunization before travel to British Columbia include: those between 15 months and 30 years with uncertain or negative records should have measles vaccine, preferably in combination with rubella and/or mumps vaccine; children aged 12 to 14 months should be given rubella vaccine; infants aged 6 to 11 months should have a single measles antigen and should be revaccinated at 15 months; and infants under 6 months do not need vaccine since nearly all of them are protected by maternally derived antibodies.

### Kern schools require shot record

According to the Kern County Health Department, schools throughout Kern County will refuse to admit students to kindergarten this year unless parents can present the yellow California Immunization Record or a similar record showing that their children have received the necessary immunizations.

Children entering kindergarten need to obtain their school entry boosters this summer.

The Kern County Public Health Department holds monthly immunization clinics throughout the county for children from 2

months through 17 years of age. Appointments are not necessary and a parent or guardian must be present to sign consent forms for the children. The next such clinic will be held in Ridgecrest on Monday, July 7 from 8:30 a.m. until noon at the Health Department, 250 West Ridgecrest Boulevard in Ridgecrest.

Cost of each immunization is \$2, with a maximum charge of \$5 per family per visit. Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine is offered at all the clinics, with the charge of \$11 per immunization. Hib vaccine charges are not included in the maximum \$5 per family fee.



# Jupiter probe chute tested at China Lake

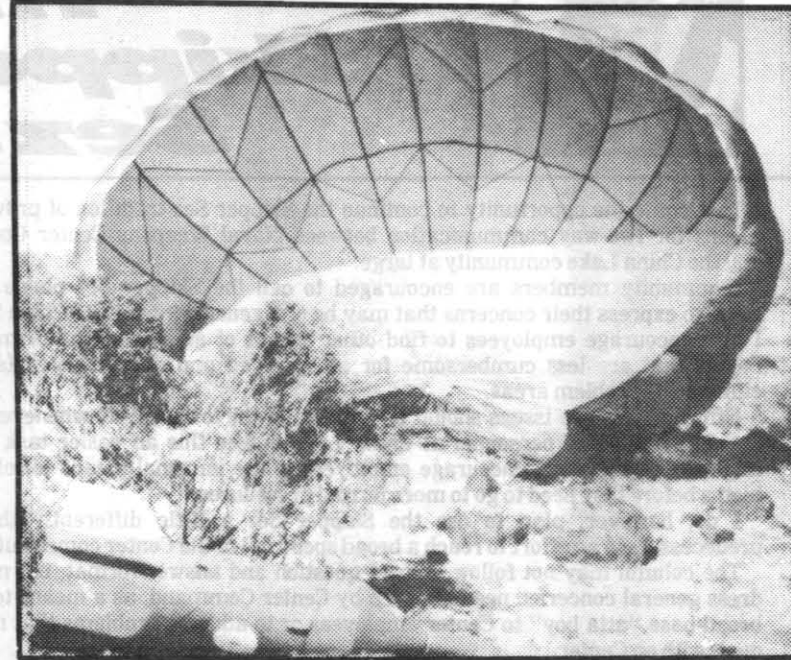
While a variety of problems have grounded, for now, the Galileo mission to Jupiter via the space shuttle, personnel from NWC's Aerosystems Department had a hand in development of the parachute system scheduled for use in the Jovian probe.

Three tests at NWC, over a two-year period, culminated development efforts of a parachute that could withstand the rigors of the dense Jovian atmosphere to dramatically prolong the useful life of the Galileo probe that was to have been launched from the shuttle.

The main parachute was constructed from DuPont kevlar because it can withstand massive atmospheric pressures expected to be found as the Galileo instrument package descends toward the surface of the huge red planet. The cylindrical probe will be crushed by this pressure before it reaches the planet's surface.

Center tests were designed to verify in-flight deployment and opening characteristics along with load capabilities of the pilot and main parachutes used in the system.

Galileo was scheduled to be a follow up to the Voyager probes of Jupiter launched in the later 1970s. Named in honor of the scientist who discovered the four chief satellites of Jupiter, Galileo has been delayed until a new launch means is developed as part of a safety review following this year's space shuttle disaster.



## China Lake Police Reports

Emergency room personnel at the Branch Medical Clinic requested that the China Lake police stand by to keep the peace while they sent a subject out to the Ridgecrest Community Hospital.

Police rendered a public assist when they told a tenant of a residence on Essex Circle that his vehicle had rolled out of the driveway and into the street, creating a traffic hazard. The resident was advised to return the car to the driveway — and set the brakes.

A spate of traffic accidents last week resulted in injuries to vehicles and property, but none to people. One occurred on Sandquist Road north of Lauritsen Road when a cement truck kicked up rocks that struck the windshield of another vehicle. A non-injury accident occurred on Saratoga near Lexington when a vehicle parked along the edge of the road pulled out and struck another car, causing moderate damage. Police considered this a right-of-way violation. At 20th Street in Salt Wells, a vehicle struck a guard rail protecting a steam pipe; the vehicle had its drive shaft torn out as a result. On the Darwin Road about 7 miles from Junction Ranch, a driver swerved to miss a rock in the road

and hit a dirt embankment. On Friday, someone backing up in Admin Circle struck a sign, damaging the sign slightly. A reckless driver hit a garbage can at Ridgeway Road; police contacted the driver.

When a wallet — including the money in it — was found at the Center gym and turned in to police, they discovered it had been reported as stolen. They returned it to its owner.

The hot weather apparently has heated tempers sufficiently to result in a batch of "keep the peace" calls for China Lake police. One came from a family disturbance on Nimitz, with a husband and wife arguing. At Harpoon Barracks, the OOD had settled the disturbance by the time that police arrived. At the Training Center, a husband and wife got into a verbal altercation and police were called to quiet the discussion. At Lane Haven trailer park, again, a disturbance was settled by police and neither party wanted to file a complaint. And, finally, on Saturday when a woman and her boy friend got into a verbal altercation, he picked up a bike and threw it on a car that is registered in both of their names. The bike is being held by China Lake police because the owner is unknown.

A 13-year-old boy at Diamond Four reported that an older boy struck him in the mouth with his fist.

At Lauritsen and McIntire, a man was reported to be holding a gun. The gun turned out to be a BB gun.

Thursday police arrested an employee of Cerro Coso Community College in Ridgecrest on a child molestation warrant issued by East Kern Municipal Court.

China Lake police assisted a Kern County sheriff's deputy in serving a warrant to a man on base charged with corporal injury to a child. He had struck his 16-year-old daughter in the face and broken a tooth.

An unknown person broke a window in BEQ Three.

At 2 a.m. Sunday China Lake police assisted Ridgecrest police with traffic control at the intersection of China Lake and Ridgecrest Boulevards when a vehicle caught fire.

Both on Burroughs Avenue and Withington, thieves took sprinkler heads.

When boys aged 11 through 13 broke a window with a rock in a house on Kearsarge, a vandalism report was filed.



To make your summer free of theft or loss, get acquainted with your neighbors, know their names and be able to identify them and their vehicles by sight.

Make your home as burglary resistant as possible (the China Lake Police Division will assist you). Be observant, keep watch on neighbor's homes and report suspicious activities to neighbors or law enforcement when appropriate. Write down and report license numbers and descriptions of suspicious looking persons and vehicles in your neighborhood to the China Lake Police Division. Get all necessary information and phone your police.

If you do this, you can keep Sneaky Pete out of your home and your property safe.

## No fireworks allowed here

Although everyone on board NWC is encouraged to have a bang-up Fourth of July holiday, for the sake of safety those banging fireworks have no place at China Lake.

The NWC Fire Division reminds all Centerites that the use or ignition of fireworks is prohibited on all parts of the Center's lands. Fireworks include blank cartridges, toy cannons, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets and Roman candles or similar items capable of producing a visual or audible effect by combustion or detonation.

This prohibition does not include toy pistols or toy candles and similar devices that use a paper cap, saluting cannons or blank cartridges used by the military or highway warning devices. Hand-held sparklers are permitted under adult supervision.

## COTR class completed on board



**GRADUATES** — Ed Craemer from the Navy Regional Contracting Center in Long Beach present certificates to Charles Hoffman (left) and Nelson Foucher in honor of their achieving a perfect score in the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative course just completed at NWC.

Another group of Center personnel have completed the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) course taught by Ed Craemer from the Navy Regional Contracting Center at Long Beach.

Craemer noted that the increasingly complex nature of R&D contracting requires a unique teamwork between technical and contract personnel. A knowledge of administrative requirements of contracts, combined with technical expertise, enables a COTR to be a key figure in the effective management of service contracts. The diligence of the COTR is vital to the Navy to receive maximum return on its contracting dollar.

Before becoming a COTR, an appointee must have received formal training. The next COTR class on board is tentatively scheduled for October, but NRCC conducts classes at other installations.

Anyone needing more information about such classes is asked to contact Bill Lalor, Central Coordinator for COTRs at Code 25204, NWC ext. 2043 or 2087.

— Photo by PHAN Bob Reynolds



**APPRECIATION EXPRESSED** — VAdm. Wilkenson thanks Cecile Dickerson for the staunch support she provided to her husband, Capt. Ken Dickerson, during his Navy career.



**REMEMBRANCE** — Capt. and Mrs. Dickerson join with Mary Cutsinger, who painted the portrait presented to him by the Public Affairs staff at his retirement.

# Old law provides protection to servicemembers

Serving one's country has always meant a certain amount of sacrifice. Many families of men drafted to fight in World War II suffered not only separation from their loved ones, but severe financial sacrifices as well.

A private in 1940 drew only about \$21 a month in base pay. It wasn't unusual for servicemen to have nothing after paying their military-related debts and for their personal needs.

Congress recognized the financial hardship draftees were under and passed the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act.

The act, which is still in effect and applies to all members of the armed forces including the Coast Guard, provides duty members with legal protections and benefits in connection with certain financial obligations and some civil court actions.

Reservists are also covered under the act if they are called to active duty.

The act, according to an attorney with the Department of Defense General Counsel's office, was originally designed to provide draftees with some relief from financial obligations incurred before they were drafted. However, the act doesn't abolish personal indebtedness. It only prevents creditors from suing service members for immediate reimbursement of debts incurred by military members (and their cosigners) before entry on active duty. But the member is protected by the act only if a court finds that the ability to pay on the debt is materially affected because of military service.

The act stipulates that regardless of the interest rate on preservice obligations, active duty military members cannot be required to pay more than 6 percent interest on the preservice debt while on active duty. A court can require a service member to

pay at a higher rate if it finds the ability to pay has not been materially affected by reasons of military service. However, the accumulated interest on the debt at the original rate has to be paid once the member separates from the service.

Creditors are also prohibited from repossessing a service member's personal property without a court order.

The act also protects military members in certain civil actions. Default judgments, the potential result of failing to appear at a court hearing, are not allowed unless procedures protecting military members' rights are followed.

Those rights include having sufficient time to appear. The court must determine if the members' case is prejudiced because of military service, and the members must be given a reasonable opportunity to defend themselves.

Two factors in making those determinations are the member's ability to get legal representation and to locate witnesses.

The Civil Relief Act is also the legislation that exempts military pay from taxation by any state other than the one claimed as the permanent home state. That exemption also applies to non-business personal property taxes.

However, the state in which a member is stationed can tax non-military income and any personal property the member may own within the taxing state. Salaries from civilian employment, rents from property and a spouse's income are taxable by the state where stationed.

The Civil Service Relief Act also exempts military members from having to register their motor vehicles in states other than their home state. However, this exemption doesn't apply to a driver's license.



## Military News

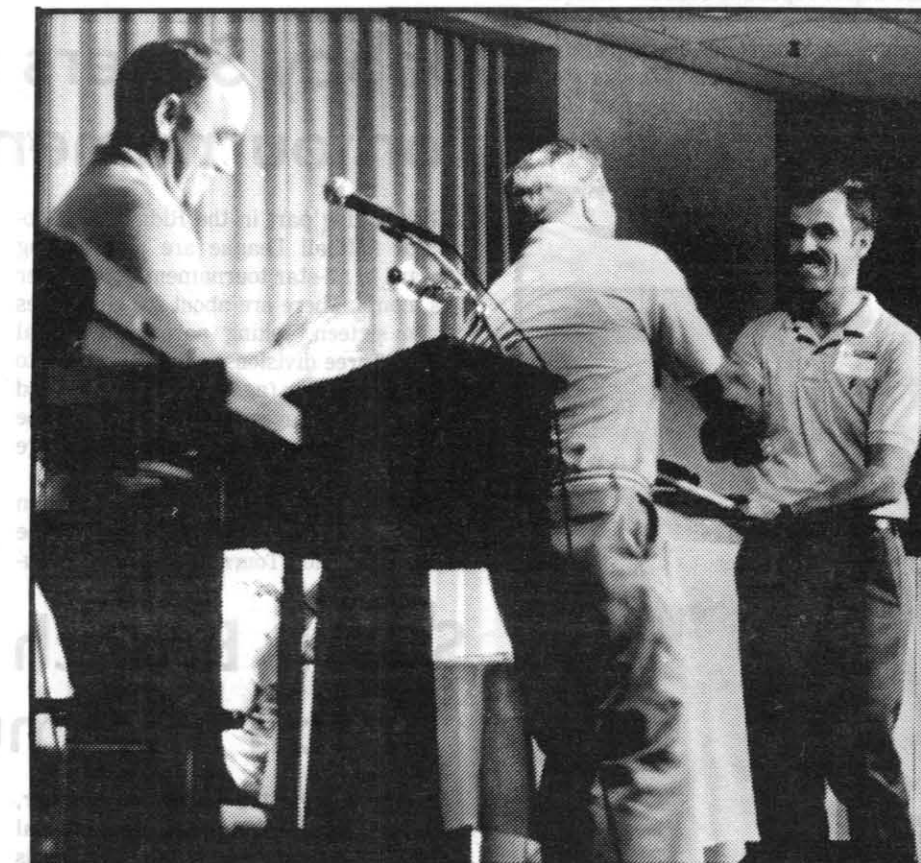
## DANTES can help sailors

Military people are often surprised to learn how much of their experience can be meaningfully applied to a college degree. Said one military education official about a Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Educational Support (DANTES) program, "A university won't give a soldier credit just for learning how to be a cannoneer, but it can give him credit for the mathematics involved."

"Non-traditional" is the key part of the DANTES title. The DANTES program enables a soldier, sailor, airman or Marine to finish a high school degree or earn college credits in spite of unusual duty hours or mission requirements.

Although many servicemen and women are able to take advantage of the more formal classroom education programs offered through their local education centers, others can't. The latter are stationed at isolated sites, do shift work, are transferred before completion of their programs to sites where courses are not offered or have advanced to a level in their studies where courses needed to progress are not among those offered at their new places of assignment. For such individuals, non-traditional education programs are a practical way to make progress toward educational goals.

Enter DANTES. Since education is so important for success in today's fast-changing, high-technology society, DANTES provides an opportunity for all military people to get that education.



**FAREWELL GIFTS** — Capt. Marty Phillips presents Capt. K.A. Dickerson with a memento from Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five. Gerry Schiefer, who served as master of ceremonies for the Skipper's retirement party, applauds the sentiments expressed by the CO of VX-5.

## FRA plans presentation on CHAMPUS

China Lake Branch 95 of the Fleet Reserve Association will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Chief Petty Officers' Mess. Highlight of the meeting will be the presentation of awards to the 10 winners of Branch 95's Americanism essay contest, with the winners awarded cash prizes as well as certificates.

Lyn Wilson, Health Benefits Advisor for the Branch Medical Clinic, will also give a talk and make a slide presentation of CHAMPUS. In addition, delegates to both the South West Regional Convention in Phoenix and to the National Convention in Boston will be selected.

All active duty and retired personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are invited to attend the meeting.

## Flight hall tabs Schirra

Astronaut Walter M. Schirra, Jr., will be enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame and others on America's first space flight team will receive the "Spirit of Flight" award.

Schirra was stationed at what was then the Naval Ordnance Test Station from 1952 to 1954 as Assistant Experimental Officer for Air-to-Air Guided Missiles.