

Yom Kippur services set

All Jewish military and civilian personnel in the local area are invited to join with members of Temple Beth Torah of the Naval Weapons Center in celebrating the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Rosh Hashanah ushers in the Jewish new year of 5747 with ceremonies starting at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3 and at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4. Rosh Hashanah starts a 10-day period of repentance and prayer that end on Yom Kippur, during which Jews reaffirm their faith, examine past deeds and pray for forgiveness. The blowing of the Shofar — the ram's horn — reminds them of their responsibilities to God and calls on them to repent.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day in the Jewish calendar and is spent in prayer, meditation and fasting so that everyone can start the new year with a clear conscience. Kol Nidre is the service held Yom Kippur Eve, during which each person reaffirms promises to God and prays to be excused from vows to God that cannot be kept.

Yom Kippur services will be held on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. and Monday, Oct. 13 at 10 a.m. The holiday will conclude with a "Break Fast" potluck.

Shabbat (Sabbath) services are conducted every Friday at 7:30 p.m. by student Rabbi Cheryl Marie Rosenstein in the East Wing of the All Faith Chapel.

Further information can be obtained by telephoning the president of the Hebrew Congregation, Rose Varga, at 446-3939.

SAME slates Edwards trip

Members of the Society of American Military Engineers, China Lake Post, have an Oct. 1 deadline for making a reservation to go on the Oct. 7 field trip to NASA-Dryden Research Facility at Edwards AFB.

The trip includes transportation to NASA-Dryden and tours of the research facility. The tour is expected to cover the X-29 forward-swept-wing aircraft, the X-Wing Sikorsky helicopter and the advanced fighter technical integration.

This will be followed by lunch at the Officers' Mess where Col. Bridge, Commander, 6510th Test Wing, will be the guest speaker.

For reservations call Sam Miller at NWC ext. 3411/287 or Phillip Branson at NWC ext. 3411/315 before close of business on Wednesday, Oct. 1.

NEX News

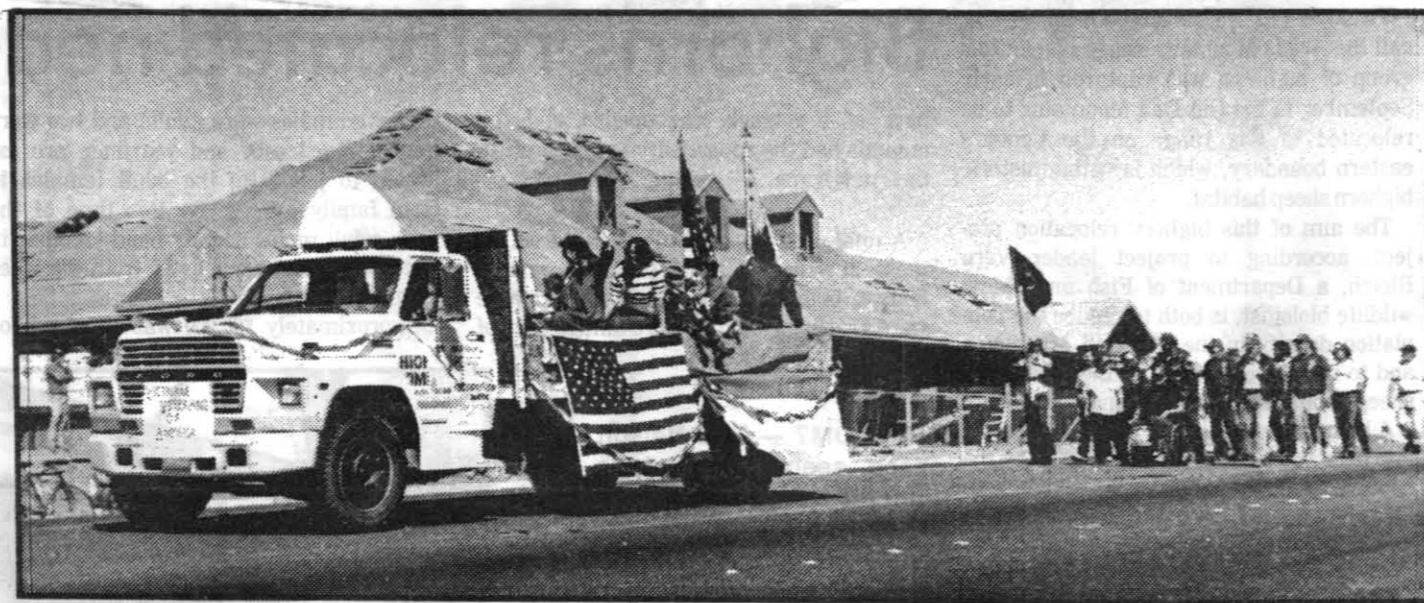
Only today and tomorrow remain to take advantage of the September car care and garden fix-up sale at the Navy Exchange, but the TV Extravaganza will continue until Oct. 4. This is a good time to shop early for Christmas by taking advantage of sale prices.

Watch for two Super Sunday sales scheduled during October. Dates will be announced in the NEX flyers.



	Max	Min	Peak Gust
Fri.	79	57	35 knots
Sat.	79	41	14 knots
Sun.	82	41	14 knots
Mon.	81	42	18 knots
Tues.	75	45	22 knots
Wed.	76	56	32 knots
Thurs.	71	54	30 knots

All measurements are made at Armitage Airfield.



HONORED PARTICIPANTS — Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 283 took part in the Desert Empire Fair last Saturday, in which they took a first place trophy. Members of this organization, new to the Indian Wells Valley, expressed their appreciation for the reception they received and especially to the Navy honor guard. Further information about the Vietnam Veterans chapter can be obtained by telephoning Buzz Marmolejo, 375-8228 or 375-8441 or by writing to P.O. Box 1887, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.

Sci/fi, space art shown at museum gallery

Fans of science fiction and space art will be able to enjoy a month-long Space Fantasy/Space Reality Art Expo from Oct. 3 through 31. This expo is being sponsored by the Indian Wells Valley Association of Retarded Citizens and coincides with the opening of the Maturango Museum in its new location at China Lake Boulevard and East Coso Street.

Space art will be on display as the first show for the new museum gallery. This art includes pencil sketches and thumbnail paintings of the "Star Wars" characters and scenes created by Ralph McQuarrie, principal art director for the film, and conceptual designs and art depictions of significant events of NASA space flights.

(Anyone wishing to loan materials for the exhibit is encouraged to get in touch with Bill Plumb, who's heading the Art Expo. He can be reached at the IWVARC, 375-9787.)

An art auction of some of the materials displayed will cap the exhibit. In addition, throughout the month posters will be on sale at \$10 each, with posters signed by the artist going for \$15 and signed and numbered posters being sold for \$35. The IWVARC will get 60 percent of the proceeds and the museum 40 percent.

In addition several workshops will be presented by various artists. So far, those who have agreed to present workshops include McQuarrie, who not only worked on

the Star Wars trilogy, but also "Star Trek TV" and "Cocoon;" Larry Noble, on illustration art; Melanie Taylor Kent, serigraphy techniques; and Clayton Turner, a quadriplegic artist, who will demonstrate how he paints with his mouth.

Workshops are \$15 each, \$25 for two and \$45 for four workshops. Arrangements to attend can also be made by calling IWVARC.

The Art Expo has as its theme "There Are No Limits." It is being used as a fundraising operation for the local IWVARC, which has recently completed its 25th year of service to the retarded citizens of this community.

Movies

FRIDAY, SUNDAY	"SPACE CAMP" Starring Kate Capshaw and Lea Thompson (Youth Adventure, rated PG, 117 min.)	SEPT. 26, 28
SATURDAY, MONDAY	"INVISIBLE STRANGLER" Starring Robert Foxworth and Stephanie Powers (Suspense-Drama, rated R, 86 min.)	SEPT. 27, 29
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY	"COBRA" Starring Sylvester Stallone and Brigitte Nelson (Action Drama, rated R, 87 min.)	OCT. 1, 3

Starting Times: Matinee / 2 pm Evening / 7 pm

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

Help offered

Interested in giving up cigarettes? A "Stop Smoking Questionnaire" is being published in the NWC Announcements for those who would like some help in this matter.

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)

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1986 — No. 40024

FROM: _____ PLACE STAMP HERE

TO: _____

Mr. Hardware-in-the-Loop wins NWC TD Award

Gerry Schiefer, NWC Technical Director, called Russell D. Carter "Mr. Hardware-in-the-Loop" for his work with the RF HWIL facility as he presented Carter with the Technical Director's Award on Monday.

"Although many individuals contributed to building the Sparrow RF chamber," Schiefer said, "Russ is the one who pulled together the elements of the system and made them work. This facility has not only been used for our work with Sparrow, but it's also being used for the evaluation of the Raytheon and General Dynamics AIM/RIM-7M Product Improvement Program Study contracts."

Carter's work with Sparrow began, he noted, at the Pacific Missile Test Center, when he was assigned to that program as a Junior Professional employee. In addition to more than 7 years with Sparrow at PMTC, he then worked at Raytheon on the program and has been associated with it continuously since coming to work at NWC in 1982. This wide background with Sparrow has enabled him to serve exceptionally well as a liaison between NWC, other laboratories and the contractors.

"You've contributed heavily to other Center programs as well as Sparrow," Schiefer told him, "and we hope you'll keep up your outstanding work."

The nomination for Carter, written by Dillard Bullard, head of the Weapons Department, notes that Carter is responsible for all Sparrow HWIL simulation as well as developing the low altitude guidance algorithm that is the baseline approach for the Sparrow PIP.

His knowledgeability, according to the letter of nomination, has made possible real-time free-space closed-loop simulation of RF-guided flight, on a routine basis. Carter's in-depth knowledge of the computers, RF sources, missile seekers, interfaces and flight simulation table keeps the

delicately balanced system in operation and provides the know-how for facility and missile upgrades.

His exceptional expertise with Sparrow systems, the nomination notes, has resulted in his constantly being called upon locally

and by other facilities for advice and inputs.

Carter expressed his appreciation for the award to all those gathered in the RF Missile Systems Branch office, commenting that the branch "all pull together ex-

tremely well" on Sparrow and other programs.

Carter holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Cal Poly Pomona and a master's degree in business from California Lutheran at Thousand Oaks. He has been at China Lake since August 1982.



PLEASED — Russ Carter examines the engraved paperweight signifying the Technical Director's Award that he has just been presented by Gerry Schiefer, NWC's Technical Director. Schiefer holds the certificate and the letter that accompany this special award. — Photo by PH2 Rick Moore

White blood cell count survey results updated

"Neither employees who work with chemicals nor those who work with electromagnetic radiation appear to have white blood cell count distributions that differ from the rest of Naval Weapons Center employees," the Corporate Planning Board was told in a recent briefing.

The briefing given by Carl Schaniel was an update on the white blood cell count survey begun in 1982 at the request of Bob Hillyer, then NWC Technical Director.

The objective of the white blood cell count survey was to address persistent rumors that the white blood cell counts of people on the Center and perhaps in the Indian Wells Valley were lower than national averages and that this was somehow related to the work on the Naval Weapons Center. The area of greatest concern was workers who had potential exposure to toxic chemicals.

Center management was given a preliminary report on the white blood cell count survey in June 1984 by the Naval Health Research Center (NHRC), San Diego. Highlights were:

A. 3,012 of 4,581 Center personnel participated in the white blood cell count survey.

B. Average white blood cell count for NWC smokers was almost identical with the national average.

C. Average white blood cell count for NWC non-smokers was 1,000 cells per cubic millimeter less than the national average (6,200 vs. 7,200) but within normal limits.

D. There was no correlation in white blood cell count trends due to age, sex or length of employment at NWC.

One grouping of employees was identified as having proportionately more people with

white blood counts below the 4,500 cells per cubic millimeter than the rest of NWC. This was in the Electronic Warfare Department. The NHRC hypothesized that this might be due to exposure to microwave (or ionizing) radiation. However, review of the in-

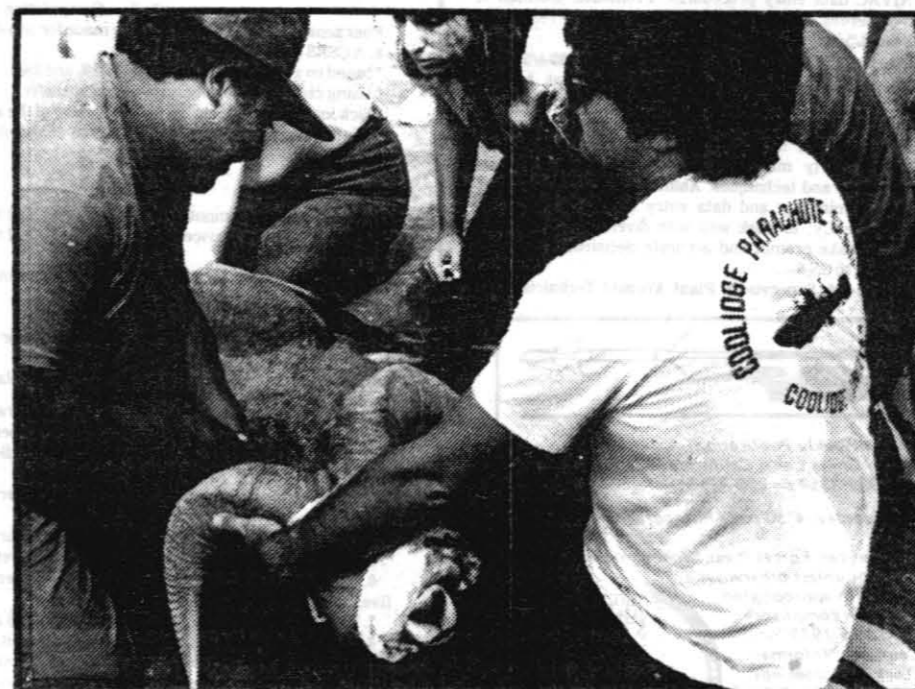
dividuals showing low counts revealed no such possible exposure.

Further review of the data by NWC management showed that the occupational data gathered with the white blood cell count survey was not precise enough to distinguish potential exposure to electromagnetic hazards or toxic chemicals. Occupational data was reviewed by departments and those persons with potential exposure to electromagnetic radiation or to toxic chemicals were identified. Then, the data from the survey was reprocessed by the NHRC. The results showed no difference in white blood cell count distribution for chemical workers and for electromagnetic workers than for the rest of NWC.

One anomaly still remains in the data from the white blood cell count survey. One organizational grouping that has been completely briefed on the results of the survey (39 survey participants) showed a statistically significant different white blood cell count distribution than the rest of NWC. The survey data for this group shows an average white blood cell count approximately 1,000 lower than the average for NWC.

Consultation with the Stanford University statistics department and with Dr. A. J. Potolsky of Sansum Clinic established that the anomaly in the data is real but that it does not indicate a personal health problem for individuals in that group.

(Continued on Page 7)



MEDICAL CHECKUP — A bighorn ram gets an antibiotic and vitamin shot before being moved to the site where he will be released. (See story and additional photos on Page 7.)

Youngest Scorpion team secures first victory

While the under-14 Scorpion soccer squad was winning its first game of the season, the under-16 kickers ran into a buzz saw of opposition, bowing twice last weekend to Bakersfield teams.

The Strikers fell victim to the under-14 squad in a thrilling 7-4 exhibition in Bakersfield. The under-16 team was nipped 1-0 by the Bakersfield Soccer Club on Saturday, then lost to the Blues Brothers 4-2.

For the under-16 Scorpion, a strong defense wasn't enough; this gave up only one goal to Bakersfield, that when they misplayed what was to have been an easy tap back to the goalie and the home team got a break and a goal.

In the second game, the defense wasn't

as strong, but the offense was able to get untracked for two goals and came close to a tie contest with the Blues Brothers.

The home team took an early 2-0 lead and held off the visiting Scorp until late in the first half. Matt Ziegler beat the middle of the Blues defense for a score just before the halftime whistle blew.

Behind Ted Armstrong's scrambling play

and an assist from Matt Mechtenberg, the Scorpions had a 2-2 tie early in the second half, but failed to maintain that position.

A Blues Brothers scored a goal midway through the second half and a final boot at the closing whistle for a 4-2 victory.

Head Coach David Watt called this the best overall effort of the season for the

youngest Scorpion team. Mike Bowen scored two goals and rendered a pair of assists as one of three key players in the game. Chris Marshall added two goals and one assist while Brendan Ledden assisted on four of the seven Scorpion goals. Dave Caraker, who scored the first goal, Charles Eberhart and Mike Kinne, who added the final score of the game, were the other Scorp who took part in the scoring.

The Strikers had one player connect for three of their four goals as offense, rather than defense, was the key to this Golden Empire Soccer League clash.

The under-14 Scorpions will return to action tomorrow (Saturday) when they play host to the Cobras in a 1 p.m. game set at NWC's Davidove Field.



Sports

Osborne wins OTHTC run

Jack Osborne's 22 minutes and 32 seconds time was good for top honors in the Over-The-Hill Track Club's Desert Empire Fair Run last Saturday morning.

Kathy McElroy's 28:00 clocking was good for first place among women runners, while the second best overall time belonged to Bryan Ogilvie with a 23:43 clocking, also good for first place in the 20-29 age group. Karl Sidor's 24:07 time was third best overall for the morning.

Division winners included Osborne in the 19 and under, Ogilvie in the 20-29, Glenn Roquemore with a 26:24 in the 30-39 and David Boaz with a time of 25:39. Also, Dave Lehmann's 31:04 time won the 50-59 division and Bill Norris took the 60 and over best in 30:44. The women's 30-39 division was won by Michelle Bailey in 32:32.

Next on tap for OTHTC runners is a 10 kilometer run on Oct. 4. Race Director for the event is Dave Rugg. For additional information call 375-2191 after 5 p.m.

First snowfall

Fall weather is turning leaves yellow in the canyons of the Owens River Valley and only about a month remains in the 1986 general fishing season for most waters of the eastern Sierra region.

The first snow of the season has fallen on the Mammoth Lakes area and on the mountains towering over the valley. Snow was also recorded along the Tioga Pass Road into Yosemite National Park last week.

Meanwhile, anglers are finding competition from deer hunters for some territory in the high country and fishing continues to be good to excellent in many areas of the Sierra.

Soccer begins

Saturdays will be busy days for youngsters at the Naval Weapons Center starting tomorrow when the 1986 fall NWC Youth Soccer league opens play in the morning.

Sponsored by the NWC Recreational Services Department's Youth Activities Branch, the league provides recreation opportunities and a chance to gain sports skills for several hundred youngsters from first through sixth grades in elementary schools.

Walk-through gate opens for football

Naval Weapons Center residents who attend Burroughs High School football home games will be able to use the Burroughs walk-through gate on game nights, according to the China Lake Police Department.

This policy will be in force and the gate open in time for tonight's (Friday's) game when the BHS Burros host Miraleste High School in a non-league game.



ANOTHER SAVE — The goalie for the under-16 Scorpion soccer team prepares to put the ball back in play following a save during early season Scorpion play.

The three Scorpion teams will be back in Golden Empire Soccer League action at NWC fields tomorrow (Saturday).

Under-19 Scorpions prevail in soccer

Scorpion under-19 soccer players are undefeated this fall, blanking the Bakersfield Lasers 3-0 in a key early season match last Saturday. With the easy win, the Scorpions maintained their leadership in the Golden Empire Soccer League with a 3-0 record, the only unbeaten team in the under-19 division.

The Scorp have allowed only three goals in three games while scoring 13 goals thus far. The Scorp moved to the Bakersfield-based league from the Inland Empire League in San Bernardino this fall in order to be in a more competitive league.

Tomorrow (Saturday), the under-19 Scorpions will host Inferno I in a key clash.

Inferno I is in second place with a 2-1 mark, having allowed six goals. The game is set for 11 a.m. at Murray's soccer field.

Bill Ledden scored the only goal the Scorpions really needed. He took a long cross pass from Scott Hannon at the 19-minute mark for a lead they never lost.

The Scorp maintained the attack with Armando Valdivia scoring his first goal of the day 10 minutes into the second half for a 2-0 Scorpion advantage. Bill Hugo's shot bounced off the goalie and Valdivia recovered to send the ball off the diving goalie and into the net.

At the 18-minute mark of the second half, Valdivia struck again. This time he stole

the ball about 35-yards from the goal, dribbled into range and hammered the ball into the left corner of the goal.

Coach Karl Kauffman commended the defense efforts of Neil Johnson, Brian Hayes, Mike Mills and Scott Hamilton in the one-sided game.

The defense shut out the Lasers completely. Jason Cherry, Scorp goalie, said there were no real shots on goal by the Lasers throughout the contest.

Kauffman said the team was looking forward to tomorrow's clash against the second place Inferno I. This could wind up as a vital game for teams seeking to win the fall championship in this league.

Tennis tourney seeks entrants

Entries are now being accepted for the 1986 Gary Haugen Memorial Tennis Tournament on October 18-19 at NWC and Cerro Coso Community College tennis courts. The tourney is sponsored by the China Lake Tennis Club and NWC Recreational Services Department. Tournament directors this year are Werner Hueber, Ed Kutchma and Glenn Wilson.

There are both singles and doubles classes in men's, women's and mixed division. Entry blanks and fees must be received by 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3.

Gary Haugen was a young area tennis player who died of leukemia in the prime of his life. This tournament is held annually to raise funds in support of a scholarship in Haugen's name for area high school or college age tennis players. The entry fee donation is tax deductible. All entrants will receive a tourney shirt.

In singles competition there are men's open, "B," "C" and 40 and over classes. Women's classes are open, "B," and "C." There is a \$12 entry fee for each singles player.

Doubles competition will be held in the open, "B," "C" and 40 and over class for men, women and mixed teams. There is a \$12 per player entry fee in the doubles. Entrants may compete in a maximum of two events and must play at one classification level only. Entry blanks and fees should be mailed to China Lake Tennis Club, P.O. Box 1530, Ridgecrest in time for receipt by Oct. 3.

Entry blanks can be picked up at the NWC tennis courts.



The Skipper Sez...

QUESTION

Civilian employee — I am a member of the Officers' Mess and I enjoy using the swimming pool. Our location here in the Mojave Desert usually means we have warm weather well into September and early October. I was wondering if the base outdoor pool have to close promptly on Labor Day? This means that everyone who wants to swim then has to use the indoor pool which really gets overcrowded, particularly on weekends because there is nothing else available. It seems a waste to have these assets unused and unavailable when the weather is still nice. I realize that they wouldn't have much use during the week, when school is still in session, but couldn't they be open on weekends, at least until the end of September? Thank you for your time and consideration, Captain.

ANSWER

To continue use of the outdoor pools beyond the Labor Day weekend is a matter of cost of operation. Even though the pool would only be used on the weekends, daily maintenance must be done to ensure that the pool and water safety requirements are followed to open for general public use. This year, the pool operations were budgeted to open early (May 1) and fees and operations were adjusted accordingly. At this point funds are not available to continue through September with outdoor pool operations.

Use of the indoor pool is encouraged. We will be looking at budget and fee adjustments to consider keeping the pools open later in FY87.

QUESTION

Civilian employee — I am a wage-grade employee at Public Works, Code 264. Every year I fill out a form of courses and training I would like to take during the year. I see this is nothing but job related courses to benefit Public Works as well as myself. After marking these courses, I hear nothing more about them until the next year when I am requested to fill out the form again. I am puzzled as to how I can receive any training. What is the use of a form, if you can't even get an answer back whether or not you can receive any of the training requested? I would really appreciate an answer. Thank you.

ANSWER

Code 09 prepares their annual training plan with the help of a training questionnaire they send to all departments. Depending on the response for courses requested, the number of classes and instructor requirements are determined for the following year. The forms you fill out are not actual requests for training, but form a basis for determining which courses will be scheduled the following year.

When a course has been firmly scheduled, an announcement is made in the "blue sheet" as well as the Rocketeer and it is at this time a formal request must be made by you for the actual course.

While training of government employees is encouraged, current budget constraints have resulted in an overall cutback. In particular, Code 264 personnel should expect a minimum of training over and above that required in the pre-journeyman program or required safety classes. This is necessary in order to fulfill the requirements of performing the tasks identified in recent A-76 Contracting Out procedures.

All China Lovers, 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. John Burt. 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.

Five graduate from in-house engineering tech class

Five graduates of NWC's first computer-aided engineering (CAE) drawing and drafting technology class recently became engineering technicians in the Documentation Section of the Engineering Department. They spent four and a half months in intensive training to qualify for their new positions.

Both the graduates and NWC are benefiting from the training program. The

five graduates, Pamela Hammond, Christine Rudolph, Victoria Donohue, Leslie Broaker and Allyson Shepherd, moved from lower level clerical jobs to positions with much greater advancement opportunities. The Center benefits because these new technicians can use CAE equipment to perform tasks at significantly less cost than with manual means.

When trained personnel were not avail-

able in sufficient supply to meet the needs of the Computer-Aided Engineering Service Center, Don Miller and branch head C.R. Oldfield examined the possibility of establishing bridge positions and training personnel to meet the needs of Code 3657.

Candidates were chosen from applicants who responded to an announcement in the Rocketeer and the financial and personnel resources to carry out the program were

provided by Code 3657.

Instructor for the intensive training was Al Lupinski, whose present job is teaching CAE classes. Course work included basic drafting, two-dimensional basic engineering graphics, Computer-aided; three-dimensional basic engineering graphics, Computer-aided; and detailing, Computer-aided.

On successful completion of these classes, a midterm examination and a final, the new graduates are able to do engineering drawings and read engineering drawings, according to Oldfield.

Miller adds, "We've taken people in limited advancement positions and have been able to train them to do this critical work. Everybody wins by this approach — and there aren't many situations in which every player wins."

Cerro Coso Community College has been given \$26,000 by the Center to provide five work stations for a drafting techniques curriculum; NWC personnel who take these classes will be able to attend without paying tuition. Anyone interested in learning more about this training should get in touch with the Computer-Aided Engineering Service Center, NWC ext. 1048.

Year-end timecards

All timekeepers are reminded to pick up the red-top timecards for the three days remaining in Fiscal Year 1986. These timecards will be available in the Payroll Office to be picked up when submitting timecards for the week ending September 28.



GRADUATION PICTURE — Flanking the five graduates of an in-house training program are instructors Phil Wilson (l.) and Al Lipinski, both from Code 36574. The graduates, who had been clerical employees and

are now qualified engineering technicians in the Documentation Section of the Engineering Department, are (l. to r.) Leslie Broaker, Allyson Shepherd, Chris Rudolph, Pam Hammond and Torie Donohue.

Vertical-seeking ejection seat can save lives

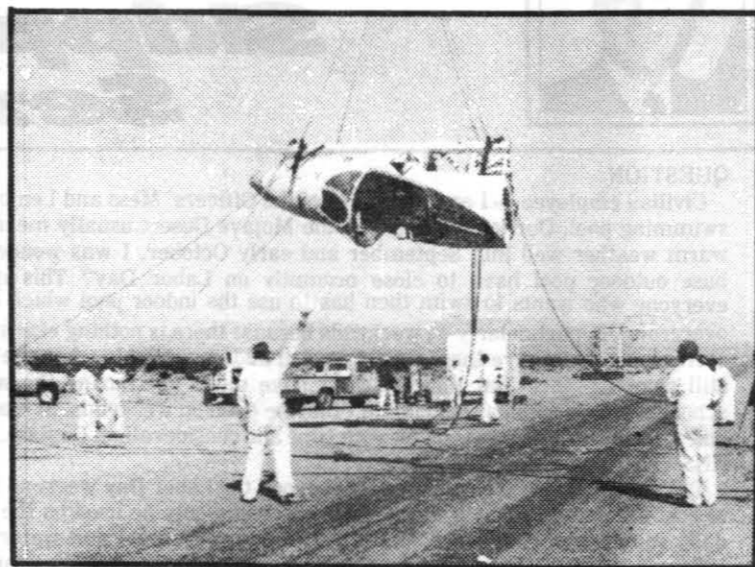
By using a vertical-seeking ejection seat, air crew members will be able to safely eject and recover from an inverted aircraft 50 feet above ground level and at deck level from an aircraft in a 90-degree attitude.

This vertical-seeking ejection seat was built and tested at NWC, using a wide range of Center engineering and scientific expertise in the Ordnance Systems, Range, and Weapons Departments, and what was then the Parachute Systems Department and is now the Aerosystems Department.

Key elements of the vertical-seeking system are the propulsion-steering unit and a digital programmable autopilot. The propulsion/steering system uses an omnixial gimbaled 8-inch-diameter underseat spherical motor. Rocket motor position is controlled by hydraulic actuators and servovalves. Steering commands are initiated by the autopilot.

In the final test at NWC's SNORT area, a cockpit was suspended 100 feet above ground level at a 175-degree roll angle; in it was an anthropomorphic dummy. Within about 1 second, the seat maneuvered to a near-vertical attitude about 55 feet above ground level, the lowest point in the planned trajectory, before gaining altitude to a height of about 150 feet at parachute deployment.

75 Years of Naval Aviation



Some political activity allowed under Hatch Act

Each federal employee has the right to cast his vote in an election and is strongly encouraged to do so. However, attempts on their part to influence the votes of others is a different story.

The question of political activity by federal employees was first raised by Thomas Jefferson. But it wasn't until 1939 that Congress passed what is known as the Hatch Act, legislation that limits the political activities of federal employees, employees of the District of Columbia and certain employees of state and local government. Its premise: Political activity by certain government employees had to be limited for public institutions to function fairly and effectively.

Who is covered under the Hatch Act? Generally, all employees in the executive branch of the federal government including

part-time and temporary employees. The Hatch Act restrictions also apply when covered employees are on annual leave, sick leave, leave without pay, administrative leave or furlough.

These are exceptions, but they apply mostly to appointed officials in government, including the heads of the military departments.

The following list shows both permissible and prohibited activities for employees covered by the Hatch Act.

Covered employees may register and vote as they choose; assist in voter registration drives; and express opinions about candidates and issues. They may also participate in campaigns where none of the candidates represents a political party; contribute money to political organizations or attend political fund raising functions;

wear or display political badges, buttons and stickers; and attend political rallies and meetings. Employees may also sign nominating petitions; and campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments and municipal ordinances.

Covered employees may not be candidates for public office in partisan elections (an election is considered partisan if any candidate for an elected public office is running as a representative of a political party whose presidential candidate received electoral votes in the last presidential election); campaign for or against a candidate or slate of candidates in partisan elections; nor make campaign speeches or engage in other campaign activities to elect partisan candidates.

Collecting contributions or selling tickets to political fund raising functions; distributing campaign material in partisan elections and organizing or managing political rallies or meetings are also not allowed. Also, covered employees are not allowed to hold office in political clubs or parties; circulate nominating petitions; nor work to register voters for one party only.

The minimum penalty for violating provisions of the Hatch Act is a 30-day suspension without pay. The maximum penalty is removal. Questions concerning the Hatch Act should be sent (in writing) to: Office of the Special Counsel, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20419. Or call: (202) 653-7188.

By: Tom Joyce
American Forces Information Service



China Lake Police Reports

A most unusual traffic accident occurred at the intersection of Lauritsen and King last Saturday: a helicopter rotor struck and broke a main telephone cable. The helicopter, however, was not flying at the time; it was being towed to Ridgecrest for the Desert Empire Fair parade.

A series of minor traffic accidents fortunately did not result in any injuries to

anyone involved. China Lake police assisted Ridgecrest police with traffic control when an accident occurred at the intersection of Prospect and French Streets. A bicyclist lost control of his bike when the front tire went into soft material in the construction area at Lauritsen west of Iwo Jima. In the west parking lot at Michelson Laboratory, a vehicle struck a guide-wire guard while backing, then pulled forward and struck another vehicle.

Police assisted the Bureau of Land Management crew on the north ranges with repair of corral panels used for trapping feral burros and then, a couple of days later, with loading nine burros into a truck in the Junction Ranch area.

A 5-year-old child was reported as missing at Groves School. Investigation revealed that the Ridgecrest police had located the youngster who was on the wrong school bus and brought him back where he belonged.

Unknown persons removed two VHS video recorders from Warehouse 15.

When someone passing by reported that a man in a car located in the 1500 block of East Inyokern was either unconscious or asleep, police checked him out. He was sleeping — but police ran a field check on him, discovered that he had outstanding traffic warrants and arrested him for transport to jail.

Unknown persons removed a Sony video camera from Michelson Laboratory.

Neighbors complained of loud music at Young Circle at 6 p.m. one day last week. The subject was warned and advised by police to turn it down.

On Friday a burglary was reported in the building at X-pad. Someone forced entry and removed \$200 worth of government equipment.

Early Saturday morning a vehicle was stopped at Inyokern and Lauritsen Road. The driver was found to be under the influence, was arrested, held for five hours, then cited into East Kern Municipal Court and released.

Personnel at the Enlisted Mess reported theft of an AM/FM radio, amplifier and cassette player.

An attempted burglary was reported from Hangar One at Armitage Field. Someone attempted to break into the Bats Mess.

A 12-year-old fractured his right wrist while playing football at Murray Junior High School grounds. He was transported to Ridgecrest Community Hospital by NWC ambulance.

Sunday a victim was transported to the Ridgecrest Hospital when an engine crank struck him in the head.

At 6 p.m. Sunday neighbors complained that four male juveniles were riding motorcycles in the playground at the east end of Stroop Avenue. They were all warned and advised about riding areas and procedures.

A military man reported his car stolen. It was found at his friend's house, with the friend not having been given permission to drive it. The man did not wish to file charges.

Regulations restrain some political activities

With many local and state elections right around the corner, you may be sold on a particular candidate or political initiative. But before you go door to door handing out literature or rallying for a political cause, you'd better read up on the regulations that limit the political activities of military people.

Members of the armed forces are encouraged to vote and otherwise carry out their obligations as good citizens. But they are prohibited in some cases from becoming political candidates, holding civil office or taking part in partisan political activities.

DOD Directive 1344.10 offers guidelines on political activities in which members of the armed forces may or may not participate.

The directive outlines that members of the military may register, vote and express personal opinions on political candidates and issues, but not as representatives of the armed forces; encourage other military members to vote, as long as they do not attempt to influence or affect the outcome of

an election; and display a political sticker on his or her private automobile.

Making monetary contributions to a political organization; attending partisan or non-partisan political meetings or rallies as a spectator when not in uniform; and joining a political club and attending its meetings when not in uniform are also allowed.

Military members may also sign a petition for specific legislative action or to endorse a candidate's name on an official election ballot, as long as the signature does not obligate the military member to partisan political activity and is taken as a private citizen, not as a representative of the armed forces; write a letter to the

editor of a newspaper expressing personal views about public issues; and write a personal letter, not for publication, expressing political preferences, as long as the action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign by a partisan cause or candidate.

Serving in a local part-time non-partisan civil office, if the job does not interfere with military duties and with prior approval of the appropriate service secretary is also permitted.

Service members may not use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election; be a partisan candidate for civil office; or participate in partisan political management, campaigns or conventions.

Soliciting or making campaign contributions to a partisan political candidate, a member of the armed forces or a federal employee; serving in any official capacity or being listed as a sponsor of a partisan political club; or participating in partisan political management or campaigns and making partisan political speeches is forbidden.

Service members also may not write partisan political articles for publication; solicit or otherwise engage in fundraising activities for a partisan cause or candidate in federal offices or facilities, including military reservations; nor participate in any organized effort to transport voters to the polls if the effort is organized by or associated with a partisan political party or candidate.

Military members are also forbidden to wear a uniform or use government property or facilities while campaigning in non-partisan political activities; or allow participation in non-partisan political activities to interfere with or prejudice the performance of military duties.



Military News



NAVY CAREERS — AT2 Jack Hays (left) and AT3 Richard L. Johnston, both crewmen for NWC's search and rescue helicopter, recently advanced along their Navy career paths when they took the oath of enlistment for another three year hitch in the Navy. The two sailors are busy checking out the SAR helo prior to flight.

Hospitals bill for insurance

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Beginning Oct. 1, Naval hospitals will bill the private insurance companies of retirees, dependents or survivors of retirees, and dependents of active duty people when these individuals receive inpatient care in Naval hospitals. The change affects only people with private health insurance policies. According to officials, this action will not result in any cost increase for the health insurance beneficiaries.

The new policy, which is the result of a recent law enacted by Congress, only applies to inpatient care, which is defined as the care given to patients admitted to Naval hospitals.

Only insurance policies which were entered into, amended or renewed after April 7, 1986 will be billed.

The law also covers insurance underwriters and private employers who offer self-insured or partial self-insured/partially underwritten health insurance plans.

In addition to not adding any charge for the beneficiary, the law also states that in those cases where copayments or deductibles are written into the patient's plan, the insurance company is to pay the amount billed, but minus the amount of the copayment or the deductible.

To allow for accurate billing of the insurance companies, patients entering the hospital will be asked by the local affairs or admissions office if they have health insurance policies. An estimated 10-15 percent of retirees, dependents or survivors of retirees and dependents of active duty people have some kind of private health insurance.

Beneficiaries who have questions concerning this new policy should contact Lyn Wilson at 939-2911, ext. 245.

Appointments necessary at Clinic

Effective October 1, the Branch Medical Clinic will be seeing patients by appointment only, except for active duty personnel. This policy will ensure that active duty personnel and their families will get the best care that can be offered with the Branch Medical Clinic's limited resources.

Appointments will still be available for retirees and their families, but retirees and dependents can no longer be seen on a walk-in basis.

Since the Branch Medical Clinic does not have an emergency room, all emergency cases will be referred to the Ridgecrest Community Hospital. Also, since the Branch Medical Clinic has only general medical officers, patients who require the services of specialists will continue to be referred to civilian health care providers.

While the Branch Medical Clinic would like to provide comprehensive health care services to everyone eligible, it is unable to

do so with present staffing levels.

Anyone with any questions about this new policy should feel free to contact either Cdr. Dean Hermann, Officer in Charge, or LCdr. Dorothy Michael at NWC ext. 3172 or 2911.

Those with questions about the availability of services in the local area or with questions about CHAMPUS, should contact Lyn Wilson, Health Benefits Advisor at 2911, ext. 245.

Stop smoking?

Local help in giving up smoking is going to be offered to both military and civilian personnel. A "Stop Smoking Questionnaire" will be issued in the NWC Announcements (better known as "The Blue Sheet").

Auto shop hours

Due to reduced Appropriated Fund support for fiscal year 1987, the Auto Hobby Center will be closed on Mondays as of Oct. 6.

Further information can be obtained from the staff member on duty at the Auto Hobby Center or by telephoning NWC ext. 2346.

Space remains available for NRS class on Monday

Anyone who would like to take the Navy Relief Society class beginning Monday at 9 a.m. is welcome to attend without pre-registration. The class will be held at the Navy Relief Society office, 1811 Lauritsen. Free child care will be provided.

Joyce Dinnage from NRS headquarters will teach the class each day next week from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The course itself covers pay and allowances for Navy and

Marine Corps personnel, benefits available, and NRS policies.

Those who complete the class will be given the opportunity to volunteer to serve as either receptionists or interviewers in the local NRS office, but there is no requirement to do so.

Both active duty and retired military or their dependents or civilians who are interested are encouraged to attend the class.



GETTING ACQUAINTED — Capt. John Burt, NWC Commander, and his wife, Mary, chat with Paul Lorentzen at the September meeting of the Retired Officers Association. The Skipper was guest speaker for the evening meeting at the Commissioned Officers' Mess.