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March 21, 1991

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	Max	Min	Peak Gusts
Wed.	61	46	20
Thurs.	60	32	21
Fri.	52	35	18
Sat.	59	30	--
Sun.	59	31	18
Mon.	61	45	14
Tues.	56	39	27

Threat level down to ALPHA at NWC

THREATCON BRAVO is no longer in effect. As of March 9, the Naval Weapons Center went to THREATCON ALPHA. Members of the Security Division continue to encourage all employees to be suspicious and inquisitive about strangers carrying suitcases, briefcases, packages and other containers and to be alert for unidentified vehicles. During ALPHA, identification checks at entry gates and administrative inspections of vehicles entering and leaving the Center will continue to be in effect.

Drivers of vehicles with decals will be required to display NWC or military identification. Passengers in these vehicles will not be required to display identification. However, identification will be required of all occupants of vehicles without decals.

Since security patrols can never be everywhere, security depends on all of us during heightened THREATCONS. Report suspicious activities to the Law Enforcement Physical Security (Code 241) at NWC ext. 3323.

President sets day for 'Thanksgiving'

Washington (NNS) -- President Bush proclaimed April 5-7 as "National Days of Thanksgiving" for the allied victory over Iraqi forces.

The three-day period will salute all military personnel and their families for their participation and support during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

NWC Rocketeer

Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California 93555-6001

Vol. XLVI, No. 11, March 21, 1991

NWC hosts air show on Saturday

Blue Angels, VX-5 and test parachutists exhibitions will highlight day-long airfield action

All eyes will be turned skyward Saturday afternoon as the Naval Weapons Center hosts the Blue Angels for the 1991 air show celebrating 81 years of Naval aviation. Joining the Blue Angels during the show will be test parachutists from NWC, pilots and aircraft from Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five (VX-5) and a U.S. Air Force F-16 Falcon.

Visitors will be admitted to NWC starting at 9 a.m., with the air show expected to start at about 1 p.m. Admission to the show is free of charge, but optional bleacher seat tickets

may be purchased at NWC's Craftech Center for \$5 per seat. Call 939-3252 for details.

Since some of the security requirements have been reduced, people attending the air show will be allowed to bring folding chairs, binoculars and cameras (please do not load film into the camera until inside the flight line security fence since they are subject to inspection). Coolers, however, are still prohibited. Everyone 16 years of age and older must have a current picture identification to be admitted to the show. Any person who is not a U.S. cit-

izen will be momentarily delayed and logged in before being admitted to the show. Those with an NWC access badge or military identification and DoD car decal will be routed through the Lauritsen Gate. All others will be admitted through the Sandquist Gate. Instructions will be given by signs as motorists approach the NWC gates.

The air show will open with demonstration parachute jumps by members of the Center's Parachute Test Operations Branch, with one (Continued on Page 6)

New 'cold fusion' evidence seen

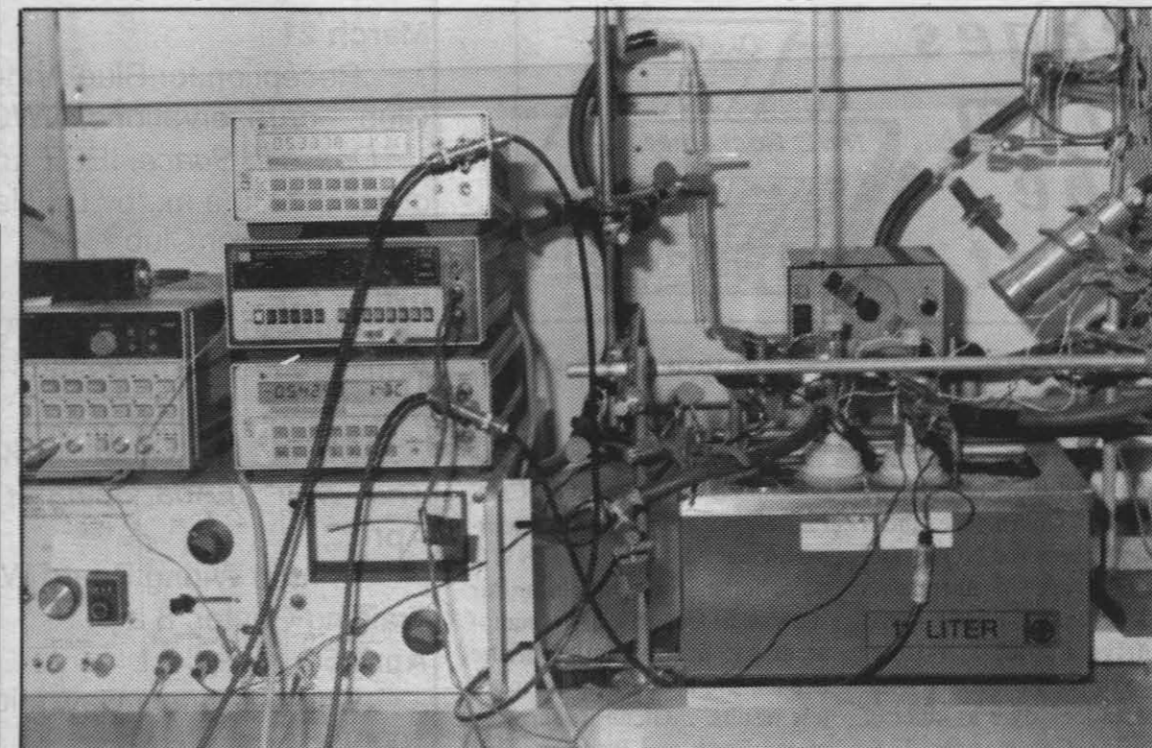
China Lake research team refines experiments to validate the theory

Just the words "cold fusion" can get the attention of the scientific community. From the first day the process burst on the scientific

scene, it has been controversial. Many of the critics were saying the people involved in the testing weren't showing proof of a fusion reac-

tion. A group of Naval Weapons Center (NWC) researchers believe they have produced evidence of a fusion reaction in a similar experiment.

Dr. Melvin Miles, Kwang H. Park and David E. Stillwell began conducting "cold fusion" experiments at NWC last year. The electrolysis cell contained D₂O and was placed in a large glass tube containing distilled water. Both were surrounded by insulation and contained in a large plastic bottle. A palladium rod surrounded by a platinum coil electrode was submerged in the D₂O. Results of the first experiment, starting in April of 1989, were negative, meaning no excess heat was coming out of the cell. Miles then changed the size of the palladium rod in a later experiment and tightened the platinum coil around the rod. In September of 1989, after about five days of electrolysis, the cell began to give off excess heat. This suggested there was some validity to the cold fusion process.



COLD FUSION EXPERIMENT--The two cells containing materials for trying to confirm cold fusion are in the Chemistry Wing of Michelson Laboratory.

(Continued on Page 14)

Two in a row for AQ1 Poindexter

Often people hear the old adage "be careful of what you wish for because it just might come true" and stop to give deeper consideration to their wishes. It kind of makes us realize that what we think we want may not turn out the way we thought it would. For some people this philosophy even works backwards. Just ask Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five's (VX-5) Sailor of the Year for the second year in row, Aviation Electronics Technician First Class, Gerald (Jerry) B. Poindexter, who has had many things work backwards throughout his career and yet miraculously turn out to be the very thing that put him where he is today.

Yes, this sailor has had quite a colorful career. One that definitely illustrates to those struggling with choices about their careers in the

Navy that it's up to them whether they make it or break it! Poindexter certainly had to maintain a real sense of humor and integrity to climb his ever growing mountain of success. But, he *did not* start at the top!

Ironic turn of events started when he was a young high school student living in the bay area by Alameda Naval Air Station. One day he and a buddy were walking along when they heard an airplane flying overhead. "I looked up in the sky and saw THE UGLIEST airplane I had ever seen in my life," exclaimed Poindexter, "I said what the heck is that? It is UGLY! To which my friend (the airplane buff) replied, 'Oh man, that's an A-6 Intruder.' I thought to myself. . . God, I'd hate to work on one of those!" So just what did this sailor end up working on? (Continued on Page 3)

Cold fusion:

(Continued from Page 14)

a positive gas pressure discharge line to the original cell line to collect gases.

Miles and Ostrom set up the same experiment as last year's. The electrolysis cell contained D₂O with still water in the gap. Both were surrounded by insulation and contained in a plastic bottle. The electrolysis cell and the plastic bottle were wrapped in paraffin to reduce evaporation and contamination. A palladium rod was submerged in the D₂O, and it was surrounded by a platinum coil electrode.

'There is actually less helium in the experiment than in the air...'

These new experiments were designed to detect helium in the effluent gasses from electrolysis reaction at the palladium cathode, while rigorously excluding possible helium contamination from other sources, i.e. the air. "There is actually less helium in the experiment than is in the air. That's why it was important to keep the experiment away from contamination. The production of 4He (helium 4), without contamination would give evidence of fusion reaction," said Miles.

To analyze for evidence of 4He production, the collected gas samples were sent to Drs. Ben Bush and J.J. Lagowski at the University of Texas in Austin. Bush and the NWC chemists discussed the experiment over the phone to work out the details. Bush and Lagowski did the heli-

um analysis in Texas because NWC did not have the facilities.

To avoid contamination, researchers went to great lengths in shipping samples from NWC to Texas. They were shipped by ground because air shipment was found to induce leakage. When the Texas researchers received the samples, they went through a few extra steps to remove all gases except helium.

Bush would take the gas sample and pass it through two charcoal cryofilters (filters are charcoal surrounded by liquid nitrogen). The first filter acts as a pump to "sweep any helium entrained in the effluent gas into the filtration system." The second filter removes any D₂ that gets past the first. The 4He is taken to mass spectrometer to analyze.

The experiments took four months to complete. Transporting the samples took time, but the main problem was the new filtration system. Because it was new, a few problems occurred. It was found through trial and error that to keep the integrity of the filter, the charcoal layer must be kept below the nitrogen level to keep the D₂ out of the mass spectrometer sample.

'Vigorous efforts were made to prevent contamination...'

There have been reports of 4He before, but skeptics have dismissed this as evidence of fusion reaction due to contamination. "Vigorous efforts were made to prevent contamination on this project in an effort to

prove that there is in fact a fusion reaction happening. If there is 4He present and no contamination, there can be no other explanation for the 4He except for fusion," say Miles and Bush.

Miles believes this to be evidence of some... radiation

In an effort to find more evidence, Dr. Miles, while talking to his dentist in Bakersfield, decided to borrow some x-ray film and conduct another small experiment inside the cell. He took two pieces of dental film and placed one around the cell in the experiment and one further away in a second experiment. Both were found to be exposed, and the one closest to the palladium rod almost completely exposed. Dr. Miles believes this to be evidence of some form of radiation which would be even further proof of a fusion reaction.

Bush has now joined the NWC team as a post doctoral researcher. Ostrom is also a post doctoral researcher at NWC.

Other scientists are working on similar experiments, but the researchers at NWC are the first to publish their findings. The researchers work will soon be published in *The Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry and Interfacial Chemistry*. "We hope the experiment will put an end to the controversy of cold fusion," said Bush. However, Miles, Bush and Ostrom agree that a quick end to this controversy is unlikely.

Story and Photo by PH3 Cary Brady, Rocketeer Staff Photographer

Community Events

On Monday, March 25, members of the Desert Art League will meet in the Senior Citizens Center, 125 S. Warner, at 7:30 p.m., where Erna Frank, a Bakersfield artist, will demonstrate oil painting an impressionistic landscape. The painting will be donated to the club to raffle, so take a chance and mingle with others who are interested in art.

Friends of JoJo presents the *Miles of Smiles Clown Festival* Saturday, March 30, 12 to 6 p.m., at the Kerr McGee Civic Center. Open to all ages, tickets run \$2.50 or five tickets for \$10 and can be purchased at Country Junction, Sandy's Hair Factory, Sports Oasis, and Drive-Thru Dairy. For more information call 375-6104 or 375 3232.

On Tuesday, April 9, the Cerro Coso Choir, under the direction of Lois Sanders, will perform a variety of music at the WACOM luncheon meeting set for the Seafarer Club. A social hour begins at 11 a.m., followed by the luncheon meeting and program. Reservations are

required. To reserve your spot, call 375-9600.

Everyone has a responsibility in keeping the air we breath clean. To highlight this, thousands of Kern County neighbors are expected to bicycle, walk, jog, carpool or ride the bus to Bakersfield College for a Clean Air Rally on Saturday, April 6. The rally, starting at 11:30 a.m., culminates a three-day symposium at Bakersfield College entitled, *How free is the air?*

Everyone is welcome at the *Sierra Amateur Radio Club* meeting set for April 8 and May 13 at the Kerr-McGee Center in the Red Rock Canyon Room. All meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Steven Rainey at 939-5613.

Many China Lake residents that regularly commute from within Kern County have discovered a gold mine. They've called Kern Rideshare for a free carpool matchlist. For more information about this free service, call (805) 832-RIDE.

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Military News

Poindexter once again VX-5's number one Vampire

(Continued from Page 1)

You guessed it. He now refers to himself as an "A-6 kind of guy."

After a valiant attempt to handle three jobs and a full load of college courses for 18 months, Poindexter decided it was just a bit too much and opted to join the Navy. He found himself seated on an airplane headed for boot camp in San Diego, Calif., in charge of six other recruits. "I knew I was in trouble when the stewardess let us move up to first class and everyone started having their last rite drinks," chuckled Poindexter "then I lost one of the recruits at the airport." A very disgruntled first class petty officer sent to greet them (whom at the time he looked up to as God) told Poindexter that unless he was going to ring his neck. Needless to say, things got off with a rocky start.

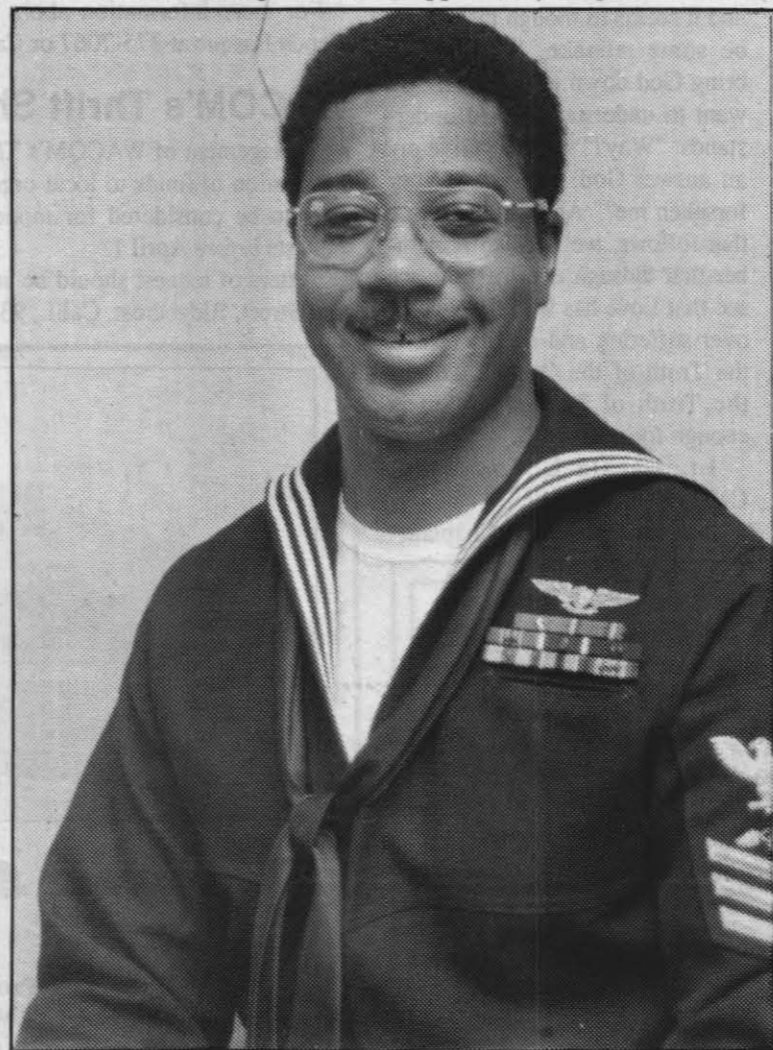
The new recruit survived boot camp, although admitted he had a little bit of a problem accepting authority. "I was pretty headstrong in those days. I simply wanted people to explain to me WHY we did certain things and that idea didn't go over well," laughed the Sailor of the Year. He then headed off to Memphis, Tenn., where Aviation Electrician "A" school is held, but lady luck was still not on his side. He developed mononucleosis which held him back for several months and when released decided to join the fleet rather than return to school. So he joined a FRAMP training command (VA-128) in Whidbey Island, Wash., and learned all about that UGLY airplane, the A-6 Intruder. "I became plane captain extraordinary, and was very good at it!" reflected the modest soul.

Petty Officer Poindexter's first real duty station was with VA-115 aboard the *USS Midway*, homeported in Yokuska, Japan, where he continued working as a plane captain. This is where Poindexter began his epic climb up a very large mountain. He continued to carry around this idea that his superiors should express why they wanted things done.

"You have to understand this was during the 70's and the Navy was still transitioning out of the

old ways and into the new. I couldn't accept things just because I was told to do it. I wanted someone to explain to me

sent Poindexter to the squadron's Aviation Fire Control (AQ) workcenter and gave him the opportunity to prove himself.



AT1 Gerald F. Poindexter

why I was doing something if I didn't understand why. That got me into trouble. I had a big mouth!"

On more than one occasion he got the privileged opportunity to speak with his Skipper. And on one of the last visits was informed he was going to be leaving the Navy because of his inability to adapt to the system. "I was stunned. It really floored me. I never thought for an instance I'd ever be asked to leave. I just stood there thinking NO ONE gets kicked out of the Navy unless you're a loser. And I was not a loser," said Poindexter. The sailor asked for a private one on one consultation and to his amazement was granted time to plead his case. "I told the Skipper I couldn't go home to my mom. He asked 'what do you mean?' And I said, 'I couldn't face my mother if I got kicked out. That was like losing the battle and I couldn't do that.'" So the captain

"That's when my uphill climb started. And from the bottom I ascended to the top!"

As an undesignated airman, Poindexter went to the striker board and was granted permission to take the third class petty officer exam for the AQ rating. He passed the test the first time. He then requested to attend AQ "A" school in Memphis to enhance his technical knowledge. Permission was granted and life in Tennessee was much better the second time around.

After completing school, the sailor requested to go back to Whidbey Island. "I had no idea why I wanted to go there. I had previously spent only six months there. It rained the whole time and I hated it!"

But intuition led him back and on the first day of his arrival he figured out why. The day Poindexter checked into squadron VA-128 he met his future wife, the former Deb

Anderson, who was awaiting separation orders from the Navy. Six months later they were married. "My tour there started off extremely well," remarked the technician.

He became the avionics night check supervisor and made second class petty officer his first time up. He worked extremely hard to make a mark for himself in the A-6 community and became known for his expert troubleshooting and technical abilities. "I knew I had made the grade when the pilots requested my presence during debriefs to discuss avionics," said the technician.

Life came full circle when Cdr. Franz, his old skipper from VA-115, took command of VA-128. For Poindexter's last year at the squadron he again worked for the man who almost sent him home. The relationship was completely different this time around. "Cdr. Franz always said he didn't know why he decided to listen to me that day, it was completely going outside the normal boundaries. He could never believe how I turned around 180 degrees and decided I had been worth it. I plan to have him at my retirement ceremony," said the sailor.

In 1984, the petty officer proceeded to VA-165 and took advantage of the exceptional fleet training that would earmark him as one of the best. The "boomers" were so impressed by his leadership and technical expertise that he was promoted by his captain to first class petty officer under the Command Advancement Program.

When Poindexter joined the VX-5 Vampires three and a half years ago he had no idea what the test and evaluation squadron would have in store for him. "When I first arrived they had no A-6 technicians and I found myself maintaining all of the aircraft," said the first class.

His first four months were very hectic. He had to train personnel on this particular type of aircraft as well as learn nine different types of aircraft systems himself. Within six months Poindexter went from night check supervisor to overall shop supervisor for the Avionics Workcenter because he immedi-

ately established himself as the resident expert on aircraft computer, radar, navigation and weapons delivery systems. He spent countless hours working overtime to learn every system for each aircraft.

Hard work has paid off for this man. Commanding Officer, Capt. Raymond A. Kellett selected Poindexter two years in a row as VX-5's Sailor of the Year. His citation letter praises the young sailor for "establishing himself as an invaluable corner stone and driving force in the steady succession of major maintenance improvements at Airtevron Five that contributed in the receipt of the Meritorious Unit Commendation. . . His unparalleled expertise, sustained zeal and diligence set a standard of excellence resulting in his unanimous selection as Sailor of the Year."

Poindexter's long list of awards and citations include three Navy Achievement Medals, three Good Conduct Medals, three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, three Battle "E" Awards, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, Two Navy Expeditionary Medals, a Navy Unit Commendation and a Humanitarian Service Award.

He was recognized by VX-5's administrative commander, RADM. Briggs, as COM-LATWINGPAC's prestigious "Standout Warrior." He received the coveted Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist Wings while attached to VX-5, was named Supervisor of the Quarter during his first year with the squadron and Sailor of the Year the following two years.

Poindexter currently fills a chiefs' billet in the VX-5 Maintenance Control Workcenter, responsible for screening and certifying planes "safe for flight." He considers himself a career Navy man and has chosen the Warrant Officer Program as his future path of endeavor. "I'd rather be a warrant officer because it allows me to work more closely with the troops."

A true success story, Petty Officer Poindexter has conquered all the elements climbing his mountain to reach great heights!

by Kristine L. Smith
Rocketeer Staff Writer



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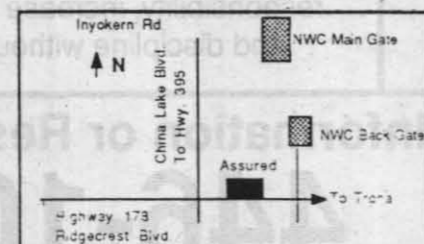
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"My teachers says the north pole is not really at the top. Did you make any other mistakes?"
"Herbie"

We're lonely, or we're in pain, or someone we love is suffering and it seems as though there must be some mistake. We want to bring God down to our level. We want to understand as He understands. "Why?" we ask. "Give my an answer God! Why have you forsaken me?" And in the silence that follows, we need to remember that through eyes of faith we see that Love has won the victory over suffering and death. That is the Truth of the Gospel. That is the Truth of Easter. And it is enough for now.

Lt. Gerald L. Goodman,
CHC, USNR
Assistant Command Chaplain

Resurrection Faith

Years ago, an American film called *The World In Darkness* told the story of an archaeologist who was excavating in Jerusalem, near the Mount Calvary area. One day he announced that he had discovered the tomb where Jesus had been laid -- it was not empty. In it, he said, was a mummified corpse, which he put on exhibition.

People crowded to see the corpse and the news that Christ had not risen from the dead quickly spread around the world. Whereupon, everything that bore Christ's name or trace of His memory was doomed to extinction. Churches and cathedrals were closed, then demolished. Monasteries were emptied of their monks. Missionaries were

withdrawn from their territories. New Testaments and crosses were burned. The world was plunged into a state of incredible gloom and depression.

The world was in deep shock. Christianity could not endure apart from the mystery of resurrection. Finally, in the midst of this spiritual darkness, the archaeologist confessed on his deathbed that he had told a lie; the tomb had been empty!

It is through the eyes of our Resurrection faith that we catch our ultimate glimpse of the truth of God's love. In the Lord Jesus, God became one of us to tell us that He loves with a love strong enough to defeat death itself. God became one of us to tell us that not even death can prevent us from becoming the beautiful,

Navy Wives Club of America establishes branch at NWC

Military wives are invited to join the Navy Wives Club of America, Desert Flowers #125. This educational and charitable organization was formed to promote a friendly, sympathetic relationship among the spouses of enlisted personnel of the United States sea services. It extends relief and assistance to needy members and other families of Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel and fosters a spirit of fellowship among its members and military friends.

This organization is not a squadron wives' club. It holds a charter in Washington D.C. and has branches all over the world.

For more information about the organization's local branch, call Glenda Basque at 375-7067 or Cathy Dal Pian at 446-7636.

WACOM's Thrift Shop distributes funds

Management of WACOM's Thrift Shop announces the semi-annual distribution of funds to local organizations in May. Organizations that want to be considered for monetary assistance must submit written requests before April 1.

Letters of request should be addressed to Fran Fletcher, 1001 Mary Ann Street, Ridgecrest, Calif., 93555.



Divine Services

Protestant
 Sunday Worship Service, East Wing 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship Service, Main Chapel 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher 9:00 a.m.
 Bible Study (East Wing), Wednesday 11:30 a.m.
 (September thru June)
 Men's Prayer Breakfast, East Wing, Thursday 6:30 a.m.
 Officers' Christian Fellowship/Christian Military Fellowships, East Wing, Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Islamic
 Jumaa Prayer (Friday at 1006 Blandly) 12 (noon)

Roman Catholic
 Sunday Mass, Main Chapel 9:00 a.m.
 Daily Mass, Small Chapel 11:35 a.m.
 Confessions, Weekdays By appointment
 Religious Education Classes (Sunday) (September thru May) 10:30 a.m.
 1902 Dibb, 1002 Blandly, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher

Jewish
 (NWC ext. 2851)
 Weekly Services (Friday - East Wing) 7:30 p.m.
 Adult Hebrew Lessons (Saturday at 1004 Blandly) 3:00-5:00 p.m.
 Religious Education (Sunday at 1004 Blandly) 9:00 a.m.-12 noon

Chaplain S. A. Casimano, LCDR, CHC, USN
 Chaplain G. L. Goodman, LT, CHC, USNR
 Andy Busch, Student Rabbi
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 Phone NWC ext. 3506, 2773, 2873

Community Events

Closing weekend for CLOTA's Nuts

Final performances of *Nuts*, the Community Light Opera and



Theatre Association's exciting courtroom drama, will play this Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, in the Burroughs High School Lecture Center. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

Nuts dramatizes the struggle of a belligerent call girl to prove she is mentally fit to stand trial on charges of manslaughter, rather than be committed indefinitely for psychiatric treatment. This compelling contemporary theatre piece stars Deb Haydu, with Suzanne Koerschner, Clyde Irvine and John Clark in crucial supporting roles.

Tickets are available at the Lecture Center box office on evenings of the performance.

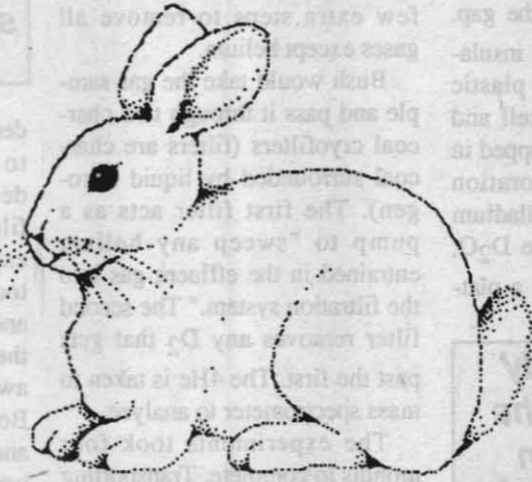
General admission is \$8, with a reduced \$5 rate for active-duty military personnel, senior citizens and full-time students under 21.

All-America City Easter Parade set

On Saturday, March 23, the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce will hold their second annual All-America City Easter Parade.

Mickey Mouse will be the parade's Grand Marshal and special guest. Show your patriotism by wearing red, white and blue and waiving the flag of our great country at this All-America City occasion.

The parade starts at 10 a.m. on Easton Drive (San Joaquin Bank) and continues down California Avenue to Busi-



ness Center Drive (Mexicali Restaurant). Following the parade will be food, games and activities at Patriot's park, including hamburgers and hotdogs from Carl's Jr. and cool refreshing Pepsi. There will be an Easter egg hunt for the kids, face painting, a cake walk and much more.

The parade will be captured with live coverage by KERO TV-23 and aired on Sunday, March 24 at 3:30 p.m. The television crews will be at the intersection of Mohawk and California for those who would like to be seen on television.

Have a happy Easter!

Kern County Board of Trade offers guide

Find out what's happening in Kern County. From a gem show in Boron to drag boat races at Lake Ming -- check them out in the 1991 edition of *Datelines*, a yearly calendar of events, festivals and happenings published by the Kern County

Board of Trade. For only \$1, receive a complete, up-to-date listing of activities in Kern County.

For information about how to order *Datelines*, call the County Board of Trade at (805) 861-2367.

Family day care meeting held monthly

On the fourth Tuesday of each month, the Kern County Department of Human Services holds a family day care home licensing orientation at 440 W. Robertson, Ridgecrest. The orientation, which starts at 1:15 p.m., is open to any interested person. Although appointments are not necessary, please call the day of the orientation at 375-6781 to confirm the class is being held. For more information, call Jean at Community Connection for Child Care, 375-3234. This orientation is part of the state licensing process, not part of the Family Home Care Program on Center.

People living on Center who are interested in becoming home day care providers should remember that they need to complete NWC's Family Home Care Program before providing care in their homes. For more information, call Janet Butler, Family Home Care Program coordinator, at NWC ext. 6681.

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TO DEFEND, PROTECT AND SERVE -- Capt. "BJ" Craig, head of the Naval Weapons Center's Aircraft Department, re-enlists ADC Louis J. Gergel, Code 61229. The chief petty officer raises his right hand vowing to serve his country for another four years of service.
 TID Photo



Easter service schedule announced

Following is the All Faith Chapel's Holy Week schedule for the Catholic and Protestant congregations.

Catholic
 Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday -- 9 a.m., blessing of palms outside Chapel; procession with palms, Mass of Palm Sunday with reading of Passion.

Tuesday, March 26 -- 7 p.m., Communal Penance Service, All Faith Chapel.

Wednesday, March 27 -- 7 p.m., Communal Penance Service, St. Ann's Church.

Holy Thursday, March 28 -- 7:30 p.m., Mass of the Institution of the Holy Eucharist, washing of the feet of the 12 Apostles, procession with the Eucharist, reposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Small Chapel.

Good Friday, March 29 -- 5 p.m., reading of the Passion, sung intercessions, veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil, March 30 -- 8 p.m., blessing of Fire and Paschal Candle, solemn procession and proclamation of "Exultet," renewal of Baptismal vows and Solemn Liturgy of Easter.

Easter Sunday, March 31 -- 9 a.m., Mass in the All Faith Chapel.

Protestant
 Thursday, March 28 -- 6 p.m., Maundy Thursday Communion Service in the Chapel.
 Thursday, March 28 -- 7 p.m., Sacrificial Soup Supper in the East Wing.
 Easter Sunday, March 31 -- 8 a.m., Hosanna Service in the East Wing.
 Easter Sunday, March 31 -- 10:30 a.m., Easter Sunday Services in the Chapel.

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446-1050

Co-workers need additional hours due to medical emergencies

Employees indicated below have been approved to become leave recipients under the Leave Transfer Program. These employees have exhausted annual and/or sick leave because of personal emergencies and will be in a non-pay status for at least ten days. Employees who wish to donate annual leave to the employee should call NWC ext. 2018.

Judith Talbot, Secretary, Code 001 -- is recuperating from surgery.

Mildred Haywood, Secretary, Code 6531 -- is in need of leave due to back injuries sustained in a car accident.

Barbara Miller, Fiscal Accounting Clerk, Code 2855 -- underwent surgery and is in need of leave.

Maryann Hiser, Engineering Data Management Specialist, Code 36542 -- needs major surgery and is in need of leave.

Betty Cirotski, Procurement Assistant, Code 31B1 -- is undergoing treatment for an acute staph infection in her surgically replaced hip.

Deborah Ann Ball, Computer Scientist, Code 3922 -- underwent abdominal surgery and is in need of leave.

George J. Wiederhold, Electronics Technician, Code 6236 -- has been hospitalized for two months due to severe depression.

Sandy Joyal, Procurement Assistant, Code 257 -- broke her elbow in four places.

Barbara J. Bennett, Secretary, Code 308 -- had arthroplasty and needs to be off work for three months.

Thomas Boyd, Visual Information Specialist, Code 3414 -- is off work and indebted for leave due to osteomyelitis of the spine.

Leo Montano, Visual Information Specialist, Code 3441 -- needs further cancer treatment.

Marlene Nelson, Paralegal, Code 006 -- underwent unexpected emergency surgery and is in need of leave.

DeWayne Davis, Engineering Technician, Code 3665 -- underwent surgery and is in need of leave.

Linda Lou Crosby, Televi-

sion Production Specialist -- had knee surgery and is undergoing physical therapy.

Anita L. Rohloff, Clerk, Code 3193, -- is suffering from multiple sclerosis and bilateral optic neuritis.

Madeline Kay Blackston, Computer Security Specialist, Code 6447 -- is required to care for her husband who has terminal lung cancer.

Cheryl Mosley, Secretary, Code 3217 -- is in need of leave to care for her son who underwent surgery.

Tamera Nelepovitz, Electronic Technician, Code 3573 -- is experiencing severe complications due to dependent diabetes and is indebted for leave.

Karen Linard, Industrial Engineer, Code 3291 -- underwent major intestinal surgery and is in need of leave.

Polly Bainbridge, Secretary, Code 3922 -- is currently undergoing medical treatment and is indebted for leave.

George Petty, Physicist, Code 3924 -- was admitted to the

Duke University Hospital on an emergency basis with the diagnosis of acute myelogenous leukemia.

Satik Martinsen, Management Assistant, Code 36402 -- is diagnosed as having nodular scler-

osing Hodgkin's Disease and is currently undergoing treatment.

Jay W. Hill, Code 6421, Electronic Technician -- is being treated for pneumonia and valley fever and is indebted for leave.

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First secretary graduates

More than five years of juggling classes, career and a home finally resulted in Eileen W. Jackson, the Telemetry Systems Branch's secretary, being the first Naval Weapons Center employee to receive a certificate for completing the Secretarial Certificate Program. The NWC secretary was congratulated for her accomplishments by the head of the Aerosystems Department, Milt Burford, who presented her the certificate; Jack Brown, head, Telemetry Division; Larry Harlan, head, Telemetry Systems Branch; Sharon Allen, secretary, Aerosystems Department and member of the Corporate Secretaries Board;

and various other members of her division and branch.

The Secretarial Certificate Program was established and implemented in 1990 after a year's worth of research and planning. There are currently seven employees participating in the program. The main purpose of the program is to help train NWC secretaries with an understanding of NWC correspondence policies and procedures. A notice about the program is made in May of each year through the *Rocketeer* and NWC Announcements, however, applications may be made at any time. For further information about the program, call Sue Swett

on NWC ext. 2349.

Jackson noted the fact she had already accomplished the academic portion of the certificate before coming to NWC helped. "I have an AA in Secretarial Science from Blair Business College in Colorado Springs, Colorado," she said. "That helped a lot. I have been taking NWC classes since coming onboard in July, 1985."

Married, a brand-new grandmother and the mother of three grown children, Jackson is proud of her accomplishments. "In fact," she said, "I'll be going back to school next month. I have already enrolled in the University of Redland's Program in Ridgecrest."

MAKING HER MARK -- Eileen Jackson, secretary, Telemetry Systems Branch, accepts her certificate for completing the Secretarial Certificate Program from Milt Burford, head, Aerosystems Department. Jackson is the first NWC secretary to complete the program. While the program is new, Jackson has been taking NWC classes on her own to improve her job performance.



WELCOME ABOARD-- RADM. R.H. Ailes (left), Commander, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, paid his first visit to the Naval Weapons Center since taking command. He is seen being greeted by Capt. Douglas W. Cook, NWC Commander, and Jack Russell, NWC's Test and Evaluation Director.
Photo by PH3 Cary Brady

Why Ada? Attend March 26 lunch

China Lake Chapter of the Computer Society presents John P. Francis of the Naval Weapons Center's Inertial Development Branch, who will discuss *The "Why" of Ada* during a luncheon meeting March 26 at the Seafarer Club. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m.

The origin of the computer language Ada, named for Augusta Ada Byron, Countess of Lovelace and daughter of the poet Lord Byron, goes back to 1974, when the Department of Defense became aware of the "software crisis." It was spending far more on computer software than on computers, mainly because of the lack of standardization of computer languages. This led to a search and competition for a new standard language for DoD embedded system applications. The resulting language emerged in its present form in 1983 and became not only a military standard (MIL-STD-1815), but also a standard of ISO (International Standards Organization) and ANSI.

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Blue Angels lead NWC air show

(Continued from Page 1)

parachutist displaying the American flag to kick off the show.

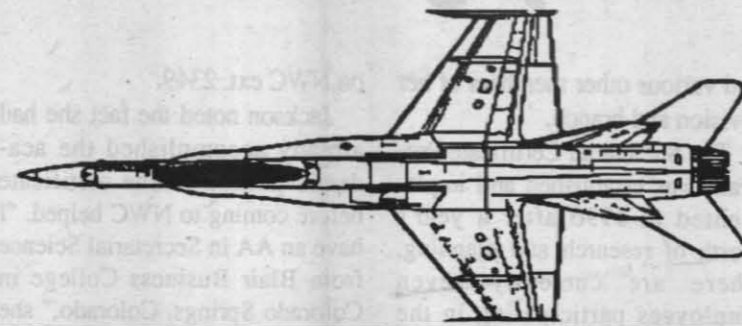
VX-5 pilots will put their aircraft, including the AH-1 Cobra attack helicopter and Navy attack aircraft, through their paces, demonstrating simulated weapons delivery in front of the crowd.

At about 2:30 p.m., the Navy's Blue Angels will take to the air above the Indian Wells Valley for their first show here since 1988. Flying F/A-18 Hornets, the Blues bring combat tactics down to treetop level. This show features precision maneuvers developed in practice and actual combat by Navy and Marine Corps pilots. These are the same kinds of maneuvers used by pilots during Operation Desert Storm.

In addition to the aerial demonstrations, NWC departments and local area defense contractors will have static displays inside a hangar, showing some of the contributions made to the national defense effort.

Food, drink and souvenirs will be on sale by area non-profit organizations. Hamburgers, hot dogs, beer, soft drinks, candy, t-shirts, hats, patches and more will be available throughout the day. Among the groups selling goods during the show are the Military Affairs Committee selling Blue Angels memorabilia; Marine Aviation Detachment selling beer and sodas; BOSS

selling ribs and chicken; Navy Exchange selling various food items; VX-5 selling patches, cotton candy and popcorn; Sea Cadets selling fajitas on a stick and the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division selling beer, sodas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, lemonade and cookies.



Vampires show their skills Saturday

Five different types of aircraft will be shown off by Navy and Marine Corps aviators of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five (VX-5) in their portion of Saturday's air show at the Naval Weapons Center.

Included in the VX-5 demonstration will be simulated weapons delivery runs by four aircraft. Lt. Greg Wheelock and the NWC Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment will assist this effort by placing small explosive charges on the ground to simulate ordnance blasts. The simulated tactical attacks will be made by A-6E, A-7E, F/A-18 aircraft and the AH-1 Super Cobra helicopter. In addition, an EA-6B will take part in fly bys.

Flying the F/A-18 Hornet will be Lt. Dave Dunaway, while the A-7E Corsair II's pilot is the squadron executive officer, Cdr. John Voshell. The Super Cobra will be flown by Capt. Aaron Aldridge, while Lt. Cdr. Jim Seaman will fly the A-6E Intruder with Lt. Mark Dvorak as his B/N. In the Prowler, Lt. Cdr. J.P. Kindred will be at the controls with Lt. Scott Burkholder and Capt. Joe Dauplaise as crew members.

The Vampires of VX-5 will also have a booth set up selling patches, and food. In addition, for kids of all ages who want their photograph taken in the cockpit of a Navy jet, an A-4 Skyhawk will be set up by VX-5 for that purpose during the day.

Meet members of the teams at reception tonight

China Lakers and area residents will have a chance to meet and talk to members of the Blue Angels and VX-5 teams during an informal reception at 6 p.m., on Thursday, March 21, in the Naval Weapons Center's Seafarer Club. Casual dress is

the uniform of the evening. The cost is \$5 per person for a buffet meal of chicken, baked beans, potato salad, coffee and tea. Reservations are required. Pay at the door.

For reservations call NWC ext. 3512.

R&D:

Conference set to allow labs to exchange information

From April 2-4, the second R&D Information Exchange Conference will take place at the Naval Weapons Center. The purpose of the conference is to foster interlaboratory technical exchange.

Conference sessions include materials-composites, materials-electronics and optics, optics and electromagnetic phenomena, energetic materials/propulsion/warheads, electro-optic/RF sensors, signal/image processing, aerodynamics/hydrodynamics and human performance. Four special sessions will cover electrochemistry, wavelets, environmental and computer aided molecular design.

All SPAWAR laboratories, as well as several other labs, will be represented.

Anyone who would like a copy of the agenda or a registration form, please call Doris or Jo at NWC ext. 3523.

Registration is required and must be made by March 27.

Branch offers two soldering classes

During the months of March and May, the Soldering Technology Branch will be offering two soldering classes two 24-hour recertification courses to MIL-STD-2000. The courses will be held at 543 Graaf Street from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The first 24-hour recertification course will be held March 25-27, with the second one scheduled for May 29-31. These courses are for government/contractor personnel requiring annual recertification as inspectors or operators. Course prerequisites include (1) previous certification to MIL-STD-2000 and (2) a current eye examination.

To be scheduled for any of these classes, contact the Soldering Technology Training Facility, Code 36812, at 446-5571. After being scheduled, please submit a Training Request (NAVWPNCEN 12410/73), with the appropriate job order to be charged annotated in Block 16, via department channels to Code 36812.

Secretarial positions available

(Continued from Page 18)

with the Xerox 640 and Macintosh computer is highly desirable. Promotion potential to DG-2, but not guaranteed.

No. 64-018, Secretary (typing), DG-318-1/2, Code 6446- This position is located in the Aerosystems Department, EWTES Division. The incumbent provides secretarial and administrative support to the Range Services Branch. Knowledge and working skill on the Macintosh PC is desirable. Must be able to obtain a secret clearance. Work schedule is first forty, Monday thru Thursday, 0630-1630. Promotion potential to DG-2.

For training information, call NWC ext. 2359

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PWB workshop planned April 2

On-Center Training Requests should be submitted by March 22

On April 2, a one-day workshop for the new design standard for Printed Wiring Boards (PWB) and PWB assemblies (IPC-D-275) will be held at the Training Center. On-Center Training Requests should be submitted by March 22 via department channels to the Training Center. If deadline can't be met, call Roger Nickell, Code 3684, at NWC ext. 1828 and reserve your space in class and follow up with your paperwork.

During the past several years, there has been considerable changes in the technology of interconnection for electronic components. Higher circuit speeds, higher component and thermal densities and surface mount components have prompted new materials and design requirements.

The standard covers general design considerations, component mounting and attachment, board design requirements, documentation and phototool-

ing, quality assurance requirements and board material considerations for single-sided, double-sided and multilayer boards with or without metal cores and blind or buried vias. Through hole and surface mount designs are covered in detail.

The standard is an excellent source for information on electrical requirement considerations such as power distribution, impedance/capacitance control and embedded microstrips. Mechanical and thermal design requirements sections cover materials for structural strength, coefficient of thermal expansion, thermal matching, thermal transfer and design considerations for vibration.

Important aspects of the workshop will be design for reliability and producibility. Both of these aspects have proven to be very important at the start of the design to give the most cost effective and reliable systems.

Professor Mincer advises students on CSUN's programs

Professor Tom Mincer of Cal-State University, Northridge (CSUN) will be on-Center April 2 to advise current and prospective students in the external degree program offered by the school in

mechanical engineering. Those who wish to see Professor Mincer are asked to make an appointment by calling Helen at NWC ext. 2648.

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Personnel News

Promotional opportunities

Applications for positions listed below are being accepted from Department of Navy employees currently working at NWC and from eligible employees of attached activities who are permanently assigned to NWC. This group includes employees with career or career conditional appointments; employees with permanent Veterans Readjustment Act (VRA) appointments; temporary employees with reinstatement eligibility; and handicapped employees with Sch. (A) continuing appointments. Also included are spouses, with competitive status, of civilian sponsors hired by a DOD activity within NWC's commuting area. Applications from other groups will be accepted when specified in an advertisement. Vacancies are subject to restrictions imposed by the DOD Priority Placement Program. Applicants must meet all legal and regulatory requirements, including minimum qualifications requirements, by the closing date of the advertisement. Evaluation of applicant's qualifications will involve using at least two assessment measures. Assessment measures are work experience, annual performance assessment rating and narrative, education, training, performance assessment and awards.

Eligible spouses (of military sponsors) with competitive employment status may apply for employment preference. Those enrolled in this program will automatically receive consideration for employment on vacancies for which they applied. For initial employment information, career counseling and enrollment, call 939-3317 for an appointment.

HOW TO APPLY: Submit the following: a current application, SF-171 or other Human Resources Department pre-approved form; a copy of your most recent annual performance assessment narrative (note: a copy of your performance plan should be attached if the annual performance narrative description does not clearly state the tasks/duties performed); and a completed Background Survey Questionnaire. A supplemental narrative which relates your qualifications to each knowledge, skill or ability (KSAs) as cited in the advertisement is always desirable and may be required if stated in the vacancy announcement. Write the title, series, level (grade), and announcement number on all application materials. Not submitting the annual performance narrative may adversely affect your evaluation scores. Prior to submitting your application, complete Cover Sheet Form 12335/2, available at the reception desk. **Make sure your address, phone number, etc. are current, correct and that all forms are complete and accurate.** If information is missing, your qualifications may not be fully and completely rated. Additional information cannot be submitted after the closing date of the announcement. A current date and a signature on the last page completes the application. Civilian Spousal Program Eligibles with competitive employment status must submit a copy of their sponsor's PCS orders with each application in order to be considered for Merit Promotion vacancies which do not state that status eligibles may apply.

Application materials are accepted, and blank forms are available, at the Reception Desk, Room 100, Human Resources Department, 505 Blandy. Announcements close at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, one week after the opening date of the announcement, unless otherwise specified. Applications received after 4:30 p.m. on the closing date will not be considered. Copies of Applications may be submitted since applications are kept in an announcement file and cannot be returned or filed in personnel folders. The Naval Weapons Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer; selections are made without discrimination for any non-merit reason.

Notice Regarding Drug Testing Designated Positions

Any applicant tentatively selected for one of these positions will be required to submit to urinalysis to detect illegal use of drugs prior to a final selection. Final selection is contingent upon a negative drug test result, and thereafter the selectee will be subject to drug testing on a random basis as the incumbent of a Testing Designated Position (TDP). Further, all Department of the Navy employees may be subject to drug testing under certain circumstances such as reasonable suspicion and after an accident. All individuals will have an opportunity to submit medical documentation that may support the legitimate use of a specific drug to a Medical Review Officer. An applicant's test results will be provided to the selecting official and servicing Civilian Personnel Office before a final selection is made. A verified positive drug test of a current Department of the Navy employee will also be provided to the employing activity/command. (NAVWPNCENINST 12792.2, 14 Dec 90).

No. 31-010, Electronics Technician, DT-856-3, Code 3159 - This position is located in the Systems Engineering Branch, Targeting and Fire Control Division, Aircraft Weapons Integration Department. The incumbent will test, evaluate and maintain airborne electro-optical (FLIR and laser designator) sensors and be responsible for the operation and support of unique sensor integration test facilities. Duties are very diverse, encompassing hands-on test engineering support of all phases and aspects of sensor test and evaluation in the laboratory or on Center ranges or aircraft. **Job Relevant Criteria:** Knowledge of digital and/or analog circuit design; knowledge of aircraft avionics systems; skill in

using electronic test equipment; skill in installation, test, troubleshooting, and repair of avionics and electronics equipment; ability to plan, schedule, coordinate and execute test projects. Familiarity with Navy logistics and technical manuals desirable. Background in electro-optical systems and laser safety preferred, but training will be provided if necessary. Must be willing to meet critical test schedules involving occasional unscheduled travel or overtime on short notice. The full performance level of this position is DT-3.

No. 35-010 - Engineering Technician, DP-802-3, Code 35C4 - This position is located in the Tomahawk Production Project

Office, Standoff Weapons Office, Attack Weapons Department. The incumbent will be responsible to support transition-to-production activities for the Block III Tomahawk Cruise Missile now in full scale engineering development. Incumbent performs production documentation review, review of ECPs/deviation-s/waivers for integration into production baseline, support of PCA/FCA, support of Production Readiness Reviews, generation of plans and schedules for transition activities, and support at various contractor and sponsor reviews and technical meetings. **Job relevant criteria:** Knowledge of production documentation, manufacturing qualifications and Production Readiness Reviews, gen-

eration of plans and schedules for transition activities, and support at various contractor and sponsor reviews and technical meetings. **Job relevant criteria:** Knowledge of production documentation, manufacturing qualifications and production contracts; Ability to plan, organize, coordinate and manage a technical program; Ability to deal with all levels of technical management, including contractor personnel; Ability to work alone; Ability to communicate in writing; Ability to communicate orally.

No. 39-002, Engineering Data Management Specialist, DT-301-2/3, Code 39B1 - This position is located in the Advanced Technology Applications Office, Anti-air Projects Office, Intercept Weapons Department. Incumbent will function as lead technical document control point of contact for an extensive classified document inventory; shall provide controlled and smooth flow of information to multiple project technical personnel, within and external to the office, while adhering to required security guidelines; shall prepare for document inspections and inventories. Incumbent will provide organization and guidance to support contractor personnel doing input and transmittal; perform checks and inventories on data input to make sure procedures are being followed. **Job relevant criteria:** Knowledge of Macintosh computers and data base systems, SIMS or equivalent; ability to interface with technical and administrative personnel; knowledge of NWC technical and classified document control procedures. Current Secret clearance is required. Ability to obtain and maintain a Top Secret clearance with SBI is required. Promotion potential to DT-3, but not guaranteed. The person selected for this position will be subject to urinalysis testing for use of illicit drugs. See "NOTICE REGARDING DRUG TESTING DESIGNATED POSITIONS" in "Promotional Opportunities" box above.

Secretarial opportunities

This column is used to announce secretary 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 grades, 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 secretary duties are implied by the job relevant criteria indicated below.

Applicants will be rated against four 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; (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 applications 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. 31-011, Secretary (Typing), DG-318-2, Code 3182 - This position is located within the Weapons Survivability Laboratory (WSL), Survivability and Lethality Division, Aircraft Weapons Integration Department. This position is at a remotely located work site. The incumbent provides secretarial and administrative support for the branch head and staff and is also responsible for walk thru of various documents which requires on center travel of 300 miles per month. Some of the duties include timekeeping, typing, filing, weekly test schedule preparation and dissemination. Knowledge and experience with the Macintosh PC is desired. Ability to obtain and maintain a secret clearance is required.

No. 32-004, Secretary (Typing), DG-318-1/2, Code 3267 - This position is located in the Gun Systems Branch, Conventional Weapons Division, Ordnance Systems Department. The incumbent provides secretarial and administrative support to the branch. The incumbent must be able to obtain and maintain a Secret clearance. Experience (Continued on Page 19)

Wild horse selection based on quality traits

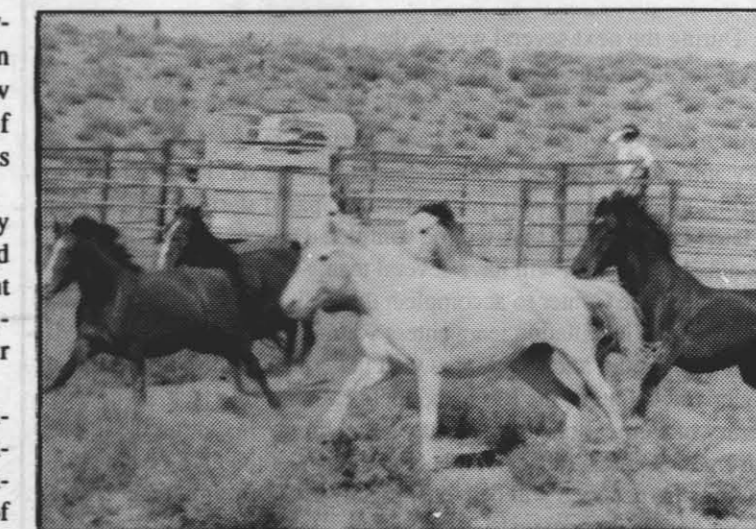
Since 1981, the Naval Weapons Center has rounded-up wild horses and burros from its ranges. During these past ten years, more than 10,000 wild horse and burros have been removed from NWC lands. Annual roundups were conducted

as the primary management activity for the herds to reduce human safety hazards and to allow recovery and improvement of vegetative and water resources throughout Center lands.

The roundups have been very successful in reducing the wild horse population to management goals of maintaining approximately 375 horses on Center lands.

So, this year, the Environmental Project Office (Code 008) initiated another management activity to maintain the good quality of the remaining herd. Working with the Bureau of Land Management, 30 horses were specially selected from those recently rounded-up and held at the BLM Corrals east of Ridgecrest. Jerry Boggs, head of the Environmental Resources Branch (Code 0082), and Gene Nunn, manager of the BLM Wild Horses and Burro Facility in Ridgecrest, identified horses who carried desirable traits of the Center herd such as confirmation, color and size.

In early March, the BLM horse trailers returned to NWC's north ranges and released these 30 horses to join the wild horses remaining on the ranges. On

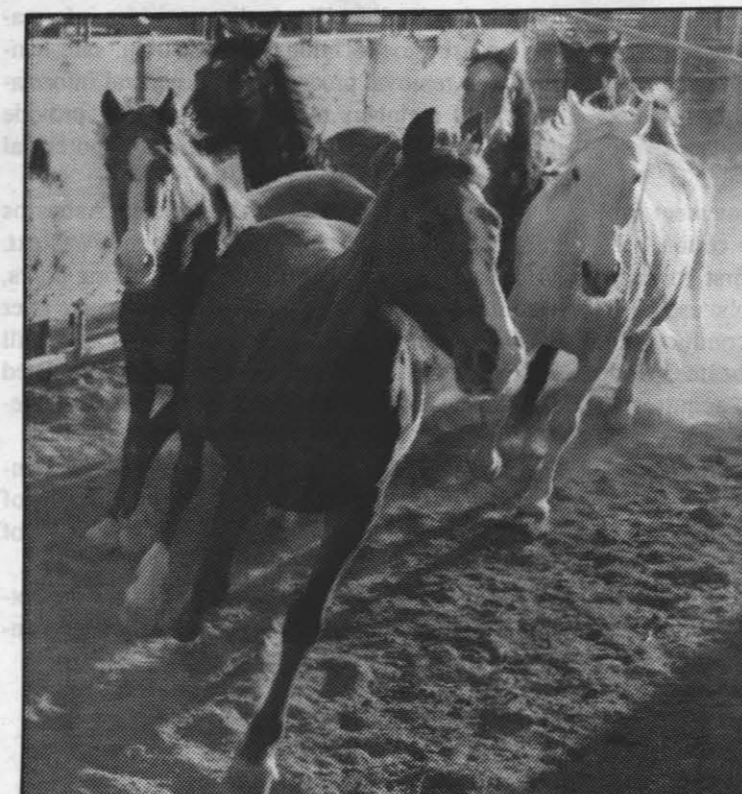


ROUNDED UP FOR INSPECTION - Wild horses run into the Bureau of Land Management corrals east of Ridgecrest. All horses are then inspected by Jerry Boggs, head of the Environmental Resources Branch (Code 0082) and Gene Nunn, manager of BLM Wild Horses and Burro Facility.

March 1, the first group of 15 horses were taken to the Darwin Wash area and released them in the area where they had been captured. Then, on March 13, they took the remaining 15 horses back to their area of capture near El Canejo Mine Road.

By reintroducing these healthy horses with desirable traits of composition and color, the good quality of the wild horse herd

throughout Center lands will be maintained and improved over the long term. Code 008 and BLM will monitor the health, age structure and composition of the remaining wild horse herds on-Center so on future roundups, young healthy horses will more likely be captured and placed through the BLM adoption program.



ENVIRONMENTAL SELECTS CREAM OF CROP - These healthy wild horses are turned back out to the ranges in hopes of improving the wild horse herd. They were selected for their desirable traits of color, size and composition.

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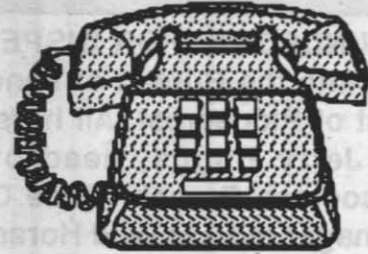
CTS contractor begins difficult task of installing all new wiring

During the next several weeks, the CTS contractor (CASI) will begin the labor-intensive job of installing the necessary wiring for our new telecommunications system. There are more than 1,000 buildings to be wired and CASI will be entering every office, laboratory and shop on-Center that has existing phone service to install new wiring and universal wall jacks. The anticipated start for installation is late March and the task will be completed approximately five months later. CASI will have several teams working concurrently throughout the Center to accomplish this task.

When the installation team enters your area, it will be placing wire around the room and attaching a wall plate/jack to the wall. Depending on the layout of the room and the location of the jack, some temporary movement of furniture may be required. Installing the inside wiring is the most difficult and complex part of the CTS. Your cooperation and patience will help ensure the successful implementation of our new telecommunications system.

Exact start dates will be passed along to each department's point of contact (POC) when the dates are confirmed. Your department POC should then contact you to let you know when the contractor will be in your area. If any problems arise while the contractor is doing installation, please contact your POC.

If you have any questions about the inside wiring or want to know who your POC is, please contact Nancy Autry, Code 2712, at NWC ext. 1659.



Environmental program starts complete asbestos inventory

Recently, the Environmental Project Office (Code 008) has begun inventorying Naval Weapons Center buildings for the presence of asbestos. As directed by the Chief of Naval Operations, all Navy activities are to conduct complete inventories of all facilities for asbestos. For NWC, this involves inventorying more than five million square feet of space.

Staff members of the Asbestos Abatement Program (Code 00812) are beginning to conduct the inventories in Center buildings. The first buildings on the list are those which are high public use facilities. Field investigations are first conducted to locate and identify any possible asbestos. Code 00812 staff members take samples, acquire lab results and prepare a proposed plan of action, such as abatement or maintenance of the asbestos-containing materials for all asbestos identified.

The Asbestos Abatement Program is the Center's focal point for all matters concerning asbestos. Center personnel should contact the Asbestos Abatement Program staff prior to working on any project that may potentially involve asbestos.

To effectively respond to asbestos concerns, the Asbestos Abatement Program operates an Asbestos Information Hotline. The hotline provides information on asbestos location, identification, safe handling and removal procedures and general information. Staff members receive hotline calls, provide information and on-site evaluation of potential asbestos-related problems.

During normal working hours, the Asbestos Information Hotline phone numbers are NWC ext. 3411, ext. 460 or 300. After normal working hours, the number is 371-2011. Staff members receive after normal working hours calls on a pager and will respond to or return a call reporting asbestos-related emergencies or suspected release of asbestos immediately.

The Asbestos Abatement Office encourages Center employees and residents to become aware of asbestos issues through information and services of its staff members.

Center employees are encouraged to use the hotline phone numbers with any asbestos-related concerns or questions.

February was warm and wet

February 1991 goes into the record books as being much warmer than normal, noted a report from the Range Meteorology Office, Range Support Branch. The monthly mean temperature was 4.4 degrees warmer than normal and was the fifth warmest on record. On Feb. 20, the temperature climbed 52 degrees from a morning low of 28 degrees to an afternoon high of 80 degrees, setting a new maximum range for the month.

The local area had five periods of unsettled weather during the month. On Feb. 2, 5, 17 and 22, the weather was influenced by weak front systems moving through the region. On Feb. 26, tropical moisture moved over the southwestern U.S. and lasted through the end of the month. Near record precipitation amounts were recorded on Feb. 27, lowering visibility at the air-

field to one mile, in association with an upper level disturbance moving over the region. The snow level dropped to 5,000 feet, and on Feb. 27 and 28, up to 18 inches of snow fell on to the mountains west and north.

Recorded precipitation during the months was 1.87 inches at the Airfield, 1.60 inches at RSL, 1.50 inches at T-8, 1.38 inches at WWP, 1.28 inches at JR and .38 of an inch at RBW.

ORACLE EXPRESS SEMINAR AT NAVAL WEAPONS CENTER CHINA LAKE, CA APRIL 19, 1991

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Agenda:	Morning	Afternoon	
	10:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	Introduction
	10:05 a.m.	1:05 p.m.	The need to share information
	10:20 a.m.	1:20 p.m.	Oracle Express Demo
	10:50 a.m.	1:50 p.m.	Question and Answers

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(Continued from Page 13)
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The NWC Commissary is

open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays and from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The store is closed on Sundays and holidays.

"The mission of the Navy Commissary Program is to

enhance the quality of the Navy life by providing customers with quality foods and household products at an overall savings in a clean, well stocked, friendly environment," noted the manager of the Naval Weapons Center's facility.

"Satisfaction guaranteed."

Optics in Space will be the topic of discussion for a combined IEEE and SPIE luncheon today (Thursday) at 11:30 a.m. Dr. Harold E. Bennett, Associate Physics Division Head in the Research Department of the Naval Weapons Center, is the guest speaker.

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PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT - ATZ2 John Coon, AMSC (AW) Al Hill, AMSC Anton Kiren and ABHC Gary Heaton now know what to expect and plan to take next year's SOUTH PAC Dart Championships.

Early anglers will get the fish

Despite recent rains, the Department of Fish and Game is proceeding with plans to plant hatchery-reared fish early this year.

According to members in the DFG, excellent fishing opportunities for large, catchable fish will greet those anglers who plan their trips in spring.

Low water conditions in many lakes and reservoirs will result in high water temperatures as the season progresses, causing them to be too warm to plant catchable trout in, noted Bruce Barngrover, DFG fishery management supervisor in Sacramento.

For more information, call (916) 351-0832.

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Tournament challenges China Lake competitors

"We didn't do so good," said ABHC Gary Heaton as he talked about the Southern Pacific Sports Conference Darts Championships in San Diego the weekend of March 9. Heaton, AMCS(AW) Al Hill, AMSC Anton Kiren and ATZ2 John Coon represented NWC in the competition. Heaton and Coon did the best, moving into the second round, representing the top 16 competitors, in the doubles portion of the bout.

"Hill and Kiren went against some real sharks right off the bat," Heaton said. "However, we know what we're up against now, and plan on taking first place next year."

How's that for optimism?

CPR/first aid course planned

From April 1-4, the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Division's Sports Branch will offer a lifeguard, CPR & first aid course. The class will be held from 8 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Gymnasium. Cost is \$38 for military, \$40 for DoD and \$42 for all others.

On April 1, students will be instructed in CPR and first aid. Anyone already certified in community CPR and first aid can miss the first day of class. However, the cost remains the same. Each student must be certified in first aid and CPR in order to pass the course.

For further information, call NWC ext. 2334/2571.

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SAVING WATER-- Members of the High Desert Xeriscape Steering Committee plant a paloverde tree at the corner of Las Flores and China Lake Blvd. in recognition of Arbor Day, which was March 7. Members are (l to r) Bruce Wertenberger, Board of Trustees, Maturango Museum; Tery Tennant, representative for Sierra Sands School District; Steve Cooper, Naval Weapons Center and Chairman of the committee; Peter Brown, Earth, Inc; Judie Decker, Indian Wells Valley Water District; and Pat Rogers, Board of Trustees, Maturango Museum.

Institute introduces new war certificate

Annapolis, MD -- In honor of those who served in Operation Desert Storm, the U.S. Naval Institute is introducing a new Gulf War certificate.

The colorful new certificate was designed by noted artist Tom Freeman and depicts images from all services participating in the Gulf War. It can be custom-lettered with the person's name, unit and dates of service.

Brochures about the Certificate Service are available by writing the U.S. Naval Institute, Certificate Service, Annapolis, MD 21402.

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Program promotes use of xeriscaping in high desert region

As the kick-off activity for High Desert Xeriscape '91, a paloverde tree was planted on the Maturango Museum grounds to recognize Arbor Day on March 7.

The High Desert Xeriscape Steering Committee, comprised of members from organizations interested and active in water conservation, helped to plant the tree at the corner of Las Flores and China Lake Blvd. Donated by Earth, Inc., this is one of the water conserving plants for landscaping suggested for this region by the Xeriscape committee.

The term "xeriscape" is derived from the Greek "xeri" meaning dry and "scape" for vista, and focuses on water conservation through creative landscaping.

The Naval Weapons Center is very active in the High Desert Xeriscape Program and currently chairs the steering committee. For more information on this year's xeriscape workshop, call 375-5086.

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Washington Scene

People top Cheney's budget priority list for FY92

Washington (NNS) -- In a Pentagon press briefing, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney asserted service personnel are high on the priority list in President Bush's \$278 billion Defense Department budget proposal to Congress for Fiscal Year 1992.

The budget request also calls for major reductions in military force structure as DoD adapts its strategy to the new post-war balance of power resulting from fundamental changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

The Department of the Navy budget request of \$91.6 billion for FY 1992 also recognizes these changes. Navy officials said the declining probability of superpower conflict makes it possible to plan for a smaller, higher quality Navy of roughly 450 ships by FY95. Navy budget proposals emphasize careful and gradual reductions to ensure balanced, flexible naval forces can maintain maritime supremacy into the 21st century.

During his press conference, Secretary Cheney outlined the Pentagon's long-range goals for smaller, more mobile forces focused more on regional contingencies than global conflict with the Soviets on short notice. Based on this realignment of strategy, Cheney described across-the-board reductions by 1995 in both active and reserve forces as the

absolute minimum irreducible capability that we have to have to defend the United States."

Cheney added that the assumptions that determined these reductions could always change, causing adjustments, but he said the FY92-93 proposal takes U.S. forces down to a level considered safe under current circumstances.

As for personnel, Cheney added, "While manpower totals are projected to decline, there will be no diminution in DoD support for pay and other incentives aimed at preserving the high quality and morale of America's uniformed men and women."

The Navy's budget request keeps the well-being of sailors in sharp focus. Key personnel and

quality of life programs are sustained. Pay raises of 4.2 and 4.7 percent are proposed for 1992 and 1993, as well as the construction of nearly 800 new Navy family housing units and improvements in medical programs, CHAMPUS, child care and family support groups.

The number of battle force units will continue to decline throughout the years of the budget proposal, reflecting the changing global threat and the reduction in defense resources.

A total of 477 ships are projected by the end of FY92 and 464 ships by the end of FY93. Navy officials noted that this reduction in the size of the Navy will inevitably require changes in the way ships and aircraft are

deployed in peacetime.

The 1992-93 budget plans keep steaming days and flying hours at the same level as budgeted in the past few years. After Desert Storm, OPTEMPO.PER-STEMPO goals are expected to be met in 1992/93.

Planned force structure and personnel reductions are balanced to keep fleet manning at proper levels without altering seashore rotation, according to RAdm. Richard D. Milligan, the Department of the Navy's director of budget and reports.

The Navy is slated to have 18,321 fewer people in 1992 and another 15,400 less in 1993, reducing the present 569,721 active duty sailors and officers to an end-strength of 536,000 in

1993.

Chief of Naval Personnel VAdm. Mike Boorda noted the Navy can make the reductions in active duty personnel without the need to separate sailors involuntarily. Reserve strength will decrease by 26,300 over the period, with the Marine Corps also shrinking to 11,535 in 1992-93.

"From the sailor's viewpoint, it's not going to look a whole lot different," Milligan said. "... From that perspective, it will be business as usual."

Milligan also noted that although the future fleet will be smaller, the Navy's budget will continue to provide sailors with the best training and equipment for whatever mission he or she may be called upon to perform.

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Sports

RAF members participate in Los Angeles Marathon

Success lay across the finish line as four members of the Royal Air Force took part in the recently held Los Angeles Marathon. Chief Technician Brian Harshaw, Cpl. Paul Goodwill, Cpl. Kev McDonald and Cpl. Steve Toher each received the coveted finishers' medal for successfully completing their first attempt at the 26 mile run.

With a time of 3:21, Cpl. Goodwill was the first 32 Joint Trials Unit member to cross the finish line. Cpl. Toher crossed the line next in a time of 4:09, followed by Cpl. Kev McDonald, who had a time of 4:25. Chief Technician Harshaw completed his run with a time of 5:11.

While running up and down the hilly streets of

Los Angeles, the four contenders passed various landmarks, including Chinatown and Hollywood. They were urged on by some 250,000 spectators who lined the route to give encouragement to the runners. The four RAF members were cheered over the finish line by their wives and families. All four were delighted to have bested the gruelling marathon that boasts, "everybody is a star."

Members of the 32 Joint Trials Unit are conducting evaluation trials on the Air Launched Anti-Radar Missile (ALARM) at the Naval Weapons Center. Since arriving in the United States, the group has been eager to participate in local and nearby activities.

IWV Youth Softball sets sign-up dates

Indian Wells Valley Youth Softball has announced the registration schedule for 1991's season. Children 5-19 years old who are interested in playing softball can register on Tuesday, March 19,

and Thursday, March 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Hitters Restaurant.

For additional information, call Sean Keck at 375-7507 or Anita Piaz at 375-7033 after 5 p.m.

DoD employee takes best time

During March's High Sierra Cyclist Road Bike Time Trial, Tony Kratz, a Naval Weapons Center employee and a USCF rider, led the pack with a time of 49:19. Bob Johnson, with a time of 58:58, led the Seniors 16 to 34 Division, while Tim Tyson clocked in at 60:20 in the Vets 35 to 44 Division. Al Boyak took first in the Vets over 45 Division with a time of 55:57, followed by Dennis Emigh, who had a time of 57:32.

Next month's road time trial will be held April 13 at the corner of Norma and South China Lake Blvd., beginning at 9 a.m.

Local skaters do well in meet

Seven local Junior Olympics skaters recently competed in the Jr. Olympics Artistic Skating Competition in Redlands. Although no local medals were won this time, each of the local skaters performed and represented the team well, noted coach Annette Spencer.

Tim Little, Krista Coepland, Chrissy Beavis, Natalie Mottley, Jim Fuller, Michelle Gibeault and Sarah Gardiner represented the Skate Oasis Jr. Olympic Roller Skating Team, which meets at the NWC Youth Center.



TOOK THE CHALLENGE AND BEAT IT -- RAF members Cpl. McDonald, Cpl. Goodwill, Chief Tech Harshaw and Cpl. Toher bask in their successful completion of the L.A. Marathon.

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March 25-29 -- Michelson Lab, B/C Conference Room
April 9-11 -- Branch Medical Clinic-physician attended

The easiest way to make your appointment for a fitness assessment is by computer. You do not need an account number. Simply go to any computer or terminal that will connect to the SCFC VAX. If you have access to another VAX on the network, log on and type "set host scfc".

Once connected to SCFC, "user name" will appear on the screen. Type in "Wellness" and options will appear for scheduling, deleting, or looking up appointments for the blood draw and physical fitness assessments. If you do not have access to the SCFC VAX, call NWC ext. 2468 and leave a message giving your name, extension, code, and the date, place, and time you want your appointment.



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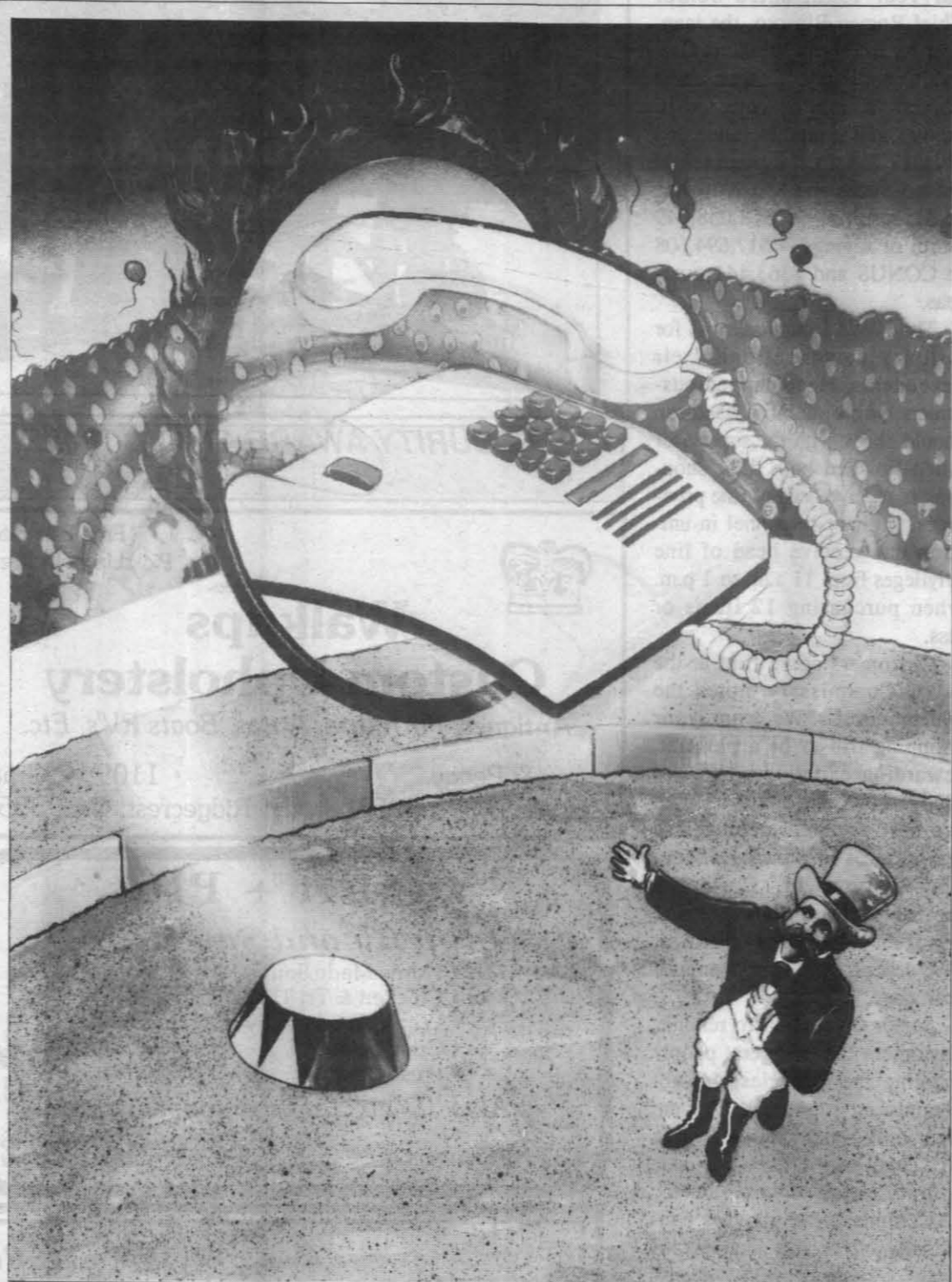
NWC continues cold fusion research

(Continued from Page 1)

During telephone conversations between Miles and Dr. Ben Bush, who was at the University of Texas, their interest "was piqued by the apparent lack of systematic investigation into the composition of the gaseous products produced during the electrolysis of deuterium oxide or D₂O. Detection

um as a gaseous product would be evidence in determining whether cold fusion exists.

Dr. Gregory S. Ostrom worked with Miles in conducting a similar experiment as last years in an attempt to find out what products were being given off when excess heat was detected. They connected (Continued on Page 22)



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Annual Safety Standdown scheduled May 6, 7 for all China Lake personnel

All Naval Weapons Center employees need to start arranging their calendars so they can participate in at least four hours of Safety Standdown '91 activities on May 6 and 7. This annual event is given once a year to remind employees the importance safety plays in every aspect of their jobs and lives. Many mishaps can be prevented if people would objectively review their workplaces, identify unsafe or unhealthy conditions or acts and work to correct and protect.

Many seminars, sponsored by the Safety Program Office, will be presented during this mandatory event. Some will be of a general nature, while others are designed for more specific populations. Specific topics, times and locations will be announced at a later date.

Each employee's participation in Safety Standdown activities is a critical element in the constant improvement of the safety and health posture of NWC. Plan on participating in this valuable event.

'Friends of the Fair' seeks support for July 4th parade in support of Operation Desert Shield

Friends of the Fair in the Indian Wells Valley are busy organizing a Fourth of July Parade in Ridgecrest to honor all the troops who took part in Operation Desert Shield/Storm in the Persian Gulf.

An organization meeting is set tonight (Thursday) in Joshua Hall at 7 p.m.

Representatives from the City of Ridgecrest, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, veterans organizations, civic groups, fraternal

groups and anyone interest are urged to attend. For more information, call H.K. Holland, Friends of the Fair, at 371-1378.

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Accolades wanted for day care providers on Center

Choosing the right day care provider is an arduous chore. Dependability is important but so is the capacity to give another person's children the love and guidance a parent might give them. Does your day care provider spend time with your child? Perhaps helping them learn to count, read or write? Does she, or he, care about your child's physical well being? What about emotional well being?

April is the Month of the Young Child. What better way can we support our children than by honoring the people who care for them? In recognition of the importance of their work, members of NWC's Family Home Care Program would like parents who have children being cared for on-Center to write to Janet Butler, NWC's Family Home Care coordinator, extolling the virtues of their provider(s). Remember, this is only for providers on-Center. Excerpts of letters received will be printed in a future *Rocketeer*. Names of the sender and provider will be published. Letters should be

sent to Janet Butler, Morale, Welfare & Recreation Division (Code 229), Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, CA 93555. Letters should be received no later than April 1.

NWC's Family Home Care Program, an extension of the Child Development Center, sets standards for home caregivers and provides safety inspections by the family home care coordinator, fire inspector, housing office and preventive medicine health officer to guarantee the safety of the home. In addition, the program assists individuals in meeting Navy-mandated requirements for family home caregivers who reside on base and aids them in becoming certified caregivers. It can also aid people looking for child care.

For more information about how to become a home care provider on-Center, the program itself, or to receive aid in placing a child, call Butler at NWC ext. 6681.

MWR provides souvenirs, refreshments at air show

Visitors at the Naval Weapons Center's air show this weekend will be able to help support the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Division while satisfying their desire for souvenirs, food or drink.

The Seafarer Club will man two booths. The one in the general refreshment arena will sell hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas, chips and beer, while the one next to VIP seating will offer beer and sodas.

Craftech will be on hand selling t-shirts, sweatshirts, cups, hats and other souvenirs.

If you just want a snack, or to cool off, stop by the Auto Hobby Center's booth for snow cones, popcorn, hot dogs or sodas.

Children Centers will also be raising money by selling iced tea, lemonade and cookies.

Don't miss out. While having fun watching the show, enjoy the good food and drinks available by the Morale, Welfare & Recreation Division.

Drop-in services offered

Are the children getting you down? Need some "special" time to yourself? Take advantage of drop-in care offered by NWC Child Care Centers. Openings are based upon the child's age. For advance reservations, or to learn more about the program, call Patty at NWC ext. 6681.

Patriotic items still on sale

Support our troops! The Craftech Center currently has bumper stickers, patches and other miscellaneous items supporting service men still in the Persian Gulf. Hurry in today, they are selling fast! For more information, call NWC ext. 2346.

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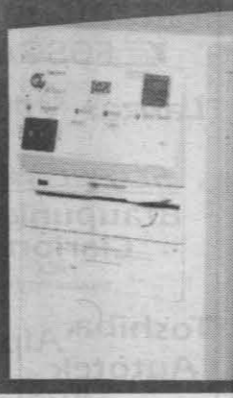
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The NWC Commissary is for military personnel and their dependents. Handicapped customers with a mobility handicap should check with the supervisor when finished with their shopping to receive head of line privileges. Military personnel in uniform can receive head of line privileges from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. when purchasing 12 items or less.

Customers come first at the NWC Commissary, noted the senior chief. "We want your shopping trip to be a pleasant, rewarding experience. We are pledged to providing you with the best possible merchandise and services in a pleasant shopping environment." Customers are urged to use the suggestion box if they find it any other way. "We depend upon your continued patronage."

Senior Chief Binaoro reminds customers that baggers, people bagging the groceries, are not commissary employees. Tips are their only remuneration for the work they do. All tipping is done at the discretion of the customer.

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(Continued on Page 17)

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COMMUNITY ORIENTED -- Members of the Royal Air Force's #32 Joint Trials Unit join Ridgecrest Police DARE officers in urging children to stay off drugs. The unit and their Tornado will be on one of the new DARE trading cards. Pictured: (on steps, back) Squadron Leader Young, Squadron Leader Taylor, (on steps, front) Cpl. Bradbury, (standing, l to r) Cpl. Goodwill, Cpl. Mills, Sgt. Pinner, Flight Sgt. Beal, Capt. McDonald, Chief Tech Pepper, DARE Officers John Ortiz and Ron Bell, Wing Cdr. Russell, DARE Coordinator Lynn Sullivan, (kneeling) Sgt. Rugg, Chief Tech Harshaw and Chief Tech Taylor.

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