

SNF Project begins major acceleration

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

The Spent Nuclear Fuel Project has announced a major acceleration that will result in all spent fuel being removed from both of the K Basins by next February. The February 2004 goal completes fuel removal five months earlier than the Tri-Party Agreement commitment, that is July 31, 2004.

In addition, the SNF Project plans to finish removing sludge from the K East Basin (home to more than 90 percent of the total sludge in the K Basins) on schedule by Aug. 31, 2004, and to deactivate the K Basins on time by October 2005. The Cold Vacuum Drying Facility — the 100 K Area facility where the fuel is dried and prepared for storage — will be deactivated early, in June 2004.



Fluor Hanford's Fritz Strankman, program manager for Workforce Transition for the Spent Nuclear Fuel Project, greets visitors to the project's booth at the 2003 Health and Safety Expo earlier this month.

A 24/7 operation

To accomplish the new goal for removing fuel, this month the K East Basin and the SNF Project's Production Control Organization will begin operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and the K East and K West Basin organizations will be combined. Don McBride, Fluor Hanford's current K West Basin manager, will manage the overall K Basins organization, with Tom Ruane as his deputy.

To accomplish the accelerated work, personnel will be brought into the SNF Project from CH2M Hill Hanford Group, and from the Plutonium Finishing Plant and other facilities and cleanup projects within Fluor Hanford.

Dave Van Leuven, Fluor Hanford president and chief executive officer, and Norm Boyter, vice president for the SNF Project, pledged to assist SNF employees by negotiating agreements with other cleanup projects to place these workers when SNF work declines.

Production leaps

Beginning immediately, the SNF Project expects to remove five multi-canister overpacks of fuel from the K West Basin per week, and to transfer 18 shipments per week from K East to K West via the fuel transfer system. The first sludge transfer out of the K East Basin via the sludge/water system is expected to occur this summer.

SNF Project begins major acceleration, cont.

Following the initial transfer, the project will execute two transfers per month from September 2003 through Aug. 31, 2004, when all the sludge will have been removed. Plans for the K West Basin, which contains a very small amount of sludge, are being formulated.

To equip workers and make them comfortable during the upcoming acceleration, Fred Hughes, Fluor Hanford director of SNF Operations, pledged to install cooling equipment in the K East and K West Basin annexes and inside the K East Basin, improve the operability of the fuel transfer system, reduce contamination on fuel-transfer-system casks, replace robotic Konan arms in the K West Basin with a manual fuel-loading system, install strainers and make other improvements in K West Basin equipment and load more fuel as scrap.

Van Leuven and Boyter thanked assembled SNF Project employees for their successful efforts thus far in the one-of-a-kind endeavor, noting that the project has met four of its five major goals in the past six months. "Results matter to Congress," said Van Leuven, "and results will bring us the funding we need to continue cleanup at Hanford. Fluor Hanford workers at the Spent Nuclear Fuel Project are producing results, which makes my job easier."

Boyter reiterated his "open-door" policy, and told employees that he is ready to listen to all of their recommendations for reaching the project's significant new goals. ■

SNF Project reaches milestone early

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

Fluor Hanford's Spent Nuclear Fuel Project met an important Tri-Party Agreement milestone early last week when it removed more than 1,252 metric tons — equivalent to 2.76 million pounds — of fuel from the K West Basin.

The milestone was reached when multi-canister overpack No. 237 was removed and sent to the Cold Vacuum Drying Facility on May 28. The milestone's due date was May 31.

"We're heading down the final stretch of eliminating the risk posed to the Columbia River by this fuel being stored near the shoreline," said Norm Boyter, Fluor Hanford vice president for the SNF Project.

"I'm extremely proud of the Fluor Hanford workers, our Department of Energy partners and everyone else who has helped us come more than 60 percent of the way in getting all of the fuel out of the basins," Boyter said.

The SNF Project transfers spent fuel from the K East Basin into the K West Basin for processing. Thus far, most of the fuel originally in the K West Basin and more than 110 loads that have come in from the K East Basin have been removed.

Those 110 loads represent about 30 percent of the fuel stored in the K East Basin. It takes about two transfers from the K East Basin to fill one multi-canister overpack in the K West Basin.

Other accomplishments

Other recent achievements in the SNF Project include welding more than 40 MCOs in the Canister Storage Building on Hanford's central plateau. The MCO Welding Project began on schedule in February and is already more than 30 days ahead of its baseline schedule.

The SNF Project also has cleaned and removed nearly 3,000 (almost half) of the old canisters and nearly 1,000 lids (about a third) from the K West Basin. The canisters held the spent fuel while it was stored under water.

In April, the SNF Project successfully passed a readiness assessment for processing fuel scrap that has accumulated in the K West Basin since workers began removing fuel in December 2000. Scrap-processing operations will begin this summer.

The SNF Project also is finalizing efforts to start up a new sludge/water system to remove sludge from the K East Basin. This startup, though currently behind schedule, is expected in July. ■

Waste Treatment Plant Project validating process, design

The Waste Treatment Plant Project's Research and Technology department has successfully completed testing actual radioactive waste from Hanford Tank AZ-101. Battelle staff members performed the testing at the Radiochemical Processing Laboratory in Richland. Waste from tank AZ-101 will be one of the first high-level waste feeds processed by the Waste Treatment Plant.

These bench-scale tests, defined and coordinated by the WTP Research and Technology department, are an essential step toward validating the project's process flowsheet. Using similar processes on a reduced scale, the process flow is tested using actual waste samples.

"This bench-scale testing is an important step in validating our process equipment and systems design," says Garth Duncan, engineering manager for Mechanical and Process Engineering and a major customer of the Research and Technology group.

The testing is done on core samples, approximately 2 liters in volume, taken from the underground tanks. These radioactive core samples are processed remotely in hot cells — similar to the way the waste will be processed at the WTP. The test waste was characterized and processed through evaporation, cross-flow filtration, ion exchange, the addition of high-level- and low-activity-waste glass former, and finally, vitrification using bench-scale equipment. Relevant process information and actual waste data were collected for each of the unit operations.

Rheological and physical characterization was also performed at each process step to determine the flow properties. The test results are being compared to results of tests on non-radioactive simulants to determine whether the simulant behaves like real waste. This simulant validation is an important step in allowing most of the testing to be performed with the non-radioactive substitute.

Data from the tests are being used for a variety of purposes by several project organizations. Engineering uses the data to conduct design calculations and validate the design basis, Environmental and Nuclear Safety to support petitions related to de-listing and land-disposal restrictions, Process Operations to develop flowsheet models, and Research and Technology to complete Waste Form Qualification activities.

Testing of the samples of low-activity and high-level tank waste is being conducted at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the Savannah River Technology Center. ■



Relevant process information and actual waste data were collected during a recent bench-scale test performed with actual waste samples from Hanford's tank AZ-101. The test data are being used to validate the project's processing equipment and system designs.

DOE, government employees' union sign agreement

Department of Energy management and Local 788 of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) signed a new collective-bargaining agreement on May 20. It affects the federal employees of the DOE Richland Operations Office and the Office of River Protection for the next three years.

“We think there are some significant improvements to the working conditions for our employees in this contract,” said John Sellards, Local 788 executive vice president and chief negotiator for AFGE.

The contract is now at DOE Headquarters for a 30-day review and signature by the Secretary of Energy. It is anticipated that the contract will be implemented locally by June 20.

After the contract is approved by DOE Headquarters, bargaining-unit employees will be provided detailed information and a briefing on the changes that the union will set up. The Labor Relations Office will also give a briefing to manager of the DOE Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection. ■



03050035-006 LMIT Photography

At a signing ceremony on May 20, representatives of DOE management and the Federation of Government Employees pose for a Hanford photographer. Left to right are Guy Schein, president of AFGE Local 788; John Sellards, executive vice president of Local 788 and chief negotiator; Patty Ensign, chief steward; Steve Veitenheimer, chief negotiator for DOE; Nancy Crosby, union secretary-treasurer; and Joyce Gilbert; secretary and note-taker for the DOE negotiating team. Not pictured is DOE Office of River Protection representative Ron Light.

The DOE management negotiating team

- Steve Veitenheimer, chief negotiator
- Ron Light, ORP representative
- Joyce Gilbert, Labor Relations representative
- Joyce Josephson, secretary and note-taker

The AFGE Local 788 negotiating team

- John Sellards, executive vice president and chief negotiator
- Guy Schein, president
- Patti Ensign, chief steward
- Nancy Crosby, secretary-treasurer
- Janine Becho, secretary and note-taker

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory small-business service wins national award

An electronic alerting service for small businesses, developed by the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, has won a national award for improving government through information technology.

The E-Gov 2003 Trailblazer Award honors PNNL's free service that automatically notifies subscribers about current federal funding and related opportunities for small businesses. E-Gov (www.e-gov.com) is a national organization that promotes information technology to improve the public sector.

Federal agencies award more than \$1.4 billion in grants every year to fund competitive research-and-development proposals submitted by small businesses throughout the country. The effort goes by two names: the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program. Each of 10 federal agencies administers its own program to seek and review proposals and to award grants to hundreds of recipients.

With funding from DOE, PNNL developed and operates the first free, nationwide service that selectively searches for, consolidates and regularly e-mails information from the 10 federal agencies on current funding available from the SBIR and STTR programs.

The service also lists upcoming SBIR/STTR training and conferences, plus tips from experts to help small businesses participate successfully in the programs. A searchable Web site contains current and back issues of the e-mail alerts at www.pnl.gov/edo/sbir.stm.

Since PNNL began offering the service in 1997, more than 3,300 subscribers nationwide have signed up to receive the alerts. PNNL estimates the service has saved U.S. businesses up to \$10 million annually by replacing time-consuming and inefficient searching with free, consolidated notifications delivered directly to the subscriber's desktop.

The 20 winners of the 2003 Trailblazer Awards were selected from more than 250 nominations across the country for "contributing significantly to enabling the business of government in their organizations."

Of the 20 winners of Trailblazer Awards and 30 additional "Pioneer" and "Explorer" winners to be showcased at the E-Gov 2003 conference in Washington, D.C., in June, PNNL is the only national laboratory represented and the only organization affiliated with DOE.

Winning organizations included federal agencies responsible for homeland security, defense, the treasury, health and human services, Social Security and emergency management, as well as state government agencies. More information on the awards can be found at: www.e-gov.com/events/2003/egov/expo/gsc.asp. ■

242-A Evaporator transferred to tank farms

Tank-farm contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group assumed responsibility for the 242-A Evaporator from Fluor Hanford on Memorial Day and is preparing for a campaign this month. In January, CH2M HILL and Fluor Hanford identified the transition of the facility as important to accelerating the cleanup mission at Hanford.

CH2M HILL will continue to use the evaporator extensively to reduce the volume of tank waste, increasing the storage capacity of Hanford's newer double-shell tanks. The storage space is needed to accelerate closing the tanks by speeding up the retrieval of solid and sludge waste from Hanford's older single-shell tanks. It's also needed to support other tank-farm activities associated with feeding waste to the Waste Treatment Plant for vitrification.

"The successful transition of the evaporator to CH2M HILL reflects the dedication and commitment of management and personnel throughout CH2M HILL, Fluor Hanford and the Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection," said John McDonald, CH2M HILL Hanford Group vice president of Waste Feed Operations. ■



94040672-4 LMIT Photography

Hanford's 242-A Evaporator is now operated by tank-farm contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group, and a campaign to take place this month will free up needed storage space in the double-shell tanks.

HAMMER shares award for cultural-protection training

The prestigious Washington State Historic Preservation Officer's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Education was presented to Hanford's Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center and the Cultural Resource Protection Program of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The two organizations are partners in delivering education about managing and protecting cultural resources on government land. The award was presented May 15 in ceremonies at the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation's Stimson-Green Mansion in Seattle.

"I am so proud of the leadership and dedication our tribal program manager, Det Wegener of Fluor Hanford, has shown in working with Jeff Van Pelt and Julie Longenecker of the CTUIR to bring such highly credible training and education programs to HAMMER," said Karen McGinnis, Fluor Hanford's director of Hanford Training/HAMMER. "These programs are a cornerstone of positive relationships with Hanford-area tribes and an important factor in ensuring the Hanford Site is compliant with federal laws requiring management and protection of cultural resources on government land."

In 1997, HAMMER and the tribes began developing a cultural test bed on the northwest corner of the 80-acre HAMMER campus. The test bed, used for hands-on portions of cultural-resource courses, contains 15 simulated above-ground cultural sites — pit houses, stone scatters and historic dumps. About 30 other simulated cultural features are located below the ground.

Among regular HAMMER classes incorporating cultural-test-bed activities are the Archaeological Resource Protection Act criminal-investigation courses that have trained more than 200 individuals to identify looted sites and effectively preserve evidence to be used in court; the Bonneville Power Administration sessions on the significance of cultural sites and the need to preserve them; skill-building for tribal members on global-positioning-system mapping, surveying and ground-penetrating radar surveillance; and University of Denver ground-penetrating radar research-and-development activities. ■



At the cultural test bed near the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center, Melvin Lucei of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation participates in the hands-on, role-playing portion of a class on cultural-resource protection. Applying criminal-investigation techniques (note the gloves) after finding a looter's tool (foreground), Lucei assesses the degree of damage to help determine whether a felony has been committed.



In a class exercise on cultural-resource protection, a looter's vehicle is found containing artifacts, maps, books and tools. Class members gather evidence to link the vehicle to a plundered site on federal land. The program, recently honored by the state, was developed by HAMMER and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Noted marine biologist joins PNNL



Anderson

Jack Anderson, an expert on the effects of chemicals released into the environment, has joined Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sequim, Wash. Anderson is chief scientist in the field of ecotoxicology and holds the rank of PNNL Fellow, a designation that recognizes outstanding scientific and technical achievement.

"Jack is a pioneer in marine environmental research," said Rod Quinn, interim associate laboratory director for PNNL's Environmental Technology Directorate. "His professional accomplishments, plus his outstanding reputation in government, industry and academia, bring an important dimension to PNNL's growing research portfolio in the areas of marine biotechnology and coastal environmental evaluation."

In his 30-year research career, Anderson has done groundbreaking work on the effects of oil spills and the development of non-animal alternatives to marine research. He conducted much of his early petroleum research at the Sequim facility and also served as an affiliate professor in the University of Washington's School of Oceanography. He joins PNNL from Columbia Analytical Services in San Marcos, Calif. He earned his doctorate in biology at the University of California, Irvine, and his bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University, Long Beach. ■

RiverFest 2003 kicks off summer on Flag Day

After a four-month evaluation, RiverFest is back — bigger and more family-oriented than ever. The Benton Franklin Volunteer Center started RiverFest in 1998 as a “fun run” to raise money for the Volunteer Center and other area non-profit agencies.

After last year’s event, however, the center’s 16-member board of directors decided it was time to re-evaluate RiverFest to determine whether it still had a place in the community and, if so, what could be done to improve it.

As a result of that evaluation, a more ambitious plan was formulated for 2003, including adding events such as a River Rally for “non-motorized boats,” a free fishing derby for kids, a petting zoo and a craft fair.

Bechtel is the “signature sponsor” for RiverFest 2003, and other Hanford organizations that are sponsoring the event include Johnson Controls, CH2M HILL, Fluor and Team Battelle.

RiverFest 2003 is a community celebration highlighting civic pride and the spirit of volunteerism in the Tri-Cities. It is also a unique opportunity for local nonprofits to earn money for their organizations.

The centerpieces of RiverFest are the 10-kilometer run, a 5-kilometer run and a 1-mile “family fun run.” Runners are invited to collect pledges, which they may direct to nonprofit organizations of their choice. Last year, RiverFest generated more than \$32,000 for Tri-City area organizations.

For additional information, event registration, vendor registration or sponsorship opportunities, contact the Volunteer Center at 582-0631. ■

RiverFest 2003 Events

Friday, June 13

- **Pasta Feed and Silent Auction.** 5-7:30 p.m. at Bingo Boulevard; \$7 for adults, \$3 for children, free for children under 6

Saturday, June 14

All events will be held in Columbia Park unless otherwise noted.

- **10K and 5K runs.** 8:30 a.m. start time
- **1-Mile Family Fun Run.** 10 a.m. start time
- **River Rally** (human-powered watercraft race). 10 a.m. start time; \$30 entry fee with proceeds going to Columbia Basin Dive Rescue and the Volunteer Center
- **4th Annual Kennewick General Hospital Golf Tournament.** 8 a.m. start time; \$200 team/\$50 individual entry fee benefits Kennewick General Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit
- **Paws in the Park.** Pet adoption, pet microchipping at greatly reduced cost; proceeds benefit the Benton-Franklin Humane Society
- **Fishing Derby.** At the Family Fishing Pond; \$1 donation for adopt-a-fish will benefit Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery
- **Petting Zoo.** See a llama, miniature horse, pygmy goats, ducks, geese, chickens and more
- **Summer Market Craft Fair.** Showcases home-crafted products of local artists
- **Other activities.** Include face painting, helmet checks, child fingerprinting, kids’ projects and more!

PFP's 'Heavy Metal Daze' car show and fundraiser rescheduled

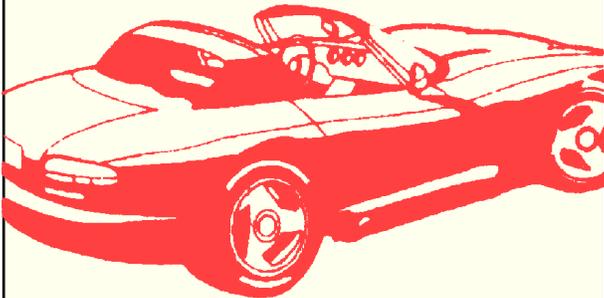
The Plutonium Finishing Plant's "Heavy Metal Daze" car, truck and bike show and barbecue has been rescheduled to June 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the south parking lot of PFP.

The event was originally slated for June 19, but the date was changed because of an emergency drill. The flyers bear the incorrect date.

All money raised during the show will be donated to the Columbia Basin Domestic Violence Services.

Awards will be given in the following categories: motorcycle, hot rod, truck, import, bone stock, work in progress and best of show.

For more information call Shawn Wilson at 373-3435, Don Sorenson at 373-5935, Bill Allen at 373-2286 or Henry Ownby at 373-1761. ■



Make Your Move

You can increase your flexibility with practice

Flexibility, or stretching, is a component of fitness that is often overlooked. Everyone has a different level of flexibility. Your ability to stretch and your flexibility may be very different from someone else's. You shouldn't feel bad about your level of flexibility; it can be increased with practice.

Stretching can help to do the following:

- Prevent and treat injury
- Increase performance level
- Increase and maintain the range of motion of joints
- Offset age-related stiffness
- Optimize functional movement in daily life.

To realize the benefits of stretching, warm up first. A brisk 10- to 15-minute walk is an easy way to warm up.

Once you are warmed up, focus on the muscles you use most:

- Stretch muscles to the end point of movement or mild discomfort and hold. As it becomes more comfortable and you can move farther, do so. Do not force a stretch farther than comfortable.
- Hold stretches for at least 30 seconds.
- Never bounce or jerk (called ballistic stretching).
- Always stretch back and chest muscles to keep your torso flexible and promote good posture and body alignment.
- Pay attention to tight areas.
- Relax by listening to music and focusing on your breathing.

Answers to last week's quiz

Here are the answers to the "Mental exercise" quiz that accompanied the article "Incorporate the three elements of exercise in your fitness program" (*Hanford Reach*, May 27):

Aerobics (A)

1, 3, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, and 23

Strength (S)

6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 20, 21, 22, and 24

Flexibility (F)

2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 16, and 19.

Note: Some of the numbered descriptions are matched with two exercise types. For example, aerobics and strength training will both increase your stamina (No. 11) and strength training and stretching for flexibility will both help prevent injuries (No. 6).

Unscramble the words for 'Make Your Move' points

Now it's time to stretch that gray matter with the following word scramble. Unscramble the words and write the fitness-related terms on the line to the right of the scrambled word. This test is worth 10 points for "Make Your Move" participants. Complete the test; cut it out; add your name, employer and Hanford Identification Number; and mail it to Judi Staley, HEHF Health Education Services, H1-04.

- 1.bracieo _____
- 2.lsef-tmeese _____
- 3.kaem royu vmoe _____
- 4.sgaol _____
- 5.nfu _____
- 6.laxerntoai _____
- 7.efsyelitl _____
- 8.antspihsrleoi _____
- 9.gertshtn _____
- 10.elhhta _____
- 11.pesle _____
- 12.rwam-pu _____
- 13.dfa tide _____
- 14.myliaf _____
- 15.krbefaats _____
- 16.insderf _____
- 17.claiso tsyems _____
- 18.xbiltyielfi _____
- 19.tvtyiac _____
- 20.ksanc _____

Submitted By _____

Hanford ID Number _____ Mailstop _____

Triathlete maintains strict regimen to prepare for Ironman competition this month

This is another in the series of articles that will accompany the “Make Your Move” program and feature Hanford workers who are physically active. While most people who seek to increase their level of activity to improve fitness would not consider the Ironman competition, shorter-distance triathlons offer participants the opportunity to compete in swimming, cycling and running all in one event.

First, the participants swim 2.4 miles in a lake or ocean; then they bicycle 112 miles; and then they run a marathon — 26.2 miles. This grueling itinerary makes up the competition known as the Ironman Triathlon. Leslie Wolff, a project lead for the Web Services Group at Lockheed Martin Information Technology, will join eight other Hanford workers to compete in the Ironman USA Coeur d’Alene Triathlon on June 29. The anticipated 2,000 participants in this event range in age from 19 to 77 years.

Among the Hanford competitors will be Leslie’s husband, John Wolff, a mechanical engineer at CH2M HILL Hanford Group. The Wolffs are Tri-City natives, Leslie being a graduate of Pasco High School and John a graduate of Kennewick High School. John introduced Leslie, a track and cross-country runner and swimming instructor, to the triathlon, and she has been an enthusiast ever since.

The Ironman competition began in 1978, when U.S. Navy Commander John Collins came up with the competition to settle a debate among competitors of a running race in Hawaii: Who is the most fit — swimmers, runners or other athletes? Collins’ solution was to combine three existing races together and have competitors complete the races in succession: the Waikiki Roughwater Swim (2.4 miles), the Around Oahu Bike Race (112 miles) and the Honolulu Marathon (26.2 miles). Whoever would finish first would be known as the Ironman. In Ironman competitions, women and men compete in separate groups, and participants are further divided into age groups.

The typical triathlon season opens in April and runs through September, but training regimens continue year-round. Wolff trains six days a week, varying the combinations and distances of swimming, cycling and running each training day.



At the Canada Triathlon Championship in August 2000, Wolff won the Best Overall Woman title, finishing in just over 12 hours and 23 minutes.



Wolff participated in the ‘Onionman’ Triathlon in Walla Walla in 2001.

Continued on page 13.

Triathlete prepares for Ironman competition this month, cont.

Over the Memorial Day holiday weekend she and fellow triathletes braved the Columbia River's 54-degree temperatures to train. The swimmers tied inflatable kids' water toys to themselves to make themselves more visible to boaters. "The toys also help when you get a cramp. You hop on the toy until the cramp passes," said Wolff. "The toys do slow us down, but it is better than being hit by a boat." During triathlons, participants swim in waters where boats are prohibited during the race, so they have no need for the colorful markers. Wolff's regular swimming workouts begin at 5:30 a.m. in the indoor pool at the Tri-City Court Club in Kennewick.

Wolff credits her bike-handling skills to experiences and instruction from her husband, who is her coach, and members in the weekly bike class, which also originates from the Tri-City Court Club. "Training is easier when you know that there are 15 to 20 other people who are working just as hard and hurting as much as you are," Wolff said.

In training for the marathon, Wolff runs "all over the Tri-Cities." In her training regimen, she varies the type and timing of running, from 45 minutes to three hours.

What does it take to fuel the body of a triathlete? A lot. "I eat for three. But it is imperative to choose the right kinds of foods for this level of activity. I need to include proteins to rebuild and maintain muscle tissue, and I am snacking on a lot of fruits and vegetables rather than the sweets that I love," said Wolff.

In the Canusa Triathlon Championship held in Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia in August 2000, Wolff took the Best Overall Woman's title, completing the race in just over 12 hours and 23 minutes. Although this was not an Ironman-sanctioned race, the distances — 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bicycling and 26.2-mile run — were the same as for the Ironman races.

Wolff has two bicycles that she uses for training and racing. During Ironman races she changes from a wetsuit to biking shorts with seat padding, to running shorts and shoes.

Wolff is using her upcoming participation in the Coeur d'Alene Ironman Triathlon to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Donors can sponsor her on a per-mile basis or make a lump-sum donation. In addition, as part of its philanthropic mission, the Janus Foundation will donate from \$700 to \$10,000 to the designated charity of the Ironman winners.

If she wins in Coeur d'Alene, will Wolff be an 'Ironwoman?' Actually, every person who finishes this race, regardless of gender and finishing time, is called an Ironman. And rightly so. ■



A QUIP IN TIME: John Sheehan, a Fluor Hanford operations specialist, won first place in the winter 2002/2003 safety-slogan contest held by *Safety Smart!* Participants sub-mitted slogans to accompany the cartoon shown at right. For his slogan “Check the tool, check the cord, before electricity has you floored!” Sheehan won \$100 and a free issue of *The Safe Supervisor* for his safety supervisor. Visit <http://www.safety slogans.com/safe win.html> to see the other slogans submitted.

Take the Security Ed challenge to protect your badge



Protection of security badges from loss or misuse is an important employee responsibility. Of the positive badge-protection measures listed below, which one is a quote from a Department of Energy Order?

- A. If left in a vehicle, the badge should be hidden from view.
- B. Ensure the DOE security badge is not used outside of DOE for other-than-government purposes.
- C. You should not wear or display the security badge when in public.
- D. DOE security badges should not be left in unlocked vehicles.

(Source: PHMC Guidelines for Good Password Security at <http://apweb02.rl.gov/rapidweb/phmc/sas/index.cfm?PageNum=123>)

Do you know the answer? Circle the badge-protection statement that is a direct quote from a DOE order and then clip this article, add your name and HID number, and send it to Chet Braswell at L4-09, or send him an e-mail message, and in the subject line include "Ed's Security Badge Order Challenge" and your answer. Prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn correct entries. The names of prizewinners and the correct answer will appear in a future *Hanford Reach* article.

Note: This challenge is difficult (all statements are good security measures), so Security Ed will randomly select two winners from the correct entry pool and one additional winner selected from all entries.

If you have any challenges you would like Security Ed to consider, e-mail them to Security Ed at ^Security Ed or send them by plant mail to Security Ed at L4-09.

Submitted By _____

Hanford ID Number _____ Mailstop _____

Congratulations to Christine DeVere of Hanford Environmental Health Foundation, the winner of the May 12 Security Ed Challenge. DeVere won a wireless travel alarm for correctly stating that the minimum number of non-blank characters used for HLAN network passwords is eight.

60 Hanford
1943-2003
Years

**The Hanford Site
celebrates 60 years
of protecting America**



RETURNING THE LOB: Beverly Brunton (right) keeps the volley going as partner Annette Buckholt stands at the ready. This photo appeared in a May 1944 issue of the *Sage Sentinel* sports page. These tennis players were trying out the new tennis courts on the Hanford Site. This photo is from the archives of the East Benton County Historical Museum at 205 Keewaydin Dr. in Kennewick.

Regular Features



LETTERS

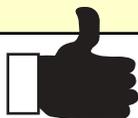
Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to *Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

VPPPA presenter not mentioned

In the article, "Fluor Hanford hosts highly successful VPPPA conference" (*Hanford Reach*, May 27), an important presenter at the conference — Joel Rivers, Fluor Federal Services construction manager for the RPP Project — was not mentioned. Thank you Joel!

Dan Palmer
Fluor Federal Services

BRAVO



Higgins named FFTF Employee of the Quarter

Kathy Higgins was named Fast Flux Test Facility Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of calendar year 2003 because of her contribution to the success of the FFTF Closure Project. Higgins is assigned to the Planning and Scheduling group in the Business Management Office, but also provides vital support for the following groups: FFTF Maintenance, Asset Management, Production Control Office, Fuel Offload Project and the Safety Awareness Council. "Kathy is a skilled employee, which is why she is called



Higgins

upon to support so many organizations," said Pat Schweiger, project manager for Fuel Offload and Production Control. "She is not afraid to learn new skills and take on new challenges."

Higgins contributed to the development of an integrated schedule for planning work activities at the FFTF. This master schedule includes all the links, priorities, activities and milestones for the facility so that these items can be seen on one schedule. After the integrated schedule was adopted, Higgins continued to improve the usefulness of

this tool. She developed unique filters for 10-day, 30-day, and 60-day reviews of upcoming work. She also developed an improved presentation format for use in the project review meetings.

Higgins is a certified Nuclear Materials Custodian and she helps maintain the Detailed Refueling Plan Flowsheet and Examination and Decontamination Services Work Plan. She also inspects nuclear packaging and provides updates using the Nuclear Material Inventory Transfers Process. No fuel leaves the FFTF without her co-signature. "Kathy is a distinguished employee who has demonstrated exceptional abilities and dedication to her job," said Schweiger. ■



CALENDAR

Library tour set for June 5

Hanford Technical Library staff members will conduct a tour of the library and discuss services that are available to you in the library and at your desk. The tour will take place Thursday, June 5, 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. in the library lobby, located in the Consolidated Information Center on the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus in Richland. For more information, contact Patti Cleavenger at 372-7435 or at patricia.cleavenger@pnl.gov.

Audubon Society showing of 'Winged Migration'

The Lower Columbia Audubon Society and Sony Picture Classics present the Academy Award nominee for best documentary, "Winged Migration," at 7 p.m. on June 6 and 7 at the Battelle Auditorium. A matinee showing will take place at 3 p.m. on June 7. Tickets for evening showings are \$5 each, with children 6 and under free. The matinee showing will have tickets available at \$10 for a family or \$5 for individuals. Tickets may be purchased at the Bookworm in Kennewick and Richland or at the door.

Scholarship recipients at ASQ and AQP meeting

The June 10 dinner meeting of the local American Society for Quality and the Association for Quality

Calendar continued on next page.

Regular Features



CALENDAR continued

and Participation organizations will focus on this year's scholarship recipients. Awards will be presented to two Richland High School seniors — \$1,000 to Catherine Sampson, and \$750 to Sahar Zuberi, daughter of Shakir Zuberi, who works for CH2M HILL Hanford Group. The special guest speaker will be Sandra Hill, superintendent of the Pasco School District, who will talk briefly about "Quality in the Pasco School District." The meeting will be held at the Shilo Inn, Richland, with check-in and networking starting at 5:30 p.m., the buffet dinner starting at 6, and the presentation starting at 7. The cost is \$16 for AQP and ASQ members, \$18 for non-members, or \$5 for the awards and presentations only. Make your reservations by June 5 by calling 372-1442, sending an e-mail message to lynn_l_gates@rl.gov or registering via the AQP chapter's Web site at <http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest.htm>.

Donate blood in June at two locations

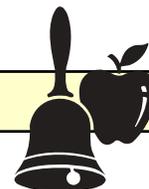
Hanford workers have two opportunities to donate blood in June. On June 11, the American Red Cross bloodmobile will be in the PFP parking lot from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. To schedule an appointment to give blood, contact Patrick Jenkins by e-mail or call 373-6221. On June 12, the blood drawing will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Federal Building. Registration will take place in the lobby, with the drawing in the bloodmobile in the parking lot north of the building. To schedule an appointment, call the American Red Cross at (800) 787-9691. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Conference on plutonium in Albuquerque

The Science 2003 Conference — The Plutonium Futures — will be held July 6-10 in Albuquerque, N.M. The third in a series, this conference will provide an international forum for presenting and discussing current research on physical and chemical properties and environmental interactions of plutonium and other actinide elements. Register

before June 5 and save \$100. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.lanl.gov/pu2003>. ♦

CLASSES



PROTRAIN offers software training

Microsoft Project 2000 (\$199 per day or \$348 for both days)

- Level 1 — June 8
- Level 2 — June 9

Primavera Project Planning (\$425 per day)

- P-3 602 — June 23
- P-3 603 — June 24
- P-3 604 — June 25

Crystal Reports 8 (\$249 per day or \$448 for both days)

- Introduction — June 23
- Advanced — June 24

Word 2002 XP (\$159 per day)

- Beginning — June 2
- Introduction — June 3
- Advanced — June 4
- **Upgrading to Windows XP** — June 27 (\$249)
- **Upgrading to Office XP** — June 26 (\$169)

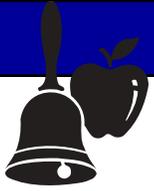
For more information, contact Sarah at 375-0414 or at sarah@protrainsys.com. Group discounts are available.

Skills Lab offers "Painless Punctuation", others

The Skills Enhancement Lab will offer three, four-hour classes to help improve your writing skills. The following classes are all offered 7:30-11:30 a.m. in Room 31 of the Administration Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center:

- **Painless Punctuation** — Thursday, June 5. Learn to cure comma-itis; use colons and semi-colons properly; handle exhausted apostrophes; tackle the lowly hyphen; review fragments, comma splices, and run-ons; and review must-know key rules.

Classes continued on next page.



Regular Features

CLASSES continued

- **Goof-Proofing your Grammar** — Thursday, June 19. Learn to recognize and correct the most frequent grammatical goofs.
- **Successful Business and Technical Writing** — Thursday, June 26 or Thursday, July 17. This light-hearted workshop teaches the essentials of successful business and technical writing through relevant exercises. Suggested prerequisites are “Painless Punctuation” and “Goof-Proofing Your Grammar.”
There is no charge for any of these popular sessions, but classes fill quickly, so reserve a seat now by calling Kathy Dechter at 376-3250.

Building Leadership Skills Seminar set for June 6

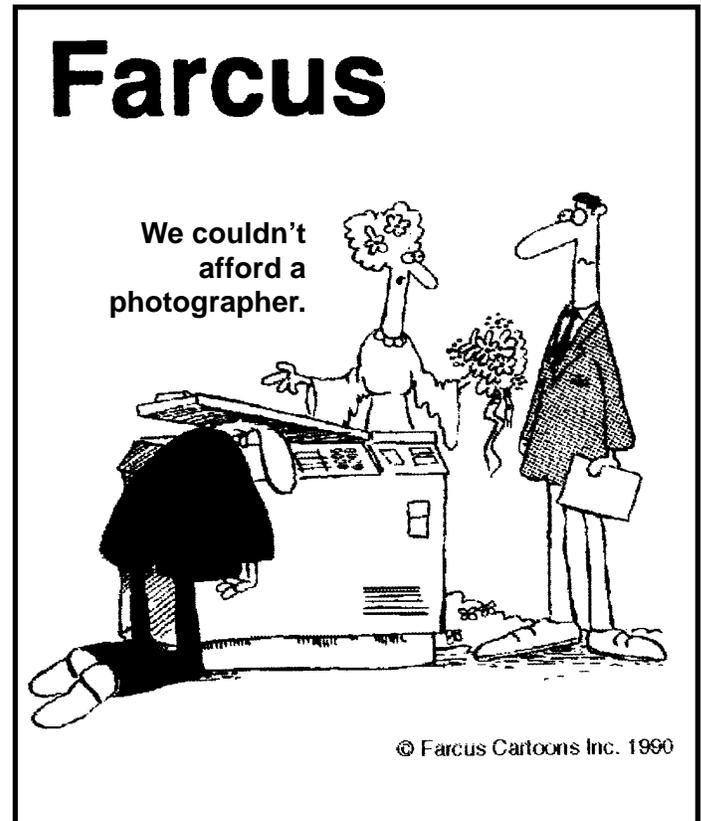
The Building Leadership Skills Seminar Series is sponsoring Joe Estey, founder of Prolepsis Training, who will present “Living in the Present, as if the Future has Already Occurred!” The seminar will be held Friday, June 6, at the Tri-Cities Coliseum Founders’ Club. Registration and breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m., the seminar is from 8 a.m. to noon, and lunch and networking are from noon until 1 p.m. The cost is \$40 for members of National Management Association, American Society for Quality, Association for Quality and Participation, Leadership Tri-Cities, WSU Business Advisory Council and the Tri-City Herald. The cost is \$50 for other attendees. Make your reservation by calling 736-1929 by June 3.

Effective Presentations offered on June 23

“Effective Presentations” is an eight-hour course that is ideal for anyone wanting to improve their communication skills including trainers, managers, team leaders and committee members. This course will be presented on June 23 by Joe Estey at the Hanford Training Center. The cost is \$180 per person. To register, contact Joan Howard at 946-2102 or at jhoward@energxfanford.com or Lynn Collins at 946-9654 or at lcollins@energxfanford.com.

Personal Protection Safety Measures

The Northwest Public Power Association is presenting “Personal Protection Safety Measures,” a two-day class at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center July 29-30. This course will cover the physiology of electrical shock and treatment; the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s mandated electrical requirements; the role and use of NFPA 70E; and over 600-volt applications. Register before June 27 and pay \$1,095. The cost is \$1,145 for registrations received after June 27. To register, contact Wendy Carlson at (360) 254-0109 or visit www.nwppa.org. ♦



Features continued on next page.

Regular Features



Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submission is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Day and Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring their passengers are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her security badge, access is denied at the barricade. The individual is required to go to a badging station for a temporary badge or go home to retrieve the badge.

RICHLAND

Spacious seating is still available for several 8x9 riders to 200W aboard Van No. 117. Roundtrip from parking lot adjacent to 1019 Wright in Richland. The cost is less than that of a daily commute for one person in his or her own personal vehicle. Call or send an e-mail message to **Gary Bush** at 372-2531. 6/2

Two riders needed for Vanpool No. 216, 8x9, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with door-to-door delivery from Richland to 200E. Van starts on the south end of Jadwin, winds its way up Thayer and Williams, over to George Washington Way and out to 2750-E and 2704-HV (only if rider is a backup driver). Call **Michelle Calvert** at 376-5400 or **Kip George** at 373-7399. 6/2

Van No. 153 is seeking two riders. Join a van with comfortable reclining seats. Picks up in the Willowbrook, Meadow Springs and Hills West areas, including Albertson's on Gage and Leslie. Drops off in 200 E, including 2704-HV. Call **Pam Powell** at 373-6200 or send an e-mail message. 6/2

Van No. 190 seeks several riders. Ideal for workers on 4x10s or exempts who routinely arrive early or stay late. Currently leaves the vanpool lot at the Richland Wye at 6 a.m., and picks up at the north end of the Training Center parking lot by the Richland Airport. Willing to negotiate additional stops at the Waste Treatment Plant construction site, 200E and 600N. Contact **Derek** at 376-9018; or **Jim, Joe or Kenny** at 373-2687 or 373-2845. 5/27

Vanpool No. 195, low-cost route to 200E, has three openings. 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Starts at Mowry Square Condominiums (close to 7-Eleven at Jadwin). Picks up along George Washington Way, Jadwin north of Van Giesen, 7-Eleven by George Washington Way, and 2440 Stevens south parking lot. Stops at 274-AW, 2750-E, CSB and 2704-HV locations. Call **Jon Renholds** at 373-4248, **Betty Zscheile** at 373-7282 or **Leona Aamot** at 372-3769. 5/27

Vanpool to 200E needs several riders, 8x9. Rate as low as \$33.50 per month. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens Center) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E and MO-276 (behind 2750-E). Arrives at bus lot at 5 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and at 4 p.m. on Fridays worked. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 5/27 ♦