

The Village Crier



fermi national accelerator laboratory

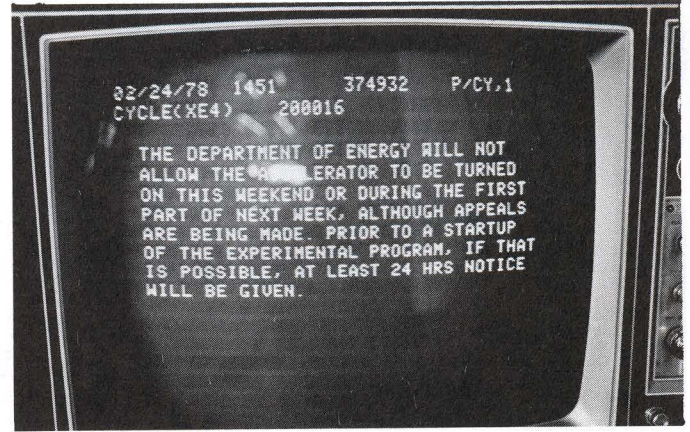
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...G. Plant(L) and G. Reid dim lights in Central Laboratory...



...Video screen announces standby status for accelerator...

FERMILAB FEELS COAL STRIKE'S EFFECTS

The national coal strike touched Fermilab for the first time last week. The effects took two forms: lighting cutbacks and suspended accelerator operations to save energy.

Down for maintenance and development Wednesday and Thursday, the accelerator was scheduled to resume high energy physics at 10 p.m. Thursday. But it wasn't to be. Operations' TV monitors around Central Laboratory Thursday afternoon announced that the Department of Energy had forbidden the Laboratory from turning on the machine. Possible weekend running, the video screens added, was being discussed.

By Friday, this was the message: "The Department of Energy will not allow the accelerator to be turned on this weekend or during the first part of next week-although appeals are being made. Prior to a startup of the experimental program, if that is possible, at least 24 hours notice will be given." As the Village Crier goes to press, this policy remains in effect.

Also, Friday, indoor lighting levels lab-wide were reduced 10 percent. For the Central Laboratory, this meant available lighting was 40 percent of capacity. Before the Friday reduction, most CL areas were lighted at only a 50 percent level.

Director Robert R. Wilson, in a Feb. 16 letter to employees had predicted both conservation moves. He also warned of the possibility of a lab-wide shutdown. Implications of this step, he said, included enforced vacations and layoffs.

"It is the Laboratory's position," he stressed, "that the energy to be saved by shutting down tightly does not justify the costs that would accompany such a move. We shall fight strongly for that position," he said.

The coal strike began Dec. 6. Energy supplies to 12 states have been disrupted; Indiana and Ohio are the hardest hit. Illinois Gov. James Thompson requested that all state residents cut electrical usage. Since Illinois supplies are adequate, Commonwealth Edison Co. has announced it is taking some generators out of mothballs so it can send electricity to power-starved neighboring states.

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...Shoroku and Toshi Ohnuma (foreground) and Cy and Helen Curtis were among about 100 persons attending "Something Special," a Feb. 18 dinner dance held by NALWO (T. Muta photos)

PRAIRIE WORKSHOP FILLED

Capacity registration has been reached for a prairie workshop to be held at Fermilab Saturday, March 4. Co-chairman Rene Donaldson (Publications Office) said registration closed when enrollment hit the 400-person mark. Northern Illinois Prairie Workshop III will open at 8:45 a.m. in the auditorium with the keynote address, "Ecology of the Prairie." The speaker will be Floyd Swink, taxonomist at Morton Arboretum, Lisle. Ten workshops--with identical sessions set for morning and afternoon--will round out the program. Polly and David Cosgrove (Accelerator) will co-present a workshop titled "Introduction to the Prairie"; Tony Donaldson (Accelerator) will be among panelists discussing "Methods of Prairie Restoration." Fermilab and College of DuPage are workshop co-sponsors. Previous workshops were held in 1975 and 1976.

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INCOME TAX TIPS

Monday, April 15, is the deadline for filing state and federal income tax returns. As a help to all tax payers, the following list from the Treasury Department shows the most common errors found by the Internal Revenue Service in returns filed:

Incomplete address or incorrect Social Security number; Failure to attach all Forms W-2; Failure to check correct blocks indicating filing status; Incorrect checking of blocks for personal exemptions or listing of dependents; Incomplete listing of itemized deductions; Listing income, deduction, or tax items on wrong line; and Failure to sign return.

A limited number of state returns are available for employees in Personnel, CL-6E.

COMING EVENTS

- Fri., Mar. 10 -- Inter/National Film Society: "Rashomon." 1950 Japan. A classic multi-faceted tale of a brutal crime in medieval Japan. Foreign film oscar-winner in 1952.
- Wed., Mar. 15 -- Argonne Credit Union Annual Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Curia II Buffet, Business meeting. Door prizes.
- Sat., Mar. 17 -- Arts and Science Lecture Series: "Can Computers Be Trusted?" Joseph Weizenbaum, MIT, speaker. 8:30 p.m. Fermilab Auditorium. Free tickets from Guest Office, CL-1W, Ext. 3440.
- Sat., Mar. 25 -- NALREC Easter Egg Hunt. 1 p.m. Village tennis court area or Barn in case of bad weather. Children ages 1-9. Easter bunny's helper, candy, prizes for marked egg.
- Tues., April 4 -- NALWO Bus trip. "Peru's Golden Treasures" at Field Museum, Chicago. 6 p.m. Bus ticket, \$3.00; museum admission, \$3.50. Guest Office, CL-1W, Ext. 3440.

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Fermilab Arts Series presents

THE SALZBURG MOZARTEUM STRING QUARTET

8:30 P.M. Saturday, April 15 Auditorium

On their second North American tour, the Salzburg Mozarteum Quartet will perform in the Fermilab auditorium on Saturday, April 15.

The program will include: Quartet in D Minor K 421, by Mozart; Quartet in F Minor, Op. 95, by Beethoven; and Quartet in A Minor, Op. 51--No. 2, by Brahms.

Since 1955, the group has performed more than 1,200 concerts in the musical capitals of Europe, North Africa, Scandinavia, Latin America and North America. Their interpretations and performances of masterpieces of the string quartet literature have excited critics and audiences. Their first North American tour was a sell-out success, with appearances from New York to California.

The Mozarteum Quartet appears frequently on European radio and television. It also appears at major festivals throughout the world and has recorded for several companies.

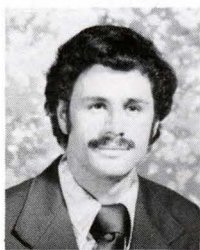
The ensemble consists of the leading soloists of the world-famed Mozarteum orchestra: Karlheinz Franke, first violin; Vladislav Markovic, second violin; Alfred Letizky, viola; and Heinrich Amminger, cello. In 1956 the International Mozarteum Foundation granted them the honorary title of "Mozarteum Quartet" and more recently the city of Salzburg presented them with the silver seal of the city.

Reserved seat tickets, \$3.00 each, are on sale at the Guest Office, CL-1W, Ext. 3440.

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...Mozarteum Quartet members are (L-R): H. Amminger, cello; K. Franke, 1st violin; V. Markovic, 2nd violin; and A. Letizky, viola...



V. Lentini

URA SCHOLAR WINS HONORS

Vito Lentini, son of Pete Lentini (Plant Maintenance), made the most of a 1973 Universities Research Association Scholarship. Last December, Vito finished biology studies at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb--finished in the top five percent of his class, according to a university announcement. A graduate of Proviso West High School, he is teaching biology, chemistry and other science subjects at Hebron High School. He will participate in June commencement ceremonies at NIU.

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TRAVEL ACCIDENT INSURANCE REVISED

The laboratory has revised the group travel accident insurance plan carried with American Home Assurance. Copies of the revision were sent to each employee via inter-office mail; the revision should be inserted in your employee's benefits handbook. New features include coverage for loss of speech and/or hearing and the thumb and index finger of the same hand. The new policy also adjusts the dollar amount of insurance coverage for certain employees. For more information, contact Employee Benefits, CL-6E Ext. 3395

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EDUCATORS LEARN ABOUT LAB

About 55 Batavia teachers and administrators spent an institute day at Fermilab Feb. 22. After a slide lecture in the Auditorium, the educators took a walking tour of the Central Laboratory, Cross Gallery and the Meson Detector building. Lunch with Fermilab staff members concluded the day's activities.

...J. McCook (L), Assoc. Dir. for Admin. and R.W. MacFeely, BSHS principal...

IT'S BEEN A LONG HARD WINTER

If you find water leaks in your area - roofs, windows, or doors - please advise Site Services at Ext. 3434. Thank you.

D. Sauer

COMPUTER LECTURE (RESCHEDULED)

Tickets are available for "Can Computers Be Trusted?", fifth program in the 1977-78 Fermilab Science & Humanities Lecture Series. Due to weather difficulties, the program was rescheduled from Jan. 20 to Mar. 17. Dr. Joseph Weizenbaum will speak at 8:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. He is professor of computer science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Tickets are free, but required for admission. Priority distribution is being given to holders of tickets for the original date. Those tickets will not be honored Mar. 17. For tickets or information, contact the Guest Office, CL-1W, Ext. 3440.

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Ronald Kotulak

Carter's fund pinch on science could one day paralyze us

[Ronald Kotulak is the science editor of The Tribune.]

High-energy physics, the often hard to understand science that tries to discover the fundamental secrets of matter and energy, is where the future of mankind lies.

If the world keeps going the way it is, we eventually will exhaust all of its resources. This may happen in 100 years or 1,000 years, and, if it does, civilization as we know it could be destroyed.

What is needed is new answers. Not just different ways of doing old things, but fundamental breakthroughs in our understanding of how Nature works.

We need to find ways of turning rocks into pure energy, an accomplishment that could forever end our energy worries and allow us to travel to the stars.

We need to develop new materials by rearranging elements in ways Nature never conceived of. And it would be nice to be able to dissolve a human body into atoms and beam them to distant places, where they would be reconstituted into their original form.

If these things prove possible, the an-

swers will come from the esoteric field of high-energy physics.

But the Carter administration is gambling with this future. It has placed a ceiling on federal research funds for high-energy physics that threatens to derail our efforts in this field.

The ceiling appears to be a classic case of being penny-wise and pound foolish. A fund increase now of only a few million dollars in this basic field could lead to great payoffs down the road. There is a moral obligation here to invest in potential benefits for future generations.

The serious danger to physics research in this country came to light with the recent resignation of Dr. Robert R. Wilson, director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Batavia, home of the world's largest atom smasher.

He resigned in despair because funding for his laboratory is so restricted that the facility has been able to operate at only 50 per cent capacity.

The government also has delayed plans to build a new "wonder" machine,

called the Tevatron, at Fermi. The Tevatron is designed to probe the conditions that existed at the birth of time. Perhaps the machine could help scientists to discover how Nature is able to convert energy into matter and keep it locked up. If they understand that, then they may be able to find ways to unlock the energy frozen in all matter, such as rocks.

Through ingenious designs and new technology, the Tevatron could be built for about \$35 million by "piggybacking" it on the existing four-miles-in-circumference atom smasher. To build such a machine from scratch would cost about \$1 billion.

Wilson hoped to have the Tevatron completed by 1980. But the Department of Energy said there is not enough money available now, so construction must be delayed at least two years.

"The future viability of Fermi lab is threatened because the funding has been below that necessary to operate the existing facilities responsibly," said Wilson.

Fermi's financial plight also has hit

this country's two other major centers for high energy physics research at Stanford University in Palo Alto, Cal., and the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, N. Y.

The Carter administration's spending lid is even more perplexing in view of the vast investments made by Russia and a number of European countries who soon may take over the U. S. lead in this field with newer and bigger atom smashers.

James S. Kane, assistant director of DOE's office of energy research, acknowledged that the spending ceiling is hurting the three centers.

"A few years ago I didn't believe that anyone could overtake our lead," he said. "But today I can't challenge that possibility. We are at the edge." DOE plans to build two new atom smashers at Stanford and Brookhaven, but they also face possible delays under the budget restraints.

While high-energy physicists work with elementary particles too small to be seen, they deserve the support that can help them loom large in our future.