



Roger Stouenburgh

500 BNLeers Rally for HFBR At Forbes's Local Office, Demanding 'Science Fact, Not Science Fiction'

Approximately 500 BNLeers came out for the High Flux Beam Reactor (HFBR) at a lunchtime rally last Thursday, September 4, in front of the Shirley office of U.S. Representative Michael Forbes, during which demonstrators demanded that Forbes and U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato consider "science fact, not science fiction" when evaluating the HFBR's impact on the Long Island environment and on the community's safety and health.

The protest culminated with the presentation to Forbes's office of a petition with 1,500 signatures on it, urging the New York Senator and First District Congressman "to postpone introducing any legislation which short-circuits" the process begun by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) last May

to gather community opinion, as well as technical input, before Secretary of Energy Federico Peña decides in January 1998 whether or not to consider restarting the HFBR.

Organized by Friends of Brookhaven (FOB), the Brookhaven Scientists Association and Brookhaven Retired Employees Association, this rally followed on the heels of a press conference on Tuesday, called by the two Republican politicians, during which they announced their intent to have the HFBR permanently shut down and decommissioned through Congressional legislation (see Brookhaven Bulletin of September 5, 1997).

The "process was proceeding smoothly until this week, when Forbes (continued on page 2)

50th Anniversary Distinguished Lecture Series Where a Will Made the Nobel Prize Way

Among the most notable inventions of Swedish chemist and inventor Alfred Nobel were dynamite and the fuse. Together, they greatly improved the safety of using explosives. Nobel was born in 1833, and, by the time he died in 1896, he had created a worldwide chain of companies that developed and manufactured explosives — and he had also made a fortune.

In his will, Nobel requested that this fortune be used to establish annual awards in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace. The awards are now known worldwide as the Nobel Prizes. Much less well known are the problems that arose before the will's directives could be fulfilled.

To tell the story of "Alfred Nobel's Will," Gösta Ekspong, a former member and chairman of the Nobel Committee for Physics, will give the next BNL 50th Anniversary Distinguished Lecture on Tuesday, September 16, at 4 p.m. in Berkner Hall.



Gösta Ekspong

Ekspong will discuss the difficulties that had to be overcome in making sure Nobel's last wishes were carried out, since his will was contested by some of his relatives and questioned by the Swedish press and establishment.

A native of Sweden, Gösta Ekspong received a Ph.D. in physics from Uppsala University in 1955. He remained there on the faculty until 1960, then joined Stockholm University as Professor of Physics until he retired in 1988.

Since 1969, Ekspong has been a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, which awards Nobel Prizes in physics and chemistry. He was also a member of the Nobel Committee for Physics, 1975-88, and its chairman, 1986-88; and trustee of the Nobel Foundation, 1980-92.

— Diane Greenberg and Liz Seubert

Forbes Will Not Change His Position on the HFBR Under 'Any Condition'

This story is based on reporting from one of five town meetings held from Friday, September 5, through Monday, September 8, by First District Congressman Michael Forbes. Comments and sentiments similar to those discussed here were reported to have been expressed at the other meetings.

At a Saturday morning town meeting in Centereach with approximately 60 people, about two-thirds of whom were BNLeers, U.S. Representative Michael Forbes informed meeting-goers, "There doesn't exist any condition under which I would change my position on the High Flux Beam Reactor [HFBR]."

Just four days before, Forbes and U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato of New York had announced their intention to seek the decommissioning of the HFBR through Congressional legislation. D'Amato was the first of the two to propose his bill: He introduced the so-called "Long Island Drinking Water Protection Act" to the Senate that afternoon (see Brookhaven Bulletin, September 5, 1997). Forbes followed with his bill in the House, HR 2384, on

September 3; it was referred to the House Committee on Science.

While Forbes and D'Amato are pushing legislation to mandate the HFBR's closure, Energy Secretary Federico Peña is continuing the process by which the HFBR's national scientific merit and environmental impact on Long Island will be evaluated based on the local community's opinion and independent technical input. In May, Peña had set January 1, 1998, as the deadline by which the U.S. Department of Energy has to gather this information through a multistep process. After that date, Peña will decide whether or not to consider pursuing having the HFBR restarted, another involved process.

After Forbes revealed his mindset in answer to a question asked by Ed Kaplan of the Department of Advanced Technology, the First District Congressman elaborated, "Any new contractor selected by the Department of Energy [to manage and operate the Lab] will [be expected to] maximize the [other] research at the Labora- (continued on page 3)

329th Brookhaven Lecture Using Light to Manipulate Matter

When things suddenly fall apart, it can be useful to get the fragments to take one direction rather than another. A startled flock of sheep, for example, can be prevented from scattering over the hillside by a well-trained dog that herds them into a valley.

It may be difficult to train a dog to control sheep, but it's even more difficult, and certainly less common, to design lasers to control atoms from a molecule as it dissociates, or falls apart, using the strong radiation field produced by the laser light to drive the atoms into one particular direction of the field or another.

To describe his innovative research in using light to manipulate matter, Chemist Louis DiMauro, Chemistry and National Synchrotron Light Source Departments, will deliver the 329th Brookhaven Lecture, the first in the 1997-98 Brookhaven Lecture series.

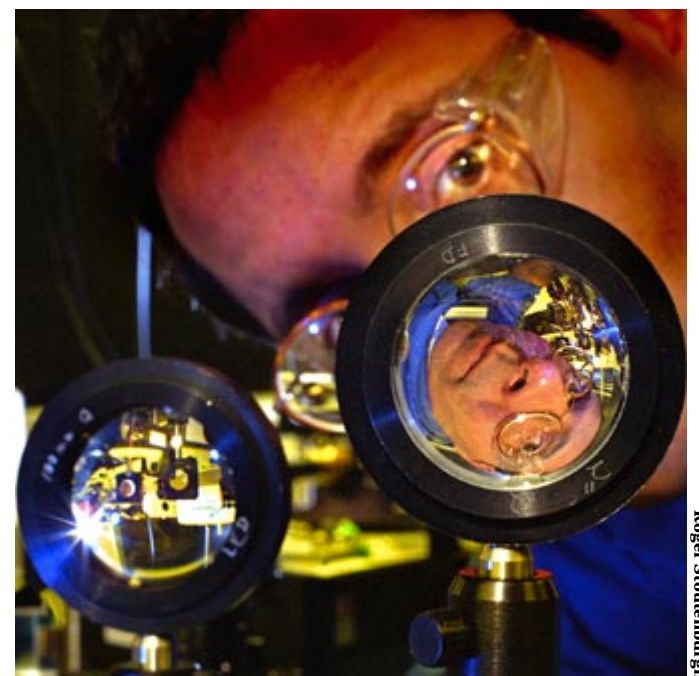
His talk on "Electrons, Atoms, Molecules and Laser Fields" will begin at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, in Berkner Hall. He will be introduced by Chemistry Department Chair Carol Creutz.

As DiMauro will explain, his experiments require very specialized lasers that can generate extremely short pulses of light lasting only 10^{-13} seconds.

These lasers, designed and engineered by DiMauro and his group, provide light fields on the timescale of the movements of electrons or atoms, thereby allowing the experimenters to study and manipulate certain physical or chemical processes at a fundamental level.

DiMauro joined the Chemistry Department as an assistant chemist in 1988. He became an associate chemist in 1990, a chemist in 1992, and he received tenure in 1994. Having become involved with planning a free-electron laser user facility for the National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS) Department, DiMauro has held a joint appointment in Chemistry and the NSLS since last November. An adjunct physics professor at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, DiMauro was named a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 1996.

After the lecture, all are invited to join DiMauro for discussion and refreshments. To have dinner with the speaker at a restaurant off site, call Jean Petterson, Ext. 4301, before noon on Wednesday, September 17. — Liz Seubert



Louis DiMauro, behind laser optics.

Roger Stouenburgh

500 Rally for HFBR (cont'd.)

and D'Amato proposed legislation to close the reactor for good — without due process," commented an FOB founder, John Shanklin, Biology Department, who addressed the crowd.

He continued, "We are told this is based on concern for the health of local residents because of contamination of the sole-source aquifer. This conclusion contradicts those of all the non-DOE agencies that have investigated this situation [and which have come to the conclusion] that the tritium poses no health threat. These agencies include the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency], New York State agencies, the Suffolk County Department of Health and, most important, the Suffolk County Water Authority."

Shanklin continued: "We are told that perception is more important than fact. However, when perception turns into science fiction, it is time to be heard."

'We Are the Community!'

Along with seven others, Shanklin addressed the crowd via a portable microphone from the back of a pickup truck in the office building's parking lot, after the demonstrators — a broad spectrum of the Lab population, including retirees and employees' small children — marched several times around 1500 William Floyd Parkway, which houses Forbes's Shirley office.

The protestors waved signs saying, for instance, "Neutron Science Saves Lives," "Forbes & D'Amato — Over-Reactors," and "We Are the Community!"

"The Senator and Congressman are obviously misinformed of any actual or perceived hazard presented by the HFBR to the drinking water of Long Island," reiterated Gary Zukas of the Reactor Division, who is President of the on-site Local 8-431 of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Union, whose members include HFBR operators.

Zukas continued, "I can assure the Senator and Congressman that this local union president will work to see that both of them are in the percentage of Congress that is not reelected."

Next to the microphone, Garman Harbottle, Chemistry Department, declared, "Science and politics don't mix!" and "Congressman Forbes, by having the Lab move water from here to there to remediate the tritium [plume from the HFBR], is wasting public money!"



Garman Harbottle (left), Chemistry Department, and John Shanklin, Biology Department, are two of eight BNLers who addressed the crowd at the pro-HFBR rally.

Referring to the naturally occurring radioactive thorium in the sands on Long Island beaches, Harbottle concluded, "There is serious radiation on the beaches of Long Island. Forbes shouldn't close the HFBR; he should close Westhampton Beach!"

Expressing his disappointment with the two Republican politicians for their "preemptive strike on the democratic process" was Alfredo Luccio of the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron Department. As he explained to the crowd, he had immigrated to America from Italy "because of the fairness and justice of this country" only now to find "there is no fairness,

no justice" in what Forbes and D'Amato have done. "It is completely unfair to condemn someone [or, in this case, something] before due process takes place," so Luccio asked that Forbes "let the study take place, let the process just start."

Dick Watson of the Physics Department spoke next, commenting that, by short-circuiting the process, the Congressman is satisfying his constituents who are against nuclear technology, but denying another group — the community — the right to know the answer to the question; "Can [Brookhaven] safely run a reactor over a sole-source aquifer?" In addition, Watson

Look for Laboratory's Response To Forbes's Letter to Constituents

By Wednesday, September 10, employees began receiving in their U.S. mail a letter from Congressman Michael Forbes addressed to his constituents, in which he discusses his decision to "force the permanent shutdown of the leaking HFBR nuclear reactor at Brookhaven National Laboratory."

Enclosed in the letter's envelope is an "official constituent opinion survey" postcard, which Forbes is asking his constituents return to him after checking either "YES Mike, you are correct in forcing the permanent shut down of the leaking HFBR nuclear reactor at Brookhaven Lab. The problems there warrant a tough decision on your part and, it is the right approach to years of environmental mismanagement." or "NO Mike, this controversy about Brookhaven Lab is overblown. You should allow the nuclear reactor to reopen."

As part of the Lab's rebuttal of this letter, a response was being drafted at press time by BNL's Interim Director Peter Bond, and it will soon be distributed to all employees.

Facilities Review Yields 21 Significant Environmental Findings; 14 Are Being Corrected, Remainder to Be Addressed Soon

A comprehensive site-wide review of all BNL facilities, which the Lab initiated on April 9 to uncover any heretofore unknown sources of environmental pollution, has revealed 21 significant findings at what were designated priority-one facilities.

Before the review, the Lab had general knowledge of 20 of these. The one new finding was an accidental release in 1972 of approximately 100 gallons of oil and 90 gallons of a then unregulated and commonly used industrial degreaser known as TCA. Apparently, these were released to a floor drain in Bldg. 928, which is under the jurisdiction of the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron Department. At the time, the floor drain led to a nearby recharge basin, which no longer exists.

To reduce any potential risk to the environment, Brookhaven has already undertaken immediate corrective actions for 14 of the 21 findings. The remaining seven will be addressed soon. For example, the Lab will install monitoring wells to evaluate the impact to the environment of the 190-gallon spill in Bldg. 928.

Until all findings are remediated,

BNL has assigned specific groups responsibility for the continued surveillance and maintenance of the buildings and areas in which environmental concerns were found.

Undertaken at the request of Sue Davis, Associate Director for Reactor, Safety & Security (see Brookhaven Bulletin of April 18, 1997), the facilities review came in response to the surprise finding of the tritium leak from the spent-fuel pool of the High Flux Beam Reactor and of another leak of radioactive material from an underground storage tank containing radioactive water and sludge (see the Bulletins of March 21, April 4 and June 13, 1997).

For the review, all of BNL's approximately 400 existing buildings, the sites of approximately 300 demolished buildings and about 300 portable structures were designated either priority one or two. Priority-one facilities used or generated significant quantities of radioactive material prior to the 1970s, when most environmental regulations and standards were developed.

The review was managed by a six-

person committee made up of representatives from Brookhaven, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Suffolk County, which also provided the staff conducting the review. Additional technical support came from five other national laboratories, another DOE lab and the Pantex Corporation.

Equipment Demo

On Wednesday, September 17, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. in Berkner Hall, CTP Wireless World will discuss its digital personal communication services (PCS) corporate program, which has rates as low as 27 cents per minute and includes free features such as caller ID, voicemail with notification, numeric paging and self-dispatching alphanumeric paging.

CTP Wireless World will offer BNL employees a special AT&T Wireless Services corporate cellular rate. Also offered will be a free digital PCS phone, which includes battery, ac charger, cigarette lighter adapter and carry-in case. For more information, call Michael Weisinger, 585-2900.

pointed out, Forbes is denying due process to those who will lose their jobs and to U.S. neutron science, as well as to the Lab.

Another speaker was HFBR user Harold Atkins, a physician with University Hospital of the State University of New York-Stony Brook, whose research on using radionuclides to reduce the pain associated with metastatic cancer "is being seriously hampered by the shutdown of the reactor." Regardless, Atkins did not want the HFBR to restart "unless it could be operated safely," so he advocated for the DOE process that Forbes and D'Amato are attempting to abort through legislation.

Phil Pizzo of the Plant Engineering Division, who is Vice President of the on-site Local 2230 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, came to the microphone to ask the question that he could not ask of Forbes at last week's press conference: Given that the Representative was elected by Long Islanders, and he says that there are two other reactors in the country where HFBR users can go to do their research, "Why is Forbes so willing to have our jobs go off Long Island? When he's supposed to be representing us, he sends our jobs off to another state."

Forbes's 'Chutzpah'

Also talking about his experience at the press conference was John Tranquada of the Physics Department and an HFBR user: "I came away from it feeling personally insulted. Now, in trying to defend the HFBR against their attacks, I am at a decided disadvantage because, as a scientist, I am trained to base my arguments on the facts. [So], when Mr. Forbes uses words such as 'disabled' and 'damaged' to describe the reactor, I can only admire his chutzpah."

Tranquada continued, "Some people at Brookhaven may look at [D'Amato and Forbes's position on the HFBR] and think, 'Well, they're only attacking the reactor. They claim to respect all other research done at the Lab.' But I would urge you to think twice: How can someone who is unable to recognize the value of the world-class research performed at the HFBR be trusted to have a sincere appreciation of any science done at Brookhaven?"

Tranquada added, "And, what about the message that Forbes and D'Amato are communicating to local business? [It is]: 'If you use any potentially dangerous chemicals, beware! Regardless of whether those materials can be handled safely, if anyone expresses any fear of them, we will shut you down permanently without discussion.' I believe that this is a terribly dangerous precedent for all high-tech science and industry on Long Island."

Following the speeches, the 45-minute demonstration quickly broke up, as employees rolled out in their cars to go back to work. Before leaving the parking lot, rally participant Madeline Windsor of the Technical Information Division commented, "I came here today because I'm tired of irresponsible politicians. Forbes and D'Amato have to remember that I'm a registered Republican and I vote too — and that, because of their irresponsibility, I'm ashamed of Long Island's elected Republicans."

Rich Sanniola, who works in the Safeguards & Security Division and is Vice President of Local 37 of the Long Island Guards Union, added, "Everyone at the Lab — union, nonunion — is united over this issue, and I was very impressed with this show of force. I work the gate a lot, so I know that the number of protestors against the Lab — who maybe number a dozen maximum — do not outnumber the Lab's supporters." — Marsha Belford

Forbes Town Meeting (cont'd.)

tory, absent the HFBR. . . . And I will work to expand the Lab's research into other areas."

During the 1½ hour, often heated gathering in a Brookhaven Town recreation center, the Republican Congressman stated that he wants to see "the mission of the Lab continued and employment continued." However, Forbes said, he wants the Lab to explore "other opportunities," and, in fact, he would seek support for "environmentally sensitive activities."

When asked by Wolfgang Wulff of the Department of Applied Technology why Long Island is less capable of having a research reactor operating in its midst than, say, Grenoble, France, Forbes summarized his opposition to the HFBR's continued existence in Long Island's geographic center in three words: "sole-source aquifer," from which Long Island draws all of its drinking water.

Two Things Have Changed

An unidentified BNL employee asked Forbes what has changed within the six weeks between July 14, when Forbes called the reactor "safe" during a town meeting at BNL (see box), and September 2, when he labeled the HFBR as "damaged and aging."

The Congressman replied that two things have changed: First, he claimed that BNL had prepared "public relations materials" and had launched "an aggressive campaign" using these materials to try to convince the public that the HFBR should be restarted.

What Forbes apparently was referring to was the booklet that he referenced during last week's press conference: Entitled "The Future of the High Flux Beam Reactor" community handbook, it had been prepared by BNL's Public Affairs Office (PAO) and the U.S. Department of Energy, for use along with companion posters at an August 14 meeting open to the public at the Mastic-Moriches-Shirley Public Library (copies of the booklet are available from PAO, Ext. 2345).

This meeting was the first of dozens of open forums during which members of the public are invited to learn about the information-gathering process the Energy Secretary is conducting until January 1998 and to submit comments, either written or oral — pro or con — regarding the HFBR's continued existence at BNL.

As is noted on the first page of the community handbook: "This information booklet is designed to help [community members] understand the process that will be followed to decide the future of the HFBR at [BNL]. . . . In this booklet, [community members] will find information about: the decision process for the HFBR's future, general information on the HFBR [and] appendices" which include a mailable comment sheet and an e-mail address for community input. It is also noted: "Secretary of Energy Federico Peña will be given a compilation of commu-

nity input before he chooses the path forward for the HFBR."

Second, Forbes attributed his change of heart to his learning from the Lab on Friday, August 22, of the existence of what the Congressman mislabeled as "another tritium plume."

Contrary to what Forbes said at the town meeting and at the press conference, no new plume of tritium exists: What the Congressman was again referring to is that, on August 27, the wastewater from the sinks, toilets and floor drains in the HFBR showed a concentration of 49,300 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), which is above the 1997 daily average of 10,100 pCi/L.

As a precaution, the wastewater was diverted into a holding area until it was determined that the elevated concentration was safe to release to the Lab's sewage treatment plant.

The temporary increase resulted in a tritium concentration of 5,000 pCi/L on August 28 at the Lab's sewage treatment plant, which was well below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard of 20,000 pCi/L.

Since the reactor began operating in 1965, the building housing it has been discharging tritiated wastewater to BNL's sewage treatment plant, from which BNL is permitted by DOE to discharge wastewater to the Peconic River as long as the tritium concentration is 10,000 pCi/L or less. Because the holding tank was used, wastewater from the plant never exceeded the limit concentration of 10,000 pCi/L on or after August 27.

Apparently, these facts are not understood by Forbes or D'Amato.

In addition, the two-term Representative commented that he had taken his staunch position "because I was concerned about the last nine months of revelations" and "the misguided disposal methods" being used at the Lab. While he acknowledged that "much of what [the public has] heard and read about" is a result of waste-disposal practices of past decades, Forbes stated, "The tritium leak [from the HFBR's spent-fuel pool discovered in January 1997] has caused great concern" despite the fact, he did acknowledge, "there is no imminent threat to the health and safety of the people living and working" at BNL.

Obligation to Long Islanders

Regardless, Forbes stated, "I believe I have an obligation to the people of Long Island," despite "the great debate about the correctness of what [D'Amato and I] have done." Thus he had no comment when Phil Plunkett of the Reactor Division made the analogy between the HFBR's spent-fuel pool and a car's gasoline tank and concluded, "You don't throw out the car because of a leaky gas tank."

Regarding his actions based on his "special obligation," the Congressman explained that he "embraced the notion" that not only "is this environment here on Long Island" more vulnerable than elsewhere to environmental threats, but also that Long Islanders "have a great sensitivity" regarding cancer, especially breast cancer, though "there is no evidence that the Lab has contributed to all of that."

Lois Mitchell of Poquott took exception to Forbes' acting as an advocate for Long Island's cancer victims: "As a Jewish woman, I am at risk for breast cancer," she informed him, "and you are telling me that you want to shut down a reactor where work is going on to help minimize the pain suffered by breast-cancer victims? You are condemning people to die and die painful deaths by closing that reactor."

Regarding the very minimal risks associated with living near the Lab, Tom Kirk of the Director's Office and Bob Bari of the Department of Ad-

Forbes Flip-Flops on HFBR

At the press conference last Tuesday, September 2, during which Senator Alfonse D'Amato and U.S. Representative Michael Forbes announced their intentions to introduce Congressional legislation to shut down the High Flux Beam Reactor (HFBR) permanently, Forbes issued the following statement: "After a long and thoughtful review of the environmental, health and safety problems at Brookhaven National Lab, I have come to the inescapable conclusion that the HFBR nuclear reactor must be permanently shutdown."

Apparently, Forbes had forgotten that, in response to a question asked by Mike Verderosa of the Reactor Division during the Congressman's town meeting at BNL on July 14, he had, just six weeks earlier, come out publicly in favor of the High Flux Beam Reactor's restart and as a supporter of the Lab's historical mission. Below is a transcript of Forbes' answer to Verderosa's question, with emphasis in bold added by the Brookhaven Bulletin.

A: by U.S. Representative Michael Forbes

" . . . [F]rankly, you've captured, which is part of this debate, the very strong feeling that the reactor obviously has to be fixed and make sure the spent fuel rods are transported off site and that the problem is fixed and that the liner is put into the facility and the facility is checked out and that it goes back on line. And I think one of the important parts of all this is that, yeah, there are those who say, 'Just shut it down,' and they don't understand that it is a low-level reactor and they don't understand that thousands of scientists have come to this facility specifically to make use of the research they can get from that. I'm hopeful that once they do a top-to-bottom review and they put the liner in that it will be able to be put back to its research capacities.

"I know there is some word about whether they are going to build a new one and upgrade it and the like, but I don't see that on the drawing board whatsoever. But I do think we have to deal with the problem. And the [U.S. Department of Energy] is dealing with the problem pretty quickly, and it is my hope that will be the extent of it: Put the liner in and the reactor can come back on line.

"Yea, there are some who come up to me and say, 'Gee, Forbes, let's study solar energy, let's figure out a kind of whole new mission for the Lab. And I tell them point-blank that there is no constituency for that: There's important work being done here, and we don't need to try to create a whole new mission for the Laboratory that is only in the heads of those who really only want to shut down the lab. But maybe they realize that there's no real public sentiment for that. And I'll tell you honestly: I don't know what you are picking up, but I honestly believe that the public sentiment out there is in favor of the Lab continuing to do the work. Yes, they want some of these problems cleaned up, but they very much want this Lab to stay open and they want the work going on here to continue.

"If we want to become a technological wasteland, then sure, fine, shut it down and do away with any of the technological advances that we are bringing to Long Island — partnerships that are going on with this Lab and several other facilities on Long Island [such as] Cold Spring Harbor and the [State University of New York at Stony Brook] and the like, [which are] very, very important. I continue to talk about the need to do that, and to the extent that anyone here can continue to give me counsel, and I know you folks have in the past on some of the wonderful things here, we will keep talking about that.

"But we don't want that reactor to shut down for the sake of just a couple of folks who don't have a good understanding of its importance and safety. And it is a safe reactor and I've said that: Absent this problem, it has operated for many years without incident. And I think we have to make sure that we don't react just for the sake that we think we're soothing some sentiments out there. I don't think that would be appropriate."

vanced Technology independently asked the Congressman why, in addition to advocating the public's position, he did not educate the public as to the truth.

As Bob Sweet of the Biology Department said to the Congressman, "Things you say aren't quite true, and you have to stop saying them. You have to educate yourself and the public with the truth." One unidentified man not affiliated with the Lab added, "What these folks are saying is 'Get the facts before you legislate.'" However, another man stated that he does not want to have any additional risk as a result of living near Brookhaven.

Forbes responded to Kirk that he has "to make some judgments" and has a "greater responsibility to take into consideration." He continued, "The people of Long Island are very concerned about the restart of this reactor. . . . The community would not stand for continued problems of [the nature of another tritium leak]. That would very well jeopardize the future of the Lab and the 3,200 jobs there. I have the responsibility to act independently of the Lab."

To this Lois Mitchell responded, "What BNL lacks is public relations and politics. . . . The Lab has to learn to do what you do, but I wish that you would learn from the experts at the Lab."

Meeting With Peña

Several times during the town meeting, Forbes evaluated DOE's handling of Brookhaven, at least during his three years in Congress.

He disapproved of the "hands-off

approach DOE has taken" toward the Lab, calling it "neglect from Washington." Acknowledging that DOE "is more hands-on than they've ever been," the Congressman stated his belief that "if DOE had been more hands-on" perhaps the Lab would not have the problems it does now.

The Republican politician reported that he and D'Amato had met with the Energy Secretary on Friday, September 5, during which, Forbes reported that Peña said "he does believe DOE can get their hands on all of the Lab's leaks and plumes" and that the Energy Secretary is "mindful of the health and safety of the Lab's neighbors and workers."

The Congressman summarized the meeting by saying, "The Secretary will do what he has to do, and [D'Amato and I] will see what we can do."

— Marsha Belford

In Memoriam

The following retiree passed away recently:

Frederick O. Pallas, one of BNL's earliest employees, died on September 1. He was 80 years old. His 30-plus years at the Lab began on August 4, 1947, when he joined the Physics Department as a technician A. In July 1954, he transferred to the Accelerator Development Department as a senior designer, the position he held when he transferred to the then Mechanical Engineering Department in January 1960. He had retired on April 30, 1976, as a design engineer 1 in Mechanical Engineering.

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Extra Blood Drive 9/26

To help meet the need for blood on Long Island, the Lab will hold an extra blood drive on Friday, September 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Employees and retirees who are less than 76 years old, in good health and who have not given blood in the past 56 days are asked to sign up. Those who gave during the summer drive on June 18 or 19 are eligible to donate again.

To make an appointment, contact BNL Blood Drive Chair Susan Foster, Ext. 2888, or e-mail foster2@bnl.gov with a note including your name, extension and preferred date and time.

Stockroom Closing

All Supply & Materiel (SM) stockrooms will be closed for inventory on Thursday and Friday, September 18 & 19. So, make all necessary stock withdrawals before 3 p.m. Wednesday, September 17, to give SM sufficient time to prepare.

During the inventory, process emergency requirements through John Scharpeger, Ext. 2974.

BERA Softball Party

The BERA Softball League is having a party on Friday, September 26, at the Rock Hill Country Club. The \$10 cost covers food, music, food, dancing and food, and there is a cash bar. Tickets are available from team captains and must be purchased by Friday, September 19.

Diversity Visa Lottery

The U.S. diversity immigration program makes 55,000 permanent residence visas available each year to persons meeting eligibility requirements. Applicants are initially chosen through a random computer-generated lottery drawing.

Entries for the federal DV-99 diversity visa lottery must be received between noon on Friday, October 24, and noon on Monday, November 24.

Not eligible for the DV-99 visa program are persons born in Canada; China, both mainland and Taiwan; Columbia; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; India; Jamaica; Mexico; the Philippines; Poland; South Korea; United Kingdom and its dependent territories; or Vietnam.

Persons born in Hong Kong and Northern Ireland, or those having a spouse born in an eligible country, or born when their parents were not native to or resident in their ineligible country may apply.

To qualify for this visa, applicants must have a high-school education or equivalent, or within the past five years have had two years of work experience in an occupation requiring at least two years of training or experience.

Those who meet these basic requirements and would like to receive written instructions on how to enter the diversity visa lottery may call Brenda Kirk, Office of Scientific Personnel, Ext. 5877, for an information package.

Addition

In last week's page-one story on the press conference at which U.S. Senator Alfonse D'Amato and Representative Michael Forbes announced their legislative push against the High Flux Beam Reactor, the President of Local 37 of the Long Island Guards Union, Lou Greco, was inadvertently left off the list of those BNLers who were in attendance.

Stony Brook-Battelle Submit; RPI Bows Out; IITRI Joins In; DOE Extends Proposal Deadline

On Saturday, September 6, just two days before proposals were due from nonprofit organizations that wish to win the Lab's management and operations contract from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute backed out of the partnership formed with Westinghouse Electric Corporation for just that purpose. But, by deadline morning, Westinghouse had teamed with the Illinois Institute of Technology's Research Institute (IITRI), which then requested that DOE grant it a two-week extension to submit a proposal.

DOE did so, by moving the deadline to Monday, September 22, at 1 p.m. Chicago time. As a result, proposers will make their oral presentations to the Selection Evaluation Board during the week of September 28. Making the deadline was the partnership involving the State University of New York-Stony Brook and the Battelle Memorial Institute, which now has two more weeks to refine its submission.

Retirement Counseling

A TIAA-CREF representative will visit the Lab on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 7 & 8, to answer BNL employees' questions regarding the TIAA-CREF retirement plan in one-on-one counseling sessions. Questions employees might have include:

- What are the differences between TIAA and CREF?
- How should I allocate my money between TIAA and CREF?
- What options and flexibilities do I have for my existing dollars with TIAA-CREF?
- What are my retirement options?

A limited number of 45-minute appointments are available; to arrange one, call Valerie James, (800) 842-2011.



Q: How many elephants will be needed to pick up this month's food drive gifts?

A: We don't know - but we hope it's a LOT. Please give - Our hungry neighbors need food.

Don't forget! Pickup is all next week. Or, send checks to: BNL Food Drive, c/o Rita Kito, Bldg. 460; or Donna Wadman, Bldg. 129.

Children's Swimming

Swim lessons for children will be offered again at the BNL pool, Bldg. 478, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 4-4:45 p.m., beginning Wednesday, October 1.

Sign up at the pool for a series of lessons, held once a week for eight consecutive weeks, with no makeup classes offered. In addition to the lesson fee of \$50, participants must either purchase a season pool pass or pay the \$2 daily pool fee.

For more information, contact Head Lifeguard Susan Dwyer, Ext. 3147, after 4 p.m., or, at the pool between 5 and 8:30 p.m., Ext. 3496.

Deadline for BB Notices

A new deadline has been set for submitting items for publication in the Brookhaven Bulletin.

With the exception of notices from the Human Resources Division, all items must be received in the Bulletin Office by noon on the Friday before the week of publication.

Yes, this includes *your* item!

Note to Employees:

Attendance at lectures, meetings and other special programs held during normal working hours is subject to supervisory concurrence.

Breast Cancer Walk

BNL employees, families and guests are invited to join the Lab's Women's Program Advisory Committee during the 4th annual walk to support the breast cancer research at the University Hospital at Stony Brook. The walk will be in Stony Brook on Sunday, September 21, starting at 8:15 am; the BNL contingent will meet in the parking lot across the street from the Three Village Inn.

There, the first 20 Lab employees who arrive with a copy of their registration forms and BNL ID will be presented with a BNL 50th Anniversary tee shirt. To register, call Barbara Schmidt, Ext. 2886, or Lorraine Merdon, Ext. 3318.

Free MEDLINE Access

BNLers now have free, rapid and easy access to nine million citations in MEDLINE and Pre-MEDLINE through a search service from the National Library of Medicine. Recommended by BNL's librarians of the Information Services Division, this site, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed>, offers a direct link to MEDLINE and other related databases. For more help, call Michiko Tanaka, Ext. 7761, or Judy Liu, Ext. 7860.



Aerobics & Stretch Classes Begin Again

The BERA Aerobic Dance & Stretch Club will begin a new session of classes, with new music and dances, on September 23 in the Recreation Building in the apartment area. All are welcome; no prior experience is needed.

Aerobic dance classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:15; stretch classes will be held on Wednesdays at 5:15. Cost is \$4 per class or \$35 for any ten classes plus one make-up class. For more information, call Pat Flood, Ext. 7886, or Kara Villamil, Ext. 5658.

Cooking Exchange

To enjoy some great-tasting food and the fellowship of your on-site friends and neighbors, on-site residents and their spouses are invited to join in the next Cooking Exchange meeting, which will be held on Thursday, September 18, from noon until 1:30 p.m. at the Recreation Building in the apartment area.

Bring a favorite dish, salad or dessert to share. Beverages and utensils will be provided. For more information, call Vicky Chang, Ext. 1046.

Write Better Letters

Learn "How to Write to Elected Officials," at noon today, Friday, September 12, at a meeting of Brookhaven Women in Science, in Room B, Berkner Hall. All are invited; bring your lunch, writing paper and sharpened pencils.

Play Volleyball!

Fall is around the corner, so it's time to put teams together for the 1997-98 BERA Volleyball League season!

Last year's team captains were sent roster forms, but if you would like to start a new team, then you can get roster forms from Rick Wagener, Volleyball League president, Ext. 5886, or e-mail wagener@bnl.gov. Next, bring the completed form to the first captains' meeting on Wednesday, September 17, at noon, in Berkner Hall auditorium.

Those interested in playing but who are not on a team may contact Wagener to be included in a players' pool. Players at all levels are encouraged to join, as there is a league for every skill level.

Also on the agenda for the captains' meeting is the confirmation of the new Volleyball League officers. In addition to Wagener, they are: Joe Greco, vice president; Jay Adams, treasurer; Alice Cialella, secretary and webmaster; and Kathy Nasta, secretary and referee manager.

BERA Opportunities

Bus Trips

The following trips are being offered by BERA this fall. All departures will be made promptly from the Brookhaven Center, Bldg. 30, with one extra pickup, at the Exit 63 park and ride on the Long Island Expressway, if necessary. For more information, call M. Kay Dellimore, Ext. 2873, or Andrea Dehler, Ext. 3347.

• **New York Yankees vs. Toronto Blue Jays — Friday, September 19, \$35/person.** A few seats remain. The bus will start for Yankee Stadium at 4:45 p.m., for the 7:30 p.m. game and leave for BNL after the close of play.

• **New York City, Do Your Own Thing! — Saturday, October 18, \$16/person.** The bus will leave at 9 a.m. Drop-off points are the Metropolitan Museum of Art at 81st Street and 5th Avenue, and the Museum of Natural History at West 79th Street and Central Park West. Visit Central Park Zoo at 64th Street, shop, sightsee, visit the Guggenheim or Frick Museums, or have tea at the Plaza Hotel at 57th and 5th. The bus will leave the city at 5 p.m.

• **Atlantic City — Saturday, November 15, \$20/person age 18 years or over only.** The bus will leave at 8 a.m. for a six-hour stay in the city. The casino's name and amount of coin return will be announced.

Opera Tickets

A few BERA-reserved opera tickets remain for purchase at the BERA Sales Office. Contact Andrea Dehler.

Arrivals & Departures

Arrivals

Burton Budick.....Physics
Peter Hassan.....Plant Eng.
Jeffrey M. Landgraf.....Env. Restor.
Dirk H. Rischke.....Physics
Viacheslav V. Volkov.....App. Science

Departures

This list includes all employees who have terminated from the Lab, including retirees:
Joseph P. D'Aquisto.....Plant Eng.
Kirk J. Mantione.....App. Science

See Supplement for other news and for classified ads.

**Classified
Advertisements**

Placement Notices

The Laboratory's placement policy is to select the best-qualified candidate for an available position. Candidates are considered in the following order: (1) present employees within the department/division and/or appropriate bargaining unit, with preference for those within the immediate work group; (2) present employees within the Laboratory; and (3) outside applicants. In keeping with the Affirmative Action Plan, selections are made without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or veteran status.

Each week, the Human Resources Division lists new placement notices, first, so employees may request consideration for themselves, and, second, for open recruitment. Because of the priority policy stated above, each listing does not necessarily represent an opportunity for all people.

Except when operational needs require otherwise, positions will be open for one week after publication.

For more information, contact the Employment Manager, Ext. 2882; call the JOBLINE, Ext. 7744 (344-7744), for a complete list of all job openings; use a TDD system to access job information by calling (516) 344-6018; or access current job openings on the World Wide Web at <http://www.bnl.gov/JOBS/jobs.html>.

SCIENTIFIC RECRUITMENT - Doctorate usually required. Candidates may apply directly to the department representative named.

SCIENTIST - With several years' experience in high-energy and/or relativistic heavy-ion physics, to join the STAR collider detector experiment at RHIC. Proficiency in FORTRAN and C++ programming for AIX, Solaris and SGI platforms is required. Experience in the design, development and implementation of software for large modern-physics detector infrastructure, and knowledge of AFS and UNIX preferred. Responsibilities will include aspects of the design, development, and implementation of the software-infrastructure system for STAR. Contact: Timothy Hallman, Physics Department.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Trained in chemistry, with experience in mass spectrometry coupled to liquid chromatography, to join a research program involving environmental organic chemistry and organic geochemistry. Background in organic chemistry, particularly the characterization of complex organic molecules, is preferred. Will perform structural characterization of metal-organic complexes, metallothioneins from microorganisms and organic macromolecules from soils and sediments. Contact: Appathurai Vairavamurthy, Department of Applied Science.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Trained in chemistry with experience in x-ray absorption spectroscopy, to join a research program involving environmental organic chemistry and organic geochemistry. Knowledge of VMS/UNIX operating system, Fortran programming and organic chemistry is required. Experience with molecular modeling programs (particularly Cerius2) is desirable. Will apply x-ray absorption spectroscopy, along with other spectroscopic techniques such as NMR and FT-IR, to understand the speciation of metals, sulfur and nitrogen, and to characterizing metal binding sites in organic molecules. Contact: Appathurai Vairavamurthy, Department of Applied Science.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Trained in plant science, biochemistry or molecular biology, with experience in photosynthetic systems and protein purification, to join a research program to elucidate reversible phosphorylation processes that regulate photosystem activities. Will purify protein kinases from chloroplast thylakoid membranes toward cloning and sequencing the corresponding genes. Will reconstitute isolated membrane proteins and complexes for related studies on the redox control of thylakoid kinases and their substrate preferences. Contact: Geoffrey Hind, Biology Department.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Trained in chemical physics or physical chemistry. Experience in gas-phase laser spectroscopy, vacuum techniques, and dynamics of small-molecule reactions and photodissociation is required. Will develop and apply high-resolution spectroscopic tools to gas-phase chemical reactions, photodissociation and energy transfer. Will perform detailed characterizations of transient species relevant to combustion and their elementary reactions. Will use polarized Doppler spectroscopy for measurements of velocity and angular momentum distributions. Contact: Gregory Hall, Chemistry Department.

ASSISTANT SCIENTIST - Trained in physics, with experience in semiconductor-circuit design, with an emphasis on low-noise circuits, for design of analog CMOS integrated circuits. Experience with computer-aided circuit design tools, such as SPICE, and integrated-circuit layout is also required. Knowledge of front-end electronics for nuclear spectroscopy, x-ray and gamma-ray detection, and particle detection is desirable. Will have a major responsibility for specific integrated-circuit designs to support CRADA programs. Contact: Paul O'Connor, Instrumentation Division.

OPEN RECRUITMENT - Opportunities for Laboratory employees and outside candidates.

NS2250. PROJECT ENGINEERING POSITIONS - (2, reposting) Requires BS/MS in electrical or mechanical engineering, and extensive experience in the design, procurement, fabrication and installation of complex and varied components for multi-million dollar projects. Experience with detectors used in particle physics is a plus. Will be responsible for supervising the technical aspects of the U.S. Atlas Project, including costs, scheduling, QA and project integration. Physics Department.

NS4711. PROGRAMMER/ANALYST POSITION - Requires BS in computer science or related discipline, and several years' hands-on experience with a GUI development tool such as Visual Basic and experience with C, C++ or Java. Working knowledge of Windows 95, Windows NT, Microsoft Exchange and Microsoft Office is highly desirable. Conceptual knowledge of three-tier architecture, relational databases and PeopleSoft applications is a plus. Financial Services Division.

NS5026. ENGINEERING POSITION - Requires BS in engineering and at least 15 years' experience working in a nuclear/radiological environment. Demonstrated experience in managing and controlling large-scale, complex technical projects in nuclear facilities is required. Background in radiological engineering, health physics, decontamination and decommissioning, and radioactive-waste management is essential. Strong working knowledge of budgeting, accounting, cost and schedule planning, and project management principles is necessary. Prior supervisory experience, and excellent communication and motivational skills are required. Responsibilities include oversight of a variety of special projects involving waste management and nuclear facility operation. Safety & Environmental Protection Division.

DD3733. SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATE POSITION - Requires a BS or MS in chemistry or biochemistry or equivalent. Will work in the area of oil chemistry and the chemistry/biochemistry of geothermal materials. Department of Applied Science.

DD3734. SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATE POSITION - Requires a BS or MS in microbiology or equivalent, and experience in the techniques of microbiology, selection and typing of microorganisms or equivalent, particularly extremophilic species. Will work in the area of oil and geothermal brines biochemistry/microbiology. Department of Applied Science.

NS4063. PLANT ENGINEERING ADMINISTRATOR - Requires bachelor's degree in accounting or finance, with MBA or CPA certification highly desirable, and several years of accounting experience, specifically in activity-based costing modeling. Excellent communication skills, previous supervisory experience, and knowledge of budget and report preparation also required. Comprehensive knowledge of computer-based accounting systems is necessary. Will be responsible for planning, preparing, controlling and analyzing budgets, financial reports and personnel records for the Division. Will serve as principal financial liaison between the Division and other departments and divisions. Will have supervisory responsibilities for administrative staff. Plant Engineering Division.