

Calendar

Friday, January 21

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. Joint Experimental Theoretical Physics Seminar - 1 West

Speaker: H. Park, University of Michigan

Title: The Decay $\sigma^+ \rightarrow p$

$\mu^+ \mu^-$ and Possible New Physics from HyperCP

8:00 p.m. Fermilab Public Lecture Series - Auditorium

Detecting Nature's Mysterious Particles: How Particle Physics Detectors Work and What They Really See

Speaker: Herman White

Tickets: \$5

Sunday, January 23

2:30 p.m. Gallery Chamber Series - 2nd Floor Art Gallery

Metropolis Quartet

Tickets: \$15

Monday, January 24

2:30 p.m. Particle Astrophysics Seminar - Curia II

Speaker: C-W. Yip, University of Pittsburg

Title: Spectral Decompositions of SDSS

Quasar by the Karhunen-Loève

Transform

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II

Special Topic: Tevatron BPM Upgrade

Weather

GCC Burn-In Test Completed



Ken Schumacher (left) and Joseph Syu of FACS Group stand in front of racks of nodes in this round of acceptance testing. There are 440 systems in 11 racks of 40 nodes each.

When a node burns out, it doesn't fizzle and slowly fade away; nodes go out with a bang, which is why the burn-in testing at the Grid Computing Center (GCC) can identify bad nodes and ensure that the ones that survive the test will last for a long time. "We want to find faulty components or manufacturing defects before we put these systems into where we have to depend on them," said Ken Schumacher of Fermilab's Computing Division, who was tracking the results of the burn-in testing. "So we've been making these things work as hard as we possibly can for 30 days, in order to verify that what we have is acceptable equipment."

Every time the Computing Division makes a large purchase of nodes, it administers this kind of test, which occurs between two and four times a year. This burn-in test started on December 21 at noon, and ended on January 20 at noon, during which time the Farms and Clustered Systems (FACS) Group tested 440 nodes. Two vendors, ASA Computers, Inc. and KOI Computers, supplied the



Changes in Regulations for Foreign Visitors Beginning January 26, 2005

Beginning on January 24, 2005, new security procedures will go into effect at Fermilab. They will allow visitors to enter the site without badges, although all visitors and employees must carry identification when on the Fermilab site, for inspection upon request. On January 26, 2005, two days after the new Fermilab security procedures begin, new Department of Energy regulations regarding foreign visitors will also go into effect at Fermilab.

The changes in regulations for foreign visitors have these key provisions:

- In order to enter Property Protection Areas, which include CDF and DZero and the Main Control Room, among others, all visitors and employees will have to wear plastic Fermilab ID badges. Outside Property Protection Areas, visitors and employees will not be required to wear ID badges.
- During regular business hours, a visitor's ID badge can be obtained through the Fermilab Users' Office



Snow Likely **25°/19°**

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

[Secou Level 3](#)

Wilson Hall Cafe

Friday, January 21

- Cream of Wild Mushroom Soup
- Blackened Fish Filet Sandwich \$4.75
- Southern Fried Chicken \$3.75
- Casserole Florentine with Italian Sausage \$3.75
- Eggplant Parmesan Panini \$4.75
- Pizza Supreme \$2.75
- Baked Potato Bar w/ Chili \$4.75

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#) will be closed through January and February

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nodes, all of which have extremely similar configurations but aren't quite identical. After the nodes complete the test, they will go to four different computing farms at Fermilab: the DZero re-construction farms, CDF re-construction farms, DZero CAD and CDF CAF.

"The goal of the test is to be able to demonstrate 98% effectiveness," said Schumacher. "We measure the effectiveness by counting every day that every node doesn't work, and compare that to the total number of nodes over the entire test time. We try to get a broken node fixed within one day, or even a few hours. The goal is to have less than 2% of all days of down time."

Farewell to Mary Morfin

After 19 years as a mechanical and electronics technician at Fermilab, Mary Morfin of the Particle Physics Division retires today in order to have time to enjoy the rest of her life as much as she has enjoyed her time here. "I love my job," she said, "but now it's just time for me to go."



Mary Morfin

Starting in 1986 as a day worker and becoming a full-time employee in 1989, Morfin has contributed to projects in the Accelerator Division, CDF and DZero experiments and the Particle Physics Division. Before she came to Fermilab, she worked at AT&T for nine years as an electronics technician.

Morfin said that despite her enthusiasm for working at Fermilab, she is also looking forward to doing a variety of other

in Wilson Hall, 1W. Foreign visitors must show a valid passport and visa, fill out the requisite forms, and then go to the Fermilab Key and ID office on the Wilson Hall ground floor.

- After hours, temporary ID badges can be obtained at the Fermilab Communications Center on the Wilson Hall ground floor; a designated Fermilab employee must verify by telephone that the visitor is a member of the experiment collaboration for access to CDF and DZero, since they are Property Protection Areas. A foreign visitor will need to show a valid passport and visa to obtain a temporary badge.

[read more](#)

Announcements

Herman White Presents Fermilab Public Lecture Tonight

The Fermilab Public Lecture Series presents Herman White tonight at 8:00 p.m. in Ramsey Auditorium. White will give the talk, "How Particle Physics Detectors Work and What They Really See." Tickets are \$5.00.

[more information](#)

Fermilab Gallery Chamber Series

Limited tickets are available for the Fermilab Gallery Chamber Series event this Sunday, 1/23 featuring the Metropolis Quartet.

[more information](#)

NALWO Trip to Geneva, IL

NALWO, the Fermilab Women's Organization is sponsoring a trip to

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things. "I'm going to enjoy life," she said. "Spend more time with my family, decorate our house and travel."

A retirement reception will be held for Morfin on Monday, January 24 at Lab 6 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. She also plans to go to the Users Center after work on Monday, and invites people to join her there to celebrate.

In the News

From *New Scientist*, January 22, 2005

Black holes, but not as we know them

They are the most fearsome objects in the universe. They swallow and destroy everything that crosses their path.

Everyone knows that falling into a black hole spells doom. Or does it? In the past few years, cracks have started to appear in the conventional picture. Researchers on the quest for a more complete understanding of our universe are finding that black holes are not so black, and perhaps not holes either. Furious debates are raging over what black holes contain and even whether they deserve the name.

[read more](#)

Geneva, Illinois and the new History Center on January 27, 2005. All women associated with Fermilab are cordially invited to join. Car pooling is available from the Lederman Science Center at 9:30 am.

[more information](#)

New Classifieds on Fermilab Today

New [classified ads](#) have been posted on *Fermilab Today*. A permanent link to the classifieds is located in the bottom left corner of Fermilab Today.

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