

Calendar

Friday, Sept. 21
3:30 p.m.
 DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
 BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
[Joint Experimental-Theoretical Physics Seminar](#) - One West
 Speaker: J. Collar,
 University of Chicago
 Title: COUPP, a Dark
 Matter Search at FNAL:
 Status and First Results

Monday, Sept. 24
2:30 p.m.
[Particle Astrophysics Seminar](#) - Curia II
 Speaker: K. Sigurdson,
 University of British
 Columbia
 Title: Photon Scattering by
 Atoms (and Dark Matter?)
3:30 p.m.
 DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
 BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
 THERE WILL BE NO ALL
 EXPERIMENTERS'
 MEETING THIS WEEK

[Click here](#) for NALCAL,
 a weekly calendar with
 links to additional
 information.

Weather

 **Sunny 91°/61°**
[Extended Forecast](#)
[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

[Secou Level 3](#)

Wilson Hall Cafe

Friday, Sept. 21
 - Beef pepper pot
 - Buffalo chicken wings
 - Cajun breaded catfish
 - Sweet & sour pork over
 rice
 - Honey mustard ham &
 swiss panini
 - Assorted pizza slices
 - Carved turkey
[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

Chez Leon

Wednesday, Sept. 26
 - Cheese ravioli w/tomato
 basil cream
 - Italian chopped salad
 - Apple walnut turnovers

Thursday, Sept. 27
Dinner
 Closed

[Chez Leon Menu](#)
 Call x4598 to make your
 reservation.

Archives

[Fermilab Today](#)
[Result of the Week](#)
[Safety Tip of the Week](#)
[ILC NewsLine](#)

Info

Fermilab Today is online at:
www.fnal.gov/today/

Send comments and
 suggestions to:
today@fnal.gov

Feature

Roof repair to silence ribbets



Workers conduct a final walk-through of the Meson Lab roof repairs earlier this week.

An unlikely frog habitat vanishes from Fermilab this week with the final touches to the Meson Lab roof repairs.

Leaks - lots of leaks - have plagued the building's twelve blue and orange concave arches since the laboratory's early days. The Meson Lab building was created as a striking architectural and aesthetic element of the Fermilab landscape, but its nearly 44,000 rivet holes provided 44,000 possible places for water to find a way inside.

"This roof is notorious. It has challenged every director the lab has had," said Erik Ramberg, head of the Meson test facility. "We'll see if this one triumphs."

Puddled water often meant scientists had to build indoor roofs four layers thick over machinery, shut down parts of experiments or move equipment.

It made for an amphibian heaven.

Ramberg said that during the five years he worked in the lab, he regularly heard croaking. "I saw a snake in there yesterday," he said. "It has to be eating something."

Ramberg said he'll miss the building's quirks, such as the day after a snowfall when it rains inside the building. But he hopes that the repairs stick for both safety and financial reasons.

Workers patched holes in the steel, primed the roof and filled in cavities. They then applied an elastomeric coating that hardened in the sunlight to form a flexible sheet and restored the building's original blue and orange colors.

FESS division head Randy Ortgiesen said that Fermilab's Elaine McClusky, Mike Andrews and Tom Prosapio worked tirelessly to see the roof fixed.

Fixing the building was key because it will soon become home to R&D projects for the proposed ILC, and will be a test facility for superconducting radiofrequency cavities.

"This is a big milestone for us, because that facility will become a showcase for the laboratory over the next few years," Ortgiesen said. "We'll have dignitaries coming from all over to tour it."

--Rhianna Wisniewski

Feature

Bike commuters celebrate Pine Street path reopening



Bike commuters celebrate the completion of the Pine Street repaving project at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 19.

The bike path connecting the Lederman Science Center to the west parking lot of Wilson Hall is no longer a bumpy road. Repairs to 5,000 feet of bike path between those two points were completed Wednesday.

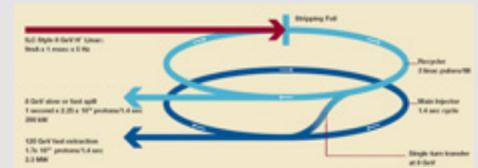
Roads and Grounds manager Mike Becker said that the bike path's fractured asphalt made for rough riding. Repairs to the path and areas of Pine Street began in April 2007. Both the street and path are part of the roads and paths maintenance program. Bike path repairs were made possible through funding from FESS and the Directorate.

Now that repairs are complete, bikers are ecstatic, Becker said. Roads and Grounds employee Dave Shemanske said that the newly paved areas make the main entrance to Fermilab user friendly to bikers and pedestrians. "We want people to enjoy coming into Fermilab to learn about and enjoy the nature, buildings, architecture and the science going on here," he said.

--Haley Bridger

From ILC Newsline

Project X at Fermilab



Schematic view of Project X

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose
 By any other name would smell as sweet."
 -(William Shakespeare (1564-1616),
 Romeo and Juliet II, ii, 1-2)

These days it seems that the questions I am asked most frequently are not about what gradient we will achieve for the ILC, not who will be the ILC Research Director, the next SLAC Director or the CERN Director General. Instead, I receive both genuine and rhetorical questions about Fermilab's proposed Project X. People ask me: Why is it being proposed? What is Project X? What are the science goals and opportunities? How will Project X impact the GDE and ILC? What are the technological challenges and issues? And so forth. These represent a very complex set of questions, and I would like to share some of my personal responses to them, not necessarily representing the official views of the GDE.

[Read more](#)

-- Barry Barish

In the News

Neutrons not so neutral after all, study says

From *CBC News*, Sept. 19, 2007

Among atomic particles, the neutron seems the most aptly named: Unlike the positively charged proton or the negatively charged electron, neutrons have a charge of zero.

But new experiments conducted in three particle accelerators suggest the neutron is more like an onion when it comes to electromagnetism: with a negatively charged exterior and interior and a positively charged middle sandwiched between them.

[Read More](#)

In the News

Neighbor galaxies just passing through

From *Discovery Channel*, Sept. 20, 2007

Our closest galactic companions are not companions at all — just strangers passing us in the night. New measurements of the speeds of the Magellanic Clouds show that the cloudy apparitions of Southern skies may be zooming past the Milky Way and not its little siblings after all.

New 3-D measurements of both the Large Magellanic Cloud and the Small Magellanic Cloud put their speeds at close to the escape velocity from the Milky Way. That suggests they're rather new arrivals and may not even stick around.

[Read More](#)

Announcements

Have a safe day!

NALWO Autumn Luncheon Sept. 24
 NALWO's Annual Autumn Luncheon will be held Monday, Sept. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Chez Leon in the User's Center. All laboratory women and friends are invited to attend. Come and meet each other, plan the coming season's activities and enjoy international dishes. Please bring a dish to share. For additional information, contact the Housing Office or Rose Moore at (630) 208-9309.

Register for ALCPG07

The joint meeting of the American Linear Collider Physics Group and ILC Global Design Effort will take place at Fermilab Oct. 22-26. The deadline to register is Oct. 12. Questions? Contact [Cynthia M. Sazama](#). [More information](#)

Wanted: Graduate students for ALCPG07

Are you a graduate student who would like free food and a T-shirt? Volunteer to be a scientific secretary at the ALCPG/GDE meeting at Fermilab on Oct. 22-26. For details contact [Andreas Kronfeld](#).

Classifieds

New [classified ads](#) have been posted on *Fermilab Today*.

[Additional Activities](#)