

Calendar

Monday, October 18

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

Speaker: M. Perelstein, Cornell University

Title: Two Topics in Cosmoparticle Physics

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

THERE WILL BE NO ALL

EXPERIMENTERS' MEETING THIS

WEEK

Tuesday, October 19

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE

BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over

THERE WILL BE NO ACCELERATOR

PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY

SEMINAR TODAY

Wilson Hall Cafe

Monday, October 18

Minestrone

Chicken & Mushroom Cheese Steak

\$4.75

Baked Chicken Enchiladas \$3.75

Carved Roast Beef \$4.00

Smoked Turkey Panini Pesto Mayo \$4.75

Western Ranch Bagel \$2.75

Pacific Rim Rice Bowl \$4.75

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#)

Weather



Showers Likely **53°/45°**

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

Current Security Status

Juan Estrada Receives Award at Rome Meeting



(Left to Right) Paul Rubinov, Juan Estrada and Alan Bross collaborated together on the VLPC. Carlos Garcia from University of Rochester and Bruce Hoeneisen from Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador also contributed to the project. ([Click on image for larger version.](#))

Juan Estrada of DZero received an award in Rome today at the meeting of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers-Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society. The Radiation Instrumentation Early Career Award is given once every two years "in recognition of significant and innovative technical contributions" to the science of measuring ionizing radiation.

PPD's Marvin Johnson nominated Estrada for a project he led last year on DZero's Visible Light Photon Counter. Alan Bross and Paul Rubinov of Fermilab, Carlos Garcia of the University of Rochester, and Bruce Hoeneisen from the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador contributed to the work.

As the Tevatron dramatically increased luminosity last year, physicists expected the operating, "bias" current in the VLPC to increase as a side-effect. Instead, they

Safety Tip of the Week

What Could Go Wrong?

When most people start out on a new task, they tend to assume that things will go right. It's human nature to be optimistic and focus on how things will get done rather than think about what could go wrong. You consider the task and develop a set of actions that will inevitably drive you to the goal.



Unfortunately, life is seldom this simple. If you don't think about what could go wrong before you start, you risk discovering the weaknesses along the way. This is often a major source of accidents, delays, increased costs, and compromised quality.

Consider the following to identify potential problems:

- **Deficiencies:** Do you have all the necessary materials, equipment, training, experience, knowledge, and information?
- **Control:** Are you dependent on someone else to provide something?
- **Concurrence:** Are there areas where key players disagree?
- **Time:** Is there enough to do the job well enough?

Lab policy requires a pre-work review for all activities carried out by Fermilab employees ([FESHM 2060](#)) or service

[Seco Level 3](#)

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observed a 10 percent drop. Estrada and his collaborators developed a theoretical model to interpret this behavior, and their computer simulation showed their guess was correct: It's the very avalanches of electrons the VLPC is meant to detect - those that signal the passage of photons - that caused the current to drop.

"The current decreases because the avalanches start occupying a significant area of the tracker," Estrada said. During an avalanche, a small, but not negligible region of the VLPC becomes unable to conduct electricity for a few milliseconds. "It's like producing a hole in the VLPC."

Knowing the VLPC's response to luminosity increases is important to correctly interpret the data coming out of DZero, Estrada said.

Estrada is a Wilson fellow and has won the 2003 Alvin Tollestrup award for his analysis work on measuring the mass of the top quark.

Playing Havoc Getting Ready to Defend Championship



The Playing Havoc team (L to R): Sue Grommes, Yuri Smirnov, Rich Thompson, Geoff Savage, Glenn Cooper, Elizabeth Gallas (captain), Taka Yasuda.

subcontractors ([FESHM 7020](#)). The purpose is to identify the associated ES&H hazards and specify the controls needed to minimize the probability of an accident. In some cases, a written hazard analysis may be required (i.e., complex jobs, unfamiliar hazards, high hazards, participation of multiple organizations). In addition, a written hazard analysis is required for all construction work, regardless of who performs the work ([FESHM 7010](#)).

Have a great day and let's work safely all week!

[Safety Tip of the Week Archive](#)

Accelerator Update

October 15

During the shutdown, the Accelerator Update will offer a series on the history and operation of the laboratory's accelerator complex. Booster history is the fifth in a series.

[Read the Current Accelerator Update](#)

[View the Tevatron Luminosity Charts](#)

In the News

From *The Economist*, October 7, 2004

One grid to rule them all

Efforts are under way to create a computer the size of the world

The stated goal of grid computing is to create a worldwide network of computers interconnected so well and so fast that they act as one. Yet most of the time, this over-hyped catchphrase is used to describe rather mundane improvements that allow companies to manage their workload more flexibly by tapping into idle time on their computers. At a meeting on computing in high-energy physics held in

The Fermilab Winter Volleyball League is getting ready for a new season. Players have begun to play practice games on Monday nights, from approximately 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. New league teams are forming now. New players should come to "[Open Volleyball](#)" sessions, or contact league representative [Elizabeth Gallas](#). This is a refereed 6-against-6 co-ed league; at least 2 women and 2 men are required on each team roster. A captains' meeting will take place on Monday, October 25 at noon in the cafeteria, and rosters are due on that day. League games will begin on November 1.

Last season six teams participated in the league. At the end of the regular season, the T-Wrists led the rankings with 47 points, followed by Playing Havoc, 46 points. The April 2004 play-offs saw the matchup of these two teams in a hotly contested final. Playing Havoc won the championship by a score of 2:1.

late September in Interlaken, Switzerland, physicists and engineers reviewed progress towards an altogether more ambitious type of computing grid, which aims to create a truly seamless system.

[Read more](#)

Announcements

Upcoming Classes

November 16 & 17: Behavioral Interviewing (Talent Selection) two consecutive half-days

December 13 - 17: Advanced Linux Administration

December 14 & 15: Behavioral Interviewing (Talent Selection) two consecutive half-days

[more information](#)

Scottish Country Dancing

Scottish Country Dancing will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 19, at the Geneva American Legion Post. Info at 630-584-0825 or 630-840-8194 or folkdance@fnal.gov.

Power Outage News

Kautz Road Substation

October 18 – The power will be off to all of the Main Injector service buildings and tunnel, including MI-12a, MI-12b, MI-13, and MI-65, for one half hour starting at 7 AM.