

New Secretary of Energy named

Samuel Wright Bodman was sworn in as the 11th Secretary of Energy on February 1, 2005, after the United States Senate unanimously confirmed him on January 31, 2005.

"I have tremendous respect for Secretary Abraham, and I look forward to building upon his outstanding record at the Department of Energy," said Bodman. "My colleagues and I at the Department of Energy stand ready to carry forward [President Bush's] vision of sound energy policy to ensure a steady supply of affordable energy for America's homes and businesses and to work toward the day when America achieves energy independence."

Previously, Secretary Bodman served as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury beginning in February 2004. He also served the Bush Administration as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Commerce beginning in 2001. A financier and executive by trade, with three decades of experience in the private sector, Secretary Bodman was well suited to manage the day-to-day operations of both of these cabinet agencies.

Born in 1938 in Chicago, he graduated in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Cornell University. In 1965, he completed his Doctor of Science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). For the next six years he served as an associate professor of chemical engineering at MIT and began his work

in the financial sector as technical director of the American Research and Development Corporation, a pioneer venture capital firm. He and his colleagues provided financial and managerial support to scores of new business enterprises located throughout the United States.

From there, Secretary Bodman went to Fidelity Venture Associates, a division of Fidelity Investments. In 1983 he was named president and chief operating officer of Fidelity Investments and a director of the Fidelity Group of Mutual Funds. In 1987, he joined Cabot Corporation, a Boston-based Fortune 300 company with global business activities in specialty chemicals and materials, where he served as chairman, CEO, and a director. Over the years, he has been a director of many other publicly owned corporations.

Secretary Bodman has also been active in public service. He is a former director of MIT's School of Engineering Practice and a former member of the MIT Commission on Education. He also served as a member of the Executive and Investment Committees at MIT, a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, and a trustee of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and the New England Aquarium.

Secretary Bodman is married to M. Diane Bodman. He has three children, two stepchildren, and eight grandchildren.

Remembering Christopher Lee Weaver

by Kirsten Kellogg

"Christopher Weaver willingly chose valor, honor and service. Christopher Weaver ardently chose to join other brave American men and women in becoming part of America's living hedge, the essential barrier to those who have consistently pursued the destruction of human rights. . . We will, with lasting gratitude, remember this great American – Christopher Lee Weaver." — **Dr. James E. Powell**, Bechtel Nevada president and general manager

Marine Corporal Christopher Lee Weaver was killed in combat in Iraq on January 26, 2005. In addition to serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Weaver was also a project controls engineer with Bechtel Nevada's combating terrorism program. He was only with the company for two months before being called to duty, but he made a lasting impression on those with whom he worked.

"Chris was a wonderful guy – the kind of kid any parent would have been proud of – dedicated to his job and the Global War on Terrorism," said **Patrick McCue**, a BN senior project controls engineer. "We all looked forward to his return, and our thoughts go out to his family."

While on a routine mission in Haditha, Iraq, Weaver's unit was attacked by insurgent small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades. Weaver and three others from the Marine Corps Reserve's Company C, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion out of Lynchburg, Va. were killed.

Weaver, only 24 years old, was born on August 15, 1980, in Charleston, S.C. He graduated from Virginia Tech in December 2002 with a degree in history and had been a member of the Marine Reserve since the summer of 1999.

More than 200 of Weaver's BN co-workers paid tribute to him on February 10, 2005, in a ceremony outside company offices. Though the ceremony only lasted an hour, Weaver's sacrifice will never be forgotten. The landlord of the Cheyenne Facility has generously offered to place a memorial plaque on the fountain in the middle of the complex in Weaver's honor.



photo courtesy of the Weaver family

Christopher Lee Weaver
August 15, 1980 – January 26, 2005



photo by Kirsten Kellogg

Dr. James E. Powell, BN president and general manager, speaks during a ceremony honoring Christopher Weaver.

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STEEL LINES

Advanced Spectroscopic Portal (ASP) testing

by Don Ricketts

The threat of a terrorist detonating a Radiation Dispersal Device (RDD) or even a nuclear device in the United States is rather low yet the consequence of one of these devices exploding is almost incomprehensible. One method of defeating terrorists and their RDD or nuclear device is to identify the radiological material required to make the RDD as it enters into the United States.

In support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate, BN was asked to develop a testing area at the NTS. This area would support the development and evaluation of critical technologies for securing U.S. borders against the smuggling of special nuclear materials (SNM) and other radiological materials posing a significant threat to U.S. security. It would also establish the operational framework for the Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex.

Evaluation of monitors provides information to government agencies and other users on the capability of radionuclide identifying portal monitors for reliably detecting and identifying radioactive material. Spectroscopy-based portal monitors have the ability to detect radioactivity and identify radionuclides that may be present in or on people, vehicles, or containers. ASP testing at the NTS includes three tests based on, but not limited to, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) N42.38 standard for spectroscopic portal monitors to evaluate nuclide identification and detection capabilities of a maximum of 10 portal monitors.

The first test involved static measurements of a variety of radioactive materials (e.g., medical, industrial, and SNM) and were conducted at Control Point 50 from January to early March 2005. This test involved two vendors at a time over a one week time period. The first week of testing required both the vendors and BN support personnel to wear rain coats. The second week of testing required long underwear and heavy

coats. The third week of testing finally held the promise of good weather. Initially, six vendors were selected for portal testing. Four additional vendors were later selected by DHS bringing the total number of vendors testing portals to 10. For this test, vendors only brought the main detectors of the portal systems to gather data. This data will become the basis for the second and third tests. Site preparation requirements included the establishment of a Radioactive Materials Area (RMA) for the storage of industrial sources and medical material, a Material Balance Area (MBA) for the storage of SNM sources, and an analysis trailer for reviewing data.

Test number two evaluates dynamic measurements using a variety of radioactive materials and will take place in Area 6 of the NTS. This test will validate the data gathered in test one and provide the vendors an opportunity to tweak their portal systems for test three. Site preparations are underway to facilitate the set up of the complete portal systems the vendors will bring for the second and third tests. Power, cement portal stands, an analysis trailer for reviewing data, and the RMA and MBA will all be established in March. Testing will begin in April and go through June 2005.

Test number three is an independent test and evaluation of dynamic measurements using a range of radioactive materials such as SNM, standard calibration sources, medical sources, industrial sources, and naturally occurring radioactive material. This test will be conducted at the same location as test two from July to August 2005 utilizing the cement stands and power already in place. In this final test, vendors will not be allowed access to their portal systems during active testing. Source material will be presented in various forms to replicate the terrorist trying to smuggle the radioactive material past a border crossing or port facility.

After nearly 10 months of testing, tweaking and meticulously working on the portal systems, DHS will have the information they need to select the next generation of portal systems. BN and everyone associated with the ASP Program have significantly contributed to the security of our nation and can take personal pride in the knowledge that their efforts continue to keep the NTS on the cutting edge of testing and technology.

Grand Opening of the Atomic Testing Museum

by Stacey Oien

"A few short years ago, a small group of retired Nevada Test Site workers began discussions about how to tell the story of one of the last century's most important national defense programs. It was a dream that turned into a vision that is now being realized in bricks and mortar." – Troy Wade, Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees

A decade after initial planning, the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation (NTSHF) membership enjoyed the fruits of their labor—the Grand Opening of the Atomic Testing Museum.

Nearly 700 guests attended the invitation-only dedication on Saturday, February 19, 2005. **Troy Wade** hosted the ceremony. He credited the NTSHF's success in developing the Atomic Testing Museum as the result of a "unique partnership between the Desert Research Institute (DRI), the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), and the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation's membership." He attributed the Atomic Testing Museum's accomplishments to the staff headed by **Dr. Bill Johnson** and to the many volunteers who have donated countless hours as well as financial support.

Speakers included Lt. Gov. **Lorraine Hunt**; U.S. Representative **Shelley Berkley**; Ambassador **Linton Brooks**, NNSA Administrator; Interim University and Community College System of Nevada Chancellor **James Rogers**; Director, Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History **Dr. Brent D. Glass**; DRI President **Dr. Stephen Wells**; Las Vegas Mayor **Oscar Goodman**; and guest of honor, U.S. Senator **Harry Reid**.

The Atomic Testing Museum recognizes all aspects of this highly charged era in world history. Visitors are guided through a chronology of events beginning with the end of World War II. Timelines show the parallel between atomic testing and other historical and cultural events, as well as how the ideals of the atomic age helped form popular

culture. The Museum also contains the innovative achievements associated with the NTS and concludes with the new role of the test site as a training ground for the United States' anti-terror efforts.

The Atomic Testing Museum officially opened to the public on Sunday, February 20, 2005. The Museum is located on the DRI campus on the southwest corner of Flamingo Road and Swenson Avenue at 755 East Flamingo Road. The hours of the museum are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. The Museum will close on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Admission to the Museum is \$10 with discounts for seniors, military and students with proper identification. Children six years of age or younger and NTSHF

members are free. Contact the Museum at (702) 794-5161 for more information.

The Grand Opening celebration was sponsored by KBR; Bechtel Nevada; USEC, Inc.; Northrop Grumman Corporation; Wackenhut Services, Inc.; Bechtel Corporation; DynCorp; and AGS | AECOM.



photo by Mary Scodwell

(From left to right) Dr. Bill Johnson, Dr. Stephen Wells, Troy Wade, Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, Dr. Brent Glass, Senator Harry Reid, and Ambassador Linton Brooks prepare to cut the ribbon at the Grand Opening of the Atomic Testing Museum.

Face-to-Face



Name: Keith Davenport

Company: WSI-Nevada

Title: Captain, NTS Pro Force

Hometown: Aurora, Illinois

Hobbies/
Interests: Woodworking, handyman, car detailing, and watching movies

Key to Acronyms

The following acronyms appear frequently in SiteLines:

BEEF	Big Explosives Experimental Facility
BN	Bechtel Nevada
DAF	Device Assembly Facility
EM	Emergency Management
EM	Environmental Management
ES&H	Environment, Safety, and Health
JASPER	Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (gas gun)
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
LLNL	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
NNSA	National Nuclear Security Administration
NSO	Nevada Site Office
NTS	Nevada Test Site
PIP	Process Improvement Project
RSL-A	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Andrews
RSL-N	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Nellis
SC	NNSA Service Center
SCE	Subcritical Experiment
SNJV	Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture
SNL	Sandia National Laboratories
STL	Special Technologies Laboratory
WSI-NV	Wackenhut Services Incorporated - Nevada

News Briefs

Mountain lion alert

A dead mountain lion was found recently near the Ice Cap site in Area 7 at the NTS. It was a two-year old male, and it apparently had starved to death. Hungry animals have a tendency to lose their inhibition toward people and should be considered a potential threat.

Mountain lions can be found anywhere on the NTS but generally prefer mountainous, timbered areas. They are also known to frequent springs. The number of mountain lions on the NTS is not known, but it is thought to be low. They need large territories and abundant prey (an adult usually eats one deer per week). They are rarely seen due to their low numbers and secretive nature.

The potential to encounter a mountain lion is very low but still exists. It is important to always be vigilant. If you see a mountain lion from a distance, try to keep an eye on it and leave the area. If you see one up close, never run. This may invoke an instinctive response in the mountain lion to chase and attack. Keep eye contact and don't turn your back on the animal or bend down. Raise your arms and do all you can to appear larger because they are intimidated by size and height. If the animal behaves aggressively, throw stones or whatever is readily available without bending down or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak firmly as if scolding a dog. Fight back if a mountain lion attacks you.

Carry a stick and be alert if you are on foot in mountainous, timbered areas or around springs. If you see a mountain lion on the NTS, please report it to **Ecological Services** at (702) 295-0393 or (702) 295-0364. For additional information on mountain lions, go to www.ndow.org/about/pubs/pdf/brochure/mtlion_brochure2.pdf.



photo courtesy of Bechtel Nevada

A dead mountain lion is examined after its discovery on the Nevada Test Site.

Driving defensively – BN implements new vehicle safety policy

In an effort to improve vehicle safety and to reduce the number of accidents and incidents that occur in government vehicles, BN has issued a new vehicle safety policy.

The policy, which became effective March 1, 2005, is in response to an alarming increase in vehicle accidents from fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2004. The vehicle accident rate increased from 60 accidents to 80.

"This is unacceptable and avoidable," said **Dr. James E. Powell**, BN president and general manager. Powell directed that this new policy be written, implemented and rolled out as part of the Vehicle Safety Program. The program is intended to put into place a variety of elements that encourage safe driving behaviors.

The new policy states that BN employees shall operate government-owned, -leased, or -rented vehicles (excluding heavy equipment) competently, and in compliance with all local, state, and DOE/NNSA site regulations, where applicable, while conducting company business. BN line managers and supervisors are responsible and accountable for implementing the actions within the policy and ensuring compliance. Employees not complying with the above stated regulations and this policy are subject to disciplinary actions.

All BN employees operating government vehicles while on company business must complete the BN Driver Safety training course no less than every three years; possess a valid state driver's license; be mentally and physically fit to operate the type of vehicle assigned; and pass all company-required drug and alcohol screenings. In addition, BN employees shall:

- Wear seat belt restraints at all times when operating or riding in a government vehicle on company business or on DOE/NNSA-controlled property. BN employees shall also ensure that all passengers wear restraints while the vehicle is in operation.
- Drive defensively and prevent accidents by anticipating and allowing for hazards created by the unsafe acts of others or adverse traffic, road, and weather conditions.
- Perform a walk-around check of the vehicle paying particular attention to the surroundings prior to driving.
- Ensure the area behind the vehicle is clear of obstacles before backing up a vehicle.
- Pull off the road to a safe location or utilize a hands-free device if required to use any communication device while operating a government vehicle.
- Not use radar/laser detecting devices in any government vehicle while on official business.
- Report any accident involving a government vehicle immediately to their supervisor and to the Nye County Sheriff if the accident occurred on the Nevada Test Site (NTS); or to the appropriate law enforcement agency if outside the NTS.
- Immediately notify their supervisor of the suspension or revocation of their driver's license. Employees with suspended or revoked licenses shall not drive any vehicle while conducting company business.

"I believe this new policy will reduce vehicle accidents and help BN achieve its goal of zero accidents," said Powell.

Employee access to records

In accordance with 29 CFR 1910.1020, *Occupational Safety and Health Standards*, "Access to Employee Exposure and Medical Records," all employees have the right to access medical records maintained by BN Occupational Medicine.

If you wish to view your records, the following sections can assist you:

- BN Occupational Medicine at the **North Las Vegas Medical Clinic**, C-1 Building, (702) 295-1473.
- BN Occupational Medicine at the **Mercury Medical Clinic**, Building 650, (702) 295-6224.

In the Next Issue of *SiteLines* ...

- U1a Full Participation Exercise
- BN Fellow Award Winner Announced
- Tips for Saving Money at the Pumps

Face-to-Face



Name: Kathy Lynn

Company: NNSA Nevada Site Office

Job Title: Lead Business Management Specialist

Hometown: Born and raised in Hawaii, lived in the San Francisco Bay area most of my adult life before moving to Henderson, Nevada, 10 years ago

Hobbies/

Interests: I like to fish, hike, camp, barbecue, and visit with friends – not necessarily in that order

Phun with Physics – 14th Annual Nevada Regional Science Bowl

by Kirsten Kellogg

It came down to the bitter end. Thirty-two teams, one winner. Who would take the title?

Four teams made it to the final rounds of competition – Clark High School's Team A, Palo Verde High School, Reno High School's Team B, and Shadow Ridge High School. Clark High School, the reigning Science Bowl champion, was the team to beat, but they had their work cut out for them as they already had one loss for the day. Palo Verde High School got to sit and wait for the championship round since they were the only undefeated team of the day.

Former four-time champion, Reno High School, entered the first heat of the final four in competition with Clark High School. Clark prevailed in a very close match. Next up, Shadow Ridge High School – a two-year-old school who had proven themselves as tough competitors throughout the day but were not tough enough for the returning champions. Clark High School was simply too much and won in another thrilling match.

At last, the final two teams took center stage. Palo Verde High School taking on Clark High School. Clark had to beat the Palo Verde team twice to win the Nevada Regional Science Bowl, and they were ready. Clark not only won the first match, but did so convincingly. As the two men and two women Clark team geared up for the final showdown with Palo Verde, a team who had beaten them earlier in the day, the momentum seemed on their side. As volunteers, parents, and other teams looked on, KTNV TV-13 chief meteorologist, **Nate Tannenbaum**, read through some of the toughest questions in the entire competition.

The first half saw both teams trade the lead several times. At the half, each team huddled with their coach who gave the best advice and motivation they could. When the second half was over, it had been dominated by Clark High School. This, their third consecutive championship and fourth title in the 14-year history of the southern Nevada competition, earned them a trip to the National Science Bowl in Washington D.C., a trophy, and a check for \$5,000 for their school's math and science programs.

In addition to Clark High School, other winners were as follows:

2nd place – Palo Verde High School (\$2,500)

3rd place – Shadow Ridge High School (\$1,500)

4th place – Reno High School Team B (\$1,000)

5th place – Las Vegas High School Team A and Reno High School Team A - tie (\$500 each)

7th place – Advanced Technologies Academy Team B and Valley High School - tie (\$300 each)

9th place – Cedar City High School, Cheyenne High School Team B, Green Valley High School, and Wooster High School - tie (\$100 each)

NNSA/NSO would like to thank the approximately 95 volunteers who helped ensure the success of Science Bowl:

Patti Aaron, Bureau of Reclamation (BR); **Heidi Albrecht**, UNLV; **Kurt Arnold**; **Connie Barricks**; **Melody Bell**, NNSA/NSO; **Sherron Bell**, Yucca Mountain Project (YMP); **Byron Bennett**, UNLV; **Jamie Biasi**, UNLV; **Jim Blink**, LLNL; **Dave Bowman**, BN; **Nathalie Brandes**, UNLV; **Stan Brewster**, BN; **Tamiko Brown**, SNJV; **Bob Campbell**, GPI; **Dave Chubb**, BR; **Laure Clark**, YMP; **Melissa Clune**, SNJV and her daughters Kourtney and Leah; **Larry Concors**, YMP; **Steve Curtis**, Alphatech; **Bill Distel**, YMP; **Narayanan Doraswamy**, YMP; **Michelle Elekonich**, UNLV; **Ardell Fuhrmann**; **Amy Gardner**, UNLV; **Dalene Glanz**, BN; **Elizabeth Glowiak**, SNJV; **Jeff Gordon**, BN; **Harris Greenberg**, YMP; **Ernie Hardin**, YMP; **Fred Harris**, UNR; **Lenore Hemphill**, CCSD; **Clemens Heske**, UNLV; **Janet Hollinger**, UNLV and her husband Roy and daughters Heather and Mindy; **Deborah Hoshizaki**, UNLV; **LeeAnn Inadomi**, BN; **Ellen Jacobson**, UNR; **Tracy Johnson**, YMP; **Carrie Johnson-Booker**, BN; **Carolyn Kafantaris**, NNSA/NSO; **Larry Karr**, BR; **Kirsten Kellogg**, BN; **Janet Kirsch**, BR; **Susan Krenzien**, PAI; **Frank Lynch**, YMP and wife Michele; **Tony Mason**, Cabrerra; **Leah Masterson**, BR; **Paul Matuska**, BR; **Michelle Miller**, BN; **Catherine Mohar**, BN; **Michael Mohar**, ISS; **Debbie Monette**, NNSA/NSO; **Darwin Morgan**, NNSA/NSO; **Shari Morrison**, BN; **Cynthia Mueller**, NJN; **Malcolm Nicol**, UNLV; **Erik Nielsen**, BN; **Joni Norton**, NNSA/NSO; **Yulonda Paige**, BN; **Bill Phillips**, Caliveras; **Travis Pullen**, NNSA/NSO; **Janet Reiber**, UNLV and her daughter Dallas; **Marianne Robbins**, BN; **Christina Robinson-Swett**, BR; **Kevin Rohrer**, NNSA/NSO; **Chuck Russell**, DRI; **Frank Saba**, UNLV; **Eric Sandgren**, UNLV; **Erandhi Seneviratne**, UNLV; **Ralph Sgamma**, BN; **Bill Sinclair**, YMP; **Claire Sinclair**, YMP; **Christopher Smith**, UNLV; **Justin Smith**, UNLV; **Steve Smith**, RAI; **Matthew Sokol**, UNLV; **Mary Jo Stack** and friend Shea; **Bruce Stolte**, NNSA/NSO and his wife Kolleen and daughter Sarah; **Nate Tannenbaum**, KTNV TV-13; **Jeff Tappen**, DRI; **Danielle Villa**, SNJV; **Maryla Wasiolek**, YMP; and **Piotr Wasiolek**, BN.



Clark High School's Team A poses for a photo after winning the 14th Annual Nevada Regional Science Bowl. From left to right are **Beth Isaacs** (teacher/coach), **Drea Ballard**, **Angela Cheng**, **Faun Ginac** (team captain), **Cassie Thompson** (teacher/coach), **Sonja Swanson**, and **Gregory Kraus**.

photo by Mary Seodwell

Special thanks to all of the Science Bowl sponsors:

Bechtel Nevada; Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC; Bureau of Reclamation, Regional Office and Hoover Dam; Desert Research Institute; Nevada Power Company; Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture; Southwest Airlines; Southwest Gas Corporation; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office; U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Repository Development; and Wackenhut Services, Inc.

Internet brings changes to procurement

by Jeanette Mathews

The Internet has brought a number of changes to the field of procurement. Buyers now have a wealth of information at their fingertips and instant access to suppliers and their products. One of the changes capable of saving companies the most money is the eAuction, specifically the "Reverse eAuction."

Reverse eAuctions, as the name implies, are run in reverse of a traditional auction. In most traditional auctions, a seller offers goods or services and the buyers offer prices while competing with one another in a way that drives the price up. At the end of the auction, the highest bidder wins the item. With a Reverse eAuction, the process is reversed. The buyer is the one who initiates the auction. The buyer creates a description of his particular needs, and the sellers are the ones who place bids during the auction. Their bid is based on how much they would charge to fulfill the buyer's needs. The competition developed between the sellers drives the prices down, instead of up, so the buyer pays less. Since sellers are competing against one another openly, prices are lower.

The eAuctions have become an important component of BN's well developed procurement sourcing strategy. They allow BN to minimize the cost of goods and services purchased while maximizing the value received.

Last year, BN Procurement conducted six eAuctions with a documented savings of \$265,000 (23 percent), with plans to increase that number substantially this year. The first eAuction of this year was conducted January 14, 2005. The eAuction yielded a savings of \$10,200.

Not every requirement is a good fit for eAuction, but BN Procurement is now careful-

ly reviewing every requirement over \$100,000 to determine if the eAuction is the best procurement strategy. With shrinking budgets, BN is looking to the eAuction as an excellent method to maximize cost savings.



photo by Jennifer Morton

(From left to right) **Shane Tempest**, **Dan Wallace**, **Lori Richinson** and **Ed Martin** of the BN Procurement Department review the results from the first eAuction of the new year noting the \$10,200 savings. The winner of the eAuction was Construction Resources International (CRI), an 8a Small Business Administration (SBA) certified, women-owned, minority and SBA certified Small Disadvantaged Business located in Minden, Nev.

Beyond the call

BN helps ensure safety at Presidential Inauguration

In support of the national security community, BN personnel provided support for the 2005 Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. Over three-dozen employees from the RSL locations at Andrews and Nellis Air Force Bases joined with personnel from NNSA Headquarters and Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) Region 2 to provide radiological sweeps of the Inauguration sites. This support included on-site monitoring of vehicles and personnel along the parade route and at the evening Gala events. These efforts are crucial to the federal government's efforts to safeguard the president, dignitaries, and the general public during this public celebration.

BN achieves safety milestones

Two significant safety milestones were achieved by BN in February. The company reached more than 2.8 million work hours without a lost workday case, and during the fiscal month of February 2005, BN incurred no recordable injuries.

"Safety is Bechtel Nevada's highest priority," said **Dr. James E. Powell**, BN president and general manager. "I am extremely proud of our employees for reaching these milestones by looking out for each other and working safely."

The last lost workday case was recorded August 16, 2004. Since January 1, 1996, when BN was awarded the NTS contract, employees have worked more than two million hours four other times, but this is the highest accomplishment ever.

Only once before since the inception of the contract has BN had a month without recordable injuries – in February 1999. This achievement demonstrates each employee's commitment to reaching BN's goal of "zero accidents."

Congratulations!

This feature highlights various components of the Six Sigma process at the NNSA/NSO complex. A monthly article will detail the Six Sigma process, individual PIPs, the team members associated with Six Sigma, or the anticipated benefits and cost savings associated with implementing the PIPs.

Amplifying the benefits

by Bill Contine

Service organizations usually own several processes that are used by many projects and organizations within BN. Although improvements to those processes certainly benefit the process owner, the benefits are actually amplified by the number of people who use the process. The most significant benefit is to the dozens or hundreds of people who use our services every day.

The Project Controls functional organization recently completed a PIP to more efficiently complete the month end processing of project cost and schedule performance information. The result was a reduction in cycle time of 6.4 hours per month. Not an impressive number if you only consider the hours saved by the three people performing the process. The more significant result is that hundreds of project managers, project team members, and customers get information sooner giving them more time to

analyze it and take action to keep their projects on track.

Service organizations like Project Controls are in a unique position of being able to improve the quality, timeliness, and cost effectiveness of a broad spectrum of work performed by BN. The key is to focus on improvements that benefit our internal customers rather than our own organizations.

The benefits of improvements are sometimes difficult to measure, but they are real. Although some benefits may not appear as direct cost savings, they can result in improved performance, customer satisfaction, and a greater ability to attract new work to NNSA/NSO.

Project Controls is working on two more PIPs that have the potential to benefit many users. Those PIPs, like the Month End Process PIP, will allow amplification of small improvements into benefits that will be realized by many organizations across BN.

Steps to safety

When you ascend or descend stairs, are you in a hurry? Do you hold the hand rail? Do you carry objects that might affect your balance? Do you watch your footing, or are you focused on your destination? Most people don't think about these things when they use the stairs. In the past ten years, workers at DOE facilities have reported over 2,500 injuries from slips and falls. Some workers, such as administrative and food service personnel, have a higher risk of accidents because they use stairs more frequently. Most of these incidents occur while going down the stairs. Of these, over two-thirds resulted in injuries severe enough to require lost or restricted work days. More than 5,600 lost workdays resulted from the incidents.

Why so many accidents? Because many of us do not typically exercise proper precaution when using the stairs. For many of us, stairs are a part of our daily life. We have become so accustomed to using them that we do not think about it. It is an action that is performed almost automatically, but unfortunately, it is when we are not thinking about our actions that accidents occur.

A recent study revealed that we tend to fall more often on short flights of steps – 80% of falls on steps occur on stairs with five or fewer steps. Most falls occur on the top or bottom three steps. How can we avoid being another stair statistic? Follow these tips to ensure your stair safety:

- Make sure the stairway is well lit
- Take care when carrying things up and down stairs – two journeys are safer than one
- Make sure there are no uneven surfaces, cracks, bunched-up stair covering or protruding nails
- Keep stairs and landings clear from clutter
- Watch your steps, not your destination
- Don't rush
- Wear sensible footwear
- Make sure your vision is not blocked as you go up or down your stairs. If you are carrying something, make sure it does not hide the stairs and that one hand is free to use the handrail.
- Always hold the handrail

Stairs don't have to be dangerous if you practice your steps to safety!

Retirements

Cynthia Matthews – Bechtel Nevada

In Memory

- John T. Bodie – former contractor employee
- Nancy Fisher – former contractor employee
- Gilbert Juarez – former contractor employee
- Gilbert Kitashima – former contractor employee
- John R. Vaughn – former contractor employee
- Benjamin Visaya – former contractor employee
- Christopher L. Weaver – Bechtel Nevada employee

Face-to-Face



Name: Renée Jaszczak
 Company: Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture
 Title: Systems Analyst
 Hometown: Gainesville, Florida
 Hobbies/
 Interests: Camping, boating, road trips, dancing, hiking and softball

Partnering for Education



BN supports Jim Bridger fundraiser

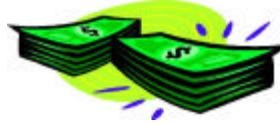
BN employees recently raised nearly \$800 in support of a fundraiser for Jim Bridger Middle School, one of BN's Focus Schools.

Approximately 50 percent of the profits will go directly back to the school to be used in the educational curriculum. Employees ordered items from the spring "Reader's Digest" catalog which included: magazine subscriptions, an assortment of chocolate boxes, and spring themed decorative items.

Jim Bridger Middle School is one of the two "at risk" schools that BN supports.

Corporate funds assist with much-needed equipment and employees assist through such activities as back-to-school supply drives, fundraisers, and volunteering time to read to students and make presentations.

If you are interested in volunteer activities at Jim Bridger or BN's other Focus School, Kit Carson Elementary School, please contact **Jennifer Morton** at (702) 295-4376.



Students shape the future



photo courtesy of the Las Vegas Future City Competition

Middle school students participate each year in the Las Vegas Regional Future City Competition during National Engineers Week. Members of the local engineering community participate as final round judges. This year those judges included **Chip Maxfield**, center, Clark County Commissioner, and **Douglas Selby**, right, Las Vegas City Manager.



photo courtesy of the Las Vegas Future City Competition

Future City Mentor **Mitch Kunich**, left, NNSA/NSO, and students and teachers who designed *Newer New Fiji* accept the Third Place Overall award following the final round. For more information on the Future City Competition, please visit www.lvfuturecity.org.

Lessons Learned

Taming of the shredder

by Doris Burnett

An employee was working late and alone in a North Las Vegas office and was bending over a 35-inch high paper shredder, checking the status of the plastic trash bag as the shredder was running. The employee's badge became entangled in the paper shredder and, although it was on a breakaway lanyard, it did not break away. The employee was able to hit the stop button and reverse the shredder to extricate the badge. Even though it was not totally destroyed (the employee's name and picture were still visible), a new badge was obtained the next morning.

During the investigation, it was determined that there were two previous cases of employees' badges becoming entangled in this shredder. In both instances, the employees were wearing breakaway lanyards that did not break away, causing them to have to hit the stop button. It was also noted that many of the breakaway lanyards supplied by BN are long, causing the badge to hang lower on the body for some employees than is required in Security Procedure WSI-301, "Security Badges," that states badges must be worn above the waist.

Here are some tips to keep you safe when working around paper shredders:

- Be aware of the proper operation and hazards of working with paper shredders; a badge is not the only thing that can become caught in a shredder.
- Remove the risk of the badge becoming entangled in a paper shredder by removing the badge. Hook the badge at a higher point, like the collar or place the lanyard with the badge over the shoulder while shredding paper. According to WSI-301, "Employees must wear their badges at all times unless wearing the badge could be a safety or health hazard; when the safety or health hazard no longer exists, the badge must be redisplayed."
- Adjust breakaway lanyards to allow for the badge to be displayed "in a location above the waist and on the front of the body," according to WSI-301. Do NOT perform this adjustment by placing the lanyard "slider" behind the wearer's neck. This voids the breakaway feature. If a lanyard requires shortening, this can be accomplished safely by pulling the breakaway apart, tying a knot in the strap on one or both sides, and reconnecting the breakaway feature.

For more information on this and other Lessons Learned, contact **Doris Burnett** at (702) 295-5580.



The following Web sites also have additional information:
<http://health.yahoo.com/health/dc/001943/0.html>
<http://www.shapeup.org/bodylab/basics/know9.asp>
<http://www.mayoclinic.com>

A new year – A new you

Although many New Year's resolutions to lose weight may have fizzled by now, if you are still thinking about losing those extra pounds but are not sure what would work for you, here are some tips.

Obesity affects one in four adults. During the period of a year, 50 percent of Americans will go on a weight loss program or try to maintain their weight. There are several types of weight loss programs:

- **Do It Yourself Programs** – this includes trying to lose weight by yourself or with a group of like minded people. These people rely on their own judgment, group support, diet books and products to lose weight. You need to remember not all diet books are a reliable source of weight loss information.
- **Non-Clinical Programs** – these may or may not be commercially owned and operated (like weight loss chains). These programs usually use books and pamphlets prepared by health care providers. They use counselors who are usually not health care providers and may or may not have training. Some of these programs require you to buy their food or supplements.
- **Clinical Programs** – This may or may not be commercially owned. Their services are usually in a health care setting, such as a clinic, by licensed health care professionals, like physicians, nurses, dietitians and/or psychologists. These programs may include one or all of the above health care professionals. They also offer services on nutrition education, medical care, behavior changes and physical activity. Sometimes a very low calorie diet is used to help severely overweight people.



When looking into a program to suit your needs, you should be aware of the different diet types:

- **Fixed menu diet** – this diet provides you with a list of all the foods you can eat. The food is selected for you, which may make the diet boring and difficult to follow when eating out. If you follow this type of diet you will need to eventually change to a plan that helps you learn to make meal choices on your own.
- **Exchange type diet** – this diet provides you with a meal plan with a set number of servings from several food groups. Within each group are foods that can be exchanged with approximately the same caloric count. This plan allows for more day to day variety and makes it easier to eat out. The exchange type diet teaches food selection skills which help in maintaining weight loss.
- **Prepackaged meal diet** – this provides you with prepackaged meals, which helps you recognize appropriate portions. This diet can be costly. You also need to find out if this diet teaches you how to select and prepare food to maintain your weight loss.
- **Formula diet** – this is a plan that has a person replace one or two meals with a liquid or powder formula. Formula diets are usually balanced containing carbohydrates, protein and a small amount of fat. They are easy to use because they do not teach the person the skills to maintain weight loss, and most people regain their weight once they stop using the formula diet.
- **Questionable diets** – these diets suggest that you eat a certain nutrient, food or combination of foods. They may work for the short term because they are low in calories, but these diets are not well balanced and may cause nutritional deficiencies. You

should avoid this type of diet.

Remember, a good weight loss program should include several features. The diet should be safe – it should include all the recommended daily allowances. The weight loss should be slow and steady. You should not try to lose more than one or two pounds per week unless your physician feels that you would benefit from a more rapid weight loss. You should be evaluated by your physician before weight loss. This is especially true if you want to lose more than 15 to 20 pounds, have any health problems or take medication on a daily basis. Your program should include weight maintenance after your weight loss. Maintenance is difficult after weight loss and is not usually incorporated into weight loss programs. The program you select should help in permanently changing your dietary habits and increasing your level of physical activity. One of the most important factors in weight loss and maintaining that loss is increasing your physical activity.

Although there is not one perfect diet for everyone, some general principles apply to most people. These are often represented in a food pyramid. The most familiar food pyramid is the Food Guide Pyramid established by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services. There are many other food pyramids, though, including the Asian, Latin American, Mediterranean, the Mayo Clinic Healthy Weight Pyramid, and the Vegetarian Diet Pyramid. These pyramids follow the same premise of healthy eating, variety, portion control and moderation in eating. The differences in these pyramids reflect personal preferences, dietary patterns, food availability, and cultural eating patterns.

The easiest thing to remember about weight loss is that it is controlled by the number of calories you take in and the number of calories you use each day. To lose weight you want to burn more calories than you consume.

You can use the following formula to maintain your weight:

- If you are sedentary, you will burn 10 calories per pound of your body weight. For example, if you weigh 150 pounds, you may consume 1500 calories to maintain your weight.
- If your activity level is low, you will burn 13 calories per pound of body weight. This means no planned regular physical activity but includes occasional weekend activity like golf or recreational tennis
- Moderate activity will burn 15 calories per pound of body weight. This includes regular aerobic activity for 30 to 60 minutes each time, like swimming, jogging and/or walking.
- Strenuous activity will burn 18 calories per pound of body weight. This is vigorous physical activity for 60 minutes, four or five days per week.

It is important to remember that a successful weight loss program should include diet, exercise and behavior modification. You need to check with your personal care physician before starting a diet and exercise program. This is especially true if you smoke or have health problems.

The BN Occupational Medicine Department welcomes questions you may have regarding diet and exercise. Please visit our Mercury or North Las Vegas clinics to try our Tanita Body Fat Analyzer. Contact **Robin Ireland** at (702) 295-4736 or **Karen Sondrol-Maxwell** at (702) 295-1474 for more information.



Bechtel Nevada
 40 years *Nevada Test Site* – **Carlitos Flores**
 35 years *Las Vegas* – **William Payne**
 25 years *Las Vegas* – **Elmer Glazener, Jr., Ronald Hunter**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Maria Alvarado-McMahon, Katherine Long, Bobby Nichols**
 20 years *Las Vegas* – **Paul Breeding, Doris Burnett, Larry Hunt, Yuen-Han Lee, Ronald Spiers, Maureen Webster**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Christopher Moore**; *Hawaii* – **Wayne Olival**
 15 years *Las Vegas* – **Harriet Robinson**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Ronald Baugh, Patricia Bowman**; *Remote Sensing Laboratory* – **Andrews** – **Richard Vojtech**
 5 years *Las Vegas* – **Tom Anderson, Jenny Harding, Howard Hinkelbein, Debra Hodas, Sharon Nanez, Igor Shaffid**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Johnny Jones, Carl Konrad, John Williams, Stephen Wolf**; *Albuquerque Operations* – **Christopher Jeffsew Hires** *Las Vegas* – **Jason Blair, Michael Eshleman, John Halas, Krikor Hovasapian, Michael Lamb, Chad Stuart, LeAnn Tichenor, Robert Tietz**; *Nevada Test Site* – **Paul Cakanic, Yolanda Fuchs, Darrell Goeckner, John Hess, Steven Johnson, Alexander Lowe, Douglas McBride, Matthew Randolph, Jo Ann Reese,**

Vincent Shih, Allison Stringer, Sara Weaver, Jon Yonko; *Livermore Operations* – **York Lee, Randall Rampke, Arthur VanProoyen**; *Los Alamos Operations* – **Sarah Giandoni**; *Remote Sensing Laboratory* – **Andrews** – **Katalin Hopkins, Nisha Oates**
 Desert Research Institute
 25 years **Patricia McQueen**
 15 years **William Dippel**
 10 years **Jennifer Baro**
 5 years **John Karlas, Lynn Karr**
 Wackenhut Services Incorporated - Nevada
 25 years **Michael Hailey, John Holliday**
 20 years **Carl Nichter, Carlos Saenz, Dianna Williams**
 15 years **Jeffrey Lofton**
 10 years **Barbara Doss**
 — *Compiled by Kirsten Kellogg*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 22
 NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, Non-Proliferation Test and Evaluation Complex, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702) 295-0944.**

April 27
 NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, Non-Proliferation Test and Evaluation Complex, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702) 295-0944.**

April 28
 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Contact **BN Workforce Enhancement (702) 295-0930.**

May 14
 Family Fair. Contact **BN Workforce Enhancement (702) 295-0930.**

May 26
 NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, Non-Proliferation Test and Evaluation Complex, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702) 295-0944.**

May 30
 NNSA/NSO and contractor offices closed in observance of Memorial Day.

June 29
 NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, Non-Proliferation Test and Evaluation Complex, Bilby Crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702) 295-0944.**

Declassified Film Showings
 For information on declassified film showings at NTS CP-1, call **(702) 295-4015.** For information on declassified film showings at NTS Yucca Mountain, contact **Rod Rodriguez (702) 295-5825.**

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Trade Shows

April 20-24
 2005 Forensic Engineering Symposium. New York Hilton and Towers, New York, N.Y. For additional information, visit www.asce.org/conferences/forensics05/.

April 25-27
 National Contract Management Association World Congress 2005. Hyatt Regency/Phoenix Civic Plaza, Phoenix, Ariz. For additional information, visit www.ncmahq.org/.

May 21-26
 AIHce 2005 Annual Conference. Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, Calif. For additional information, visit www.aiha.org/aihce05/aihce.htm.

June 5-9
 American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting. Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, San Diego, Calif. For additional information, visit www.ans.org/meetings/annual/.

June 12-15
 The American Society of Safety Engineers presents SAFETY 2005. New Orleans, La. For additional information, visit www.asse.org/safety2005.htm.

June 12-15
 6th Annual DOE Small Business Conference. Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, Tenn. For additional information, visit www.smallbizconference.com/.

June 21-24
 Air & Waste Management Association's 98th Annual Conference and Exhibition. Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, Minn. For additional information, visit www.awma.org/ACE2005/default.asp.

Face-to-Face

Name: Bonnie Spencer

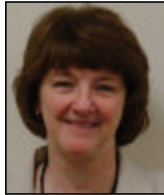
Company: Bechtel Nevada

Job Title: Training Supervisor

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hobbies/

Interests: Camping, fishing, RVing in our motor home, reading, crocheting, and working in the yard (never ending). I also enjoy spending time with my three grandkids when I can, which isn't much now that they live in Texas. I am a "news junkie" who spends too much time watching cable news and C-SPAN.

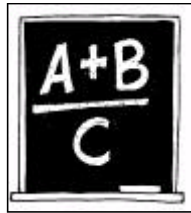


April is:

Mathematics Awareness Month

and

National Child Abuse Awareness Month



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