

NewsLetter

Week of August 11, 2006

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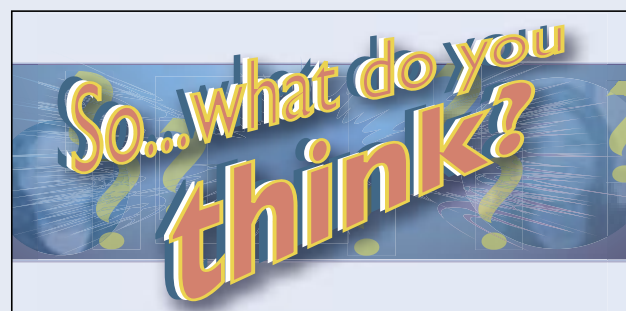
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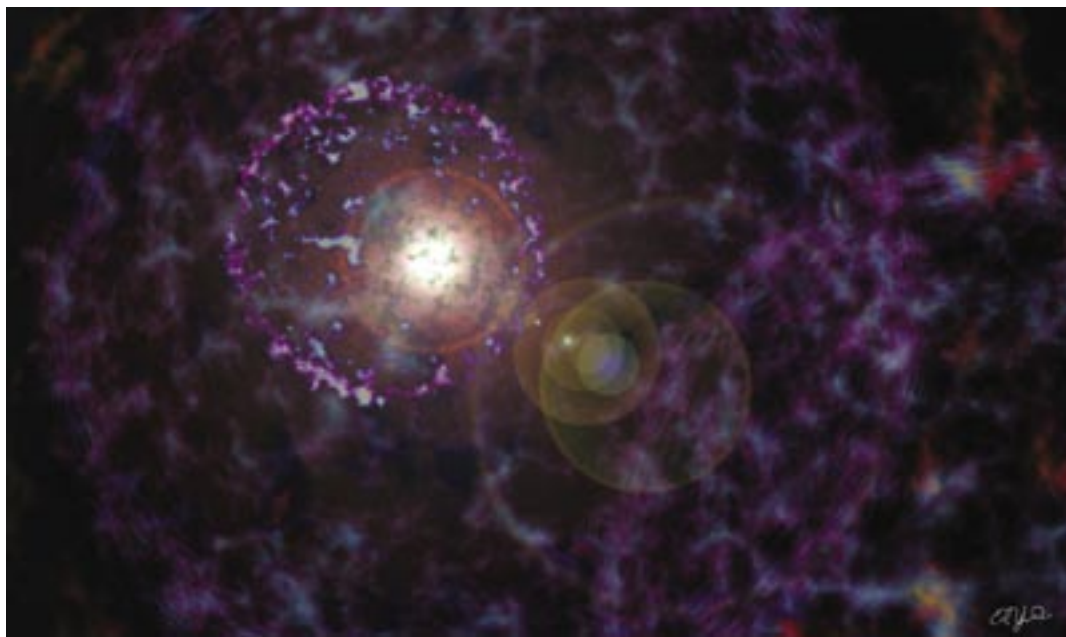
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Hispanic culture runs deep in Northern New Mexico. The food,

the language, the parties, and the close family traditions are things that Northern New Mexicans show deep pride in. Another important element of this rich culture is the music..... **Page 8**



Do you routinely use or access the Laboratory's internal home page? If so, what items on the internal home page do you find the most useful; if not, why don't you use it. Learn what your co-workers had to say on Page 6.



Seeing the unseen universe

Understanding mysterious dark energy and dark matter

by Todd Hanson

New research gives cosmological surveys aimed at understanding dark energy and dark matter a boost. Lab scientists have developed a new method for incorporating astronomical observational data into computer simulations, which promises to be a significant advance in enabling future cosmological surveys.

Dark matter and dark energy are theoretical forms of matter and energy thought to permeate all of space, with dark energy producing a large-scale force that is believed to produce an effect that works against gravity.

By combining what are often very expensive simulations with data from observational instruments, like optical and radio telescopes, scientists at the Laboratory are able to calibrate the computer simulations and create better predictive models of the universe.

In research published recently in *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, Los Alamos scientists Katrin Heitmann of Space Science and Applications (ISR-1), David Higdon of Statistical Sciences (CCS-6), Charles Nakhleh of Navy-2 (X-2-N2), and Salman Habib of Elementary Particles and Field Theory (T-8) describe their method for creating a statistical framework for astrophysical simulations. The framework includes methods for calibrating observations with simulations and for using the calibrated cosmic simulator to predict the results of new astronomical observations.

According to Habib, a theoretical physicist who specializes in dark matter and dark energy, "This new method already has piqued the interest of potential collaborators from major universities and other national laboratories. Such collaborations will allow us to extend the technique and to apply it to the very latest observational data."

The new Los Alamos method provides statistical tools for overcoming the challenges inherent to incorporating observational datasets and results from large-scale simulations that can be processed using conventional computing resources. The development of this new methodology was brought about by a recent transition in astronomical research toward "precision cosmology," which uses increasingly sensitive instruments to gather massive amounts of precise data about the cosmos. Uniting this new wealth of data with computer simulations that have traditionally not had the same levels of precision or resolution has been nearly impossible given the current levels of computing power and simulation size.

By combining simulation and observational data, Laboratory scientists believe it will be possible to construct an efficient emulator (a form of computer software or hardware that permits the computer to perform the functions of a different system) that can be used instead of current computer processor-intensive simulations for planning astronomical observations and for data analysis.



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Editor's note: Many school districts in Northern New Mexico will begin the 2006-07 school year in the next few days. Laboratory personnel are reminded to be alert for school children and reduce speed in school zones. The posted speed limit in school zones when children are present is 15 miles per hour.

Back to school safety tips

According to the American Red Cross, 25 million students ride on school buses. Children riding a bus to school should follow these safety tips to help prevent injury.

- Line up facing the school bus door — not along the side of the school bus.
- Don't play in the street while waiting for the school bus.
- Carry belongings in a backpack or book bag.
- Never reach under a school bus to get anything that has rolled or fallen underneath it.
- After getting off the school bus, move immediately onto the sidewalk, out of traffic.
- Wait for a signal from the bus driver before crossing the street. Walk at least 10 steps away from the front of the bus so that the bus driver can see you.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.

Following these tips will make every school day safe and enjoyable.

Motorists also are reminded to use extra caution in and through school zones and to obey posted speed limits in school zones.



Public meetings gather input on Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement

Left: Los Alamos Site Office Manager Ed Wilmot speaks at a public meeting in Fuller Lodge regarding the Department of Energy's draft Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS), which covers operations of the Laboratory. The Department of Energy held three public meetings in Los Alamos, Santa Fe, and Espanola to solicit public comment on the Department of Energy's draft Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement. The draft document is available at the National Nuclear Security Administration's Los Alamos Site Office Web page at <http://www.doeal.gov/LASO/nepa/update.htm> online.

Below: Los Alamos Study Group Director Greg Mello, right, talks with Elizabeth Withers of the National Nuclear Security Administration's Albuquerque Service Center, and a member of the public at Fuller Lodge. The draft Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement describes environmental impacts of three alternatives for the continued operation of the Laboratory. The draft document also is available at the NNSA Los Alamos Site Office in Los Alamos; the main Santa Fe Public Library on Washington Avenue, the Oliver LaFarge branch public library and the State Library in Santa Fe; the Española Public Library; and the Government Information Department's general library at the University of New Mexico. Written comments on the SWEIS are being accepted through September 5. Photos by James E. Rickman



Lab staff address state oversight committee

State Rep. Jeannette Wallace, R-Los Alamos, Sandoval, and Rep. Nick Salazar, D-Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe and Taos, center, talk with Laboratory Associate Director for Environmental Programs (ADEP) Andy Phelps at a joint legislative committee meeting. Phelps recently gave state legislators an overview of Los Alamos' environmental programs, including the Laboratory's commitment to environmental stewardship and clean-up and the Consent Order between the Lab and the New Mexico Environment Department at a meeting of the joint Laboratory Oversight and Radioactive and Hazardous Materials committees at the Los Alamos Research Park. Other subject matter experts presented information on the Lab's groundwater monitoring and protection, environmental restoration, and transuranic waste shipment and storage programs. Photo by LeRoy N. Sanchez

Los Alamos National Laboratory NewsLetter

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Los Alamos National Laboratory is a multidisciplinary research institution engaged in strategic science on behalf of national security. The Laboratory is operated by a team composed of Bechtel National, the University of California, BWX Technologies and Washington Group International for the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration.

Los Alamos enhances national security by ensuring the safety and reliability of the U.S. nuclear stockpile, developing technologies to reduce threats from weapons of mass destruction, and solving problems related to energy, environment, infrastructure, health and global security concerns.



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Former staff member discusses wartime experiences at Heritage Lecture



by Ed Kellum

On the 61st anniversary of the Nagasaki mission, former Lab employee Lawrence Johnston recalled his work at wartime Los Alamos and his witnessing the first three nuclear detonations in the world to a packed house in the Physics Building Auditorium.

Johnston was brought to Los Alamos by physicist Luis Alvarez in 1944 to develop the firing system for Fat Man and later worked with Alvarez on "Project Alberta" to measure the scientific yield of each detonation from an airplane 30,000 feet in the air. Johnston and several other Lab scientists trailed the "Enola Gay" and "Bock's Car" with recording equipment in their own B-29 "Great Artiste" during the Hiroshima and Nagasaki missions.

Johnston compared life in Los Alamos to an adventure. "To us, it was more like living in a wilderness resort. On a weekend, you could take scenic hikes where the beauty started right at your back door," he said. He recalled other fond memories including steak night at the cafeteria and an outdoor sunrise Easter service

Former Lab employee Lawrence Johnston, left, recently returned to Los Alamos to talk about his wartime work at the Laboratory. Johnston witnessed the first three nuclear detonations in the world. With Johnston is his wife, Mildred, and Henry Johnson, group leader of Records Management/Media Services and Operations (IRM-RMMSO). Johnston's talk was part of the Laboratory's Heritage Lecture Series funded by the Director's Office. Photo by LeRoy N. Sanchez

given by Jim Roberts, a physics professor from Northwestern University.

Johnston called the work on Fat Man "a great undertaking" and discussed early problems they had with the firing system. Johnston also told of the feelings associated with the bombs after the war had ended. "Back at Los Alamos there was lots of rejoicing. We won the War! But several important people were having pangs of conscience, most notably Oppenheimer," he said. "We had stopped the wartime killing, but we had killed a lot of people with our bombs. And worst of all, we had let the genie out of the bottle. Now nuclear war would be a specter for the world to face."

Johnston spoke of the great feelings he had for Los Alamos and its mission. "I think that the greatest tribute to the work at Los Alamos is that there has been no more wars between major powers since 1945. I am glad to have been a part of all this."

Johnston's talk was part of the Laboratory's Heritage Lecture Series funded by the Director's Office.

PATENT AWARDS



Editor's note: Some of the individuals listed below are no longer employed at the Laboratory but were at the time they applied for the patent.

Recently issued patent awards

Methanol-tolerant cathode catalyst composite for direct methanol fuel cells

Patent No. 7,014,931, issued March 21
Piotr Zelenay of Electron and Electrochemical Materials and Devices (MPA-EEMD) and Yimin Zhi formerly of the Laboratory

Influenza sensor

Patent No. 7,018,792, issued March 28
Basil Swanson of Physical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (CHEM-PCAS); Clifford Unkefer, Louis Silks III and Jurgen Schmidt of Biotechnology, Spectroscopy and Isotope Chemistry (BIO-BSIC); and Xuedong Song formerly of the Laboratory

Foil electron multiplier

Patent No. 7,019,446, issued March 28
Herbert Funsten of ADTR-Nuclear Nonproliferation (NN); Juan Baldonado of Space Instrumentation Systems (ISR-SIS); and Eric Dors, Ronnie Harper and Ruth Skoug of Space Science and Applications (ISR-SSA)



Students learn about science at summer program

Isaiah Gutierrez of James H. Rodriguez Elementary School in Española pulls a soil sample using a soil coring unit during a Laboratory science outreach activity at Santa Clara Pueblo. Julianna Fessenden-Rahn of Hydrology, Geology, and Geochemistry (EES-6) led the exercise while Jonathan Vigil, left, of Santa Fe Indian School looks on. Gutierrez steps on the foot lever to extract the soil sample. In this exercise, soil samples were taken from different locations to compare soil types and moisture levels. Background right is Thom Rahn of Atmospheric, Climate, and Environmental Dynamics (EES-2).

Photo by Ed Vigil

Hurricane Katrina evacuee survey

Social networks played role in disaster response

by Erika L. Martinez

Social networking was vital in the decision-making process of residents and visitors evacuating New Orleans because of Hurricane Katrina, according to a Tulane University researcher.

At a Laboratory talk, Karen Taylor said she worked with graduate students from the University of Alabama and University of South Carolina to survey 116 evacuees two months after the deadly August 2005 hurricane. Evacuees answered questions about their experiences and reactions to the warnings they received from various sources prior to the hurricane and the turmoil they experienced afterward.

Taylor said social interactions within groups of individuals, more so than media reports, had the biggest influence on evacuation and planning activities. The hurricane being reported as a category 5 had the second most influence, she said.

Interviewees said that as word spread throughout their social circles, their awareness of the severity of the hurricane became more apparent and offered them more of an incentive to leave. Cell phones and landline phones were essential within the networks of communication, but as the hurricane proceeded through New Orleans, the rough environment affected power and phone towers.

Taylor said that people who evacuated last or remained in New Orleans may have been influenced by such factors as having no place to go; distrust of the media and government; and refusal to leave behind loved ones who were sick or elderly.

The survey lead her to conclude that social networks are important not only in the evacuation process, but also in the recovery process.

According to Taylor, if New Orleans would have established a stronger national, social network, buildings would have been re-built sooner and more resources would have been available to repair damage from the hurricane.



Karen Taylor, a Tulane University researcher, worked with graduate students from the University of Alabama and University of South Carolina to survey 116 evacuees two months after Hurricane Katrina. Eighty percent of homes in the New Orleans area were damaged by water and high winds from the deadly August 2005 hurricane. Above is Taylor's apartment after she returned. Photo courtesy of Karen Taylor

Along with Taylor, Benjamin Sims of Statistical Sciences (CCS-6) also discussed emergency response of the New Orleans Police Department. Sims said that the damage to the city's infrastructure put limitations on officials' abilities to communicate and respond. Media, technology, communication, transportation, buildings and power, which are all the building blocks of infrastructure, were damaged assets, said Sims.

Officers were unable to receive calls because of power problems. Flooding prevented emergency responders from having means of transportation, while flooded buildings forced responders to organize

plans of action in parking lots instead of offices.

Law enforcement officers were unable to stop crime or rescue people, and some officers were reported to be participating in looting, said Sims.

Sims said the basic social order of the New Orleans Police Department may have been affected because officers were not able to make sense of their surroundings due to the extreme circumstances. According to Sims, "sense-making" played a pivotal role in determining their roles within their social networks. Since police officers were required to live within city limits, they experienced the same trauma as other hurricane victims. This resulted in psychological stress, a loss of place and time, and more instinctual behavior, said Sims.

Both speakers emphasized that societies would be more efficient if social networks had been active early on and organizational planning is conducted.

The talks were part the CCS-6 seminar series.

Fewer hurricanes predicted for 2006 season

The National Hurricane Center predicted twelve to fifteen named storms, with seven to nine becoming hurricanes for the 2006 season. This is less than the original prediction of 13-16 named storms, due to the change in temperatures in the "usual development areas for hurricanes."

According to federal forecasters, there is a 20 percent chance of a close-to-normal hurricane season, but a 75 percent chance of above-normal hurricane activity.

People living in coastal areas should be prepared for hurricanes, said Max Mayfield, National Hurricane Center director. "The peak of the season goes from about the middle of August to the end of October," he said. "We're not at the beginning of that peak yet."



Lab leaders get firsthand look at cultural sites

Brad Vierra, left, of Ecology and Air Quality (ENV-EAQ), talks about Cave Kiva in lower Mortandad Canyon during a cultural resources tour for Laboratory leaders earlier this week. Also pictured is Andy Phelps, Los Alamos' associate director for environmental programs (ADEP), and Rio Arriba County Manager Lorenzo Valdez, right. The tour was designed for Laboratory leaders to learn about and understand the cultural significance of the sites visited and the Laboratory's institutional setting.

Photo by James E. Rickman

Midwest City, Oklahoma Fire Department team wins HAZMAT Challenge

Laboratory sponsored event tests response skills

by Kathy DeLucas

A hazardous materials response team from Midwest City, Oklahoma Fire Department won the 10th annual HAZMAT Challenge sponsored by the Laboratory.

The Laboratory's Hazardous Materials Response team began the challenge in 1996 as a way to practice emergency response skills. The competition has expanded and now offers an intensive training opportunity for other New Mexico and regional hazardous materials response teams.

All teams benefit from the four-day training. In case of an actual event, teams will be familiar with required skills and a practiced, coordinated response.

This year's technical events included simulated responses to a biological incident and a chemical identification drug enforcement exercise. Other hazmat response scenarios in this year's competition involved complex valve leaks, a confined space rescue, a compressed liquefied gas leak, an overturned gasoline tanker and railcar, and a hazardous material "gusher" that required constructing a dam and a dike.

"The Laboratory is pleased to collaborate with our regional emergency responders and provide invaluable training that will support our readiness to protect the public in an emergency," said Beverly Ramsey, Emergency Response Division (ER) leader. "Sharing cutting edge technologies and personal protection and decontamination techniques with our colleagues and working as teams will ensure a safer work environment and practiced relationships which will pay off both during exercises and emergencies."

The events began with safety briefings, training and vendor demonstrations, and ended with less rigorous contests, including the ever-popular obstacle course, in which teams wearing full hazmat protective gear race the clock through a creative and fun-filled course.

Sixteen teams, some from as far away as Norman, Oklahoma, participated in the HAZMAT Challenge. Other teams represented included the 64th Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team, Intel Corp [New Mexico and Arizona], the New Mexico State Police, the Laboratory's HAZMAT and fire departments, and Española, Santa Fe, Gallup, Farmington, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, and Gallup fire departments.

The Office of Emergency Management at the state Department of Public Safety, with funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation assisted in the planning and staging of the events. Personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VI, served as controllers and evaluators.



Jason Smith with the Norman (Oklahoma) Fire Department removes his personal protective equipment after responding to a mock chemical and biological hazard lab at the HAZMAT Challenge. Teams were scored on their sampling procedures and awarded bonus points if they figured out what types of material was being developed.



Above: Norman, Oklahoma Fire Department team members review a critique of their response to a simulated TRUPACT II accident. The 10th annual HAZMAT Challenge offered a simulated radiological hazard for the first time in the competition's history. Firefighters, who normally don't see those types of vehicles, received experience in obtaining radiological measurements and how to treat a patient.



Left: Members of the Los Alamos Fire Department respond to a simulated rail car spill in which they are scored on safety and mitigation of a leak. The teams were awarded bonus points if they discovered a hidden improvised explosive device. Photos by Kathy DeLucas

So... what do you think?

Q: Do you routinely use or access the Laboratory's internal home page? If so, what items on the internal home page do you find the most useful; if not, why don't you use it?



Ben Fresquez
of Occupational
Medicine Operations
(OM-OMO)

I rarely use the homepage, but there is a lot of information available for those who need it.



Louella Medina
of Water
Quality and
RCRA (ENV-RCRA)

Yes, I use it. I use the Enterprise Information Applications (EIA), time and effort, procurement, just in time, and travel resources tools.



Jake Meadows
of Water
Quality and
RCRA (ENV-RCRA)

I use the internal homepage daily and find it useful for accessing organizational pages and remaining up to date on Lab happenings. It's useful to our clients for updates on regulatory compliance status.



Lori Slayton
of Radiation Protection
Technical Support
(RP-3)

I routinely use this source daily. Links to useful programs are found easily and there are very few broken links. The only criticism I have is that the page appears to be almost overwhelming with information.



John Breiner
of Institutional
Programs (IHP-IP)

I like to view it to keep up with the latest issues facing the Laboratory.

PEOPLE



Vecinos program recognizes outstanding Lab volunteers

Suzanne Johnston of Weapon Systems Engineering (W) Division and Laboratory retiree **David Jardine** are the latest recipients of the Vecinos award for outstanding volunteer work. Coordinated by the Community Programs Office (CPO) and the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation, the Vecinos program recognizes outstanding volunteers.

Vecinos, which is Spanish for neighbor, aims to recognize Lab employees, retirees, and subcontract personnel who are outstanding volunteers while also raising awareness about the importance of volunteer service.

The nonprofit organization that is the recipient of the employees' volunteer service will receive a \$1,000 grant in honor of the employees' volunteer service, while the employee will receive a certificate, explained **Debbi Wersonick** of CPO.



Suzanne Johnston

Suzanne Johnston

Johnston was nominated for the award by **Terry Ortega**, president of MANA del Norte, a nonprofit organization that works to empower Hispanic women through leadership development, community service and advocacy. The local MANA del Norte chapter was founded in 1989 and includes membership from throughout Northern New Mexico.

"MANA del Norte is one of the very best community organizations I have ever been associated with, and I am thrilled the organization is going to benefit from my selection for the Vecinos Award," said Johnston. "There are many programs out there that provide assistance for women's health or welfare, but very few provide resources for scholarships or mentorship programs for Hispanic women. MANA del Norte is truly unique and definitely needed."

According to Ortega, Johnston is chairperson of MANA's fundraising committee, which recently raised nearly \$10,000 for its scholarship program. "As a nonprofit organization, MANA del Norte relies entirely on contributions from our Northern New Mexico communities to build the scholarship fund. Suzanne has provided the creativity, leadership, and organizational

skills necessary to both inspire and urge the community to give via several fundraising activities."

Ortega wrote in the nomination form that Johnston established a "Sipping and Bidding" silent auction fundraiser. Johnston organized the event and solicited donations, such as original artwork, jewelry, gift certificates, and a grand prize. "Thanks to Suzanne's hard work and dedication in organizing the event, Sipping and Bidding last year alone netted more than \$3,500 and is one of the most successful fundraising events in the history of MANA del Norte," Ortega wrote.

Johnston also has developed other events for MANA del Norte, including a raffle and staffing a concession stand at Albuquerque Isotopes baseball games to raise additional funds for the organization.

"It would be impossible to put a dollar amount on the impact Suzanne has made on our organization, and the impact our organization has made on the lives of women in Northern New Mexico," Ortega concluded.



David Jardine

David Jardine

Jardine retired from the Lab in April 1999 after 42 years of service. He worked in the former Environment Safety and Health (ESH) Division.

Jardine was nominated for the award by **Lucia Ortiz y Garcia**, president of Vecinos del Rio, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and improvement of the environment and way of life in the northern Española Valley. Vecinos del Rio was founded in 1995 and includes membership throughout the Española Valley.

According to Ortiz y Garcia, Jardine served as president from 1997 through 1999 at a critical time in the organization's history, and in 2004, Jardine became the organization's historian, a post he continues to occupy while also volunteering as chair of the organization's Cultural Preservation Committee.

"His dedication to Vecinos is unflagging. While he was employed at the Laboratory

continued on Page 7

In Memoriam

William Benjamin Allen

Laboratory retiree **William Benjamin Allen** died May 7. He was 97. Born in Spadra, Arkansas, in 1908, Allen served in the United States Army during World War II.

He joined the Laboratory in 1947 in the former Health (H) Division, where he remained until his retirement in 1973.

He is survived by his wife, Marion; daughter Kaye Newsom of Hartman, Arkansas; son William Michael Allen of Shoshoni, Wyoming; and numerous grandchildren.

David Robert Smith

Laboratory retiree **David Robert Smith** passed away June 11. He was 81. Smith was born in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in 1924 and served in the military from 1943-1946. He received his bachelor's degree in physics and math from Southwest Missouri State in 1947 and his master's degree in physics from Washington University in 1949. Smith joined the Laboratory in 1942 in the former Weapons Engineering Division (W). He also worked in the former Energy (Q); Nuclear Safeguards, Reactor Safety and Technology (R); Nuclear Rocket Propulsion (N); Experimental Physics (P); Assay and Accountability (A); Health (H); and Health Safety and Environmental (HSE) divisions. Smith retired in 1991.

He is survived by his wife, Luween of Nambe and many other family members.

Vecinos program ...

continued from Page 6

and residing in White Rock with his wife, Rosella, he made substantial effort to head meetings in the valley," Ortiz y Garcia wrote in the nomination form. She said Jardine was instrumental in recruiting broader membership and soliciting funds. Jardine and other members of Vecinos del Rio also worked with Rio Arriba County officials to write sand and gravel mining ordinances, which were adopted by the county in 2001.

Jardine's dedication for his neighbors extends beyond the organization, says Ortiz y Garcia. "In December of 2005, when neighbors lost their home to a fire, David, whose son was critically ill at the same time, offered to help clean and make repairs to a temporary home for the family, to seek out donations, and to transport furniture and other sundries.

"David has devoted countless hours, physical effort, monetary assistance, and moral support to Vecinos del Rio and, by extension, to the citizens of the northern Rio Grande valley. He does so readily, generously, unstintingly, and without recompense, other than the admiration, respect, and affection given him by those he serves," Ortiz y Garcia concluded.

For more information about the Vecinos program, see the March 27 Daily Newsbulletin at http://www.lanl.gov/news/index.php?fuseaction=nb.story&story_id=8124 online.

Lab's Havemann, Roybal, earn DOE small-business awards



Scott Havemann



Dennis Roybal

Business Program Manager of the Year is indeed a great honor for both me and the Lab, since it demonstrates the Lab's commitment to contracting with small businesses," said Roybal. "This award is based on a total team effort, involving the tireless efforts of my staff, our dedicated procurement staff and our requesters who believe that setting aside business opportunities for small businesses makes good business sense.

"I'm also pleased that DOE has recognized Scott for his efforts in advocating small-busi-

ness contract awards," Roybal added.

"I'm truly honored to be recognized as NNSA's Small Business Advocate of the Year for management and operations contracts," said Havemann. "Providing opportunities for small businesses to excel is an enjoyable aspect of my job.

"Though my name appears on the award, I believe the award is a recognition of the Laboratory's commitment to take the steps needed to increase opportunities for small businesses."

Roybal was lauded for exemplary performance in promoting small-business subcontracting at Los Alamos. Under Roybal's direction, small-business contracting increased 144 percent in fiscal year 2005.

Former Lab employee Don Bryson, now of ARES Corp., nominated Roybal. He noted among other things the development of the Lab's Business Resource Guide; his involvement and support of the Lab's Northern New Mexico Supplier Alliance; weekly meetings Roybal has attended with regional business owners to gain better insight into their capabilities and needs, to share information about upcoming procurements and to provide Laboratory contacts relevant to their business; benchmarking on small-business programs at DOE sites and other government agencies; and development of the Lab's small-business newsletter, which is distributed to more than 400 businesses and other DOE small-business program managers.

"Dennis Roybal's personal commitment,

creative initiatives, and ability to motivate and engage others, both within [the Laboratory], DOE and NNSA community, as well as in the business community at large, have resulted in a small-business program that stands out among all of those in the DOE," Bryson wrote. "Dennis's personal interest in and commitment to advocacy for small businesses have been the keystones in the success of the Laboratory's small-business program."

Havemann was nominated by Bill Bryant of ASM-PUR. Bryant said that Havemann was instrumental in having 100 percent of contracts for demolition activities at the Lab in the past five years awarded to small businesses. "In addition to providing small businesses with the opportunity to be awarded contracts, the University [of California] has received better pricing as under the previous system large businesses used small businesses to perform the work and marked up the small businesses' quotes. By using small businesses directly, this markup was eliminated and demolition costs dropped significantly," Bryant wrote.

In addition to the awards Roybal and Havemann garnered, Holman's Inc. in Albuquerque received the DOE small-business supplier of excellence for management and operating contracts award. Holman's provides computer equipment and supplies to the Lab through a Just-in-Time contract. Holman's Inc. was nominated in this category by Alison Dragt of ASM-PUR.

Students showcase research during poster session



Annah Layman, right, of Information Systems Support (IST-ISS), discusses her work with Nina Weisse-Bernstein of Space and Remote Sensing (ISR-2) during poster judging at the Student Symposium at the University of New Mexico, Los Alamos. Layman, who attends Brigham Young University, did research this summer on the development of a human performance improvement workbook. Weisse-Bernstein and other Lab staff members volunteered their time as judges.



Michael Kolakowski of Scientific Software Engineering (HPC-12), explains his work on writing and developing an application for testing computer code to Anthony Salazar, right, of Space Data Systems (ISR-3). Kolakowski also conducted research on improving data compression used to transmit information between satellites and ground stations. Kolakowski graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and plans to attend graduate school at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Photos by Ed Vigil



Two employees, two singers, two CDs

Hispanic culture exemplified through music



by Erik Eakins and Erika Martinez

Hispanic culture runs deep in Northern New Mexico. The food, the language, the parties, and the close family traditions are things that Northern New Mexicans show deep pride in. Another important element of this rich culture is the music.

Severo Martinez of Chimayo works in the Education and Postdoc Office (STBPO-EPDO) and Miguel Timoteo Gurule of Alcalde, who works in Environmental Geology and Spatial Analysis (EES-EGSA), exemplify their Hispanic culture through their Northern New Mexico music. Martinez and Gurule recently released their first CD's a little over a month apart.

Whether it be the up-beat rhythms of a "cumbia," the mesmerizing rhythm of ranchera, or the wooing sounds of a love song, Martinez and Gurule can do them all.

Born and raised in Chimayo, Martinez said he wanted children to know that being from a small community does not hinder an individual from achieving his or her dream; it strengthens the person because the community becomes the support system.

Martinez has been singing and performing since he was three. His family always has been his foundation that supported him in each of his endeavors. Starting his freshman year at McCurdy High School, Martinez began writing songs. Not until the summer of 2005 did his passion start to take shape. With the help of Steve Chavez of Randall Records, Martinez began recording his first album. "The inspiration and determination to continue on this musical path would never have been possible without my family and friends," said Martinez. "That's why I've dedicated *Amor de Familia* (love of family) to all the youths of Northern New Mexico, so that they may appreciate the small community and their families."

Martinez also attributes a lot of his success to the teachers that supported and encouraged him during school. Now, he wishes to return the favor by being a positive influence for youth. "I want to be the teacher or principal that supports and encourages kids to reach for the stars," revealed Martinez. He currently is pursuing a bi-lingual education degree at the University of New Mexico.

Returning for his third summer at the Laboratory, Martinez assists in the coordination of student and mentor activities, such as the annual Student and Postdoc Symposium, and various mentor orientations. Juggling work here at the Laboratory and his musical career is a great learning experience, said Martinez.

He's also writing songs for a second album, but is not planning on recording any time soon. He has many performances lined up this summer. Scheduled performances include local community fiestas, Put a Smile on a Child's Face, and the State Fair.

Like Martinez, Miguel Gurule — his stage name is Miguel Timoteo — agrees that family is the foundation of support.

"My dad was a big influence on my music," said Gurule. "He always dreamed of me making a CD someday." Now, Gurule's CD, *El Primero*, (the first) is the result of those hopes, dreams and hard work.

Gurule, who first started singing at age six, said he discovered he had a niche for music when his father, who played the guitar for a local band, heard him sing and asked him to perform with the band. "Once I got on stage, I was hooked," said Gurule.

On his CD, Gurule performs cover songs that can be heard by other local bands, and also shows off his ability to write with his own songs: "Tu Eres" and "El Lenero," which "hold a special place in my heart," he said.

El Lenero, the Woodsman, which was co-written by his father, Levi Gurule, is a tribute of appreciation to those northerners who know what it's like to go out into the woods to gather wood to warm their homes, a Northern New Mexico tradition that many families still practice today. "It's real hard work, and that's a memory of my childhood that I have with my dad and my brother," said Gurule.

Gurule's family was very excited when he released his CD, but one family member was especially proud and thankful to see that momentous day: his mother, JoAnne Gurule, who recently passed away. "She cried when I completed my CD," Gurule said. "A Mi Madre," To My Mother, is a song that Gurule dedicated to his mom, who was struggling with illness. "It's dear to my heart because I sang it for my mom, and it represents her," said Gurule.

Gurule said he is very happy and surprised by the overwhelming response from the community. "Being a new individual music artist, I didn't know what to expect," Gurule revealed. "I'm really proud to be part of the great tradition of New Mexico music. It's a very important part of our culture — a culture that's very rich and needs to be preserved. I feel honored to have been raised with such a spectacular ethnic and cultural background."

Gurule said he hopes that his music will serve as an inspiration to other young artists and also as an element to help "preserve our beautiful heritage and music for generations to come."

"Que Viva La Musica De Nuevo Mexico!" he added.

Gurule recently has been asked to perform on a compilation CD with another locally famous performer, Robert "Gonzalo" Gonzales. He's also recruiting band members to join him in his music.

Gurule also was asked by the Española Fiesta Council to lead Don Juan de Oñate and his caballeros (horsemen) at 2006 fiesta parades throughout New Mexico.

The CD's were produced by Steve Chavez of Randall Records.

Martinez's and Gurule's debut albums can be found in all local Española retailers. More information is available on their Web sites located online at <http://severomtz.com/> or <http://www.myspace.com/severomtz> for Martinez and <http://migueltimoteo.com/> or <http://www.myspace.com/migueltimoteo> for Gurule.