April 25, 2002

ON TARGET

THOMAS JEFFERSON NATIONAL ACCELERATOR FACILITY • A DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FACILITY

A big Jefferson Lab 'Welcome' to the Top Quarks Bottom Quarks Up Quarks Down Quarks Strange Quarks Charm Quarks Protons Neutrons Electrons and Gluons

The Charm Quark members on their way to the VARC.

Jefferson Lab daughters, sons enjoy special work day visit

Despite heavy showers, just over 90 first through sixth grade, daughters and sons of Jefferson Lab employees visited the Lab today and participated in a variety of activities as part of the Lab's annual Take Our Children to Work Day (TOCTWD). This is the 9th year the Lab has participated in this special day, which is in honor of National Take Our Daughters to Work Day.

"We're delighted to have this opportunity to show off the Lab to our children," says Jan Tyler, Science Education program manager and event chairperson. "We think this year is one of our best ever. The morning was filled with visits to a variety of work areas and mentor offices." Some of the areas the youth were able to learn about or experience included: Communications, Industrial Hygiene (safety), Medical Imaging, the Machine Control Center, Computer Center, Software Group, Procurement, Electronic Media, Test Lab, Hall C, Legal Office, Technical Illustration, Free-Electron Laser, Architecture, and Accelerator Science.

To manage the mentor visits, the youth broke down by age into 10 groups. Each group had two or three escorts (Lab employees). To coincide with the Lab's research into the most basic particles of matter, the groups were named the Up Quarks, Down Quarks, Top Quarks, Bottom Quarks, Strange Quarks, Charm Quarks, Gluons, Protons, Electrons, and Neutrons.

Morning activities ended at 11:45 a.m. so the students could enjoy lunch with

their parents. The cafeteria planned a special menu to celebrate the day: hot dogs, grilled chicken sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad, corn-on-the-cob, cookies and brownies.

For the afternoon the children participated in three of the Lab's BEAMS (Becoming Enthusiastic About Math and Science) activities. The students participated in a new activity called the Jefferson Lab Pringle Challenge, Design and Engineering (a boat building challenge complete with water!), and making Oobleck. "And yes, parents, your children will be bringing their very own baggy of Oobleck home with them this afternoon," Tyler warns.

"We hope everyone visiting us today discovered something new about science, and learned about a career field that they find interesting," Tyler adds. "There are always neat things going on at the Lab and TOCTWD gives us the chance to share the excitement and challenges with our families."

This year's group included 91 children. For a number of them this was a return visit to the Lab, so event planners worked very hard to find new places and faces for the students to visit. "This is one of the reasons volunteer participation is so important for the success of this event," Tyler explains. "We had a great volunteer response this year. A number or our 'regulars' volunteered to help with TOCTWD, but we also had a number of new volunteers sign up to help. This way we can open up new areas of the Lab to our children and keep the groups small."

"This is a great event for the kids, and we've also gotten positive feedback from our volunteers over the years," she continues. "For the mentors, this is a great way to interact with youngsters and encourage an interest in science and technology. For our escorts, this is a great way to learn more about the Lab and fellow employees. I want to thank all of our volunteers for all the time and effort they put into making today special."

For more information about Take Our Daughters to Work Day visit www.girlstart.com.

The Gluon group going to the Computer Center.

Participants waiting for parents and hungry for lunch at the end of a busy morning.

Special Thanks: Thanks to the following organizations for their generous contributions of food for the children participating in the 2002 TYCTWD: Krispy Kreme Donuts and Chesapeake Bagel Bakery.