

JOHN - THIS ONE IS
BETTER. IT HAS
MY NAME & # ON IT.



For your information.

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NASA LANGLEY 30- BY 60-FOOT TUNNEL TO BE CLOSED

NASA's oldest operating wind tunnel, the 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel, will be officially closed Sept. 29. The historic facility, originally known as the Full-Scale Tunnel (FST), is located at NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va.

The closing of the 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel allows for an orderly consolidation of aeronautical testing facilities at a time of shrinking federal budgets and enables essential center capabilities to be preserved.

The 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel is a subsonic wind tunnel originally designed for the testing of full-scale models and actual airplanes at operational flight speeds. Such ground-based testing eliminated scale effect and provided basic information prior to and during flight testing. Contemporary studies in the tunnel often focused on stability and control characteristics for military aircraft, and high-lift capability for both civil and military aircraft.

Throughout its history, the 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel has been used for the testing of innumerable vehicle configurations. It was the largest wind tunnel in the world until 1945, and in 1985 it was named a National Historic Landmark.

The 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel has contributed to military, commercial and general aviation aircraft designs. Its many contributions include fundamental aerodynamic testing of full-scale aircraft during the 1930s; drag reduction or "clean up" studies of full-scale military aircraft during World War II; free-flight testing of models of vertical takeoff and landing aircraft; testing of the Albacore, the fastest submarine in the world in 1950; testing of the nation's first spacecraft, the Mercury space capsule; testing of full-scale general aviation aircraft; and testing of lifting body, supersonic transport and present-day military aircraft configurations.

Designs for the tunnel were begun in 1929, with \$900,000 of funding appropriated before the Depression. Because the tunnel was designed and built during the Depression, the design team, led by Smith J. DeFrance, was able to take advantage of cheap materials and a large pool of unemployed engineers. Construction began in

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the spring of 1930 and the completed 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel was dedicated on May 27, 1931.

The overall tunnel is 434 feet long and 222 feet wide with a maximum height of 97 feet. The actual test section is an open-jet 30 feet high, 60 feet wide and 56 feet long. Two four-bladed wooden propellers, each 35.5 feet in diameter and powered by a 4,000-horsepower motor, generate the air stream. The tunnel is a closed-loop design, with two return passages that allow for continuous air flow at speeds up to 120 mph.

Over the years the test section of the tunnel has been modified several times to adapt to changing needs. During renovations in the 1960s and 1970s, the tunnel was equipped for free-flight dynamic model testing. In recent years, the tunnel has been extensively used for such free-flight tests. This test technique, unique to this facility, involves flying 10- to 20-percent scaled models controlled by remotely-positioned pilots.

The future of the 30- by 60-Foot Tunnel is uncertain, but there are no plans to tear it down or to change its external appearance. Possible adaptive uses are under study and certain components may be made available to the National Air and Space Museum (Smithsonian) or other museums. NASA Langley is a federal custodian of historic properties, in conformance with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act.

BRIEFS

Home educators to hold meeting

WILLIAMSBURG

Williamsburg Area Home Educators will hold a dessert/orientation meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Room A at the Williamsburg Regional Library.

Anne Miller, president of Home Educators Association of Virginia, will highlight the history of the group as well as future plans.

A new how-to video will be shown.

The resource library will have books and teaching aids to borrow, and information on homeschooling laws, field trips, classes, phone chain and newsletter will also be available.

Membership in the Williamsburg Area Home Educators, known as WAHE, is open to any family who is home schooling or wants information about home-based education. Annual dues for members are \$15. For information, call Mary Musick at 221-8103.

School gives students refreshing experience

The Associated Press

NORFOLK

Kate Wagner mixed a lump of mortar and laid it on a row of bricks. Although she disliked the monotony, she perked up at the idea that her work would help someone else.

The lanky 18-year-old sacrificed the last days of her summer vacation to help build a house for a poor family in the city's Park Place neighborhood.

The Habitat for Humanity project is part of a new pre-orientation service program offered to first-year students at Virginia Wesleyan University.

"I thought it was a really good cause," said Wagner, a Chesapeake native, who only recently learned how to lay bricks.

On a recent Saturday, she worked on a house from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with an all-female volunteer construction crew.

Regaled in green hard hats, the volunteers hammered, measured, mixed, poured and carried materials to the "House that Jill Built," named in honor of the all-women's group. Most of the spent that Saturday afternoon on joists and planks.

Two students from Virginia Wesleyan in Norfolk are helping to build the local, and college chapters of Habitat for Humanity build houses



Elisha Hassler, 19, left, puts hammer to a nail with Judy Kaplan, a 19-year-old, in Norfolk this month. Hassler is part of a group of Virginia Wesleyan students who come to school early and donate their time and services to help build houses

in Hampton and Norfolk. This is the first year that Virginia Wesleyan has offered the program to incoming freshmen.

First-year students also had the option of river rafting in North Carolina in an Outward Bound-type of adventure. Fifteen participated in the trip.

Students of the Virginia Wesleyan University 60-member in-class look part in orientation activities, said Mary Bruner, a spokeswoman for Virginia Wesleyan.

"The whole concept is to give them an experience before the frantic pace of orientation starts

next week," said Rev. Scott I. chaplain at the university.

Older students involved in Habitat approved of involving freshmen early in campus life.

"I think it's a good idea," Alissa Ferguson, a sophomore working on the House that Jill Built. "It gets them involved away and helps them meet people in a smaller environment. Freshmen primarily tend to be people in their orientation rings and dorms, so this will help the group of new faces they meet to know," she said.

Davis, who has been involved with Habitat for seven years,

NASA wind tunnel to close in Sept.

HAMPTON

NASA's oldest operating wind tunnel, used to test designs of dozens of aircraft — and spacecraft — since its completion in 1930, will close next month, NASA Langley Research Center has announced.

The "30-by-60-Foot Tunnel," designated a National Historic Landmark in 1985, is being closed to save money.

The subsonic wind tunnel was designed for testing full-size airplane models and actual airplanes. The Mercury space capsule was tested in the tunnel in the 1960s.

The wind tunnel's future is undecided, but there are no plans to demolish it, NASA said.

Hampton police seeking suspects

HAMPTON

Police are asking for the public's help in locating two men who tried to kill a police officer and burglarize a store.

At about 12:25 a.m. Aug. 12, two men attempted to break into Cash Quick Pawn Shop, at 3300 W. Mercury Blvd. When police arrived at

Chesapeake obstetrician faces tax

The Associated Press

NORFOLK

A Chesapeake obstetrician bought a red Ferrari sports car then claimed on his income tax form the purchase was for an ultrasound machine, a federal grand jury indictment charged.

Dr. Javald A. Perwaiz is charged with six counts of signing and filing false tax returns in 1988 and 1989. If convicted, he faces up to 18 years in prison.

The indictment handed up Thursday in U.S. District Court in Norfolk said Perwaiz classified sev-

erence expenses. The claims were then listed as deductions on his corporate tax returns. The false claims totaled more than \$158,300, the indictment said.

An investigation by the Internal Revenue Service started in late 1992 as the result of a tax audit, federal officials said.

Perwaiz's attorney, Stephen Swain, said the doctor is innocent.

"Dr. Perwaiz is a well-respected and hard-working doctor who has spent hundreds of hours delivering babies," he said. "He doesn't have the time to spend with day-

"Mistakes have been made by others that he has signed off on. Unfortunately, he should have looked more carefully at the returns."

According to the indictment, false claims included:

■ The purchase of a 1988 Ferrari 328 sports car in February for \$89,942. Perwaiz made a \$2,000 down payment, then paid the balance with corporate funds claimed on his taxes the following year. The \$84,942 was for an ultrasound machine and other medical equipment, the indictment said.