MELPARTICULARS

Volume 6, Number 1

E-Systems Melpar Division

February 1985

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL DRIVE NETS OVER \$10,000

Melpar employees once again demonstrated their good will this holiday season by a record-breaking contribution to the Children's Hospital. We collected over \$10,000 — \$1,000 over our stated goal. As we did last year, the funds were earmarked for the

hospital's Trauma Service.

Children who sustain a major injury need unique trauma care. Since last Christmas, Children's Hospital has been designated the Pediatric Trauma Service for Southern Maryland, Northern Virginia, Western Maryland, and parts of West Virginia. Physicians and staff members are currently involved in training paramedical professionals in the proper care and treatment of pediatric trauma patients. The hospital also offers a "hotline" service which can provide information for other hospitals about proper drug dosages and reactions in pediatric patients. Only through support such as Melpar's can the hospital obtain the additional equipment and serve the special needs of the young trauma patients. With the new equipment, the hospital can guarantee the continued expansion and operation of this vital program.

With the assistance of representatives from each department, Ethel Lorenzo, Pat Stewart and Jami Dittmeier of Personnel, coordinated the

CHILDRENS HOSPITAL Cont. on page 3

SAVINGS BOND SEMIANNUAL INTEREST RATE BULLETIN

Release from Department of Treasury

The market-based interest rate for Series EE Bonds issued between November 1984 and April 30, 1985 is 10.94% for their first semiannual interest period. Older Series EE and E Bonds and U.S. Savings Notes will also receive this market-based rate for six-month interest periods which fall between November 1, 1984 and April 30, 1985.

The average yield for Bonds held since the beginning of the market-based interest program is 10.0%. Average yields change each May and November. The minimum guaranteed yield on Bonds held five years or longer is 7.5%.

GWU SPRING REGISTRATION SETS RECORD

With 135 course registrations from over 105 students, enrollment in the George Washington University Master of Science programs in Communications (EE) and Computer Science (CSci) shattered last Fall's record of 103.

Largest of the eight classes offered is EE 248, Computer Communication Networks I, taught by Melpar's Dr. Joseph B. Williamson. A common factor of each course, however, is the attraction of a diversity of "guest" students from employers other than Melpar to the GWU program. These students come from the U.S. Government—typically the Department of Defense, from the military services, and from a wide range of technical firms in North-

ern Virginia.

Looking ahead, George Washington University has announced its intention of offering two courses in a special 7-week Summer Session. This session will run from early May until July 1. The courses will be EE 143, Elements of Communications Engineering Design I, on Monday and Wednesday evenings, and Computer Science 158, Algorithmic Methods on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. For additional information on GWU's programs and course offerings at Melpar, contact the resident GWU faculty advisor, Professor Ray Pickholtz at the GWU Melpar office, 560-5000, extension 2478, or on campus at 676-6538.

DRILLER/ROUTER NOW IN FULL PRODUCTION



Shown above is the numerically controlled new driller/router machine. It serves to automate the first phase of printed circuit manufacturing. The area around the driller/router is enclosed providing a controlled environment, including air conditioning and sound

proofing, for the machine. Production has already begun, resulting in an increase in the level of precision and output of printed circuits. The new driller/router is adjacent to the Fabrication Shop at Falls Church.

Security Spotlight

Recent events indicate there may be some misconceptions regarding the U.S. Government's view concerning marijuana and what effect continued use of marijuana may have on one's security clearance. The following department of Defense (DoD) policy statement appeared in the December 1983 issue of Melparticulars and is reprinted in an effort to "set the record

straight":

"It is DoD policy that, as a general rule, any intent by an individual, either expressed or implied, to continue use of any narcotic, dangerous drug, or other controlled substance, to include marijuana and hashish, without a prescription, in any amount and regardless of frequency or occasion, is contrary to the national interest. A security clearance for access to classified information shall be granted only to an individual who has been determined eligible based upon a finding that to do so is clearly consistent with the national interest."

DoD policy clearly indicates that continued use of marijuana or any other controlled substance will be sufficient cause for denial or revocation of a personnel security clearance granted

by the U.S. Government.

CORRECTION

We apologize for the incorrect figures printed in the December issue of Melparticulars in the Long Term Disability article. The correct information is: Benefit payments begin after six consecutive months of total disability. If you become totally disabled, your monthly benefits will equal 66-2/3 percent of your basic monthly earnings up to a maximum insured benefit of \$2,777 per month, less any primary and dependent benefits paid or payable under social security. The cost of this insurance policy to the employees is 38 cents per \$100 of salary.

MELPARTICULARS

E-Systems Melpar Division

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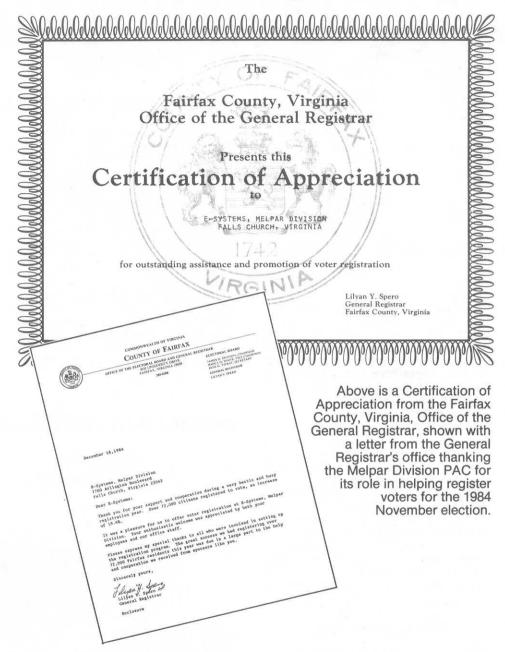
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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION SENT TO MELPAR



Credit Union News

Now is a good time to start (or add to) your Individual Retirement Account at the credit union. An IRA is a taxdeferment method that applies to everyone. You have as much right to take advantage of this legal method of cutting your taxes as anyone else. So, make the most of it!

The Melpar Employee Federal Credit Union has started its own IRA program which should be underway at this time. Deposits of up to \$2,000 made on or before Monday, April 15, 1985 are deductible from income on your 1984 Tax Return. An employed spouse can also establish an IRA with a similar \$2,000 limit on deposits. A working

working couple could thus enjoy a maximum tax deduction of \$4,000.

There are no restrictions on the size of your IRA deposits other than the government-established ceiling of \$2,000 during a tax year. You choose the amount you wish to set aside.

Taxes on your IRA deposits, and taxes on the earnings of those deposits, are deferred until withdrawals start. The combination of tax-deductible deposits, tax-deferred earnings, and regular compounding, results in extraordinary growth of principal. Because of its favorable tax treatment, your IRA at the credit union is clearly a superior investment.

Library Up-date

Books and magazines do not have fingerprints, but there is an identi-

fication system that works.

For many years publishers and librarians have attempted to identify individual books. A large number of analogous titles exist, and many authors have similar or identical names. There are also numerous editions of books with titles issued in series, featuring the same main title but with different subheadings. Consequently, an effort has been made to issue a unique number for each title published. Now in use is the International Standard Book Number (ISBN). In time it may be possible to order a book simply by giving this identification number. Currently, most Western European and English language publishers rely on the ISBN system. Another feature of this number system is that there is a form for both paperback and hardbound copies.

There is also an International Standard Serials Number (ISSN) which is even more helpful for the identification of titles for magazines. The large number of similar titles published today is constantly increasing. It is quickly

becoming an overwhelming task to attempt to classify this material. There is a growing demand that information be available quickly and comprehensively on a global basis. This reinforces the argument for a common identification classification. A standard system would be of enormous help to the information community. The U.S. Postal Service considers this information classification system so important it will not deliver a serial without an ISSN.

A committee has been formed by the publishing community to work out a code that could even identify individual articles within specific magazine issues, in addition to developing a fixed identification system for titles. There is hope to be able to develop a machine readable, transmittable identifier for each article.

This new system would have a dramatic effect on serials automation. It would also facilitate on-line retrieval of material and make it more complete. If this system were to be put into full operational capacity, this would enormously advance the future of electronic publishing.

CPR AND FIRST AID INFORMATION

Many life threatening situations occur in the day-to-day lives of children and adults. Heart attacks, drowning, electric shock, and choking can occur anywhere and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) may be needed in

order to save a life.

Melpar conducts CPR training under the guidance of Shirley Kissinger, RN. Recently, recertification classes were completed in both facilities. The following employees were recertified: Susan Duvall, Bob Haggerty, Bob Hohl, Bev Kowalik, Peggy Lewis, Bob Meck, Jeff Morrison, Connie Pruitt, Pete Severino, Russ Stewart, and Ned Wright (Falls Church); Phyllis Cove, Ben Degroot, Roger Earley, Rudy Polak, Norm Taylor, Greg Taylor, and Michaela West (Fairfax).

An interesting note, for parents, is that the American Red Cross has designed a Basic Aid Training (BAT) course to teach safety awareness and elementry first aid skills to fourthgrade level students. BAT provides interesting experiences through which children can learn about and develop an understanding of safety practices, accident prevention and first aid.

For information on BAT call the Fairfax County Red Cross at 591-8142. Employees interested in the CPR program at Melpar contact Shirley Kissinger at 2206.

CHILDRENS HOSPITAL Cont. from page 1

campaign publicity and canvassing this year. Elisabeth Markel of Publications designed the accompanying multi-page greeting card and the colorful and clever poster display. All Melpar contributors signed the greeting card. In addition, children at the Catoctin Elementary School created 50 holiday posters to adorn the halls of Melpar to support the campaign. The greeting card and posters were presented to the hospital for the young patients to enjoy.

The official conclusion of the drive was December 19, when Talbot Huff drew the winning names for the trips to the Bahamas for two. Both vacations had been donated by our travel service, Diplomat Travel in McLean. Fred Vignovich of MIS and Gerald Pellett of Advanced Development were

the lucky winners.

Special mention was also made in The Washington Post in Bob Levey's column thanking Melpar for its contribution. Levey wrote. . . "Employees of the Melpar Division of E-Systems, Inc. of Falls Church (had) the stupendous total of \$10,048 — special hoorays!."



General Manager Talbot Huff drawing the winning names of the trip for two to the Bahamas, surrounded by Bob Flanagan, Jane Smallwood, Betty Owens, Cindy Shaw and Fiona Murray.

CLOSEUP OF MELPAR'S MERRIFIELD

At the entrance of the red brick building, a polished sign reads "E-Systems, Inc.". Inside, a flurry of activity is always taking place. This is Merrifield, one of the facilities of E-Systems'

Melpar Division.

Merrifield serves many important functions for the company. For example, all the materials acquired for incorporation into deliverable end products arrive at Merrifield first. Manager of Quality Assurance, Bud Hilker, emphasized, "Merrifield has a significant role because the people there are right at the beginning of the production line." The materials come in and go through inspection and testing to make sure they meet the order requirements. They then go into storage. Eventually, shipping distributes the materials to the assembly locations.

Director of Materiel, Fred Morley, explained, "Just about everything Melpar buys or receives comes through Merrifield." Because of Melpar's increasingly rapid growth, Merrifield's ability to maintain accurate records has become paramount. "One thing about Merrifield," Morley said, "It has improved controls over materials and it has also contributed to improved

planning.'

Since opening in 1983, the Merrifield facility has housed three important operations. Consolidated under one roof are Incoming Inspection, Stationery and Contract Stores, and Shipping and Receiving. Such centralizing allows E-Teamers to work within a larger, more continuous space than was possible before the move from Falls Church a year and a half ago.

One of the major services Merrifield provides is Incoming Inspection. Many thousands of items pass through Merrifield each year. "We inspect, test and coordinate testing of everything that Melpar may use, whether it be of electronic or mechanical origin," Bud Hilker said. "We are a supportive group; we ensure the quality of the material and make sure it is in compliance with the purchase and in-house work order requirements," he explained. Incoming Inspection adheres to strict governmental inspection standards. Since all the components utilized by Melpar are inspected to the required level. the importance of Incoming Inspection as a specialized function becomes obvious.

Another primary function Merrifield provides are Stationery and Contract Stores operating under Gene Desgranges, General Supervisor of Material Control. "We have two distinct groups," Desgranges pointed out. One branch is Commodity/Stationery

Stores. These stores are set up to handle large quantities of electronic parts and stationery needs and keep them stocked at Merrifield. "We've just about doubled our storage space to keep up with the needs of the company," Desgranges said. The other branch is Contract Material Stores which is a storage operation for materials purchased in support of contracts. "We store a range of materials from small electronic parts to computer systems," Desgranges said. Again the volume that passes through Merrifield is enormous. Stationery and commodity "sales" average over \$100,000 each month. Currently, Material Control is working on developing a new inventory management system which is scheduled to be in operation by mid-year.

Last but not least, is the crucial function of Shipping and Receiving which is conducted out of Merrifield. Receiving Supervisor, Jim Woods, outlined the scope of Merrifield's receiving activity. "We receive all the material purchased by Melpar, and we verify the quantity and serviceability of the material. A few raw materials go to Falls Church but the bulk comes into Merrifield and is distributed to the end user," Woods said. The figures are stunning. "We process, on the average, about 4,000 receipts a month in receiving which revolves around the volume submitted to purchasing, Woods said. On the outgoing side,

shipping activities average approximately 500 items a month. There are, of course, required military packing specifications that the employees follow to ensure the protection of material, especially equipment. As part of the Procurement Management System (PMS), a mechanized dock-tostock tracking system was recently

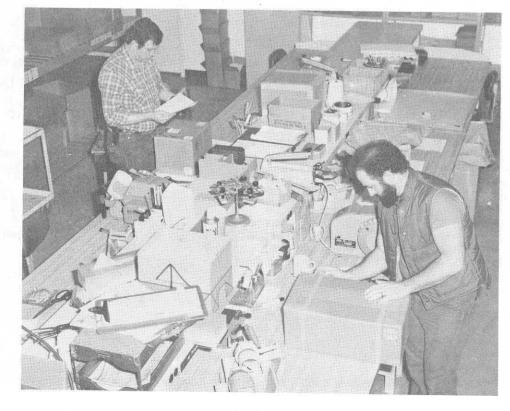
implemented.

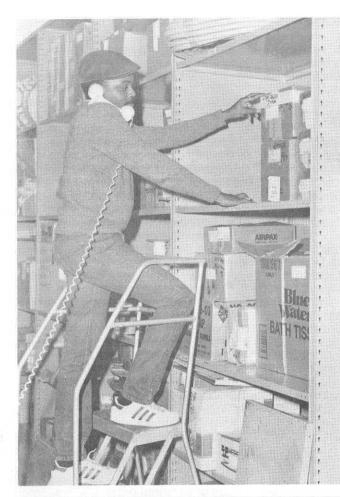
The booming overnight transporta-tion business in the U.S. has affected the shipping and receiving flow at Merrifield, sometimes providing deliveries of an order before the paper work has caught up. Eventually there are hopes that the whole system will be additionally modernized by providing microfilms for files, bar code reading, and computerization of material data that pass through Merrifield.

Jim Woods also had a special mention for the Mailroom which falls under Shipping and Receiving. "The mailroom activity is staggering," Woods said, "And the job is done very efficiently." Well over one million pieces of mail go through the mailroom each

year.

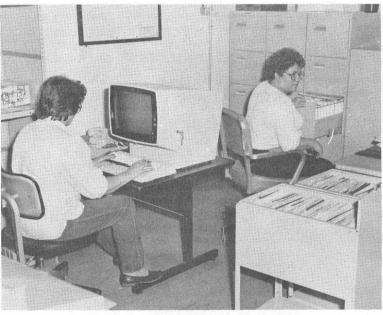
Merrifield's supportive functions are imperative to the smooth running operational capability of Melpar. With rapid growth of our business, the various groups located at Merrifield are looking towards further mechanization of production and processes to keep up with Melpar's increasing demands in the next few years.

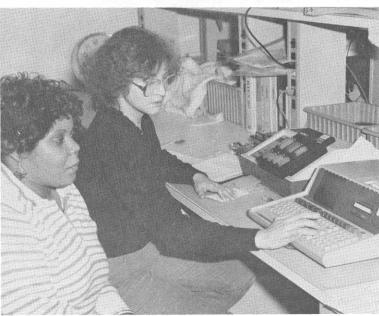












SNOW, SNOW...AND MORE SNOW MAKES SKIING SUPER

Departure time was 12:30 p.m. on Friday, January 11, for the group of adventurous Melpar skiers ready to brave the elements and a four-hour bus ride to the Seven Springs ski resort in Champion, Pennsylvania.

A gust of snow greeted the enthusiastic Melpar team as they stepped off the bus in Seven Springs. After the hustle, bustle and excitement of getting organized and having room assignments given out, the gang was ready for some night-time skiing action. The temperature hovered at freezing and snow kept falling but this did not daunt the die-hard skiers who spent two days and two nights reveling in the first major snowfall of the season.

There were all types of skiers on this trip. Bold beginners, and the hard-core ski fanatics alike dodged trees, poles, ice, and rocks to get down the steepest and most challenging runs. Seven Springs offered a wide variation of slopes ranging from the mogul-

studded black diamond "Avalanche" slope to the gentler green-marked "Stowe" and "Cortina" trails. (Green standing for easiest, black for most difficult in many ski resort areas.) Lessons were available for anyone interested.

Founded in 1932 by Adolph Dupre, Seven Springs is a challenging ski resort in the winter and a convention facility during the summer. 1935 saw the first mechanical rope tow-powered by a Packard engine. Two years later, public skiing officially began at the Seven Springs Farm. The addition of a new "Giant Steps" slope in 1983 elevated the vertical drop to 970 feet. A sixth triple chairlift was also added, boosting the lift capacity to 17,400 skiers per hour...and it seemed like every one of them came out that weekend dying to get in their first winter skiing.

An interesting point about the Seven Springs resort is that there is one main

hotel flanked by a sprinkling of new condominiums. All sporting and leisure activities are centered around The Main Lodge. This facility boasts a pool, outdoor-hot tubs, Jacuzzi and sauna, bowling alley, roller skating rink, exercise rooms, boutiques, various types of restaurants, and three bars. Closer to the slopes, accomodations are available for tired skiers to warm up if they do not want to brave the walk to The Main Lodge. The "après-ski" lodge has two bars and a snack bar. It also hosts the ski school information desk as well as the boot and ski rental facility for those who do not have their own equipment.

It was a tired but content group of E-Teamers that boarded the bus home Sunday evening after a weekend of fun, sun and "hot dogging" in the snow! Special thanks goes to Bob Braun who organized and made this weekend a success.

NEW RELIEF FROM PAIN

The pain of arthritis can be debilitating. But what happens if one suffers from arthritis and cannot tolerate aspirin, the traditional, over-the-counter antidote to the disease's aches and pains?

The new answer for many of us may be on the market now. Sold under the brand names Advil and Nuprin, the new pain killer is Ibuprofen, the first nonprescription pain reliever approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 29 years.

The most important thing about Ibuprofen, according to Dr. Robb McGory, Associate Director of Pharmacy Services at the Fairfax Hospital, is that it is a nonsteroidal, anti-inflammatory drug. This means the drug does not have the problems of serious side effects associated with the long-term use of steroids, but it does offer the anti-inflammatory properties needed to reduce arthritis pain.

In addition, clinical tests with Ibuprofen showed effective relief of many types of noninflammatory pain such as menstrual cramping or the minor aches and pains of colds, headaches, toothaches, muscle aches, and backaches. Ibuprofen also works to reduce fever

Dr. McGory explains that while acetaminophen, the active ingredient in Tylenol, is considered an alternative to aspirin, it does not have the antiinflammatory ability of Ibuprofen and aspirin, thus making it ineffective in treating inflammatory pain.

As with all drugs, Ibuprofen has some drawbacks. A person having a severe allergic reaction to aspirin would do best to stay away from Ibuprofen. Such allergic reactions can include aspirin-induced asthma, swelling, shock or hives. Although Ibuprofen contains no salicylates (the active ingredients in aspirin), cross-reactions may occur if the person is allergic to aspirin.

The package label also cautions pregnant women to avoid taking Ibuprofen in the last three months of pregnancy unless their doctor specifically orders it. Also, never take more than the recommended dosage. At higher levels, some people may suffer from nausea, indigestion, dizziness, or headaches.

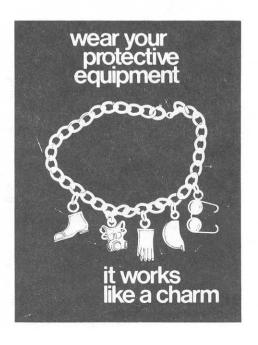
In spite of these reported problems, the FDA feels that Ibuprofen has an excellent safety record even at the higher doses used in its 130 million experimental clinical prescriptions, a record that led to approving the drug for nonprescription use at lower doses.

Common sense should be used before taking Ibuprofen. If a person is allergic to aspirin, avoid Ibuprofen. If one is pregnant, an obstetrician should be consulted. Read the package label carefully and follow the directions exactly. If there are any questions call the family doctor.

From Health Talk Fairfax Hospital.

SAFETY NOTE . . .

Certain tasks in the manufacturing of electronic equipment require the use of personal protective equipment for the eyes, ears, extremities, or respiratory system. It is very important for employees who work on these controlled tasks to follow the required guidelines for using protective equipment. If there are any questions regarding the proper use of personal protective equipment, please contact the Safety Office, on ext. 2669.



1985 SERVICE AWARDS 1ST QUARTER

Thirty Year Service:







Augustine Kozak



Robert Payne



Charles Sisk

Twenty-Five Year Service: Philip Montague James Propst

James Propst Blanchard Smith

Twenty Year Service Richard Taylor

Ten Year Service:
Winifred Beattie
Michael Christofferson
Margaret Franklin
David Harbour
Terry Real
John Shaffer

Five Year Service: Larry Barbe Elizabeth Born Mark Dokken Ronald Dubinsky Lyla Fitzgerald Junior Flanagan Richard Funke Robert Garvey Michael Long John Macaulay Stephanie Prevost Stephen Smith Charles Stump Gregory Taylor Donna Thorne Nicholas Verna Constance Wilson

MELPARTICULARS

needs your input. Submit material to

Anne-Marie Eid, ext. 2717

PROMOTIONS — NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

From

J.A. Andahazy D.M. Anderson D.T. Bailey K.W. Burns R.S. Davis M.P. Dutchak V.J. Edwards D.R. Fulmer C.C. Hoffman K.F. Hoover D.W. Jennelle P.S. Johnson S.A. Lessin W.A. Mack E.M. Mayobre M. Mayobre N.R. Molenda H.J. Munk G.W. Peterman A.D. Prentice A.R. Russell S.L. Russell B.E. Rustin G.K. Sumpter N.J. Verna D.L. Young R.R. Zilka

Sr Design Eng Logistics Tech Assem 1cl Quality Eng Jr Cost Analyst Staff Admin Assem 1cl Video Producer Shipper Packer Asst Eng Tech 2cl Maint Asst Sr Met Tech Eng Tech Sr Network Analyst Report Typist Jr Test Eng R&I Clerk Tech Writer Software Dev Supv Shipper Packer Asst Eng Tech Assem Assem Sr Eng Tech Elec Eng Report Typist Eng Tech

Prin Design Eng Logistics Spec Assem Tech Supv Material QC Cost Analyst Staff Asst to VP Assem Tech Sr Pub Spec Shipper Packer Eng Tech Maint Mech Jr Met Eng Jr Elec Eng Prin Eng Sr Report Typist Assoc Test Eng Sr R&I Spec Sr Tech Writer Software Support Mgr Shipper Packer Sr Eng Tech Assem 1cl Assem 1cl Jr Elec Eng Sr Elec Eng Sr Report Typist Assoc Rel Eng

RETIREES



George W. Tuck 26 Years of Service



Reynold Jamison 28 Years of Service

Know Your Benefits... COMPUTER PURCHASING

As a convenience created for employees to purchase home computers, the Melpar Division offers a personal computer purchase program. A full-time employee may receive an interest free loan for as much as \$1,500 by following the qualifying procedures. The loan is one year in duration and is payroll deducted.

To qualify, the employee must first take an employee purchase order, PUR 299, to an approved vendor. The vendor lists a description and price for each computer-related item to be bought and signs the form. The employee then submits the purchase order to Personnel along with a check for at least twenty percent of the total cost of the purchase. Once the computer loan

In Hemoriam ...

William Dixon Piggott, Jr., a Senior Test Engineer in Production Test, died on January 22 at the age of 52 of coronary failure at Fairfax Hospital. William Piggott worked at Melpar



for 27 years and will be greatly missed by his colleagues and friends.

Prior to joining Melpar, William Piggott served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a resident of Woodbridge and is survived by his two sons, John H. and William L. Piggott of The Plains, Va.

request has been approved and processed, a check incorporating the loan amount and the down payment is issued to the employee for delivery to the vendor at the time of the computer purchase.

The computer purchase program has been successful in encouraging many employees in the purchase of personal computers and related items. Due to the existence of the loan program, Melpar has been offered many discounts from area vendors. Lists of these discounts are available in the Personnel office. Should you have any questions regarding the details of this program, call Shannon Porter on extension 2370

Sports Corner

TENNIS FINALS

The tennis season proved very successful again this year. The turnout was excellent, and the list keeps growing which makes for better competition. For those of you who just enjoy hitting a few balls, or for the serious tennis buffs, the Melpar tennis ladder is a good way to lob a few while interacting with people who enjoy the same activities as you. We encourage anyone who plays tennis to sign up for the spring. Please watch for more information on the sports bulletin board. If you are interested in helping during the 1985 season, please call Patte Martin at extension 2131.

Listed below are the winners for the 1984 Tennis Tournament:

Men's Singles:

Winner 2nd Place

3rd Place Women's Singles: Winner

2nd Place Men's Doubles: Winners

2nd Place

Women's Doubles:

Winners

2nd Place

Mixed Doubles:

Winners

2nd Place

Mike Yoselle Tai Ito Dave Carlton

Ruth Collins Norma Francis

Jim Mapp Tai Ito Rick Bardwell Mike Long

Norma Francis Joanne Menke Carmen Benitez Lisa Tkac

Ruth Collins Tai Ito

Norma Francis Jim Mapp



Tennis tournament winners pictured from left to right with General Manager Talbot Huff. Standing: Carmen Benitez, Lisa Tkac, Ruth Collins, Norma Francis, Joanne Menke. Front row: Mike Long, Rick Bardwell, Mike Yoselle, Jim Mapp, Tai Ito and Dave Carlton.

E-TEAMERS' DAUGHTERS EXCEL IN GYMNASTICS

Cindy Murphy, daughter of Ernie Murphy, Advanced Programs Development, won two gold and one silver United States Gymnastic Federation (USGF) medals this past summer. Cindy won the honors representing Gymnastics, Inc., of Hampton, Va. at the USGF sanctioned Virginia State Finals held in Garrisonville, Va. Competing as a Class III Compulsory gymnast, Cindy scored 9.0 on the balance beam, 9.25 on the floor exercise, and 34.75 in the All-Around category. The floor and beam scores garnered the gold medals and the All-Around score won her the silver medal.

In local competition...

With stunning grace and agility, Angie Fontana, daughter of Mary Fontana, Sr. Personnel Clerk, carried the Osbourne Park High gymnastic team to sweep the top two places in three out of four events against Woodbridge High school. A senior at Osbourne Park, Angie won the vault, bars and floor exercises for a combined score of 35.90 and top honors as best All-Around. Angie's routine showed style, talent, and polish according to an article in *The Journal Messenger*.



Ready and raring to go, the Melpar ski group captured live before taking off for Seven Springs.