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DANGO

Newsletter

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Summer 7-29-2016

# DANGO (Doings and Goings On) - Vol. 22 | Issue 11

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### Recommended Citation

Stien, Haley; Towell, Cecily; Tate, Aric; Kimball, Matthew; Towell, Rusty; Rojas, Vicente; Carstens, Paul; Martinez, Joshua Daniel; Byrd, Reuben; and Daugherty, Mike, "DANGO (Doings and Goings On) - Vol. 22 | Issue 11" (2016). *DANGO*. Book 11.  
<http://digitalcommons.acu.edu/dango/11>

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## DANGO (Doings and Goings On)

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**Picture(s) of the Week Winner(s):** Brookhaven crew (top) and Fermilab crew + a few random people (bottom)



## Group Updates



*FROM ARIC TATE:*

Hello everyone,

This last week has been filled with packing equipment and testing RPCs. Dr. Towell and I were able to retrieve scintillator arrays from the north and south tunnels. This odyssey included cold, heat, light, dark, and radioactive baby birds. These, along with a pile of other equipment, are being left in the RPC tent for UIUC. In the same tent we have two expertly packed crates that will be delivered to ACU. On Wednesday we built another RPC, this time using G10 plastic. Results will not be obtained until after we have left New York. I expect my Nobel in the mail when this detector reshapes our perception of time and space.

-Aric

*FROM CECILY TOWELL:*

Aloha Dango,

We've had a pretty busy wrap up week. A new material to be tested called G10, arrived, so we had to build 2 RPCs out of that and start testing them. We worked more to help de-cable and take apart poor PHENIX. Then we had to box up all of the

bits and pieces that we've salvaged part of it for ACU and part for UIUC. We've almost finished everything in the lab, now it's time to start packing up. Tonight shall be the last night of Carlos pizza for almost a year. The world is a cruel place.

Aloha,  
Cecily

*FROM HALEY STIEN:*

Farewell Dango,

It's been a long summer, but definitely one that I've enjoyed! This week we wrapped up our mRPC work, put together our slide shows, packed up all our PHENIX equipment, and said our goodbyes to BNL! In the final moments at the lab, I put together the last glass mRPC and got it ready for testing (as much I could). Mickey said he'd finish up and send me results when he has hem, so I'm looking forward to that! However, I look forward to being home even more! It's been a great summer, but I'm ready to see my dog again. Safe travels, everyone!

Arrivederci,  
Haley

*FROM MATTHEW KIMBALL:*

Hey DANGO Matthew here,

This summer has been an awesome one. I've gotten to do and learn so much while I've been up here, more than almost any other summer. As for this last week, we have spent it wrapping up everything

we can. Taking keys back to people, and packing big boxes full of electronics and other things. I've helped put together yet another glass mRPC and I've been trying to submit my tech note to PHENIX.

Apparently there's a family with a kid who "wants to be just like us" that is coming today and they're going to be shown the "visitors" part of the tunnel the beam runs in when RHIC is on. The Towell's leave tomorrow and Haley and I leave this Saturday. I'm excited to get to go home and see my family as well as be able to celebrate one of my best friend's birthday.

Have a splendid school year DANGO,  
Matthew

*FROM DR. TOWELL:*

Hello Dango,

We've had one more eventful week at BNL. We started the week with a long list of "To Do's" on the whiteboard in our office and I think writing this Dango will check off the last item on the list.

We've successfully packed 2 large wooden crates for shipment back to ACU. We are getting 7 RPC1 modules along with much of their FEE, gas system, and cables. Hopefully we will be able to build our own cosmic ray test stand in Bennett.

In the TOF lab, we have been very busy. In addition to everything we planned to do this week (rebuild glass mRPC and test a simplified mylar RPC), the shipment of 5 mil thick G10 sheets

arrived. So we also built and tested a mRPC that used this material.

In the PHENIX IR, Cecily and Haley removed all of the cables and hoses from the RPC1 chambers so they can be removed from the central magnet. Aric and I worked in the tunnel to salvage a pair of small hodoscopes. We added these to the large collection of equipment that is being stored for shipment back to UIUC.

I praying everyone has safe travels back home. Please enjoy a couple of weeks with your family and friends before school starts back. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone back in Abilene.

Please help me thank Haley for the excellent job she has done with the Dango this summer. Thanks Haley!

Grace and Peace,  
Rusty



*FROM VICENTE ROJAS:*

We have continued to survey Abilene's downtown roads. We try to get as many blocks as we can in the morning before rush hour hits. On Wednesday, we had a staff meeting where we discussed the next steps regarding the construction of the new water treatment plant at Cisco.

Even though my participation in this project has been small, we are moving fast through the planning phase. We hope to have the plant built and ready to start operation in one year from now. The rest of the week, I have been doing a variety of small tasks related to the implementation of a membrane filtration and reverse osmosis systems at a water treatment plant at Stamford, TX. My online speech class is over and I only have two more weeks left at eHT.



*FROM JOSHUA MARTINEZ:*

Wassup Dango,

This week was rather interesting. I ended up getting a lot more data than I really needed which is a good thing. I had a fun time this summer and my lab notebook has a lot of memories (it's not science unless you write it down). I'm really looking forward to organizing this and setting up so that it's a solid presentation. The only sad thing is that I'm leaving a lot of friends behind, from Fermilab and the people I met in the cities. Well two sad things, I need to fix my car so it can handle driving more than an hour again but that I can easily do. It's been fun Dango.

In the name of Science!  
Joshua Daniel Martinez

*FROM PAUL CARSTENS:*

Dango, Dangoing, Dangone.

This last week has been fairly slow as everything winds down. Monday and Tuesday were mostly spent in preparation for our ACU presentation.

Wednesday's activity was finishing up the last of the station 1 cables. Thursday and Friday I'm dotting my i's and crossing my t's making sure I've got all my work documented and ready to ship out.

It's been a great summer! I actually feel like I've contributed to the collaboration. Soldering batteries and cables, tinkering with hodoscopes, and working on the track reconstruction program all have felt like worthwhile endeavors. I've definitely come away with more than I came in with.

One last time,  
Paul Carstens

*FROM REUBEN BYRD:*

Hi Dango for the last time!

So this week was a mixture of hurried picture gathering for presentations and cable making. Tuesday and Wednesday I tested the residuals of a few more geometry settings on more recent runs. These would have been on my last slide of my presentation. We also finished make the 56 other short cables that will be installed into the station one detectors over the shutdown. On Thursday we had a "goodbye ACU students" lunch at this amazing breakfast place, so I think that

means our time here is officially done. It was a good summer, and I'm looking forward to the conference in the fall!

Over and out,  
Reuben

*FROM DR. MIKE DAUGHERITY:*

Dear Last Dango,

This has been my longest research summer ever. I've been processing through several stages of coping with the end. First was panic that we aren't done with our projects. Second was more panic. Third was additional panic about the logistics of getting everyone moved out and home safely. Fourth was a realization that it really is time to head home. The fifth stage is acceptance.

Many things didn't go according plan this summer. That's just part of trying to do something hard. We chose the most important projects that we could work on and helped the team push forward. Research is an adventure, and I'm proud of what we've been able to accomplish in a relatively short time.

Nuclear physics students: for the rest of your lives you will be able to talk about that one crazy summer you spent smashing atoms. You probably don't realize how important it is to have another good story in your life. Thanks for being a part of the story this year.