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pgs. 16 & 17 were the newspaper centerfold!

He Loves To Dance! Former Congressional

Michael B. Rubin's resume is pretty impressive. He has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering — magna cum laude — from New York University, where he stood first in his mechanical engineering class.

He has a master's in the same field from Cornell University, where, as part of his work, he assessed the feasibility of using hydrogen and methanol as fuels for the internal combustion engine and where his master's thesis was entitled, *Computer Simulation of Spark Ignited Reciprocating Engine Processes.* He was an engineer in the Light-Water Breeder Reactor Branch at the Westinghouse/Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory in Pittsburgh, was a senior associate engineer and lead thermal/hydraulic analyst in the Applied Physics Department at Ebasco Services, Inc., in New York City, and he was a senior mechanical engineer in the Design Evaluation Branch at the Navy's David Taylor Research Center, just off the Beltway near the Cabin John Bridge.

His resume also lists honors, and honor society memberships, as well as a lengthy array of publications and professional and community activities.

Pretty impressive, true, but it barely hints at the other Mike Rubin. That's the one who recently completed a year "on the Hill" putting in twelve hour days as a Congressional Fellow — a year he's called "the best work experience of my life." And that's the one you're likely to find after work hours tossing his partner in the air at a jitterbug competition (they've won more than $300 in prizes) or playing in an accordion band. And that's also the one who plays half a dozen or so musical instruments and who, despite a strong interest in math and science, went to a high school for music and art "just for fun."

Mike, a program manager in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, was on the Hill as a Congressional Fellow sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, an honor for which he was selected after an intense nation-wide competition.

He spent the year working on the Minority Staff of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Transportation, Aviation and Materials Subcommittee. TAM, as the subcommittee was known, was a research and development authorization subcommittee that oversaw legislation and funding relating to transportation, aviation, and materials R&D programs at the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Energy, and the maritime industry. It was also concerned with aviation weather services and domestic and international materials R&D.

The vice chair of the subcommittee and its ranking minority member was Congressman Tom Lewis (R-FL), the only mechanical engineer in 101st Congress.

(Part of ASME's rationale in sponsoring the program is to ensure that Congress gets good advice when it is dealing with matters related to science and technology, Mike explains. Only four of the five hundred and thirty-five members of Congress, and a relatively few Congressional staffers, have engineering backgrounds.)

Mike's job was to take the lead for the Republican staff for most of the nineteen TAM hearings during the year, as well as for some other legislative initiatives. The hearings covered authorizations of R&D programs for DOE, FAA, and NASA, and for such R&D initiatives as oil transport technology, superconductivity, magnetic levitation, electric vehicles, and the National Aero-Space Plane.

Mike wrote a background memorandum on each hearing subject, including current issues of interest and legislation, and opening speeches for Congressman Lewis. He also read the testimony of expert witnesses and provided Members' questions for the witnesses.

He would sit next to Congressman Lewis during hearings (to be right at hand to provide additional information if needed), and once the hearings were concluded, he analyzed bills resulting from the hearings. After legislation was drafted, he would suggest appropriate amendments at the "markup" sessions.

"I applied for the competition because I wanted to get involved, to see how laws are enacted," he says. "I certainly got to do that. I learned the whole process, how

THE PROFESSIONAL MICHAEL B. RUBIN, at a Congressional hearing with Congressman Lewis

Fellow Displays a Variety of Talents, Interests

a bill is created, and how it finally becomes law. "It was very eye-opening to see what Congressmen actually do.

"The media tend to focus on the negative, but when you are on the Hill you see people who work very hard. Congressmen and their staffs work long hours. Twelve-hour workdays were not unusual, and I worked a lot of weekends.

"It's a tough job, but having worked there once, I feel I'd like to work there again some time."

When his year as a Fellow ended, Mike returned briefly to David Taylor before he joined the NRC last April.

He says he likes the program management responsibilities offered here, a chance to divide his time between direct technical activities in the thermal hydraulic area and the oversight of contract work.

"My work here is perhaps half analysis and half oversight," he says.

After almost nine years of "mostly analysis" at Ebasco, he had welcomed the opportunity for the more hands-on job he had at David Taylor. But five years later, he was again ready for a change, and the opportunity at NRC seemed just right.

"I have a real concern about public safety, and I believe that nuclear power, properly regulated, is a necessary part of our national energy mix," he says.

Through his activities in ASME, he already knew a number of people who work here, and his office at Nicholson Lane is only about two miles from his Rockville apartment. It's also convenient to some of his many outside interests — primarily music and dance.

Music has always been a part of his life and his interest in dancing, well that's a story in itself.

His parents encouraged all five of their children to take an interest in music. Each of Mike's siblings — two brothers and two sisters — studied at least one instrument. Mike studied even more — and the mix of instruments he studied was eclectic, to say the least, and included accordion and oboe.

He took up the accordion when he was nine and his father brought a junior-sized model home

THE DANCER MIKE RUBIN
with his jitterbugging partner Karren L. Alenier

for him. With only three lessons, he knew the accordion was for him, and he graduated to a full-size version when he was ten.

He majored in music at the High School of Music and Art in New York City, and studied the oboe there — "but I also took all the science and math I could," he says.

"That was quite a high school," he says.

He had to audition to get in, and once accepted it was an hour-and-a-half commute to the school from his home in the Bronx.

"My father encouraged me to apply, and once I was there, I found it was an unusual school to attend. There were so many people who were really very talented. Since many were interested in the performing arts -- and performing was a requirement -- the school had five bands, five orchestras, and a number of choruses.

"The commute and all the rehearsals made for long days."

Mike continued his musical interests in college and graduate school, and it was while he was in college that his interest in dance began.

"It was at a wedding," he recalls. "My aunt dragged me out onto the floor to dance with her. I kept telling her I couldn't dance, and she kept telling me to just watch, it would be easy to learn. She was right, and before I knew it, I was hooked."

He furthered his interest in dancing when he was at Cornell, and he started attending a dance class that was made up of thirty freshman women.

"I found it was lots of fun, and it's a good way to combine exercise and music," he says .

He started with ballroom dancing, but today, he says, most of his dancing is jitterbugging.He and his partner dance and compete -- locally and elsewhere -- trying for perfection in an art form most often seen these days in World War II movies.

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WANTED

Travilah Roads, Potomac, to White Flint. CWS hours 6:45 am to 4:30 pm, alternate Fridays off. Call 492-1732. (cont)

Car Pool Riders. From Germantown to Bethesda. Hours 7:30 am to 4:15 pm. Call Duane Kidd, 492-4127. (cont)

Crib, Infant Car Seat, Size 18 Maternity Clothes. If you can donate any of these items, please call the NRC Employee Assistance Program, 492-4639. (10/1)

Florida Rental. Retired couple interested in a reasonably priced accommodation for two to four weeks between January and March 1992. Rental property must be south of St. Petersburg and/or sourth of Vero Beach. Please call 301-384-4886. (11/1)

Good Home. Looking for a good home for a two-year-old cocker spaniel. Quiet temperment. Champagne colored. Pure bred. Just want a loving home for her. Please call Sue after 6 pm at 301-236-4521. (11/1)

Greenhouse. Retiree interested in pursuing hobby seeks a reasonably priced greenhouse. I will disassemble and transport. Call 301-384-4886. (8/1)

Soccer Pins. Serious soccer pin collector wants to purchase club, association, and tournament pins. Will buy complete collections or single pins. Any quantity. Will pay all expenses. Contact Gary Konwinski, 5270 S. Zinnia Ct. Littleton, CO 80127, call 303-979-7928 or 303-231-5807. (cont)

Talented and Motivated Boys (born after July 31, 1980) interested in tryouts for one of the top select soccer teams in Maryland (Seneca Fury, Divison 1 of the National Capital Soccer League). Call Kamal Manoly for details. 492-0765 (work) or 301-990-9444 (home). (cont)

Treadmill and Nordic Exerciser. Both in good condition. Call Judy, 492-7251. (10/1)

FOUND

Medical ID Bracelet. Stasinless steal. Found at One White Fint North. To claim, call 492-1732.

Answers to the Fuel I. Q. Quiz

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. F
8. F
9. T
10. T

Mike Rubin

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"My partner is more into dressing the part," he says. "So far I haven't gotten into that, but I am looking for some black and white saddle shoes."

Besides his dancing, Mike is affiliated with three nearby theater groups — the Potomac Community Theater, the group at the National Institutes of Health, and the Glenmont Players.

He also is in an accordion band and a has performed with a Klezmer group, *Lox and Vodka*, that plays traditional Eastern European Jewish music at weddings and bar mitzvahs and the like.

In all, he has six musical instruments, including two pianos, an accordion, a concertina, an oboe, and a clarinet.

One of the pianos is an upright grand, pre-1910, and, he says, "Quite a few times I've told myself I should throw it out, but I've become attached to it, so I haven't."

In his theater work, often he's been in the orchestra, while he's also danced in shows at NIH (musical revues featuring the music of various decades, he says), and he was recruited to play the accordion in the Potomac Community Theater production of *Carnival*.

Besides his musical activities, Mike is involved in community affairs, including serving as a member of the board of his condo association.

He also remains active in ASME, serving on the Executive Committee of the Washington, D. C. Section (he's a past-Chairman of the Section), on the National Member Interests Committee, and as national representative to the American Association of Engineering Society's Engineering Manpower Commission. In addition, he serves as an alumni admissions ambassador for Cornell University.

All in all, he says, it makes for a pretty busy life, and he rarely finds himself trying to figure out what to do with "all his spare time."

Puzzler

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Mail your entries to *NR&C*, Puzzler No. 48, 17G21.

All entries must be received no later than the close of business January 15. In case of a tie, the winner will be drawn from among the correct entires received.

Mike Waterman of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation was the winner of Puzzler 45. Dave LaBarge, who submitted that Puzzler, says the answer Mike submitted was the only correct one received, and while Mike's solution is much more complicated than Dave's, Dave says, "It does what was required, and more."

Mike can make arrangements to claim his prize of an NRC coffee mug by calling 492-1732 or 492-1719.

Dave's Puzzler asked readers to design a macro using WordPerfect that conformed to these rules: (1) by hitting the ALT-and P keys, the document will be printed; (2) once the document is printed, the paper in the printer automatically advances one -- and only one -- page; (3) the cursor may be located anywhere within the document without interfering with the correct printout of the document; (4) when printing is complete, no extra control characters remain in the document as a result of using the macro; and (5) only one blank page is inserted after the printout each time the ALT-P keys are hit.

Dave's solution creates a WordPerfect macro display box using the following steps:

Hit CTRL and F10 at the same time.
Hit the ALT and P keys at the same time.
Hit the ENTER key.
Hit the HOME key twice.
Hit the DOWN arrow key.
Hit the CTRL and ENTER keys.
Hit the ENTER key.
Hit the SHIFT and F7 keys at the same time (disregard the paper advance).
Hit 1.
Hit the BACKSPACE key twice.
Hit the ENTER key.
Hit the BACKSAPCE key.
Hit CTRL and F10 keys at the same time.

For more information, call 492-1732.