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Sunday, July 29, 2001

A Media General Newspaper

Volunteers excavate at historic mill

Foundation hopes to reopen site to public

By KEITH WALKER

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Artifact hunters at Beverly Mill had a successful Saturday morning, searching for historical objects from the foundation of the ernmost edge of Prince William

Within two hours, volunteers Properties. from The Turn the Mill Around Foundation collected an impressive assortment of objects from mounds of rubble piled next to the six-story stone building.

Archaeologist Mark Joyner County.

helped the volunteers as they tried to discern the uses of some of the debris at the foundation of the hinges, pipes, nails, glass, brackets and chisels that remained at the bottom of their screens after they sifted through shovel loads of soil.

"In about an hour and a half, outside. 259-year-old grist mill at the west- we've gotten over 1,000 artifacts," said Joyner of The Association for the Study of Archaeological

The mill, which in its time ground corn, wheat and limestone, drew its power from Bull Run. where the stream runs from Prince William County into Fauquier

An arsonist's fire in 1998 left

Excavating crews removed the debris from the interior of the 40by-50-foot building and piled it

Joyner said the mounds seem to be organized.

"I don't know if they did it on purpose, but the first pile seems to be roofing material and the second pile seems to be the floors. We're actually finding some finishing flooring nails," Joyner said.

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Amy Rossetti/Staff Photographer

Mark Joyner, left, Harry Leach and Eileen Vroom, director of Beverly Mill survey the interior walls of the historic site.

Pentagon struggles to shape military

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's developing national security strategy could mean a smaller military with less emphasis on coping with several crises at once, Pentagon officials say.

Rumsfeld and his top military and civilian advisers have modi-

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LOTTERIES These lotteries were drawn last week Saturday, July 28 Virginia Midday Pick 3..... Midday Pick 4.....2-7-0-7 Midday Cash 5.....20-22-28-31-34 District of Columbia Midday Lucky Nos9-5-1 Midday D.C. Four.........0-1-1-2 Lucky Nos......3-7-7 D.C. Four......1-3-3-4 Quick Cash.....19-25-38-28-39-30 Hot Five......16-23-9-3-20 Maryland Midday Pick 3......6-9-9 Midday Pick 4.....1-2-3-4 Friday, July 27: Virginia Midday Pick 3.....2-8-2 Midday Pick 4.....1-5-7-7 Midday Cash 5.....2-6-12-18-25 Pick 3......6-0-2 Cash 5......11-17-26-28-33 Big Game......28-29-43-46-47(3) District of Columbia Midday Lucky Nos7-3-3 Midday D.C. Four......6-4-9-6 Lucky Nos......7-5-4 D.C. Four......5-4-7-0 Quick Cash.....22-28-2-23-1-30 Hot Five.....22-32-33-10-17 Maryland Midday Pick 3......2-6-5 Midday Pick 4......8-8-7-8 Pick 3..... Cash In Hand......4-7-14-16-18-21-25 Let it Ride......0-8-2-2 Thursday, July 26: Virginia Virginia Midday Cash 5.....6-14-20-29-30 Pick 3......0-4-9 Cash 5......5-6-16-20-31 District of Columbia Midday Lucky Nos......0-2-9 Midday D.C. Four.....2-0-7-3 Lucky Nos.....8-6-8 D.C. Four.......2-7-7-6 Quick Cash......3-14-17-31-1-7

.....21-31-33-30-10

MILL

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Harry Leach, of Broad Run, volunteered to help dig with a round-nosed shovel and sift the rubble through 2x2-foot screens 10-foot two-by-fours.

Leach, 68 remembers seeing the mill from a train window as he North couldn't use it," he said. rode to the country from Arlington.

kid on a train on the way to my open again in a few years. grandparents' house," Leach said.

"My great-great-grandparents used to live on the other side of the mountain and I'm sure Leach said as he filled a 5-gallon that concerns Vroom. bucket with debris.

with The Friends of Bull Run, ous. If people could just be patient, said it was just natural for him to it's going to be a park-like setting get involved with the work at the once we're finished," she said.

tors lived here." Leach said.

Gary Thompson brought his while volunteering.

"We learned that business was through business was booming," Thompson, 56, said.

Eileen Vroom, the executive 753-3273. director of the Turn the Mill road came through in 1852.

"It really opened things up and a lot of their flour and so on was Staff writer Keith Walker can be shipped out of the country," she said. reached at (703) 878-8063.

"We learned that the mill finally closed down in 1952 because it couldn't compete with the bigger mills and it cost them too much to meet the government's sanitation standards," Thompson said.

"We also learned that the mill suspended from tripods made of has been through about four fires and one of them was intentionally set during the Civil War so the

Vroom said the foundation has a grant to help restore the mill "I used to come by here as a and with hard work, it should be

> "In reality, it'll be a couple more years until it's open to the public," Vroom said.

The walls are unstable, so the they came here to use the mill," building has been condemned and

"I worry about the public com-Leach, who also volunteers ing to the mill because it's danger-

Vroom brought her daughter "I'm interested in the history Caroline, who had fun searching of the area given that my ances- through the piles of dirt outside the building.

"I think it's neat to touch the son Andrew to help dig and artifacts that someone might put in picked up more than just artifacts a museum some day," Caroline, 10, said.

Vroom said she plans another okay, but after the railroad came work day at the mill in September. People interested in searching for artifacts should call her at (703)

The foundation provides equip-Around Foundation, said the rail- ment, but volunteers need to bring their own gloves.





Photos by Amy Rossetti/Staff Photographer

Above: Eileen Vroom, executive director of Beverly Mill, and her daughter. Caroline. sift through rubble excavated near the Beverly Mill.

Left: The Beverly Mill has been condemned because the walls are unstable, but Vroom and others are working to restore the mill.

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believe you can do transformation on the current budget."

Kristol, who made his com- 2002 fiscal year Pentagon budget drawing board to clarify the strate-

The administration has sought

an \$18.4 billion increase for the sent Pentagon planners back to the Henry Shelton, on the same date.

Rumsfeld said last week he had of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Pentagon spokesman Rear