

# GATEWAY GAZETTE

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## ASTRONAUT INJURED IN SPACE ACCIDENT

*By Harold Moore*

Major Dirk Drake, the heroic astronaut who is the only American to fly in space twice, was seriously injured due to an unexplained failure of major systems of the Hermes 5 space capsule. Space Agency officials are refusing to give details, but sources report that foreign sabotage is not ruled out. The failure, which occurred during the space capsule's reentry into Earth's atmosphere, is believed to be related to the communications blackout that occurred during the craft's orbit of the planet. Senator Ferris Farfield, chairman of the Senate Committee on Space, was present on the USS Enterprise when the Hermes 5 was recovered, and reports that the major's injuries, while severe, are not life threatening. Immediately after leaving the Enterprise Senator Farfield flew to Capitol City to give a personal briefing to the President on the situation.

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## Atomic Reactor Operational

*By Prescott Price*

The Pleasantville Atomic Reactor, the first privately owned atomic power plant in the world, is now fully operational. Its owner, TEC, announced that the reactor has been plugged into the power grid, and now supplies a significant proportion of the electrical power to the Sunset City metropolitan area.

## LIVING STATUE BATTLES POLICE

*By Hubert Hubbersmith*

In a bizarre and unexplained incident the 12-foot-tall statue of a nineteenth century gold miner came to life and battled police for nearly an hour before it was finally destroyed. There is no explanation for this unprecedented incident, although the involvement of the superpowered vigilante Vigilance in the incident has led to speculation that some form of paranormal energy was involved. The statue, normally found in Sunset Park, strode down the avenues of South Parkside, stomping on cars and smashing store and house windows with its enormous stone pickaxe. It was destroyed just outside the All-Seeing Eye Bookstore, where witnesses claim that it was preparing to demolish the building before being lured away to its destruction.

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## General Uses Soldiers to Guard Personal Collection

*By Jack Kemp*

According to highly placed sources, General Ross Armstrong of Presidium Base is using the high security area of the base, and base soldiers, to guard his private coin collection. This possibly criminal use of government resources came to light after the general recently acquired an ancient coin from someone reported to be "a gypsy fortuneteller." This abuse of power, coming so soon after the recent deployment of military force against civilians in Sunset City, leads to serious questions about the general's fitness for command. Requests to the Pentagon for information on any ongoing investigations of the general have not been answered.



## Robbery of First National Bank

*By Kendell Caperman*

The mysterious and apparently unstoppable thief who calls himself Foxfire has struck again. Bank officials at the First National Bank of Sunset City were startled to discover the telltale calling card of this arrogant thief on the floor of their safety deposit vault. As of yet, it is unknown how many of the safety deposit boxes might have been rifled by the villain, and police admit that they have no clues as to how he might have gained access to the supposedly impenetrable vault. This is just the latest in a series of thefts by Foxfire, of both businesses and private individuals, and as of yet there has been no sign of progress in the investigation.