Students, faculty try to enhance Taj Mahal grounds

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

Majestically situated on the banks of the Yamuna River in Agra, India, is one of the world’s most recognizable manmade monuments, the Taj Mahal. Halfway around the globe, at the UI, is an internationally recognized program in landscape architecture.

Thanks to an invitation by the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department in India, these two institutions have been joined through a research and planning effort aimed at enhancing the landscape around the Taj Mahal and another nearby national heritage site, Agra Fort, about 100 miles southeast of New Delhi.

“The project seeks to promote tourism by improving the environs of these sites and linking them with other historic gardens and mausoleums in the city,” said project coordinator Amita Sinha, a UI professor of landscape architecture. The focus of the project is Taj National Park, an area that the Indian government hopes to develop on 340 acres of land opposite the Taj Mahal and across the Yamuna river. Sinha believes Uttar Pradesh officials sought the expertise of the UI’s landscape architecture department because of its reputation for designing an earlier development plan at Sarnath.

“The current project is part of a comprehensive plan to restrict unwanted development in the vicinity of the building, considered to be the epitome of classical perfection in architecture and romantic ideal in love,” Sinha said. Completed in 1648, the Taj Mahal was built by the sixth Mughal emperor, Shah Jehan, as a mausoleum and monument to his wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Today.

SEE TAJ MAJAL, PAGE 12

UI, foundation receives $160 million in gifts during past year

Gifts to the UI’s three campuses and the UI Foundation totaled $160.4 million for fiscal year 2000, which ended June 30, according to Craig S. Bazzani, UI chief financial officer and treasurer of the UI Foundation.

Bazzani announced the private gift figures during the business session of the foundation’s 65th anniversary annual meeting Sept. 22. Bazzani said combined gifts to the university and foundation increased by more than $42 million, or nearly 36 percent, during the past five years. Gifts made through the foundation were up 40.3 percent during the same period. For the most recent fiscal year, the foundation recorded $104.1 million in gifts.

Of the $160.4 million combined total received, more than 41 percent or $65.8 million came from alumni and friends of the university. Bazzani said, representing an increase of nearly $8 million for the year from these individuals. Last year $25 million in gifts came from non-alumni friends of the university. The remaining 59 percent — $94.6 million — came from corporations, foundations and associations for support of students, faculty and programs on the UI campuses.

Twenty-five percent of the gifts ($39.9 million) was designated by donors for endowment — invested funds held in perpetuity that earn income to support UI programs.

By Becky Mabry
Assistant Editor

The campus Senate and Senate Council have elected members of a search committee to advise the president on the hiring of a new Urbana Champaign chancellor, and the list of those elected is being forwarded to university president James J. Stukel. Stukel will likely present the recommendations to the UI Board of Trustees at the Oct. 11 and 12 meeting in Chicago.

The Senate met at a special meeting Sept. 25 to elect a slate of nominees representing faculty members, students, deans/directors, academic professionals and staff employees.

Those nominations resulted in the election of five faculty representatives, two students and one representative each of a dean or director, academic professional and staff employee. Thomas Ulen, professor of law and Campus Honors faculty, was elected by the Senate as chair of the committee.

In addition, on Oct. 2, the Senate Council elected three faculty representatives.
Stanley Ikenberry plans return to UI faculty

Former UllPresident Stanley O. Ikenberry has announced he will return to the Urbana campus next year to teach, write and consult. He has expressed interest in teaching for the College of Education.

Ikenberry served as president of the UI from 1979 to 1995. He is currently president of the American Council on Education, a non-profit journalism and public affairs organization – the Knight Foundation granted to the University of Illinois' journalism department in the fall of 1999.

Ikenberry currently serves on the boards of directors of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., the Pulitzer Foundation, and Unilever United States.

Ikenberry was awarded the 15th and 16th Knight Chairs, an endowed chair in the UI's journalism department, in the fall of 1999.

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

The UI department of journalism, which has added two Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalists to its faculty in the past two years, has received a $1.7 million grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to support a new tenured chair in investigative reporting.

The grant will support the department's "growing emphasis on teaching investigative and enterprise reporting," according to the Knight Foundation.

The chair also will help the journalism department "become pre-eminent journalism program for investigative and enterprise reporting in the country," said Ron Yates, head of the UI journalism department, adding that the new chair will "further solidify the department's long-time commitment to public affairs journalism."

The Knight Chair is the first outside endowed chair in the UI's journalism department. It is the second chair the department has received in the past year. Leon Dash, also a professor in Afro-American studies at the UI, was awarded a UI Swanlund Chair in February. In addition to the two chairs, a new $500,000 professorship in business and financial journalism was awarded to the department by UI alumnus alumnus Tom Sleeman in memory of his late wife, June, a 1954 graduate of the journalism department.

A national search will begin immediately to fill the Knight Chair, Yates said.

SEARCH COMMITTEE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from the slate of faculty nominees, bringing the number of faculty representatives to eight.

The faculty members elected to serve on the search committee: James T. Anderson, head of the educational policy studies department; William Greenough, professor of psychology and holder of the Swanlund Endowed Chair in psychology; Achsah Guibbory, professor of English and of religious studies; Nancy Biron, educational and social sciences librarian and professor of library administration; Mark Leff, professor of history, Campus Honors faculty; David Daniel, professor and head of the department of civil and environmental engineering; Douglas Parr, professor of animal sciences; and Josef Lakonishok, W.G. Karnes professor of mergers and acquisitions in the department of finance.

The undergraduate student selected to serve on the search committee is Wade Ackerman, liberal arts and sciences.

The representative for graduate students is Billy Vaughn. The student senators nominated and elected their own representatives.

Kathleen D. Conlin, dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, was elected to represent deans and directors. Also, senators elected Deborah Lee, assistant head, crop sciences, and chair of the Professional Advisory Committee, to represent academic professionals.

Christa Pritchard, an administrative assistant in the chancellor's office, will represent staff employees.

Chancellor Michael Aiken announced in August that he will retire on his 69th birthday in August 2001.

Correction

The correct url for checking UI e-mail on the Internet is:
https://webmail.uiuc.edu

Select the "staff.uiuc.edu" server, then enter your net id and e-mail password. Now you can access your e-mail from anywhere you can get to the Internet.

Journalism: Knight grant supports investigative reporting chair

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

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A national search will begin immediately to fill the Knight Chair, Yates said.

Illinois' award was one of 25 journalism grants — totaling more than $21 million to non-profit journalism and public affairs organizations — the Knight Foundation approved at its September meeting. A Knight grant to the University of California at Berkeley. Illinois and Berkeley earned the 15th and 16th Knight Chairs in the foundation's program.

"Both schools emphasized what they do best in crafting their proposals," said Del Brinkman, the foundation's director of journalism programs. "Illinois has recruited a strong faculty steeped in the intricacies of investigative journalism, and Berkeley is at the epicenter of technology. Their Knight Chairs will expand the pool of talented journalism/educators now engaged in sharing what they know with the journalists of the 21st century."

In addition to the already strong faculty, the UI journalism department has hired several high-profile journalists. Before joining the UI department in August of 1997, Yates, a recipient of numerous awards in journalism, held a variety of positions during his career with the Chicago Tribune: senior business writer; chief Asia correspondent and Tokyo bureau chief; national editor; and metropolitan editor.

Other new faculty members:

Dush, a Pulitzer-Prize-winning investigative reporter for explanatory journalism, formerly with the Washington Post, joined the journalism department in the fall of 1998.

Stanley Ikenberry
Inside Illinois
Oct. 5, 2000

Inside Illinois is an employee publication of the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois. It is published on the first and third Thursday of each month by the News Bureau of the campus Office of Public Affairs, administered by the associate chancellor for public affairs. Distribution is by campus mail. News is solicited from all areas of the campus and should be sent to the editor at least 10 days before publication. Entries for the calendar are due 15 days before publication. All items may be sent to Inside Illinois' electronic mail address: insideill@uiuc.edu. The campus mail address is Inside Illinois, 867 S. Wright St., Suite 520 East, Champaign, IL 61824. The fax number is 217-244-0141. The editor may be reached by calling 333-2895 or e-mail to d-dahl2@uiuc.edu.

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The number of violent crimes in the UI crime-reporting area declined in the year ending Aug. 31, statistics released in late September indicated. The number of incidents of public indecency and Peeping Toms increased during the same period, mostly as a result of a series of repeated, similar incidents, UI police said.

“We’d like to think the decline in violent crime on and near campus is at least partly a result of our informing and educating the public about how to protect themselves.”

UI Police Chief Oliver J. Clark said the similarity in circumstances and locations of the public indecency incidents have led investigators to believe the incidents are related.

There were 81 reports of aggravated assaults and batteries on the UI campus from Sept. 1, 1999, through Aug. 31, 2000. Common locations were University Avenue to Windsor Road, and University and St. Clair streets.

Criminal sexual assault reports also declined slightly, from 22 to 19 in the most recent 12-month period. Robberies also were down, from 48 to 41.

During the 12 months ending Aug. 31, police received 29 reports of public indecency and Peeping Toms, up from 22 during the prior reporting period.

“Crimes of violence are going down, not necessarily significantly, but they are creeping down,” Clark said. “That’s a national trend, too, and our numbers are reflecting that trend.”

The annual statistics also show that the use of alcohol and drugs plays a significant role in the crimes committed, Clark said.

Alcohol and drugs play a prominent role in fights — aggravated assaults and batteries — and criminal sexual assaults, either by the assailants or victims.

The alcohol- and drug-use information included in the crime report shows that 50 of the victims of aggravated assaults and batteries had been drinking or using drugs.

In criminal sexual assaults, 13 victims had been using drugs or alcohol, according to the statistics, while 10 suspects were under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The UI crime report includes incidents that occurred in an area that extends from University Avenue to Windsor Road, and from Neil Street to Lincoln Avenue. This area includes both university and non-university property.

The numbers indicate that the most frequent victims of aggravated assaults and batteries in the campus area are male students, ages 18 to 20, who are out after midnight on the weekends.

Frequently, police said, men who’ve been drinking leave bars either thinking they are safer than they are or feeling more aggressive than they would be sober.

“This is a message,” Clark said, “that we repeat every chance we get. Walking in groups, stay in well-lighted areas and consider the possible consequences to your safety if you engage in drinking or drug use.”

Violent crimes decrease may be due to increased public awareness
Dorothy and Sid Rosen: Plotting murder together keeps them young

By Becky Mahbey
Assistant Editor

Some octogenarians play bridge, some cruise the Bahamas. And others study genealogy.

Dorothy and Sid Rosen connive and plot murders.

And the readers of their two published mysteries are glad they do. “Death and Blintzes” and “Death and Strudel” feature a Jewish heroine who tacks belt loops onto pants for a living in a Depression-era clothing factory set in the West End of Boston.

The drudgery of her work is overshadowed, however, by the excitement of murder mysteries that need to be solved.

For the Rosens, writing these books is a shared enterprise that keeps them at the computer, plotting, researching Boston and Depression-era history, and remembering much of their own lives as young adults.

Sid Rosen, a UI professor emeritus of astronomy, grew up Jewish in Boston’s West End, and his father worked in the garment industry. Dorothy grew up in Hartford, Conn. The two of them spent their late teens and early 20s struggling with the poverty that visited so many households during the Depression.

They met on a blind date in college in the late 30s and dated until after World War II, when they married.

The authors have been married 56 years and live in Champaign-Urbana in a home that they built soon after he came to the UI in 1958 to teach physical science.

Sid has a doctorate in the history of science from Harvard University. Dorothy has a degree in composition from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and a UI master’s in English as an international language.

Sid joined her effort after Dorothy went to the movies and saw them pictured there, but most everyone was poor. The big escape – and our heroine uses it a lot – was the movies.

One reviewer said that he felt that our heroine went through life as if in a movie of West flutter or she has a Bette Davis voice. Eddie. Or she bats her eyelashes in a Mae West posture and the music, politics, news and fashions of the 1930s.

“Belle Appleman sees everyone through the eyes of Hollywood,” Sid said. “She’ll meet a man and think he’s a regular Nelson Eddie. Or she bars her eyelashes in a Mae West flutter or she has a Bette Davis voice. One reviewer said that he felt that our heroine went through life as if in a movie of her own.”

Their books have gotten very good reviews. The latest one, “Death and Strudel,” was just released about two weeks ago.

Their first mystery, “Death and Blintzes,” caught the attention of UI journalism graduate Gene Shalit, and the two were invited to appear on the “Today” show with Shalit in 1985. That resulted in an invitation from the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) to be part of an advertisement for the over-50 group.

So Sid and Dorothy agreed and were flown to Hollywood where they took part in a commercial.

There was a long delay between the first book coming out in 1985 and the second, but that’s mostly because of internal problems at the publishing houses. Dorothy and Sid have finished their third book, “Death and Chicken Soup,” but haven’t submitted it to a publisher yet.

“One book is better, we think, than the one before,” Dorothy said.

Belle is a member of their family now. She’s a first-generation immigrant who struggles to speak English correctly, and she’s recovering from the death of her husband, a pharmacist who died young. She’s a character rich with history and personality, Dorothy said. Often she comes up in their conversations – “What would Belle think about that?” “What would Belle do about that?”

The couple has no visions of making a vast sum of money from their books. In fact, money is not a motivator at all. Mostly, the two enjoy the daily challenges of sitting down and writing. Their goal is to see the next one in print.

“I think you can say as much about human nature in a mystery as in any other kind of fiction,” Dorothy said. “Because it isn’t really the mystery that’s the intriguing part, it’s the people, the characters.”

“People who’ve written critiques of our books on Amazon.com have indicated what charms them is bringing back the old West End of Boston and the period,” Sid said. “One person said this is something we should all remember, and yet we tend to forget that it happened.”

“It’s fun to take on the challenge of crafting a book, the couple agreed.

“It’s great,” Dorothy said. “It’s the most fun I know of. I mean, how else can you sit down and be in another world?”

“Oh yeah,” Sid agreed. “It’s like inventing a new world in which you play a part. And you can control the part you play.”

Other books by Sid and Dorothy Rosen


That book was awarded the Clara Ingram Judson memorial award for the most distinguished book for young people in 1970. Rosen also has a series of children’s science books that have been widely displayed in libraries around the country and Asia, such as “Where Does The Moon Go?,” “How Far Is A Star?,” and “Can You Find A Planet?”

As a team, the two wrote a series of historical novels for 10- to 12-year-olds, including “The Magician’s Apprentice” and “The Baghdad Mission.” Dorothy also wrote a biography of Mary Lyon, the founder of Mount Holyoke College.
Students like benefits of special programs, don’t like being labeled

By Craig Chamberlain, News Bureau Staff Writer

Gifted programs are providing valuable benefits to students, but are saddling them with undesired labels, according to many such former students in a recent UI study.

Many also question whether the benefits gave them an unfair advantage, and wonder why some of what they learned could not be taught to other students, says Nancy Hertzog, a UI professor of special education. A former teacher of gifted programs, Hertzog is the researcher who conducted the study.

“They were happy that they had been provided the types of experiences and challenges offered to them through participation in gifted programs,” Hertzog wrote in a paper presented recently at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. “But they also painted pictures of harassment for being labeled gifted, of feeling different and separated from their peers because of pull-out programs or segregated classes. They felt a sense of injustice that they had better educational opportunities. They offered advice to make these activities available to many more students.”

Hertzog’s qualitative, interview-based study of 50 UI students apparently is the first to seek out post-high school students with experience in gifted programs and ask them to look back on their K-12 careers. Although previous studies have interviewed graduates of specific gifted curriculums, Hertzog’s study apparently is the first to seek participants from a wide range of schools and gifted programs.

She advertised for subjects in the UI’s colleges of Education and of Engineering, then selected randomly from the volunteers. All had participated in a gifted program of some type for at least three years during their K-12 schooling. Each was interviewed using open-ended questions about their experiences and the “benefits” and “costs” of their participation in gifted programs.

Among the surprises for Hertzog was that many students remembered few specifics about their elementary experiences in gifted programs, though most “felt strongly about being separated and segregated so early.” She also was surprised at what students listed as the prime benefits of their gifted education. Instead of talking about programs being fun and engaging, they stressed things such as how they helped them prepare for college, learn study skills, and value hard work and challenges.

Based on the study, “there’s no doubt in my mind that the techniques that we use in gifted programs are beneficial, that they have a positive impact on students,” Hertzog said. “There’s also no doubt in my mind that in the field of gifted education, and among general educators, we have to look more carefully at what we do when we label children – that this has serious side effects, and even if we label them positively, it’s not necessarily a positive effect.”

“I think we need to pay attention to the strengths and talents [of all students], and we need to teach teachers to do that instead of trying to determine who’s gifted,” Hertzog said. “I want us to get away from asking who’s gifted, to looking at how we can get every child to want to learn more.”

Homecoming 2000’s ‘Got Illinois?’ kicks off Oct. 8

By Sharita Forrest

News Bureau Staff Writer

The UI will mark its 90th annual Homecoming with a weekend celebration Oct. 8 through 15. This year’s theme, “Got Illinois?,” is a takeoff on the American Dairy Association’s “Got Milk?” advertising campaign.

The week’s activities will include a parade and pep rally as well as a variety show and a pancake breakfast. In addition, colleges across the campus will host pre-game receptions and tent parties to welcome alumni.

For a detailed list of activities, visit the Homecoming Web site at www.uuc.edu/unit/pa/homecoming or call the Student Alumni Association, 333-1471.

Event highlights:

Oct. 8 (Sunday)
- 5K Homecoming Race; registration at 9:30 a.m.; race at 10 a.m. at Illini Meadows on South Lincoln Avenue (near the arboretum). Entry fees are $5 if pre-registered and $8 the day of the race. The first 250 registrants will receive T-shirts. Student Alumni Association
- Quad cinema, “Mission Impossible 2.” The movie will be shown at sundown on the Quad. Student Alumni Association

Oct. 10 (Tuesday)
- Homecoming Kickoff/Lunch on the Quad. Lunch on the Quad from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch is free for those with dining hall cards; $15 for general public. Homecoming Kickoff from noon to 1 p.m. featuring entertainment and UI athletes. Student Alumni Association
- 125th Block Party, 7 p.m. with food vendors and bands. Location: Parking lot adjacent to Swainlund Administration Building. Student Alumni Association

Oct. 13 (Friday)
- Homecoming parade. Begins at 6 p.m. at Sixth Street and Gregory Drive; proceeds north on Sixth, east on Green Street, then south on Mathews Avenue; ends at the corner of Mathews and Nevada Street. Interfraternity Council and Panhel, 333-3308.
- Pep Rally, 7 p.m. on the Quad.
- Illini Union Board variety show, 9 p.m., Foellinger Auditorium. Showcase of student talent in dance, vocals and bands. General admission tickets are $5 and are available in advance at Illini Union Ticket Center (333-5000) or at the door.
- Illinois vs. Iowa football game, 12 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. Student Alumni Association.

‘Comeback guests’ give back

Five alumni return to campus to meet with students from their colleges and participate in various Homecoming activities.

Scott Anderson, engineering, ’36 (PhD, ’40)
Anderson was physics consultant to APL, Engineered Materials Inc. in Urbana. He also owned and operated his own physics laboratory. During World War II, he worked in the University of Chicago Metallurgical Laboratory, a division of the Manhattan Project, where he developed a stainless alloy of uranium for use in reactor piles.

Carol Ross Barney, fine and applied arts, ’71
Barney is founder, president and design principal of Ross, Barney & Jankowski Inc. of Chicago. Her drawings have been widely exhibited and collected by the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Historical Society. A winner of numerous honors and awards, Barney also has been a guest lecturer at the university.

Merle L. Gilmore, engineering, ’70
Gilmore is the recipient of five patent awards and a member of the UI President’s Advisory Council and is executive vice president of Motorola and president of Motorola Communications Enterprise, the business unit that contains all of the company’s communications businesses.

Mary Kay Kretch Haben, commerce and business administration, ’77
Haben has been named an outstanding woman achiever by the YWCA and a “Woman to Watch” by Advertising Age magazine. She is executive vice president of Kraft Foods Inc. and president of the Kraft Cheese Division, the company’s largest and most profitable division.

Diane Sautter Campbell, education, ’71
Campbell was named one of “100 Women Making a Difference” by Today’s Chicago Woman Magazine in 1997. Campbell taught in the Chicago public schools for five years, helped open Chicago’s first magnet school program and directed a Chicago-based parent/teacher resource center. The founding executive director of the Chicago Children’s Museum, she serves as its president and works with several national and local organizations devoted to children’s activities and welfare.
Scientists develop better way to detect presence of soybean fungus

By Jim Barlow
News Bureau Staff Writer

A new molecular diagnostic method is letting UI crop scientists send a message to various fungi that inhabit soybean plants and fields, including the fungus that causes soybean sudden death syndrome (SDS): "We know where you are and what you are. SDS is a mid- to late-season disease caused by a particular strain of fungus known as Fusarium solani. Symptoms of this fungus are not visible. Affected plants can suffer root rot, crown necrosis and vascular discoloration of roots and stems, eventually reducing crop yield by as much as 70 percent, previous UI research has found. Much of Illinois – the nation's largest soybean producing state – is hit hard by the disease each year. Data from 1998 and 1999 showed that Central Illinois counties had a high occurrence rate of SDS. The new detection method – designed using a DNA amplification technique called polymerase chain reaction – consistently detects even minute traces of the disease-causing strain of F. solani in soil and in plant tissues grown in both the laboratory and in fields across Illinois. Its presence was found even from samples that were thought to be free of disease. Researchers also were able to detect the SDS pathogen in the presence of 55 non-disease-causing strains of F. solani and 20 other soybean pathogens. The PCR-based method uses two primers that were designed from the extraction and genetic alteration of material taken from various strains of F. solani. It now gives crop researchers an early indication of actual amount of pathogen that is present in a particular area."

Prevalent methods have relied on the Pbunit Li, a senior research specialist at the UI department of crop sciences, has developed a new molecular diagnostic method that is able to detect various fungi that inhabit soybean plants and fields.

usual accomplishments and distinction of an individual in the water resources field. It is presented annually to an educator dedicated to the advancement of higher education in the field of water resources. It is presented annually to a professor emeritus of library administration, recently elected to a two-year term on the board of directors for the Music Library Association.

Robert Wedgeworth, professor emeritus and former university librarian, is this year's recipient of the American Library Association (ALA) International Relations Committee's John Ames Humphry/OCCL/Forest Press Award. The award, which is donated by OCCL/Forest Press, recognizes an individual for significant contributions to international librarianship.

Correction
Sue Searing's title was incorrect in last issue. Searing is the library and information science librarian and professor of library administration.

Library and information science
Aaron Trehub, director of the Illinois Research Information Service (IRIS) and professor of library administration, recently visited Humboldt University Library in Berlin, Germany to study an ongoing project funded by the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs. He delivered a paper titled, "My Library, oder Interaktive Denkensmodelle: Die Erfahrung einer akademischen Bibliothek" ("My Library, or Interactive Services: One Academic Library's Experience").

Leslie Troutman, music user services coordinator and professor of library administration, was recently elected to a two-year term on the board of directors for the Music Library Association.

Nils Jacobsen, professor of history, received a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for university teachers. The fellowship allows an individual for significant contributions to international librarianship.
Comparison of map of cattle and human genomes shows similarities and differences

Barlow Jim

The most detailed map ever produced of cattle genes and the first comparison map of cattle and human genomes show that many genes, and even whole chromosomes, are configured in the same way in the two species, scientists report.

“...the molecular genetic map of cattle that will allow us to use the map of one species to identify genes controlling important traits in the other, such as those that keep cattle resistant to infectious diseases.”

The research – funded by the USDA National Research Laboratory – suggests that it will be possible to map a specific genetic marker in cattle and then use the same marker to locate the same gene in the human genome. This could lead to the identification of new genes that are important for human health.

“...we will understand the molecular genetic landscape of both species, including conserved segments of DNA,” said Edwin Hahn, a professor of bioinformatics at Illinois.

A total of 1,087 genetic markers were placed on the radiation hybrid map, which includes 768 known genes. About 92 percent of all cattle chromosomal DNA is included on the map. This represents a four-fold increase in the total number of all cattle genes mapped previously.

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Candidates hope their health plans win votes of elderly

By Mark Reutter
News Bureau Staff Writer

The fact that the Democratic and Republi- can presidential candidates advocate prescription drug coverage for seniors tells us less about the future of U.S. health-care delivery than it does about the present-day clout of the nation’s 33 million elderly.

“Look at (Vice President) Al Gore,” said Robert F. Rich, a UI political scientist who has written extensively on health-care reform. “He rails against unfreezing HMOs, wants Medicare to cover prescription drug bills, and, yes, his poll numbers climb. George Bush sees his poll numbers going south, especially the women’s vote, so his prescription is to seize the same issue.”

How to handle medical costs and coverage has been percolating in national politics for ever since Republicans in Congress beat back President Clinton’s health-care initiative in 1994, UI economist Richard J. Armond said. What was not achieved then on the federal level dropped down to the state level, where the embarrassing matter of families without health insurance, especially children, has been tackled persistently, Armond said.

“Despite a booming economy, there are no fewer uninsured Americans today than in 1994.”

The Bush plan would use the states to provide short-term relief for prescription drug bills. Some $4.8 billion in federal block grants would be distributed to help the states buy drugs for low-income elderly. Bush would then take another $110 billion to partially privatize Medicare, giving beneficiaries a choice of private insurance plans, with prescription drug coverage at a lower market-based cost.

“Medicare is almost sacrosanct among the elderly—it’s cut not a program and don’t you touch my Medicare,” said Richard J. Kaplan, a UI law professor who founded the Elder Law Journal, a UI research publication.

Neither plan is a medical,” Kaplan continued. “Bush’s plan is in keeping with Republican ideas to limit government bureaucracy. Whether Gore’s plan is in keeping with Democratic ideas to expand a government program to include prescription drug coverage.”

“Medicare, however, differs from private insurance in that it takes all comers,” Kaplan pointed out. “Private insurance is essentially based on profiling. It seeks to enroll only those people whose lifestyles or pre-existing medical conditions will not cost the insurer a lot of money.”

So the real question is not the cost of private prescription drug plans. Kaplan said, “but whether those with pre-existing medical conditions or need of expensive drugs could ever get enrolled in such plans.”

Highlights of the symposium will include panel discussions and a Center for Advanced Study/MillerComun presentation by Lourdes Beneria from Cornell University. Beneria will speak on “Changing Employment Structures and Economic Insecurity.” A Global Gender Perspective” at 4 p.m. Oct. 20 in 314 Illini Union.

Also featured will be film and video presentations from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, including the U.S. premiere of “Ren Gui Qin” (“Woman, Demon, Human”). The film, with English subtitles, was produced by the Shanghai Film Studio of China and directed by Huang Sha-qin. One of China’s leading female directors, Shaqiu will visit the UI campus to participate in the symposium. Her film will be shown at 3 p.m. Oct. 21 in 66 Library. The screening is free and open to the public.

The symposium also is open to the public, as is the anniversary luncheon. The cost of the luncheon is $10 and requires registration by Oct. 16. A complete symposium schedule and registration information are available on the symposium’s Web site at http://server.sps.uiuc.edu/wggp/index.html.

Pumpkin carving and painting, hayrides, tours UI Arboretum hosts fall festival

A day of fun for the family is planned for Oct. 7 at the Family Fall Festival at the UI Arboretum. The festival will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the arboretum at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and St. Mary’s Road in Urbana. A tent will be erected in case of inclement weather. Visitors may park along Lincoln Avenue or in adjacent lots.

A pumpkin-painting contest will be held for children ages 5-12. Prizes will be awarded in four age categories. Painting supplies will be provided; pumpkins will cost $3. Adults may compete in a pumpkin-carving contest, but need to bring their own carving equipment. Pumpkin contests will be judged at 3 p.m. with prizes awarded at 3:30 p.m.

Other children’s activities will include painting gourds and constructing bird feeders or birdhouses from gourds as well as scavenger hunting through the Arboretum. Children’s guided tours of the Arboretum and gardens. Champaign County Master Gardeners will give away bulbs and have a display about gardening with pumpkins and winter squashes. Woodcarving displays and demonstrations will be provided by the Illini Carvers. Visitors also will be able to sample a variety of Illinois apples and learn about growing them.

The festival is sponsored by the Arboretum, the UI Horticulture Club and the Champaign County Master Gardeners. For more information, call 333-7579. 

Inside Illinois

Hairsoc, 3rd Ed. 39c 1999 Oct. 5, 2000

WILL-FM

MusiCelli performs Oct. 8

MusiCelli will present “Bass Instincts,” including music of Rossini, Mozart and Schubert, for WILL-FM’s Oct. 8 Second Sunday Concert.

The free concert begins at 2 p.m. at the Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion and will be broadcast live on WILL-FM (90.1) in Champaign-Urbana.

Performer for MusiCelli will be Georgia Hobenbacker, violin; Barbara Hedlund, violincello; Kathleen Horvath, double bass; Ronald Hedlund, bass baritone; Eric Dalheim, piano; William Heiles, piano; and Anne Mischakoff Heiles, viola.

UI Foundation

Confidentiality training offered

Confidentiality training sessions are offered for Alumni Association staff members, faculty and graduate students. The primary focus is accessing, safeguarding and distributing donor information. The principles also apply to other operations involving confidential or sensitive data.

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5 Thursday

6 Friday
“From Competition to Complementing Fulfillment: Re-Examining the Sander War.”* Christina Traina, Northeastern University. Lunch 11:45 a.m. speaker 12:15 p.m..latzer Hall. University YMCA. Friday Forum.

7 Saturday

8 Wednesday
“Reality and Virtual Reality of College Alcohol Consumption.” Andrew Wall, UI. Noon. Wahl, Room, University YMCA. E-mail merhardt@uiuc.edu or call 244-9517 for more information. Free coffee, tea and hot chocolate; bring your own lunch. Wednesday Forum.

9 Monday
“Uncertainty in the Lives of People Living With HIV or AIDS.” Dale Brushe, UI. 7:30 p.m. Third floor, Levis Faculty Center. 12 Thursday
“Reaching the Rural Midwest: A Survey of Medical Missions.” Kathryn Waldjke, McKean Health Centers. Noon. Wahl Room, University YMCA. E-mail merhardt@uiuc.edu or call 244-9517 for more information. Free coffee, tea and hot chocolate; bring your own lunch. Wednesday Forum.

10 Tuesday
“Working as the Hands of God: A Survey of Medical Missions.” Kathryn Waldjke, McKean Health Centers. Noon. Wahl Room, University YMCA. E-mail merhardt@uiuc.edu or call 244-9517 for more information. Free coffee, tea and hot chocolate; bring your own lunch. Wednesday Forum.

11 Wednesday
“Philosophy and Spirituality: The Power of Food for Fighting Rocism.” Women Against Racism, UI. Lunch 11:45 a.m. speaker 12:10 p.m. latzer Hall. University YMCA. Friday Forum.

12 Thursday

13 Friday

14 Saturday
“Baseball 101: A Primer on the Physics of Baseball.” Alan Davis, UI. 10 a.m.- 11:15 a.m. 141 Loomis Lab. Saturday Physics Honors Program.

15 Sunday

16 Monday

17 Tuesday
“Multiple Scale Challenges in the Modeling of Materials: Big Molecules and Small Solids.” Rob Phillips, Brown University. 11 a.m. 3151 Beckman Institute. Theoretical Biological

18 Wednesday

19 Thursday

20 Friday

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30 Monday

Entries for the calendar should be sent 15 days before the desired publication date to Inside Illinois Calendar, News Bureau, 807 S. Wright St., Suite 520 East, Champaign, MC-314, or to insideilluiuc.edu. More information is available online at 333-1085. The online UIUC Events Calendar is at www.uiuc.edu/ucalendar/cal.html.
Philosophy.
100 Gregory Hall.
Power and Objectivity in Radical Liberals: Reason, "Reasonable Feminists, ages 7 and up. Admission charge. Recommended for the Infanta,” “The Remarkable Oscar Wilde fairy tales. The 7 p.m. Studio Theater, Krannert Center. Based on Oscar Wilde fairy tales. For ages 7 and up. Admission charge.

13 Friday
"The House of Yes.” Chris Wedler, director. Time: TBA. Armony Free. For more information and for times, call 333-2371 or 333-8295 or see the Web site at www.ui.edu/armory. Armony Free Theater.

14 Saturday
"Disney on Ice.” 7 p.m. Assembly Hall. 75 Years of Disney Magic. Admission charge.

16 Monday
"Symphony of Wind Instruments.” One of the best instrumental music and pageantry. Admission charge.

19 Thursday
"Decalots.” 8 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. Program will include "Bass Instincts." Second Sunday Concert: Instrumental Music. Faculty artists will feature Sherban Wallfisch, piano. School of Music. Admission charge. School of Music.

20 Sunday
Armory. For more information and for times, call 333-2371 or 333-8295 or see the Web site at www.ui.edu/armory. Armony Free Theater.

21 Saturday
"Disney on Ice.” 11:30 a.m., 3:30 and 7 p.m. Assembly Hall. 75 Years of Disney Magic. Admission charge. "Angels in America: Part One: Millennium Approaches.” Henson Keys, director. 8 p.m. Colwell Playhouse, Krannert Center. For adult audiences. Admission charge. "Seduced.” Emily Long, director. Time: TBA. Armony Free. For more information and for times, call 333-2371 or 333-8295 or see the Web site at www.ui.edu/armory. Armony Free Theater.

24 Tuesday
"Armory on Ice.” 7 p.m. Recital Hall, Smith Hall. Program will include the "Symphony of Wind Instruments" and "Bass Instincts." Undergraduate Recital. Niels Caneva, conductor. Featuring highlights from the football season as well as other selections in a unique concert setting. Admission charge.

30 Tuesday
10:00 AM Faculty recital. "Bass Instincts." Instrumental Music. Admission charge.
CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

dance
15 Sunday Women's Soccer. UI vs. Illinois. 2 p.m. UI Soccer Field. Admission charge.

6 Friday The Creative Process in Discussion. 11 a.m. Choral Rehearsal Room, Krannert Center. Choreographer Ralph Lemon and members of his company discuss the process of creating and performing the work, issues that have arisen during the process, and the nature of international collaboration. Creative Intersections/Krannert Center.

7 Saturday "Geography, Part II. Tree." Ralph Lemon, artistic director of 8 p.m. The Festival Theater, Krannert Center. Visual artist Nari Ward, composer James Lo, and a cast of dancers, singers and musicians from Ivory Coast, India, China, Japan and the United States are among Lemon's collaborators on Part B of his "Geography Trilogy," an investigation of the apparent collision of cultures and a search for personal identity in a broader world arena. Admission charge.

films
8 Sunday Quiet Please: "Mission Impossible II." Sundance, UI Quad. Bring a lawn chair.

13 Friday "Dreaming Filipinos." Noon Asian American Studies Committee Building. For second and higher state students, admission charge.

14 Saturday Intersections/Krannert Center. "In Secular India." Noon. Teatro Italiano. Part of the film series, "On the Other Side of the Looking Glass." Film in English with English subtitles. Huang Shiuqin, director. 7:30 p.m. UI Union Faculty-Staff Social Center. Admission charge.

15 Sunday Ecoterra.

sports
13 Friday Women's Soccer. UI vs. Purdue. 7 p.m. UI Soccer Field. Admission charge.

14 Saturday Football, UI vs. University of Iowa. 11:15 a.m. Memorial Stadium. Homecoming. Admission charge.

15 Sunday Library. Part of the film Kidwai, director. 7:30 p.m. UI Union Faculty-Staff Social Center. Admission charge.

16 Monday Asian American Studies Committee Building. For second and higher state students, admission charge.

17 Tuesday "Rock the Vote.

21 Saturday "Dreaming Filipinos." Noon Asian American Studies Committee Building. For second and higher state students, admission charge.

23 Thursday Travel Adventure Series: "Exploring Ireland." 6:30 p.m. Illini Rooms A, B and C, Illini Union. With Ted Bumiller. Tickets can be purchased at Ticket Central and the Assembly Hall. Admission charge.

24 Friday International Conference on Early Opera. John Hill, conference coordinator. 9 a.m.-noon and 2-6 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. To commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Italian Music Drama of 1600. School of Music.

Theatre
5 Thursday Reading/Discussion. Early Opera. 6 p.m. Author's Corner, second floor, Illini Union Bookstore. Carol Spindel, UI, with her book Training at Halcyon, which discusses the use of opera elements in Kentucky by sports teams. For more information, e-mail to ychandler@uiuc.edu or call 333-2050. Illini Union Bookstore.

Coffee Hour: Musical Evening. 7:30 p.m. Cosmopolitan Club, 307 K. John St. Champaign. Susan Bernstein and Pratik Singh will present an informal musical evening. Bring your own instrument to play along. For more information, call 567-3079 or visit the Web site at www.prairienet.org/cosmo. (gsm)

7 Saturday International Conference on Early Opera. John Hill, conference coordinator. 9 a.m.-noon and 2-6 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. To commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Italian Music Drama of 1600. School of Music.

9 Sunday Japanese Film Club. 6 p.m. "Lost University of Illinois: Might Have Been." 307 E. John St., Champaign. With Ted Bumiller. Tickets can be purchased at Ticket Central and the Assembly Hall. Admission charge.

10 Saturday "Dreaming Filipinos." Noon Asian American Studies Committee Building. For second and higher state students, admission charge.

CALENDAR, PAGE 11

“Wit and Wine: A New Look at Ancient Iranian Ceramics From the Arthur S. Markael Foundation” Through Dec. 17 “Rivers of Spirit: ArtWomen in the African Diaspora” Through Jan., Krannert Art Museum and Kokhospital Pavilion. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission to the museum is free; a donation of $2 is suggested.

“Scheele-nap-eeling Tracing the Walled Women” Sculpture and Installations Through Oct. 7 1 spice, 230 W. Superior St., Chicago. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday."
CALENDAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Open to the public: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.
Bevier Cafe: 8:30-11 a.m. coffee, juice and baked goods; and 11:30 to 1 p.m. Sunday.
Great Cafe: Noon Wednesdays when classes are in session.
Courtyard Cafe, Illini Union. Bring your own food and enjoy a delightful environment. Ideas for topics welcome; call Illini Union Program Department, 333-3682.

Huiszenga Commons
Cafeteria
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday. East end of Law School building, 504 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Champaign.
Illini Union Ballroom
11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Second floor, northeast corner Cary Academic Center. Reservations: walk-ins welcome:

Intermezzo Cafe: Kranert Center
Morning menu: 7-11 a.m.; Lunch menu: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Cafe menu: 2-3:30 p.m. on nonperformance weekday. 2 p.m. until 30 minutes after performance on weekdays; one and a half hours before 30 minutes after performance; on Saturday and Sunday.

Japan House Tours
1:45-2 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. third Saturday each month. Kranert Center for the Performing Arts Tour Center.

Library Tours
Self-guided audio cassettes of main and undergraduate libraries available at the Information Desk, second floor of the main library or undergraduate library.

Meat Salesroom
102 Meat Sciences Lab, 1-3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Retail outlet for federally inspected beef, pork and lamb, processed by animal sciences department. Call for price list and specials. 332-3404.

Robert Allerton Park
Open 8 a.m. to dusk daily. “Allerton Legacy” exhibit at Vistas Center, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. 244-1033. Garden tours call 332-2127.

organizations
Chancellor’s Committee on the Status of Women
3-5 p.m. 8Swanson Hall. Admission by donation. For calendar, see the Web site located at www.oc.uiuc.edu/ocwel/. Also see/ which also outlines the committee’s purpose, structure and work.

Classified Employee Association
11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. first Wednesday of each month at Noon. For more information, call Kay Bush at 244-6231, or kay@uiuc.edu.

Contra Dancing
To live fiddle music with featured callers in an atmosphere friendly to singles, couples and families. Visit www.prairienet.org/ contra/or e-mail at savior@uiuc.edu for more information.

Illini Folk Dance Society
8-10 p.m. Tuesday and Saturday, Illini Union. Dancing teaches first hour; beginner’s welcome. Anne Mertel, 396-6406.

Illini Gilder Club
7:30 p.m. first Thursday monthly. 312 Biever Hall. Information available.

PC User Group
3 p.m. first Thursday monthly. 1310 Digital Computer Lab. Call Mark Zuino, 244-2289, or David Haley, 333-5664, for more information.

Scandinavian Coffee Hour
4-6 p.m. Wednesdays. The Broadway, 220 Goodwin Ave., Urbana.

Secretariat
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. third Wednesday monthly. Illini Union. Phone 333-4447, or www.german.uiuc.edu/ secretaria/index.html.

Women’s Club
Open to both male and female faculty and staff members and spouses, the Women’s Club also has many special interest groups. Information is posted on the Web, at www.wmni.

GIFTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

■ Peer and Sarah Pedersen of Chicago, whose seven-figure gift will create the Peer and Sarah Pedersen endowed Chair in the College of Law. Longtime and generous donors to the College of Law, the Pedersens previously committed $500,000 to help renovate the law building.

■ Carl L. Vacketta of Washington, D.C., whose seven-figure gift will create the Carl L. Vacketta Chair in the College of Law. Vacketta, with his brother John, provided funding for the Peter G. and Julia M. Vacketta Conference Room in the College of Law in 1994.

■ John A. and Joan M. Schoen of East Dubuque, Ill., whose $1.25 million gift will create the John A. Schoen Endowed Chair in Accountancy in the College of Commerce and Business Administration.

■ R. Allen and Elaine S. Avner of Champaign, retired record producer who has been a benefactor of the UI’s Computer-Based Educational Research Laboratory, whose seven-figure gift will support Jewish Studies, the Reference Library, the Map and Geography Library, the Newspaper Library and the Illinois Historical Library.

■ Gall Veasman Keelgan of Steamboat Springs, Colo., whose seven-figure gift establishes the Gail and Brooks L. Kellinger Endowed Fund in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The fund will support merit-based scholarships and fellowships and the LAS Teaching Team.

■ Anthony J. Petullo of Whitefish Bay, Wis., whose gift in excess of $1 million will support programmatic aspects of the Student Leadership Model. The Student Leadership Model is a program initiated last year by the offices of Student Affairs Academic Affairs to develop leadership of undergraders.

■ Eileen R. Abelle of Boca Raton, Fla., whose seven-figure gift will establish a professorship in memory of her alumnum husband, Barrie E. Abelle, in the College of Law as a law practice and Business Administration.

■ Eric M. and Katherine Johnson of Los Altos, Calif., whose gift in excess of $500,000 will create the W. Hilton Johnson Professorship in Geology. The gift was made in memory of Eric’s father, Professor “Hilt” Johnson, an alumnus and a long-time and popular teacher in the department of geology. Hilt’s wife, Joyce, recently established the W. Hilton Johnson Geologic Study Fund in his memory.

■ Thomas B. Sleeman of La Canada, Calif., whose $550,000 gift will establish the Tom and June Netez Sleeman Professorship in Business Journalism in the College of Communications. The Sleemans previously established the Joe Sutton Honorary Scholarship in Print Journalism and Tom Sleeman also established the Robert Mautz Honorary Scholarship in the department of accounting.

■ Hermia G. Soo of Urbana, whose $500,000 gift through the estate of her husband, the late Professor Soo, will create the Hermia G. Soo Endowed Professorship in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. Professor Soo, who came to the UI in 1959, was a highly regarded teacher, researcher and author. In 1992, Professor Soo, in honor of his mother, established the Yunchuan Asisijoroo Soo Distinguished Lectureship in the department of mechanical and industrial engineering. It also was his wish to honor his wife with this new gift for her dedication to education and for creating the family endowment that supported his career in teaching and research.

■ TAJ MAHAL, FROM PAGE 1

The area surrounding the monument is plagued not only by encroaching development, but also by water pollution, poor access and neglect of its once lush gardens that were irrigated by an elaborate waterworks system.

The UI’s involvement in the project began in fall 1999 when Sinha and department head Vincent Bellaflore traveled to Urdu Pradesh to meet with state officials. In January, they returned to India with a team of students and faculty members, who surveyed the site and documented it in photographs and sketches. Back at Illinois, the students joined with other class members in Sinha’s design workshop course to craft a comprehensive plan for the site.

They also received instructional and critical support from landscape architecture professors Jerry Harness and Ken Crow. Students and faculty members reported their progress at an international symposium on the Mughal Gardens in Agra, hosted last April by the UI’s landscape architecture department and Program in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. Located directly across the river from the Taj Mahal, the gardens are considered to be an integral part of the proposed Taj National Park. Sinha drafted the text of the final report, which includes drawings of the development plan by the team. With Harness, she illus-