The Artful Lodger

Give a visiting ant a nice place to stay and it might stick around

By Jim Barlow
News Bureau Staff Writer

M any insects enter the United States accidentally, as hitchhikers on various plants imported in commerce, but how many really stay?

Conventional thinking says the answer is in the numbers of both insects and times they enter, but new findings to be published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences suggest that opportunity alone is no guarantee of a successful invasion.

Of 232 species of ants that entered U.S. ports uninvited from 1927 to 1985, 28 species (12 percent) now occur as established non-native species, scientists from three universities report. Their paper appears this week online in the PNAS Early Edition.

An important factor in the ants’ success, they say, was nesting preferences.

“Slightly more than half of 156 species they identified were tree-nesting ants, and, only 14 percent of these arboreal ants (four species) became established in the U.S.; probably because they weren’t dependent on specific kinds of trees,” Suarez said.

“Insect invaders, Andrew V. Suarez, professor of entomology and animal biology, is part of a research team that has been studying non-native species of ants. Their work has identified several factors that dictate which species can survive in different environments. This research is important in keeping new waves of insect invaders from upsetting native food webs.

The researchers sought to determine definitive data on nest-site preferences of 156 species. Using multiple logistic regression, the scientists tested the influence of how many times in the records particular species were imported, nesting behavior and their interaction on the success or failure of establishment.

In the study, they found that a particular group of ants had a chance to establish themselves.

Suarez, then a postdoctoral student, and colleague Phillip S. Ward, a professor at the University of California at San Diego, to analyze their discoveries.

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Slightly more than half of 156 species they identified were tree-nesting ants, and, only 14 percent of these arboreal ants (four species) became established in the U.S.; probably because they weren’t dependent on specific kinds of trees, Suarez said.

As a group of introduced species that did not depend on specific kinds of trees, Suarez said, spent years identifying 232 different species from 58 genera and 12 subfamilies from the 914 records stored at the museum.

And if you can use this information to keep the new wave of invaders from becoming established?

Suarez primary studies Argentine ants, an aggressive species that has caused problems in Southern California since arriving in 1905 and successfully establishing large colonies that overwhelm native food webs.

His work led him to the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History, where he found a gold mine of unappetized ant history. In numerous containers there were mostly unidentified ants that the U.S. Department of Agriculture had captured at quarantine sites around the country. Each container was labeled with a port of departure and a port of entry. The ants had been collected from plants or plant material, mostly tropical in origin, before any of the ants had a chance to establish themselves.

The complete findings, including state-by-state profiles, also are posted on at www.apass.uiuc.edu.

One big surprise. All 50 states said they support dual-credit or dual-enrollment, giving high school students the opportunity to do college-level course work for college credit.

A decade ago, these programs—most often set up between high schools and community colleges—were few and far between, Bragg said. Only a few years ago, experts speculated that only a handful of states supported them through either legislation or state agency guidelines.

Now dual-credit and dual-enrollment are “spreading like wildfire nationally,” Bragg found. Her research corroborates a recent U.S. Department of Education study finding that 71 percent of U.S. public high schools offer dual-credit courses, and 98 percent of public two-year colleges enroll high school students in college courses.

Dual-credit or dual-enrollment was at the center of most high school-to-college transition initiatives, she said.

But the study also found little evidence from the states regarding which students were being served, or how well. “There are very few well-done studies that tell us whether students taking these credits are better prepared for college, or whether they’re completing college,” she said.

The APASS project looked chiefly at nine models, or “academic pathways,” being used to aid the transition from high school to college: Advanced Placement bridge programs; the College Level Examination Program; dual credit and dual enrollment; GED (general equivalency diploma) programs that bridge to college; international Baccalaureate, middle and early college high schools; Tech Prep; and virtual high schools and colleges.

The researchers sought to determine which student populations are being served—and how well.

The researchers sought to determine which student populations are being served—and how well.
KAM exhibition shares emeritus professors’ love of contemporary glass

By Liz deKella
News Reporter

Jon and Judith Liebman, UI professors emeritus of engineering, began collecting contemporary glass art 20 years ago. What started out as finding an attractive centerpiece for their dining room table has turned into a contemporary glass art collection with an estimated 250 pieces, featuring a variety of glass artists and techniques.

The Krannert Art Museum has 31 of these pieces on display in the exhibition “Eye, Form, Symbol: The Jon and Judith Liebmans Collection of Contemporary Sculpture in Glass.” The exhibition will be on view through Dec. 31, with a planned Second Sunday Gallery Tour at 1 p.m. Dec. 11 led by the Liebmans.

“Eye, Form, Symbol” is the first exhibition of its size at the museum to feature only contemporary glass sculpture. Curator Michael W. Conner noted that each piece in the exhibition catalog that each piece in the exhibition was chosen either for its eye-catching radiance, its bold sculptural form, or its imaginative use of symbols.

When looking for a piece to add to the collection, “We place a high priority on creativity,” the Liebmans said. “We have tried to make the collection diverse in many dimensions.”

The couple has traveled the world, visiting art galleries and glass shows in search of unique and innovative art glass. The long list of countries where the Liebmans have traveled in the past includes Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg and Sweden.

People who are collecting glass … it is a disease,” Jon said. “You get attracted to glass, no matter what.”

The Liebmans said they realized they were glass collectors after owning five or six pieces. Judith said it was a trip she and Jon made to Providence, R.I., to visit a glass artist’s studio in the early 1990s, that convinced her.

“I remember thinking we were flying to the East Coast just to go to an artist’s studio,” she said, laughing. “What are we doing? We must be collecting.”

Although the Liebmans said they have slowed down since they first started, they do not have plans to stop collecting any time soon. With so many pieces, it’s hard to imagine the Liebmans could appreciate each one equally, but both said it would be impossible to choose even a few favorites from their collection.

“I could name a favorite piece, but by the time you print the article it won’t be my favorite piece,” Jon said. “It changes day to day.”

Judith added that glass is more than just a three-dimensional sculpture.

“It also has an interior,” she said. “It brings you in, and depending on your mood, you’re brought into different things.”

From sculptures up to 5 feet tall to only 2 1/2 inches high, the Liebmans own just about every type of contemporary glass art imaginable. Their most valuable glass sculpture is “Mountain Lion” from the Canopic Jar Series of world-renowned glass artist William Morris. Made in 1993, it has a lid in the shape of a mountain lion head and measures just 2 1/2 feet high. The Liebmans would not say how much they paid for the piece, but said it’s probably worth 10 times that amount now.

“These pieces made his reputation,” Jon said. “He was a star before; these made him a superstar.”

Another important piece is “Rectangular Cubic Space,” by Stanislav Libensky and Jaroslav Brychtova. Better known as Liben- skey/Brychtova, made the uniquely shaped piece in 1994 from molded cast glass.

“It’s not nearly as valuable (as the Canopic Jar) but historically it’s very important,” Jon said.

Hearing that their collection was going on view at the museum’s permanent art collection. Among them is former art and design professor William Jarell’s “Pragnanz Series,” made of glass, granite and industrial safety glass. Pieces by university graduates Paul Nelson and Jon Wolfe also are on display at the museum.

While at the UI, Jon worked in environmental engineering and served as head of the department of civil engineering from 1978-1993. Judith taught operations research and research in mechanical and industrial engineering and was UI’s first female chancellor for research and dean of the graduate college from 1986-1992.

The Liebmans said sharing their glass collection has been a way to give back to the place they have spent most of their professional careers. Eventually their entire glass art collection will be donated to the Kranert Art Museum. Jon said the museum was fortunate to have a cross-section of the Liebmans’ collection on loan, and that previous gifts from them have enriched the museum’s permanent art collection.

“Judith and Jon Liebman’s passion for contemporary glass is palpable,” Harlman said. “They live with glass, inform themselves about the medium, and share their fine objects and knowledge with an ever growing community.”

Brilliant Jon and Judith Liebmans, UI professors emeritus of engineering, have loaned the Krannert Art Museum 31 pieces of their contemporary glass art collection for its exhibition “Eye, Form, Symbol.” The exhibition, on view through Dec. 31, is the first of its size at the museum to feature only contemporary glass sculpture.

SUAREZ. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
species, invasive ants are clearly important,” Holway said. “Five species of ants, for example, are included in the top 100 worst invasive species by the IUCN (The World Conservation Union).”

This National Science Foundation-funded study provides a rare look at data on “failed introductions for an important group of unintentionally introduced insects,” he said. “It’s a first time for a group of years introduced, other than those intentionally introduced for biologically control, have addressed the issue of failed introductions.”

The three researchers also noted that the viral role in the ants’ play in advancing scientif- ic inquiry, and they urged a new quarantine program to curate intercepted material.

deaths

Bernadine F. Dean, 91, died Nov. 12 at Fairview Heights. Dean worked at the Illini Union as a dining room hostess for seven years, reti- ring in 1974. Members: Women of the Moose- Chapter 3060.

Charles L. “Spud” Kuhl, 84, died Nov. 22 at St. Mary’s Medical Center in Peoria. Kuhl was a building maintenance service worker for 35 years. Memorials: Human Society of Effingham.

Jeanette M. Mayer, 84, died Dec. 2 at Exempla Colorado Lutheran Home, Arvada, Colo. Mayer worked at the UI for 21 years, retiring in 1984 from Mail Service as an equipment operator. Memorials: Holy Cross Church, Cham- paign.

Howard Arthur McIntosh, 81, died Nov. 15 at Exempla Colorado Lutheran Home, Arvada, Colo. Mayer worked at the UI for 21 years, retiring in 1984 from Mail Service as an equipment operator. Memorials: Holy Cross Church, Cham- paign.

Jennifer M. Dahm, 45, died Nov. 19 at Eye, Form, Symbol Hospital, Urbana. Dahm was a UI professor for 33 years, retiring in 2000. She was a professor of political science and of communications research, and head of the political sci- ence department from 1978 to 1984. Memorials: Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, WILL-AM-FM-TV or National Parkinson’s Association.


Mary E. Pennell, 73, died Nov. 20 at Champaign County Nursing Home, Urbana. Pennell worked at the College of Veterinary Medicine for 28 years, retiring in 1996 as an account manager. Memorial: Carle Hospi- tals: Child’s Voice School, 180 Hansen Court, Wood Dale, IL 60191.
The greatest challenge of my job is getting things done on time. The most important aspect of my job is to coordinate and prioritize my time so that by the end of each project I have completed the required work. One of the greatest challenges also has been that I was in a car accident more than a year ago and lost my left arm. Now I type one-handed but I can type fast enough to produce what I need to produce. There are some frustrations, of course, but not with the job. I am managing quite nicely.
Researchers solve one mystery of high-temperature superconductors

By James E. Kloeppel
News Bureau Staff Writer

An experimental mystery – the origin of the insulating state in a class of materials known as doped Mott insulators – has been solved by UI researchers. The solution helps explain the bizarre behavior of doped Mott insulators, such as high-temperature copper-oxide superconductors.

In a paper published in the Nov. 2 issue of the journal Physical Review Letters, physics professor Philip Phillips and graduate student Ting-Pong Choy show that lightly doped Mott insulators are, in fact, still insulators. The scientists’ theoretical results confirm previous experimental findings obtained by other researchers.

Unlike low-temperature superconductors, which are metals, high-temperature superconductors are insulators in their normal state. This has puzzled scientists, because half of the electron states are empty.

“Mott insulators have many available states for electrons to occupy, so you would expect these materials to conduct like metals,” Phillips said. “Experiments have shown, however, that they act as insulators.”

Even more surprising, when Mott insulators are lightly doped with holes – thereby creating even more places for electrons to occupy – the material still refuses to conduct.

Strong electron interaction is the key to understanding doped Mott insulators, Phillips said. “All energy scales are intrinsically coupled. If you attempt to separate them, you destroy the physics of the Mott state.”

The fact that lightly doped Mott insulators are still insulators is an intrinsic property of Mott physics (that is, Mottness), the researchers claim. The insulating state is not caused by disorder, exotic excitations or something external to the system.

“In most materials, if you kill superconductivity by applying a large magnetic field, the resistivity falls to some finite value,” Phillips said. “In doped Mott insulators, however, the resistivity climbs to infinity.

The background state uncovered as a result of destroying superconductivity is an insulating state.”

A future experiment could easily prove the researchers’ claims. While chemical doping causes disorder in the material, the technique of photodoping creates holes without causing disorder.

“If experimenters create such holes and still see this insulating state, then we will know for a fact that insulating doped Mott insulators is due to Mottness,” Phillips said.

The research was funded by the National Science Foundation.

Mystery solved
A paper by physics professor Philip Phillips was recently published on his work with a class of materials known as doped Mott insulators. Phillips, along with graduate student Ting-Pong Choy, made sense of the material’s abnormal behaviors by determining the origin of their insulating state.

Technology contributes to scholar’s reinterpretation of ancient tablets

By Andrea Lynn
News Bureau Staff Writer

With the benefit of computer imaging and macro-photography, a scholar who has spent two years studying six fragmented clay tablets from the ancient Canaanite civilization is proposing some new interpretations of the tablets.

Wayne Pitard, a professor in the Program for the Study of Religion and expert on ancient Near Eastern texts at the UI, has devoted his scholarly career to the Ugaritic tablets, of which the Baal myth tablets are an important part. Used by the people of Ugarit, a city in northern Syria, and written some 13 centuries before Christ, the Ugaritic clay tablets were inscribed when wet in a wedge-like script called alphabetic cuneiform, then kiln or sun baked. They were written in the Ugaritic language, a Canaanite dialect related to Biblical Hebrew, a language long lost, and discovered in the house of the high priest of Baal in the 1930s.

The Baal myth or cycle, as it is sometimes called, is one of the few surviving narrative poems from the ancient Canaanite culture and the most important source of information about the Canaanite religion. The six tablets tell how the great Canaan fertility god Baal, well known from the Hebrew Bible, became the leading god in the Canaanite pantheon.

The Baal tablets have received great international scrutiny, but because they were badly damaged when the city of Ugarit in Dec. 1, 2005

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Among the many newcomers to campus are 113 tenure/tenure-track faculty members whose appointments began this summer or fall. One thing they have in common—their combined expertise will enhance the research and teaching at Illinois. Inside Illinois will feature two new colleagues in each fall issue.

David Williams, professor and head of veterinary clinical medicine
College of Veterinary Medicine

Research Interests: “Dr. Williams is an internationally known scholar in comparative gastroenterology and he previously served as head of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery at Texas A&M University,” said Herbert E. Whiteley, the dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. “He has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills in his previous positions and has an excellent vision and plan to enhance the department of veterinary clinical medicine’s national and international scholarly reputation. His international reputation as a researcher will be a key asset in recruiting clinician scientists and in helping clinical faculty members build successful collaborative research programs. He also brings a great deal of practice management expertise to emphasize a ‘real world’ view in veterinary education,” Whiteley said.

Heather Hyde-Minor, associate professor of architecture
College of Fine and Applied Arts

Education: Ph.D. (philosophy), M.A., Princeton University; B.A., Mount Holyoke College.
Research Interests: Hyde-Minor’s research focuses on Piranesi and the city of Rome in the early 18th century. Her research re-examines the architectural career of Piranesi and the impact of his work on the architectural developments of Rome in the early 18th century. She also has a research interest in the history of architectural theory and on the development of the Renaissance palace.

David M. Chasco, professor and the director of the School of Architecture, said: “During her on-campus interview Dr. Hyde-Minor impressed her audience by presenting a new piece of research inspired by the collection of architectural historical treatises in the Rare Book Room of the UIUC Library. She had obviously done her homework.”

“Although she has only recently completed her Ph.D., Dr. Hyde-Minor has already established an international reputation among scholars working in Renaissance and Baroque Italy,” said Robert Ousterhout, professor and program chair for Architectural History and Preservation, School of Architecture.

Teaching at Illinois: “Renaissance Architecture” and Seminar in Renaissance and Baroque Architecture.
Finding creative methods for engaging students in learning is a goal shared by faculty members Gail Hawisher, a professor of English and director of the Center for Writing Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Cleo D’Arcy, a professor of crop sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

In addition to their involvement with the Center for Writing Studies, Hawisher and D’Arcy have yet another thing in common: The Teaching Advancement Board recently selected them as Distinguished Teacher/Scholars for the 2005-2006 academic year. They will be honored at the Annual Faculty Retreat for Active Learning on Feb. 10.

The Distinguished Teacher/Scholar program recognizes outstanding faculty members who actively enhance teaching and learning on campus and supports innovative projects that recipients develop as part of the selection process. Award recipients serve as consultants and mentors to other faculty members and departments seeking to explore new instructional methods and revitalize their teaching programs.

**Two Distinguished Teacher/Scholars recognized**

Honorees help other faculty members engage students

By Shalita Forest
Assistant Editor

The Distinguished Teacher/Scholar Program, sponsored by the Teaching Advancement Board and the Office of the Provost, honors and supports outstanding instructors who take an active role in promoting learning on campus. The Distinguished Teacher/Scholar appointment lasts one year, honorees carry the designation with them and help other faculty members and honorees since the program’s inception in 1999:

- **Distinguished Teacher/Scholars**
  - Philip Burik, agricultural engineering
  - Veronica Burton, history
  - Cleo D’Arcy, crop sciences*
  - Paul F. Diehl, political science
  - James A. Gentry, finance
  - Gail E. Hawisher, English*
  - Steve Helled, journalism
  - Paul Kelter, chemistry
  - J. Bruce Litchfield, engineering
  - Michael C. Lou, electrical and computer engineering
  - Lenny Pitt, computer science
  - Shelly J. Schmidt, food chemistry
  - Thomas Schwartz, educational psychology
  - Linda E. Smith, library and information science
  - Joseph C. Squier, art and design
  - Andrea Willis, curriculum and instruction

*Appointed this year

Teaching honors Distinguished Teacher/Scholar for 2005-2006 is just one of numerous teaching awards garnered by Cleo D’Arcy during her 20 year career as a professor of crop sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

On the first day of class each semester, D’Arcy likes to show students an old issue of Science magazine with a cover picture of the Red Queen from the book “Alice in Wonderland” and the queen’s philosophy: “It takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place.”

“I tell my students that’s what it’s like fighting plant diseases: You’re constantly coming up with new ways to try to manage them, so they aren’t causing huge losses and subsequent problems for people,” D’Arcy said. “Some diseases have been around for hundreds, or even thousands, of years and are even referenced in the Bible. It’s not like you solve them. You win for a while and then go back and start again.”

While some people might find that a Sisyphean endeavor, that’s exactly what D’Arcy finds exhilarating about her chosen field.

When D’Arcy joined the ACES faculty in 1978, she taught graduate-level courses for the first 15 years, but then decided that she wanted to try teaching undergraduate students and developed a General Education course with an enrollment of 75 – students who encompassed an array of academic majors, levels of motivation and learning styles, some of whom had limited exposure to science or perceived it as arcane and obtuse. To connect with undergraduate students in that course, D’Arcy said she had to change her teaching style: figure out how to

Teaching with technology As a Distinguished Teacher/Scholar for 2005-2006, Gail Hawisher, a professor of English and director of the Center for Writing Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, plans to help faculty members explore new ways of teaching with technology media, such as blogs, wikis, and podcasting.

Hawisher came to the UI in 1990. Hawisher has also been interested in helping students improve their writing and helping faculty members find new ways of using writing to enhance students’ learning.

“Encouraging students to write effec
tively is among many departments’ goals, but what it means to communicate well has expanded: It’s more than talking and writ
ing,” Hawisher said, because students today also use presentation software, create Web sites and even make videos as part of their writing projects.

Hawisher became intrigued by the “Writing with Video” (Art 199) course developed by Joseph Squire, a professor of narrative media, and graduate student Maria Lovett, in the College of Art and Design. The course allows students to explore video as a rhetorical medium using writing to conceptualize, solve problems and process what they learn as they create documentaries and other video productions.

After observing the class this summer and Fall, and seeing how engaged students became with their projects, Hawisher formed a media group with several faculty members and graduate students from LAS, art and design, the department of English and the Center for Writing Studies, who met weekly to discuss successful strategies for teaching “Writing With Video” course. The course

SEE TEACHER/SCHOLARS. PAGE 7
Distinguished Award for Women Faculty

As a Distinguished Teacher/Scholar for 2005-2006, Hawisher plans to continue to work with the media group, as well as other faculty members to explore new ways of teaching with technology, such as blogs, Web logs that can be updated daily; wikis, collaborative software for creating Web content; and Podcasting, the distribution of audio and video programs over the Internet. During the spring semester, she plans to host a series of meetings in which these innovative instructors will share information about their high-tech teaching strategies with their colleagues from around campus. Hawisher has written or edited numerous books, book chapters and articles and has given a lengthy list of presentations on various books, book chapters and articles and articles and awards Hawisher has received are the Outstanding Technology Innovator Award, conferred by the Conference on College Composition and Communication (2000), and the Robert Schneider Award for Outstanding Teaching Service (2000), from the department of English.

“Not only is she a quality classroom teacher in her own right, the impact of her teaching is magnified campuswide by her very active role in “Writing Across the Curriculum,” training faculty members and graduate students and spreading good teaching practices,” said Martin Camargo, head of the department of English. “I was just delighted.” Hawisher said about being named a Distinguished Teacher/Scholar for 2005-2006, “especially since I was chosen by a faculty committee. After having worked with so many excellent faculty members on this campus through the Center for Writing Studies, I was extraordinarily proud that the committee saw fit to honor me with this award.”

Mark your calendar

FACULTY RETREAT WILL BE FEB. 10

The spring 2006 All-Campus Faculty Retreat will be Feb. 10 in the Illini Union. The plenary speaker will be Ken Bain, director of the New York University Center for Teaching Excellence. Bain’s talk will be based on his recent award-winning book, “What the Best College Teachers Do.”

This year’s 2005-2006 Distinguished Teacher/Scholars, Cleo D’Arcy and Gail Hawisher, will be co-presenters of one of the five concurrent sessions at the retreat. Information about the retreat and how to register will be available soon.

Tech Prep, for instance, tends to target students in the middle of the academic pack, many from working-class families, who traditionally have been steered toward vocational programs. Middle and early college high schools tend to target minority and at-risk students.

“What we think is most interesting is that the states that are moving ahead with a plan for how to encourage more high school students to go to college are beginning to see these various models as a portfolio for the state,” Bragg said. “They have a little AP here, and some middle college high schools over there. They are beginning to build this portfolio of strategies that might collectively help lots of kids move onto college.”

In other states, that kind of strategic thinking is “completely off their radar screen,” she said.

Oversight also is a concern, Bragg said, and it “varies greatly” from state to state. “There are real quality control issues here. Most states have very minimal quality control over this kind of thing,” she said. “If you’re a collegiate institution, one of the great fears with dual credit is that we will essentially diminish the integrity of the college curriculum if we are not paying attention to the quality of these courses.”

The APASS project was funded by the Lumina Foundation for Education (www.luminafoundation.org) and is part of ongoing research by the Office of Community College Research and Leadership (http://occrl.illinois.edu) at Illinois. Bragg is the director of the office.

The co-principal investigator on the study was Stanley Rabiner, Regent Professor of educational organization and leadership at Illinois. He is a former president of the American Council on Education and a president emeritus of the UI.
Growing Strong and Successful Youth

Child development expert to speak Dec. 1

Peter L. Benson will discuss “Growing Strong and Successful Youth: The Power of Families and Communities Working Together” at 7 p.m. Dec 1 in the Beckman Institute Auditorium.

Benson is president and CEO of Search Institute, a Minneapolis-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing leadership, knowledge and resources to promote healthy children, youth and communities. Benson also is the author or editor of more than a dozen books on child and adolescent development.

The speech is part of The Pampered Chef Family Resiliency Program in the department of human and community development. The focus of the program is to enrich child, individual and family well-being in the context of homes and communities.

Benson also will appear on WILL-AM’s “Focus 580” with host David Inge at 10 a.m. Dec. 2 and will meet with faculty, students and community health professionals during his visit to campus.

Country Music Hall classics return Dec. 6

WILL-TV brings back three classic episodes of “Country Music Hall” for its Winterfest fund drive, and will offer a DVD containing all three shows as a gift for anyone who pledges at least $100.

The episodes air back-to-back beginning at 8 p.m. Dec. 6, with repeats beginning at 5 p.m. Dec. 11. The shows feature, in order, Sunny Norman and the Drifting Playboys, Pork and the Havana Ducks, and Jethro Burns (of Homer and Jethro fame) performing with the Iowa-based Warren County String Ticklers.

WILL promoted the “Country Music Hall” as a showcase for the best of home-grown bands who were stopping to perform in Urbana on their rise from grassroots artistry to national fame. The episodes attempted to re-create the intimate, sometimes bawdy atmosphere of a country music hall in its studio after the success of “The Grand Ole Opry” and “Austin City Limits” on PBS, said Mark Kelley, who produced the 13 episodes of “Country Music Hall” at WILL-TV.

“The goal was to make it seem like a hidden place someplace in the Midwest where you could go on Saturday night and you never knew who might show up,” Kelley said.

Graduate College workshop

Mentoring, advising styles explored

It is estimated that nationwide, only 50 percent of students entering doctoral programs actually obtain their degree after 10 years, and that proactive mentoring is a significant factor in student persistence. The UI Graduate College, in conjunction with the Office of the Provost, will host its first professional development opportunity for graduate faculty members Jan. 11.

This workshop will explore different faculty advising styles. See briefs, page 9.

Medicare 7, 8 or 9 special broadcast Dec. 4 on WILL-TV

This month WILL-TV compiles the best music from five specials in a retrospective, “Medicare 7, 8 or 9 Through the Years With Dan Perrino,” broadcast at 7 p.m. Dec. 4, with a repeat at 7 p.m. Dec. 10.

The history of the jazz band Medicare 7, 8 or 9 dates to the fall of 1969, when UI student protesters gathered on the Quad and in the Union South Lounge every day. Music professor Dan Perrino and fellow professor John O’Connor decided that the South Lounge needed a little Dixieland jazz to lighten the atmosphere. Perrino, O’Connor and six other professors and graduate students hauled their instruments to the union and began to play. The room filled with people, and for once, they weren’t yelling at each other.

The group had never rehearsed, and didn’t have a name. A student reporter coined the name “Medicare 7, 8 or 9” after Perrino said he wasn’t sure how many band members showed up and Stan Rahn said that with bald heads and gray hair, they could be part of a Medicare contingent. During the next 30 years, Medicare 7, 8 or 9 played more than 2,000 performances all over Illinois and in more than 35 states.

The first Medicare 7, 8 or 9 special was broadcast on WILL-TV 23 years ago, featuring the popular Champaign-Urbana band playing Dixieland jazz. “A lot of the faces changed, but some, like Dan Perrino, remain constant through the years,” said WILL-TV’s Tim Hartin, who is editing the programs into the retrospective. “This program is sort of an aural and visual montage of all the programs,” Hartin said. Included are Medicare hits “Sugar Blues,” “A Closer Walk with Thee,” “12th Street Rag,” and “When the Saints Go Marching In.”
BRIEFs, CONTinued FROM PAGE 8
styles and discuss how conflict can arise because of dif-
ferent student and faculty expectations. Faculty members
will discuss how to set clear, reasonable expectations for
students in order to avoid miscommunication and con-
flicts. Training will include both lecture and small group
discussion. Presenters include Greg Lumbeth from the UI
Counseling Center and Julie Brockman of Michigan State
University.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Illini
Rooms A, B and C of the Illini Union. This event is free and
open to all UI graduate faculty members. Advanced reg-
istration is requested by calling 333-0835; more informa-
tion about the program and speakers is available at www-
grad.uic.edu. The event will conclude with a luncheon for
all participants.

Cancer prevention
Researcher discusses the truth about tea

If you’re confused about the health benefits of tea, here’s
your chance to listen to “arguably the top researcher in this
field,” said Keith Singletary, UI professor of food science
and human nutrition. Chung S. Yang, professor and chair of
chemical biology at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy
at Rutgers University, will speak on the “Inhibition of Car-
cinogenesis by Tea: Mechanisms and Human Relevance” at
4 p.m. Dec. 7 in 180 Biever Hall.

Yang is studying the cancer-preventive activity of tea
in animal models for lung, oral, esophageal and colon
cancers.

Get your tickets now
UI group to perform at Carnegie Hall

Under the direction of James F. Keene, director of Uni-
versity Bands, the UI Wind Symphony will perform in con-
cert on Feb. 17 in Carnegie Hall.

UI president B. Joseph White and Richard Herman,
chairman of the Urbana campus, plan to attend the event
in New York City.

Shelli Drummond Stine, associate director for develop-
ment and external relations in the UI’s College of Fine and
Arts, social sciences and computer science to discuss proj-
ects that use advanced visualization and/or digital tools.

NCSA representatives Donna Cox, director of Visualiza-
tion Experimental Technologies, and Michael Welge, direc-
tor of the Automated Learning Group, will give a presenta-
tion on data mining and visualization tools at NCSA. Luc
Anselin, Faculty Excellence Professor and director of the
Spatial Analysis Laboratory, department of geography, will
present the topic “Mapping and Analysis for Spatial Social
Science.”

The workshop will feature nationally recognized re-
searchers from other universities who use computing in
their work: William G. Thomas III, professor of history
and the John and Catherine Angle Chair in the Humani-
ties, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Stephen Plog, Com-
mmonwealth Professor of Anthropology, University of Vir-
ginia; and Morris Eaves, professor of English, University
of Rochester.

A question-and-answer session about opportunities for
computing in the humanities, arts and social sciences at the
Urbana campus will be led by representatives of NCSA, the
computer science department, the University Library, the
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Seedbed Initia-
tive, the Graduate School of Library and Information Sci-
ence and the Cultural Computing Program.

The CHASS initiative was announced on Oct. 21 and is
led by Distinguished Teacher/Scholar Vernon Burton, pro-
fessor of history and sociology and leader of NCSA’s Hu-
manities and Social Science Division. The goal of CHASS
is to foster innovation by engaging humanists, artists and
social scientists in sustained collaboration with colleagues
in computer science, engineering, high-performance com-
puting and communications in order to develop tools to
accelerate research and education. CHASS continues and
extends international collaborative projects begun under
the auspices of the Worldwide Universities Network and
has access to an extensive network of experts in education,
training and outreach through participation in the National
Science Foundation-funded Engaging People in Cyberin-
frastructure program.

To participate in the workshop, register by Dec. 6 at www-
.chass.uiuc.edu/register.html or e-mail chass@ncsa.uiuc.edu.
For more information, visit www.chass.uic.edu.

Secretary of State
Mobile facility will offer campus services

The Illinois Secretary of State mobile facility will be
open for business in Rooms 405 and 406 of the Levis Fac-
culty Center the last Wednesday of each month from 9:30
a.m. to 2:30 p.m. UI students, faculty and staff members
may renew their driver’s license or state ID and purchase
their annual vehicle sticker on campus. The mobile unit
will operate on the UI campus once a month.

UI students, faculty and staff members

The mini facility also will be open for business at the
Levis Faculty Center on Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 29 and
April 26. ◆
Ents 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 insiteill@uiuc.edu. More information is available from Marty Yeazel at 333-0385. The online UIUC Events Calendar is at www.uiuc.edu/calendar.

Dec 1 to 18

Tasty celebration
Groovy Knott, assistant to the head of food science and human nutrition, serves pork-stuffed turkey at the 2005 Benoist Nouveau Celebration at the Spice Box in Beaver Hall on Nov. 22. The event featured food prepared and presented by chef Jean Louis Ledent and students in the Hospitality Management Program and celebrated the release of the 2005 Benoist Nouveau wine.

The meal was an extensive cold buffet including jumbo shrimp, whole poached Atlantic salmon, frog leg salad, stuffed chickens and turkey, cheeses, fresh fruits, desserts and more. Proceeds from the event will benefit the renovation of the Quantity Foods Laboratory in the department of food science and human nutrition. The lab includes the Spice Box and the Bistro Café restaurants, and the kitchen facilities in Beaver Hall.

Note: $ indicates Admission Charge

Friday
Murder Mystery Dinner Theater. 8 p.m. Knott Center. $ Knott Center Student Association.

Saturday

December 1
7:30 p.m. Memorial Hall. Choral Christmas. $}

December 2
7:30 p.m. Music Building. Christmas Carols. $}

Sunday
University Chorus and Orchestra. 7 p.m. Auditorium. $ Knott Center Student Association.

Wednesday
Chamber Music Recital. 7 p.m. Music Building. $}

Thursday
Music from the traditional and contemporary band repertoire. 7 p.m. Music Building. $}

Friday
Jazz Trombone and Jazz Guitar Ensemble. 7:30 p.m. Cu Yen, saxophone. 7:30 p.m. Music Building. $}

Saturday
Annual Carol Concert. 7 p.m. Assembly Hall. $}

Holiday music program. 7:30 p.m. Tryon Festival Theater. Krannert Center. $ With Stéphane Bertho.

Sunday
Master of Music Recital. Bona L. Benson, Search Institute, Working Together. $}

Tuesday
Sesame Street Live “Out of This World.” 7 p.m. Assembly Hall. $ Knott Center Student Association.

Wednesday
Music from the traditional and contemporary band repertoire. 7 p.m. Music Building. $}

Holiday music program. 7:30 p.m.Tryon Festival Theater. Krannert Center. $ With Stéphane Bertho.

Saturday
Music Education Senior Recital. Laura Johnson, organ, and oboe. 10 a.m. Recital Hall. Smith Hall. $}

Sunday
Music Education Senior Recital. Laura Johnson, organ, and oboe. 10 a.m. Recital Hall. Smith Hall. $}

Saturday
University Chorus and Orchestra. 7 p.m. Auditorium. $ Knott Center Student Association.

Sunday
Master of Music Recital. Bona L. Benson, Search Institute, Working Together. $}

Monday
Freshman Flute Studio Recital. 7:30 p.m. Memorial Room. Smith Hall. $}

Tuesday
Sesame Street Live “Out of This World.” 7 p.m. Assembly Hall. $ Knott Center Student Association.

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By Liz deAvila

News Bureau Intern

Conrad Bakker’s latest project is bigger than a boxy briefcase, and looks like something that might be a repository for moldy bread … and all manner of other garbage.

"Untitled Project: Dumpster" is the idea and design professor's most recent wood sculpture in his "Untitled Projects" series. Six feet wide, 12 feet long, almost 4 feet tall and painted bright red-orange, the artwork sits outside Gallery 400 on the UI campus. Bakker said passers-by have mistaken his life-size sculpture for a real Dumpster and deposited trash in it.

The piece is part of the gallery exhibition "At the Edge: Innovative Art in Chicago" and will be on display through Dec. 10. This project ("DUMPSTER") emerged from extensive research of public spaces, ubiquitous objects, and perhaps, even my own Dumpster divers. Bakker’s research involved paying attention to the way in which Dumpsters and roll-off containers occupy so many public spaces but are barely acknowledged. It took Bakker most of the summer to create "Inventing Project: Dumpster," which is made of 80 percent recycled wood retrieved from the recycling station at the Urbana campus’s Material Recovery Facility. Bakker said he became interested in building a large object that could sit in a public space for a certain amount of time and behave like a sculpture, but also function as an architectural marker. He also said he had a specific reason for choosing its loud color. The red-orange color was chosen in part because of its prior use in public sculpture, mostly (by) Al- exander Calder. Bakker said “But also for the way that color could draw attention and still be an authentic Dumpster color.”

The sculpture itself is scheduled for disposal at the end of the show and will not be exhibited again, he said.

More information on Bakker’s artwork is available on the Web at www.untitledprojects.com.
more calendar

CALENDAR, From Page 11
open to all faculty/staff at no charge during scheduled hours with valid ID card.

English as a Second Language Course
7:30-8:30 p.m. LDS Institute, Building, 402 S. Lincoln Ave., Urbana. Weekly on Thursdays.

Ice Arena
Open skate: 11:20 a.m.-12:40 p.m. Monday-Friday (while university is in session); 7-9 p.m. Wednesday and Friday; 1:30-4 p.m. Sunday.

Cheap Skates: 7-9 a.m.-4 p.m. (must be over 18).

Call 244-6017 for more information.

Library Tours
Self-guided of main and undergraduate libraries: go to Information Desk (second floor, main library) or Media Center (undergrad library).

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
Interlude: Open one hour before until after events on performance nights.

The Deutsche Konversationsgruppe
1-3 p.m. W. The Bread Company, 706 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana.

Ad removed for online version