Program results in increase in greater prairie chicken population

By Jim Barlow

Booming mating calls rooketed the Illinois prairie in the mid-1800s, announcing that colorful greater prairie chickens were near and abundant. As pioneers moved west, the birds were hunted for food. They fell to predators, their habitats shrank, and, scientists say, even the birds’ declining genetic diversity brought their near extinction.

In the Nov. 27 issue of the journal Science, nine researchers report that an isolated group of the birds is making a comeback. The potential recovery is the result of a comprehensive greater prairie-chicken monitoring program since 1966.

“The greater prairie chicken (Tympanuchus cupido pinnatus) is estimated to have numbered in the millions in Illinois when pioneers moved west. The birds were "shot by the wagonload for food," said Ronald Westemeier, a recently retired scientist with the Illinois Natural History Survey. "I feel like I am going out on a high note. Rather than seeing this population of Illinois birds lost altogether, we are seeing a recovery. I am very glad to see this."

The findings of the paper, Westemeier said, indicate "the need for grassland habitat and for sufficiently large populations," and it raises a bigger question of just what makes a viable population to assure a species’ survival. Co-author Jeffrey D. Brawn agrees: "Viability is really the key word."

"This is how we gauge how self-sustaining a population is. If it is viable, it means it is producing enough young to persist."

"We’re cautiously hopeful that they are making a comeback," said Brown, a scientist with the Illinois Natural History Survey and an affiliate of the UI department of ecology, ethology and evolution. "The message of this paper is that fragmentation and habitat loss can really lead to a number of problems in conserving species. In this case, these factors led to genetic problems."

What was interesting is that the people who manage the population did their best, going to extraordinary measures to preserve this population over the years, yet it kept going down and down, owing to the fact that it was just a small relic population that had low genetic diversity.

"What we did by bringing in the other birds for genetic management is a classic case that importation of birds from healthy populations would help."
Trustees vote in tuition increases, consider new football facility

By Becky Mabry

When students return home for their holiday break, they’ll carry the news that the price of the University of Illinois education will cost more next year.

And though some may wince at the thought of paying more, the hikes have not caused a groundswell of complaints. In fact, one of the students who spoke on the UI Board of Trustees said that he’d heard only two complaints about the increases.

Sam Gallo, the only student trustee who may vote, called the increase fair and justified.

Another student trustee, Michael Clark, of UIUC, said that the students expect excellence at the UI and that they must bear part of the financial responsibility for that.

University administrators said one reason for the price is to raise tuition to be able to offer competitive salaries to the premier teachers and researchers at Urbana-Champaign. Faculty salaries have not kept up with those offered at other major universities and some department heads and deans said some of their best faculty members were being lured away.

If the UI at Urbana-Champaign is to remain one of the premier universities in the nation, it is imperative that we continue to work toward closing the salary gap between us and our peers – the 12 private and nine public institutions as defined by the Illinois Board of Higher Education,” said Chancellor Michael Aiken.

“We have one of the best and brightest faculties in the nation and our students, as that is not one of the main reasons they chose Illinois,” he said. “We simply cannot afford to lose the intellectual advantage that our faculty provide our students and our constituents throughout the state and nation.”

Tuition at the Urbana campus will go up 4 percent, increasing from $3,408 to $3,546 a year for undergraduates. Graduate students will pay $156 more for a total of $3,604 a year for undergraduates. Graduate students will pay $156 more for a total of $3,604 a year.

“Tuition increases will allow the university to maintain its status as one of the leading institutions in the nation while increasing its investment in programs, faculty, and students,” said Provost Mildred Vine.

The board of trustees also raised tuition and room and board charges at all three campuses as well.

The new “sticker price” for a UIUC undergraduate education, including the new tuition, fees and room-and-board increases, will be $9,696, at UIUC it will be $5,174; and at UIC it will be $7,014.

The trustees, who met Nov. 18 and 19 on the Springfield campus, voted unanimously for the rates.

The tuition increases also will help offset the costs of upgrading and expanding educational technology, increasing class sizes, increasing living-learning classrooms, like that offered at Allen Hall, to other residence halls.

The increases are effective immediately. Students will be charged $1 per semester student fee to go toward running the Illinois Student Government. In October, the student government will vote on the first and final day of each month by the News Bureau of the campus and should be sent to the editor at least 10 days before publication. Entries for the calendar are due 10 days before publication. All items may be sent to Inside Illinois electronic mail address: inside@uiuc.edu. The campus mail address is Inside Illinois, 807 S. Wright St., Urbana, IL 61801. The parking structures at the Quad should be able to offer competitive salaries to the premier teachers and researchers at Urbana-Champaign. Faculty salaries have not kept up with those offered at other major universities.

The private money to pay for the facility was raised from several sources, but the major donor is the Irwin Foundation, which gave $7.5 million. Architects estimate the facility will be completed by late fall 2002.

Architect Steve Rebora said studies show that instead of generating more traffic through an area, parking garages get vehicles off the streets. The garage would replace a 250-space lot on the existing site.

Todd said several sites were studied, but the largest demand for parking is in that area. He will return with a final plan in January, and he agreed to bring information about other possible sites for the garage to the board of trustees.

Grad students seek benefits

Graduate students want vision insurance added to their benefits, according to Charles Allen, president of the Graduate Employee Organization.

Allen told trustees during the public comment period that graduate students routinely have eye strain because of all the computer and paperwork they do. He said the vision plan would cost $36 a year per student, or the equivalent of three large pizzas, and he said that the more than 9,000 grad students should not be excluded from receiving that benefit.

(See Trustees, page 16)
Ann Scouffas has worked at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for six years and is in her fourth year as audience education coordinator. Scouffas’ primary job is organizing arts programs for area children.

What kind of programs do you put together for children?
A major part of my job is spent with the Krannert Center Youth Series. These are programs held during the day for schoolchildren in parochial, public and private schools. We have six to eight programs a year and try to have theater, dance and music. We host programs for kids in pre-K to high school.

How many students see the Youth Series programs?
We have between 18,000 and 20,000 students a year.

How do you prepare them for the program they’ll be seeing?
We hope that the teachers work with the students prior to the performance. We send each student an activity guide, called Stage Page, that touches on aspects of the performance. And teachers receive a teachers’ guide that has further activities that revolve around the performance.

Where do those materials come from?
We develop the materials with help from teachers in the area. It allows them to have some ownership in the program and they know what attracts kids. We also try to bring in things that relate to social issues, such as the plays “The Color of Justice” and “Buffalo Soldiers.”

Is the Youth Series a popular program?
We receive around 400 orders each season. Some of these orders are for whole schools and some are for individual classes. We are able to place most of the orders (though not necessarily in their first choice). Some performances are very popular and we have a huge waiting list. For a recent performance by Kevin Locke and Reuben Fast Horse, Lakota Sioux from the Standing Rock Reservation in South Dakota, we had 6,300 students come through and we still had a waiting list. Locke and Fast Horse performed many of their culture’s dances, songs and stories.

Are the students all Champaign and Urbana?
No, 75 to 100 schools in a 80-mile radius participate. About 55 percent of the schools participating are from outside Champaign-Urbana. The cost is $4.50 per ticket for the children, but we are working with local businesses such as Kraft to help subsidize the ticket costs for children who just can’t afford these prices.

Do the students come in with preconceived notions about the program or are they pretty open-minded and excited?
Well, the middle-schoolers have attitude, but the elementary kids are different. They’re excited. Many of them remember what they saw last year. It really does depend on the class. They’re all usually hyped up. Any outing from school is fun. Our audience is a youth audience and they are really exceptional. A majority are respectful of the artist and the other audience members.

What other kinds of programming do you handle?
When we book-performers for the Krannert Center Marquis Season, we pay additional for residency work. We take artists into the schools and the community, working with the Champaign Park District and sometimes the Urbana Park District to provide programming. We try to give classes and teachers as many opportunities as possible with the residency program.

Were you involved in the arts before coming to the Krannert Center?
I have a degree in history with a teaching certificate, but I ended up in marketing at Christie Clinic. I had the opportunity to come here and work in the marketing department as a community liaison. Then this position opened up and I took it. It seems my job has always involved children. Because the Krannert Center does become your ‘life’ when you work here, I’m here a lot. I enjoy coming to a variety of performances here and I love that I had a real liking for modern dance – a surprise to me. I try to be well-rounded. I enjoy going to women’s basketball games and I play tennis and softball. I also run off to the mountains every year and go camping with my brothers in California.

– Nancy Koeneman

A piece of the pie:
Faculty/Staff members invest in UI

The reasons are as varied as the donors, but the numbers show that more than 30 percent of UI faculty and staff members have contributed millions of dollars to the UI.

“We have a broad base of support,” said Pat Justice, assistant chancellor for development and associate deputy director of the UI Foundation. “We’re able to show that the people who work here believe in the place and are investing in it.”

In fact, faculty and staff giving is helping to fill in the gaps between revenue and the actual cost of programs and positions, she said.

Faculty and staff members donate for professorships, scholarships, building campaigns such as theACESlibrary, concerts, WILL programs, the Sinfonia da Camera, areas within their departments, and research. “Rarely do employees give back to their employers,” Justice said. “But here, they have a stake in the reputation of the institution. They believe in the pure ideals of creating knowledge, transmitting knowledge, teaching and valuable service.”

This month we begin a periodic series that faculty and staff members who give to the UI and why.

Lois Pausch, geology librarian
Graduated from the UI in 1952. Met and married her late husband, Robert Pausch, on campus. They returned to the UI in 1964 when he started working at the Natural History Survey. She returned to school in 1968 and began working at the UI in 1972. Although she plans to retire in another year and a half, she expects to continue at the UI as extra help.

Lois Pausch values the services offered by WILL radio and television and the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, so she has chosen to support them.

“I never thought of it as donating to the UI,” Pausch said. “I’m giving to support the arts.”

As with most people, her decision is a personal one. “I’ve given to WILL for many years,” Pausch said. “I simply can’t wake up in the morning without [WILL-FM]. I have the timing of the morning programs down so well that if they changed them, I’d probably be late for work.”

She speaks of the stations as a good companion and says she even prefers to stay at home some nights so as not to miss some of her favorite shows. “I don’t like to go out Thursday or Sunday nights because I don’t like to miss ‘Mystery!’ or ‘Masterpiece Theater.’” She said. “And I just love those off-the-wall [British] comedies and ‘Classics by Request.’ You can’t get those anywhere else.”

Her decision to support Krannert Center is more clearly aimed at sharing that service with others. “I give to Krannert to keep named artists coming here and to keep the prices low enough so that we can get some of the young people to attend,” Pausch said. “It worries me when I look out at the symphony audience and see all that gray hair. I would like to keep the younger generations coming in the hopes that more of our younger faculty would come.”

“For a town of this size, it’s quite extraordinary to have a concert hall that is nationally recognized like the Great Hall. If the Krannerts can give all that money to build the place we can support it,” she said.

Jim Sinclair, professor of plant pathology
Came to the UI in 1968 and began contributing to UI programs in the 1970s.

Jim Sinclair considers his financial and in-kind contributions to the UI for nearly 30 years a big “Thank You.”

“This is one way for me to thank the university and the people of the state for allowing me to have a productive career,” Sinclair said.

His thanks are spread out across the university, however, as he gives money and time to Krannert Art Museum, where he also serves as a docent; the agriculture and in-kind contributions to the UI for nearly 30 years a big “Thank You.”

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Renovations create spacious offices for student services

By Mark Reutter

Looking around the semicircular lobby, Elliott Ross, dean of student affairs, said that he expected the space to be "an unusual space with a comfortable feel to it." The UI sophomore in architecture from Champaign was commenting on the airy new financial aid office that greeted him and other undergraduates this fall.

Gone is the cramped fourth-floor waiting room at the Turner Student Services Building on John Street. Now students can enter a ground-floor lobby around the corner with a band of windows and considerably more space.

"Hey, if you're going to have to wait, this is a whole lot better place to do it," joked junior Michael Rosik of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., who was part of the first-semester rush of financial aid recipients.

Added senior Gleezel Lee of Northlake, Ill.: "At least there's room to breathe."

The facilities are part of the new Student Services Arcade Building, which opened in August. The $4 million effort offers "one-stop shopping" for undergraduates seeking career information, veteran services, employment opportunities as well as financial aid at a convenient campus location.

So convenient that three landmarks are within eyeshot. "You can see Altgeld Hall, the Alma Mater and the Illini Union from our front windows," said Orrin Austin, director of financial aid. "We're delighted to be here and we think it will mean much better customer services for students.

Planning for renovations to the historic Arcade Building began after the Illini Union Bookstore moved out of the property in 1994, said Patricia Askew, vice chancellor for student affairs.

"We're delighted to be here and we think it will mean much better customer services for students.

The idea came from student leaders in discussions I had with them about student needs and facilities renovation," she said.

Originally, the property was slated as the home for the Office of Admissions and Records, but administrators felt the space was too small and lacked enough parking for prospective students and their parents.

They decided to move financial aid and career services to the building from the overcrowded Turner Building. Students agreed to pay a $5 fee increase for the renovation, which fit in with the university's commitment to improve the business district around Wright and Green streets.

"The renovation supported Chancellor Aiken's vision for CampusPoint 2000," Askew said.

Ross, Barney & Jankowski, the architectural firm, took pains to restore the original character of the Arcade Building, which was opened in 1912 by William Bradley, son of a pioneering Champaign County family as a "sort of early mini-mall," Austin said. The arcade contained ice-cream, candy and phone shops, plus a second-floor ballroom.

The university purchased the property in 1938 and installed a bowling alley and billiard room. A big band played in the upstairs ballroom, and scores of alumni lunches, dinners and other UI functions were held there over the years. Eventually the second floor was converted to offices for graduate teaching assistants.

Now the first floor again resembles an old-fashioned arcade with frosted-glass windows and blond wood lining the hallway. One big improvement is the checker-board cork flooring from Portugal, which deadens noise. That's important when student traffic is already double the volume at the old Turner facility.

Restoration of the second floor exposed eight Palladian windows that lined the original dance floor. The open-air balcony was restored and the decorative exterior trim was saved.

The modern financial aid wing boasts four customer-service carrels, which handled 2,701 walk-ins during its first week of operation, said Victor Martinez, assistant director of financial aid. Once the fall rush was over, the lobby was fitted with seven computer terminals to aid students in scholarship searches.

The facilities are part of long-range efforts to computerize financial aid so that most transactions can be handled without students having to come to the office. Some 49 percent of undergraduates receive financial aid.

But the university hopes to keep students coming to the Arcade and is seeking donors to create a courtyard behind the Turner Building.

Turner, meanwhile, is being rehabilitated with new windows and heating and cooling systems. Once that is completed, the Office of International Student Affairs will move into the fourth floor from a house on Daniel Street. ▼

RiverWeb

(Continued from page 3)

As one of the world's major natural systems, the Mississippi River is a rich subject for multi-disciplinary exploration. The beauty and complexity of ecological principles and the laws of physics can be discovered in its flow. The transforming power of technology and engineering can be seen in human-made structures that regulate and control it's movement.

It is now part of a vast commercial network of global proportions. Reflecting its vast and varied watershed, it is home to a wealth of biological diversity, despite a highly industrialized society that has greatly altered it along with its basin.

"The Mississippi River is such a huge story that it's beyond the scope and means of any one institution to interpret," said Patrick Hamilton, director of the Science Museum of Minnesota's Mississippi River Gallery.

"Telling its story requires telling many stories; the river must be interpreted in pieces before it can be understood as an interconnected whole.

Once the initial simulations and displays are developed, Web-accessible components will be integrated into a new Mississippi RiverWeb Museum Consortium Web site.

The site will connect the exhibits at all three museums so they can be accessed as a unified learning resource from schools, libraries and other educational settings.

The Mississippi RiverWeb Consortium will begin design work late this fall. For more information, visit the RiverWeb Web site: http://riverweb.ncsa.uiuc.edu.

The National Center for Supercomputing Applications is the leading-edge site for the National Computational Science Alliance. NCSA is a leader in the development and deployment of cutting-edge high-performance computing, networking, and information technologies. The National Science Foundation, the state of Illinois, the UI, industrial partners, and other federal agencies fund NCSA. The National Computational Science Alliance is a partnership to prototype an advanced computational infrastructure for the 21st century and includes more than 50 academic, government and industry research partners from across the United States. The alliance receives core funding from the National Science Foundation and cost-sharing at partner institutions. ▼

New entrance to the Office of Student Financial Aid, which moved from the Turner Student Services Building to the renovated Arcade Building.

Photo by Bill Wiegand
Common type of aircraft wing susceptible to hazardous icing

By James E. Kloeppel

Researchers at the UI have identified an aircraft wing that may be hazardous to your health. The wing — similar to the kind used on some commuter aircraft — is highly susceptible to certain icing conditions thought to be linked to some fatal accidents.

"Because of its design, this particular airfoil is very sensitive to large-droplet ice accretions," said Michael Bragg, professor of aeronautical and astronautical engineering at the UI. "These accretions can form when the aircraft flies through heavy rain and drizzle.

Using simulated ice accretions, Bragg and his students have examined the sensitivity of the shape, size and location on airfoil performance. Their goal is to better understand how ice accretions affect the aerodynamics and control of small commuter aircraft.

"The current 'hub and spoke' system used by large jetliners uses heat from the engines to prevent ice from forming on the wing leading edges," Bragg said. "And because commuter aircraft need to fly many more commuter flights, the manufacturers have created the need for more robust engines."

While large jetliners can use hot air from the engines to prevent ice from forming on the wing leading edges, where icing conditions are most likely to occur — we are seeing an increased number of icing accidents," Bragg explained.

"We have made significant progress in understanding the types of wing designs that are more sensitive to certain kinds of icing," Bragg said. "This information will be used by the FAA to improve the certification process, and by aircraft designers to design safer aircraft."

Prairie Chicken

(Continued from page 1)

The other 35 years of data represent one of the most detailed sets of data ever collected from an isolated and declining wildlife population. The research began in 1963 and involved studying the adaptations of different populations elsewhere. It had brought in prairie chickens from Texas, which had adapted to the hot climate there, we may not have had the same success.

The success — in which more than 500 birds were brought in beginning in 1992 from large populations in Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska — could serve as a model to save dwindling populations of wild species from extinction, the researchers say.

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Here are some of our readers' holiday memories and traditions.

If you'd like to share a holiday memory with us, it's not too late. All submissions should be in our hands by Dec. 9. Please include your name, campus address, phone number and e-mail address. In case we need to contact you, try to limit your submission to 300 words. Your story can include as many as possible. Send your stories to Doris Dahl, Inside Illinois, 807 S. Wright St., Suite 550 East, MC-314 or e-mail d-dahl2@uiuc.edu or fax 244-0161.

Some of your stories might appear in future editions of Inside Illinois. For other issues, we are producing a holiday issue that will be mailed to all University of Illinois faculty and staff.

The winter of 1989-90 was my first winter in Illinois having moved from Richmond, Va., the summer before. We were desperately poor, living on my meager salary while my husband, Iordan, repaired our indoor quarters (a run-down mobile home, complete with mice and other critters) and watched our then 4-year-old son, Franklin, while I worked.

"My sisters, my parents and I were very close. And although I had lived away from my parents for many years, I always managed to make it home to Richmond for the holidays. This would be my first Christmas away from home."

"In the middle of an already cold and snowy December, it snowed more and the temperature plummeted to -25°F and stayed there. I had never been so cold and our shock of a trailer in the middle of the woods only had an antiquated furnace and wood stove to keep us warm."

"Twelve days before Christmas, the intake water pipes froze. We drank bottled water and had to melt ice and snow to wash with – and to flush the toilet. Two days later the septic system froze so the toilet no longer worked and we had to use an outdoor privy. Fortunately, we were able to shower at my work and the Laundromat in town was open so we were able to maintain a certain amount of dignity. But we were certainly in a pickle on the domestic front and I was away from my loving family for Christmas."

"On Christmas Eve, we went to bed early. It was very cold and we didn't have enough Christmas spirit anyway. We had a few toys for our son, but not many other presents. There was simply no money for extras."

"Long about 3 a.m. I started to hear sounds. First it was little rustling sounds as, if someone were rolling marbles across the roof of the trailer. I stirred a bit, thinking it was squirrels putting marbles across the roof. Then I heard music. It was my wind chime, but in the fog of deep sleep it sounded like music."

"Finally, I heard a very high-pitched sound from the kitchen. By then I was awake enough to recognize it as the sound of rushing water. Somehow the intake pipes had thawed in the middle of the night!"

"Quickly I rose, filled the tea kettle and turned the water off. This was bizarre. Had this occurred in the middle of a sunny afternoon, I would have thought nothing of it. But this was in the early morning hours – the coldest part of the day. The outside temperature was still below zero but somehow, the water in my house was thawing – and no pipes had burst."

"By Christmas morning, all the intake spigots were running; and by that afternoon, the septic tank had thawed and we were able to shower and clean and cook."

"That was one of the best Christmas gifts I could have ever received – running water!"

Barbara Kaye, visiting hypermedia communicator, administrative Information Systems and Services

Sharon C. Hanson, staff secretary, office of Student Financial Aid

"I have two vivid memories. As a child, no matter what else might be under the tree, the thing I knew would always be there was a giant apple and a giant orange. Both of these seemed to be as big as my head back then. The other thing was a small bowl of hard candy. One thing, though, as a child, I never occurred to me to ask Mom or Dad how Santa knew where our popcorn bowls were. They must have put them out for him – yeah, that's it. How does Santa know stuff like that?"

"As an adult, my money centers on my parents. They were married on Christmas Eve in 1931 and every year the family gathers to celebrate their marriage. It was a major food experimentation fest. This is when I learned to eat oysters, pickled herring, pickled pig's feet, bacon rinds, my mother's drunken frufrakne and many other odd foods. This also was the time when, after we reached a certain age, we learned to handle alcohol; it was one time a year it was allowed. Although both of my parents passed away this year after 66 years together, the family will gather this Christmas Eve and celebrate life, each other and then with our memories."

Federal grant to fund partnership

UI Library, schools, historical societies to build historical database

The UI Library has received a grant of nearly $158,000 from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services to build and test a model database of Illinois historical material.

The library was one of 41 recipients selected from more than 240 applications for the institute’s first National Leadership Grant awards.

The two-year project aims to create an electronic database of historical information from museums, libraries and archives to meet the curriculum needs of elementary school teachers in eastern central Illinois.

The project will be headquartered at the library’s Digital Imaging Initiative. Partners will include the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, a regional Illinois library system, historical societies, a historical museum and three elementary schools from a two-county area.

"Users who want to find out about, for example, how the Illinois farmers' strike of 1978 affected Champain need to go to several county libraries and the county historical archives to find the most complete information," said Beth Sandore, head of the Library’s Digital Imaging Initiative and the principal investigator for the grant. "Finding that information in each place may require very different search strategies, depending on how the information is stored. This is where collaboration and digitization have the potential to greatly facilitate information identification and retrieval."

According to Sandore, elementary school teachers are the most underserved users of digitized information. By working with three outstanding local teachers, "we will be able to demonstrate the wide potential for collaboration among K-12 teachers, and museums and libraries," Sandore said.

The project will build on the work done by Sandore and her group in the Global Cultural Memory Project, a prototype repository of historical content from several libraries and museums in Champaign County.

In addition to the University Library, the partnering institutions include the Illinois Historical Association, Champaign; Lincoln Trail Libraries System, Champaign; the library and museum of the McLean County Historical Society, Bloomington; the Early American Museum, Mahomet; Thomas Paine Elementary School, Urbana; (Kay V. Grabow, fourth grade teacher); Lincoln Trail Elementary School, Mahomet (Linda Meacham, fifth grade teacher); and Oak-land Elementary School, Bloomington (Janenne Scott, third grade teacher).

"Right now teachers don't have any idea what museums have that they could use for teaching – they don't even have a list," says Grabow. "But with this project, we’d not only know what’s available, we would be able to pull up an image to show our students. I could show them what a grain cradle is or a stovekeeper’s diary. It will be really helpful."

The Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, established by Congress in 1996, is an independent federal grant-making agency that fosters leadership, innovation, and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries.

Children’s party

Children's party (Continued from page 1) storyteller."

There are no records to trace the history of the event, but it is estimated the Illini Union has hosted the children's holiday party for at least 50 years.

And attendance is good. Last year 332 children were accompanied by 320 adults. In spite of the high attendance, it never seems too crowded, Leisner said.

The activities are set up in different areas so that children are spread out through out several rooms.

For many faculty and staff members and their children, the party has become an annual holiday tradition they don’t want to miss. And this year will bring new meaning to Leisner and her daughter as Cassie becomes one of Santa’s elves and helps hand out gifts.

Tickets for the children’s holiday party are $2 for adults and $1 for children.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Assembly Hall or at the Illini Union’s ticket center. If tickets are still available, they also may be purchased at the door. The party is open to the families of students, faculty, staff and retirees of the UI. You will need to present your university ID when purchasing tickets.

Children’s party
Philip L. Barkley, director of the UI’s McKinley Health Center, was named a fellow of the American College Health Association. Barkley has been teaching and advising students in the field of college health in a number of ways. Founded in 1920, ACHA is a national nonprofit organization serving and representing the interests of professionals and students in health and higher education.

Tom Bassett, professor of geography, has been appointed to the Scientific Committee of the French Institute for Scientific Research (FISM) (the French Institute for Scientific Research for Development and Cooperation), devotion to education, and contributions in the developing world.

David Cahill, professor of materials science and engineering, has received the American Vacuum Society’s Peter Mark Memorial Award for outstanding theoretical and experimental work by a scientist or engineer. The award consists of a $5,000 cash prize and certificate.

Paul F. Diehl, professor of political science, has been awarded the 1998 Karl W. Deutsch Award in International Relations and Peace Research. The award was established in 1981 by the World Academy of Art and Science and the Peace Science Society International. Diehl received a bachelor’s degree at the age of 40, or within 10 years of the acquisition of his/her doctoral degree – who is judged to have made, through a body of publications, the most significant contribution to the study of international relations and peace research.

James Economy, professor and head of the materials science and engineering department, was recently selected as the 1998 winner of the Herman F. Mark Award of the American Chemical Society Division of Polymer Chemistry Inc. Economy was invited to make a presentation and to receive the award at the biannual meeting of the division Nov. 22-25 in Williamsburg, Va.

David Gin, professor of chemistry, was recently selected as a Beckman Young Investigator Award. This award recognizes Gin’s promise in synthetic organic chemistry and the potential impact his ideas have in developing novel synthetic routes to important molecular systems.

Joe Greene, professor of metallurgical engineering, of mechanical and industrial engineering, and of materials science and engineering, has received the 1998 Aristotle Award from the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC). Greene was honored for career achievement in outstanding graduate student teaching, including innovation in student advising, instilling students with a love and respect for science, teaching students to carry out research at the highest level, contributing to student maturation and professional development, and continuing to impact student careers following graduation. Greene received the award at SRC’s annual meeting in September.

Martin Gruebele, professor of chemistry and in the Biophysics Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, was recognized with the Camille Dreyfus Teacher Scholar Award from the Dreyfus Foundation. Each year, the foundation recognizes younger colleagues in the United States for excellence in teaching and outstanding performance as mentors and instructors.

Steven J. Helle, professor of journalism and advertising, received the Freedom Forum Journalism Teacher of the Year Award. The Freedom Forum, in partnership with journalism educators, has developed initiatives to help strengthen journalism education and recognize outstanding teachers and administrators. This award goes to outstanding faculty members teaching in the core areas of reporting, editing, journalism history, media law or ethics.

Billy Morrow Jackson, professor emeritus of art and design, has a watercolor of his featured in a book titled “NASA and the Exploration of Space.” Jackson’s “Time, Space and Columbia” is included in the book, which includes a foreword by John Romita, editor of Marvel Comics publishing.

Christine Lockman, associate director of development in the College of Commerce and Business Administration, has been appointed to the Scientific Committee of the French Institute for Scientific Research (FISM) (the French Institute for Scientific Research for Development and Cooperation), devotion to education, and contributions in the developing world.

Achievements

JAN

Janak H. Patel, professor of electrical and computer engineering, received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Emanuel R. Piore Award for contributions to test generation and computer architecture. Patel is among the world’s leaders in very large scale integration (VLSI) testing and has had a direct impact on many major chip designs. He co-founded Sunrise Test Systems, a leading VLSI test tools supplier, which moved his work from research to commercial tools. Patel also serves as co-director of the UI’s Center of Reliable and High Performance Computing. The Emanuel R. Piore Award recognizes achievement in the field of informatics processing that contributes to the advancement of science and the betterment of society.

Brian Sala, professor of political science, and graduate student Jeffrey Jenkins have won the 1998 Phi Sigma Alpha Award for the best paper at the Southeastern Political Science Association. Their paper, “The Spatial Theory of Voting and the Presidential Election,” has an interesting analysis of a watershed political event and an example of how skillful application of contemporary political science methodology can unravel mysteries of the past.

Peter Schaffer, professor of violin, performed in “The Millennium Concert of the Nations” at Lincoln Center in New York City in October. The entire 40-member violin section was composed solely of former and current concertmasters of major symphony orchestras. Schaffer was formerly concertmaster of the Denver, San Francisco and New Zealand orchestras, among others. The remaining musicians in the orchestra were principal players from major symphony orchestras in the United States and abroad.

Erwin Small, associate dean for alumni and public affairs and professor emeritus in the College of Veterinary Medicine, was honored for his distinguished contributions to the advancement of veterinary medicine organizations at the 1998 Annual Convention of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The annual award was presented to Small by the AVMA in recognition of his significant contributions to veterinary medicine and a significant contributor to the advancement of AVMA’s mission to improve the health of animals, the welfare of people and the environment. Small is a member of the AVMA’s Board of Directors.

Najia C. Stout, management methods analyst in the Office of University Audits, has received the Certified Information Systems Auditor Certification. Extensive knowledge in areas such as systems audit standards and practices, and information systems security and privacy, systems organization and management; systems analysis and evaluation; reliability and availability; systems development, acquisition and maintenance are required to pass the examination for this certification.

Darzy W. Thompson, internal auditor in the Office of University Audits, has received the Certified Internal Auditor Certification. Extensive knowledge in areas such as internal control, management control, information technology, financial accounting, tax and finance are required to pass the examination for this certification.

Renice Vernette, assistant publications editor and information designer for Administrative Information Systems and Services, received a Gold and Silver Award for Web page design from the University and College Designers Association. The pieces appeared in the 1998 UDCA Design Show in New Orleans in September, at the UDCA annual conference. The silver award recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of American politics with an emphasis on focus or the South.

Lois Wood, secretary in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences administration, was recently honored with the first Frontline Award from the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association. The Frontline Award is given to a staff member who goes above the call of duty, devoting years of service and commitment to agriculture advancement.

Michael Charles, director of the UI Police Training Institute, and Louis Welling, an administrative aide at the PFI, were honored for their roles in developing and managing an exchange program between police agencies in the United States and Russia. Charles was appointed an honorary colonel in the Interior Troops of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs and was awarded the Pin of Excellence in Service to the Ministry of the Russian Federation.

Gen. Valeri Morozov, commander of the Vladimir Juridical Institute (VJI), presented the awards in honor of Charles’ exemplary service to the VJI during the past eight years. Welling received the VJI Distinguished Service Medal for her work coordinating a 16-week exchange program for Russian officers.

The department of electrical and computer engineering honored Ravishankar Iyer, professor of electrical and computer engineering, as the George and Ann Fisher Distinguished Professor, and Peter W. Sauer, professor of electrical and computer engineering, as holder of the Grainger Chair in Electrical Engineering. Both Iyer and Sauer are the first to receive these awards. They were honored at a ceremony in October.

Members of the Urbana-Champaign Senate with perfect attendance for the 1997-98 academic year are: Donald J. Uchtmann, professor of agricultural and consumer economics; James L. Robinson and Michael Grossman, professors of animal sciences; H. George Friedman and Geneva Belford, professors of computer science; Robert Ford, professor of economics; Richard Schacht and Jeffrey Sheather, professors of library and information science; and Gail Scherba, professor of veterinary pathology.

Dining Services was among the winners in the 25th annual Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards Contest sponsored by the National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS). Dining Services won third place in the “specialty restaurant or soup” category in the large-school division.

Open to all institutional members of NACUFS, the contest is a highly competitive and prestigious peer recognition program and was created to promote creativity and sound nutrition in the areas of food presentation, menu variety and merchandising.

The Operation and Maintenance Division received a Heritage Award from the Preservation and Conservation Association for restoring a fountain outside Kenney Gym. The UI 1909 Senior Memorial was originally designed by the architecture students from that class, but had become significantly weathered over the years. ©
of the department of electrical and computer engineering, the Indian Cultural Society, and the Program in Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security.

Renowned singer will be WILL-TV guest

Acclaimed mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves will appear live as a studio guest on WILL-Channel 12 at 7 p.m. Dec. 3. Graves will be hosting breaks during her televised Christmas special, “Denyce Graves – A Cathedral Christmas.”

Graves presents a recital at 8 p.m. Dec. 4 in the Foellinger Great Hall at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. In 1995, Graves opened in the title role in “Carmen” at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and opera critics now say she is one of the greatest performers ever to sing the role of Carmen. In her television special, Graves performs amid the majesty of Washington’s National Cathedral. The program includes traditional carols and hymns, international holiday songs and contemporary carols and songs.

Second Sunday features vocal quartet

The vocal quartet, Camerata IV, will perform a program of traditional and new Christmas carols and songs during WILL-FM’s Second Sunday Concert at 2 p.m. Dec. 13. The free concert, to be held at the Krannert Art Museum and Kinkead Pavilion, also will be broadcast live on WILL-FM (90.9/101.1 in Champaign-Urbana) with host Brian Mustain.

Members of Camerata IV are Sandra Chabot, who sings alto and directs the group; Loran Treyna-Baker, sopranos; Jay Rogers, tenor; and Michael Smider, bass. The group will be accompanied by pianist Kerry Heimann and flutist Barbara Duncan.

On the program are English, Spanish and German traditional carols in contemporary arrangements, along with “A Little Christmas Music” (King’s Singers Edition) which is a spoof on Mozart, with flute and piano.

Library, Parking, Garages

Libraries

Holidays: all campus libraries will be closed Dec. 24-26 and Jan. 1-3.

Parking

University parking meters or rental lots will not be enforced from 7 a.m. Dec. 24 through 6:59 a.m. Jan. 4. During these times, meters and rental lots will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Garages and Car Pools

Garages and car pools will be open Dec. 24 and 25.

Building opening and heating

Buildings will be heated and ventilated according to the usual vacation and holiday schedule.

Campus and U.S. mail delivery

Campus and U.S. mail delivery hours vary for campus indoor recreational facilities. Contact the Division of Campus Recreation or the specific facility for information about holiday hours.

PAC welcomes new provost

The Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) invites UI academic professionals to a reception in honor of the new provost, Richard H. Herman. The reception will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Dec. 16 in the Colonial Room at the Illini Union.

O & M offers holiday cleanup

The Division of Operations and Maintenance’s Building Operation Section will again provide cleanup following departmental holiday parties at no cost to the department. Departments are asked to allow for sufficient notice of one to two weeks when requesting this service and also should complete an initial cleanup of major items prior to building operation staff arrival. Requests can be sent to Randy Kornegay on the second floor of the Garage and Car Pool Building, MC-821 or faxed to 333-3711.

For more information, visit the Online Student Life Office website. To request assistance, call 333-1212 or e-mail sodo@uiuc.edu.

Free holiday concerts

Concerts will be offered free in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts through Dec. 28 and 29.

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

The annual tree-lighting ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. Dec. 7 in the lobby of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. It will be followed by a reception and a community sing-along.

Information Technology in India: Bangalore

A reception will begin at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 16 in the Foellinger Great Hall. At 4 p.m. Dec. 7 at 404 Illini Union, N. R. Narayana Murthy, CEO of Infosys Technologies (IT) of Bangalore, India, will be the featured lecturer.

Beyond the Millennium

“Beyond the Millennium” will be presented by the Krannert Center Student Association to support the annual fundraising drive for the Center. Admission is free, and tickets are not required. UI student ensembles will provide musical background for a visit from Santa Claus and for a community sing-along.

Seasonal music and a Christmas special

The Carol Concerts feature the Gustav Holst work “Christmas Day,” which is a spoof on Mozart, with flute and piano.

The Carol Concerts include the Black Chorus, Ollie Watts Davis, director; Concert Choir, Chester L. Alweis, director; Illini Women, Diana Nordlund, director; University Chorus, Allison Entrekine, director; Varsity Men’s Glee Club, Barrington Coleman, director; and Women’s Glee Club, Joe Grant, director. These ensembles also will be joined by instrumental students from the School of Music.

Tickets may be purchased at the Krannert Center ticket office or by e-mail at kran-tix@uiuc.edu or through the KrCPA Web site: www.krcpa.uiuc.edu/kcpa.

The tree-lighting ceremony is free and open to the public; tickets are not required. UI student ensembles will provide musical background for a visit from Santa Claus and for a community sing-along.

Software evolution to be lecture topic

The Program in South Asia and Middle Eastern Studies is hosting a lecture titled “Information Technology in India: Beyond the Millennium” at 4 p.m. Dec. 7 at 404 Illini Union. N. R. Narayana Murthy, CEO of Infosys Technologies (IT) of Bangalore, India, will be the featured lecturer. A reception will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Murthy will discuss the evolution of the software industry in India. In particular, he will look at the challenges for the IT industry in India beyond the year 2000. The event is co-sponsored by the Computer Systems Area Development and the Illini Union.”
New MTD route to Bielfeld
The Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District is now offering regular bus service that stops in front of the University of Illinois' South Campus Building on Fourth Street. The #24 "Scamp" route will stop in front of Bielfeld every 15 to 20 minutes on weekdays and will run as far north as Sixth and Aronzo. For more information, contact the MTD at 384-8188 or visit its Web site at www.cumtd.com.

Holiday high tea is Dec. 6
A holiday high tea will be from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Dec. 6 in the Illini Union’s Pine Lounge. Hosted by the Illini Union Faculty Staff Social Committee, this year's tea offers a wide variety of cookies and teas. Tickets are $5 per person and are available at the Assembly Hall box office or at Ticket Central in the Illini Union. Sales are limited to the first 100 guests.

Award concert honors composer
The Maritono Composition Award Concert will be at 8 p.m. Dec. 10 in the Colwell Playhouse Theater at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

The award is an international competition in memory of Salvatore Martirano, who was a UI professor of composition from 1963 to 1995. The 1997 University of Illinois School of Music established the award in memory of Martirano who was an internationally acclaimed composer.

This year’s concert features the 1997 award-winning composition "Martyr's Tears" by Krzysztof Penderecki and Akiro Nishimura.

In addition to a concert featuring the winning composition, the award includes a $500 prize. Browning said the music school launched the annual award to encourage new generations of professional composers and to keep alive the memory of Martirano, who died in 1995.

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Deregulation ultimately will save consumers money

By Mark Reutter

The only sure thing about the future of electricity in Illinois is progressive change.

In the wake of the Electric Service Consumer Choice and Rate Relief Act signed by Gov. Jim Edgar last year, energy firms will come under the same fierce competitive forces that have altered telecommunications and airlines and other once rigidly controlled industries. One difference is that deregulation of electricity will affect everyone.

“A measure of the complexity of the task, the Illinois law is 261 pages long,” said George Gross, professor of electrical and computer engineering at the UI. “Reliability of the system must be foremost in the minds of utility executives and regulators as the business changes dramatically.”

The Illinois law, one of a handful in the country, will let consumers pick their own power supplier no later than May 1, 2002. Industrial users will have free access by Dec. 31, 2000.

While Gross believes that deregulation will ultimately save consumers money, there will be short-term costs. Although utilities were required to lower their rates 15 percent last August, the law also permits them to include various fees for specific expenses, including ones for nuclear power plants and other high-cost facilities.

“How to handle nuclear plants will be a key issue because these plants are not competitive in the new environment,” Gross said. For example, Commonwealth Edison has closed its twin Zion nuclear plant and re-engineered the facility to help maintain voltages within the system. With a positive development, the cost of the Zion shutdown must be absorbed by ComEd customers.

Gross, who also is on the faculty of the UI Institute of Government and Public Affairs, predicts four likely scenarios of deregulation:

• The vertical structure of the utility industry will shatter under the pressure of competition.
• Technological innovation will accelerate as companies find cheaper ways to generate electricity, including use of renewable energy and ultra-clean coal plants.
• Illinois will eventually become competitive with low energy-cost states like Indiana and Wisconsin, especially in serving industrial users “who look at three things — price, price, price.”
• Pre-packaged deals and other complex marketing schemes will become commonplace, similar to those offered by phone carriers. “The need for programs to educate the public about power choices will be critical to the success of the law.”

The UI professor added: “I think we’re all going to be surprised when we realize that, come 2002, we can walk away from the utility company we love to hate. But then again the company might not look like it does today.”

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Memorial contributions may be made to the UI Foundation, Harker Hall, MC-386.

Mary S. Lowrey
Mary S. Lowrey, a former UI secretary, died Nov. 20 at her Urbana home. She was 70.

Lowrey attended San Marcos State University, San Marcos, Texas. She was a secretary in the department of advertising in the UI’s College of Communications for many years.

Surviving are two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the George A. Lowrey Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of her husband.

Walter J. Moore
Walter J. Moore, professor emeritus of education, died Nov. 20 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. He was 87.

Moore was a professor of education at the UI from 1951 until he retired in 1976. He was a member of Delta Sigma Rho, National Honorary Debate Fraternity, National Council of Teachers of English, National Council of Research in English and charter member of the Carle Circle of Friends.

Moore received a bachelor’s degree from Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y., and received a master’s and doctorate from Syracuse University.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys; a son; a daughter; two stepdaughters; two brothers; a sister; and one granddaughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Urbana Assembly of God Church.

Spahr joined the UI department of dairy science in 1964 after earning a bachelor’s degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and master’s and doctoral degrees from Pennsylvania State University. He helped turn the UI’s dairy into a state-of-the-art electronic operation.

Spahr’s research accomplishments included contributions to electronic animal identification, dairy automation, artificial intelligence, electronic mastitis detection, electronic estrus detection and animal waste management.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys; a son; a daughter; two stepdaughters; two brothers; a sister; and one granddaughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Urbana Assembly of God Church.

Other board business

After an executive session, the board agreed to settle a $6 million lawsuit that claimed negligence at the UI Hospital had resulted in permanent brain damage to a child; also agreed to settle a $200,000 suit claiming that a UI Hospital doctor failed to diagnose and properly treat a patient’s carcinoma.

• The Urbana campus’s Gaseous Electronics Building will be renamed the Optical Physics and Engineering Building.
• At Urbana, the undergraduate major in liberal arts and sciences interdepartmental studies will be established as well as the Bachelor of Science in aviation human factors.
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calendar of events

3 Thursday
“Audigieren und Probleme des Gesichts:Institut am Ende der neunziger Jahre,” Mary Beth Hoffman, Indiana University, 10:15-11:30 a.m. 141 Loomis Lab. Physics Honors Program.

7 Monday

9 Wednesday
“Limit Morality Play: The Emotional Education of a 3-Year-Old,” Jean L. Briggs, Memorial University of Newfoundland. 4 p.m. Third Floor, Department of Education Center. Student Study Center, Miller/Conlin and Speech Communication.

3 Thursday
“Unraveling the Self in Connection With Subject Matter and Memory,” Klaus Wurtz, UI. 4:24 Education Building. Education.


3 Friday
“Syllabization in Russian Culture of the 1990s,” Helena Goncado, University of Pittsburgh. 3 p.m. 101 International Studies Building. Russian and East European Center.


4 Friday


“Science Under Uncertainty: Case-Studies of Environmental Claim-Making,” John Eyles, McMaster University. Canada 2 p.m. 112 Chemical Engineering/Geography.


“Nietzschean Normativity,” Richard Schacht, UI. 3 p.m. 319 Gregory Hall. Philosophy.

7 Monday

“Dennis Rodman and RalphSuhrheinrich: Masculinity or Racing Stenerwitz?” Zino Marinacci, Cheryl Cote and David Hurst, UI. 4 p.m. Levis Faculty Center. Criticism and Interpretive Theory.

9 Wednesday

10 Thursday
“New Frameworks for Teaching and Learning,” Nick Buribles, Scott Johnson, Chip Biondi and Jim Levin. UI. 3:30 p.m. 22 Education Building. Education.

“The Ifaica Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics,” David Memrim, Cornell University. 4 p.m. 411 Loomis Lab. Physics.

11 Friday

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“DNA Processing and Gene Control,” James L. Manley, Columbia. 3 p.m. 802 Chemical and Biological Sciences Laboratory. Biochemistry.

“Collective Guild and Collective Remorse,” Margaret Gilber, University of Connecticut. 3 p.m. 319 Gregory Hall. Philosophy.

14 Thursday
“String Quartet” by Karim Al-Zand, a doctoral candidate at UIUC. 8 p.m. Havener Recital Hall, Krannert Center. Admission charge.

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more calendar of events

(Continued from page 11)

Krahn Center. With Sue Richards, Haskell and Abby Newton, cellists. A musical look at the winter solstice. Christmas and the new year, delving into centuries-old traditions and celebrating those that are new. Admission charge.

Aerosmith. With opening act Seven Mary Three. 8 p.m. Assembly Hall. “Nine Lives” World Tour. This veteran band has remained on the charts three decades and currently tops the charts with its hit single, “I Don’t Want To Miss A Thing.” Admission charge.

“Rocking Accapella Holiday.” 8 p.m. Illini Union Courtyard Cafe. A night of rockin’ music by CD-ED, Rip Church and No Strings Attached. For more information, call 333-3660. Admission charge. Illini Union Board.

Studio Recital. 8 p.m. Memorial Room, Smith Hall. Harappan studies of Charlotte Mattax and William Heirs.

Master of Music Recital. Ada Fine, mezzo-soprano. 8 p.m. Recital Hall. The show will also include their highest admission charge.

12 Saturday
Meat's Basketball, U.S vs. Eastern Illinois University. 2 p.m. Assembly Hall. Admission charge.

19 Saturday
Women's Basketball, U.S vs. Florida. Time: TBA. Assembly Hall. Big Ten
eCUSA Challenge. Admission charge.

3 Thursday
Theoretical Biophysics Group Open House. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Beckman Institute. Overview of the Theoretical Biophysics group, 3D scientific demonstrations, visualization program for molecular modeling, research posters; tours of computing environment. More information at www.ks.uiuc.edu or send e-mail to miller@uiuc.edu. Theoretical Biophysics.

Coffee Hour: Holiday Coffee Hour. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cosmopolitan Club, 307 E. John St., Champaign. Coffee, tea and homemade ethnic desserts. A bit of early holiday cheer. For more information, call 367-3097. Cosmopolitan Club.

4 Friday
Observatory Open House. 7-10 p.m. U. of I. Observatory, 901 S. Mathews Ave. Uttar, Jupiter, Saturn, the Orion Nebula and the nearly full moon will be visible. In the event of cloudy weather, the open house will be postponed. For more information, call 367-3097. Observatory.

Saturday
Book signing. 2 p.m. Author’s corner, second floor. Illini Union Bookstore.

26 Saturday
The widely acclaimed comedy team Gould & Stearns presents its holiday program, “Simple Girls” at 3 p.m. Dec. 15 in the Colwell Playhouse at the Krahn Center for the Performing Arts. Through story, song and physical comedy, Peter Gould and Stephen Stearns create a lively, heartwarming tale for the holiday season and send a thought-provoking message for the whole family to enjoy and remember. Admission charge.

Illini Jazz Lab Band. Vansyndrome, Alex Wunder. 7 p.m. Music Building auditorium. Admission charge.

15 Tuesday
The Dave Matthews Band. 7:30 p.m. Assembly Hall. Admission charge.

20 Sunday
A “Country Christmas.” 8 p.m. Assembly Hall. In addition to a Christmas theme, the show will also include their highest admission charge.

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