



# The Campus Chronicle

Vol. XVIII, No. 16 December 20, 2002 for the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts

## News Briefs

### EH&S to detonate chemical compounds

Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) staff are planning to dispose of two air-sensitive chemical compounds on Sunday, Dec. 22 in a remote campus location beginning at 7 a.m. The two compounds, one amounting to less than one gallon and the other just a few grams, will be destroyed by a small, controlled explosion, according to James M. Field, hazardous waste officer at EH&S.

The chemicals are currently in a laboratory in the Lederle Graduate Research Center and cannot be safely disposed of within that building, Field says. The two compounds will be transported in secure containers to the demolition site where they will be destroyed by a controlled explosion in a pit, covered by a blast shield, he says.

The UMass Police, Amherst Fire Department, State Police Bomb Squad and Chemistry faculty are assisting on the disposal.

### Employees offered free body scans

The School of Public Health and Health Sciences (SPHHS) and University Health Services (UHS) are offering employees free total body scans on Jan. 14-15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Radiology Department at UHS.

The body scans are done with a new state-of-the-art LUNAR Prodigy bone densitometer that measures bone density and body fat.

The device was acquired in the fall of 2001. It is used for clinical health assessments and by academic researchers working in exercise science, nutrition, and athletics. The densitometer is equipped with software for use in both adult and pediatric applications.

The body scans will be done by appointment and on a first-come first-serve basis.

To schedule an appointment call 7-5157.

### Chronicle begins holiday hiatus

Due to the observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the Chronicle will not be published on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3.

Publication will resume with the Jan. 10 issue. The deadline to submit items for that issue is Friday, Jan. 3.

For information, visit the Chronicle's Web site ([www.umass.edu/chronicle](http://www.umass.edu/chronicle)) or call 5-4818.



### Escape Claus

Stan Sherer photo

Two seasonal visitors, who declined to identify themselves, exit Hasbrouck Lab while spreading some holiday cheer. The student at left is carrying a CD player and recordings of chamber music.

## Taking a virtual spin on the Big Dig

Elizabeth Luciano  
NEWS OFFICE STAFF

Nervous about negotiating the Big Dig when it opens early next year?

Through the efforts of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering professor Donald Fisher and his assistants, drivers can test-drive their routes through Boston before ever pulling out of the driveway. Using the Web Big Dig Drive, an online, virtual version of the Big Dig's tunnels and highways, drivers can feel confident about traveling their new routes when the massive highway project debuts in early 2003. The effort is a collaboration with the Massachusetts Highway Department and the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority.

### Web simulation previews changes for Boston drivers

The effort is part of Fisher's research at the Human Performance Laboratory, a facility that includes a driving simulator in which a sedan is placed before three screens, onto which highways and neighborhoods are projected.

The "car" reads the driver's speed, direction, and even eye movements as input. Other research projects at the lab have included determining optimal signage for the Big Dig; teaching

younger drivers to anticipate dangerous situations on the road; and determining the safety of voice-activated car phones. This particular project marks the first collaboration between a driving simulator lab and a major federal construction project, Fisher said. "Putting a test drive on the Web makes sense, because it reduces the potential for accidents," he said.

The Web Big Dig Drive currently details all of the Central Artery tunnel sections of Interstate 93 north and southbound, extending 1½ miles in each direction. It also details the section of the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) that starts at the Prudential Center and heads eastbound under Four Point Channel and through South Boston to the portal of the Ted Williams Tunnel. It will soon detail the section of Interstate 93 that starts south of the Massachusetts Turnpike and also heads under Four Point Channel to the portal of the Ted Williams Tunnel.

To use the system, drivers log onto the site ([www.ecs.umass.edu/hpl](http://www.ecs.umass.edu/hpl)), click on the Big Dig button on the left-hand side, and then view their test drive.

The site shows all the details a driver will need, including signage, pavement markers, and side barriers, Fisher said. "We've included not only driveable sur-



Stan Sherer photo

Traffic is light on a computerized image of a Big Dig tunnel development in professor Donald Fisher's Human Performance Laboratory.

## SPIRE weathers major test

Sarah R. Buchholz  
CHRONICLE STAFF

SPIRE, the campus's new online registration tool, had its first workout between Nov. 14 and Dec. 3 when nearly 15,500 undergraduates and more than 1,800 graduate students registered for spring classes. The participation level of undergraduates in pre-registration was consistent with that of recent years while the number of graduate students choosing to pre-register rose 38 percent from last year.

Approximately 95,000 course seats were filled during pre-registration, according to Associate Chancellor for Information Technologies Rosio Alvarez. Roughly 1,400 course sections have been filled and another 200 classes have electronic wait lists, said Elizabeth Pyle, registrar.

"The system was effective ... in some clunky, if not perfect, way, but it's effective because the faculty scheduled into SPIRE a sufficient number of appropriate courses," said deputy provost John Cunningham. "And that is always the key to a successful registration."

"While registration was successful in facilitating students' enrollment in courses, we were interested in how students received the SPIRE system," Alvarez said.

SEE SYSTEM, PAGE 5

## New awards to recognize top seniors

Sarah R. Buchholz  
CHRONICLE STAFF

Chancellor John V. Lombardi is calling for nominations from the faculty for a new set of awards to recognize outstanding seniors, according to the Provost's Office. The awardees will be designated as University of Massachusetts Amherst Leaders for the 21st Century.

As many as 12 awards will be presented at the 2003 Commencement ceremony. Recipients will receive an adaptation of the Chancellor's Medal.

"He wanted to take the opportunity of Commencement to recognize a group of outstanding students who are both talented academically and also have contributed to the University with exceptional performance in other areas," said interim Vice Chancellor

SEE MEDALS, PAGE 3

# Letters

## Friends for the Homeless send appreciation

Just in time for the holidays, Amherst Friends for the Homeless, Inc. is distributing the results of its 14th annual Shelter Sunday community-wide appeal to raise funds for the homeless and hungry in our midst. Checks were presented this week to four area organizations dedicated to providing food, shelter, clothing and emergency aid: the Grove Street Inn, a shelter for men and women in Northampton; the Amherst Survival Center, which provides meals, clothing, household goods and groceries; Not Bread Alone, which provides weekend and holiday meals, as well as groceries and fresh produce; and First Call for Help, which provides referrals and emergency assistance.

Since Oct. 27, \$26,853 has been received from residents of Amherst, Pelham and Hadley. While more than \$16,000 was collected on the day of the door-to-door campaign, checks continue to arrive in the mail. The funds raised this year have topped last year's high by over \$10,000.

Organizers attribute their success to the support from 300 volunteers and the generosity of area residents. In addition, Flo-

rence Savings Bank underwrote the operating expenses, including a new banner to hang in the center of town. Every year, several organizations from the University of Massachusetts supply large numbers of canvassers to ensure a successful campaign. Students in fraternities and sororities at UMass supplied 152 volunteers. Alpha Chi Omega sorority and two fraternities, Delta Epsilon and Sigma Phi Epsilon, sent over 25 volunteers each. Over 87 students in the Boltwood Project, a UMass community service project through which students earn college credit, also participated in Shelter Sunday. These students joined with volunteers from local faith communities, service organizations, individuals and families.

Amherst Friends for the Homeless, Inc. thanks everyone for their participation and support. To make a donation, send checks to Amherst Friends for the Homeless, Inc., P.O. Box 1071, Amherst, MA 01004-1071.

AARON BOUSEL  
president,

*Amherst Friends for the Homeless, Inc.*

## Local businesses thanked for support

Come into the Student Union on any given Monday evening and you will see UMass student parents and their young children enjoying delicious dinner entrees donated by local businesses. Stay a little longer and you will see these parents smile as they leave their young children in the care of UMass students who provide the children with supervised play activities while their parents participate in parenting skills workshops. This is the program Dinner on Us, sponsored by UMass and the Commuter Services and Housing Resource Center (CSHRC), and it would not be possible without generous donations from local businesses.

Student parent Lynn Hatch says, "In light to recent budget cuts at the University and the general slowdown of our state's economy, the donations being made by local businesses are even more amazing. I know that this program has made me a

better parent and I am very appreciative of it."

The Black Sheep, La Cucina di Pinocchio and Panda East each donated entrees for up to 30 student parents and their children who participated in Dinner on Us each week of the semester.

One Saturday morning each month in the Student Union Craft Center, student parents and their children ages 3-7 created butterfly puppets, masks, gourd creatures, Japanese gift packages and candleholders from supplies donated by local businesses. The Art Cycles program, also sponsored by CSHRC and UMass, received donations from Annie's Garden and Gift Store, Hadley Garden Center, Lots for Littles, Design Supply Studio and the University Store.

ASHLEIGH SULLIVAN  
Commuter Services and  
Housing Resource Center

## Power Plant, CE partner on training

A new training program developed by the Physical Plant's Power Plant, the Division of Continuing Education and the state Department of Public Safety is allowing steam firemen and engineers to gain the training they need to renew their operating licenses.

In past years, Physical Plant offered in-house training for its employees, according to operations monitor Ted Carroll, who worked with Alice Szlosek of Continuing Education's Career Development Program to remodel and expand the 30-hour program for public enrollment.

The program, which has been underway since October, has between 10 and 20 participants, with about half coming from off-campus, according to Carroll. "We advertise all over Western Massachusetts," he said. "It's open to anyone who needs a license to operate a turbine or boiler."

Szlosek handles the educational requirements with the state, while Carroll and his instructional staff are responsible to the Department of Public Safety for ensuring the contents covered during the workshops meet departmental requirements.

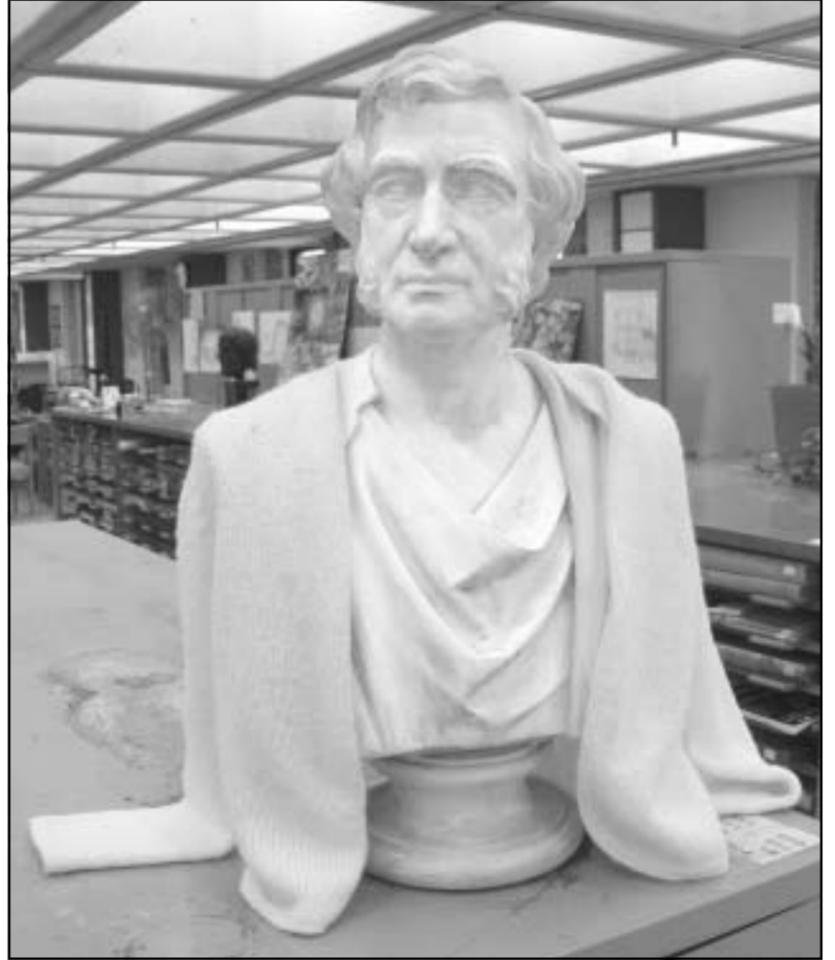
The classes meet monthly for a four to five hour session. The workshops are repeated every year from September to March. When candidates complete all seven sections, they are issued a certificate of completion from the University. This certificate of completion is required by the Department of Public Safety and must be submitted before an operating license can be renewed.

Off-campus participants in the training program are charged a \$40 fee for each section. The fees are split evenly between Continuing Education and the Power Plant training fund, said Carroll.

## For more news...

The News Office's Web site ([www.umass.edu/newsoffice](http://www.umass.edu/newsoffice)) features press releases and daily summaries of national, regional and local news coverage of University and higher education issues.

The site also has links to Massachusetts media outlets as well as national and international publications, professional organizations and reference sources.



Stan Sherer photo

## Cold shoulders

A bust on the art collection floor in the Du Bois Library keeps the winter chill away with a borrowed sweater. The identity of the bust is unknown, but Library staff are eager to hear from anyone who may know the figure portrayed by the sculpture.

## Solstice observations planned at sunwheel

The winter solstice can be observed over the tall standing stones of the campus' sunwheel on the weekend of Dec. 21-22, according to Astronomy professor Judith Young, who will be leading sunrise and sunset presentations at the site.

Visitors for the sunrise observations should arrive at 7 a.m. Sunset observations will start at 3:30 p.m.

For those interested in learning about the sky, Young will discuss the cause of the seasons, the sun's path, the phases of the moon and the story of the sunwheel.

Visitors are advised to wear warm clothing and footwear suitable for standing on frozen or soggy ground. Participants may want to bring folding chairs or blankets.

A \$3 donation is requested. Sunwheel T-shirts, sweatshirts and other items will be on sale with proceeds supporting the addition of more stone work at the site.

The sunwheel is located south of McGuirk Alumni Stadium off Rocky Hill Road.

For details, visit the sunwheel Web site ([www.umass.edu/sunwheel/index2.html](http://www.umass.edu/sunwheel/index2.html)).

## Council conducting science library survey

New needs and opportunities, changing technologies and decreased staffing for the campus' science libraries have prompted the Faculty Senate Research Library Council to form a Science Libraries Working Group to explore the future of the facilities.

Biology professor William E. Bemis, chair of the Research Library Council, is also heading the working group whose

stated goal is to advise the libraries on decisions regarding the future of Morrill Biological Sciences Library and the Physical Sciences and Engineering Library in Lederle Graduate Research Center.

Students and faculty are encouraged to complete the online survey ([www.library.umass.edu/forms/research.html](http://www.library.umass.edu/forms/research.html)) by Dec. 23.

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## Library staff pitch in for Jessie's House

Sarah R. Buchholz  
CHRONICLE STAFF

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus — dozens of them, who work in the tall brick building in the middle of campus. This year, as they have done for the last five years, the staff of the Libraries have volunteered their time, money and skill and risked expanding their waistlines to ensure a merry Christmas for the families at Jessie's House, a shelter for homeless families and individuals in Northampton.

Over that time, Libraries' employees have developed a system to maximize what they can do for the families they adopt. In each of the last two years, they have raised \$1,000 in order to fill the wish lists of three families, purchase toys for the other children at the shelter and donate items Jessie's House can use for all its residents.

"It was born out of the idea that staff, rather than buying inexpensive gifts for each other, could put their money toward good use and service a charity in the area," said Terry Warner, Administrative Services coordinator.

For a couple of days each December, stuffed animals and other toys, clothing, and household items such as high chairs and toaster ovens take over part of the fourth floor in the Serials/Acquisitions area where they are displayed so staff members who donated money can see what their super-shopper colleagues have purchased.

"It's amazing," said Emily Silverman, communications special-

ist and reference librarian, of the annual display. "We've got excellent shoppers."

"It's all volunteer," said Warner. "We have some people who just love to shop and to find bargains, so we divide up the wish lists, and we have some people who just love to buy for adults. Sometimes staff shop on their own and bring in things on their own."

"A staff person knitted 20 hats in a past year. Someone who collected teddy bears made sure we had enough to give to each child. Another person who reviews children's books donated copies of them. I never know what's going to happen. People come forward with all sorts of things."

After a couple of days, the wrapping crew comes in to package the presents. Last year's wrapping effort was so efficient, Warner said, the entire pile was finished in 16 minutes.

Humanities bibliographer Jim Kelly dons the official uniform of Santas everywhere to visit the shelter, set children on his knees and hand out toys. Other staff accompany him to see the presents distributed.

"I try to encourage people to come along so they can see some of the rewards of their efforts," Warner said. "Last year was the first time we actually met a family that we adopted."

"The first couple of years we raised \$500 or \$600. We wanted to do a little bit more, so we decided to 'Earn at the Coffee Urn.'"

For the last three years, during

November staff have baked goodies or donated donuts or other pastries made elsewhere and set them by the coffee pot. Passersby can purchase the treats for 50 cents. The project has paid off.

"The third year we were able to raise \$800," Warner said. "That year Jessie's House had 12 children living there. And it became clear that we needed to provide some assistance to Jessie's House itself because they have more than 20 people living there. We still adopt our families, but we also buy small gifts for the other children and something on the wish list of the house itself. Last year we really did a boost to try to make our goal even higher, and we asked to take on more families. There were 18 children."

Warner said Libraries' employees were concerned that the decrease in their numbers would limit their fund-raising this year.

"So we had it running at two coffee urns," she said. "We have traffic from other University employees, so that helps. We also had people who would donate to not eat the treat, because they are on special diets."

"It's become such a tradition in the library at the end of the 'Earn at the Coffee Urn' when we discovered that we were a little bit short from last year's total, a staff member just couldn't stand that so they made a donation that brought it to \$1001."

Warner foresees the program continuing.

"It's a great way for folks to feel good during the holidays," she said.



Sarah Buchholz photo

James Kelly, Humanities bibliographer, and Terry Warner, Administrative Services coordinator, look over some of the Christmas gifts the Library staff purchased for a local shelter for homeless families and individuals.

## New awards seen boosting relationship with alumni

### MEDALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for Student Affairs Jo-Anne Vanin. "It's our hope that faculty from across the University will take this opportunity to nominate their students who stand above the rest."

The award is designed to recognize students who have strong academic records and additional "exemplary achievements" that distinguish themselves and "enhance the reputation of the University."

A variety of contributions to the campus community will be considered for the award. They include:

Demonstrating strong leadership qualities, characterized by the ability to unite and inspire others towards positive action, or expanding the intellectual climate of their academic area through noteworthy original research;

Noticeably improving the quality of life for others through community service, either at the University or off-campus;

Advancing the teaching mission of the University as an exceptional undergraduate teaching assistant whose efforts continually motivate others to learn;

Exemplifying perseverance and courage by overcoming extraordinary personal obstacles through resolve and a determination to excel;

Participating in the demands of public presentation, either by exhibiting a truly inspiring caliber of artistic talent, through creation or performance, or by excelling in the competitive demands of athletics.

"The idea is that we have some fabulous students on this campus who contribute to the University's well-being in many different and comprehensive ways," said Charlena Seymour, interim vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and provost. "We want to recognize their accomplishments and nurture a relationship with them for the future's sake. We want them to look back and remember that the University really valued them."

"We also want to strengthen our relationship with our alumni, and we hope that, as people who exhibited leadership while they were students, they also will lead the way in the Alumni Association and alumni involvement."

Nominations forms, accompanied by the student's vita, must be submitted by Feb. 3 to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Campus Life, Attn: Committee — Leaders for the 21st Century, 319 Whitmore or via e-mail (vc@stuaf.umass.edu).

Forms can be downloaded from the Web ([www.umass.edu/com-mencement/nominations.html](http://www.umass.edu/com-mencement/nominations.html)).

## Environmental Institute director named

David Reckhow, professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been appointed director of The Environmental Institute by interim Vice Chancellor for Research Frederick W. Byron. The appointment is retroactive to Sept. 1.

"We are very fortunate that David has accepted the position of TEI director and believe his appointment will bring leadership and new energy to the institute, expanding the number and scope of multidisciplinary environmental initiatives and new research opportunities in environmental research and education on the Amherst campus," said Byron.

Byron also thanked Richard Taupier, who guided the institute over the past two transitional years and who will continue to serve as associate director.

"I'm excited about the opportunities that exist right now in some key areas of environmental research," said Reckhow. "With the unique talents that reside in the UMass research community, we are in an excellent position to take

a leading role in many of these areas. My goal is for TEI to serve as a catalyst in helping to bring new resources to campus so that the researchers can spend more of their time generating new knowledge, useful products or creative insights."

Reckhow has been a part of the Civil and Environmental Engineering faculty since 1985. Prior to coming to the University he was a postdoctoral research associate with the Compagnie Générale des Eaux in Paris. His research interests include chemical oxidation of pollutants in water, coagulation processes, and natural organic matter in surface waters and drinking waters. He has a special interest in organic disinfection byproducts and ozonation processes for drinking water treatment.

Reckhow served for several years as the North American editor of the international journal,

Ozone: Science and Engineering. He also co-authored the widely-used reference book, "Ozone in Water Treatment: Application and Engineering." Reckhow has authored dozens of journal articles on water treatment and environmental chemistry, some of which have been recognized with national and international publication awards. He is also the recipient of a Presidential Young Investigator Award. He regularly serves as a consultant to industry and the federal government and has collaborated with faculty across academic departments and centers on multidisciplinary environmental research.

Reckhow received his Ph.D. in environmental science and engineering from the University of North Carolina. He earned his M.S. from Stanford University and his B.S. from Tufts University, both in civil engineering.

## Computer simulation offers preview of Big Dig

### DRIVERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

faces but also visible elements, so that 'driving' a virtual car through the Web site will give people as realistic a sense of the new roadways as possible, before they actually get there." The effort is aimed not just at commuters who

will be trying to get to work on time, but also occasional travelers to Boston, and those who are headed to Logan Airport. The Web site, which relies on streaming video, is particularly helpful in familiarizing drivers with interchanges that might otherwise be tricky during the first few drives.

"Roughly 250,000 people each day take Interstate 93 north to the Callahan Tunnel and Logan Airport. This route will no longer be available once the new construction opens. Those people need to know where they're going," said Fisher. "Drivers will go through a period of adjustment, getting ac-

customed to the new routes, entrances and exits. This is an effort at helping them get comfortable with the details of those routes ahead of time. We want people to know the way without injuring themselves or others, or dealing with the inconvenience of missing an exit."



Stan Sherer photo

### Celling points

A new cell tower (right) rises alongside the one it replaces near the Orchard Hill Observatory. The old tower is not strong enough for the new WMUA antenna and transmitters for the cellular companies subletting places on it, according to Telecommunications director Randy Sailer. SpectraSite, a company that sublets cell tower space, had the tower built as part of an agreement with the campus.

## Researchers study bioremediation of acid, metals at abandoned mine

Elizabeth Luciano  
NEWS OFFICE STAFF

Highly acidic drainage from an abandoned sulfide mine in Rowe is slowly cleaning itself over time, and an interdisciplinary campus research team is studying why. The group brings together experts from the fields of microbiology, geology, engineering and science education, to determine the extent and rate of bioremediation.

Researchers say their findings may enable quicker natural cleanups at mines throughout the country and the world. The interdisciplinary project has received a \$1.59 million grant from the "Biocomplexity in the Environment" program of the National Science Foundation. This highly competitive program has funded only 10 projects this year nationwide.

"The mine collapsed in 1911 and filled with groundwater," explained Klaus Nüsslein, assistant professor of Microbiology. "The overflowing groundwater drains out of the old mine shafts, and flows down the stream channel." The drainage waters are more acidic than vinegar, with pH values around 2, and carry large loads of metals, including copper, zinc, and iron, Nüsslein said. "In other areas of the country, similar acid-mine drainage from former coal or gold mines can mobilize additional undesirable contaminants."

Researchers stress, however, that there is no threat to the local environment or the area's water supply, because the iron sulfide in the Davis Mine contains few hazardous impurities. This makes the site an ideal subject for examining the natural processes that are contained in the drainage. Rowe is located near the Vermont border.

Other researchers involved in the project are Richard Yuretich of Geosciences, the principal investigator of the project; Sarina Ergas and David Ahlfeld of Civil and Environmental Engineering; and Allan Feldman of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies. Jonathan Lloyd of the University of Manchester, England, is also collaborating, studying a similar abandoned mine in Wales. The group will combine field work, computer modeling, and laboratory research to study the issue over the next five years. In the end, the interdisciplinary group will demonstrate the global importance of using bacteria to clean up the environment.

Nüsslein, a microbiologist, will try to determine which particular microorganisms are oxidizing the acids and heavy metals, providing a natural source of bioremedia-

tion. "Obviously these microorganisms are very successful at remediating the site. We want to know which microorganisms are there, which ones are thriving, or just making do, and what their actual function is," he said.

Yuretich, a geologist who has brought classes to the site for more than 20 years, will study what role geology is playing in the natural clean-up. "The acid and the heavy metals react with bedrock and other glacial deposits and are neutralized. It's similar to a person with an upset stomach taking an antacid; the acid level drops," he said.

There are also hydrology issues at work,



A research team member samples runoff from the Davis Mine site in Rowe.

researchers say. Engineers will study the way the groundwater and surface water are flowing. "There are a series of complex biochemical processes going on in order to enable the bioremediation to take place, and we need hard data to understand those processes," said Ergas.

"We need to know the direction of groundwater flow, the amount of water movement, and its chemical composition," added Ahlfeld.

Feldman notes that a strong science education component is built into the project. Twelve high-school and middle-school teachers, who are pursuing master's degrees in science education, will work as researchers for spring, summer and fall, taking what they learn to their classrooms.

"Participation in active research projects is often cited as the best way to learn science and the ways in which scientists think," Feldman said.

Surveys and interviews of the teacher-scholars will be used to evaluate their perceptions of the nature of science, engineering, and scientific research. Their classes will be observed to determine whether their experiences have changed the way in which they understand and teach science, and the effects on their students' learning.

## T&D staff lead learning session in LA

Training coordinator Margaret Arsenault and Linda McDonald, organizational development consultant, from the Training & Development Office, created and led a full-day learning institute at the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) conference, "Teaching Respect For All 2002," in Los Angeles.

The institute, "Creating and Maintaining Diverse Organizations," was designed to help representatives of GLSEN chapters, schools and other community organizations explore the issues involved in becoming multicultural organizations. Participants learned the use of diagnostic tools designed to help the organization identify

both its current reality and plan for future directions. In addition, learners explored development strategies and action planning methods and created plans for bringing this learning back to their respective organizations for implementation.

Participants represented student, parent, teacher and community organizations from across the country. Responses from the institute indicated that participants benefited from the contents of the workshop and enjoyed the opportunity to learn from each other, according to Arsenault and McDonald.

GLSEN leads a network committed to ending anti-LGBT bias in K-12 schools.

## 8 staffers complete skills training

Eight staff from Housing Services and Auxiliary Services who completed 11 weeks of communication, computer and money skills training were honored Dec. 12 at a graduation ceremony in Durfee Conservatory.

Offered through the Labor Management Workplace Education Program under Training and Development, "Spelling, Reading, Writing and Making Sense" was taught by Fran Fortino, who praised the motivation and enthusiasm of the learners.

"The graduates always demonstrate an eagerness to learn new skills and are glad to have this opportunity right here on campus to become computer literate," he said.

The graduates are Teresa Brzykcy, Tomasita Davila, Leslie Graham, Grace Pietrusinski, Ni Thi Son and Penny Tenney of Housing Services and Thu Ti Kim and Michael Ware of Auxiliary Services.

Along with Durfee Conservatory

director John Tristan, who hosted the celebration, the event was attended by three Housing Services supervisors: Gaye Reinhold, Richard Guimond and Kathy Starkey.

Founded 14 years ago, LMWEP is a joint venture between the campus administration, Local 1776 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the University Staff Association. The program offers English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), basic skills and computer literacy classes as well as new supervisor training and career growth workshops.

Michael Ware (left), head dishroom attendant at Berkshire Dining Hall, receives his certificate of achievement from Training and Development's Fran Fortino during a Dec. 12 graduation ceremony for Labor Management Workplace Education Program participants.



Stan Sherer photo

## Fisette joins NAS panel

Patrick J. Callahan  
NEWS OFFICE STAFF

Paul R. Fisette, associate professor of Natural Resources Conservation and director of the Building Materials and Wood Technology Program, has received a three-year appointment to serve on the Board of Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment (BICE) of the National Academy of Sciences.

BICE is an advisory board to the academy's National Research Council (NRC), established to address questions of technology, science, and public policy, as they apply to the constructed and natural environments and their interaction with human activities.

Fisette is also serving in the last year of a three-year appointment to a 10-member NRC panel that provides oversight to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's effort to provide housing that is more energy efficient, safe, durable, and affordable.

Fisette says his appointment to the main board is an honor. "It is a privilege to be recognized and asked to serve at this level," he says, noting that the board advises both the legislative and



Paul R. Fisette

executive levels of the federal government. "I feel very fortunate to be working with some of the best people in the field and to be involved in a host of interesting and important projects."

Among the projects Fisette will be working on are a review of management practices for the Boston Central Artery Project; mitigation of the effects of bombings and related acts of terrorism; oversight of project management practices in the U.S. Department of Energy; and development of a long-term research agenda for earthquake engineering simulation.

The National Academy of Sciences was established by Congress in 1863 to provide independent, objective advice to the U.S. government on questions of science and technology.

## SPIRE tryout assessed

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"We are currently conducting a lot of assessment activities to figure out how pre-registration went," Pyle said. "[We] definitely feel there is a lot of dust to settle in a process that involves 30,000 people." A number of different assessments, including focus groups and surveys, have been or will soon be undertaken to learn how staff, students and faculty who are connected with the pre-registration process perceived their experience, Pyle said.

"These activities will give us a lot clearer picture than we have right now of what went wrong, what went right, and which areas we can best focus on for improvement," she said.

Despite the transition being a "somewhat painful process," students who had been through the old registration system preferred SPIRE by a nearly 2 to 1 margin, according to Pyle and Alvarez. Preliminary feedback suggests that first-semester students had an easier time with SPIRE than

students who had been using the older pre-registration system, Pyle said. More than 71 percent of first-year students found the registration process to be "somewhat easy" or "very easy" while just under 55 percent of their more senior colleagues found it to be so.

According to Alvarez, more than 46 percent of all students who provided feedback rated SPIRE as "good" or "excellent" and only 15 percent said they thought it was "poor."

Pyle said some of the "pain" of using SPIRE was learning to use a new computer system.

Pyle said other stress involved in using the system came from policy change. The Registrar's Office switched from not enforcing enrollment limits in courses during pre-registration in past semesters, to the new model of closing sections when they are full and then offering wait lists.

"The wait list is a new aspect to the campus, so we're eagerly supporting that and interested to see how it goes," Pyle said.

## Professor Vladimir Haensel dead at 88

Sarah R. Buchholz  
CHRONICLE STAFF

Vladimir "Val" Haensel, 88, of Amherst, an award winning ground-breaker in petroleum-products research and a professor emeritus of Chemical Engineering, died Dec. 15. He held nearly 150 U.S. patents and more than 400 foreign patents.

Honored with the biennial Charles Stark Draper Prize in 1997, the National Academy of Engineering's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, he was best known for his development in 1947 of "platforming," a process that uses platinum to produce clean, inexpensive fuel and material to make plastics from petroleum. His ideas, developed while working at Universal Oil Products Inc. (now UPO) in Des Plaines, Illinois, directly affected consumers by leading to the development of unleaded fuel for automobiles. Prior to platforming, the standard process available for increasing fuel octane involved adding lead.

"Platforming has made today's transportation fuel vastly more efficient, environmentally friendly, and easier and cheaper to produce than anyone thought possible just a few decades ago," the Draper Prize brochure reads. "It also has had a tremendous and environmentally positive impact on the plastics industry."

Prior to the development of platforming, plastics makers had relied on an environmentally toxic processing of coal tar.

A member of the National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Engineering and the recipient of the National Medal of Science in 1973, he also was the first recipient of the National Academy of Science Award for Chemistry in Service to Society and was president of the Catalysis Society in 1978-79. He also won Professional Progress Award of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and a Perkin Medal.

After decades of working in industry, he took up teaching, serving the University between 1981 and 1998. He had begun his career as a researcher at UOP in 1937, eventually becoming vice president of science and technology in 1972.

He loved teaching, especially undergraduates, and won a College of Engineering Outstanding Teachers Award in 1994. The author of more than 120 scientific and technical papers, he also gave a Chancellor's Lecture and saw

Chemical Engineering endow a scholarship fund for undergraduates, initially funded by UOP, in his name.

He served on the Board of Managers at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology and the National Materials Advisory Board. He also was U.S. chair of the chemical catalysis portion of the USA-USSR Joint commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

"If we are not challenging ourselves, we're not taking advantage of what life offers," Haensel told the Daily Hampshire Gazette at 83. Born in Germany to Russian parents, he came to the U.S. at age 15, not knowing any English, but speaking Russian, German and French. A year later he enrolled at Northwestern University, where his father taught economics.

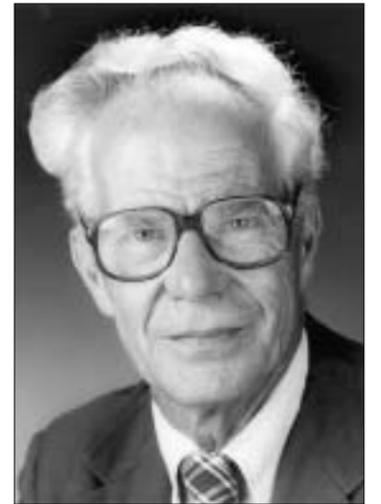
He held a B.S. in engineering and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Northwestern University and an M.S. in chemical engineering from MIT.

"Work to produce something important," he said in 1995. "Do something new. Do something interesting, something that makes you want to shout out loud when

you've got it. Life is too darn amazing — and too short — for anything less."

He leaves his wife, Hertha Skala Haensel; a daughter, Kathee, of Virginia Beach, and grandchildren.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Haensel UOP Award Fund, c/o the Engineering Development Office, 142 Marston Hall. Checks should be made payable to the University of Massachusetts and have "Haensel UOP Award Fund" written on the memo line.



Vladimir Haensel

## Obituaries

### Stephen F. Bruscoe Sr.

Stephen F. Bruscoe Sr., 91, Stockbridge Class of '31, of Hatfield, a retired painter in Physical Plant, died Dec. 12 in SunBridge of East Longmeadow.

He served on campus for more than 24 years, retiring in 1974.

Within a few years of receiving a degree in Animal Science from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, he showed prize cattle and poultry in St. Louis, where he represented the Bay State on the cattle judging team and served as a state milk inspector in New York.

At the onset of World War II, he returned home to tend his family's farm and became a milk inspector for eastern Massachusetts.

He managed the Double M-B Ranch in Southwick from 1973-76 and supervised grounds work at Childs Park in Northampton from 1970-90. In 1982, he co-founded Hadley's Bruscoe Family Farm.

He was the past president of the New England Polled Hereford Association, the Black Angus Cattle Association of America, and the New England Gladioli Association.

His wife, Alice, died in 1993.

He leaves a son, Stephen F. Jr. of Hatfield; a daughter, Eileen Dostell, of Hatfield; two brothers, three sisters, and other family.

### Sandra Clay

Sandra Clay, 46, of Belchertown, a senior computer specialist in the College of Natural Resources and the Environment, died Dec. 13 at home.

She served the University for 13 and a half years, first as Employment Office manager from 1982-88. Upon her return in 1996,

she became a typist at the Library, followed by a position as a staff assistant in Human Resources, before taking a position in CNRE.

A graduate of Amherst Regional High School, she was pursuing a degree in computer science at Greenfield Community College.

She leaves her parents, Raymond W. J. Sr. and Lillian I. Campbell of Belchertown; a son, Russell Clay Jr., and a daughter, Samantha Clay, both at home; a brother and three sisters.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Quabog Valley Hospice, 103 Fairview St., Palmer 01069.

### Susan E. Wilbert

Susan E. Wilbert, 52, of Adams, a former radiation secretary and Industrial Hygiene technician in Environmental Health and Safety, died Dec. 15 at home of cancer.

She served the University for 14 years before leaving in 1988. In her technician position, she specialized in asbestos abatement.

"She was an extremely dedicated person and a great supporter of UMass, our program and staff," said Don Robinson, director of EH&S.

She moved to Adams and worked for the former Clean Waste Corp. from 1988-92. She then became vice president of Eco-Genesis Co., where she served for 10 years before retiring in ill health in 2001.

She held a bachelor's degree from Merrimack College.

She leaves her primary caregivers, Harold and Isabelle Girard of Adams.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Susan E. Wilbert Scholarship Fund through Auge-Paciorek-Simmons Funeral Home, 13 Hoosac St., Adams 01220.

### Doctoral exams

Graduate faculty are invited to attend the final oral examination for the doctoral candidates scheduled as follows.

**Ilhwan Kim, Ph.D.**, Electrical and Computer Engineering. Friday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m., Sonderman Library, 113 Marston Hall. Dissertation: "Quality of Service Support for Wireless Networks." Aura Ganz, chr.

**Pathama Chatakanonda, Ph.D.**, Food Science. Tuesday, Jan. 7,

10 a.m., Nutrition Library, 210A Chenoweth Lab. Dissertation: "Water and Starch Chain Mobility in Cassava Starch-Effect of Heat-Moisture Treatments, Growth Conditions and Harvest Time." Pavinee Chinachoti, chr.

**Zhaohui Wang, Ph.D.**, Molecular and Cellular Biology. Friday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m., 319 Morrill Science Center South. Dissertation: "Acheron, a Novel Regulator of Myoblast Differentiation." Larry Schwartz, chr.

**Elaine Brousseau, Ph.D.**, English. Friday, Jan. 3, 9:30 a.m., Renais-

sance Center. Dissertation: "Now, Literature, Philosophy, and Thought, are Shakespearized: American Culture and Nineteenth-Century Shakespearean Performance, 1835-1875." Arthur Kinney, chr.

**Preyatudsaney Prachaiyo, Ph.D.**, Food Science. Thursday, Jan. 9, 1:30 p.m., Nutrition Library, 210A Chenoweth Lab. Dissertation: "Escherichia Coli 0157:H7 Growth in a Heterogenous Food System and Biofilm Formation Under Limit Nutrients Conditions." Lynne A. McLandsborough, chr.



## Sports wrap-up

### Men's basketball (2-5)

W vs. Florida International 67-62

### Women's basketball (8-1; 1-0 A-10)

W vs. Northeastern 77-61  
W vs. Villanova 55-50

### Hockey (10-6-0; 4-5-0 Hockey East)

W vs. Princeton 4-3 (OT)

## Upcoming schedule

Home games in **bold**

<b>Saturday, Dec. 21</b>		
M. basketball	Lafayette at Springfield	1 p.m.
<b>Monday, Dec. 23</b>		
M. basketball	<b>Rider</b>	7 p.m.
<b>Saturday, Dec. 28</b>		
M. basketball	<b>Marshall</b>	2 p.m.
Hockey	Ohio State Estero, Fla.	4 p.m.
W. basketball	Florida	7:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, Dec. 29</b>		
Hockey	TBA Estero, Fla.	
W. basketball	TBA Gainesville, Fla.	
<b>Thursday, Jan. 2</b>		
M. basketball	<b>NC State</b>	7:30 p.m.
<b>Friday, Jan. 3</b>		
Hockey	Boston College	7 p.m.
<b>Saturday, Jan. 4</b>		
W. swimming	Sacred Heart Invitational San Juan, P.R.	all day
M. swimming	Sacred Heart Invitational San Juan, P.R.	all day
W. basketball	<b>Memphis</b>	2 p.m.
<b>Sunday, Jan. 5</b>		
M. basketball	Fordham	noon
Hockey	<b>Providence</b>	3 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 8</b>		
W. basketball	<b>St. Joseph's</b>	7 p.m.
<b>Thursday, Jan. 9</b>		
M. basketball	<b>Columbia</b>	7 p.m.
<b>Friday, Jan. 10</b>		
W. swimming	URI Invitational	all day
M. swimming	URI Invitational	all day
Hockey	<b>Merrimack</b>	7 p.m.

# Turnaround has Minutewomen fans cheering

Bart K. Feller

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

What a difference a year makes. At the end of the fall semester in 2001, the women's basketball team had won one game and lost eight, this year they are 8 and 1, riding a six-game winning streak and showing no signs of slowing down. Last week the Minutewomen beat three teams; Atlantic 10 conference opponent Rhode Island in Kingston 59-45 on Monday, previously undefeated Villanova 55-50 on Wednesday in the first game at the Curry Hicks Cage since 1995, and Northeastern 77-61 at the Mullins Center on Saturday.

They are not only winning, but winning against tough teams. They held the No. 1 position in the national Ratings Performance Index, which measures a team's strength of schedule, as well as its win-loss record. At press time the Minutewomen were in the No. 2 spot on the RPI.

They are off to their best start since the team's first year, 1967-68, when they opened 9-0 playing mostly against local state and community colleges. Last year the Minutewomen averaged 59 percent free throw shooting and more than 20 turnovers per game. This year the free throw percentage is up to 68, and turnovers down to 16. Senior Nekole Smith, who scored 51 points and grabbed 17 rebounds last week improved her free throw shooting the most, upping her average by over 20 percent to .743 so far this year.

New head coach Marnie Dacko's up-tempo offense has produced immediate results in the scoring column. While last season saw the Minutewomen score more than 70 points in only three of their 30 games, already this year the team has produced at least 70 points in five outings. Traditionally the Minutewomen have played tough defense and out-rebounded their opponents, but offensive success has been a missing ingredient. Dacko said so far her team is doing well.

"These kids play with a lot of heart, a lot of determination, a lot of fight," she said. "They are coming together as one; they enjoy playing together; they're working hard, and they're doing everything I ask them to do." But she cautions that it's still early in the season: "I think we have a lot of work to do; I want these kids to strive for the top."

Senior center Jennifer Butler echoed her coach's feelings about not getting too excited too soon.

## Pöck goal cements OT win against Princeton

Thomas Pöck scored two goals, including the game-winner in overtime, to lead the hockey team past Princeton, 4-3, at Hobey Baker Memorial Rink last week. The win moves UMass' record to 10-6-0 overall.

The Minutemen had an impressive first period, outshooting the Tigers 14-8. UMass jumped ahead when Pöck found a seam in the Tigers' defense and drilled home a shot off the Princeton goalie's pad that trickled into the net. Marvin Degon

and Peter Trovato assisted. The Minutemen took a 2-0 lead early in the second period when Chris Capraro stole the puck in the UMass zone and fired a cross-ice pass to Tim Turner who scored. The goal was Turner's team-leading ninth of the year and increased his personal-best scoring streak to six games. Princeton came back to tie the game at 2-2 on a 5-on-3 power play.



Sarah Buchholz photos

Sophomore Monique Govan brings the ball down the court for the Minutewomen during their Dec. 11 win over undefeated Villanova.

"We've come a long way, but I feel that, and I'm sure the whole team feels that, we have a long way to go," she said. "We still have the A-10s coming." Her roommate, senior guard Ebony Pegues agreed, noting "Our schedule gets harder and harder every game."

No slouch last year, when she led the team in scoring, rebounds, steals and blocks, Butler has taken her game up a level this season. She has increased her scoring and as of Dec. 9 was the fifth best rebounder in the nation with an average of 12.7 per game. Monday she was named Atlantic 10 player of the week on the strength of her 60 points and 43 rebounds, which increased her average to 13.4 per game.

She played her finest game ever Saturday, scoring 19 points and 11 rebounds in the first half. She finished with a career-high 30 points and 20 rebounds, her 48th career double-double, as the Minutewomen spoiled the homecoming for Northeastern's Francesca Vanin of Amherst and Melissa Kowalski of Wilbraham.

Pegues had a great week also, totaling 31 points, 16 rebounds and 20 assists. She was a key for the win against Villanova, scoring 14 points in nine minutes in the second half as UMass came from behind to build a seven point lead, which helped them weather the storm when the Wildcat sharpshooters started hitting three-pointers late in the game.

"This year it's a whole new team," Butler said. "It's a team with heart, and I think everybody can see that."



Seniors Jennifer Butler (left) and Ebony Pegues have been key to the 8-1 start by the Minutewomen.

The Minutemen then got a go-ahead goal from Matt Anderson in the third period. The goal, Anderson's fifth of the year, was assisted by Werner and Greg Mauldin. However, Princeton tied things up at three just 15 seconds later on a power-play goal. The Minutemen had two good chances late in the game to get the game-winner, but the Tiger goalie held strong and the two teams headed to overtime. It marked the fourth time this year that UMass had gone into overtime.

UMass kept the heat on and got the game-winner on Pöck's second goal of the game. Pöck dominated the puck in the Princeton end and flipped a backhand shot towards the net. Nomeland misplayed the puck and it deflected into the net off of Nomeland's glove for the game-winner. The goal was Pöck's second of the game and sixth of the season.

UMass takes two weeks off before heading to warmer climates. The Minutemen will take part in the Everblades College Classic in Estero, Fla. UMass battles 12th-ranked Ohio State at 4:05 p.m. on Dec. 28.

Last Saturday, Anthony Anderson scored a career-high 22 points, hitting five of six 3-pointers, as the Minutemen ended a three-game losing streak with a 67-62 victory over Florida International (4-4). The Minutemen (2-5) led 33-26 at half-time but did not put the game away until Michael Lasme hit a 3-pointer from the corner, and Lasme and Gabe Lee hit free throws for a 62-52 lead with 1:20 to play. Lee added 12 points for Massachusetts.

## Minutemen to face Lafayette at Springfield Civic Center

Some 111 years after the game of basketball was invented in Springfield, the men's basketball team will return Saturday, Dec. 21 to the game's birthplace, to meet Lafayette in the Springfield Civic Center in a 1 p.m. matinee.

In conjunction with the game's birthday, UMass and the Basketball Hall of Fame are offering fans a family day ticket package. Fans can purchase a family package of four tickets for \$50 and receive four admissions

into the Birthday of Basketball party at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame that same day, beginning at 9 a.m.

UMass season ticket holders who have purchased tickets to the UMass-Lafayette game can contact the Athletic Ticket Office to receive a \$5 admission to attend the Birthday of Basketball party and see the new Basketball Hall of Fame. That price is nearly two-thirds off the standard admission price.

## Personal leave time expires Dec. 28

Personal leave time awarded to eligible employees on or after July 6, 2001 will expire on Saturday, Dec. 28, according to Juan A. Jarrett, assistant vice chancellor for Human Resources. Any balance remaining after that date will be forfeited.

Personal leave awards for calendar year 2003 will appear on check statements issued on Friday, Jan. 3. Eligible employees may begin using their new personal leave time starting on Sunday, Dec. 29.

Questions concerning the awarding or use of personal leave time should be directed to Dotty Lesko in the Time & Labor Section of Human Resources, (dlesko@admin.umass.edu) or by phone at 5-6121.

## Christmas, New Year's observed as holidays

Christmas and New Year's Day will be observed as state holidays on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, respectively. Most University offices will be closed.

## Mileage reimbursement change effective Jan. 1

The mileage reimbursement rate for the use of personal cars on University business will decrease to 36 cents per mile from 36.5 cents per mile, effective Jan. 1, according to controller Andrew P. Mangels.

The change is consistent with the rate set by the Internal Revenue Service.

## Final grades due

Final grades for fall semester should be submitted by noon on Thursday, Jan. 2 to the undergraduate, graduate and Continuing Education registrars' offices.

## Big Friday

Biweekly paychecks for the period covering Dec. 1-14 will be issued Friday, Dec. 20.

## Thesis formatting workshop

The Office of Information Technologies is offering a workshop on "Thesis Formatting with Microsoft Word for Windows — for UMass Graduate Students," on Thursday, Jan. 23, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The session covers formatting features used in the writing of a thesis or dissertation at UMass using Microsoft Word for Windows. Template files will be distributed for Word 97, Word 2000 or WordXP — students must tell OIT which version of Word they are using when registering for the class. Topics include general formatting, page numbering, footnotes/endnotes, table of contents, and bibliography.

Pre-registration is required; the charge for the workshop is \$10 and must be paid at the time of pre-registration. Pre-registration begins Monday, Dec. 23.

Thesis for Microsoft Word for Macintosh, Word 6 for Windows 3.1, Word 7 for Windows 95, and WordPerfect for Windows are no longer offered as formal workshops. Course materials are available. Contact Elisa Campbell at 5-1853, or download them from the OIT Web site.

## Holiday mail deliveries

Mail Services will deliver all mail before noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Tuesday, Dec. 31. There will be no afternoon deliveries or pickups on these days. The Mail Services office in Goodell will be open for business until 4 p.m. both days.

Offices that plan to be closed during the holidays should notify Mail Services as soon as possible. Contact Cindy McCluskey, acting manager of Mail Services, 306 Goodell, at 5-2488.

## Mullins Center rink closed Dec. 24-25

The ice skating rink at the Mullins Center will be closed to the public on Dec. 24-25. Call 5-3990 for skate times after Dec. 25.

## Newly acquired regional cookbooks displayed

"Whatcha Got Cookin? Recent Additions to the Regional Community Cookbook Collection," is on exhibit through Jan. 31 on the 25th floor of the Du Bois Library. Special Collections and Archives began building the Regional Community Cookbook Collection in 1998. Community cookbooks, those produced by church groups, school groups, women's clubs, and other community organizations, tell a great deal about the lives of the people who contribute the recipes. In its effort to document the social history of the region, the Library collects community cookbooks from Western Massachusetts for researchers to use as primary sources.

The collection has grown substantially since 1998, thanks to the enthusiasm of Library staff and community members who scour flea markets, bookstalls, auction showrooms and tag sales and donate their finds. There are now nearly 400 items representing Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Worcester counties. The oldest cookbooks in the collection include "Choice Recipes by the Ladies of Baldwinville" (1886) and "Tried and True" by Turners Falls' Ladies of the Unitarian Society (1888).

More information about the collection is available online ([www.library.umass.edu/spcoll/ckbk.html](http://www.library.umass.edu/spcoll/ckbk.html)).

## Cahoon, Lappas to speak at Jan. 8 Sports Luncheon

The Weekly Sports Luncheons are on a two-week hiatus because of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The luncheons will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 8 with featured speakers hockey coach Don "Toot" Cahoon and men's basketball coach Steve Lappas.

The buffet luncheon begins at noon in the Top of the Campus. The cost is \$6.50. Call 5-4289 for reservations.

## Wintersession date listed

The Division of Continuing Education's Wintersession term begins Thursday, Jan. 2 and ends Thursday, Jan. 23.

The last day to add or drop classes with no record is Friday, Jan. 3.

The last day to withdraw from a course with a record of "W" is Monday, Jan. 13.

## Campus tours resume Jan. 2

The last campus tour of the fall semester will be on Friday, Dec. 20 at 1:30 p.m., according to Lisa Hargis of the New Students program.

No tours will be offered from Dec. 21 through Jan. 1. Daily tours at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. will resume on Thursday, Jan. 2 and continue through Intersession, including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday on Jan. 20.

For information, call 5-4237.

## Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology seminar

Kevin Weeks of the University of North Carolina, a candidate for a faculty appointment in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, will present a special seminar on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at noon.

Weeks will speak on "Mechanisms of Ribonucleoprotein Assembly."

The seminar will take place in the eighth floor seminar room of the Lazare Research Building at the Worcester campus.

## Note card sets benefit Friends of the Library

Boxed sets of note cards featuring Leslie Schaler's photos of the Library Courtyard Garden are on sale through the Library Office. The 12-card sets are \$10 with proceeds going to the Friends of the Library.

Send checks payable to Friends of the Library to Susan McBride in the Library Office.



University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Libraries

### 2002-2003 INTERSESSION HOURS

SUNDAY, DEC. 22 – SUNDAY, JAN. 26

(Hours may be subject to change. Call 545-0414 for a recorded message.)

HOURS	W.E.B. DU BOIS LIBRARY* (Main Library) 545-0150	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES LIBRARY 214 Morrill Science Center 545-2674	PHYSICAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING LIBRARY Lederle Grad Res Center, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor 545-1370
Monday–Thursday	8:00 am – 9:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

Although a federal holiday, all libraries will be **OPEN** on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday – Monday, January 20, 2003.  
\* Includes Circulation (545-2622), Current Periodicals and Microform (545-3692), and Reference (545-0150).

#### Department Hours

These hours differ from the hours above and may be subject to change. Call the numbers listed to confirm.

Interlibrary Loan (545-0553) M-F 9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Reserve (545-2358) M-F 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Map Collection (545-2397) M-F 10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Sat 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Music Reserve Lab (577-2711) (149 Fine Arts Center) Days and times by appointment	Special Collections & Archives (545-2780) M-F 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

ALL LIBRARIES CLOSING TO THE PUBLIC AT NOON ON THE FOLLOWING DAY:  
Tuesday, December 24

ALL LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED  
Wednesday, December 25  
Wednesday, January 1

ALL LIBRARIES WILL CLOSE AT 5:00 pm ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS  
Monday, December 23  
Thursday, December 26  
Monday, December 30  
Tuesday, December 31

If an official Snow Day is announced by the University on a weekday, the UMass Amherst Libraries will also be closed. On weekends, the Library administration will make its own decision whether to close in the event of serious weather conditions. In the absence of a specific radio announcement during serious weather conditions, individuals planning to use the libraries should call 545-0414, the Library Hours Hot Line, for a recorded message, or call 545-2622 (W.E.B. Du Bois Circulation).



Stan Sherer photos

**Deck the Halls**

Murals and other art in the stairwells of the DuBois Library make use of abstract and representational designs. The pieces bear the signatures of their creators. Clockwise from left the artists are: Maura McHugh, 1986; Thea Kearney, 1986; Charlene Maguire, 1991; Rafael, 1988; David Fish, "Circulation System Study," 1986; Barb Coughlin, Michelle O'Brien, Larry Ryan and Susan Scotti, 1986; Kristin Howes, 1988; Andrew J. Myerson, class of '87; and Scott Thomas, 1990.