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**Living Language**

Herculean labor: A Mt. Mansfield student slays a hydra during a Latin Day skit. The school dominated awards at the April 12 event. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Philip Ambrose, professor of classics, is declaiming, sounding couplets in the resonant voice that has shared the greatest thoughts and words of Western Civilization with UVM students for 40 years.

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**STEP Follows TAP**

"There are a lot of great physics problems inside musical instruments," explains Malcolm Sanders, a physics instructor, music lover and self-described "fiddler of long standing."

**SNR to Direct Forest**

**Research** The School of Natural Resources has received a \$1 million federal appropriation to spur research in forest management and land stewardship in the 26-million-acre Northern Forest.

**Hearts and Minds**

Nothing about political science professor Bob Kaufman says tepid – not his ardent support for warring against terrorists, not his unwavering faith in the Reagan and W. Bush administrations, not his belief in American might and a Middle Eastern "culture of tyranny."

**THE WEEK IN VIEW**

**April 17-20 7 p.m. One-Act Plays, advanced directing students. Royall Tyler Theatre. \$4 at the door.**

**April 21 7:30 p.m. Lane Series: *The Taming of the Shrew*. The Acting Company. Flynn Theatre. Tickets: 656-3085 or 86-FLYNN.**

**April 22 6:30-8 p.m. Opening Reception: "Elements," work by members of the Living/Learning pottery program. L/L Gallery. Through May 3. Hours: 656-4200.**

**April 23 6 p.m. Community Medical School: "How to Interpret Medical Studies," Dr. Virginia Hood, professor of medicine. Carpenter Auditorium, Given. Register: 847-2886.**

**April 24 4 p.m. "Constructions of Middle-Class American Girlhood: The Case of Nancy Drew and the Girl Scouts," Leona Fisher, associate professor of English and women's studies, Georgetown University. John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill. 656-4282.**

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**Savoring the Sun**

When the digital thermometers leaped into record territory on April 12, hitting 84 degrees, University Green and surrounding areas filled with professors lecturing al fresco, staff relaxing and students sunbathing. The April 13 chaser was more of the same: The campus reading hit 90, remarkable for mid-April. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

**Old Drug Holds New Promise**

UVM's Asthma Clinical Research Center will be the lead site in a national trial to study theophylline, an inexpensive asthma medication prescribed since the 1970s but considered by researchers to have new potential.

Called LODO for Effectiveness of Low Dose Theophylline, the new trial is sponsored by the 19 American Lung Association (ALA) Asthma Clinical Research Centers (ACRC) across the country and seeks to enroll more than 600 people, age 15 and over, who suffer from persistent asthma symptoms despite treatment. The ALA ACRC at UVM, headed by Charles Irvin, professor of medicine and director of the Vermont Lung Center, is the only ACRC in New England.

When theophylline, a pill-form treatment classified as a bronchodilator, was developed, clinicians believed it was necessary to prescribe high doses in order to open narrow, inflamed airway passages.

"Back then, clinicians followed the 'strong coffee' model of prescription," Irvin said. "They felt that, in order to get the maximum effect, they needed to prescribe the maximum strength." The medication, which became associated with side effects and drug interactions, fell out of favor when newer treatment options became available.

Scientists have decided to give theophylline another chance. Recent studies in such scientific

**Faculty, Students March into National News**

Media placements of our faculty and student body during March included several high-profile appearances:

- Gregory Gause, associate professor of political science and director of UVM's Middle East Studies Program, reviewed Martin Kramer's book, *Ivory Towers on Sand: The Failure of Middle Eastern Studies in America*, in the March/April Issue of *Foreign Affairs Magazine*. An article summarizing his review was published in *The Chronicle of Higher Education Magazine* and *Journal Reader* on March 20. View the piece at: [Gause Review](#)
- Drs. Hyman Muss and David Krag, professors of medicine and surgery, respectively, were named among the best doctors in the nation for women, as reported in the April issue of *Ladies' Home Journal* magazine. View the list at: [Best Docs.](#)
- UVM women's basketball team was featured in March 18 and 20 *Boston Globe* articles about their national postseason wins and in the *womenscollegehoops.com* top 50 rankings released April 7. The men's basketball team was featured in the *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* on March 1 and ESPN.com on March 11. Men's coach Tom Brennan was interviewed on National Public Radio's *Only a Game* March 2 and sophomore T.J. Sorrentine was named to the Associated Press All-American team March 12. Listen to coach Brennan on NPR at: [Only a Game.](#)
- Lisa Marsch, research assistant professor of psychiatry, was interviewed March 11 on ABCNews.com for a story on anti-drug abuse efforts with children. Marsch is leading a UVM study on effective treatments for opioid-dependent adolescents. Also featured in the online article was research by Alan Budney, associate professor of psychiatry, who is conducting a treatment study focused on parental involvement. View the interview at: [Kids and Drugs.](#)
- Dr. Patricia O'Brien, clinical assistant professor of medicine and physical therapy, was featured in *More* magazine's March issue in an article on women seeking experimental treatments for late-stage diseases. The story included comments from oncologist Dr. Hyman Muss, professor of medicine, and photos by medical photography director Adam Riesner.

journals as *The Lancet* and the *American Journal of Respiratory Critical Care Medicine* suggest that theophylline may have the capacity to reduce airway inflammation and clear away mucus in reduced doses – one-quarter to one-third of those needed to open asthmatic passages. The LODO study seeks to identify whether or not theophylline can be an effective add-on therapy that will produce better overall results for asthmatics.

In order to compare the effects and safety of low doses of theophylline, the study also is looking at the effects of Montelukast (sold as Singular), as well as a placebo, on asthma patients. During the study, the patient, the investigator and the staff will not know which treatment each participant receives. Over the course of six months, study participants will take one capsule with dinner each evening. They also will record their peak expiratory flow daily, measured by how fast they can blow out an inhaled steroid.

"About a third of all asthma sufferers are unable to manage their asthma well," Irvin said. Secondary benefits to this drug, he said, are "the convenience of a pill versus an inhaler, and the fact that Theophylline is very inexpensive."

The ALA ACRC will be holding an informational event on asthma and the LODO trial at the University Mall in South Burlington on May 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the JC Penney courtyard. The days' activities will include free, two-minute breathing tests; asthma treatment mini-seminars; "Faces of Asthma," a slideshow featuring celebrities with asthma; access to asthma experts; and educational displays and literature.

Information about the LODO trial: Mary Lynn, 847-2193.

### Animal Care in Outsourced Hands

UVM will contract with Charles River Laboratories of Wilmington, Mass., to take over the work currently performed by the Office of Animal Care Management.

The work entails all aspects related to the care and maintenance of approximately 3,000 mice and other small research animals. Cited as the reason in a university statement is "the changing nature of the research work, particularly related to projects in the genetics area, [which] has increased the complexity and level of sophistication required to adequately perform the animal care work."

University officials said Charles River will enhance the quality of care, strengthen the research enterprise, protect the research revenue stream and add state-of-the-art expertise and emergency intervention.

Charles River has expressed interest in interviewing the 11 UVM employees of the unit.

Employees were first notified of the possibility in December. Recently, they were notified of the decision in a meeting and in an April 15 letter,

### Reading Motherhood

The love of their mothers can drive men and women to acts both beautiful and extreme.

Take Willi Coleman, professor of history and ALANA studies. In the midst of April 16's record-setting heat, she donned her mother's 60-year-old fur coat to kick off a reading of poetry and prose about motherhood by four UVM faculty.

"We're honoring extraordinary women without all the cards and commercial stuff attached," Coleman told her Old Mill audience.

From Philip Baruth's dog-sledding, self-actualized mom in 1970's upstate New York to David Huddle's prim stray-dog adopting mother in rural Virginia, the readings covered vast amounts of geographic and emotional ground. They traversed farflung literary forms as well, with Huddle and Baruth reading poems, and Frank Bryan, Coleman and Baruth sharing their prose.

Coleman reached back to her Southern childhood to read an essay about having her hair hot-combed by her mother. During the primping and the pulling and the combing, her mother talked and talked, showing parts of herself to Coleman and her sisters that they never saw at other times. Frank Bryan's "A Christmas Card for Mother" told the wrenching story of a woman alone and in agony in rural Vermont as she raised him and his brothers.

"I hope we can do this again," Bryan said at the end of the reading. "Perhaps even closer to Mother's Day next time."

### Four Students Receive Governor's Awards

Four students and members of Volunteers in Action were recognized recently for their community service involvement in the Burlington area and beyond. **Dana Stromberg**, who coordinates the *Vermont Children's Magazine*, **Keegan Tierney**, past director of Alternative Spring Break, and **Maren Spitz** and **Eve Weiskopf**, two of the Food Salvage coordinators, were honored with the 2002 Governor's Awards for Outstanding Community Service. Stromberg also was selected as one of Burlington's Neighborhood Night of Success stories, a program to acknowledge community residents who contribute to the well-being of Burlington.

Stromberg, a senior majoring in English and psychology, has worked with the *Vermont Children's Magazine* for four years. Now the coordinator, she matches UVM students with local elementary schools to work with young students and creative writing. The program publishes the students' work in a magazine once each semester.

Spitz, a psychology major, and Weiskopf, a social work major, are juniors who met as first-year students in 1999 on Community Service TREK, when they worked on a Habitat for Humanity

which triggered a 30-day notice under union contract requirements before the change can be implemented.

### **Three Positions Cut in Telecommunications**

University officials announced on April 15 that three positions will be eliminated in the Telecommunications Office. The employees will receive severance and extended benefit packages comparable to those given to laid-off Continuing Education employees.

Officials said increased industry competition, technological automation and reduced demand for services led to the layoffs.

home-building project. They have collaborated since then to organize and serve a weekly meal to the homeless population of Burlington every Sunday night at the King Street Youth Center.

Tierney, who is graduating this spring with a wildlife biology degree, directed the Alternative Spring Break program for two years, recruiting 120 students annually to participate on community service trips over spring break, including Habitat for Humanity homebuilding in Indiana, working with the homeless in Florida, preserving trails in Tennessee and serving AIDS/HIV patients in New York City.

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**Taming of the Shrew**

Coleman Zeigen (Lucentio) and Thom Rivera (Tranio) of The Acting Company will appear in Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, a Lane Series presentation, April 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Flynn Theatre. A pre-event discussion at the Flynn Gallery will feature Kaara Peterson, visiting assistant professor of English, and Nick Clary of St. Michael's College. Tickets: 656-3085 or 86-FLYNN. (Photo: Ken Howard)

**Symposium: Banks, Business and the Holocaust**

The Miller Symposium, an annual event of the Center for Holocaust Studies, will examine "Business and Industry under the Nazi Regime" this year. The April 21, daylong event will take place in the Campus Center Theater, Billings, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Following introductory remarks by Interim President Edwin Colodny and center director David Scrase, five academic experts on the Holocaust will speak:

- Harold James, professor of history at Princeton University: "'Aryanization' and the Involvement of German Banks."
- Gerald Feldman, professor of history at U.C. Berkeley: "Financial Institutions and Nazi Germany: Reluctant or Willing Collaborators?"
- Simon Reich, professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh: "Who was in Charge? American Investment and the Question of Culpability."
- Peter Hayes, professor of history, Northwestern University: "The Chemistry of Business-State Relations in Nazi Germany."
- Michael Allen, Georgia Institute of Technology: "The Business of Genocide: SS, Slave Labor and the Concentration Camps."

**Sugar on Snow in Spring**

The annual Sugar-on-Snow Party returns to the Bailey/Howe Library Portico on April 23, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. The sugar (UVM maple syrup), the music (Atlantic Crossing), the exhibits (in Marsh Life Sciences) are all free.

The party made its first appearance in 1991, the joint bicentennial year of UVM and Vermont statehood. The Vermont Maple Industry Council revived the Dean Hill sugar Party tradition, so fondly remembered by many UVM and community members. Visitors can park in the Water Tower lot off East Avenue and take the UVM shuttle to the event or in the visitors' lot on College Street, at Prospect Street.

Information: 656-4389 or [crv@uvm.edu](mailto:crv@uvm.edu)

**Saving the Southern Forests**

Author Janisse Ray will discuss her work as an environmental activist and will read from her current works on April 18, at 5 p.m., in John Dewey Lounge, Old Mill.

Ray, who lives on the coastal plains of southern Georgia, wrote *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*. Published in 1999, it won praise from *The New York Times* – "The forests of the South find their Rachel Carson" – and awards from the Southern Book Critics Circle for non-fiction, the Southeastern Booksellers Society and the Before Columbus Society.

Her second book, *Piecing a Wild Card Quilt*, about rural community, will be published later this year. She also has published essays and poetry in *Wild Earth*, *Natural History*, *Orion*, *American Nature Writing 2000* and other regional and national publications. Ray currently is working on a collection of poems and a nonfiction account of life in rural Georgia.

**Lecture Spotlights Library of Allen Brothers' Ally**

Kevin Graffagnino, executive director of the Kentucky Historical Society, and Jeffrey Marshall, acting director for research collections, Bailey/Howe Library, will present "Treasures Found: The Bradley Family Books and Papers," April 18, at 4 p.m., in the Special Collections reading room.

The presentation will introduce a remarkable collection of books and papers, the legacy of Stephen Rowe Bradley (1754-1830) and his son

Registration, information: 656-1492, [Holocaust Studies](#) or [uvmchs@zoo.uvm.edu](mailto:uvmchs@zoo.uvm.edu)

### **Conference to Explore End of Life Topics**

Continuing Medical Education is sponsoring "The First Green Mountain End of Life Conference: Issues, Ideas, and Innovations" at the Radisson Hotel April 25 - 27. Topics include the dying child, physician-assisted suicide/euthanasia and end-of-life research.

The keynote speaker on April 25 is Deborah Witt Sherman, a Project on Death in America faculty scholar from New York University. The keynote presenter for April 26 is Dr. Robert Orr, director of clinical ethics at Fletcher Allen Health Care and professor of family practice at UVM.

Also lecturing will be UVM faculty members Dr. Hyman Muss, professor of medicine, and Dr. Arnold Golodetz, clinical associate professor of medicine.

Information: 656-2292 or [Continuing Medical Education](#).

### **Speaker to Address Aging Drivers and Independence**

Robin A. Barr, deputy head of the office of extramural affairs at the National Institute on Aging, will be keynote speaker at the UVM Forum on Aging's spring conference, April 18. He will speak on "The Road Ahead: The Emerging Role of Driving in Maintaining Independence in Late Life."

The free, public conference will be held at Memorial Lounge, Waterman, from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Information: Megan Johnson, 656-3238, or [Megan Johnson](#)

William Czar Bradley (1782-1867). The elder Bradley, of Westminster, Vt., and Walpole, N.H., was one of the first lawyers to settle in Vermont, where he became an ally of the Allen family in the struggle for Vermont's independence. After Vermont was admitted to the United States in 1791, he was the state's first U.S. senator. His son, William C. Bradley, followed in his father's footsteps and practiced law in Westminster for the better part of six decades. William served twice in Congress, and later switched parties to become one of Vermont's leading Jacksonian Democrats.

The library established by the elder Bradley and expanded by his son contains works of Roman poets, printed in the 16th century, to the latest European novels of the mid-19th century. Comprising some 1,600 volumes, the collection embraces history, biography, religion, and textbooks in half a dozen languages. Also included is the law library of Daniel Kellogg, William C. Bradley's son-in-law, containing more than 200 volumes from the 1790s to the 1840s. The Bradley papers offer a fresh look at topics of interest in Vermont's early history, including the turbulent years of the Vermont Republic and the War of 1812. An extensive series of papers documents William C. Bradley's work as U.S. agent for the U.S.-Canada boundary survey from 1817 to 1821.

Refreshments will follow the lecture; please RSVP 656-2138.

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*April 17-23***Awards and Honors**

The University of Vermont Libraries is proud to announce that **Birdie MacLennan**, library associate professor, has been awarded the New England Technical Services Award for Excellence in Library Technical Services "for her dedication to the profession and her contributions to technical services librarianship in New England."

**Vaughn Collins**, graduate alumnus in community development and applied economics, has been appointed chief of the Federal Duck Stamp Program in the Fish and Wildlife Service. The Department of Interior program has, since its inception in 1934, raised more than \$500 million to conserve more than five million acres of prime waterfowl habitat. His previously worked for the National Partnership Office of the National Rural Development Program (NRDP) at USDA.

**Armin Grams**, professor emeritus of human development and family studies, will receive an honorary doctor of letters from his alma mater, Concordia University, at Spring convocation, May 4. Grams attended his 50th class reunion in 1995 and presented a public lecture at Concordia in 1999, "Promoting Successful and Productive Aging."

**Mark Starrett**, assistant professor of plant and soil sciences, will receive the 2002 National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Teacher Fellow Award at the annual NACTA conference in June. The award for excellence in post-secondary education recognizes teachers who attract and motivate students, have effective teaching methods, are active in departmental and institutional affairs and link to the public.

**Publications and Presentations**

**Rocki-Lee DeWitt**, dean and professor of business administration, co-authored a paper, "Stuck in the Middle: A Control-Based Model of Managers' Reactions to Their Subordinates' Layoffs," accepted by the *Journal of Managerial Issues*. Co-authors are Linda Klebe Trevino at The Pennsylvania State University and Kelly A. Mollica at Wake Forest University.

*April 10-16***Honors and Awards**

**Gail Rose** research associate in psychiatry, project director in the Health Behavior Research Center and adjunct instructor in education, has been selected for the Alcohol Medical Scholars Program for 2002-2003, a national program to enhance alcohol and drugs education in medical schools. Rose is one of five junior faculty selected nationally. She and the other designates will work with the program's director, Dr. Marc Schuckit, in two three-day meetings at international sites. They will focus on the development of effective lectures and presentation styles, academic career development, teaching techniques and strategies for integrating new material on substance use disorders and their treatment into the medical school curriculum.

**Warren Schaeffer**, professor of microbiology and molecular genetics and a member of the executive council of Vermont's AARP, was selected to be Interim President of AARP for the state of Vermont.

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## Living Language

**For 26 years, UVM's Latin Day has celebrated language and literature to high school students throughout Vermont**

By Kevin Foley



Herculean labor: A Mt. Mansfield student slays a hydra during a Latin Day skit. The school dominated awards at the April 12 event. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Philip Ambrose, professor of classics, is declaiming, sounding couplets in the resonant voice that has shared the greatest thoughts and words of Western Civilization with UVM students for 40 years.

But this time, the poet is not Homer, Euripides or Ovid. The author is Bob Slayton's Latin class from Mt. Mansfield Union High School, one of the 15 schools scattered throughout Vermont and New Hampshire that sent

a combined 1,000 students to the 26th annual Vermont Latin Day on April 12.

"Forever he will care for us," Ambrose recites, "by the sign of Sagittarius. "

"I love it," Ambrose continues, chuckling at his memory of the verse. "The meter is just off enough for me to believe that they wrote it all themselves. "

At Latin Day, the language that gave English *gravitas* tends toward, well, the groovy. The Mansfield students put a mythological spin on "Puff the Magic Dragon" to accompany their clever skit describing the travails of Hercules. (Sample line: "Although bleeding from a portal, I cannot die because I'm immortal.") Actors from Essex High School acted a skit based on the myth of Aquarius accompanied by musicians and a tie-dyed chorus playing, inevitably, "The Age of Aquarius."

Amid the welter of a gymnasium packed with togas of every fabric and size, bushy fake beards, ersatz Centurion shields and a 10-foot-tall crab ready to moonlight at the Bread and Puppet Theater, the products of sustained study are on display everywhere. Students as young as 12 confidently volley verb conjugations in quizzes. About 50 high schoolers, an excellent turnout, took a tough hour-long Latin translation exam.

"We give them the real thing," says Mark Usher, assistant professor of classics, who organized the event this year, taking the time-shredding task previously handled by Ambrose. "We find primary sources that are appropriate to their level."

The 2002 Latin Day used the theme "Ad Astra: Constellations in Greek and Roman Myth" as the underpinning for skits, songs, quizzes and displays. Participating students drew on selections Usher culled from Hyginus's *Astronomicon* and *Fabulae* as their inspiration, combining classics and contemporary culture in ways both bizarre and delightful.

**'Responsible popularization'**

### STEP Follows TAP

"There are a lot of great physics problems inside musical instruments," explains Malcolm Sanders, a physics instructor, music lover and self-described "fiddler of long standing."

### SNR to Direct Forest Research

The School of Natural Resources has received a \$1 million federal appropriation to spur research in forest management and land stewardship in the 26-million-acre Northern Forest.

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Nothing about political science professor Bob Kaufman says tepid – not his ardent support for warring against terrorists, not his unwavering faith in the Reagan and W. Bush administrations, not his belief in American might and a Middle Eastern "culture of tyranny."

Keeping a gymful of creative high school students productively occupied and trouble free (despite the crowds, Latin Day hasn't had a disciplinary problem in 26 years) in this fashion is a huge undertaking. Which raises a question: Why do Usher, Ambrose and their colleagues bother? Facilitating the retelling of Greek myth to the haunting strains of "Puff the Magic Dragon," while difficult, is not exactly the stuff of which tenure is made. And yet the department and its professors eagerly dive into the work of preparing and hosting the celebration.

"The responsible popularization of a discipline is every academic's duty," says Usher. "If a student has studied Latin in high school, they come to college better prepared to study Latin – or anything. If we can contribute to that preparation, we're doing a good thing."

Latin Day also ties current UVM students to their high school alma maters – about a third of the volunteers keeping Latin Day's chariots running on time were former participants – and links scholarly efforts at UVM with the work of secondary instructors. Younger students, many who might feel isolated in small classes at tiny high schools, arrive in Burlington to find a hall teeming with peers sharing their academic interests. Latin Day also is part of UVM's efforts to keep Vermont and New England stocked with enthusiastic, knowledgeable Latin teachers.

"Our problem is to find young, energetic teachers. And that's what we're working for," Ambrose says.

That's crucial in a state where a single retirement often can decimate an entire school's Latin program if a suitable replacement isn't available. Usher and Ambrose both expressed a strong sense of stewardship of the language and the desire to contribute to training the next generation of scholars and teachers. This is a large undertaking, as Latin has long had the reputation as a discipline in trouble, especially at the secondary level; from 1962 to 1976, says the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language, the number of American students studying Latin dropped nearly 80 percent, to 150,000. The less common story is that the language's popularity in schools has bounced back since then, with 190,000 students taking the language in 1994.

Supporting Usher's point about the preparatory value of learning the principal parts of *tango*, *cedo* and *mitto*, another study by the foreign language council found that students who had taken Latin scored a mean of 647 on the SAT's verbal portion, compared with the national average of 505. Statistics like those are helping to buoy Latin's popularity among many motivated high school students, as are classes who spend more time on Roman culture than grammar. But Usher hopes students find more in pursuing the language than culture and college admissions points.

"You're not going to order a Big Mac in Latin and your textbook isn't going to show the kids smoking cigarettes in a Barcelona subway to sell the idea that learning the language is a ticket to youth culture," he says. "But after one year, you will read Ovid, Cicero, Virgil – the work that all of the great minds have read for 2,000 years."

And, at least if you're a Vermont high school student, you might just get to perform in a tie-dyed toga on the floor of Patrick Gym.

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## Stepping into Sound Majors

By Lynda Majarian



Senior Erik Kenyon explains the scientific principles that power the Fisk organ in Music Recital Hall to a STEP class studying "Physics of Music." (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

A physics class in Music Recital Hall? The idea isn't so far-fetched.

"There are a lot of great physics problems inside musical instruments," explains Malcolm Sanders, a physics instructor, music lover and self-described "fiddler of long standing."

Sanders teaches a physics course on "Physics of Music and Musical Instruments."

The course has been a

hit with students, especially those with music majors or minors needing to fulfill a science requirement. But the first student to arrive for class on Tuesday, April 16, is its sole physics major, Zach Holz, of Arlington, Tenn.

"Let's skip the physics and get to the organ," Holz says half-jokingly, studying the Fisk pipe organ that towers over the stage.

Ten minutes later, as the class of one fails to expand, Sanders isn't sure there will be a class today. Sunny skies and 80-degree temperatures may be too much temptation for the other 19 students. Eventually about half the class straggles in, laying to rest Sanders' fear that "Class might be involuntarily canceled due to clement weather."

After covering the physics basics earlier in the semester, Sanders is devoting recent classes to challenging questions: What distinguishes music from noise? How do brains process auditory information? What makes an auditorium have good or bad sound?

Today, the plan is to give students a physicist's perspective on resonance. Sanders and David Hammond, a physics instrumentation coordinator, already have set up on stage a large glass tube filled with Styrofoam packing peanuts. Then, at migraine-inducing decibels, Hammond cranks up various frequencies of sound. The dancing packing peanuts are a visual example of how frequency affects volume and pitch and creates "pressure notes." We cover our ears, waiting in vain for someone to dispense aspirin.

"You pay good money to hear music that loud downtown," Sanders says, feigning bafflement. Turning professorial again, he says, "Let's apply what we've learned about pipe resonance to an instrument that makes mighty use of it." This is the cue for Erik Kenyon, a talented organist minoring in music and bravely tackling a double major in philosophy and Greek, to take the stage. A senior and St. Albans native, Kenyon took Sanders' class last year.

What's different about this year's "Physics of Music" course is that it has been revamped through a new Arts and Sciences program called STEP that allows first-year students to sample majors and minors offered in the college. The

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goal is to help them make informed choices about their majors and, consequently, prepare for careers.

The students gather around the Fisk organ while Kenyon explains how its three keyboards, pedals and knobs control how open and closed pipes produce different qualities of sound. The language of science gives way to musical terminology – cornets and mixtures, octaves and foundations.

To demonstrate both musical and physics principles, Kenyon performs short pieces of French Baroque music by Jean Langlais, Clérambault and Bach ("because you can't have an organ recital without Bach," he explains). As he plays, some students watch over his shoulder, some lean across a nearby piano and others try sitting in different areas of the Recital Hall to sample the sound qualities.

As the last notes hover in the air, the students applaud. Then there are questions for Kenyon and Sanders – a meld of both physics and musicology, which is what the course is all about. Kenyon invites students to come up and try playing the organ themselves, and despite the balmy weather outside, most of them flock to the stage to give it a try.

Jillian Dickey, a first-year student and one of two pianists in the class, hangs back to give her fellow students a turn at the keyboard – as a music major, she has had chances to play the Fisk organ before. The South Londonderry, Vt., native admits that she has found this course difficult. Which isn't surprising: STEP classes are small, highly interactive and involve substantial writing and speaking – much like seminars juniors and seniors take.

Dickey also stresses the class has been a valuable experience for her. "If you take music seriously, you have to be serious about learning music theory," she says. Senior Kenyon agrees. As a student in last year's class, he was concurrently overseeing the restoration of a church organ built in 1833. "What I learned about physics helped me find the right scheme to perform the temperament, or timing, of the organ," he says.

Maybe science and art aren't so far apart, after all.

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### **TAP, then STEP**

Both TAP and STEP are College of Arts and Sciences programs that help students negotiate the courses and choices confronting them in their often confusing first year.

Established in 1996, the TAP, or Teacher Advisor Program, has helped students make a good start in college. Through small-group seminars, students develop critical thinking and communication skills and enjoy a sense of community in and out of the classroom. Each student's TAP instructor also is his or her advisor, an arrangement that helps guarantee students have close and frequent access to help with course selection, career options and other educational decisions.

Dean Joan Smith reports that TAP has exceeded all expectations, improving student retention and academic success.

Former TAP students attest that the program helped ease the transition from high school to college, boosted their self-confidence and thinking skills and fostered constructive liaisons with faculty.

Building on TAP's success, STEP debuted this semester. Its 38 courses are giving students with Arts and Science majors, including those in education, opportunities to explore majors and minors offered in the college.

For more about STEP, visit: [STEP](#)

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## SNR Gets \$1 Million for Forest Projects

By Jeff Wakefield

The School of Natural Resources has received a \$1 million federal appropriation to spur research in forest management and land stewardship in the 26-million-acre Northern Forest. Home to one million residents, the forest stretches from eastern Maine through New Hampshire and Vermont to northern New York.

SNR will serve as a clearinghouse for the research program, allocating funds to a diverse set of research projects relevant to the Northern Forest region through a competitive proposal process. The UVM-sponsored research will look specifically at the interplay – and sometime conflict – among social, economic and ecological interests in the area.

"The Northern Forest is one of the country's great regions," said U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, who was instrumental in securing the appropriation. "It is not only of national ecological and economic significance, it is also attractive as a recreational asset for residents and visitors alike. We need to have the basic research in hand to develop sound policy to balance what are often competing interests."

"We're grateful to Sen. Leahy for recognizing the importance of the Northern Forest and for his perseverance in securing the research funding," SNR Dean Don DeHayes said. "Because our research program spans all of the issues the Northern Forest is confronting, SNR is a good choice to lead the project." DeHayes said that the appropriation adds to a growing momentum UVM has built in recent months in the environmental arena. "It will further establish UVM as one of the country's preeminent universities for the study of the environment," he said.

UVM will ask researchers to submit a two-page summary of the forest-related research they plan in one of these areas: criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management; socioeconomic implications of recreation and tourism; diverse values and conflict resolution; social and ecological dimensions of invasive species management; forest watershed planning to support vital rural communities; and ecological and economic implications of the transition from rural to suburban forest landscapes.

UVM is permitted to make maximum award of \$250,000. "Our intention is to provide funding for a broad-based group of researchers representing a wide cross section of interests," said DeHayes. "We expect to award a range of budget requests from quite small to the maximum amount." DeHayes said the school will encourage collaborative research projects.

The Hubbard Brook Project, Northeastern Research Station, an affiliate of the University of New Hampshire, also received an appropriation of \$1 million. The project will focus on collaborative ecosystem research and assessment.

### Living Language

Philip Ambrose, professor of classics, is declaiming, sounding couplets in the resonant voice that has shared the greatest thoughts and words of Western Civilization with UVM students for 40 years.

### STEP Follows TAP

"There are a lot of great physics problems inside musical instruments," explains Malcolm Sanders, a physics instructor, music lover and self-described "fiddler of long standing."

### Hearts and Minds

Nothing about political science professor Bob Kaufman says tepid – not his ardent support for warring against terrorists, not his unwavering faith in the Reagan and W. Bush administrations, not his belief in American might and a Middle Eastern "culture of tyranny."

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## Kaufman Fights for Minds, Wins Hearts

By Lee Griffin

Nothing about political science professor Bob Kaufman says tepid – not his ardent support for warring against terrorists, not his unwavering faith in the Reagan and W. Bush administrations, not his belief in American might and a Middle Eastern "culture of tyranny." And, especially, not his reputation among students.

This semester's Dean's Lecture in Arts and Sciences award winner, Kaufman aims not for popularity but for transparency. Take his [Web site](#) – outdated, yet true to the man. Get past the two Photoshopped images – one of Kaufman with presidents Ford, Reagan and Nixon against a Capitol backdrop, the other, Kaufman's alter ego as sixth Beach Boy – and onto his opening salvo to students:

"If you are looking for a kind, sensitive instructor who will bolster your self-esteem no matter what; if you are looking for an instructor who does not care about deadlines and whether you do your work well, spare yourself the agony. Go elsewhere! You must attend class. You must hand your work in on time. You must be prepared to be called on at random. I reserve the right to give you a zero for any work handed in late without an excuse that I define as legitimate. Also, I will lower your grade for any unexcused absence beyond two."

If that doesn't scare them off, the next volley probably eliminates a few – a formidable (and expensive) required list of books that must be purchased.

Yet, they come, some in trepidation, and some to savor every class he offers throughout their UVM years. Student Thomas Mazza, a Kaufman veteran of three classes with one more in his plans, said at the April 11 lecture that Kaufman lives up to his reputation as intimidating and intellectually tough. He "feels he's failed if one-quarter of his students don't drop the class by the end of week one," Mazza said. He also called him "one of the best professors in one of the best departments at the university."

### Friendly Fire

The voluble Kaufman came well armed to talk about "No Substitute for Victory: The Current War and its Implications for American Foreign Policy," but, for the first 30 minutes, he sat, uncharacteristically silent and undefended, while students and colleagues worked the room at his expense. The prestigious, semi-annual Dean's Lecture in Arts and Sciences began more like a celebrity roast, with the podium dwellers shooting friendly fire Kaufman's way. The roasters and toasters left no doubt that Kaufman had supplied them with ample ammunition for their charge. And, also no doubt that his just deserts included this award.

Student Laura Stevens followed Mazza and promised to introduce the "softer side of Kaufman" She recalled her initial impression of him as "Oscar the Grouch." At the insistence of friends, she signed up for one of his classes, giving the bookstore about \$500 for the required books, she noted. Although "an antagonist," Oscar also turned out to be challenging, inspiring and "a source of support and solace," Stevens said. He "takes the time to truly know who his students are. He is a genuinely good and truly decent person."

Gregory Gause, associate professor of political science, drew knowing laughter with his opening barb: "It's gratifying to have a dean's lecturer who can bring the whole campus together." Kaufman, he said, has united nazis, socialists and progressives in opposition to his ideas. "Even an old-fashioned, mainstream Republican like me – well, Bob makes me nervous," Gause admitted. Gause's ending nailed the evening's thesis: Kaufman, he said, is a resource for "the

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most important type of diversity – intellectual diversity."

Mark Stoler, professor of history, made the final tribute. "There's an ugly rumor that only Gause and me were willing to introduce and say something nice about Robert Kaufman. Not true, I don't have anything nice to say about him," Stoler shammed. He and Kaufman co-taught a class last year, Stoler the Felix to Kaufman's slobby Oscar, according to Stoler. There they found agreement on many ideas only to reach divided conclusions, with one exception. They both agreed that Robert McNamara was "the chief villain" of 20th century foreign policy.

Kaufman "loves the curmudgeon image," Stoler said, "but it's a front and a fraud." He cares deeply. "And, once again, I will give him the last word."

### **The War Ahead**

Kaufman responded with sobering, hard-hitting, highly honed opinions on "World War IV," which, he said, began on Sept. 11. "It is a war against states that foment and harbor terrorists," he said, a war against "rogue regimes." Not a war against the religion of Islam, but "a war against militant Islam."

The root cause of Sept. 11 and its aftermath, he said, is attributable not to "the sins of the United States, the most decent and prosperous society the world has ever known," or to its support of Israel, but to the fact that we represent a free and open society. Kaufman's lawyerly rhetoric (among his five degrees is a juris doctor from Georgetown – the other four are from Columbia) and predictions of an "infinitely worse" attack than Sept. 11 could have inflicted insomnia on even a case-hardened liberal.

Kaufman, who has taught at the Naval War College and consulted with Richard Nixon in the preparation of his final book, said our enemies need a "seismic shock" inflicted by American power to dispel the illusion of weakness left after the 1996 war in Somalia. In "phase two" of the war on terrorism, he said, the United States must eliminate the "exceedingly dangerous" Sadaam Hussein and establish a pro-Western democracy in Iraq. Hussein, Kaufman said, heads "the most brutal and repressive regime" in the Middle East, and he will launch nerve gas or worse if we don't stop him. If we succeed, the message to other enemies, he said, will be "shut down terrorist networks or you're next."

Our biggest problem, Kaufman said, would be nation building in Iraq, but he pointed to our successes in Germany and Japan following their defeats.

Kaufman thinks the Colin Powell mission is Bush's first mistake in this war. Appeasement of our Arab allies, "at Israel's expense," he said, will invite only more attacks. Powell, he said, has been "wrong about everything in the past 10 years."

"The time for magnanimity and goodwill will come," Kaufman said, paraphrasing Churchill. "Now is the time for resolution and defiance."

In a brief question/answer period, Kaufman said Ariel Sharon likely will be replaced by Benjamin Netanyahu, who "will make Sharon look like George McGovern." He also expressed concern that the current conflict might obscure "the major issue of the next 25 years for us and the world... – dealing with the rise of Chinese power."

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