

NATURAL INQUIRER

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Department of Biological Sciences

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ALUMNI NEWS

Gene Young (MS 1993) has accepted a position as an Endangered Species Program Manager (Research Associate II) with the National Guard Readiness Center, Alexandria, VA. He will be involved with preparation and coordination of ESA and pest management documentation NGB programs and projects. It will certainly be a very diverse job as he will be working with National Guard facilities across the country.

FACULTY HAPPENINGS

Fort Hays State University was recently mentioned on two Web sites thanks to the digital photos of **Dr. Joe Thomasson**, professor of biological sciences.

One was a highly magnified photo of the tiny pores, or stomata, on a leaf. The reference, located on the Australian Broadcasting Company's Web site at www.abc.net.au/science/news/enviro/EnviroRepublsh_293607.htm, also included a link to the FHSU Web site.

The other photo was that of sunflowers and can be seen at the University of Connecticut Cooperative Home and Garden Center Web site at www.canr.uconn.edu/garden/annuals/helianthus.html.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

HAYS, KS -- Fort Hays State University's Thesis Review Committee has announced the winners of the FHSU Graduate Thesis Competition for the 2002-2003 year.

Brad Chapin, Beloit graduate student, has been selected as the winner. His thesis has also been submitted as FHSU's nominee for the 2003 Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools' Competition.

The runners-up for the competition were **Jamie Timson** (BS 1999, MS 2002), Salina, and Curtis Stevens, Scott City graduate student in history. Each author was the recipient of a \$150 prize and certificate.

Timson's thesis is "Breeding Productivity, Post-fledging Movements, and Description of the Immature Stage of

House Wrens" and was advised by **Dr. Greg Farley**, associate professor of biological sciences.

Thesis Review Committee judges were Dr. David Goodlett, assistant professor of history; **Dr. Frank Potter**, associate professor of biological sciences; and Dr. Tom Schafer, assistant professor of geosciences.

The MAGS competition includes 15 other states with entries from more than 140 institutions.

ODDS AND ENDS

Nichole Lambrecht has been accepted into the M.Sc. program in Conservation Ecology & Planning at the University of Pretoria, South Africa (www.up.ac.za/academic/zoology/). The intensive 12-month program begins in February 2003 and includes 7 months of coursework followed by 5 months of research. Niki will complete her B.S. in December 2002, with a major in Biology (emphasis in Biodiversity & Conservation Biology) and minors in Chemistry and Spanish. During her 4½ years at FHSU, Niki worked in the Sternberg Museum Collection of



Niki and Dr. Farley at Bird Banding Site

Fishes, assisted with avian research at the local bird-banding site and with graduate students, assisted with GIS mapping for faculty and students, and served as editorial assistant for the *Southwestern Naturalist*. Niki also served as President of the Biology Club for 2 years.