

## One student hospitalized in Sigma Chi fire

A Miami student remains hospitalized following an early morning fire Friday, Nov. 10, at the Sigma Chi fraternity house, which forced the evacuation of approximately 50 students.

Robert Ammarell, 21, a zoology major from Nashville, Tenn., remains in serious condition (at press time) at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, after being airlifted there from McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital in Oxford Friday. Ammarell suffered smoke inhalation.

The fire was reported to the Oxford fire department at about 5:10 a.m. The probable cause of the blaze was a lighted candle left unattended in an area of combustible materials, said Len Endress, Oxford fire chief. No other injuries were reported.

Miami officials have made arrangements for housing the Sigma Chi members. Donations of clothing and vouchers for food and clothing are being distributed to the fraternity members.



Kevin Ruppert, a sixth-grader from Anthony Wayne Elementary School in Franklin, shadowed Suzanne Clements, a middle childhood education major, while she attended classes Nov. 1. Kevin participates in Teens for Literacy, a program directed by Allen Berger (teacher education) in which students and their teachers devise plans to encourage reading among their peers and/or among younger students in their schools.

## Forum part of NCAA self-study process

A team of 43 faculty, staff, students and alumni representatives recently completed a self-study report of Miami's department of intercollegiate athletics as part of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) certification process.

To fulfill one of the goals of the self-study—engaging the university community in the process—an open forum has been scheduled 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, in 246 Millett Hall. The draft of the final self-study report will be distributed to the board of trustees at the Dec. 8 trustee meeting.

The certification process also involves a campus visit by an NCAA evaluation team. That visit will occur April 9-12, 2001, and Phillip Dubois, president of the University of Wyoming, will lead the peer review team.

A self-study steering committee and four subcommittees were appointed in September 1999, with Richard Norman, vice president for finance and business services, chairing the steering committee.

"The certification procedures are time-consuming, with a number of people volunteering their time on the committees for over a year and a half. But it is important for Miami to maintain its NCAA certification, which is a validation of the integrity and values

## James Oris to present 'Researcher of the Year' seminar

James Oris, Miami's Sigma Xi Researcher of the Year, will present "Ecotoxicology of Fossil Fuels in the Aquatic Environment: From Molecules to Ecosystems" at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28, in 116 Pearson Hall. A reception will precede the seminar at 3:30 p.m.

the phototoxicity of fossil fuels in fish and sediment pollutants.

He is working on an Environmental Protection Agency-funded project in Lake Tahoe and other alpine lakes to develop a monitoring system for assessment of ecological integrity. His re-

San Antonio, Texas, and the New Bedford Harbor in New Bedford, Mass.

Oris is also involved in the development of multimedia materials for use in the environmental science classroom.

Sigma Xi is an international scien-