

Saltwater News

A Monthly Newsletter for UNH Marine Program Faculty, Staff and Students
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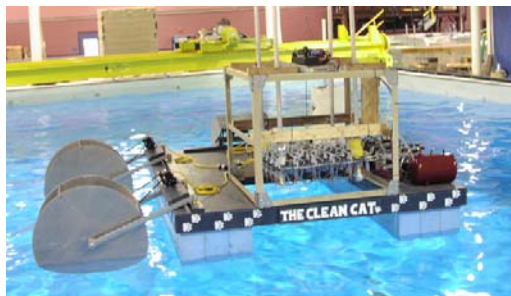
Congratulations!

Congratulations to Zoology PhD graduate student **April Blakeslee** and her husband, Mike, on the birth of their first child - Westley James Blakeslee. Westley was born on September 12, 2005 and weighed in at 6 pounds 8 ounces. Best wishes, April and Mark!

Student News

The Clean Cat

In our maiden issue of Saltwater News in August 2002, we reported on a Student Project from TECH 797 called "The Clean Cat". This "Clean Cat", a wetland oil spill



remediation vessel, was designed by students to be able to move autonomously over shallow, flooded wetlands

contaminated by hydrocarbons and to inject nutrients into the soil to stimulate hydrocarbon breakdown by the microorganisms. Faculty advisors for this project were **Nancy Kinner, Tom Ballestero** and **Dave Fredriksson**. The student design team was made up of **Glenn McGillicuddy** (now a graduate student), **Mathew Levander, James Mulcahey, James Tyler, Stan Boduch** (currently a Research Engineer with UNH's OOA), **Richard Clark, Matthew Manning** and **Mike Mazzone**.

This is one "student project" that won't be forgotten! While known as "The Clean Cat" in its development phase, we have just received word that a patent was awarded on September 27, 2005 for the newly named "**Remediation Injection Vessel For Marshes, Tidal Flats, and Wetlands**".

Congratulations to all involved!

Please help us by submitting more news about students working on marine-related research topics for future issues of the newsletter to Linda Wade.

Faculty News

The Fall 2005 edition of the Parents Association Newsletter *Parenthesis* carries an article about **Dr. Marian Litvaitis** and her involvement as the UNH representative in the Consortium for the Barcoding of Life (CBOL). Marian extols the virtues of the "Barcoding of Life" initiative, a global effort to establish a giant catalog of life using DNA barcoding.

Quoting from the article, "Consumers of the data will include bio-prospectors looking for species with the potential of yielding new and lifesaving drugs; forensics specialists searching for organic "clues" to a crime; or marine officials tackling fraud in commercial fisheries."

Marian has used molecular barcoding in her research for several years and now that UNH is a member of this consortium, will be contributing information to this global database.

Last summer, Litvaitis, along with two graduate students and a post-doctoral candidate, spent more than a month in the waters of the Caribbean collecting polyclad flatworms



as part of an ongoing National Science Foundation (NSF) funded study on the biodiversity of that species. The picture shows (from left to right) Marcela Bolanos (Zoology graduate student), **Dr. Marian Litvaitis** (Principal Investigator), **Dr. Kate**

Rawlinson (post-doctoral research associate), Anne DuPont (volunteer underwater photographer); sitting: **Sigmer Quiroga** (Zoology graduate student).

Next year, as part of the same NSF grant, Litvaitis and her graduate students will study flatworms in Jamaica, Belize, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Honduras.

To read the full article online, go to www.unh.edu/parents/f_newsletter.htm.

Beyond New Hampshire

Larry Harris – Zoology - is on sabbatical in Chile where he reports (from his apartment overlooking miles of ocean front and from where he views the daily sunsets!) that as its Spring in Chile, the days are getting longer. The sunsets are spectacular and the desert will soon be in full bloom due to early Spring rains. Talk about your tough duty!

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CCOM's **Larry Mayer, Andy Armstrong, Brian Calder** and **Lloyd Huff** participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Shallow Survey 2005 International Conference in Plymouth, UK September 12-15. Also attending were **Shep Smith, Rick Brennan** and **John Hall**. CCOM will be sponsoring this conference in 2008 for as many as 300 people from around the world.

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Danny Badger, MS graduate student in Natural Resources, attended the 135th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Anchorage, Alaska in September 2005. At this meeting he gave a presentation on sixgill shark population dynamics in the Puget Sound basin, research he did in collaboration with Dr. Vince Gallucci's UW Shark Group and Greg Bargmann of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife while an undergraduate at the University of Washington.

Joining Danny were several other UNH students **Ben Galuardi** and **Jamie Cournane** who gave oral and poster presentations. Danny reports that there was an incredibly diverse representation of fisheries work being done from around the world at the symposium giving students and others endless (sometimes overwhelming) networking opportunities, as well as some valuable exposure to the national and global effort of understanding our oceans in all dimensions. He said it was a treat to be able to get experience at such an event, and hopes to contribute again to the conference next year, perhaps with an even larger UNH representation.

Marine Program Pot-Pouri

The Marine Program extends its heartfelt sympathies to **Wendell Brown** and his family on the loss of his youngest son, Tyler, on October 9. Tyler died in a car accident in San Francisco while exploring graduate school options. Wendell worked at UNH for 25 years before moving on to UMASS Dartmouth several years ago. While at UNH, Wendell was an integral part of the Marine Program as

well as Director of the Ocean Process Analysis Laboratory in Morse Hall.

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Welcome to the following new faces at CCOM: Research Scientist **Brian Locke** who joined CCOM in early September; Research Scientist **Kurt Schwehr** who joined in August, and **Jason Greenlaw**, part time IT Specialist.

## NH Sea Grant College Program

Seeking funding for your graduate or post-grad work? Now is the time to apply for a fellowship sponsored by the National Sea Grant College Program. Applications are being accepted for a variety of fellowship opportunities:

- The **Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship** (deadline 3/10/2006) is open to graduate and professional students in marine- or aquatics-related fields. Fellows spend a year in Washington, D.C., working in federal agencies or programs and in congressional offices on Capitol Hill.
- The **NMFS/Sea Grant Fellowship in Population Dynamics** (deadline 2/10/2006) is available to Ph.D. candidates studying the population dynamics of living marine resources and the development of methods for analyzing their status. At least two awards are issued nationally.
- The **NMFS/Sea Grant Fellowship in Resource Economics** (deadline 2/10/2006) is available to Ph.D. candidates interested in the development and implementation of methods for assessing the economics of marine conservation and management. A minimum of two awards are issued nationally.
- The **Sea Grant/Industry Fellowship Program** (deadline 2/10/2006) is available for M.S. and Ph.D. students interested in a research-and-development project on topics of interest to a particular industry or company. Recipients will work closely with a faculty advisor, a Sea Grant representative and an industry representative, who will share research facilities and costs. Five fellowships are awarded nationally.

For more information and application guidelines, please visit [www.seagrant.unh.edu/fellowships.html](http://www.seagrant.unh.edu/fellowships.html) or contact NH Sea Grant Director **Jonathan Pennock** ([jonathan.pennock@unh.edu](mailto:jonathan.pennock@unh.edu), 603.862.7007).