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ENTERTAINMENT, COMRADERIE ARE DRAWS AT UD COFFEEHOUSE

When a group of "monks" convenes on the University of Dayton campus, it doesn't always have something to do with religion.

For 15 years, University of Dayton students have congregated at Monk's Inn, a non-alcoholic coffeehouse on campus, to enjoy music and a spirit of comraderie. Current and former "monks" will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the club, located in the basement of Liberty Hall, on Saturday, April 8 from 7 p.m. to midnight.

"Once you've been to Monk's Inn one or two times, you begin to feel a part of the comraderie, to enjoy the music and the atmosphere," said Carol Kuss, graduate assistant in biology at UD and general manager of Monk's Inn. "I think the attraction is probably the performers themselves, getting to know them. Students like the music and the atmosphere, and they might even get the opportunity to perform. If you've never performed before, it's a safe place to start. It's small, and I don't think there's ever been anyone booed there."

The club's normal hours are 9 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday. For further information on Monk's Inn, contact Brother Dan Klco, campus minister and moderator of the club, at (513) 229-2524.

UDRI RESEARCH MAY LEAD TO A 30 PERCENT CUT IN GAS COSTS

University of Dayton senior research engineer Norm Hecht thinks he has discovered one piece of a puzzle that may one day cut gasoline costs by 30 percent. It's replacing a car's metal engine with a ceramic one.

In the University of Dayton Research Institute (UDRI), Hecht, a resident of Oakwood, is the principal investigator in a U.S. Department of Energy project that involves studying ceramics for use in heat engines--gas turbines and diesels. An all-ceramic engine, he explains, can operate at 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit and above--some 500 to 700 degrees higher than metal engines. "That small increase will dramatically improve engine efficiency," he says.

UDRI's role in the program is to define the properties of advanced ceramics, measuring mechanical properties under high-temperature environments.

Hecht's contributions to materials research, particularly high-temperature ceramics, were saluted March 31 when he received the 1989 Sigma Xi Award. Presented by the UD chapter of Sigma Xi, a national scientific and technical society, the award recognized Hecht's effort and commitment to research.

For media interviews, contact Norm Hecht at (513) 229-4343.



The University of Dayton

For further information or assistance in scheduling interviews, contact Public Relations and University Communications, 229-3241.