



Speech class al fresco

staff photo by Jane Hollingsworth

Students in Dr. Heiling's speech communications class enjoy the early morning weather Tuesday by having class outdoors near the Memorial Student Center.

Wildlife said faring 'too well'

Kenya hunting ban hit

United Press International
NAIROBI, Kenya — Since Kenya banned game hunting five years ago the animals have been doing very well — too well. The expanding wildlife population now rivals drought as the main cause of crop and livestock destruction. Elephants, buffaloes, lions, leopards, monkeys, hyenas, wild pigs and even porcupines trample freely through the bush from Marsabit to Mombasa eating or crushing crops and livestock valued at more than \$7 million per year. Now ecologists, conservationists, politicians, farmers and newspapers who once campaigned to save the wildlife are clamoring for at least a limited and controlled lifting of the hunting ban introduced in 1977. "Wildlife numbers have built up to such numbers that the impact on crops and agriculture is enormous," said Dr. David Western, a member of the New York Zoological Society and a Kenya government wildlife trustee who spends most of his time in the field. "Kenya cannot afford the tremendous losses in the arid agricultural areas it is now experiencing. The crops have to be protected," Western said. Almost any other form of protection besides limited hunting would prove as costly as the

value of the crops destroyed, "a zero solution," said Western. Wildlife growth since the 1977 ban is impressive. Zebra and wildebeest population increased by more than 50 percent. Between 1979 and 1981 the buffalo population doubled to almost 250,000. At the Ziwani sisal estate near Mt. Kilimanjaro, a herd of elephants and baboons ate their way through 1,500 of the estate's 35,000 acres in two days. Game rangers came — and watched. "They shot off some blanks to scare the elephants. How can they expect to scare off hun-


dreds of elephants with blanks?" asked estate manager Harry Shamash. The cost — \$500,000 in lost crops. At the near-by village of Mbo-lo, farmers sleep in shifts to protect their small corn crops from elephants. Their only means of protection is to beat tribal drums to frighten the animals. "If a herd of elephants walked into the center of Nairobi and started demolishing shops, they would be shot on the spot and owners would be handsomely compensated," one politician said. A government compensation

scheme is supposed to reimburse farmers for lost property, but it has proved inadequate, slow and plagued by fraud, corruption and bureaucratic tangles. Farmers claim payment is far below true value and often takes two years or more to reach them. In 1979 farmers claimed \$6 million. The government had set aside \$400,000. More than crops are destroyed. About 100 people are believed to be killed by wild animals every year. Under Kenya game laws, even killing a protected animal in self defense is a punishable offense.

Engines of 1990s may be ceramic

United Press International
NEW YORK — The preferred automobile engine of the 1990s may be made largely of ceramics instead of steel, says John Lanning, a specialist for Corning Glass Works of Corning, N.Y. The engines will be either gas turbines or adiabatic turbocharged diesels. Adiabatic means operating at even temperature. They will run at extremely high temperatures and will use at least 25 percent less fuel than today's diesels and a lot less than gasoline engines. They will need minimal, or even no cooling. They will cost more than today's engines but will last a lot longer and the gas turbines will have multifuel capability, burning anything from powdered coal to methanol alcohol, or kerosene. Both types of engine could burn hydrogen. Lanning said Corning already is making prototype ceramic parts out of Zirconia or alumina nitride for such experimental engines. Many of these have been tested on the road and in off-highway and stationary applications. But for ordinary automotive and marine use, they still are years away because it takes time and hundreds of millions of dollars

to develop a new breed of engine for mass use and prove its capability by sustained performance tests. The ceramic components also are being developed by GTE-Sylvania, Carborundum and Norton in the United States and by many European and Japanese companies. Their purpose is to withstand high temperatures and corrosion. Heavy castings and forgings such as blocks and crankshafts would continue to be of metal but the cylinder liners, piston heads, manifolds and turbocharger parts on the diesel and many internal parts of the turbines would be ceramic. The high-temperature engines burn the fuel more completely and thus greatly reduce harmful exhaust emissions.

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