

Multi-media electrifies riverbank

By LARRY PERL
Staff Writer

At 10:30 on Tuesday night two men lugged a large multi-indented sculpture, covered with what looked like ultrashiny aluminum foil, out a side door of the Music Building and set it down on the grass, about 20 yards from the Iowa River.

They went back inside and came out again five minutes later, this time carrying a piano stool, an ample roll of extension cord and a movie projector. They set the projector on the

piano stool facing the sculpture and disappeared inside the building with the extension cord, presumably to plug it in somewhere.

One man appeared again and turned on the projector. White light bounced off the sculpture and cast weird shapes onto the Music Building.

Appearing dissatisfied, the man walked over to the sculpture and shook it, gazing at the building. The shapes on the building began to flicker and dance. The man stopped

shaking the sculpture. The shapes stopped dancing. "Too bad there's no wind tonight," the man said.

The other man returned holding a small amplifier of sorts and set it down behind a small bush at the base of the building. He plugged it in and flipped a switch. Electronic bleeps cut through the air while the patterns of light jumped around on the side of the building.

The two men are Eric Jensen, professor of electronic music, and one of his students. The spectacle was simply a trial test for one of the numerous sound and light exhibits to be experienced at 9:30 p.m. Saturday at an electronic music-intermedia art class sponsored program on the riverbank alongside the Music Building.

As the dark of night sets in, people will be free to mill around, hearing and seeing everything from colored lights on the waters of the Iowa River to an electronic rendition of Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel."

"I'm not sure whether to call the program a concert or a show," Jensen said. "Let's just say it's an outdoor museum of environmental light and sound pieces."

The program will be environmental in the sense that Jensen's students and the

students under Hans Breder, associate professor of art, will try to fit their musical and art productions to the natural and man-made landscape of the Iowa River around Hancher Auditorium and the Music Building.

Jensen doesn't see the program as experimental. "These projects are the product of experimentation," he said. "They are the end result of experiments, not the experiments themselves."

Colored lights across the water? Elvis Presley in 'bleep'? The Music Building turned into a movie screen? If you can't take it sitting down, try it standing up. It's visual, it's oral and it's all happening on the riverbank by the Music Building at 9:30 p.m. Saturday.

Oh, and by the way, the aluminum foil on the sculpture is really a special plastic called reflecterized acetate, and the amplifier of sorts is a portable Moog synthesizer. There is method in this madness after all.

Labor urged to use muscle in government

By GREG VAN NOSTRAND
Staff Writer

Saying that not all politicians are crooks, a spokesman for the Iowa Federation of Labor advised members of Iowa's trade unions to get active in politics in order to have a voice in government.

Jim Wingert, secretary-treasurer for the organization, told 40 union members that only by participating in government at every level can they have a real say in democracy.

"There's no organization — not the Chamber of Commerce or the League of Women Voters — like the trade unions that's got the muscle, the know-how to turn government around," Wingert said.

Speaking at the fourth day of a week-long labor short course in the Union, Wingert told the group. "We have the power to do anything we want."

"If we cut unemployment from 9½ per cent to 3 per cent, we could have a \$10 billion surplus rather than a \$60 billion deficit,"

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