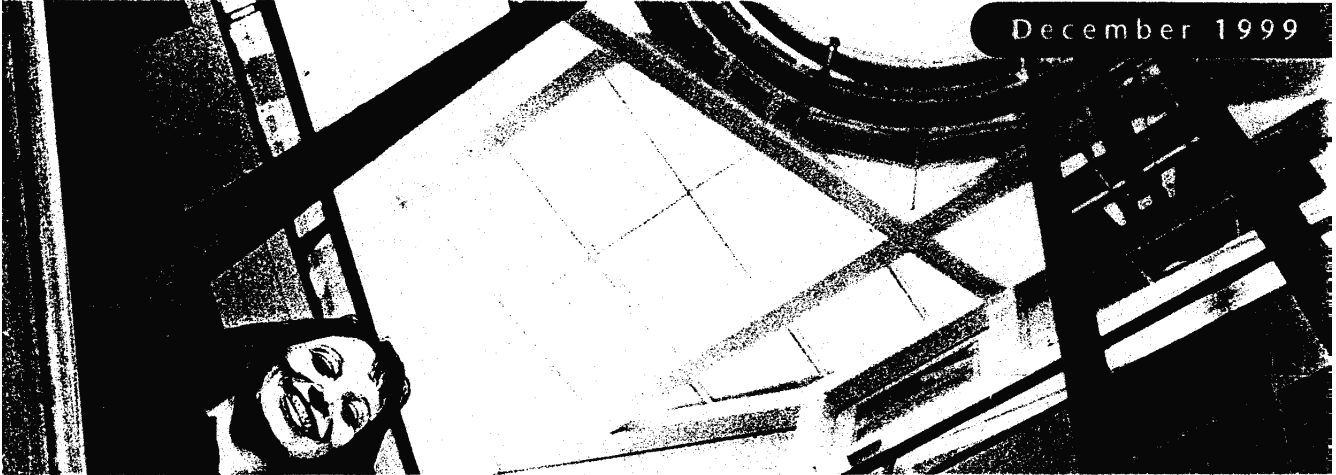


CASE alumnus

Serving Alumni of the Case School of Engineering and the
Applied Sciences of Case Western Reserve University

December 1999



JUST IN CASE

COMFORT ZONE

Mechanical engineering students Neal Pence and Ryan Hollinger (right) put the finishing touches on their "Protecto Zone" creation, a portable booth that enables individuals with multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) to leave the protected environment of their homes and attend sporting and theatrical events. Toni Temple, (center) whose MCS generally confines her to her home, was the inspiration for the project.

The unit, the first of its kind, is designed to be carried and assembled easily by one person. Constructed of plexiglass and wood, it features an air filtration system that constantly pumps in filtered air and a sound receiver mounted on the top of it that can be adjusted from the inside. Cleveland's Playhouse Square Theater complex is using the booth for per-

formances this fall. The booth can be used by individuals with MCS as well as people with asthma, severe allergies or undergoing chemotherapy.

"Our hope was to provide this disability unit as a solution to a problem," said Dr. Richard Kolacinski,

(left) director of the Case Engineering Service Group, which provides pro bono engineering to the local medical and rehabilitation community. "The Service Group's mission is to improve quality of life for people and provide a training tool for students," he says.

Dr. Kolacinski
E: rmk4@po.cwru.edu

