



XLST Processing with Java

Agenda

- XSLT Overview
- Understanding XPath notation
- Processing elements in XSLT templates
- XSLT installation and setup
- An XSL Transformer
- Example:
 - Document Editor
 - XSLT custom tag

Extensible StylesheetLanguage Transformations

- XSLT applies user-defined transformations to an XML document
 - Transformed output can be:
 - HTML, XML, WML, etc.
- XSLT Versions
 - XSLT 1.0 (Nov 1999)
 - XSLT 2.0 (Nov 2002)
 - Namespace addition
 - Official Website for XSLT
 - http://www.w3.org/Style/XSL/

Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL)

- XSL is a language for expressing stylesheets
 - XSLT
 - Transformation of XML document
 - http://www.w3.org/TR/xslt
 - XPath
 - An expression language used by XSLT to locate elements and/or attributes within an XML document
 - http://www.w3.org/TR/xpath
 - XSL-FO (Formatting Objects)
 - Specifies the formatting properties for rendering the document
 - http://www.w3.org/TR/XSL/XSL-FO/

XSLT Advantages and Disadvantages

Advantages

- Easy to merge XML data into a presentation
- More resilient to changes in the details of the XML documents than low-level DOM and SAX
- Database queries can be retuned in XML
 - Insensitive to column order

Disadvantages

- Memory intensive and suffers a performance penalty
- Difficult to implement complicated business rules
- Have to learn a new language
- Can't change the value of variables (requires recursion)

XSLT Parsers

Apache Xalan

– http://xml.apache.org/xalan/

Oracle

– http://technet.oracle.com/tech/xml/

Saxon

- http://saxon.sourceforge.net/
- Written by Michael Kay

Microsoft's XML Parser 4.0 (MSXML)

– http://www.microsoft.com/xml/

XSLT Installation and Setup (JDK 1.4)

- All the necessary classes are included with JDK 1.4
 - See javax.xml.transform package
- For XSLT with JDK 1.3 see following viewgraphs

XSLT Installation and Setup (JDK 1.3)

1. Download a XSLT compliant parser

- XSLT parsers at http://www.xmlsoftware.com/xslt/
- Recommend Apache Xalan-J 2.4.1 parser at http://xml.apache.org/xalan-j/
 - Xalan-Java implementation is bundled in xalan.jar
 - Xalan also requires xml-apis.jar

XSLT Installation and Setup (JDK 1.3, continued)

2. Download a SAX 2-compliant parser

- Java-based XML parsers at http://www.xml.com/pub/rg/Java_Parsers
- Recommend Apache Xerces-J 2.2.x parser at http://xml.apache.org/xerces-j/
- Note that Xerces-J 2.2.0 is bundled with the Xalan-J 2.4.1 download
 - Xerces-Java implementation is bundled in xercesImpl.jar
 - Xerces also requires xml-apis.jar

XSLT Installation and Setup (continued)

3. Download the Java API for XML Processing (JAXP)

- JAXP defines TrAX, a small layer on top of SAX and DOM which supports specifying transformers through system properties versus hard coded values
- See http://java.sun.com/xml/
- Note that TrAX is incorporated in Xalan-J

4. Bookmark the Java XSLT API

 Xalan-Java API is located at http://xml.apache.org/xalan-j/ apidocs/

XSLT Installation and Setup (continued)

5. Set your CLASSPATH to include the XSLT and XML parser classes

```
set CLASSPATH=xalan install dir\xalan.jar;
    xalan install dir\xercesImpl.jar;
    xalan install dir\xml-apis.jar;%CLASSPATH%
or
  setenv CLASSPATH xalan install dir/xalan.jar:
    xalan install dir/xercesImpl.jar:
    xalan install dir/xml-apis.jar:$CLASSPATH
```

• For Web deployment, place xalan.jar, xmlapis.jar, and xercesImpl.jar in your WEB-INF/lib directory

XSL Transformations

Use

- XPath to identify (select) parts of an XML document
- XSLT templates to apply transformations

Requires

- Well formed XML document
- XSL document (style sheet) that contains formatting and transformation templates
- XSLT parser to perform the transformation

Simple XSLT Example

- The following example illustrates transforming an XML document into an HMTL TABLE
 - Input
 - Style sheet (XSL): table.xsl
 - XML document: acronym.xml
 - Output
 - HTML document: acronym.html

XSLT Stylesheet: table.xsl

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<xsl:stylesheet version="1.0"</pre>
  xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform">
  <xsl:output method="html" />
  <xsl:template match="/">
    <TABLE CELLPADDING="3" BORDER="1" ALIGN="CENTER">
      <!-- Build table header, by selecting the
           name of each element in the first ROW. -->
      <TR><TH></TH>
          <xsl:for-each select="ROWSET/ROW[1]/*">
            <TH><xsl:value-of select="name()" /></TH>
          </xsl:for-each>
      </TR>
      <!-- Apply template to build table rows -->
      <xsl:apply-templates select="ROWSET" />
    </TABLE>
  </xsl:template>
```

XSL Transformations

XSLT Stylesheet: table.xsl (continues)

<xsl:template match="ROW"> <TR><TD><xsl:number /></TD> <!-- Select all elements in the ROW. Populate each TD with the corresponding text value of the element. produces by Xalan <xsl:for-each select="*"> <TD><xsl:value-of select="." /> </TD> </xsl:for-each> </TR> </xsl:template> </xsl:stylesheet>

XML Document: acronyms.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<ROWSET>
 <ROW>
    <acronym>Dom</acronym>
    <DESCRIPTION>Document Object Model/DESCRIPTION>
 </ROW>
 <ROW>
    <acronym>Jaxp</acronym>
    <DESCRIPTION>Java AIP for XML Parsing/DESCRIPTION>
 </ROW>
 <ROW>
    <acronym>sax</acronym>
    <DESCRIPTION>Simple API for XML</DESCRIPTION>
 </ROW>
 <ROW>
   <acronym>Trax</acronym>
    <DESCRIPTION>Transformation API for XML</DESCRIPTION>
 </ROW>
 <ROW>
    <acronym>xslt</acronym>
    <DESCRIPTION>XSL Transformation/DESCRIPTION>
 </ROW>
 /ROWSET>
```

Transforming the XML Document

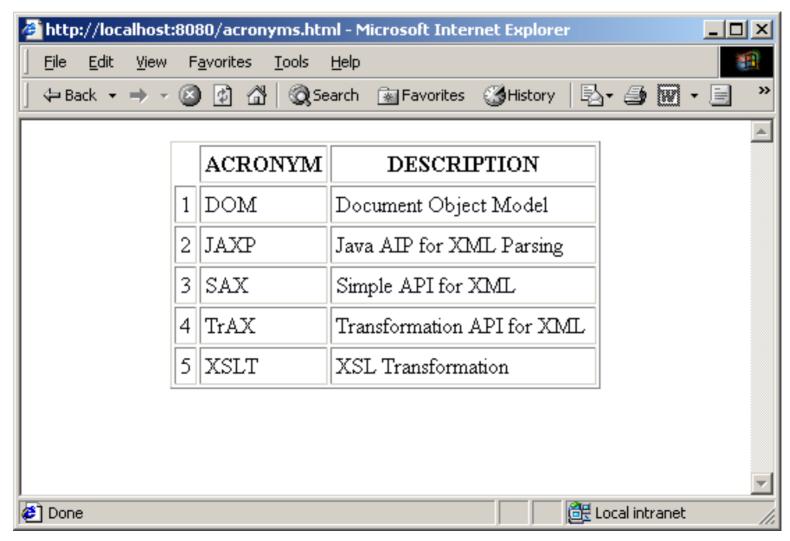
Use Xalan command-line interface

Transformation Result

```
<TABLE ALIGN="CENTER" BORDER="1" CELLPADDING="3">
<TR>
<TH></TH>ACRONYM</TH><TH>DESCRIPTION</TH>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>1</TD><TD>DOM&nbsp;</TD><Document Object Model&nbsp;</TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>2</TD>JAXP&nbsp;</TD>Java AIP for XML Parsing&nbsp;</TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>3</TD><TD>SAX&nbsp;</TD><TD>Simple API for XML&nbsp;</TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>4</TD><TD>TrAX&nbsp;</TD><TD>Transformation API for
  XML </TD>
</TR>
<TR>
<TD>5</TD><TD>XSLT&nbsp;</TD><TD>XSL Transformation&nbsp;</TD>
</TR>

XSL Transformations
                                              www.corewebprogramming.com
```

Transformation Result (continued)



Understanding XPath

- XPath is an expression language to:
 - Identify parts (location paths) of the input document
 - Commonly used in match and select attributes in XSLT elements

```
<xsl:template match="/name/first" >
    ...
</xsl:template>
```

- Test boolean conditions
- Manipulate strings
- Perform numerical calculations

Location Paths

- Location paths are interpreted with respect to a context
 - Or simply, the node in the tree from which the expression is evaluated
- The evaluated expression represents a set of nodes matching the condition
 - Possibly the empty set if no matches occur
- A location path consists of one or more location steps separated by / or //
- Paths can be relative or absolute

Simple Location Paths

Matching the root node

A leading / indicates the root node

```
<xsl:template match="/" >
  <!-- Matches the root node. -->
</xsl:template>
```

Matching all children

 Use the * wildcard to select all element nodes in the current context

```
<xsl:template match="*" >
   <!-- Matches all children nodes. -->
</xsl:template>
```

Simple Location Paths (continued)

Matching an element

- Use / to separate elements when referring to a child
- Use // to indicate that zero or more elements may occur between the slashes

Matching with Predicates

Matching a specific element

- Use [...] as a predicate filter to select a particular context node
- The predicate is evaluated as a boolean expression; if the condition is true, then the node is selected

Matching with Predicates (continued)

Matching a specific attribute

 Use the @ sign followed by the attribute name to select a particular node

XSLT Stylesheet Elements

Matching and selection templates

- xsl:template
- xsl:apply-templates
- xsl:value-of

Branching elements

- xsl:for-each
- xsl:if
- xsl:choose

XSLT template Element

- xsl:template match="xpath"
 - Defines a template rule for producing output
 - Applied only to nodes which match the pattern
 - Invoked by using <xsl:apply-templates>

```
<xsl:template match="/">
     <html>
       <head><title>Ktee Siamese</title></head>
     <body>
       <xsl:apply-templates/>
     </body>
     </html>
  </xsl:template>
   <xsl:template match="name">
     <h2><xs1:value-of select="."/></h2>
XSL Translates template>
```

XSLT apply-templates Element

- xsl:apply-templates
 - Applies matching templates to the children of the context node

```
<xsl:template match="/">
  <html>
    <head><title>Ktee Siamese</title></head>
  <body>
    <xsl:apply-templates />
  </body>
  </html>
</xsl:template>
<xsl:template match="name">
  <h2><xsl:value-of select="."/></h2>
</xsl:template>
```

XSLT value-of Element

- xsl:value-of select="expression"
 - Evaluates the expression as a string and sends the result to the output
 - Applied only to the first match
 - "." selects the text value of the current node

XSLT value-of Element (continued)

Example

```
<xsl:template match="daylily">
  <TR>
        <!-- Selects the award child of the
             daylily element. By default, outputs
             the text of the award element.
    <TD><xsl:value-of select="award" /></TD>
        <!-- Selects the code attribute of the
             daylily's bloom child and outputs
             the text of the attribute.
    <TD><xsl:value-of select="bloom/@code" /></TD>
  </TR>
</xsl:template>
```

XSLT for-each Element

<author>Larry Brown</author>

- xsl:for-each select="expression"
 - Processes each node selected by the XPath expression

<book>

XSLT if Element

- xsl:if test="expression"
 - Evaluates the expression to a boolean and if true, applies the template body

```
    XSLT has no if-else construct (use choose)

  <xsl:template match="ROW">
    <!-- Selects first node in the node set.
    <xsl:if test="position() = first()">
      <b><xsl:value-of select="."/>
    </xsl:if>
  </xsl:template>
  <xsl:template match="ROW">
    <!-- Select if the current node has children. -->
    <xsl:if test="node()">
      <xsl:apply-templates />
    </xsl:if>
  </xsl:template>
XSL Transformations
```

XSLT choose Element

xsl:choose

- Select any number of alternatives
- Instruction to use in place of if-else or switch construct found in other programming languages

```
<xsl:choose>
  <xsl:when test="not(text())">
      Missing value!
  </xsl:when>
  <xsl:otherwise>
      <xsl:value-of select="." />
  </xsl:otherwise>
</xsl:choose>
```

XSLT output Element

- xsl:output
 - Controls the format of the stylesheet output
 - Useful attributes:

```
method= "[html|xml|text]"
indent="[yes|no]"
version="version"
doctype-public="specification"
encoding="encoding"
standalone="[yes|no]"
```

Example

```
<xsl:output method="html"
doctype-public="-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN"/>
```

Steps for Translating a Document

- 1. Tell the system which parser to use
- 2. Establish a factory in which to create transformations
- 3. Create a transformer for a particular style sheet
- 4. Invoke the transformer to process the document

Step 1: Specifying a Transformer

1. Approaches to specify a transformer

- Set a system property for javax.xml.transform.Transformer-Factory
- Specify the parser in
 jre_dir/lib/jaxp.properties
- Through the J2EE Services API and the class specified in META-INF/services/ javax.xml.transform.Transformer-Factory
- Use system-dependant default parser (check documentation)

Specifying a Transformer, Example

The following example:

Permits the user to specify the transformer through the command line -D option

```
    java -Djavax.xml.transform.TransformerFactory=
        weblogic.apache.xalan.processor.TransformerFactoryImpl ...
    Uses the Apache Xalan transformer otherwise
```

Step 2: Creating a Transformer Factory

 Establish a factory in which to create transformations

```
TransformerFactory factory =
    new TransformerFactory.newInstance();
```

May create multiple transformers from the same factory

Step 3: Creating a Transformer

 Create a transformer for a particular style sheet

Step 4: Invoke the Transformer

Invoke the transformer to process the document

```
Source xml = new StreamSource(xmlStream);
Result result = new StreamResult(outputStream);
transformer.transform(xml, result);
```

- Create a StreamSource from a File, Reader, InputStream or URI reference (String)
- Create a StreamResult from a File, Writer, OutputStream or URI reference (String)

A Simple XSL Transformer

- Creates an XSL transformer for processing an XML and XSL document
 - Provides multiple overloaded process methods for handling different input and output streams

```
public class XslTransformer {
  private TransformerFactory factory;

  // Use system defaults for transformer.
  public XslTransformer() {
    factory = TransformerFactory.newInstance();
  }
}
```

A Simple XSL Transformer

```
/**
    For transforming an XML documents as a String StringReader
 * residing in memory, not on disk. The output document could
 * easily be handled as a String (StringWriter) or as a
    JSPWriter in a JavaServer page.
 */
public void process (Reader xmlFile, Reader xslFile,
                     Writer output)
               throws TransformerException {
  process(new StreamSource(xmlFile),
           new StreamSource(xslFile),
           new StreamResult(output));
 }
/** For transforming an XML and XSL document as Files,
    placing the result in a Writer.
 */
public void process (File xmlFile, File xslFile,
                     Writer output)
               throws TransformerException {
  process(new StreamSource(xmlFile),
           new StreamSource(xslFile),
           new StreamResult(output));
```

Simple XSL Transformer (continued)

```
/**
     Transform an XML File based on an XSL File, placing the
     resulting transformed document in an OutputStream.
  *
  *
     Convenient for handling the result as a FileOutputStream or
     ByteArrayOutputStream.
  */
public void process(Source xml, Source xsl, Result result)
               throws TransformerException {
   try {
     Templates template = factory.newTemplates(xsl);
     Transformer transformer = template.newTransformer();
     transformer.transform(xml, result);
   } catch(TransformerConfigurationException tce) {
       throw new TransformerException(tce.getMessageAndLocation());
   } catch (TransformerException te) {
     throw new TransformerException(te.getMessageAndLocation());
```

Example 1: XSLT Document Editor

Objective

Provide a graphical interface for editing XML and XSL documents, and to view the transformed result

Approach

- Use a Swing JTabbedPane with three tabs (XML, XSL, XSLT) to present each of the three corresponding documents
- Each document is represented by a JEditorPane
 - XML and XSL panes are editable
- Selecting the XSLT tab performs the transformation

Example 1: XsltEditor

```
import java.awt.*;
import java.awt.event.*;
import javax.swing.*;
import javax.swing.event.*;
import java.io.*;
import javax.xml.transform.*;
import cwp.XslTransformer;
public class XsltEditor extends JFrame
                        implements ChangeListener {
  private static final int XML = 0;
  private static final int XSL = 1;
  private static final int XSLT = 2;
  private Action openAction, saveAction, exitAction;
  private JTabbedPane tabbedPane;
  private DocumentPane[] documents;
 private XslTransformer transformer;
```

Example 1: XsltEditor (continued)

```
/** Checks to see which tabbed pane was selected by the
 * user. If the XML and XSL panes hold a document, then
    selecting the XSLT tab will perform the transformation.
 */
public void stateChanged(ChangeEvent event) {
  int index = tabbedPane.getSelectedIndex();
  switch (index) {
    case XSLT: if (documents[XML].isLoaded() &&
                    documents[XSL].isLoaded()) {
                  doTransform();
                }
    case XML:
    case XSL:
                updateMenuAndTitle(index);
                break;
    default:
```

Example 1: XsltEditor (continued)

```
private void doTransform() {
  StringWriter strWriter = new StringWriter();
  try {
    Reader xmlInput =
      new StringReader(documents[XML].getText());
    Reader xslInput =
      new StringReader(documents[XSL].getText());
    transformer.process(xmlInput, xslInput, strWriter);
  } catch(TransformerException te) {
    JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(this,
                  "Error: " + te.getMessage());
  documents[XSLT].setText(strWriter.toString());
```

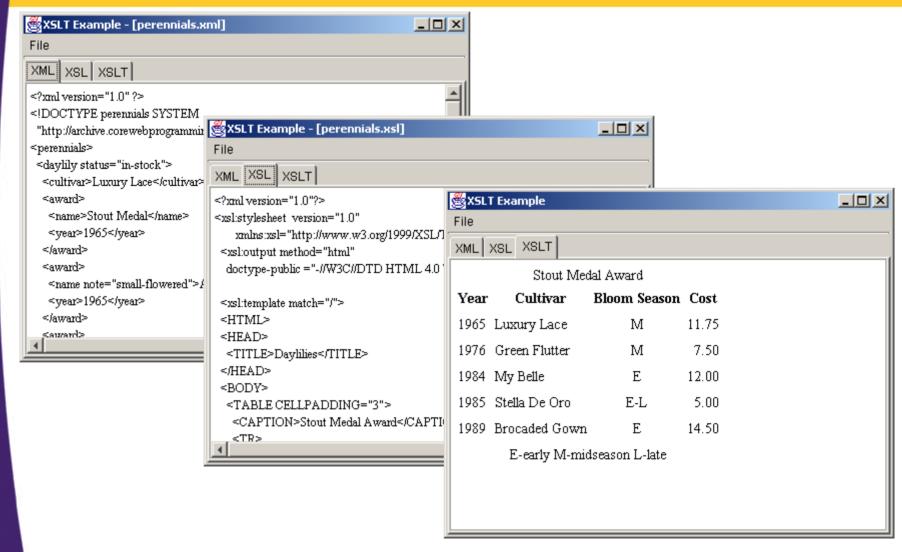
Example 1: DocumentPane

```
public class DocumentPane extends JEditorPane {
  public static final String TEXT = "text/plain";
  public static final String HTML = "text/html";
  private boolean loaded = false;
  private String filename = "";
  /** Set the current page displayed in the editor pane,
   * replacing the existing document.
   */
  public void setPage(URL url) {
    loaded = false;
    trv {
      super.setPage(url);
      File file = new File(getPage().toString());
      setFilename(file.getName());
      loaded = true;
    } catch (IOException ioe) {
      System.err.println("Unable to set page: " + url);
```

Example 1: DocumentPane (continued)

```
public void setText(String text) {
  super.setText(text);
  setFilename("");
  loaded = true;
public void loadFile(String filename) {
  trv {
    File file = new File(filename);
    setPage(file.toURL());
  } catch (IOException mue) {
    System.err.println("Unable to load file: " + filename);
public boolean isLoaded() {
  return(loaded);
```

Example 1: XsltEditor, Result



Example 2: XSLT Custom Tag

Objective

Develop a JSP custom tag to transform an XML document and create an HTML table

Problem

 THEAD, TBODY, and TFOOT elements supported by Internet Explorer, but not by Netscape 4.x

Example 2: XSLT Custom Tag (continued)

Approach

- Use different stylesheet for Internet Explorer and Netscape
- Determine the browser type based on the User-Agent HTTP header
- Provide both stylesheets in custom tag

Example 2: Custom Tag Specification, Xsltransform.tld

```
<tag>
   <name>xsltransform</name>
   <tagclass>cwp.tags.XslTransformTag</tagclass>
     <attribute>
     <name>xml</name>
     <required>yes</required>
   </attribute>
   <attribute>
     <name>xslie</name>
     <required>false</required>
   </attribute>
   <attribute>
     <name>xslns</name>
     <required>true</required>
   </attribute>
</tag>
```

Example 2: XsITransformTag

```
public class XslTransformTag extends TagSupport {
  private static final int IE = 1;
  private static final int NS = 2;
  public int doStartTag() throws JspException {
    ServletContext context = pageContext.getServletContext();
    HttpServletRequest request =
      (HttpServletRequest)pageContext.getRequest();
    File xslFile = null;
    if ((browserType(request) == IE) &&
        (getXslie() != null)) {
      xslFile = new File(path + getXslie());
    } else {
      xslFile = new File(path + getXslns());
    File xmlFile = new File(path + getXml());
```

Example 2: XsITransformTag (continued)

```
// doStartTag
try {
  JspWriter out = pageContext.getOut();
  XslTransformer transformer = new XslTransformer();
  transformer.process(xmlFile, xslFile, out);
catch(TransformerException tx) {
  context.log("XslTransformTag: " + tx.getMessage());
return(SKIP BODY);
```

Example 2: XsITransformTag (continued)

```
// Determine the browser type based on the User-Agent
// HTTP request header.
private int browserType(HttpServletRequest request) {
  int type = NS;
  String userAgent = request.getHeader("User-Agent");
  if ((userAgent != null) &&
      (userAgent.indexOf("IE") >= 0)) {
    type = IE;
  return(type);
```

Example 2: Daylilies.jsp

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
  <TITLE>Daylilies</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<%@ taglib uri="cwp-tags/xsltransform.tld" prefix="cwp" %>
<H1 ALIGN="CENTER">Katie's Favorite Daylilies/H1>
<P>
<cwp:xsltransform xml='perennials.xml'</pre>
                   xslie='perennials-ie.xsl'
                   xslns='perennials-ns.xsl' />
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

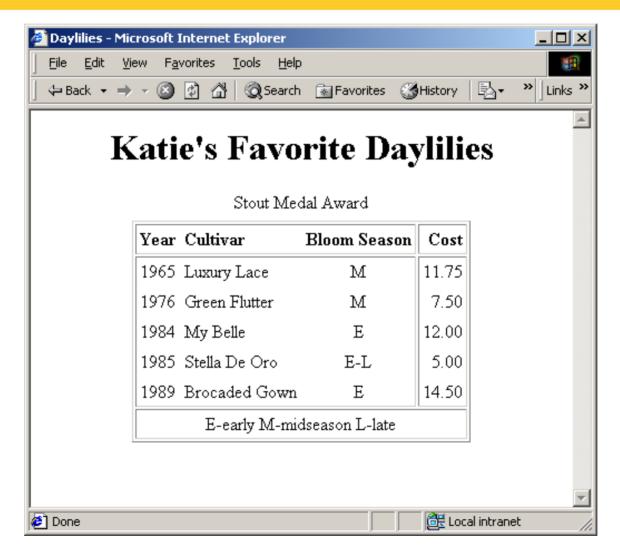
Example 2: perennials-ie.xsl

```
<xsl:template match="/">
  <TABLE CELLPADDING="3" RULES="GROUPS" ALIGN="CENTER">
    <CAPTION>Stout Medal Award</CAPTION>
    <COLGROUP>
      <COL ALIGN="CENTER"/>
      <COL ALIGN="LEFT"/>
      <COL ALIGN="CENTER"/>
      <COL ALIGN="RIGHT"/>
    </COLGROUP>
    <THEAD>
      <TR><TH>Year</TH><TH>Cultivar</TH><TH>Bloom Season</TH>
          <TH>Cost</TH></TR>
    </THEAD>
    <TBODY>
      <xsl:apply-templates</pre>
        select="/perennials/daylily[award/name='Stout Medal']"/>
    </TBODY>
    <TFOOT>
      <TR><TD COLSPAN="4">E-early M-midseason L-late</TD></TR>
    </TFOOT>
  </TABLE>
</xsl:template>
```

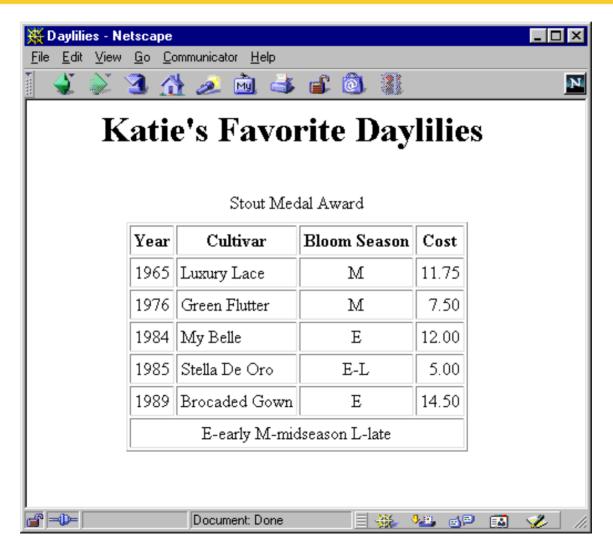
Example 2: perennials-ns.xsl

```
<xsl:template match="/">
  <TABLE CELLPADDING="3" BORDER="1" ALIGN="CENTER">
    <CAPTION>Stout Medal Award</CAPTION>
    <TR>
      <TH>Year</TH>
      <TH>Cultivar</TH>
      <TH>Bloom Season</TH>
      <TH>Cost</TH>
    </TR>
    <xsl:apply-templates</pre>
      select="/perennials/daylilv[award/name='Stout Medal']"/>
    <TR>
      <TD COLSPAN="4" ALIGN="CENTER">
        E-early M-midseason L-late</TD>
    </TR>
  </TABLE>
</xsl:template>
```

XSLT Custom Tag, Result



XSLT Custom Tag, Result



Summary

- XSLT specifies how to transform XML into HTML, XML, or other document formats
- XPath pattern selects a set of nodes for processing
- Control conditional processing through XSLT templates (elements)
- Apache Xalan-J in a popular XLST compliant transformer
 - InputSource document is typically a File or String (StringReader)
 - Result document typically sent to a File or JspWriter in a servlet



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Questions?