# Contact

Volume 13, No. 1

September 2003

#### Department Highlights:

- Jeff Greenberg's sabbatical plans for Fall 2003
- New "Department Associate" position created.
- Jim Clark receives Senior Scholarship Achievement Award
- Steve Moshier's adventures in Egypt
- Students present research at GSA meeting.
- The Wheaton College Science Station is growing!
- And much more...

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## What's Up in Breyer Hall?

We greet all of you in the name of the Lord. By His grace we continue and desire to improve as a place where young people can be prepared for a future of service. Although the numbers of Geology majors have declined from an all-time high five years ago, there is much to be thankful for and many good activities to be reported.

We are excited and pleased to report that Jim Clark was this year's recipient of the "Senior Scholarship Achievement Award" in recognition of his world-class research in modeling modern global sea level changes. His research program, supported by NASA, has resulted in a recent publication in the *Journal of Climate* as well as several student papers presented at GSA meetings.

Indeed, the number of majors compared with 1997-98 has dropped. In a market-oriented culture, numbers mean status, prestige, and attracting support. Our unending challenge here is to recruit more Geology majors. For some wonderful reason, the Spring 2003 PHYSICAL GEOLOGY course had more undecided and academically-gifted freshmen than ever before. So, this fall, a fine half dozen or so of these are joining the team. There is even a good chance that the number of new majors from the class may grow. Please praise God with us for the uplift. A prayer-worthy goal is ten new majors per class year, a total of forty majors at any one time.

Visitors to 3rd floor Breyer Hall will see a new display of rough and cut gemstones. The beauty and variety are remarkable, particularly because not much money was need to assemble them. Nice rocks, minerals, fossils, photo posters of research, and faculty publications also grace the department hallway. Unfortunately, we get few visitors on the third floor and covet a visual presence on the high-traffic ground floor. A new poster display area is available near the Mastodon in Armerding. Currently, our poster of the Middle East field excursion is on display there.

Among some notable upgrades in equipment are numbers of good computer stations for GIS and modeling studies and a shiny new Atomic Absorption Spectrometer purchased for Chemistry and Geology use. Unlike the existing relict, the new Perkin-Elmer 800 is truly research grade. We hope to keep it humming on all sorts of analytical projects.

#### Website Update...Department Name Change

Be sure to visit the new webpages for Geology on the College's website (www.wheaton.edu/geology). We hope that this will attract some attention with recognition of a good program. Your feedback on content and appearance of the pages is greatly appreciated. It should be immediately realized that there has been a huge change in the constitution of the department. The change in 1993 from the Department of Physics and Geology to Geology and Environmental Science has been partly reversed to separate the two major areas in terms of administration. There is now (again) a Department of Geology with a newly established Program of Environmental Studies. Jeff Greenberg is still Geology Chair, but ecologist Fred VanDyke, who came from Northwestern College in Iowa, is the ES Coordinator. The major in ES has been upgraded with a whole new set of core and elective courses. There remain concentrations in Geology as well as Biology (formerly Ecological), and now, Social Science has also been added as a concentration area. You are advised to view the new ES webpages to see the details of curriculum, etc. (www.wheaton.edu/envstudies)

The department would like to establish a web-based <u>CONTACT</u> list in order to keep you up with happenings. If you desire and provide permission, we can post your e-mail address so that other alums can contact you. Please send your email information. There are quite a few individuals from the last fifteen or so years that we have no way to connect with. Let us know where you are so we can keep up with you!!

## People Coming...and Going...and Coming Again



Steve Moss '99 presents his master's research at GSA. We look forward to welcoming Steve this fall.

The department had its half-time secretarial position advanced to full time (thank you Dean Dorothy Chappell!). The new position is classified as "Department Associate" and is filled by our own grad, Lacy Noetzel '01. Lacy has recently completed her MA in Missions and Intercultural Studies in the Wheaton Graduate School. She committed to us for two years, and is just beginning year two. The first year of Lacy's service has made a huge difference. She has initiated many improvements in office procedures and publicity. Now that we are set on a good track, we all hope that she can join in research participation. The difficult task of finding a replacement for Lacy should begin in the next few months (any candidates?).

This fall, Jeff Greenberg will be on sabbatical leave (see Greenberg section for details). The department was worried about finding a semester's replacement that could cover needed classes. There really aren't many qualified geologists out there who can fulfill all the requirements of teaching PHYSICAL GEOLOGY, MINERALOGY and INTRO GEOCHEMISTRY, being a Christian, and able to afford life on the meager stipend. After advertising on the ACG (Affiliation of Christian Geologists) listserve, we received only one note of interest. That person faded away after learning about the stipend. Just to prove whom it is that we serve here, a tremendous candidate for replacement came to mind. This candidate prayed about the opportunity and accepted it. Steve Moss '99 will postpone his plans to complete a second Masters degree in Scotland in order to serve with us. Steve finished his MS in Igneous Petrology at the University of Montana and has spent the following year or so in youth hostel ministry in the Netherlands. Steve has an MK background from Singapore. His aunt also works for the college. It is no exaggeration to state that Wheaton College Geology is amazingly blessed by the return of its son, Steve.

#### Jeff's Journals

I am completing my seventeenth year on the Wheaton faculty and have continued to serve as the Department's Chair but will give up that responsibility, at least for the 2003 Fall Semester while on sabbatical leave.

My sabbatical project, which was nearly rejected by internal reviewers, involves compiling a volume of essays, "poems", and anecdotes, all accompanied by quality photos. The topic is reflections of the wonders in Creation from the perspective of earth scientists. I will provide the majority of contributions and all editing. Other geologists will also participate as contributing authors. My hope is that such a volume will draw attention to the glory of the Lord as opposed to the all-to-typical emphasis on science versus theology contention in the popular literature. Fellow Christian geologists have been strong encouragements for this project. If any of you alumni or friends of Wheaton College Geology have something that might be appropriate for inclusion in the book, please let me know.

Over the last couple of years, I have increased my first-hand experience of global geology. In August 2001, I visited HNGR (Human Needs and Global Resources) intern **Micah Ingalls '03** in Bangladesh. Together, we toured the Sundarbans, the largest existing and constantly threatened mangrove forest in the world. We also worked with community-development missions staff on agricultural concerns.

Spring Break 2002, Jim Clark and I accompanied host, Alex Kulpecz, guide and adjunct faculty colleague, Chris Walley, and majors, Andrew Kulpecz '02 and Mark Sanders '02 to the Middle East as a first run for a future course-trip. Reports of the trip are available upon request. The focus was on Lebanon, where Walley was the Chair of Geology at the American University in Beirut; Syria, where Kulpecz was Senior Geologist for Shell; and Jordan. The week's itinerary was fantastic, including stops at almost 10,000 feet to see the last Cedars of Lebanon, at an ophiolite complex (blocks of exhumed oceanic crust and upper mantle) on the northern Syrian border with Turkey, at the last preserved wetland (Aamiq, in Lebanon's infamous Bekaa Valley) along the flyway between Africa and Europe for migrating birds, at Damascus to visit biblical sites, at Mount Nebo, at the Dead Sea, at Petra, and at Aqaba to view uplifted Precambrian basement rock (and snorkel the Red Sea reefs!). Our hope is that the trip will be offered to majors during Spring Break 2004, but of course, political realities must cooperate.

Over three weeks in May and June, I had the privilege of teaching practical earth science to YWAM students and staff in The Netherlands and the Republic of South Africa. It is essential that people working in developing nations understand at least the basics of how the environment affects human activities and visa versa. It is encouraging that organizations like YWAM are gaining a real appreciation for incorporation of science into ministry. While on this "outreach", I visited the Eifel and Mosel regions of Germany where I spent three early years of my life. The regional geology is an excellent blend of folded Paleozoic units and Quaternary alkalic volcanoes. The castles and Roman ruins are also outstanding. In Holland, the polder

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Jeff Greenberg cataloging thin sections in the lab.

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#### Jeff's Journals (continued)

technology of reclaiming land from the sea was examined. In South Africa, coastal and wildlife preserves were on the menu. Wheaton Emeritus Professor, **Derek Chignell** accompanied me on local excursions. The Wheaton College Alumni Association by way of the Faculty Missionary Project in large part made the visit to South Africa possible. This fall, I may be able to scout out another one of the field experiences we desire to offer to majors. This would be in southern England and Wales, to travel among the sites where modern geological principles were established.

After the tour of duty in Holland and South Africa, I spent a month at the Science Station. This year's assignment was to teach the general education course, PHYSICAL GEOLOGY IN THE FIELD. Next summer, the majors' field course will be offered. As always, you are invited as our guest in the Hills.

Although time and resources make it very difficult for me to immerse myself in any sustained research program, I have been able to dabble with scholarship in meaningful ways. Over the last few years, departmental initiative has provided some excellent research opportunities for our majors. I have supervised some of these studies, including the groundwater contamination project (see pg. 5 for the abstract web link). This particular study gained the attention of the EPA regional office. Previous projects, supported during the summer by grants from the Alumni Association and Office of Academic Affairs, have included field-lab studies of Black Hills geology. In each case of student-oriented research, an abstract has been published and a presentation given at a meeting of the GSA.

At this past spring's Northcentral-section meeting of the GSA, three high-quality presentations were made by our young researchers. To conclude the conference, I led Jim Clark and six students on a hunt for Lower Pennsylvanian marine fossils. Various critters were discovered.

I also reported on the new Middle-east field excursion course by way of a poster at the annual GSA meeting in Denver last October (see abstract below). I published a description of my Structural Geology indoors "field" exercise in the November 2002 issue of the Journal of Geoscience Education. I also have two articles in press (Geological Framework of an Evolving Creation and Environmental Issues and an Evolving Creation) to appear in PERSPECTIVES ON AN EVOLVING CREATION, edited by Keith Miller and published by Eerdmans.

Future prospects for scholarly activities depend not only on funding support and free time but also on finding students capable of engaging in research. It is hoped that geological quadrangle mapping may become a possibility with the Science Station and perhaps the Wheaton main campus as bases. Send us geology majors!

#### Changes in the Geology Major Curriculum

As the geoscience profession changes, so must the geology major curriculum. Anyone trained in geology before 1985 was probably headed for the oil or mineral industry, so courses were oriented toward resource exploitation. Today, our students need to be prepared for resource and environmental management. There is also much interest in applying geology to third-world development. Here are some recent changes in the curriculum that were made to meet students' needs and maximize faculty expertise:

Freshman Year: Fall: Physical Geology

Spring: Geomorphology

Sophomore/Junior Year:

Fall: Geochemistry/Mineralogy

Spring: Petrography and Petrology

Fall: Earth History and Stratigraphy

Spring: Structural Geology

Summer of Junior or Senior Year: Field Geology (and Studies in Rocky Mountain Geology elective)

Senior Year:

Fall: Elective in major

Spring: Senior Seminar

Electives can be taken as they are offered and include: Hydrogeology, Soils, Biogeology, Geophysics, Climate Change, Sedimentology, Geographic Information Systems, and other courses in offered in Environmental Sciences. It is not a perfect program, but we are limited to 36 hours in the major plus supporting courses in Calculus, Chemistry and Physics. We have found that students who take the appropriate electives are prepared for graduate studies and do not have a problem getting accepted.



Faculty and Students visit the Ammiq Wetlands during the Middle East Geology tour, Spring 2002.

"As the geoscience profession changes, so must the geology major curriculum Today, our students need to be prepared for resource and encironmental management."



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## From Doc Mo: Desert Sand and Nile Mud



Doc Mo at Tell el-Borg conducting a magnetometry survey.

"How do we motivate the family of God to embrace science as a legitimate way of learning about creation? How do we arswer popular attempts to "prove the Bible" with bad science?"



Global Climate Change class on a field trip to Lincoln Marsh to collect a bog core.

In the spring of 2001 I was blessed with a sabbatical break in which I spent 7 weeks in Egypt (2 weeks in January and 5 weeks in March-April). For the past 5 years I have been turning my attention to geoarchaeology by collaborating with **Dr. Jim Hoffmeier** of Trinity International University (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School). Jim is directing the excavation of an exciting new site in the NW Sinai, not far from the Mediterranean coast. Tell el-Borg is an ancient Egyptian settlement that included one of the forts guarding the eastern frontier of the New Kingdom. I have been working as the team geologist, preparing a paleogeographic map of the region comprising what was once the eastern Nile Delta. We think we have found a buried Nile distributary that bisected the settlement and emptied into a paleolagoon (now a broad sabkha flat). I was fortunate to be able to take **Lauren Powell '01** with me to assist in mapping and sample collection. Along with our Egyptian geologist colleague, we sped across the desert in our SUV, stopping to stuff mud in plastic sample bags and mark positions with our GPS. We had a blast, but Lauren was always weary of hidden land mines and my awful driving.

This foray into geoarchaeology has lead to a new course by the same name for Wheaton archaeology students. I offered it for the first time in the spring and it seemed to be well received by the dozen or so students in the class and our intrepid archaeology faculty (who, by the way, are really into geology).

Directing the Science Station is rewarding, but distracting of progress in research. This summer I returning early from the Hills to finish some writing projects. One of our undergraduates, Jamie Worrel '04, has determined the textural composition of many of my Sinai muds and this summer she helped me do some X-ray Diffractometry to determine their mineralogy.

I have not completely abandoned carbonates. I enjoy giving lectures on reefs and carbonate environments in Biogeology, Marine Biology and at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. I got to tour the Exumas in the Bahamas on the Shedd research boat, Coral Reef II for a week in May 2001. I had the unique experience of snorkeling in a living stromatolite patch. Almost expected to run into an Ordovician cephalopod and see trilobites crawling on the seafloor!

The Moshier family is well. Joshua is starting his senior year of High School, jazzing with his piano. Zachary is starting eighth grade, beating the drums and thinking about architecture. Carol is a certified school numerant two elementary schools where we live in St. Charles.

## Wheaton Geologists Raising Science Awareness

A couple of years ago Steve Moshier addressed the Affiliation of Christian Geologists at the Geological Society of America on the topic of our responsibility to help raise the science literacy of our churches. The text of his talk, "Geologists in the Pulpit," is posted at the ACG website (www.wheaton.edu/acg). That certainly is one of the intentions of the general education science curriculum, even if it is not a stated objective. How do we motivate the family of God to embrace science as a legitimate way of learning about creation? How do we answer popular attempts to "prove the Bible" with bad science? Moshier gave some suggestions in his talk to the ACG. We know that many of you geology alumni are making an effort to raise the science literacy of your church and community. For example, Ken Wolgemouth in Tulsa and Peter Vagt in Wheaton have prepared presentations for Sunday School classes and community forums. We are always glad to help out by providing reading lists, resources and even AV materials, like some power-point lectures that Moshier prepared for Historical Geology and Theories of Origins dealing with some of the common issues and controversies concerning creation, science and the Bible.

By the way, do you belong to the Affiliation of Christian Geologists? If not, find out how at the above mentioned website.

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#### Jim Clark's Capers-Modeling Global Sea Level Change

In keeping with my role as the department "no-rock" geologist (distinct from hard rock and soft rock geologists), I have offered courses over the last two years in soils, geomorphology, hydrogeology, geographic information systems, and climate change. This year I am looking forward to offering a new course in quantitative skills. The course will cover statistical methods and numerical modeling as applied to the geological, environmental, and biological sciences. A computer lab component will insure the course remains practical and useful. I also will be team teaching with Fred Van Dyke a new introductory course in environmental studies. This is designed to give and overview of environmental issues for students anticipating a major in environmental studies.

During the summer of 2002 I spent an enjoyable week in Oxford, England as an invited speaker at a conference on Global Warming organized by Cal DeWitt (AuSable Institute) and Sir John Houghton (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Director). The conference brought more than 70 theologians and scientists together from all over the world to discuss the Christian response to this worldwide problem.

Over the last three summers, with support from a NASA grant, I have been trying to understand modern global sea level changes. This has involved substaintial help from Wheaton undergrads, Paul Haidle '02, Nikki Cunningham '01, Matt Andresen '04, Lori McGuire '04, and most recently Peter Stewart '05. We have interpreted NASA TOPEX/Poseidon satellite altimetry data based upon our computer models of viscoelastic earth deformation forced by changing ice and meltwater loads. Results suggest global sea level is rising at a rate of about 1.5 mm/yr and this may suggest global warming is real. The work has resulted in a publication in the *Journal of Climate* and several student papers presented at Geological Society of America meetings. To keep us from contracting cabin-fever and LINUX loathing we did some field work in Wisconsin this summer trying to understand the history of glacial Lake Oshkosh with support from the Wisconsin Geological Survey.

Recently my family and I moved to a house only 4 blocks from campus and now enjoy a short stroll to my office instead of the 45-minute Chicago commute I once dreaded. Wheaton has a very nice tuition benefit for faculty so, with all three of my children (Christel, Daniel, and Lisa) taking classes here, I figure my salary has effectively tripled! My wife, Sue, is actively involved with ministry to Russians, and we have been welcomed into a nice Russian-speaking church near Wheaton.

#### Abstracts

The department has carried on its research program at both the faculty and student levels in the last few years. Listed below are the references for recent abstracts from the department. The full abstracts can be found on the Geology Webpages at www.wheaton.edu/geology/overview\_links\_abstracts.html. Students (current and past) are listed in bold type.

- "Comprehensive Study of the Mechanism for Displacement of Groundwater Contaminants at the Pagel's Pit and Acme Solvents Superfund Sites, Northcentral Illinois." Presentation by Katrina Lethe '04, Timothy Bayley '04, and Jeffrey Greenberg at the North-Central Section 37th Annual Meeting GSA (March 24-25, 2003)
- "Reconstructing the Paleogeography of the New Kingdom Egypt Eastern Frontier Using CORONA Photography, Field Mapping and GIS." By Stephen Moshier and Lauren Powell '01; GSA Denver 2003.
- "Sea Level Change, Ice Sheet Fluctuations and Global Warming: Past and Present." By Matthew Andresen '04, Lori McGuire '04, and James Clark at the North-Central Section 37th Annual Meeting GSA (March 24-25, 2003)
- "Global Rates of Modern Sea Level Change from TOPEX/Poseidon Satellite Altimetry." By Lori McGuire '04, Matthew Andresen '04, and James Clark at the North-Central Section – 37th Annual Meeting GSA (March 24-25, 2003)



Jim Clark lecturing on climate change and global sea level modeling.

"We are excited and please to report that Jim Clark was this year's recipient of the "Senior Scholarship A chievement A ward" in recognition of his world-class research in modeling modern global sea level changes."



Katie Lethe '04 presents her research from summer '02 at the annual student poster session in Armerding Hall.

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## Wheaton College Science Station-It's Growing!



Majors studying the basalt sills at Hisega, SD

"In 2003 the
WCSS will open a
brand new two story
apartment building
with four units...
With expanded
housing and teaching
space, we can offer

more courses to more

students."



Doc Mo studying sedimentary samples with major **Ginny Hargrave** '05.

It is still the classroom as big as all outdoors. Check out our new and improved website at www.wheaton. edu/blackhills where you will find lots of photos and a campus tour. New buildings in the past 10 years have improved facilities for education, housing and maintenance. In 1996 the old Higley Biology Building was replaced by the Mixter-Leedy Lab, a modern two story facility for teaching Biology and Environmental Science. The Mixter Library was renamed Higley Library. The old garage and "executive suites" were replaced in 2000 by a new expanded garage/workshop and two lovely guest rooms (featuring large bedroom with double bed, bunk bed, table and a private bath). In 2003 we opened a brand new two-story apartment building with four units. Each apartment features a living room, bedroom, bath and kitchenette. The building is situated south of the Women's Dorm and its decks overlook the valley that runs westward toward the bluffs of Rapid Creek.

With expanded housing and teaching space, we can offer more courses to more students. In addition to the general education program (with courses in geology, astronomy and environmental science), the biology program (with courses in ornithology, entomology, plant taxonomy, and ecology), and the geology program (field mapping), we now host classes from Taylor University in general education (geology and environmental science) and Environmental Studies (field natural history). This year, some Wheaton Environmental Science majors will join the Taylor University classes.

And it's not just for science anymore! For the past three years the science station has been used by the Music Conservatory for a week-long International Improvisational Institute called Music on the Fly (www. wheaton.edu/Conservatory/iii/index.html). Imagine the sound of classical, jazz and popular music mixing with the gentle brushing of ponderosa pine in the wind. Well-known artists as Ken Medema, David Wilcox, Charlie Peacock and Steve Bell have participated in the program for musicians from high school, college and professional stages of musical training. In August we also hosted a group of theater students and faculty at the science station to prepare for a Shakespeare performance on campus at the beginning of the 2003 fall semester.

#### Current Majors

Geology is thankful and pleased to mention that there is still nearly a 100% success rate of placing our graduates. This applies to those who desire an immediate employment position, graduate school placement with financial award, and those who would like to do some form of ministry service. The quality of a Wheaton degree does make a difference. The character of our Christian students is also a strong factor in their success.

Current majors, Katie Lethe '04, Tim Bayley '04, Lori McGuire '04, and Matt Andresen '04 are the authors of research reported in the abstracts on the Geology website (see pg. 5). They are the most recent group to participate in a summer research program. Matt and Peter Stewart '05 continued work this summer on Jim Clark's sea-level change project. Lesley Ediger '03 and April Lee '03 served as HNGR Program interns in 2002. Lesley studied the ecology of Macaws in Bolivia, and April produced an evaluation of agricultural practices in Ghana. Major Lindsey Christiansen '04 was awarded a summer research appointment with the University of Minnesota this summer. Lindsey split her time between geomorphic fieldwork in northern California and the U of MN campus. Anna Cichowski '04 was chosen by the USGS to serve as a geologist-intern for the White Sands National Monument. Chelsea Lautz '04 was given her choice to work as project intern with Shaeffer Engineering on water recycling projects or with Samaritan's Purse in Costa Rica for relief and development service. She elected to devote herself to the work in Costa Rica (wise choice).

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### **Alumni Updates**

Here are some brief updates on some of our alumni learning, working, and serving around the world!

- Lauren Powell '01 finished her MS at the University of Colorado. Her thesis involved interpretation of landforms as they correlate with seismotectonics in Taiwan. Lauren presented her work and led field excursions during a GSA Penrose conference on Taiwan.
- Josiah Engblom '01 completed an assignment in Mozambique to provide potable water in community development. He is now at Colorado State preparing to undertake a Masters thesis on groundwater contamination from old mine tailings.
- Eric Mickelson '00 recently defended his thesis at Northern Illinois University. Eric has been investigating the isotopic characteristics of arc volcanoes in Central America. We have a regular Wheaton Geology club going at Penn State University.
- Joel Moore '99 and Jamie Fulton '97 are both in the same specialized doctoral program, in biogeochemistry. Joel was formerly a USGS research associate at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and Jamie was finished his MS at Ball State in Ohio. They may be joined by Dwight Schuster '94, who already has two Masters degrees, from Cornell (in Earth Science Education and Educational Administration).
- Andrew Kulpecz '02 is in the Masters program at Rutgers (his dad's alma mater). Andrew will focus on sedimentology in his thesis work. The same subject appeals to Christopher Williams '93, who is finishing his PhD work at Southern Illinois University. His field area is coastal south Florida.
- Beth Wieland '02 plans to attend the Teton Science School for advanced environmental education this
- Brett Wyss '01 dropped by from his job as high school earth-science teacher in Palatine, IL to pick up a nice collection of rocks, minerals, fossils, and maps for his classroom. Our department has an abundance of many materials, and we are always happy to provide a good supply to teachers.
- Doug Walter '98 is teaching high-school science classes south of us in Naperville, and Laura Bell '94 is teaching Earth Science and Environmental Science to high-school freshmen and sophomores in St. Charles. Perhaps with enough of our "agents" out there, more prospective majors will materialize.
- We have recently heard from Jeremy Vaughan '99 (after finishing his geochemistry thesis at Clemson), and Nicole Titus '02, who are both working as geologists for environmental consultants. Description department has pretty well permeated the consulting business in this area with Wheaton geology grads. One of the more seasoned veterans, Chad Smith '93 shares the great news that he and wife Amy are expecting their first child this fall. Chad works for our good friend and executive geologist, Peter Vagt '46. Pete was the first PhD granted from NIU Geology, and now, Dean Ekburg '77, will be one of the most recently enrolled in the doctoral program. Like Pete, Dean will also work with Professor Colin Booth as advisor in hydrogeology.
- Nikki Cunningham '01 is now in law school at the University of Tennessee. Her desire is to concentrate on environmental law and natural-resource policy.
- Matthew Barner '98 is in Washington, DC area working for URS Corporation as a geophysicist.
- Phil Cain '98 has recently moved to Boston, MA working for a hazardous waste management and disposal company.
- Other alumni news includes letters from servants, Stopher Hyun '99, working with smallenterprise loans in India and Jeremy Albers '99 with YWAM aboard the Caribbean Mercy, to train missions workers and provide help to the needy in Central America and the West Indies.
- Tory Olson '77, program director for World Vision in west Africa was around during the Black
  Hills reunion breakfast. He has helped Wheaton Students get involved in various short-term projects.
- Steve Dunbar '95 is serving as a MAF pilot based in Quito, Ecuador.
- Rachel Reese '94 has recently finished a six-moth tour in Komodo National Park in eastern Indonesia teaching english and environmental science to rangers and staff. She is currently in India helping a small orphanage and rural school develop a science curriculum and laboratory and plans to head back to grad school this summer.
- Beth Bowers '02 has realized a dream in providing environmental education in the Ukraine.
- Dawn Wright '83 is unfortunately leaving her position on the college's Board of Visitors. She is on the faculty of Oregon State and continues to be a great encouragement for us.



WCSS Field Camp on Mt. Wheaton, SD

"Please forgive any omissions but also send us your news.
We want to keep in touch with all of you!"



WCSS Field Camp class of 2000 at the Grand Tetons.

(Continued on page 8)



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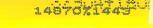
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#### **Alumni Updates**

(Continued from page 7)

- Dave Curtiss '92 has completed his tour of duty as the AGI (American Geological Institute) Congressional Science Fellow. Dave is an energy resource and policy specialist. He serves as Manager of the Earth Science Resources Institute at the University of Utah. We hear that Dave may now pursue an MBA to go with his geoscience grad degree.
- Peter Newell '96 and his wife Lori have returned from a three-year tour of duty with Food for the Hungry in Bolivia.
- Andy Newell '94 dropped by to say hi and tell about his current interests. Andy is out with the Hopi
  Nation in New Mexico and shares his passion for traditional living through his ministry. Few people
  today know as much about building traditional housing, blacksmithing, and animal husbandry as our
  man Andy.
- Gregg Davidson '85 regularly shows up at gatherings of the ACG during the annual GSA conference. Gregg is hydrogeologist/geochemist on the faculty of Ole Miss. He got himself committed to help run the combined Southcentral-Southeastern GSA meeting in Memphis this spring.

There really are many more people that should be mentioned above. Please forgive any omissions but also send us your news. We want to keep in touch with all of you! Send us your updates and if you would like to receive future versions of <u>CONTACT</u> electronically, please send us your email address.