

THE ROCK RECORD

UPJ GEOLOGY - WINTER 1982

This is the first of what we hope will be a series of annual or semi-annual newsletters about department activities for our graduates and friends.

The department continues to increase slowly in numbers. This winter we have a total almost 70 students and, as you can imagine, they are kept rather busy with Economic geology and Sedimentation/Stratigraphy, not to mention the usual chemistry, physics, etc.

The Geology Club has been quite active this fall under the leadership of Glenn Johnson ('82) and Denise Barlock ('82). After the University decided to drop the Gems and Gemstone class completely, the club picked it up. Merle Lauer and Linda Plunk had 12 students last fall and part of the fee paid by the students stayed with the club. This is the first time it has been tried and it looks as though it will be successful. At the homecoming festivities this year, Jo Hinish ('82) and her escort Mark Rys ('82) represented the Geology Club; another first for the club. At one of the meetings Dr. Brice showed slides (as always:) and talked about the geology of Tasmania. Kathy Bensko ('82) gave a very interesting and informative talk about her work in the DER internship program at another meeting. Kathy has been working with George Katrancha ('75) in the mine subsidence office at Ebensburg. This internship program has been a very worthwhile experience for our students. This winter term Joe Trocano ('83) is participating in the program.

Gary Hill ('81) and Jon Hawk ('81) both worked for St. Joe American Corporation last summer. Gary in South Dakota and Jon in Minnesota and the Adirondacks. They gave the students a run-down on their activities at one of the Geology Club meetings. From the description they gave, it must have been a marvelous experience for both of them. Jon even learned to drive with a punctured lung after an accident in the field. We are happy to report he has made a complete recovery and is now working with Appalachian Coal Surveys in Pittsburgh. Gary knows many stream beds in the Blackhills very intimately. Also during the summer Jo Hinish ('82) worked dragging "jugs" and geophone cables over parts of Maryland and West Virginia. Denise Barlock ('82) finally got her trip out West and still lifts off the ground when she speaks about it.

Other activities the club has undertaken are the Krebs basement clean-up and an aluminum can recycling program. Ceramics is no longer offered and all of that equipment that was located in the basement has been moved out, but the place required a good cleaning before we could use it. The department is and will continue to hold many of lab sessions there because 252 is too small now for most of the sections. Boxes have been placed around campus for the aluminum can collection, but it takes many cans to make a pound, so we have several plastic bags full of cans stored for recycling. The club hopes to get enough return to make it worth the "smell"!

Brenda Lint ('83) has been awarded \$500 through the Chancellor's Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship Program. Brenda and Dr. Brice will be developing a petrographic manual to be used in the petrology laboratories. This is the first time one of our students has been awarded one of these fellowships. Congratulations to Brenda!! Another one of our people has received recognition for his outstanding achievement on the UPJ Track Team. Steven Parker ('82) has been named All-American in cross country. Recently he finished 20th at the NCAA Division II Nationals only 30 seconds behind the winner. Steve was

competing with runners from all over the USA at that meet. Well run Steve!
Who says students can't be athletes as well.

Susan Brett (the new Mr. Easy for you old-timers) whose time is shared between chemistry and geology, is a very valuable addition to our staff. Sue has assumed responsibility for the equipment inventory, check-out, storage, etc., as well as assisting us with laboratory preparation. For about six months Bernadette Hedrich worked in the Geology Department through the CETA program. She was a real help in all respects, but her most valuable service was the re-organization of the library files which we keep in the department. Then just as things were going well, the position became a victim of the budget ax in Washington. Happily we can report that through the training she received here, Bernadette was able to get a position at a local library; that is the way the CETA program is supposed to work, but we really miss Bernadette.

The faculty has not been idle either. Dr. Fry spent part of the summer in Arizona doing more work with the large cracks which he first saw back in 1976 on the Western fieldtrip. He took a long over-due sabbatical in the Winter term to complete this project. After several years of excellent service Dr. Fry has stepped down as Chairman of the department; a position he had held since the program started in 1975. The reins have passed to Dr. Brice who assumed the chairmanship in September of last year. Other changes within the department include the development of this newsletter, and Dr. Kaktins has taken over the role of coordinator of alumni activities. We hope this will help us keep in touch with our graduates, and assist them in communicating with each other.

Drs. Kaktins and Fry attended the annual Field Conference for Pennsylvania Geologists which was held in Wellsboro, Pa. last October. Shortly afterward Dr. Kaktins took the geomorph class back through the same area on the way to the Finger Lakes for their fieldtrip. From all reports the lakes are still there, but the air was just a bit nippy in those tents. However, everyone survived and will carry some beautiful memories of some beautiful landscapes.

In November Dr. Brice attended the annual GSA meeting in Cincinnati where he represented the Eastern Section/NAGT at the meeting of the national NAGT council. Almost on top of this meeting, he was off to a one day seminar sponsored by The American Institute of Mining Engineers (AIME) on Mineral Economics in Washington, D.C. At the annual meeting of Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association in Harrisburg, a few days later, Dr. Brice presented a paper Humor and Science which was a compilation of cartoons about science, many of which you may remember from his classes. Another of Dr. Brice's papers Bishop Ussher, John Lightfoot and Creation has been published in the January 1982 issue of Journal of Geological Education. This article traces the origins of Ussher's pronouncement that Creation took place on October 22, 4004 BC.

The highlight of our autumn term was a small get-together out at "The Farm" in November which many former students attended. How nice to see these old (in the endearing sense) faces again. This will definitely become an annual

event. Our Winter term "get-together" was held in February and we had a marvelous time reviewing pictures of past fieldtrips.

Late additions (and arrivals)

Congratulations to Chris and Brenda Laughrey for a fine baby boy born this past January.

Mike Layton ('79) finished his M.S. at South Florida University in January and has started working for Mobil Oil in Dallas. Greg Bunk ('80) successfully defended his M.S. thesis at Wright State University this February and has accepted a position with Amoco in Houston.

Jo Hinish is our 1982 Division Scholar. She has a very impressive record both at the University and in the department. Jo joined us after almost completing a biology major and academically she has 139 credits with a 3.5 QPA. In geology she has taken all of our courses, but one and received only one B for a QPA in geology of 3.9. Everyone here is very proud of Jo, and we offer her our heartiest congratulations. After graduation she will be working for Texas Instruments, Inc. in the seismic 3-D processing division, and will soon after start work on her advanced degree in geology and geophysics.

This newsletter will close with a list, as up to date as we can make it, of our graduates and former students. If we have missed anyone, or if the information is not correct, please, please write and tell us. We want to stay in touch with everyone, but we need your help to do it. Write and tell us what you are doing and we will add it to the fall newsletter. Also, please let us know your reaction to the department newsletter.

Please fill in and return this form to complete/correct information on yourself, or supply missing information on the activities of other former students in geology at UPJ.

Name _____ Graduation date _____

Employer _____

Business address/phone _____

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Comments, News, etc. _____

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