As if that weren't enough, the journal also presents four extremely hot papers on life promoting factor (LPF), in which the substance is isolated; proven to be expressed in all living things; found necessary for transcription, translation, and retrograde transport from Golgi to ER; and then identified. Research just doesn't get any cooler than this.

Cool will only publish articles deemed "astonishingly cool beyond belief." Authors are advised to include "a very cool model, whether or not the data support it," and to organize articles with the "informative stuff" left for the fine print at the end, "so that no one has to feel guilty not reading it."

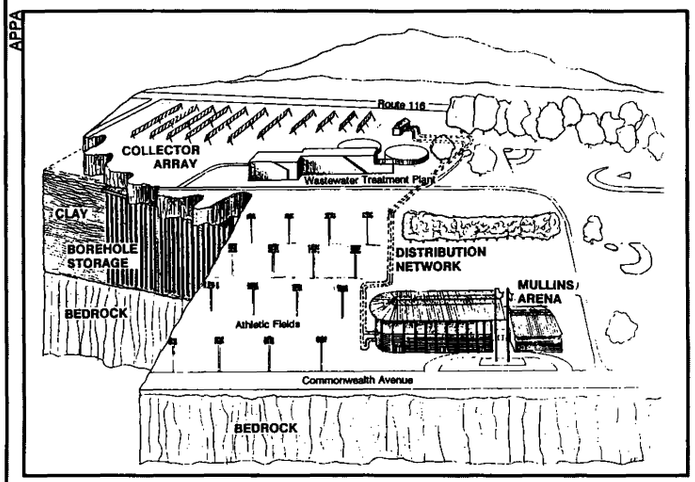
All the rage among molecular biologists, *Cool* is edited by Head Cheese Ben and European Cheese Peter, along with 62 familiar-sounding Cool Dudes—Richard, Welcome, James, Jeremy, and so forth. *Cool* is not available on newsstands or from Cell Press; it's possibly the world's first fax journal. Get a biologist to zap you a copy today. We're not making this stuff up, you know.

Solar Showers in Massachusetts

The first major U.S. "solar seasonal storage system" is currently being planned by engineers at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Six acres of solar collectors will heat water that is then pumped through a network of pipes buried in a 100-foot-deep clay deposit near the campus. In the summer, the clay does nothing more than absorb excess heat: the piped water will supply all the heating and hot water needs for a new sports arena and gym to be constructed in 1992. But throughout the winter, the clay will remain hot enough to maintain the water at 140° F.

Solar storage systems, which can also store heat in bedrock or bodies of water, can be as much as 85% efficient, according to University of Massachusetts engineer J. Edward Sunderland. About 30 have already been built in Europe, where they serve large installations such as residential complexes. But in the United States, says Sunderland, "The federal government has a very backward program in alternative energy systems."

Now, however, thanks to an amendment to its appropriations bill introduced by Representative Sylvio Conte (R–MA), the Department of Energy may kick in $400,000 toward the $3-million project. The university also hopes to get utility companies interested in participating in the project and in building their own systems.



Let the sun shine in. *Solar storage will heat UM sports arena.*

University Bars Pioneer Grants

Buffeted by a perceived increase in racial tensions over the last several years, some U.S. universities have banned racially offensive speech in an attempt to improve the academic climate for minority students. In April, the University of Delaware took that logic one step further and announced that it "will neither seek nor accept further financial support" from the Pioneer Fund, a private New York foundation, because the university feels Pioneer supports research that could undermine affirmative action programs.

The unusual action is the culmination of a campus furor that erupted last November after William Frawley, a linguistics professor, demanded an investigation of Pioneer grants totaling $174,000 to Delaware education professor Linda S. Gottfredson. Gottfredson, who does research on ability testing, contends that genetic factors may help explain differences in achievement between blacks and whites.

After a 5-month investigation, a faculty committee recommended that the university refuse further Pioneer grants, concluding that whether or not the fund actually supports racist research, that is how it is "perceived" by many faculty, staff, and students.

The university said the ban is in effect as long as the fund remains committed to "a pattern of activities incompatible with the university's mission." Contending that its decision has nothing to do with free speech, the university says it "has a right to set its own priorities for support of scholarly activity." Gottfredson has countered that the action will have a "chilling effect" on scholarship. "My fear is that the drive for cultural diversity will actually enforce intellectual orthodoxy."

Will other universities take Delaware's action as a precedent? "We hear that several universities are thinking of enacting similar regulations," says Michael Greve, executive director of the Center for Individual Rights, which is representing Gottfredson in binding arbitration with the university.

Another Temperature Record...Rises

Less than 2 months after setting a world record for critical temperature in an organic superconductor (*Science*, 27 July, p. 365), a team led by chemist Jack Williams of the Argonne National Laboratory has done it again. His laboratory's latest compound, κ-$(ET)_2Cu[N(CN)_2]Cl$, loses its electrical resistance at 12.8 K—more than a full degree higher than the old record.

Researchers working with organic superconductors have previously used pressures of up to 12,000 atmospheres to suppress a low-temperature magnetic effect that increases the material's resistance. But Williams' team—which includes Aravinda Kini, Hau Wang, K. Douglas Carlson, Urs Geiser, and W. K. Kwok of Argonne, J. E. Schirber of Sandia National Laboratories, and Myung-Hwan Whangbo of North Carolina State University—achieved its latest result at the comparatively low pressure of around 300 atmospheres. How is this possible? "That's what we're trying to figure out," says Williams.

The pressure puzzle isn't the only mystery Williams and his colleagues have to unravel. As discussed in the 5 September issue of *Inorganic Chemistry*, their previous record was based on a nearly identical compound. The only difference: a bromine atom in place of the chlorine atom. But previous models predict that substituting a chlorine atom would lower the material's critical temperature, not increase it.