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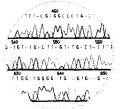


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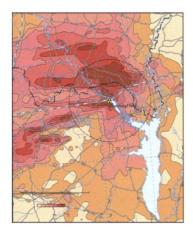
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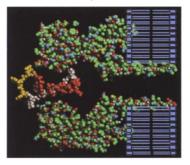
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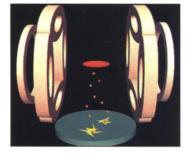
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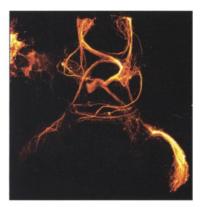
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Female African elephants and their dependent offspring live in matrilineal groups led by the oldest female, or matriarch. Research reveals that group members are dependent on the matriarch for their store of social knowledge. The removal of these key individuals, often targets for illegal hunters because of their large size, could have serious consequences for the conservation of this endangered species. [Photo: K. McComb]



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H. Dragert, K. Wang, T. S. James

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## A GDP/GTP Exchange Factor Involved in Linking a Spatial Landmark to Cell Polarity

P. J. Kang, A. Sanson, B. Lee, H.-O. Park

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**Structural Basis of Transcription: RNA Polymerase II at 2.8 Å Resolution** P. Cramer, D. A. Bushnell, R. D. Kornberg

Structural Basis of Transcription: An RNA Polymerase II Elongation Complex at 3.3 Å

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411 High-resolution structures of yeast RNA polymerase II—both in its inactive state and in the

<sup>411</sup> High-resolution structures of yeast RNA polymerase II—both in its inactive state and in the act of transcription—provide insight into how the enzyme transcribes DNA into messenger RNA.

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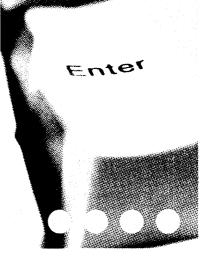
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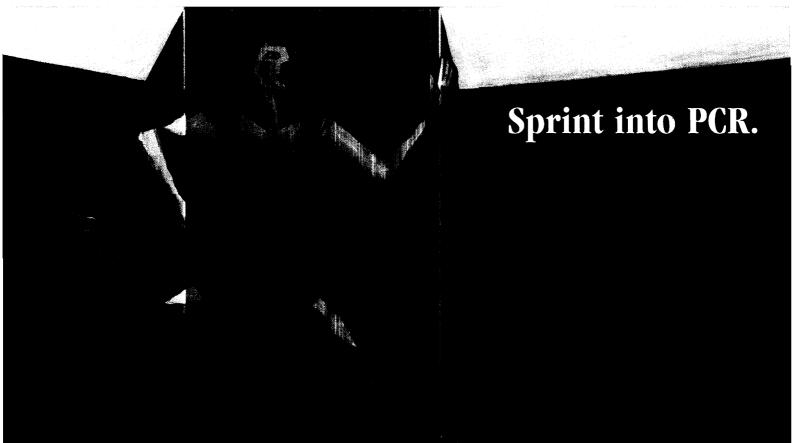
This ad supplement examines the types of career opportunities in drug discovery and outlines the skills needed for these jobs. Look for it on page 527.

AD SUPPLEMENT / 4 MAY ISSUE

## Technologies in DNA Chips and Microarrays,

**Part 1:** This ad supplement takes an in-depth look at this leading-edge area that allowed researchers to complete a working draft of the human genome in remarkably short time. Look for it in the 4 May issue.





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## SUMMARIES OF RESEARCH IN THIS ISSUE

## THIS WEEK IN Science

## Eros: A Beaten Asteroid

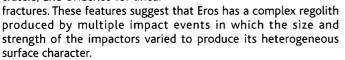
The NEAR-Shoemaker spacecraft has mapped the asteroid 433 Eros for about 1 year. In October 2000, the spacecraft completed a close-approach to the asteroid surface and obtained images with a resolution of 1 to 5 meters with the multispectral imager (Veverka et al., p. 484) and collected complimentary topographic details with the laser rangefinder (Cheng et al., p. 488). The fine-scale observations include meter-sized blocks, degraded craters, smooth, flatfloored craters, a lack of small craters, and evidence for linear

edited by Phil Szuromi

476 Stable Vortex Lattices in Bose-Einstein Condensates

In macroscopic quantum systems, the application of an external parameter—a magnetic field in the case of superconductors, or an induced rotation in the case of superfluids—results in the formation of vortices. These vortices penetrate the system and dissipate energy, and they also possess

quantized units of angular momentum. Abo-Shaeer *et al.*, p. 476 (see the 23 March news story by Voss) now show that large, ordered arrays of vortices can be formed and observed in a rotating Bose-Einstein condensate. The vortices are much more stable than had been predicted and may prove a useful testing ground of vortices in superfluids.

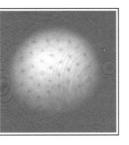


## **An Excited Bose-Einstein Condensate**

The formation of a Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC), whether as a liquid in the case of helium (He) or as weakly interacting, dilute atomic gases (seen for H, Li, Na, and Rb), dissipates energy during cooling. This process would seem to require that the atoms come together in their lowest energy or ground state, but Robert et al. (p. 461; see the Perspective by Inguscio and the 23 March news story by Voss) now show that a cloud of metastable helium atoms, excited some 20 electron volts in energy into the 2  ${}^{3}S_{1}$ triplet spin state, can be coaxed into forming a BEC. In their experiment, a magnetic field spin-polarizes the atoms in cloud and forces out any atoms with the opposite spin. With the spins all pointing the same direction, inelastic collisions that would otherwise destroy the delicate condensate are suppressed. They have also implemented a single-atom detection scheme with a multichannel plate that represents a large step on the road to quantum atom optics. This work may open a route to forming a dilute-gas BEC of ground-state He. 🛪

## **Quantum Solutions to Difficult Problems**

There are certain problems, for example, factoring or searching for the shortest route connecting several points (the traveling salesman problem), that classically appear to grow exponentially in computational time with the number of digits (in factoring) or points that can be tried (in a search). So far, classical algorithms for solving the wide range of related "NP-complete" problems that could yield answers in polynomial time have remained elusive. From simulations, Farhi *et al.* (p. 472; see the news story by Anderson) show that quantum computers may be more effective



at solving such problems. At least for the number of qubits they could simulate on their classical computer, they show that the adiabatic evolution of their quantum computer would yield a result to some examples of NP-complete problems in polynomial time.

## Adsorption on Very Small Clusters

Small metal clusters have been characterized through a number of spectroscopic methods, but there is still great interest in the details of how these clusters react with small molecules. Nauta *et al.* (p. 481) have made complex-

es between magnesium atoms and small clusters (two and three atoms) and HCN in liquid helium droplets. In this environment, high-resolution infrared laser spectroscopy of the C–H vibrational band reveals rotational state information that allows much structural information to be deduced. A qualitative change in the adsorbate-metal cluster bonding occurs between the  $Mg_2$ -NCH and  $Mg_3$ -NCH complexes that is reflected in a change in Mg–N bond length.

## How Cells Sense Oxygen

Mammalian cells are exquisitely sensitive to changes in oxygen concentration. When oxygen becomes limiting (hypoxia), the cells increase the transcription of genes that enhance oxygen delivery or that facilitate metabolic adjustment to reduced oxygen availability. This adaptive response is mediated by hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF), which is stable under hypoxic conditions but is degraded in the presence of oxygen by a ubiquitin ligase containing the von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) tumor suppressor protein. Ivan et al. (p. 464) and Jaakkola et al. (p. 468) have found that VHL binds to a specific domain of the HIF-1 subunit only when a conserved proline in that domain is hydroxylated (see the Perspective by Zhu and Bunn). The enzymes that catalyze prolyl hydroxylation require oxygen as a substrate, which suggests that this protein modification plays a key role in cellular oxygen sensing. This discovery could open up new therapeutic possibilities for the many diseases in which hypoxia plays a crucial role, including cancer, ischemic heart disease, hypertension, and stroke. 🛪

#### **Big Mama Knows Best**

African elephants live in matrilineal family groups that range over large areas and that frequently interact with other similar groups. McComb *et al.* (p. 491; see the cover and news story by Pennisi) show that the oldest female, or matriarch, acts as a repository for the group's social knowledge. Multiple playback experiments



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## CONTINUED FROM 395 THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

were performed during a period of 9 years to test vocal discriminatory abilities. Families with older matriarchs were better than those with young matriarchs at distinguishing the contact calls of other groups well or poorly known to them. These superior abilities appear to correlate with greater reproductive success on families with older matriarchs and suggest that age and experience may influence reproductive success through its effects on the acquisition of social knowledge. However, older elephants have the larger tusks prized by hunters and poachers; thus, whole populations may be affected by the removal of a few key individuals.

### What Parents Will Do for Children

Understanding why species differ in their parental care tactics has been a central goal for evolutionary ecologists studying life history evolution. Ghalambor and Martin (p. 494; see the news story by Pennisi) test the prediction that life-history differences between bird species result in differences in how parents resolve the trade-off between feeding their young and reducing the predation risk to their offspring and to themselves. In a survey of nearly 200 bird species, they show that clutch size is negatively correlated with adult survival. They also manipulated predation risk to phylogenetically paired species in North and South America and show that parents with smaller clutch sizes and greater chances of survival are less willing to place themselves at risk than those with large clutch sizes.

#### More Efficient in Groups

Competition between organisms that share a common glucose resource leads to an evolutionary dilemma analogous to the "tragedy of the commons"-overexploitation of a common resource. Pfeiffer et al. (p. 504; see the Perspective by Cox and Bonner) pre-

sent simulation models and a range of examples to show that organisms using pathways that produce adenosine triphosphate (ATP) with high rate but low yield (anaerobic) can outcompete those that produce ATP with low rate but high yield (aerobic). This situation leads to an inefficient use of a vital resource. They also suggest that the evolution of respiratory sugar metabolism required cooperation between cells, which suggests that an energetic bonus was reaped when the transition was made from single cells to multicellularity. This study is an example of how concepts derived from whole-organism ecology and evolution can apply to a very different sphere-the evolution of biochemical pathways.

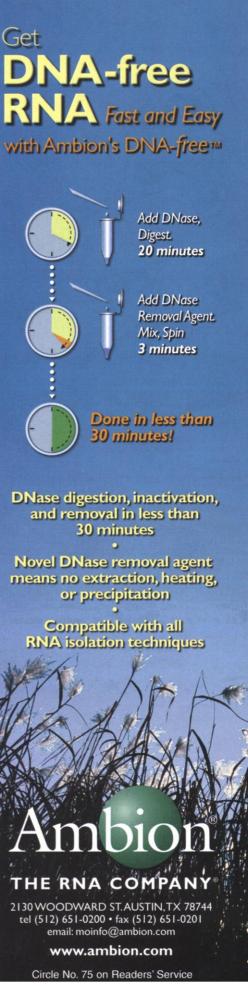


## **The Protein Code Turns 21**

All organisms construct proteins from the same set of 20 amino acids (the only known variants being formyl-methionine and selenocysteine, although many amino acids can be modified after their incorporation into polypeptide chains). Is it possible to extend the set of 20 amino acids in vivo to include new chemical functionalities in proteins? Two papers report success toward this goal in Escherichia coli (see the Perspective by Böck). Using genetics, Döring et al. (p. 501) identified mutations in the editing function of valyl-tRNA synthetase that result in high levels of incorporation of the nonnatural amino acid aminobutyrate. Wang et al. (p. 498) used a combination of genetics and molecular biology to add an orthogonal tyrosyl tRNA-tyrosyl tRNA synthetase pair with altered substrate specificity so that they could incorporate O-methyl-L-tyrosine at high fidelity.

#### Sharing the Roundabout

The midline of the fruit fly and the zebrafish share more than just topology. Fricke et al. (p. 507) show that zebrafish use a receptor encoded by the gene astray for guiding axons from the developing eyes to the brain, crossing the midline on their way to form the optic chiasma. The astray receptor is similar to the receptor encoded by the gene roundabout that is responsible for guidance of growing axons across the midline in Drosophila. Chimeras made by exchanging eyes of mutant and wild-type zebrafish demonstrated that the relevant site of expression of astray is in the eye.



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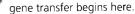
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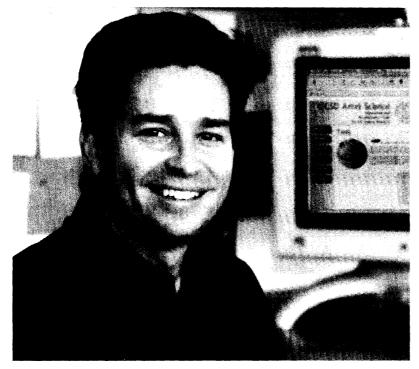
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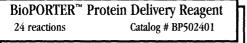
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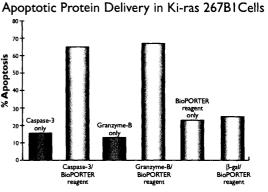
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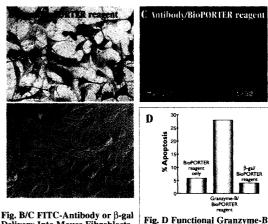


Fig. B/C FITC-Antibody or  $\beta$ -gal Delivery Into Mouse Fibroblasts FITC-labeled antibody (2 µg) or  $\beta$ -gal (0.5 µg) were delivered with 2.5 µl of BioPORTER reagent into NIH/3T3 cells grown on coverslips in serum free conditions. Cells were examined 4 hours after protein delivery.

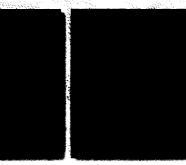


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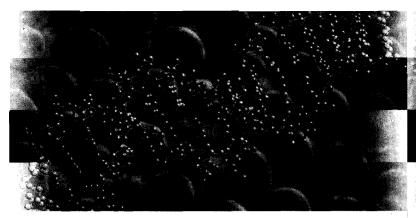
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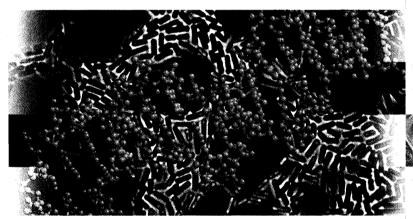
 200 µl fresh human whole blood, 5 µl eluate

 volume applied.

 Lanes 1 and 18:
 A Hind III Marker

 Lanes 2 to 9:
 Eppendorf gDNA Blood Kit

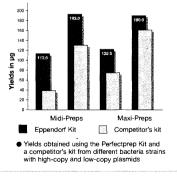
 Lanes 10 to 17:
 Competing kit

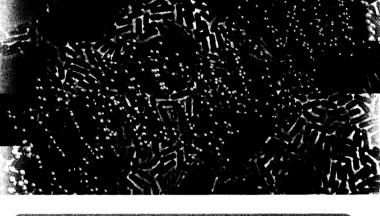


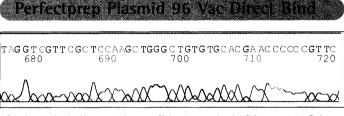
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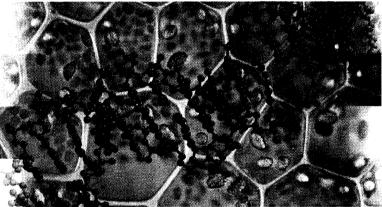






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elF-2α	ļ	PLCγ-1	
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ERK1/2		Rb	,
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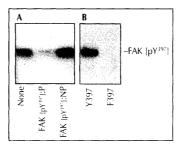


Figure A: FAK  $PY^{397}$  PSSA analysis illustrating that only the phosphopeptide blocks the Western signal. Figure B: FAK  $PY^{397}$  PSSA analysis illustrating the absence of a Western signal with the FAK  $(Tyr \rightarrow Phe(F^{-197})$ mutant.

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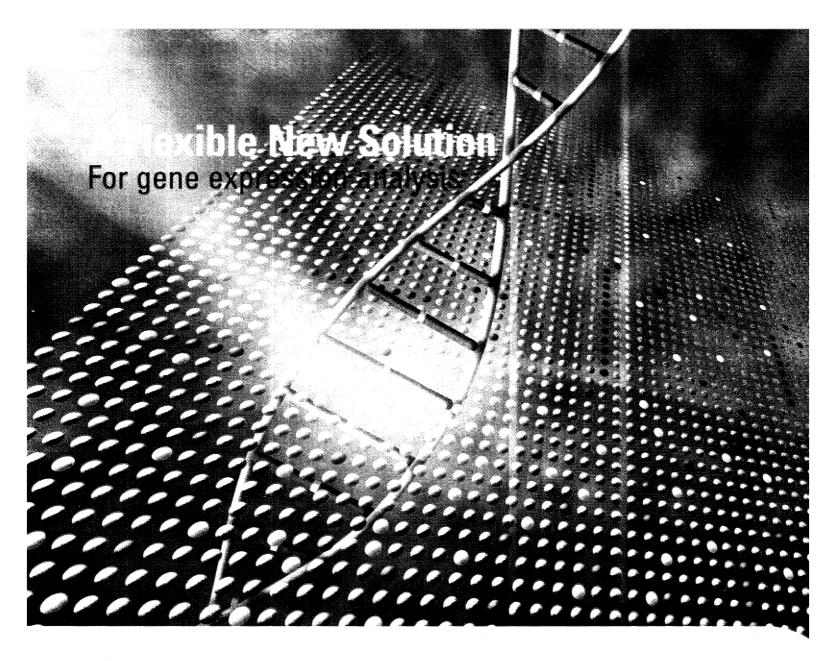
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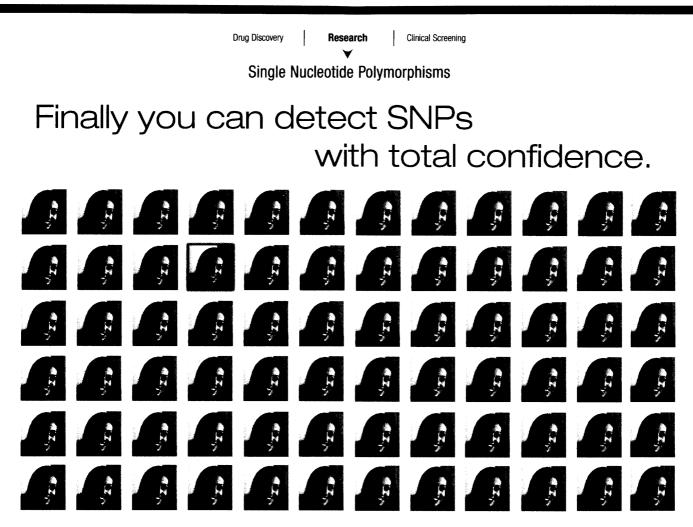


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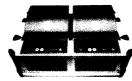
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University of California, Los Angeles

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Smithsonian Institution & The World Bank



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Dr. Diamond, a professor of physiology at the UCLA School of Medicine, conducted ecological studies of bird diversity in New Guinea that enabled him to formulate theories explaining forces structuring communities in nature. His work has led to the recognition of a sub-field of community ecology based on "assembly rules", competition and community dynamics. His theories on area requirements for species led to the theoretical justification of large natural areas. He has significantly contributed to the understanding of ecology by non-ecologists through his regular column in the journal Nature, articles in Discover magazine and two books—The Third Chimpanzee, and Guns, Germs and Steel for which he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction in 1998. Dr. Diamond was awarded the National Medal of Science in 1999.

Dr. Lovejoy, chief biodiversity advisor to the president of the World Bank, on detail from the Smithsonian Institution is a tropical biologist who has worked in the Amazon basin of Brazil since 1965. He is credited with coining the term biological diversity, now shortened to biodiversity, and with Diamond, helped create the field of conservation biology. His research vision led to the adoption of conservation measures in the Amazon. For 14 years, he led the World Wildlife Fund-U.S. In senior advisory positions in the Reagan, Bush and Clinton administrations, and with international organizations, he injected sound science into public policy. Beginning in 1987, he held important environmental positions with the Smithsonian Institution and moved on loan to the World Bank in 1998.

For additional information contact Dr. Linda Duguay, Executive Director, The Tyler Prize Phone (213) 740-9760, Fax (213) 740-1313, Email tylerprz@usc.edu Home Page www.tylerprize.usc.edu

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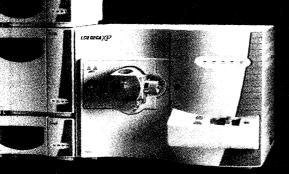
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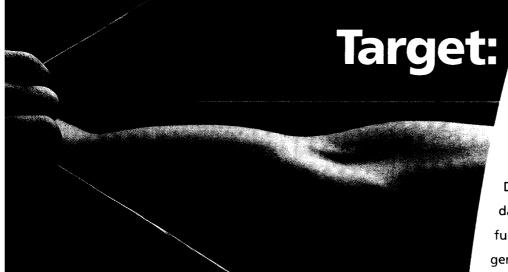
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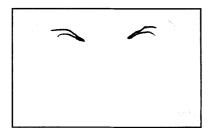
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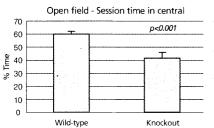
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- 1) Nat. Biotechnol. 18, 630-634 (2000)
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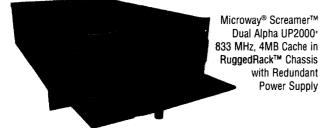
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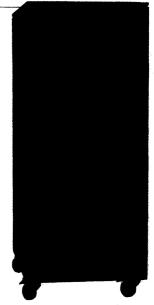
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> — David Kristofferson. Ph.D., MBA, Director of Information Systems, Eos Biotechnology, Inc.

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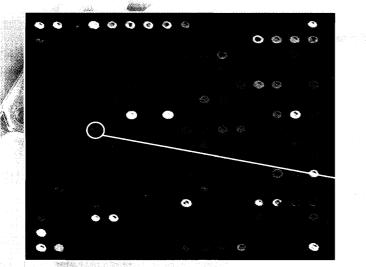
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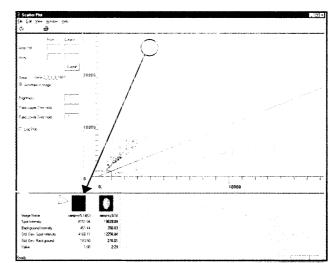
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