

WE HEAR THAT

Clinton Bestows 1999 National Medals of Science

The nation's top scientific honor, the National Medal of Science, is granted each year to a handful of the country's most distinguished scientists in recognition of their work. After announcing the 1999 winners in January, President Clinton made the presentations in a formal ceremony last month at the White House. Six of the twelve recipients were recognized for physics-related research.

James W. Cronin, a University Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago's Enrico Fermi Institute and corecipient of the 1980 Nobel Prize in Physics (with Val Fitch of Princeton University) was one of three Chicago faculty members to receive the medal. He was cited for his "fundamental contributions to the fields of elementary particle physics and astrophysics and as a leader in creating an international effort to determine the unknown origins of very high-energy cosmic rays."

His fellow faculty member **Leo P. Kadanoff** was honored for "leadership in fundamental theoretical research in statistical, solid state and nonlinear physics which has led to

numerous and important applications in engineering, urban planning, computer science, hydrodynamics, biology, applied mathematics and geophysics." Kadanoff is the John D. MacArthur Distinguished Service Professor at the university's James Franck Institute.

Stuart A. Rice, the Frank P. Hixon Distinguished Service Professor at the same institute, was the other Chicago faculty member honoree. He was recognized for "changing the very nature of modern physical chemistry through his research, teaching, and writing, and for using imaginative approaches to both experiment and theory that have inspired a new generation of scientists."

Medal winner **John Ross**, a professor of chemistry at Stanford University, was commended for his "enormous impact in physical chemistry, especially in molecular studies, statistical mechanics, nonlinear kinetics, and for opening up new fields in chemical science."

Atmospheric chemist **Susan Solomon** received the medal for "key insights into explaining the cause of the Antarctic ozone 'hole' that changed the direction of ozone research and for providing exemplary service to worldwide public policy on ozone research." Solomon is a senior

scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration facility in Boulder, Colorado.

Kenneth N. Stevens, the C. J. LeBel Professor of Engineering at MIT, was honored for "pioneering contributions to the theory, mathematical methods and analysis of acoustics in speech production and establishing the contemporary foundations of speech science."

King and Others Honored by AAPT

The American Association of Physics Teachers recognized several individuals for their contributions to physics education during its winter meeting held in Kissimmee, Florida in January.

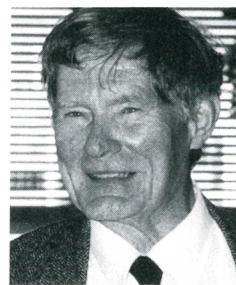
AAPT's highest honor, the Oersted Medal, was presented to **John King**.

He was honored for his "outstanding contributions in developing a huge variety of ways of presenting physics to students and society" and for his "dedication to

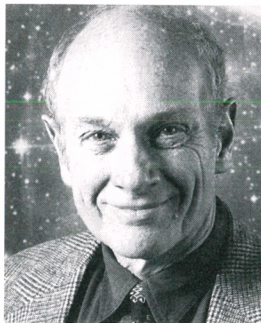
the teaching and learning of physics." King is the Francis Freedman Professor of Physics, Emeritus, at MIT.

This year's Richtmyer Award Lecture was given by **William Phillips**, a physicist at NIST in Gaithersburg, Maryland and an adjunct professor of physics at the University of Maryland, College Park. Phillips, who shared the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1997 for the development of methods to cool and trap atoms with laser light, gave a talk entitled "Time, Einstein, and the Coldest Stuff in the Universe."

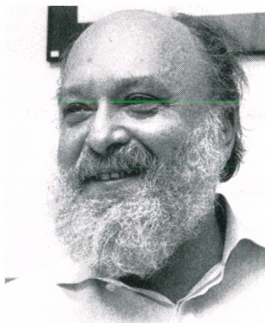
The society also presented Distinguished Service Citations to the following members: **Ann M. W. Brandon** (Joliet West High School, Joliet, Illinois), **William R. Franklin** (retired from Memorial High School in Houston, Texas), **Sandra Harpole** (Mississippi State University), **Mary E. Mogge** (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona), and **Gerald R. Taylor** (James Madison University).



KING



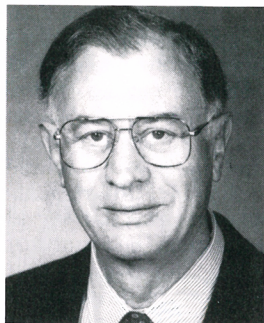
CRONIN



KADANOFF



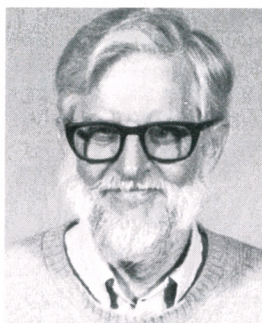
RICE



ROSS



SOLOMON



STEVENS