

the field," says Bahcall. "Successes are not achieved in a vacuum. They are achieved as a result of mutual interactions among many people."

The Tel Aviv-based Dan David Foundation last year began annually honoring three individuals or organizations for enhancing knowledge about the past, present, and future. Bahcall is the winner in this year's "future" category, cosmology and astronomy, and the first physicist to win a Dan David prize.

For the "past," the foundation focused on paleoanthropology and is honoring Michel Brunet, a vertebrate paleontologist at the University of Poitiers in France, and for the "present," this year's topic is print and electronic media, with the prize shared by photographer James Nachtwey and documentary filmmaker Frederick Wiseman, both of the US. The prizes will be bestowed on 18 May in a ceremony at Tel Aviv University.

An unusual condition of the prize is that recipients give 10% of their winnings to young researchers in their own fields. That money goes to 20 graduate students, with 10 at Tel Aviv University and 10 around the world each receiving a \$15 000 scholarship.

The Dan David prize has an endowment of \$100 million from Dan

David, the president of Photo-Me International, the London-based maker of automated photo booths.

Toni Feder

News Notes

UK upgrades spallation source. ISIS, the neutron spallation source located at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory near Oxford, UK, has been awarded £100 million (about \$160 million) to add a second target station, the UK government announced on 8 April. The money is from the Office of Science and Technology, which plans UK investments in large research facilities.

ISIS currently delivers neutrons with wavelengths from fractions of an angstrom to several angstroms. The new target station will extend the usable range to about 15 Å. The longer wavelengths are in demand for research in soft condensed matter, advanced materials, and biomolecular science, says ISIS director Andrew Taylor.

"When we first built ISIS, we compromised by only having one target station," adds Taylor. "Having two will fully optimize the beams we produce. . . . It will double the capacity and give an order of magnitude better capability." Europe currently has by far the best neutron facilities, he adds, and with the ISIS upgrade, despite spallation sources under construction, "it will take time for the US and Japan to get up to speed to compete."

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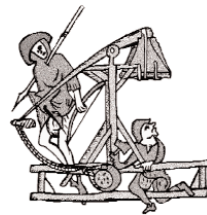
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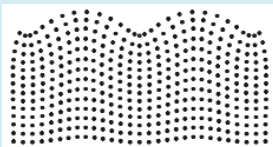
WEB WATCH

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~rmine/gctrebs.html>

Trebuchets are a type of medieval siege engine. Based on the whiplash effect, trebuchets can hurl missiles farther than simpler designs, such as the onager. You can learn more about these weapons, including how to simulate and build them, from the **Grey Company Trebuchet Page**. The Grey Company is a band of medieval reenactors from Perth in Western Australia.



<http://www.kettering.edu/~drussell/demos.html>



If you've ever tried, and failed, to visualize a Rayleigh wave, Dan Russell can help. An applied physics professor at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan, Russell has put together a series of **Acoustics and Vibration Animations**. Among his animations are the principal vibrational modes of baseball bats.

<http://www.physics.harvard.edu/undergrad/limer.htm>

"Some are funny. Some are stupid. But at least they are all physically accurate (give or take)." That's how Harvard University physicist David Morin describes the 40 or so **Physics Limericks** he's written and made available online.

To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please phone the editor at (301) 209-3036.

Compiled and edited by Charles Day