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Cover: A street map of Berlin in the mid-1800s and a computer simulation showing the distribution of population centers in the same area a century later provide contrasting snapshots of a growing city. Researchers are developing mathematical models that may help them relate the physical form of a city to the activities of its people. (Simulation: Makse *et al*/Boston University)

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Science Service, which publishes SCIENCE NEWS, is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1921. It gratefully accepts tax-deductible contributions and bequests to assist its efforts to increase the public understanding of science, with special emphasis on young people. More recently, it has included in its mission increasing scientific literacy among members of underrepresented groups. Through its Youth Programs it administers the International Science and Engineering Fair, the Science Talent Search for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships, and publishes and distributes the *Directory of Student Science Training Programs for Precollege Students*.

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## Editor's Letter

We at SCIENCE NEWS are proud of our concise coverage of the complex world of science. So it is especially gratifying when that work receives accolades. We are pleased to begin 1996 by reporting that two writers have recently been recognized for their work published in SCIENCE NEWS.

Elizabeth Pennisi, formerly of SCIENCE NEWS, has received the 1996 James T. Grady-James H. Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public. The award recognizes her reporting, over 4 years, of advances across the broad spectrum of chemistry. "Twirling Ribbons, Billowing Bubbles" (SN: 11/19/94, p. 328), for example, looked at computer visualization of molecules. "A Molecular Whodunit" (SN: 1/1/94, p. 8) examined molecular suspects in the mystery of Alzheimer's disease (the Sigma Tau Foun-

ation also recognized this story with an award). Liz described the discovery of the buckyball and related cage-like carbon molecules in "Scaling Chemistry's Peaks" (SN: 4/18/92, p. 250).

According to the American Chemical Society, its award is designed "to recognize, encourage, and stimulate outstanding reporting which increases the public's knowledge and understanding of chemistry, chemical engineering, and related fields." Liz is currently a freelance science writer in Takoma Park, Md.

Bruce Bower, who has written about behavior for SCIENCE NEWS since 1984, is one of three midcareer journalists to receive the American Psychological Association's first Science Writers Fellowships. Recognized for his overall coverage of psychology, Bruce has written, for example, about perception of personality traits in "Charge of the 'Right' Brigade"

(SN: 10/29/94, p. 280), human mating strategies in "Romantic Reverie" (SN: 11/27/93, p. 362), and the various facets of intelligence in "IQ's Evolutionary Breakdown" (SN: 4/8/95, p. 220).

The APA fellowships aim to provide established journalists with an informal environment in which they can learn about current research in psychology and how it affects society. Bruce plans to use the fellowship to travel to a variety of research sites during 1996, among them the Max Planck Institute for Psychological Research in Munich, and to report in SCIENCE NEWS the research he observes there.

We intend, as the year progresses, to continue providing award-worthy coverage in all areas of science. We appreciate your comments about the value of the stories you find in the pages of SCIENCE NEWS.

— Julie Ann Miller