Science Highlights
Proplyds and Silhouette Disks in the Carina Nebula..................... 3
A Warp in the Disk of the Large Magellanic Cloud?..................... 4
Clustering of Red Galaxies in the NOAO Deep
Wide-Field Survey................................................................. 5
Solar Hα Zeeman Spectropolarimetry...................................... 6

Director’s Office
Two New Associate Directors of NOAO.................................... 7
TMT Consortium..................................................................... 8

NOAO Gemini Science Center
Announcing the NOAO Gemini Science
Center (NGSC)......................................................................... 9
Gemini Observing Opportunities for
Semester 2003B...................................................................... 9
Reminders about Gemini Observing Proposals......................... 10
NGSC Support of Gemini Phase-II Submissions....................... 11
Phoenix News........................................................................... 11
NGSC Booth at the AAS Meeting in Seattle............................ 12
US Gemini Instrumentation Program Update............................ 13
Gemini Next-Generation Instrumentation
Planning.................................................................................. 14

Observational Programs
NOAO 2003B Proposals Due 31 March 2003............................. 15
Community Access Time at the Keck, MMT,
and HET Observatories......................................................... 16
The Hobby-Eberly Telescope Medium-Resolution
Spectrograph......................................................................... 16
Observing Request Statistics for 2003A................................. 18
KPNO Instruments Available for 2003B......................... 18
CTIO Instruments Available for 2003B................................. 20
Gemini Instruments Possibly Available for 2003B............... 20

Observational Programs cont.
KECK Instruments Available for 2003B................................. 21
MMT Instruments Available for 2003B................................. 21
HET Instruments Available for 2003B................................. 21

Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory
Big Telescopes and Little Children................................. 22
First ISPI Run with Visiting Astronomers.............................. 23
33,490 Mosaic II Exposures................................................. 25
Site Testing/Surveying in the Atacama Region of
Northern Chile....................................................................... 26
Site Activities on Tololo and Pachón................................. 28
Small Telescopes Update..................................................... 28
New Faces in ETS.................................................................. 29
Other Happenings at CTIO..................................................... 30

Kitt Peak National Observatory
A New Doppler Radial Velocity Machine at Kitt Peak
for Extrasolar Planet Searches............................................. 31

National Solar Observatory/GONG
From the NSO Director’s Office.............................................. 34
ATST Design Progress......................................................... 35
SOLIS.................................................................................... 36
Infrared Heterodyne Observations at the
McMath-Pierce West Auxiliary Telescope.......................... 37
Infrared Observations with McMath-Pierce
Adaptive Optics.................................................................. 39
The Improved Solar Observing Optical Network (ISOON).... 40
GONG................................................................................... 41

Public Affairs & Education Outreach
Educational Outreach Update............................................... 43
“America’s space program will go on. This course of exploration and discovery is not an option we choose. It is a desire written in the human heart, where that part of creation seeks to understand all creation.”
--US President George W. Bush, speaking at a February 4 memorial service in Houston following the loss of Space Shuttle Columbia.

---

“In addition to confounding federal agencies and those who work with them, the stalemate over [FY2003] appropriations is a symptom of a larger breakdown in our lawmakers process. Increasing ideological rigidity and partisan gamesmanship, along with an electorate that is, paradoxically, both evenly divided and widely disengaged, have conspired to make it harder and harder to conduct the mundane but essential business of Congress. It’s hard to predict when this state of affairs is likely to improve.

“But it’s worth noting how science funding has largely stayed out of the partisan and ideological crossfire. The passage of our NSF [doubling] bill, while not guaranteeing linear growth, is a sign that both Congress and the Administration have come to understand that broadly based increases in science spending are overdue.”
--Excerpts from comments by House Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) during an address to the University Research Associates’ Annual Council of Presidents Meeting and Policy Forum on January 30.

For details on the NSF Fiscal 2004 budget request, see:
www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/news/03/pr0317.htm

---

“We’re collecting the photo album of the life history of the universe for the first time: the baby pictures, the teenage pictures, the grown-up pictures.”
--Sandra Faber (University of California Santa Cruz) on current advances in galaxy formation studies, in Ron Cowan’s article “Galaxy Hunters: The Search for Cosmic Dawn,” National Geographic, February 2003.