

## 2001 THE OUTCROP

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**Cover:** Impressions of Late Cambrian jellyfish stranded on a sandy shoreline in central Wisconsin. Hundreds of such impressions occur on half-a-dozen layers separated by barren layers in a flagstone quarry near Mosinee, WI. This remarkable occurrence was discovered by local commercial collector, Dan Damrow. In 1999, California paleontologist, James Hagadorn, joined Bob Dott and Damrow in a study of the medusoids. They interpret this unique preservation of so many soft-bodied animals as the result of strandings by a series of storm surges, which swept untold numbers of hapless jellyfish onshore and quickly buried them. Without such beach scavengers as crabs and birds, their bodies were preserved long enough to form the impressions shown here. Wisconsin then lay in the tropics at about 10 or 15 degrees south latitude. Other effects of Cambrian tropical storms have long been known in the form of the spectacular boulder conglomerates surrounding the Baraboo Hills, so the medusoid strandings tell another part of the exciting story of ancient Wisconsin. For more about the jellyfish jamboree, see the Hagadorn, Dott and Damrow article in *Geology* for February, 2002.

Department of Geology and Geophysics  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Lewis G. Weeks Hall for the Geological Sciences  
1215 West Dayton Street  
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1692

Phone: 608-262-8960  
Fax: 608-262-0693  
E-mail: [geodept@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:geodept@geology.wisc.edu)  
<http://www.geology.wisc.edu>

### We'd like to hear from you!

**Please send professional and personal updates, feedback, news and photos for *Outcrop 2002* to:**

The Outcrop c/o Mary Diman  
Email: [diman@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:diman@geology.wisc.edu)  
Fax: 608-262-0693  
1215 W. Dayton St., room 239  
Madison, WI 53706

Send us your email address or URL so we can inform you of upcoming alumni events. And we can link your web page to our alumni page.

If you'd like to hear from us weekly you can receive a copy of the *Geobulletin* (weekly news from Weeks Hall) via e-mail.

Send *Geobulletin* request to:  
[geodept@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:geodept@geology.wisc.edu)  
On the subject line: *G&G Alumni*

The Outcrop Staff:

Chuck DeMets– editor ([chuck@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:chuck@geology.wisc.edu))  
Mary Diman–production ([diman@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:diman@geology.wisc.edu))  
Bob Dott–department historian ([rdott@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:rdott@geology.wisc.edu))

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