

# LOCAL SCIENTISTS ARE VENTURING NEAR AND FAR

**4) Andrew Lucas**, oceanographer, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, will lead an expedition to the Bay of Bengal in the Indian Ocean, where scientists are trying to better understand how the ocean affects the development and timing of regional monsoons. The work could lead to more accurate gauging of monsoonal flooding in India and Bangladesh.

**5) Shirley Strum**, anthropologist, UC San Diego, will return to Kenya's eastern Laikipia Plateau to continue her work with the Uaso Nguro Baboon Project, now in its 42nd year. Strum says, "We continue to track the humanization of the environment; the invasion of alien prickly pear cactus — its dispersal by elephants, people, baboons, livestock; the role of habitat degradation in allowing this plant to 'jump the fence' after living quietly for 50 years; the impact of prickly pear fruit on growth and reproduction of baboons; and the consequences for infant socialization when mothers have their

next baby only 12 months rather than 24 months."

**6) Tom Rockwell**, seismologist, San Diego State University, will visit central and southwestern Portugal in May to study active faults, marine terraces and regional uplift that may be associated with historical earthquake sources. He also will do research in the Czech Republic in early June in collaboration with the Czech Academy of Sciences. Later in June, he will travel to Barcelona, Spain, to work on a joint project there, and then he'll travel to Marseille, France, for a meeting to present results from seismic studies in Israel and Turkey.

**7) David Kimbrough**, geologist, San Diego State University, will visit western Argentina in August with a graduate student to study the uplift history of the Andean mountain belt as recorded by young sedimentary basins.

**8) Marc Myers**, materials scientist, UC San Diego, will travel to Paraguay and Brazil during late summer to begin retracing the path that former President Theodore Roosevelt followed 100 years ago when he explored the uncharted River of Doubt. Mey-

ers will see how the river has changed over time, and he'll collect animal specimens for use in biomimicry, the study of how designs in nature might be used in the design of products and goods.

**9) Drew Talley**, biological oceanographer, University of San Diego, will visit Bahia de los Angeles in the Sea of Cortez to study how food webs on desert islands and in the sea are interconnected.

**10) Matt Lauer**, anthropologist, San Diego State University, will visit Mo'orea, west of Tahiti, to study why coral reefs there were able to bounce back from a crown-of-thorns infestation.

**11) Erin Riley**, anthropologist, San Diego State University, is traveling to Sulawesi, Indonesia, to explore the ecological and nutritional correlates of crop raiding by Moor Macaque monkeys.

**12) Walter Oechel**, biologist, San Diego State University, will be in Barrow, Alaska, researching global climate change and carbon cycling in the Arctic. He measures methane levels and the carbon-dioxide exchange.

**13) Thomas Levy**, anthropological archaeologist, UC San Diego, is visiting Balu'a

in Jordan to carry out cyber-archaeology research with graduate student Matthew Vincent, who is directing excavations at this ancient spot. Levy says, "The site is near two ancient trade routes known from biblical and Roman sources. This season, an integrated cyber-archaeology system will be used that involves real-time geo-spatial data recording and drones to capture the archaeological and geographic significance of the site, which may have been the political center of the kingdom of Moab known from the Old Testament."

**14) Paul Goldstein**, archaeologist, UC San Diego, and his team will return to Peru, where they have been excavating a Tiwanaku temple. They will be studying their finds; the work involves opening mummy bundles, doing osteological analysis and studying ceramics.

**15) Jonathan Shurin**, biologist, UC San Diego, will visit the Sierras with graduate student Celia Symons to study how fish affect Sierra lake ecosystems.

**16) Forest Rohwer**, biologist, San Diego State University, will visit Indonesia to study reef biodiversity.

