

# Lion's Tale

## Science and math march on

Only a few hours after the Class of 2002 had graduated in Lion's Stadium on the other side of the campus, preparations to demolish Crowell Hall, home to mathematics and science instruction for 38 years, were under way. But before the wreckers could begin, about 20 faculty and staff who had spent much of their academic life in Crowell, gathered to free a copper box from its cornerstone location and share the memories sealed inside.

For **Paul Hiack**, chairman of the physics department and informal master of ceremonies for the day, it was a bittersweet afternoon. The friendly reunion of many former colleagues was a way to say goodbye to a decaying and long-outdated structure.

After **Martin Becker**, assistant professor of physics, sledge hammered the box from its concrete 1963 cornerstone, and helped **Frank Kolp**, associate professor of physics, pry, pound, hacksaw, and tinsnip it open, the curious guests gathered in the lobby to examine the treasure. They wore rubber gloves provided by **Don Lovett**, associate professor of biology, to guard against damaging old photographs or printed matter. Some identified themselves in the photos and all swapped memories of earlier days.

The contents, now being catalogued for the archives of the Roscoe L. West Library, included photos of the building exterior, and of the science and mathematics faculties of the time. Carefully filed and preserved in plastic wrapping were TSC publications of the 1963–64 academic year, brochures explaining the math and science programs of the day, and the dedication address by Victor L. Crowell, the professor of science and chairman of the science

department, for whom the building was named after he retired in 1973. Of special interest were papers written by three students of the time: two mathematics papers presented as class projects by **Gary Ford '64** and **Robert Brook '65**, and a brief recollection by **Doris Field '65** of being a laboratory assistant in Green Hall, home of the science department before 1964. (For the text of her essay, see the Alumni News, class notes for 1965.)

*Bruce B. VanDusen*



Gathered to inspect the contents of the "time capsule" placed in a wall of Crowell Hall in 1964 are, from left, Sally Muse, Paul Hiack, chairman of the physics department; Frank Kolp, professor of physics; Fred Pregger, former chairman of the physics department; Donald Lovett, associate professor of biology; Carole Calu, secretary in the physics department; Eileen Smith, associate professor of chemistry (retired); Snezana Delafave, associate professor of physics; and Thulsi Wickramasinghe, assistant professor of physics.

With some photographic slight of hand, we have arranged two archival pictures of the science and mathematics faculties of May 1964 into one. In front, from left, the mathematics staff: Isaac Battin, Walter Ehrenpreis, Sigfried Haenisch, Robert Price, Michael Barr, Jane McLaughlin, Oscar Barker, Norman Cromack, John McIlroy, William Goldstein, William Hausdoerffer. Behind them, the science staff in the second row: Jack Chridjian, Shirley M. Troxel, Wayne M. Smith, Fred T. Pregger, Herbert R. Treuting. Third row: N. Franklin Kolp, Herbert A. Moses, Ray A. Palmer, Joseph A. Vena, Judson J. Fink, Howard Nechampkin. Top row: Paul S. Hiack, Victor L. Crowell, Charles W. Harp, Alan Lutz, H. George Hamilton.

