

IODP-USIO PRESENTS ...

Tales of the Resolution!



SPECIAL PREMIERE ISSUE!!

**VOL. I, NUMBER 1
OCTOBER 2008**

*OUR PLANET HAS BEEN CALLED A
"PALE BLUE DOT" **

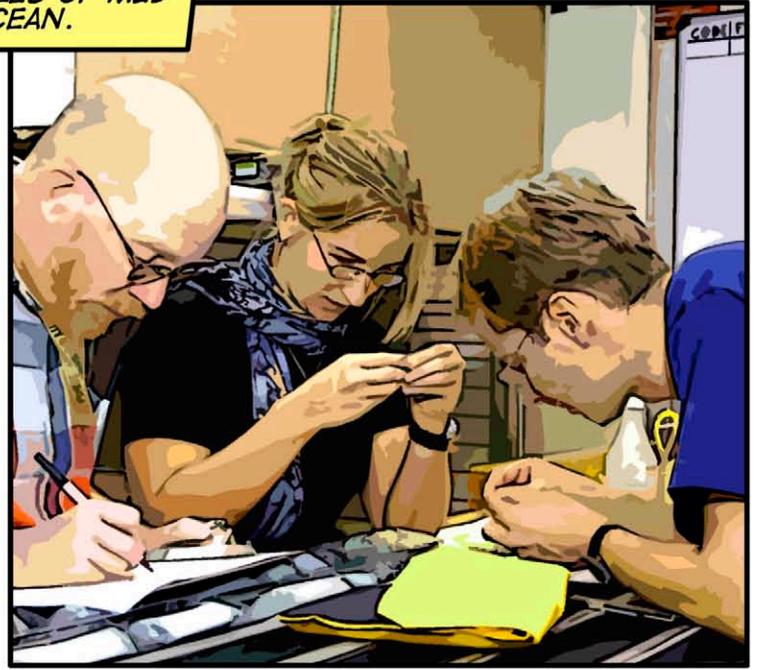


** THIS IS THE TITLE OF A WELL-KNOWN BOOK
BY CARL SAGAN. CHECK IT OUT SOMETIME.*

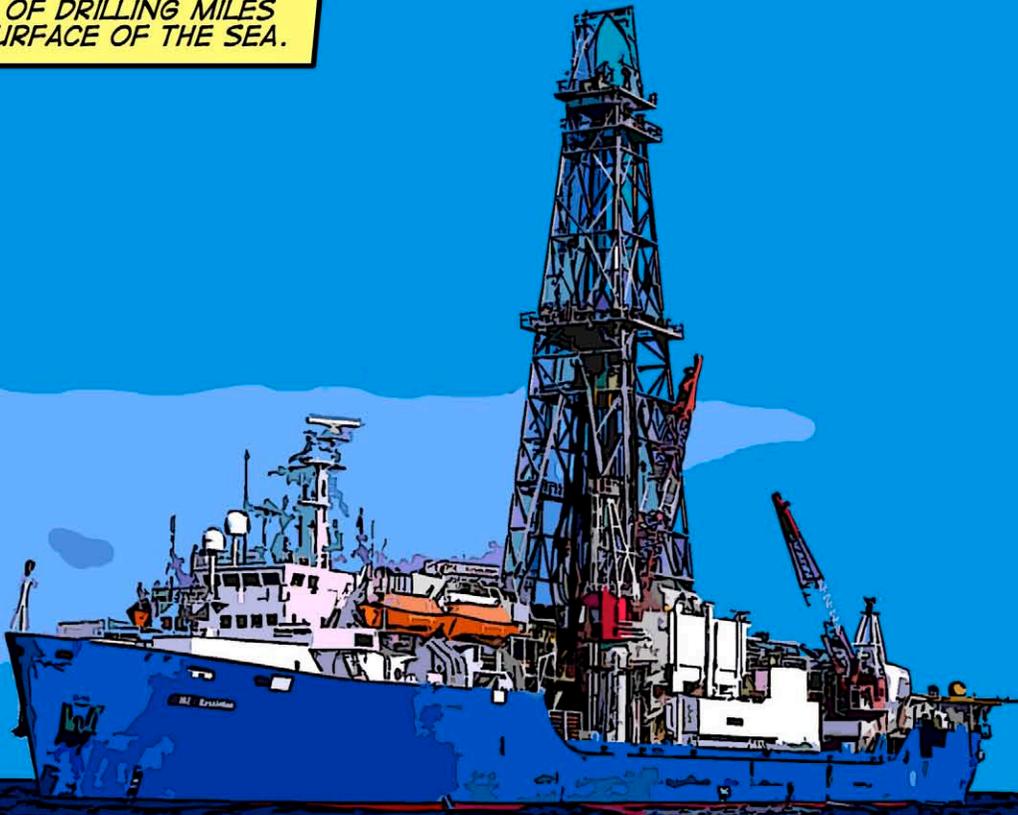
IT'S BLUE BECAUSE 70% OF ITS SURFACE IS COVERED BY WATER.



ONE OF THE IMPORTANT WAYS SCIENTISTS CAN LEARN ABOUT THE EARTH'S HISTORY IS TO STUDY SAMPLES OF MUD AND ROCK FROM THE SEAFLOOR BENEATH THE OCEAN.



TO COLLECT THE SAMPLES, INVESTIGATORS NEED A RESEARCH SHIP CAPABLE OF DRILLING MILES BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE SEA.



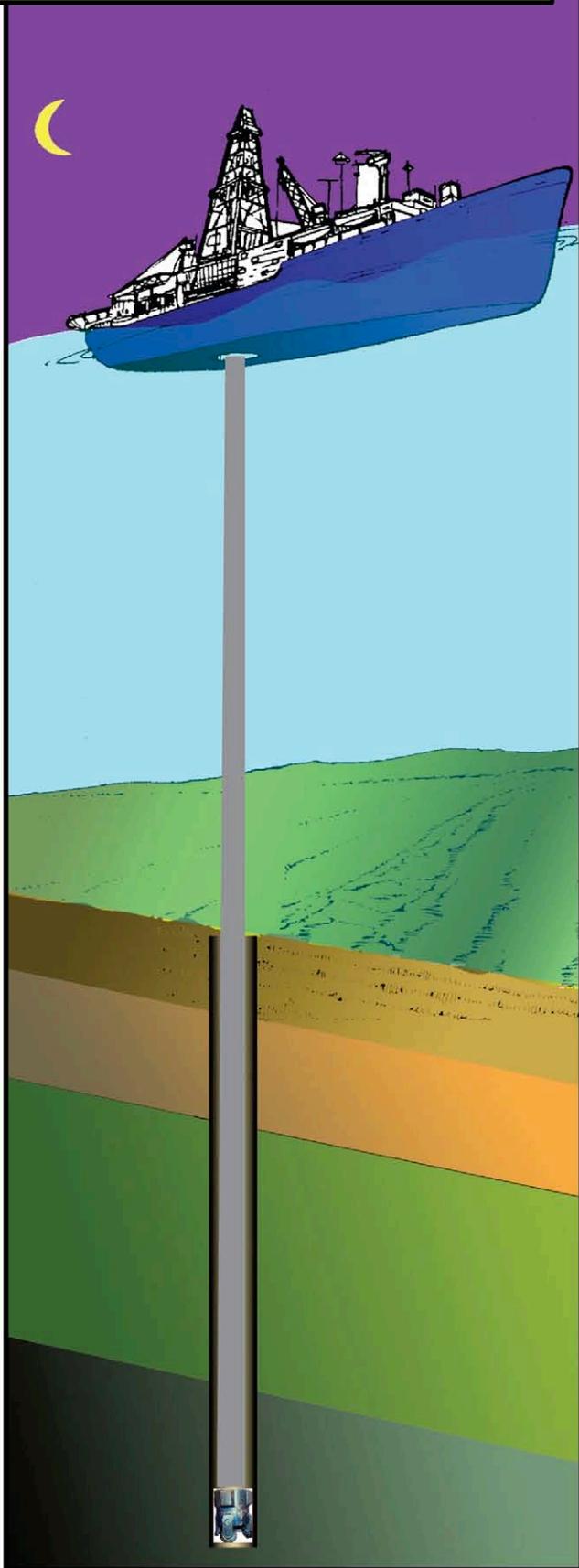
FOR OVER 20 YEARS, SCIENTISTS HAVE USED A SHIP CALLED THE JOIDES RESOLUTION.



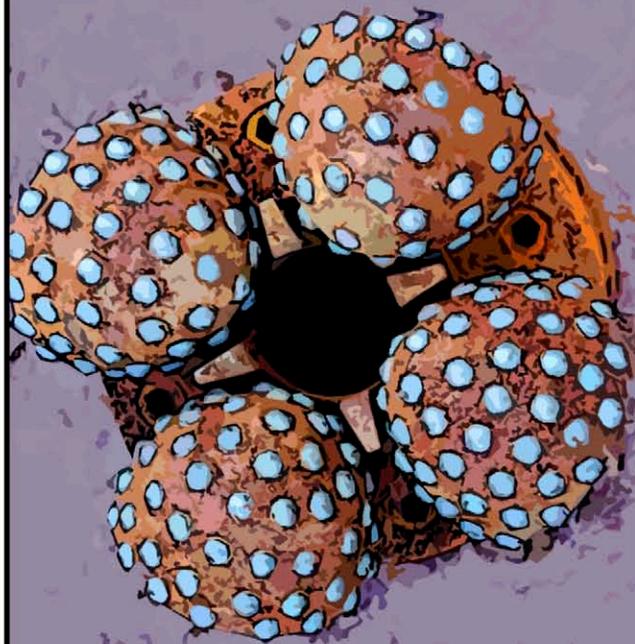
THE RESOLUTION IS ONE OF SEVERAL DRILLING PLATFORMS CURRENTLY DEPLOYED BY THE INTEGRATED OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM (IODP), AN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH MISSION TO EXPLORE EARTH'S HISTORY AND STRUCTURE.



THE JOIDES RESOLUTION IS EQUIPPED WITH A POWERFUL DRILLING SYSTEM THAT LOWERS A DRILL BIT TO THE SEAFLOOR ON THE END OF A PIPE CALLED A DRILL STRING.



ROTATING CONES ON THE BIT SURROUND AN OPENING ABOUT THREE INCHES ACROSS.



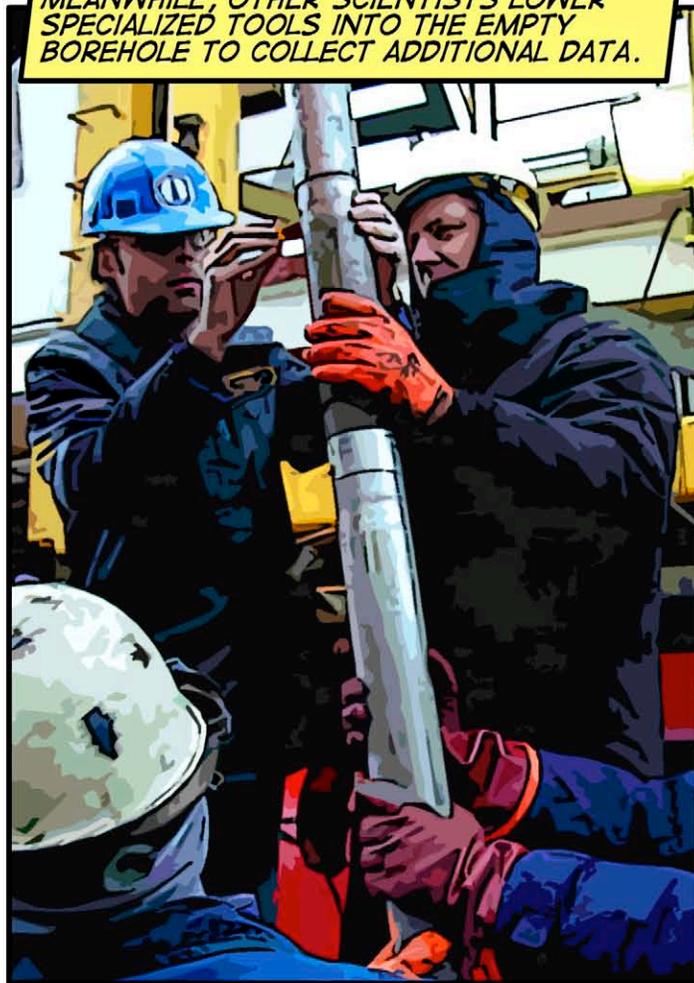
WEIGHT IS APPLIED AND THE DRILL PIPE IS FORCEFULLY ROTATED. AS THE DRILL BIT ADVANCES, IT CUTS A CYLINDER OF MUD OR ROCK, WHICH IS CALLED A CORE.



THE CORES ARE THEN RETURNED TO THE SHIP IN 30 FOOT SECTIONS AND PREPARED FOR STUDY.

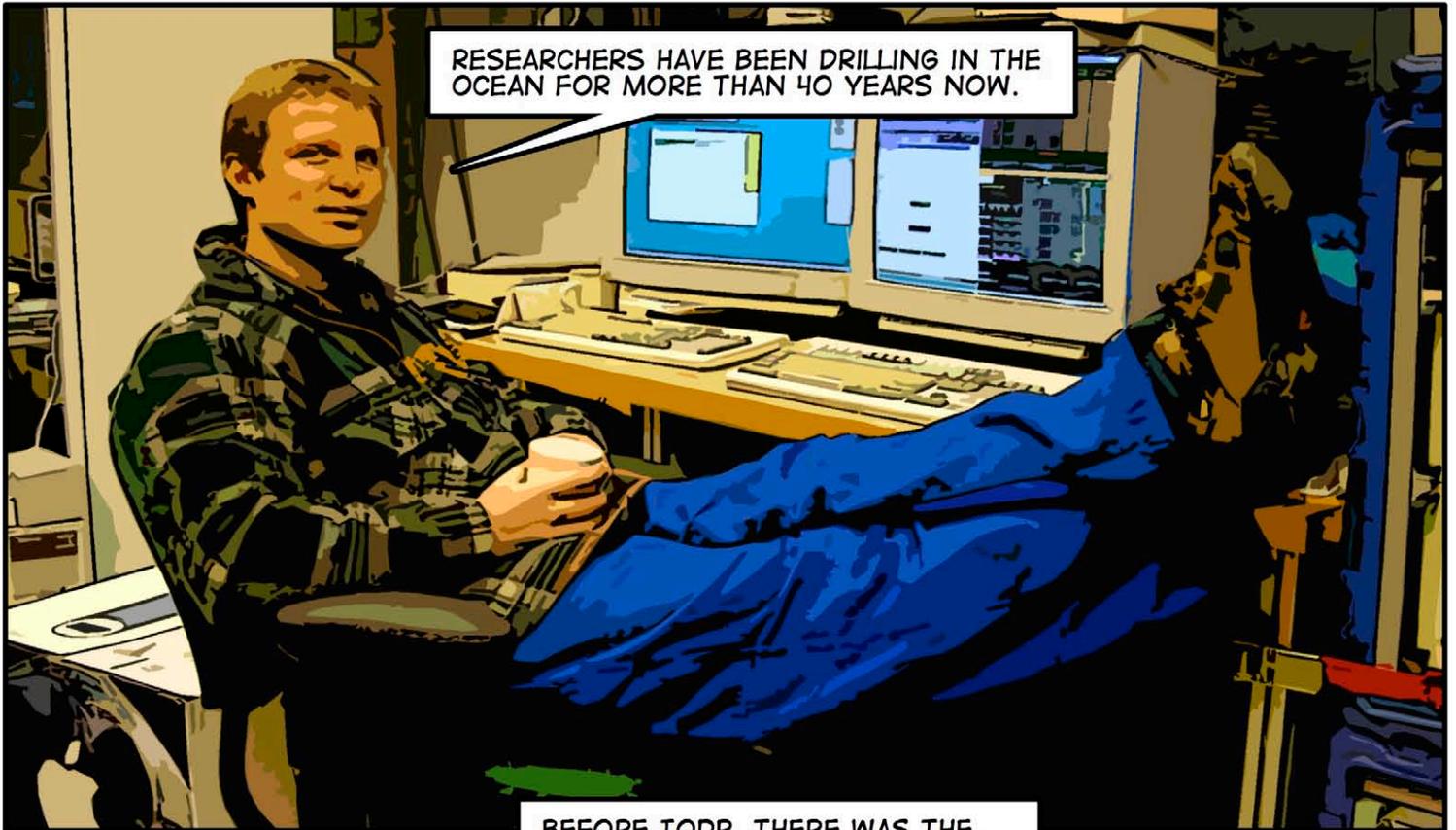


MEANWHILE, OTHER SCIENTISTS LOWER SPECIALIZED TOOLS INTO THE EMPTY BOREHOLE TO COLLECT ADDITIONAL DATA.



THE DATA, CALLED LOGS, PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BOREHOLE.



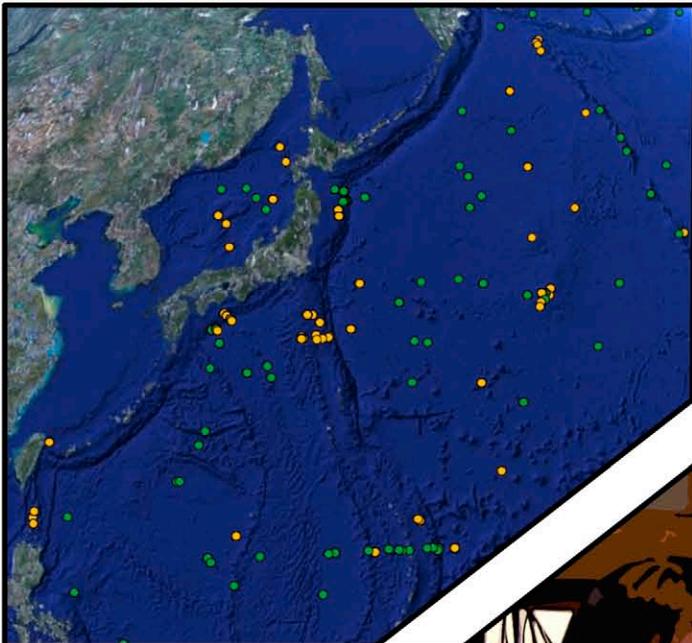


RESEARCHERS HAVE BEEN DRILLING IN THE OCEAN FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS NOW.

BEFORE IODP, THERE WAS THE OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM (ODP), AND BEFORE THAT, THE DEEP SEA DRILLING PROJECT (DSDP).



RING!



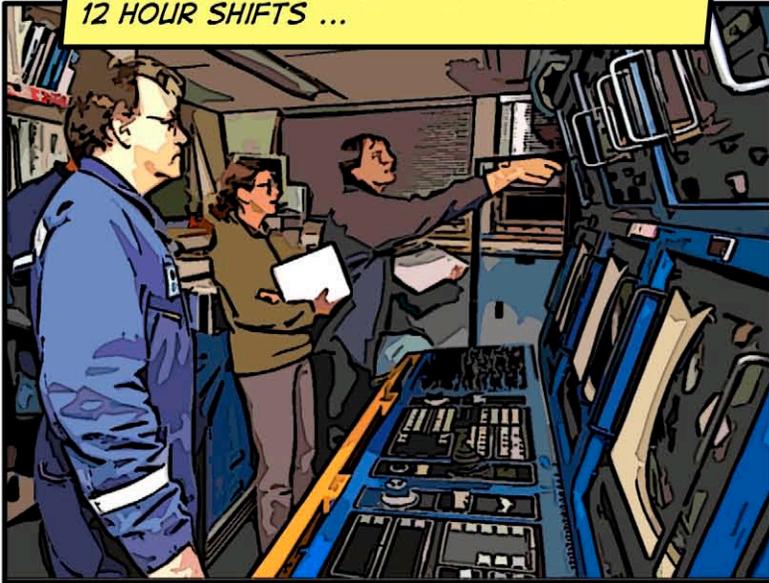
OVER THE YEARS, THESE PROGRAMS HAVE ACQUIRED SAMPLES FROM HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT SITES IN THE WORLD'S OCEANS.

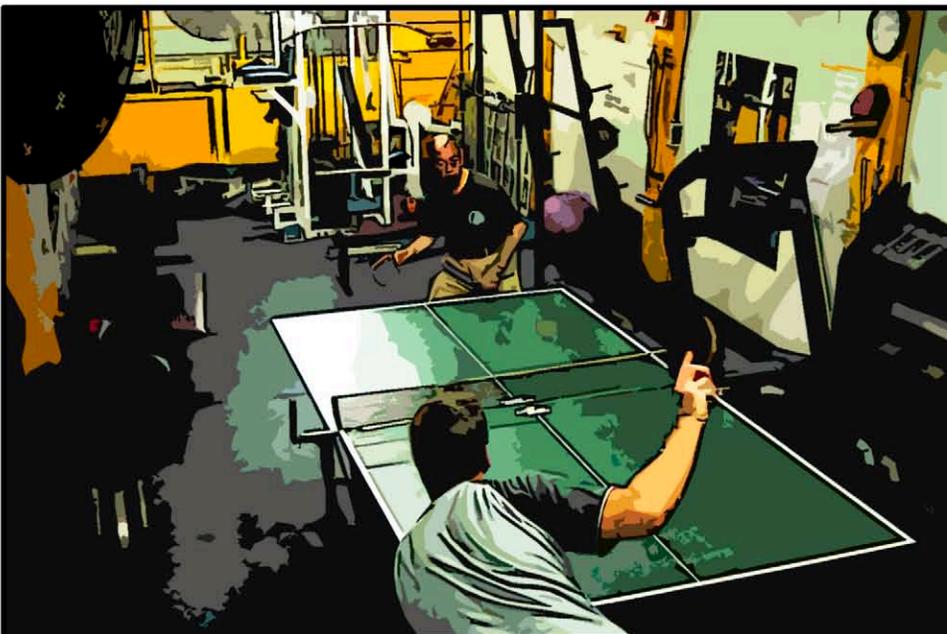
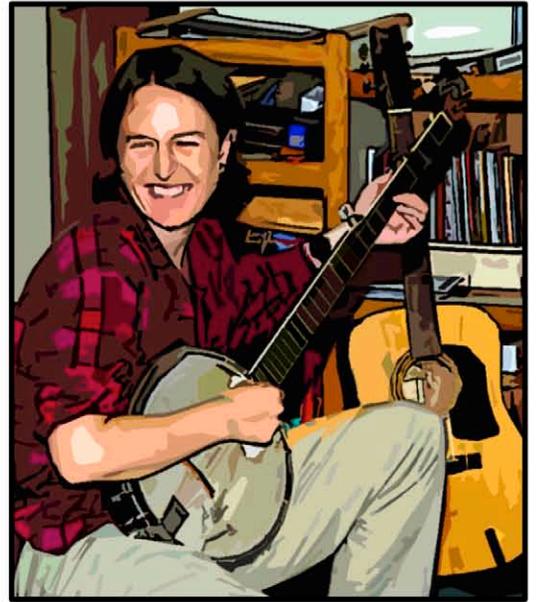


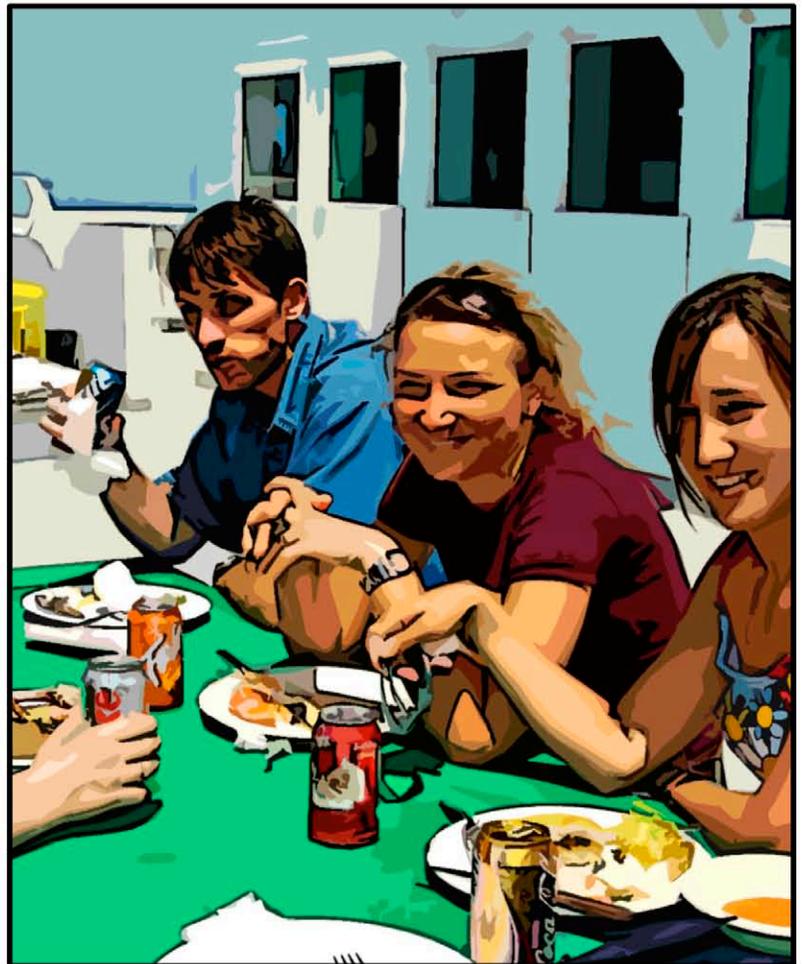
IN THESE PICTURES, THE DSDP SITES ARE SHOWN IN GREEN, THE ODP SITES IN YELLOW, AND THE IODP SITES IN RED. (THERE AREN'T AS MANY RED SITES YET BECAUSE IODP IS SUCH A NEW PROGRAM.)



EXPEDITIONS ON THE JOIDES RESOLUTION TYPICALLY LAST ABOUT EIGHT WEEKS. THE SCIENTISTS AND CREW WORK DEMANDING 12 HOUR SHIFTS ...









RIGHT NOW THE JOIDES RESOLUTION IS IN SINGAPORE ...

THE NEW EXPEDITIONS WILL BEGIN IN A FEW MONTHS ...



... WHERE IT IS BEING MODIFIED AND UPGRADED FOR FUTURE EXPEDITIONS.



... AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THEM RIGHT HERE.

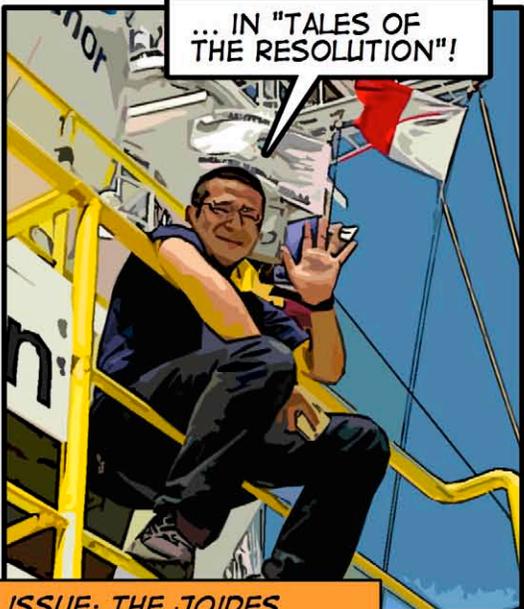




...AND WHAT LIFE AT SEA IS LIKE.



SO STAY TUNED FOR OUR ADVENTURES ...



... IN "TALES OF THE RESOLUTION"!

NEXT ISSUE: THE JOIDES RESOLUTION GETS A FACELIFT