

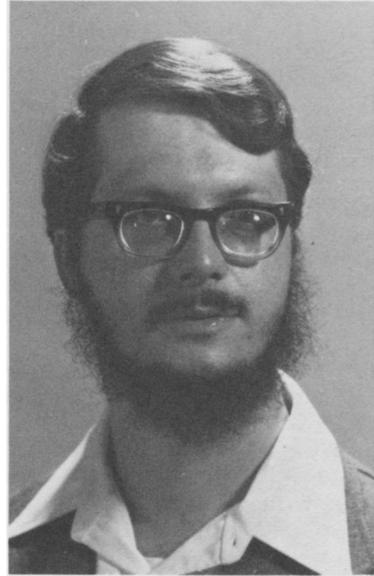
Paul A. Decourt

Paul A. Decourt of the Dept. of Geological Sciences, University of Tennessee is the 1978 recipient of the Murray F. Buell award.

Murray F. Buell had a long and distinguished record of service and accomplishment in the Ecological Society of America. Among other things, he ascribed great importance to the participation of students in meetings and to excellence in the presentation of papers. To honor Murray F. Buell's selfless dedication to the Ecological Society of America and to the younger generation of ecologists, the Murray F. Buell Award for Excellence in Ecology is to be presented to a student (undergraduate, graduate or very recent doctorate) for an outstanding paper presented at the Society's annual meeting.

The title of the paper, given at the annual meeting in Athens, Georgia, was: "Goshen Springs, Alabama: Late Quaternary plant fossil record for the Gulf Coastal Plain." This presentation concerned the pollen and plant-macrofossil stratigraphic record available from sediments of a natural lake in southcentral Alabama, as well as the corresponding paleovegetation and paleoclimatic reconstructions for the deep South for approximately the last 50,000 years.

Dr. Decourt and his wife, Hazel, are es-



establishing the Center for Quaternary Studies of the Southeastern United States, based at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. They will be continuing modern pollen-vegetation calibrations, additional biostratigraphic studies, and quantitatively mapping paleovegetation in eastern North America for the late Quaternary.

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