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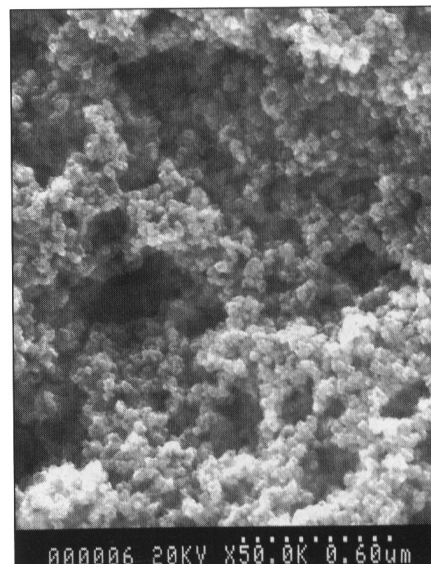
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ON THE COVER: False-color image of a scanning electron micrograph of nanophase, amorphous iron prepared by ultrasonic irradiation of iron pentacarbonyl solutions. The micrograph shows the porous, coral-like structure formed from nanometer-sized clusters created during acoustic cavitation. The amorphous iron is an extremely soft ferromagnetic material with high catalytic activity. Magnification of the cover image is approximately 100,000. The micrograph was obtained on a Hitachi S800 SEM in the UIUC Center for Microanalysis of Materials, which is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy. Courtesy of Kenneth S. Suslick, Mark W. Grinstaff, and James A. Gray, School of Chemical Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. For more about this topic see "Applications of Ultrasound to Materials Chemistry" by Kenneth S. Suslick on p. 29.

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The Society's interdisciplinary approach differs from that of single-discipline professional societies because it promotes information exchange across the many technical fields touching materials development. MRS sponsors two major international annual meetings encompassing approximately 50 topical symposia, and also sponsors numerous single-topic scientific meetings. The Society recognizes professional and technical excellence, conducts short courses, and fosters technical interaction in local geographic regions through Sections and University Chapters.

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