

## Cover Picture

**Kiyohiko Kawai,\* Yasuharu Wata, Nobuyuki Ichinose, and Tetsuro Majima**

**The cover picture shows** in red the three-dimensional structure of the Ras protein in a ribbon representation, with its  $\beta$ -strands,  $\alpha$ -helices and connecting loops. The protein bound cofactor Guanosine triphosphate (guanine base up, phosphates down) is shown in a space-filling model. Due to its central role in many signal transduction processes and since it is heart-shaped, Ras has been called the beating heart of signal transduction (i.e. H. Bos, Utrecht).

