1023-05-690   **Carla D Cotwright*** (`cotwricd@wfu.edu`), PO Box 7388, Department of Mathematics, 329 Manchester Hall, Winston Salem, NC 27106. *Clones and Minors in Matroids.*

Results that relate clones in a matroid to minors of that matroid are given as well as characterizations of matroids that contain few clonal-classes. An example of a result of the first type that is given is that if X is a four-element set in a $3-$connected non-binary matroid M and X contains a clone-pair, then M has a $U_{2,4}-$minor that uses X. This result is related to several results from the literature such as Tutte's Excluded-Minor characterization of the binary matroids. Joint work with T. James Reid (The University of Mississippi). (Received September 20, 2006)