

1116-01-1405      **Della Dumbaugh\*** (ddumbaugh@richmond.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA 23173. *What makes a student the “best”?* Preliminary report.

Saunders Mac Lane has referred to A. Adrian Albert as Leonard Dickson’s “best” student. How did Mac Lane determine this designation of “best”? In this talk, we consider the careers of three students of Leonard Dickson, A. Adrian Albert, Ko-Chuen Yang and Mina Rees, in order to explore how students are classified—or not—as “best” and how we might rethink that designation. (Received September 19, 2015)