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## Letters

### Intelligence: The 4 Rs

Shades of Lysenko in the USSR under Stalin.  
When the data don't fit the dream, change the  
tests ("Intelligence Test: Sizing Up A New-  
comer," SN: 10/30/82, p. 280)!

Seriously, since modern civilizations are de-  
pendent on the written word and mathematics,  
any tests which ignore or attempt to minimize  
these subjects are doomed to triviality.

Perhaps we need to explicitly define "intelli-  
gence" as the 4 Rs: readin', 'ritin', 'rithmetic,  
reasonin'.

M. F. Thorne  
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

### Mixed-up supernovae

In his story on plans for the MIRA extragalac-  
tic supernova patrol ("1054 and All That," SN:  
1/15/83, p. 44), Mr. Thomsen has mixed up his  
historical supernovae. The one that occurred in  
the year 1006 was (according to Clark and  
Stephenson) extremely brilliant, observed in  
many parts of the world, including medieval  
Europe—no need for retrospective conjectures

## This Week

- 84 W Particle, Physics Missing Link, Found
- 85 Decay-resistant protons in Ohio
- 85 IR satellite is up and looking
- 85 Microorganism suspect in pregnancy disease
- 86 1984 Budget — Physically better but biologically slow
- 86 National Science Foundation — Bolstering a frayed foundation
- 86 Space — NASA: Signs of change?
- 87 Biomedicine & Behavior — NIH, NIMH: Holding the lid
- 87 Earth Sciences — A slower flow of funds
- 87 All Other — Some deep plunges
- 87 Energy — High-tech energy funds increase

## Research Notes

- 90 Computers
- 90 Earth Sciences
- 91 Technology
- 91 Space Sciences

## Articles

- 88 Lucy's Uncommon Forebear  
Cover: Pygmy chimpanzees, which live only in an isolated jungle  
region of central Africa, have until recently been studied exclusively  
in captivity. Now, studies in the wild have yielded intriguing  
behavioral data and rekindled a debate about early hominid  
evolution. (Photograph by Noel Badrian)
- 93 Europe's Choice: Where Next in Space?



## Departments

### 83 Letters

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— and was located in the southern constella-  
tion Lupus.

The one that gave rise to the radio source  
Cas A is thought to have occurred late in the  
17th century. Recently it has been suggested  
that it was seen as a 6th-magnitude object by  
Flamsteed, who marked such a star on his atlas  
in the vicinity of Cas A, where no star is visible  
today. Mr. Thomsen may wish to refer to his  
short note on this matter (SN: 1/26/80, p. 56).

R. S. Freitag  
Arlington, Va.

### It already exists

Referring to Dietrick E. Thomsen's second ar-  
ticle on monopoles (SN: 12/4/82, p. 362), there is  
reference to a proposed experiment by Barry C.  
Barish which would involve spending about \$5  
million for a *football field covered with alumi-  
num sheet*.

In the article, Mr. Barish proposes that an  
acoustic transducer could be attached to the  
edge of such an array with a chance of catching  
a monopole.

Please inform Mr. Barish that there is a  
possibility this \$5 million need not be spent to  
do the experiment. *Such a field already indeed*  
*exists* and is used as the ground plane for the Big  
Ear Radio telescope in Delaware, Ohio.

Robert M. Sickels  
Fort Pierce, Fla.

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83