

SCIENCE NEWS

The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

A Science Service Publication
Volume 123, No. 6, February 5, 1983

E. G. Sherburne Jr. Publisher
Joel Greenberg Editor
Dietrick E. Thomsen Senior Editor/
Physical Sciences
Judy Klein Assistant Editor
Wray Herbert Behavioral Sciences
Joan Arehart-Treichel Biomedicine
Linda Garmon Chemistry
Cheryl Simon Earth Sciences
Julie Ann Miller Life Sciences
Janet Raloff Policy/Technology
Ivars Peterson
Jonathan Eberhart Space Sciences
Joanne Silbner Assistant to the Editor
Ileana Mendez Art Director
Allan Chen Science Writer Intern
Jane M. Livermore Books
Donald R. Harless Business Manager
Scherago Associates Advertising
Fred Dieffenbach, Sales Director
1515 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10036

Copyright © 1983 by Science Service, Inc.,
Editorial and Business Offices,
1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.
Republication of any portion of SCIENCE NEWS
without written permission of the publisher is
prohibited.

Subscription Department
231 West Center Street, Marion, Ohio 43302

Subscription rate: 1 yr., \$27.50; 2 yrs., \$47.50; 3
yrs., \$67.00. (Foreign postage \$5.00 additional per
year.) Change of address: Four to six weeks' notice
is required. Please state exactly how magazine is to
be addressed. Include zip code. For new
subscriptions only call (1) 800-247-2160. Printed in
U.S.A. Second class postage paid at Washington,
D.C. Title registered as trademark U.S. and Canadian
Patent Offices. Published every Saturday by
SCIENCE SERVICE, Inc. 1719 N St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20036. (202-785-2255)
ISSN 0036-8423

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

Science Service Institution for the public understanding of science founded 1921; a nonprofit corporation.

Board of Trustees — *President*, Glenn T. Seaborg; *Vice President*, Gerald F. Tape; *Treasurer*, Milton Harris;
Secretary, Julius Dusch; *Joseph W. Berg Jr.*; *Edward Bliss Jr.*; *Bowen C. Dees*; *David A. Goslin*; *Hilleary F.*
Hoskinson; *Elizabeth F. Neufeld*; *O. W. Riegel*; *Willis Harlow Shapley*; *H. Guyford Stever*; *John Troan*; *Deborah*
P. Wolfe.

Director: E. G. Sherburne Jr.; **Assistant Director**: Dorothy Schriver; **Business Manager**: Donald R. Harless.

— 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.

Copies Missing?

Keep your files of Science News
complete and up-to-date. Any missing
issue from the past two years may be
ordered by sending \$1.00 per copy
(\$1.50 for issues older than 1 year) to:

Back Orders

Science News

1719 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

FEBRUARY 5, 1983

83