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Early Man and the Cosmos — Evan Hadingham. Explores the observations, myths and outlook of prehistoric sky-watchers and of more recent peoples concerned with the heavens who had little or no contact with our scientific tradition. The extensive illustrations enhance the text. Walker & Co. 1984. 271 p., illus., \$22.50.

Engines of the Mind: A History of the Computer — Joel Shurkin. After introducing the emergence of numbering systems, Shurkin traces the development of the computer from Charles Babbage and Ada Lovelace through the invention of the first electronic digital machine to the creation of the microchip and the revolution that has altered the nature of business and modern life. Focuses on the people who were involved and the importance of their contribution — an area that is still, according to the introduction, "hotly debated by the surviving participants." Norton, 1984. 352 p., \$17.50.

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Cover: This false color radiogram of Saturn is part of a series of high-resolution studies of the Jovian planets done with the Very Large Array radio telescopes. (Illustration: National Radio Astronomy Observatory)



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Laser: Supertool of the 1980s — Jeff Hecht and Dick Teresi. Tells what lasers are and how they work. Discusses the history of the laser — from the groundwork laid by Einstein to the patent battle still raging in federal court. The book includes sections on fiber optics, holography, light shows, military lasers, lasers in industry and lasers in art. Shows how these beams of light are changing our lives now and how this versatile technology will affect us in the future. Originally published in hardback in 1982. A new preface brings the laser story up-to-date. Ticknor & Fields (HM), 1984. 264 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

Sport Science: Physical Laws and Optimum Performance — Peter J. Brancazio. A scientist and avid amateur athlete explains the scientific principles behind all the major team and individual sports. Each scientific principle is introduced in nontechnical language and illustrated by examples from a variety of sports. Points out how the principle affects different aspects of an athlete's performance. "I'm convinced," says the author, "that knowledge of basic principles can give an informed and intelligent athlete an edge." S&S, 1984. 400 p., illus., \$18.95.

Superstars: How Stellar Explosions Shape the Destiny of Our Universe — David H. Clark. Our sun and its planetary system may owe their birth to a superstar, or supernova, and subsequent nearby supernovas may have influenced the biological and climatic evolution of Earth. Tells what scientists know at this time about supernovas. Because no stellar explosion has occurred in our galaxy since the invention of the telescope, Clark turns to the records of Chinese and medieval European astronomers to pinpoint where supernovas may have existed. McGraw, 1984. 216 p., illus., \$17.95.

Whole-Brain Thinking: Working from Both Sides of the Brain to Achieve Peak Job Performance — Jacquelyn Wonder and Priscilla Donovan. A practical book designed to help you learn to use both brain hemispheres. This "whole-brain thinking system" has three parts. First the split brain theory is presented and then a self test to help you discover your brain hemisphere preference. Next, you will find exercises intended to teach you how to shift between brain hemispheres. Case studies then show how the exercises have been used to solve actual problems. Morrow, 1984. 288 p., illus., \$13.95.

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