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Letters

Sounds fishy

Modern men and woman find themselves in a catch-22 when they try to heed such dietary advice as that offered in "Heart disease: Let them eat fish" (SN: 5/11/85, p. 291). Do we eat fish and chance PCBs, dioxin and methyl mercury, or take our chances with red meat and poultry with their added antibiotics?

The medical community must start to become concerned about these "food additives."
Barbara McElgunn
West Hill, Ontario

Out of their realm?

With regard to "Standby storage for nuclear waste" (SN: 5/4/85, p. 277), what expertise do congressmen have to decide between the tech-

This Week

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Cover: Scientists never expected to find a young, surface-breaking fault east of the Rocky Mountains, but there it was, the Meers fault, young and active in southwestern Oklahoma. Here, geologist D. Burton Stemmmons measures the height of a scarp—a steplike slope created when the fault last moved—that extends from the foreground past the tree and beyond the horizon. The fault itself runs along the base of the scarp, just to the right of the tree. (Photo: Brocoum/NRC)



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nical merits of "six combinations of design and site" for the high-level nuclear waste monitored retrievable storage facility? Surely this is a decision that should be made on technical merit, not political.

Richard A. Steenblik
Stone Mountain, Ga.

Instilling an obsession

In "Examining the world of obsessive teens" (SN: 4/20/85, p. 245), B. Bower refers to one case with the words: "For instance, one girl in the study—although she functions well otherwise—gets up early every Saturday morning to clean her room meticulously and wash the walls."

Obviously he looks upon this behavior as a mental quirk, and probably harmful. I look on it

somewhat differently.

I have a stepdaughter living with me whose room has long been so messy that it makes the infamous Love Canal seem like an unpolluted vacation spot by comparison. I live in fear that the county health department might one day inspect my house. The old Neanderthal caves must have looked something like her room.

Could Mr. Bower please run another article with step-by-step instructions for instilling the above obsession?

Howard J. Hanson
Federal Way, Wash.

Correction: In "Unwanted formaldehyde 'breakthrough'" (SN: 5/11/85, p. 297), the thickness of the best-performing neoprene glove should have read 0.25 mm.

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