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Cover: The video image of a person's silhouette pulses with vivid colors and dramatic shapes that change according to the way the person moves. This is one example of a "responsive environment" in which a computer-controlled system senses human actions and responds to them. Such systems suggest novel ways of interacting with computers. (Photo: M. W. Krueger)



## **Departments**

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Astronomy from Space: Sputnik to Space Telescope — James Cornell and Paul Gorenstein, Eds. An overview of 25 years of astronomical research from space. Essays by experts describe what has happened, summarize what has been learned so far and speculate on the possibilities for the future. Originally published in hardback in 1983. MIT Pr, 1985, 248 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

Coping with Chemotherapy —Nancy Bruning. Focuses on chemotherapy and how to get through it. Provides information to help the patient weigh possible options, guidance to help the patient help his or her cancer specialist and practical suggestions to make living under chemotherapy more comfortable. Doubleday, 1985, 317 p., \$15.95.

Deciphering the Senses: The Expanding World of Human Perception — Robert Rivlin and Karen Gravelle. New scientific knowledge about the senses to help the general reader better understand the way in which we perceive the world around us. Recent research has indicated senses beyond the "classic five" and the authors describe these organs and their functions, such as the pineal gland which regulates our biological clocks. Originally published in hardback in 1984. S&S, 1985, 237 p., illus., paper, \$7.95.

A Guide to the Photovoltaic Revolution -Paul D. Maycock and Edward N. Stirewalt. An overview for those seeking an introduction to the conversion of sunlight directly into electricity. Although photovoltaic systems appear simple and easy to use, they employ the latest in high technology. This book is an extensively updated and expanded version of Photovoltaics - Sunlight to Electricity in One Step, published in 1981. Rodale Pr, 1985, 274 p., illus., \$16.95, paper, \$9.95

How Animals See: Other Visions of Our World - Sandra Sinclair. The spectacular photographs have been used here to augment the text of this fascinating book about animal vision. Many areas of current vision research have been included. Facts on File, 1985, 146 p., color/b&w illus., \$24.95.

Hummingbirds: Their Life and Behavior—Text by Esther Quesada Tyrrell, photographs by Robert A. Tyrrell. This photographic study of the North American species with its spectacular illustrations was made possible by R. Tyrrell's development of a special photographic technique. These smallest of all birds, found only in the Western Hemisphere, are fascinating not only for their brilliant plumage but also for their amazing powers of flight. In this definitive work on hummingbirds an introduction to this lovely bird is followed by a comprehensive guide to each of the North American species. Subsequent chapters are devoted to hummingbird anatomy and physiology, flight, courtship, nesting and behavior. An extensive bibliography is included. Crown, 1985, 212 p., color/b&w illus., \$35.

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