

SCIENCE NEWS®

The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

A Science Service Publication
Volume 134, No. 9, August 27, 1988

E.G. Sherburne Jr.	Publisher
Patrick Young	Editor
Laurie Jackson	Managing Editor
Wendy McCarren	Production/Design Director
Bruce Bower	Behavioral Sciences
Richard Monastersky	Earth Sciences
Christopher Vaughan, Stefi Weisburd	General Science
Carol Eron, Rick Weiss	Life Sciences/ Biomedicine
Ivars Peterson	Mathematics/Technology
Janet Raloff	Policy/Technology
Jonathan Eberhart	Space Sciences
Janice Rickerich	Assistant to the Editor
Laura Beil, Melissa Hendricks	Science Writer Interns
Jane M. Livermore	Books
Donald R. Harless	Advertising/Business Manager

Copyright © 1988 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 43305

Subscription rate: 1 yr., \$34.50; 2 yrs., \$58.00.
(Foreign postage \$6.00 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., and additional
mailing offices. 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

Neurological exams needed

I am disappointed in "Hyperactivity: The Family Factor" (SN: 6/18/88, p.399), in which psychiatrists are criticizing the treatment of this disorder.

Psychiatrists are noted for reticence to examine their patients and do neurological exams on them. At no point in this article was there any mention of the role of the neurological exam in aiding in the diagnosis of attention deficit disorder (ADD). Making a diagnosis on the basis of a history alone is like making a diagnosis of a heart attack without a blood count, enzyme study, electrocardiogram and so forth.

Most psychiatrists glibly criticize the treatment of children with ADD using Ritalin and

This Week

- 132 Encouraging Signs for Commitment Laws
- 132 Waste wells implicated in Ohio quake
- 133 Reactor troubles highlight safety concerns
- 133 Take heart: Ventricular tachycardia cure
- 134 Boning up on fluoride
- 134 Astronomers plan a month on the sun
- 134 Strike the parasite and spare the host
- 135 Dental X-ray, cancer link assessed
- 135 The crystalline face of soap films
- 135 Risk of death from grief may be low

Research Notes

- 140 Behavior
- 141 Biomedicine
- 141 Earth Sciences

Articles

- 136 Engineering a Victory on the Water
Cover: A legal battle has turned this year's America's Cup race into a showcase for design innovations that are changing yacht racing. The San Diego Yacht Club's *Stars and Stripes*, with its solid "wing sail," is one example of this. (Photo courtesy *Stars and Stripes*)
- 142 Lean Living



Departments

- 131 Letters
- 139 Science on the Air
- 139 Books

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*, Willis Harlow Shapley; *Secretary*, Hilleary F. Hoskinson; Joseph W. Berg Jr.; Edward Bliss Jr.; Bowen C. Dees; David A. Goslin; J. David Hann; Milton Harris; Elena O. Nightingale; O.W. Riegel; H. Guyford Stever; John Troan; Deborah P. Wolfe.

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

other medications. When eight out of 10 of the symptoms and neurological signs are present, approximately 90 percent of these kids have a startling improvement on school work while on the medication.

Donald Rathbun, MD
El Paso, Tex.

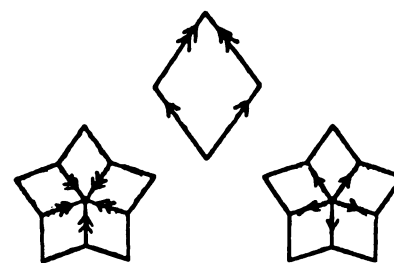
Stars made of diamonds

"Tiling to Infinity" (SN: 7/16/88, p.42) contains a mystery I haven't been able to solve. The text indicates there are only eight "allowed" vertex configurations and refers to a diagram showing eight figures. But two of the figures are identical (the five-pointed star). What is the eighth vertex configuration?

Bruce P. Kirk
La Plata, Md.

Applying the edge rule, which requires arrows to match when two diamonds share an edge, there are two different ways in which five fat diamonds can be arranged to meet at a common vertex.

— I. Peterson



AUGUST 27, 1988

131