

SCIENCE NEWS®

The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

A Science Service Publication
Volume 134, No. 26, December 24 & 31, 1988

E.G. Sherburne Jr.	Publisher
Patrick Young	Editor
Laurie Jackson	Managing Editor
Janice Rickerich	Production/Design Director
Bruce Bower	Behavioral Sciences
Richard Monastersky	Earth Sciences
Janet Raloff	Environment/Policy
Kathy A. Fackelmann, Rick Weiss	Life Sciences/ Biomedicine
Ivars Peterson	Mathematics/Physics
Christopher Vaughan	Physical Sciences/ Technology
Jonathan Eberhart	Space Sciences
Susan Arns	Assistant to the Editor
Charles E. Knox, Ingrid Wickelgren	Science Writer Interns
Wendy McCarren	Books/Resource Manager
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

Division with a difference

I suppose only mathematicians are fussy about such things, but in the nice article on factoring the 95-digit number ("Major-league factoring on a low budget," SN: 11/12/88, p.319), the word "remainder" is used instead of the correct word "quotient." There really is a difference.

Spencer P. Hurd
Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science
The Citadel
Charleston, S.C.

For want of parentheses . . .

In "In the Shadows of Chaos" (SN: 12/3/88, p.360) an example is given of a "straightforward calculator experiment" to illustrate the chaotic process. The equation as given, $4x - x^2$, will not give the sequence of numbers as listed. The correct equation is $4(x - x^2)$.

G. Alfred Teasley
Pittsburgh, Pa.

This Week

- 404 First Mutant Mice Infected With AIDS
- 404 Diabetes and the dangers of pregnancy
- 405 Troubling tally of kids' mental disorders
- 405 Scottish clues to a viral cause of leukemia
- 406 Search yields math proof no one can check
- 406 Probing the nucleus of focal epilepsy
- 407 Research dons urge new budget strategy
- 407 A seventh sun-grazer
- 407 Sustaining the Uranian rings

Research Notes

- 423 Earth Sciences

Articles

- 408 Tokens of Plenty
- 411 CO₂: How Will We Spell Relief?
- 415 A Little Light Music
- 424 Bone Loss and the Three Bears

Cover: Black bears harbor chemical secrets that protect their organs and skeletons during the winter sedentary season. Using bears such as this one with an identifying ear tag, scientists hope to share some of these secrets with humans suffering from various diseases, including osteoporosis. (Photo: Dave Garshelis)



Departments

- 402 Science on the Air
- 402 Books
- 403 Letters
- 416 Science News of the Year
- 426 Semi-Annual Index

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.

Kawasaki look-alikes

"Interleukin-2 fingers Kawasaki's syndrome" (SN: 11/19/88, p.324) was very informative. However, I take issue with the statement that the disease is often mistaken for measles. The presentation of high fever, red mucous membranes and lymph node enlargement puts it in a relatively small group of "muco-cutaneous-lymph node" syndromes. At times, I have considered as an alternative diagnosis arthritis, drug reactions, Stevens-Johnson syndrome and non-specific viral illnesses, but never measles.

David Benaron, M.D.
Philadelphia, Pa.

lied to be present in the Big Bang after a person who believes in creationism and wants it to be taught in schools, and who therefore presumably cannot believe in the Big Bang or anything else much past 6,000 years ago.

Brian K. Grim
Lenhartsville, Pa.

Smoke and sex

The arguments in your report on sympatric speciation ("Familiar fruit flies emerge in new guise," SN: 11/5/88, p.293) led me to the following extrapolation.

Given that our social lives are being divided into "smoking" and "nonsmoking" sections, could this lead to two subspecies of humans, *Homo sapiens smokus* and *Homo sapiens nonsmokus*? I could throw in such hackneyed mores as "Lips that touch tobacco will never touch mine" or "the cigarette after" to illustrate that smoking is particularly pertinent to choice of sexual partners.

Robert McDaniel
Las Cruces, N.M.

DECEMBER 24 & 31, 1988

403