

Letters continued from p.35

was somewhere over a quarter-century ago.  
 Warner Clements  
 Beverly Hills, Calif.

Articles noting the increased attractiveness of composite photographs were published in 1878 by British scientist Francis Galton and in 1886 by U.S. psychologist John T. Stoddard. Their observations have not been pursued systematically until now, according to Judith Langlois.

— B. Bower

Popular culture presaged the Langlois/Roggman finding. There was a 1957 movie and song, "Bernardine" (sung by Pat Boone), in which some college guys, as a prank, enter a composite photo in a beauty contest. The composite wins (we now have a scientific recognition of why), and they must come up with the girl. As the song says:

*Bernardine, Bernardine,*

*You're a little bit like every girl I've ever seen;*

*Your separate parts are not unknown,*

*but the way you assemble 'em's all your own.*

Charles Kluepfel  
 Bloomfield, N.J.

### CORRECTION

According to the American Cancer Society, the general incidence of mesothelioma in the U.S. population is not one in 10,000 as reported in "More jobs linked to asbestos hazards" (SN: 6/16/90, p.373). Available statistics indicate that roughly 1.1 cases are diagnosed annually among every 100,000 U.S. white males, usually between the ages of 40 to 60.

## CAN YOUR GRAPHICS SOFTWARE DO ALL THIS?



Heat Profile of a Surface Shown on a Shadow-Contour Plot



Linear, Logarithmic, and Probabilistic Axis



Three Dimensional Surface



Two Dimensional Cross Section (Tilted)

"Graftool has the potential to be the ultimate graphics package, fulfilling everybody's needs."  
 —Ehud Kaplan  
 PC Magazine



Semiconductor to plot for a silicon wafer shown on a 2-vehicle histogram



Geographic Data Included For 2-D and 3-D Maps

Integrated 2D&3D graphics  
 Menu-driven user interface  
 Scientific spreadsheet  
 Presentation-quality fonts  
 Import from 1-2-3, Excel  
 Export to desktop publishers  
 Full zooming and panning



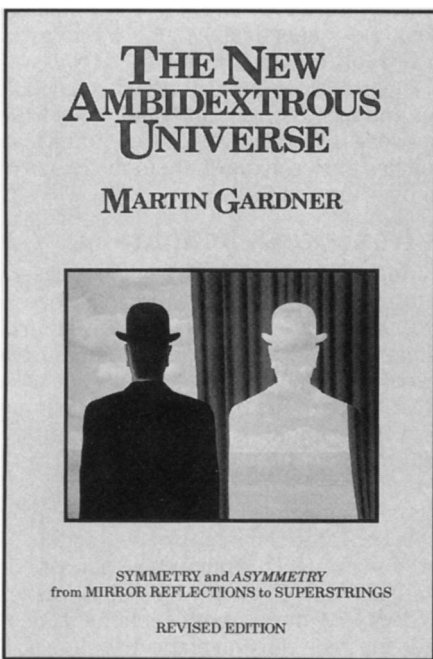
GRAFTOOL's unique 3-D graphics enables a user to plot complex data such as this spherical harmonic tessellation



GRAFTOOL \$495 • Interactive Demo Available • Academic Discounts  
 Call 1 (800) SAY-GRAF • 1 (213) 540-8818 • FAX 1 (213) 540-3492

# 3-D VISIONS

412 S. Pacific Coast Highway, Second Floor, Redondo Beach, CA 90277  
 \*Reprinted with permission from PC Magazine, March 14th, Copyright ©1989 Ziff Communications Co.



W. H. Freeman, 1990, 392 pages,  
 6½" x 9½", hardcover, \$19.95

**The New Ambidextrous Universe: Symmetry and Asymmetry from Mirror Reflections to Superstrings** is a substantial revision of Gardner's well-known work on mirror symmetry and asymmetry. The book opens with puzzling questions on why mirrors reverse left to right but not up and down, and then takes the reader on an extraordinary journey through two fundamental scientific discoveries of our century: the asymmetric DNA helix and the overthrow of parity (left-right symmetry) in particle physics.

From the most current theories in particle physics to discussing time reversal in other universes, Gardner's **New Ambidextrous Universe** is absorbing and provoking reading from cover to cover.

The book is illustrated with amusing drawings, photos and cartoons. Included are challenging games and puzzles that will provide hours of enjoyment for recreational math devotees, game buffs, or those who simply want to sharpen their wits. Gardner gives life to his work with his one-of-a-kind writing style: literate, entertaining and often amusing.

— from the publisher

Science News Books NewAmbidex  
 1719 N Street NW  
 Washington, DC 20036

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of *The New Ambidextrous Universe*. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$19.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$21.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Usdc only for problems with order) RB1270