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Letters

Joggers are normal, too

In "Menstrual glitches may spur bone loss" (SN: 11/3/90, p.279) you state: "The group consisted of 21 marathon runners, 22 recreational joggers and 23 women with normal activity levels."

As a recreational jogger who thinks of herself as normal, I can't let this one pass without comment. Who's *normal*? Women are browbeaten enough into thinking that being a couch potato is normal. Don't reinforce it!

Margaret Hood
Platteville, Wis.

Your point is well taken. In relation to the general population, the 23 women had "average" activity levels. Clearly, however, one need not be average in order to be "normal."

— K.A. Fackelmann

Protective prospects

It is good to see that fans with filters for radon daughters in home air are being investi-

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Cover: When a thief looted this 770-year-old Anasazi basket from an archaeological site in Utah, visions of dollar bills danced in his head. But dirt found in the basket's stitching enabled law enforcement agents and scientists to identify the object as property stolen from federal land. The forensic use of such high-tech soil tests provides a powerful new weapon in the war against archaeological theft. (Photo: U.S. Forest Service)

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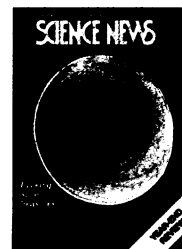
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tors. Such trust is frequently abused.

Joanne Ashley
Manlius, N.Y.

Leftovers again?

Perhaps the reason herbivorous dinosaur coprolites are scarce ("The scoop on dino droppings," SN: 10/27/90, p.270) is that they have been consumed by carnivorous dinosaurs. I'm making the analogy with jackals and wild dogs, which eat the droppings of the herbivorous herds they follow — provided, of course, they can't bring down the animal itself.

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