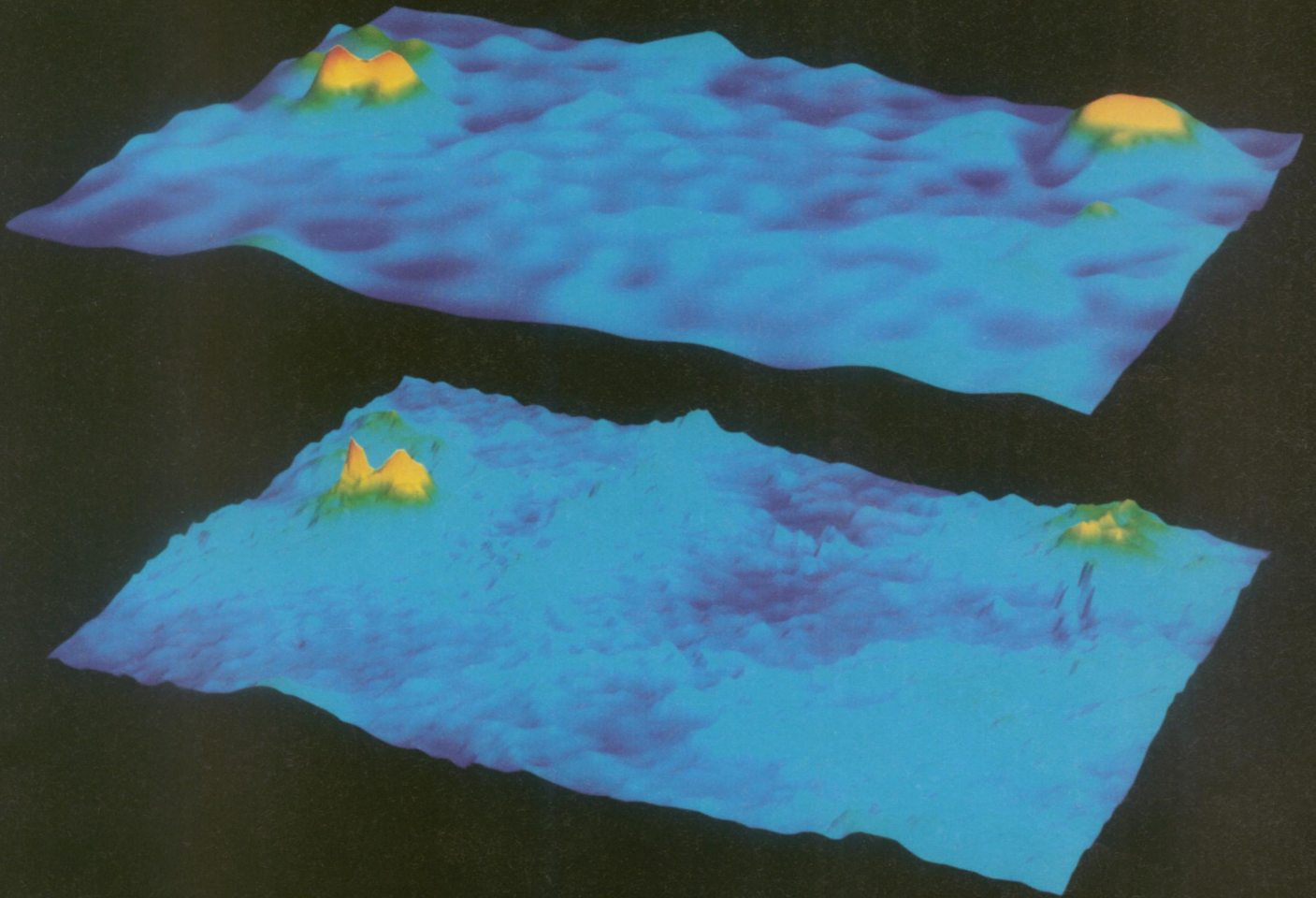


The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

# SCIENCE NEWS

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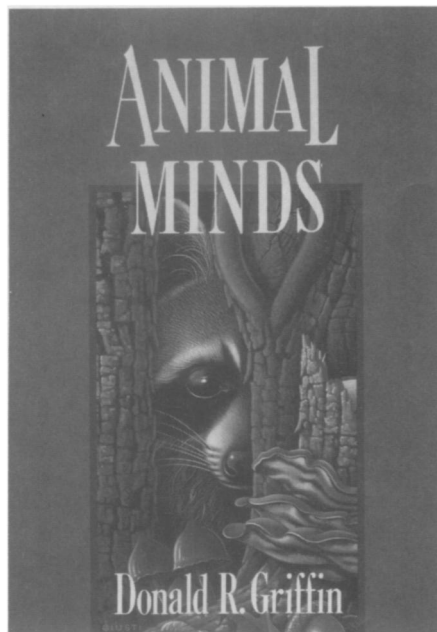
## *Under the Skin of Venus*

A piping plover feigns a broken wing to lure a predator away from her nest. A vervet monkey "cries wolf" and misleads his neighbors. A sea otter uses a stone to break open abalone shells. Communicating, using tools, making tactical gestures and strategic moves, animals often display what looks to us like conscious, even calculated behavior. In this riveting book, Donald Griffin, a pioneer in the study of animal behavior, investigates the mystery of the animal mind. He makes a persuasive argument (highly controversial in some scientific circles) that animals do think.

Griffin brings together what we now know about animal cognition. He draws on the last decade's research in animal behavior, the philosophy of mind, and cognitive science to broaden our understanding of the nature and potential of animal minds.

As in earlier works, Griffin explores the curious taboo among ethologists that has caused scientists for half a century to ignore the possibility that animals have conscious experience. The communicative signals of animals provide a revealing "window" on their thoughts and feelings, and scientific investigation may soon tell us what it is like, subjectively, to be an animal.

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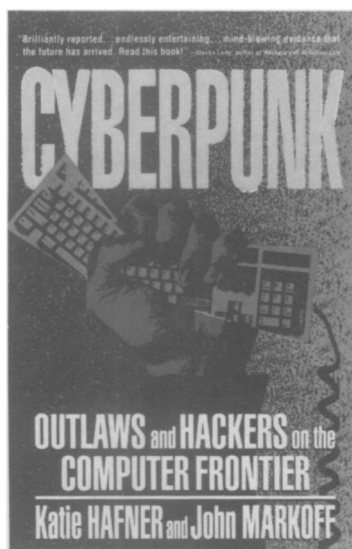
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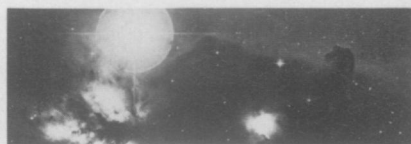
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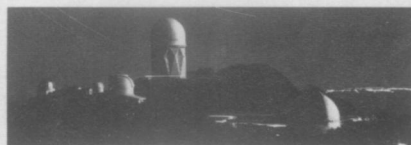
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## THE LIGHT AT THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE



LEADING COSMOLOGISTS ON THE  
BRINK OF A SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION



MICHAEL D. LEMONICK  
Science Writer, Associate Editor, Time Magazine

Cosmology is in crisis: the more closely astronomers investigate the cosmos, the less they know for certain. In his first book, *The Light at the Edge of the Universe*, award-winning science writer Michael D. Lemonick chronicles the current revolution in astronomy. What distinguishes *The Light at the Edge of the Universe* is its exploration of science through extensive interviews and on-site visits with the brilliant and dedicated people on the cutting edge of the field.

Join Lemonick at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey as some of the country's top scientists — people like John Bahcall, Jeremiah Ostriker, and Freeman Dyson — convene to talk about their latest findings on topics

which range from gamma ray bursts to time machines. From the bustling, urban campus of Berkeley to the remote foothills of the Chilean Andes, Lemonick shows us a world few are privileged to see.

Skillfully woven among these engaging descriptions is a discussion of current scientific theory which sorts through the contradictions riddling modern cosmology in a way that is both knowledgeable and accessible. Such recent findings as evidence that the universe is younger than some of the stars it contains present new problems, while age-old questions — how big is the universe? how long has it been around? what's it made of? — remain unanswered, but Lemonick provides captivating explanations of today's models and theories.

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Through Russell's thoughtful exposition of natural history and exploration of the emerging field of evolutionary psychology, we gain new insights into our species and ourselves. He shows how gender differences in various types of social behavior — courtship, bonding, infant socialization, status-seeking, aggression — have come to us more or less intact through tens of millions of years of evolutionary history.

Russell contends that humans are a species of unprecedented social manipulators. With careful use of our power to reason and communicate — and with knowledge of our evolutionary psychology — we can build more satisfying personal relationships and better, less destructive societies.

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