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The Cockroach Hall of Fame and 101 Other Off-the-Wall Museums — Sandra Gurvis. This state-by-state listing includes some of the most obscure museums located in small and large cities across the United States, plus a few in Canada. Each entry includes general directions and location, indications of cost, hours, and an overview of the peculiarities of museums as divergent as the Crayola Hall of Fame, the Museum of Questionable Medical Devices, and the Hair Museum. Citadel Pr, 1994, 276 p., b&w photos, paperback, \$14.95.

A Dancing Matrix: How Science Confronts Emerging Viruses - Robin Marantz Henig. Although researchers have conquered many infectious diseases over the last century, viral infections have remained elusive. They seem to have no boundaries, many origins, and the ability to jump from species to species. Henig's fascinating look at a force confronting researchers and the global population encompasses what viruses are, how they are transported, how they thrive, what kind of damage they do, and what progress is being made to halt them. The author also discusses the threat of newly emerging viruses and examines warning systems now in place to prevent worldwide outbreaks such as the AIDS epidemic. Originally published in hardcover in 1993. Vin, 1994, 269 p., paperback, \$12.00.

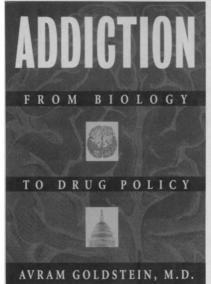
Digital Mantras: The Languages of Abstract and Virtual Worlds - Steven R. Holtzman. Computers and the arts are seemingly in different realms; however, Holtzman ably illustrates the similarities evident in the emerging field of virtual reality. He lays the foundation for the use of computers in creative processes such as language, music, and art, stressing the ability of a computer to manipulate such abstract structures. Early on, Holtzman draws comparisons between artists such as Kandinsky and musicians such as Pierre Boulez and their formulated abstract systems, showing how these systems are models for modern computers. Throughout, he shows how computer systems can implement creative functions and what the future holds for the convergence of the two fields. MIT Pr, 1994, 320 p., color plates and b&w photos, hardcover, \$29.95.

The Essential Guide to Wilderness Camping and Backpacking in the United States — Charles Cook. Initial chapters of this exhaustive guidebook outline how to camp in the wilderness safely and comfortably. The bulk of the information concerns parks and forests throughout the United States where wilderness camping is permitted. State-by-state entries detail the features of an area, activities allowed or offered, regulations, and persons to contact. A bibliography listing pertinent regional books and an additional source list conclude each chapter. Kesend Pub Ltd, 1994, 324 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$24.95.

To order by Visa or MasterCard, call 1-800-544-4565 In D.C. Area: 202-331-9653 Lifespan: New Perspectives on Extending Human Longevity — Thomas J. Moore. The author, a fellow at the Center for Health Policy Research at George Washington University, disputes many commonly held beliefs about aging and argues that the longevity of your parents has more influence on your lifespan than regulating cholesterol or watching weight. A discussion of what people need to concentrate on in order to live longer is included, in addition to updates on longevity research. Originally published in hardcover in 1993. Touchstone Bks, 1994, 318 p., paperback, \$12.00.

Tracking the Vanishing Frogs: An Ecological Mystery—Kathryn Phillips. Many amphibians have survived two periods of mass extinction, yet a significant number of these animals, especially frogs and toads, have disappeared entirely during the past 20 years. This has occurred in virtually every corner of the globe and may indicate greater environmental problems for humans as well, reports Phillips, who spent several years tracking frogs with scientists determined to understand the dilemma of the vanishing amphibians. St Martin, 1994, 244 p., color plates, hardcover, \$22.95.

Vital Signs 1994: The Trends That Are Shaping Our Future — Lester R. Brown, Hal Kane, and David Malin Roodman. This annual almanac from the Worldwatch Institute details economic, environmental, and sociological data pertinent to the condition and future of the world. Some key trends cited in this edition include the rise in overall cigarette production and the decrease in CFC production. Norton, 1994, 160 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$10.95.



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In Addiction, Dr. Goldstein helps close the gap between public opinion about drugs and scientific understanding of what drugs actually do — to individuals and, by extension, to the country as a whole.

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