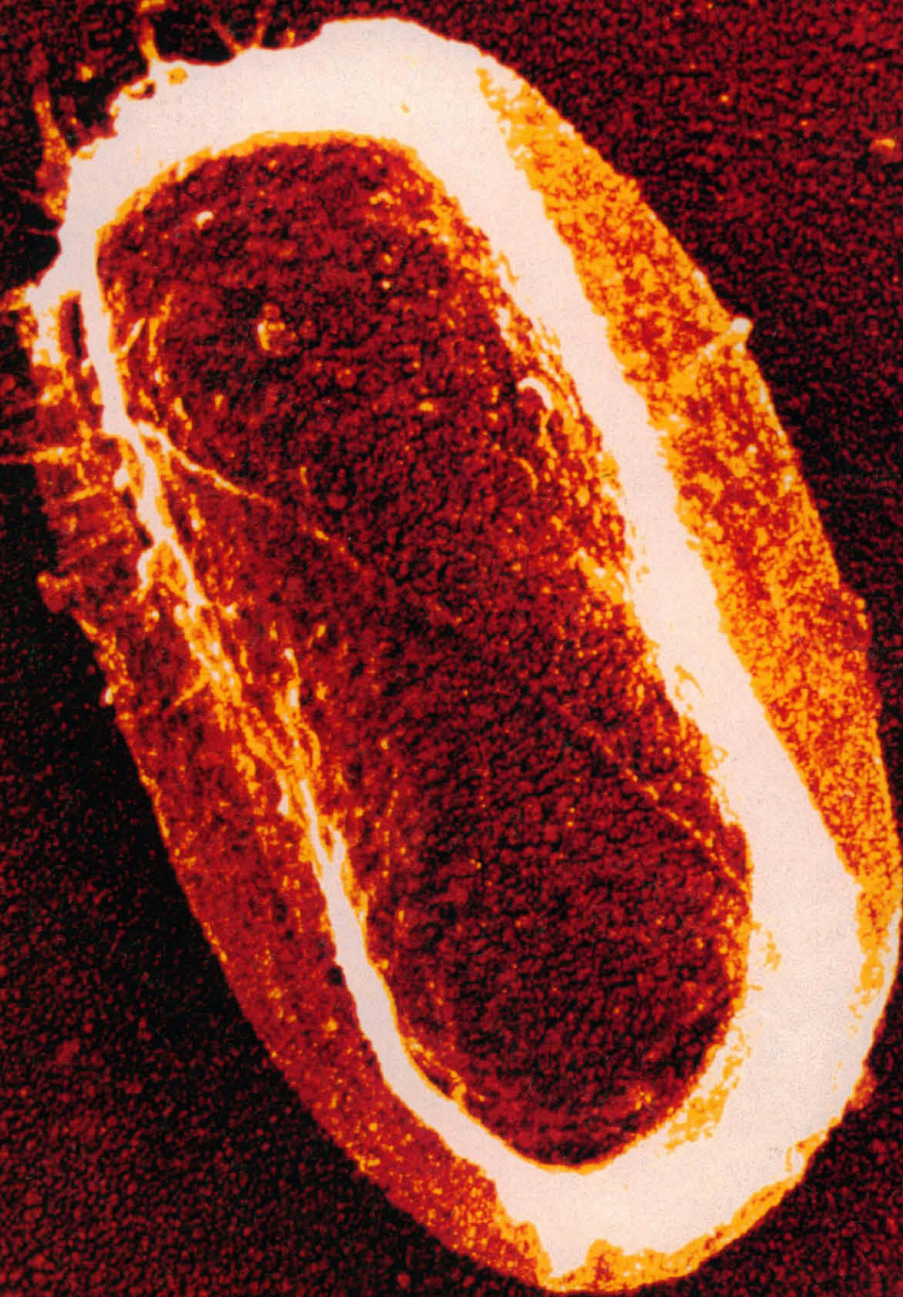


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INSIDE:
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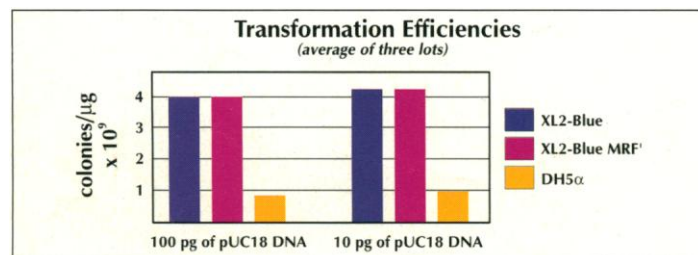
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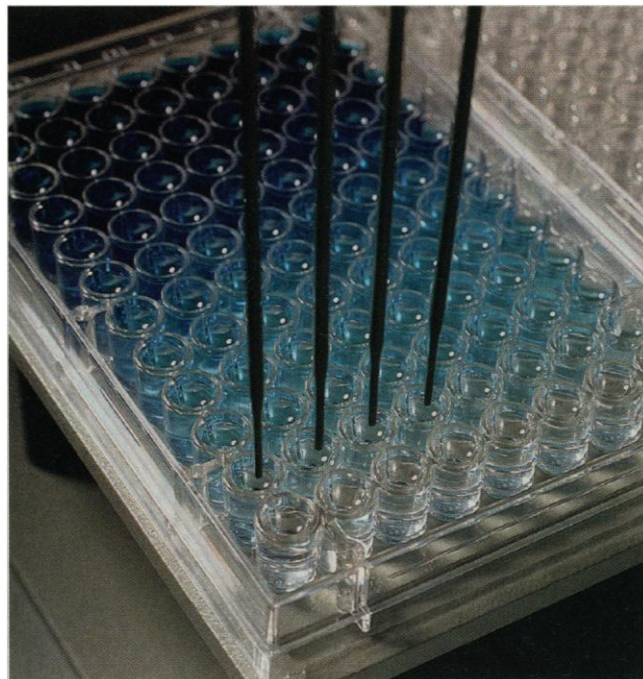


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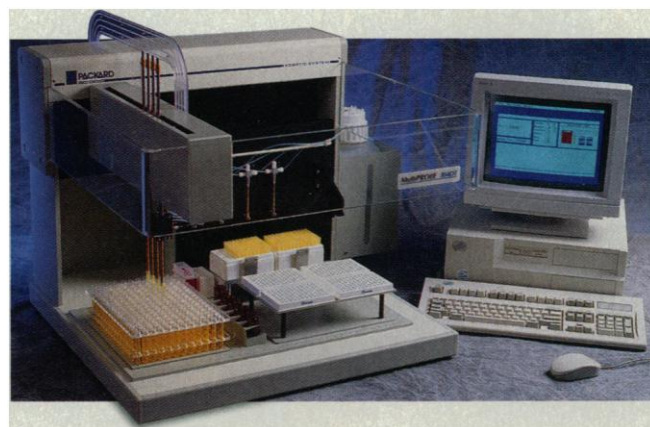
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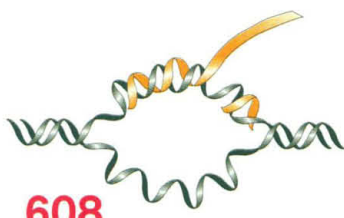
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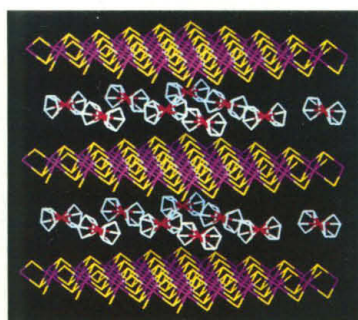


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A platinum replica revealing the cytoplasmic face of a phagosome containing a mycobacterium. The phagosome was isolated from a bone marrow-derived murine macrophage, fixed in glutaraldehyde, and frozen on a liquid helium-cooled copper block before freeze-

drying and rotary replication. The photomicrograph was scanned and colorized with Adobe Photoshop. See page 678 and the Perspective on page 637. [Photomicrograph: David G. Russell]



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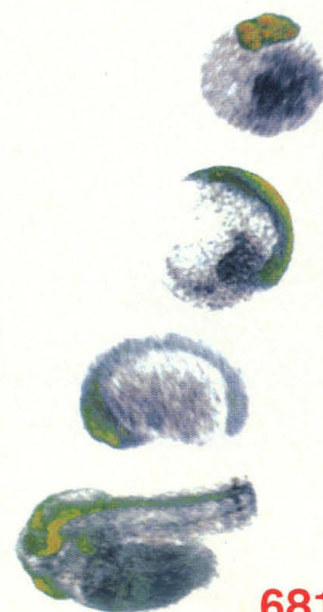
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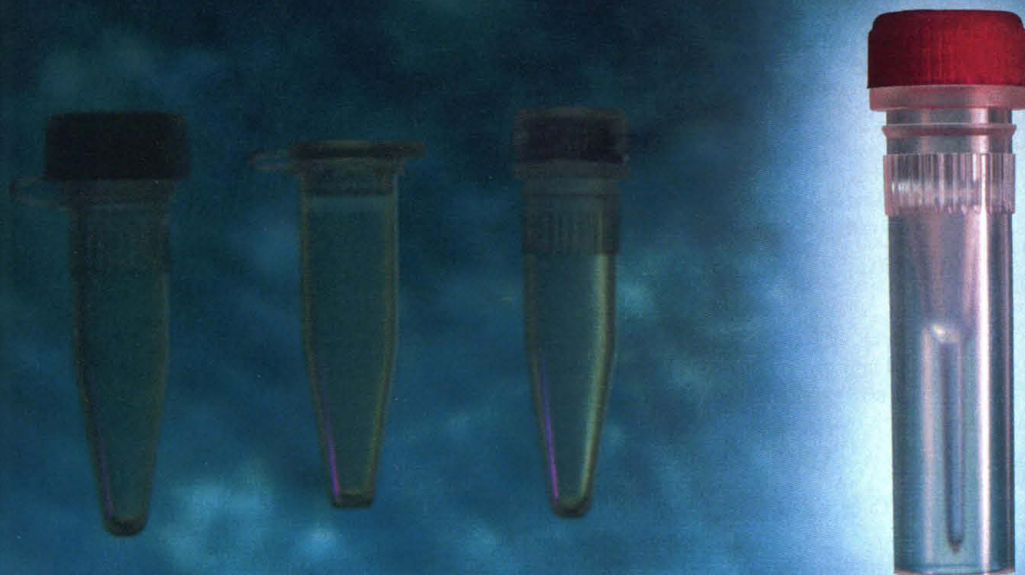
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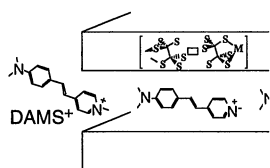
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Lining up

A number of organic compounds exhibit useful nonlinear optical properties, such as frequency doubling, but only when the molecules are packed in an environment that lacks a center of symmetry so that the dipoles have a net orientation. Lacroix *et al.* (p. 658; see the Perspective by Nicoud, p. 636) demonstrate an intercalation approach for achieving alignment. The organic cation DAMS⁺, a stibazo-



lium dye, was intercalated directly into the layers of CdPS₃ or MnPS₃ to form a highly crystalline powder. The resulting structure spontaneously aligned DAMS⁺ and produced frequency doubling effects several hundred times that of urea. The manganese compound also exhibits a permanent magnetic moment below 40 K.

Tropical temperatures

Records of paleoclimate during the last glacial maximum have suggested that temperatures in the tropics cooled by about 5°C over land but less than 2°C over oceans. Reproducing this variability has posed a problem for climate models. To evaluate the ocean paleotemperatures better, Guilderson *et al.* (p. 633) applied two independent thermometers—oxygen isotopes and strontium-calcium ratios—to Barbados corals. The results of both thermometers were consistent and imply that the surrounding waters were actually 5°C cooler than they are today. Cooling may reflect a shift toward the equator in mid-latitude cloud decks.

Why models are only models

Numerical modeling of complex systems and processes is finding increased applications in many fields as the power of computers grows and is having greater impact in the arena of public policy. Focusing on hydrologic and geochemical models, Oreskés *et al.* (p. 641) discuss the philosophical underpinnings of models and ways that the models and their results can be used and interpreted. Because such models are inherently open systems, they argue that verification or validation is not possible and that their primary value is heuristic.

Mainly in the plain

At the Last Glacial Maximum, several large internally drained lakes formed in the western United States and elsewhere; the Great Salt Lake is the tiny remnant of one of these, Lake Bonneville. Hostetler *et al.* (p. 665) investigated the importance of local climate feedbacks (for example, lake-effect precipitation) produced by Lake Bonneville and its smaller companion to the west, Lake Lahontan, using a combination of a regional climate model and a general circulation model. The results suggest that the larger size of Lake Bonneville was a result of increased lake-effect precipitation within its own drainage basin.

Lifting a finger

The determinants of specificity for proteins that bind to DNA are critical for the proper functioning of many events, such as the regulation of which genes are actively transcribed at various times during development. One of the motifs found in DNA-binding proteins is the zinc finger, so-called because a hairpin loop of protein (the finger) is held together by a zinc atom. Only a handful of high-resolution structures of zinc finger proteins have been solved. Rebar and Pabo (p. 671) have used the phage display method to select for other zinc finger

sequences that specifically recognize DNA. By creating a library of possible zinc finger domains, the constraints for recognition as well as approaches for design may become clearer.

Closely followed

Magnetic resonance imaging has been used to follow the development of embryos of the frog, *Xenopus laevis*. Jacobs and Fraser (p. 681) injected a physiologically inert gadolinium conjugate as a contrast agent into a single blastomere at the 16-cell stage. The living embryo could then be imaged repeatedly through the course of its development. Any sort of two-dimensional image could be extracted from the series of three-dimensional images. With a resolution in the range of 10 cubic micrometers, the progeny of the single injected blastomere can be observed, whether deep within or on the surface of this visually opaque embryo, through neurulation.

The NO cascade

Nitric oxide elicits diverse biological reactions. It serves as a neurotransmitter and also to promote relaxation of blood vessels, yet in large quantities it also mediates the neurotoxic effects of glutamate, an excitatory

neurotransmitter. Zhang *et al.* (p. 687) describe a serpentine chain of events that begins with nitric oxide, acting as a free radical, damaging DNA. This damage activates an enzyme that covalently attaches adenosine 5'-diphosphoribose (ADP-ribose) to proteins. Finally, the high rate of consumption of ADP-ribose depletes the cell of energy and of a necessary cofactor for energy-producing reactions.

Controlling arousal

The mesopontine cholinergic neurons function in the production of electroencephalographic (EEG) arousal. Modulation of these neurons could be a key factor in the behavioral state. Rainnie *et al.* (p. 689) found that the mesopontine cholinergic neurons are under the tonic inhibitory control of adenosine (AD), which is a released extracellularly during brain metabolism. Thus, factors that affect the extracellular levels of AD, such as prior wakefulness, would be predicted to have effects on the arousal state.

Required for learning

In insects, the mushroom bodies (MBs) of the brain are thought to function in the processing and storage of chemosensory information. De Belle and Heisenberg (p. 692) have used hydroxyurea to specifically delete the MBs from the brains of fruit flies during development. Flies without MBs cannot perform a classic conditioning paradigm that tests associative learning of odor cues and electric shock, yet they can discriminate odors and show normal locomotion and courtship behaviors. These data demonstrate that the MBs are required for odor associative learning in *Drosophila*.

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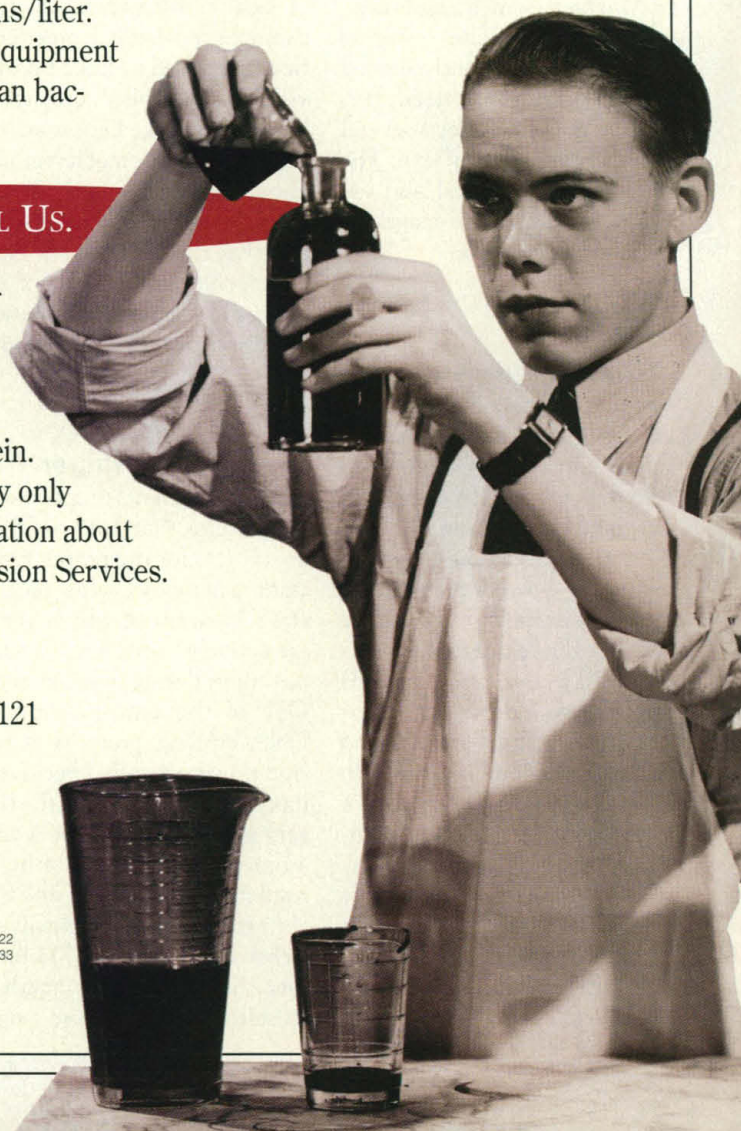


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Unit Assay	All Pass	    	   	   
 = One Failure <i>Summary: Seven out of ten restriction endonucleases from each competitor failed one or more of our quality tests.</i>				

[†]Enzymes tested in the manufacturers' recommended buffers: *Bam*H I, *Bgl* I, *Cla* I, *Eco*R I, *Hind* III, *Kpn* I, *Not* I, *Pst* I, *Sal* I, and *Sst* I (*Sac* I)

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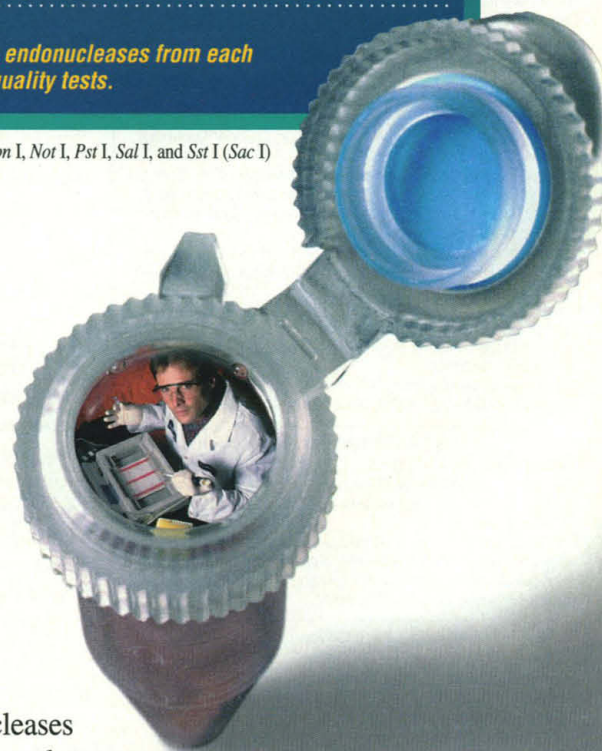
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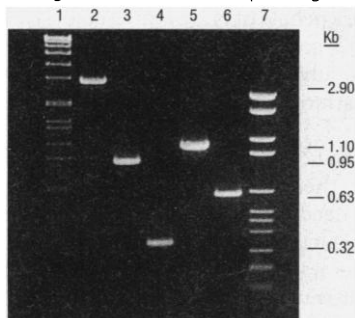
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