This Week in Science

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Modified Phases of Diamond Formed Under Shock Compression and Rapid Quenching: H. Hirai and K.-I. Kondo
COVER  The fossil record is rich in information on past changes in biodiversity and patterns of extinction. Echinoderms such as those on the cover (maximum test diameter 8 centimeters; arms may exceed 1 meter), *Uintacrinus socialis* Grinnell from Kansas (Smoky Hill Member, Niobrara Formation), are thought to have adopted a planktonic existence, and they were abundant and globally distributed in Late Cretaceous seas. The Uintacrinida order suddenly became extinct well before the end of the Cretaceous. See p. 754. [Photo by John Weinstein, courtesy of the Field Museum of Natural History]

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**Technical Comment**


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**Book Reviews**

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**Products & Materials**

807 Current Contents on Diskette ▪ Taq DNA Polymerase ▪ Reverse Transcription in a Single Tube ▪ Talking Gel Reader ▪ Periodic Table Database ▪ Portable Dew Point Generator ▪ Vacuum Scopes ▪ Automatic Direct Blotting System ▪ Literature

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