NEWS & COMMENT
Science Standards Near Finish Line 1648
Dioxin Report Faces Scientific Gauntlet 1650
DOE Urged to Go Slow in Building Free Electron Lasers 1651
Science in Ireland: Scientists’ Lobbying Wins a Review of Research Funding 1652
CNRS Head Orders a Brief Freeze 1653
RESEARCH NEWS
Chromosome Ends Catch Fire 1656
How Comets Stay Frisky in the Cold 1658
Long-Awaited Probe Gets New View of the Sun 1659
A Constant Star Suddenly Flares Up 1660
Will Primate Genetics Split One Gorilla Into Two? 1661

DEPARTMENTS
THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1637
EDITORIAL 1639
The Time Traveler
LETTERS 1641

DEPARTMENTS
RANDOM SAMPLES 1654
Weighing the Atom • Tracking a Silicone Leak • New Head for Kinsey? • Interferon With Infertility • Alcoholic Brain Waves • Site Visits to “Chilly Climates” • Making Up the Ancients

BOOK REVIEWS 1743
The Hubble Wars, reviewed by G. B. Field • Exotic Ants, K. G. Ross • Time Series Prediction, A. R. Solow • Vignettes • Books Received

PRODUCTS & MATERIALS 1753

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1634 SCIENCE • VOL. 265 • 16 SEPTEMBER 1994
Shaded topography of the 12-kilometer-long Asal rift (Djibouti, East Africa). Colors indicate elevations, from ~150 meters below (dark blue) to 350 meters above (purple) sea level. The topography results from the tectonic dismemberment over the past 100,000 years of a large central volcano (Fieale) that formed astride the rift zone 300,000 to 100,000 years ago. Reconstruction of this volcano indicates a spreading rate across the rift of 17 to 29 millimeters per year. See page 1677. [Image: J.-B. De Chabailier and J.-P. Avouac]
Science 265 (5179), 1637-1753.