Drugs from the sea

Baring the Secrets of Asteroid Ida 1322

Pig Transplants Offer Hope in Diabetes 1323

Dropping Cholesterol—Safely 1323

Chemical Prospectors Scour the Seas for Promising Drugs 1324

Step Taken Toward Improved Vectors for Gene Transfer 1326

The Next Steps Toward a Global AIDS Vaccine W. C. Koff

Diradicals: Conceptual, Inferential, and Direct Methods for the Study of Chemical Reactions J. A. Berson

A Double Mass Extinction at the End of the Paleozoic Era S. M. Stanley and X. Yang

UN Readies New Global AIDS Plan 1312

CDC Reorganization Prompts Concern 1313

LIGO’s Price Rises as NSF Debates Big-Ticket Items 1314

Court Says No to Copying Articles 1315

Earth Sciences: Job Prospects on Shaky Ground 1316

German Science Policy: Science Loses Its Own Ministry 1316

Latin America: A Personal Technology Transfer Effort in DNA Diagnostics 1317

Cancer Researcher Returns Grant 1318

Massive Problem of Missing Dwarfs 1319

Hints of a Language in Junk DNA 1320

New Link Found Between p53 and DNA Repair 1321

DEPARTMENTS

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1301

EDITORIAL 1303

LETTERS 1305

Basic Biomedical Research: J. E. Porter; K. W. Gentle; G. N. Wilson • Career Issues: J. Quackenbush; G. A. Nelson; C. Holden; C. Hsu

SCIENCESCOPE 1311

RANDOM SAMPLES 1327

Euro–Animal Users Band Together • Catching a Landslide in Slow Motion • Women in Academic Medicine • History Slights Science

GORDON RESEARCH CONFERENCES 1406

BOOK REVIEWS 1412

Scientists and the State, reviewed by P. Gummet • “Daddy’s Gone to War,” D. Elkind • A View of the River, V. Baker • Vignettes • Books Received

INSIDE AAAS 1417

PRODUCTS & MATERIALS 1418

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1298

SCIENCE • VOL. 266 • 25 NOVEMBER 1994

1324

1321 & 1376

Shutdown for repairs
The valleys and mountains shown (potential energy surface) describe the femtosecond journey of a chemical reaction: the addition of ethylene or cleavage of cyclobutane. The dynamics describe one of the most fundamental processes in chemistry—the making and breaking of a covalent bond. The transient structures are frozen on the femtosecond time scale, and their existence elucidates the non-concerted nature of the mechanism. See page 1359 and the Perspective on page 1338. [Illustration: S. Pedersen]
Editor's Summary

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