A mountain of trouble

1829, 1875, and 1879
Comet collision excites
microwave emissions and
perhaps lightning

1836

NEWS & COMMENT
Blowup at Yucca Mountain
Downsizing Squeezes Basic Research at the USGS
NIH's "Gay Gene" Study Questioned
House Saves, Kills, Then Saves OTA
Management Overhaul at Johns Hopkins
Italy: Funding Reform Fights On Against Researchers' Apathy
Russia: Science Law Advances Despite Criticism
The Netherlands: R&D Increase Targets Industry

RESEARCH NEWS
New Alzheimer's Gene Found
Getting a Reaction in Close-up
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A Gentle Scheme for Unleashing Chaos

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1822
A male gray seal issuing a threat. Colonial breeding gray seals are widely assumed to be typical polygynous mammals, with males competing for positions among groups of physically smaller, more numerous females. However, molecular genetic analysis reveals large numbers of full siblings. Such a pattern implies that many seals mate preferentially with previous partners. See page 1897. [Photo: P. P. Pomeroy/Sea Mammal Research Unit]