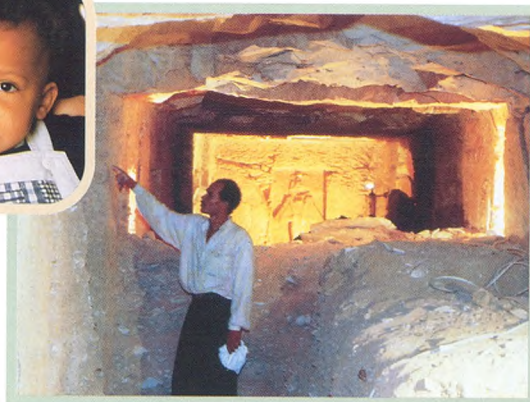


# science news

Wubbo De Jong/Het Parool from Sygma

As the result of an improperly cleaned test tube at a fertility clinic, a woman in the Netherlands gives birth to twin boys, each from a different father.



AP/Wide World



In March, the Federal Drug Administration approves a chicken-pox vaccine. Rarely fatal, chicken-pox affects 3.7 million Americans annually.

Archaeologists discover a 3,000-year-old tomb in May that is believed to hold the remains of 52 sons of Ramses II, Pharaoh of Egypt.



NASA

A stunning photograph from the Hubble Space Telescope captures a moment in the birth of a star in the Eagle Nebula, 7,000 light years from Earth. Light from the young star's nuclear furnace lifts towering pillars of hydrogen gas and interstellar dust.



Dr. Jeffrey Fried, Gamma/Liaison

Researchers announce that they have isolated a gene in mice linked to obesity. Mice with a mutated OB gene are injected with the hormone leptin, resulting in dramatic weight loss. The public is tantalized at the prospect of leptin as a slimming treatment for use in humans.



© Cincinnati Zoo

The world's first test-tube gorilla is born at the Cincinnati Zoo in October as part of an effort to save the western lowland gorilla, an endangered species that numbers fewer than 450 animals.



AP/Wide World

Fossils of a jawbone (left) and leg bone (right) found in Kenya in August reveal a previously unknown species of upright hominid that lived four million years ago, pushing the emergence of bipedalism back half a million years. Walking upright is a key adaptation that separates humans from apes.



Vai Mazzenga/Chicago Tribune

Media attention focuses on melatonin, a naturally occurring hormone used to induce sleep and slow the effects of aging. Lauded as a wonder drug, a kilogram of synthetic melatonin sells for as much as \$10,000.



AP/Wide World

In a procedure known as tissue engineering, scientists grow a human ear under the skin of a laboratory mouse. Researchers hope the procedure will play an important role in the future of transplant surgery.



AP/Wide World

As a protective measure against counterfeiting in the era of digital publishing, the Treasury Department redesigns U.S. currency bills, to be issued over the next five years, starting early 1996 with the new \$100 bill.



Former rivals in space become comrades in space after the historic docking of the U.S. space shuttle *Atlantis* and Russia's *Mir* space station on June 29. Astronaut Robert Gibson (in red) greets cosmonaut Vladimir Dezhurov.



In June, volcanic eruptions give birth to a baby island. A new member of the Tonga Islands emerges near New Zealand, 900 feet high and 140 feet wide.



AP/Wide World

# flash

After a decade-long search, scientists isolate what may be the most important cancer-related gene. The defective gene known as ATM is associated with cancers of the breast, colon, lung, stomach, pancreas and skin, and may be carried by two million Americans.

Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope observe new moons orbiting the planet Saturn, adding at least 2 moons and possibly 4 to Saturn's previously known total of 18.

A team of French and British explorers believe they have found an ancient breed of horse previously unknown to scientists. In November, the four-foot high horse with a triangular head, which resembles the vanished horses of European Stone Age drawings, is named *Riwoche* for its home region in Tibet.



Gamma/Liaison

Buyers rush to stores for the new computer operating system Windows 95, spurred by Microsoft Corp.'s \$700-million publicity barrage and the promise of a friendlier interface.



A. Tannenbaum, Sygma

The movie *Apollo 13* opens in the summer after filming many of its scenes inside NASA's "zero gravity" plane, which mimics the weightlessness astronauts experience in space by diving into a 23-second freefall.

October satellite photographs show the recent rapid deterioration of the earth's ozone layer above Antarctica. Pollutants produced mostly by the U.S. cause the hole in the atmosphere's protective layer to increase to the size of Europe.



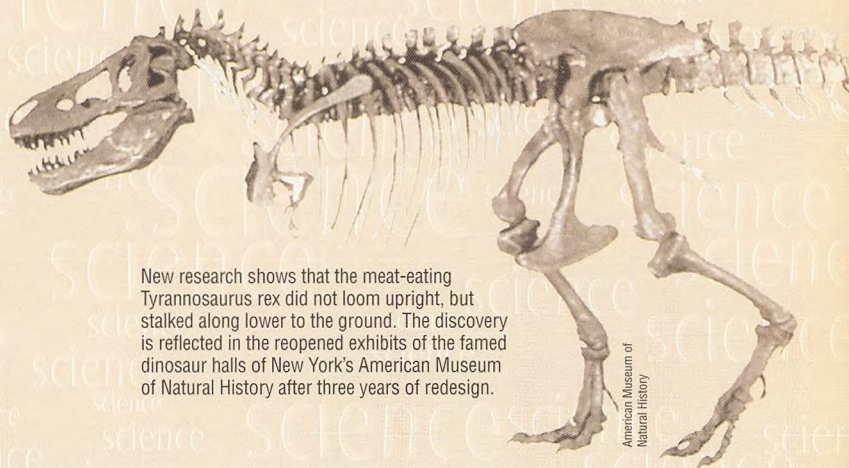
Visa International

In November, Visa introduces a cash-storage card that eliminates a pocketful of loose change. A chip in the plastic card tracks the amount of available cash, which is accessed with a reader at the place of purchase. The card can be taken to the bank and reloaded.



Nintendo of America

Now virtual reality comes in a handy travel size with Nintendo's latest, Virtual Boy, a portable 3-D video-game system with stereophonic sound.



American Museum of Natural History

New research shows that the meat-eating *Tyrannosaurus rex* did not loom upright, but stalked along lower to the ground. The discovery is reflected in the reopened exhibits of the famed dinosaur halls of New York's American Museum of Natural History after three years of redesign.