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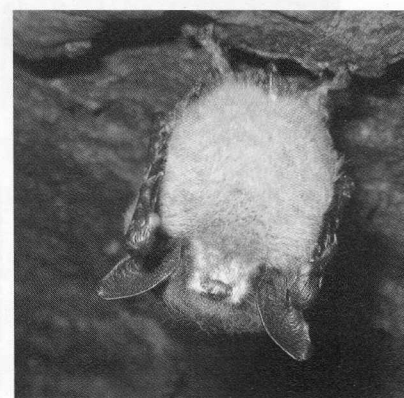
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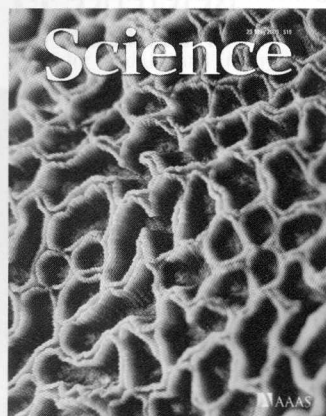
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COVER

A close-up of the tropical coral *Favia speciosa*. The position and age of related fossil corals have been used to constrain the timing of sea-level rise during the penultimate deglacial period. The timing of past sea-level change, relative to potential forcings, can help determine the mechanisms of climate change and the speed of ice sheet collapse. See page 1186.

Photo: Getty Images

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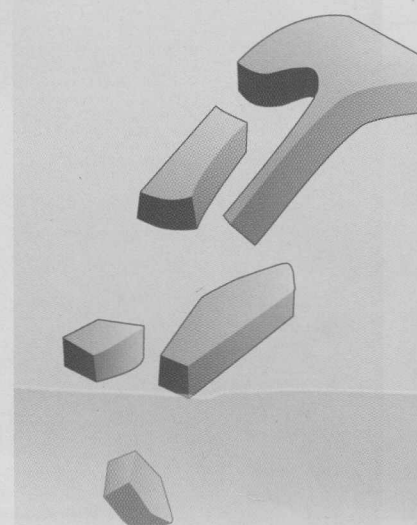
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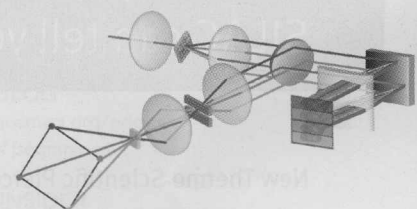
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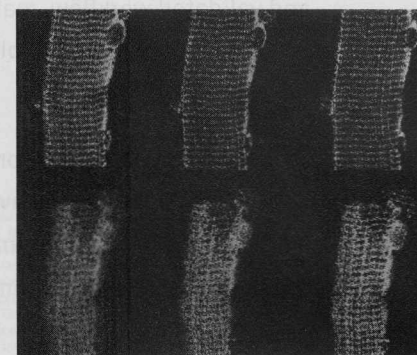
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