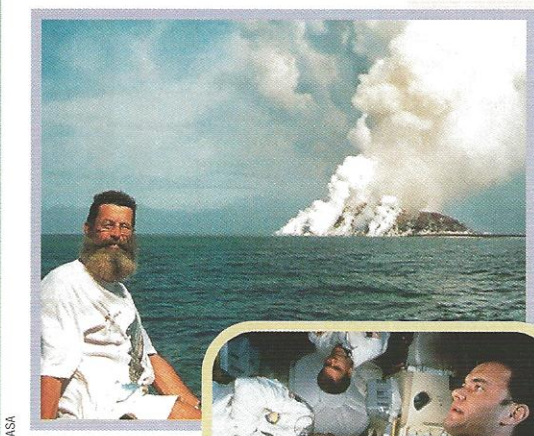


Former rivals in space become comrades in space after the historic docking of the U.S. space shuttle *Atlantis* and Russia's *Mir* space station on June 29. Astronaut Robert Gibson (in red) greets cosmonaut Vladimir Dezhurov.



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.

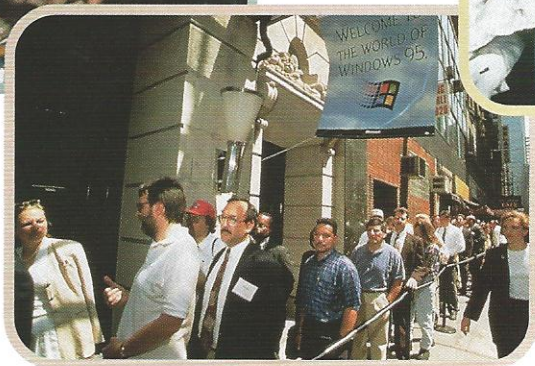


Gammal/Liaison

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.

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.

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.



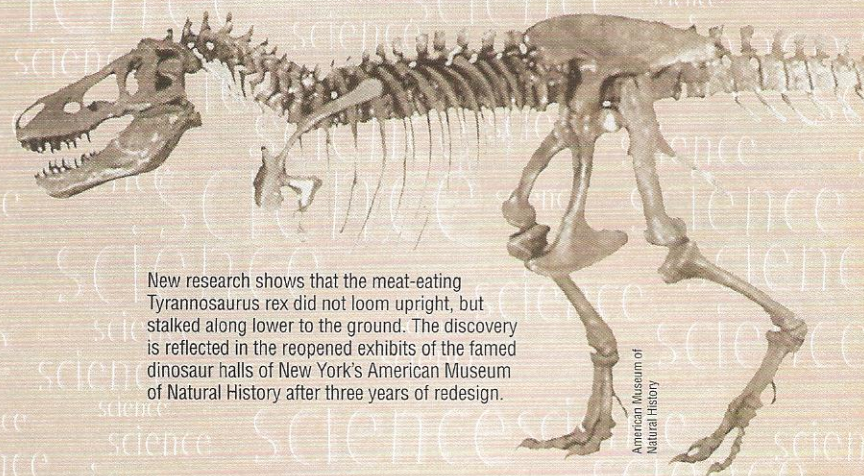
VISA International

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.