

HOT SCIENCE THE BEST GEEK CULTURE OF 2012

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Science, Technology, and The Future

THE OTHER EARTHS

There could be billions out there.
And NASA's Bill Borucki is
starting to find them. p.42

**TORNADOES
ON THE SUN**

p.12

**THE ONE-DAY
DIABETES CURE**

p.52

**CAN AN AVATAR
PREVENT SOLDIER
SUICIDES?**

p.10

BEYOND DARWIN

**WHY
EVOLUTION
FAVORS
NICE GUYS**

p.34

DECEMBER 2012



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Mail 4

Editor's Note 5



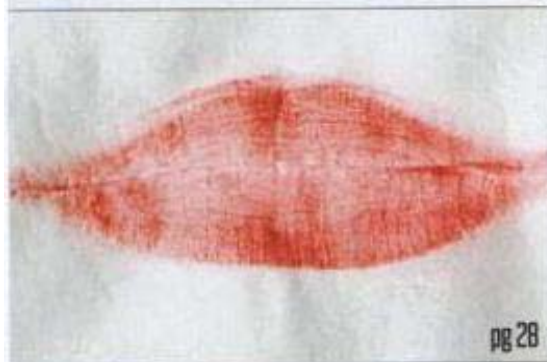
pg 25

Calendar 26

The science dates you won't want to miss this month.

Vital Signs 28

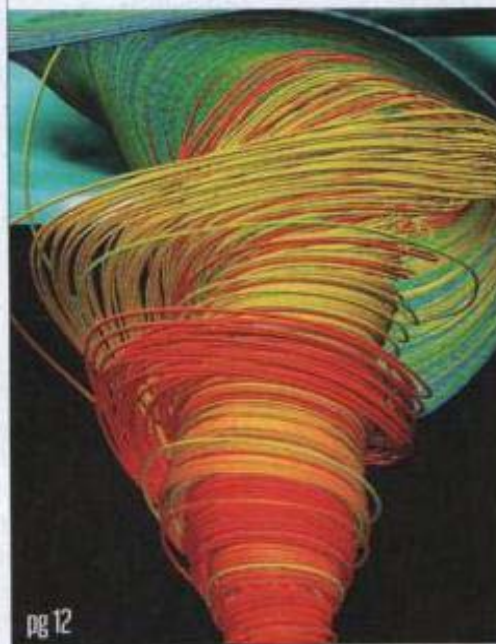
The case of the swollen lip: Is it ordinary hives, an allergic reaction, or is something stranger going on?
By Robert A. Norman



pg 28

Data 6

Virtual coaches for troubled soldiers, tornadoes on the sun, the cultured world of chimpanzees, a cure-all for tumors, the lab buried in a Norwegian glacier, big mistakes in the war on obesity, how to play the piano without even trying, and more.



pg 12

Notes From Earth 32

A fossil bed in China may document the origin of every animal on Earth, including you.
By Douglas Fox

The Brain 68

Snoopy psychology: An artist-turned-neuroscientist argues that comics reveal a lot about how the mind creates meaning.
By Carl Zimmer



pg 32

Out There 72

The hunt for signs of a violent collision with another universe. Plus: A novice's guide to the night sky.
By Steve Nadis

20 Things You Didn't Know About the End 80

By Jonathon Keats

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As outdoor lighting becomes more prominent, our night skies are gradually turning from black to red. This disrupts natural sleep-wake cycles. It can cause feelings of jet lag and interfere with predator-prey relationships.

—Amy Shira Teitel, freelance space writer who blogs at Vintage Space
The Crux discovermagazine.com/web/nightsky

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