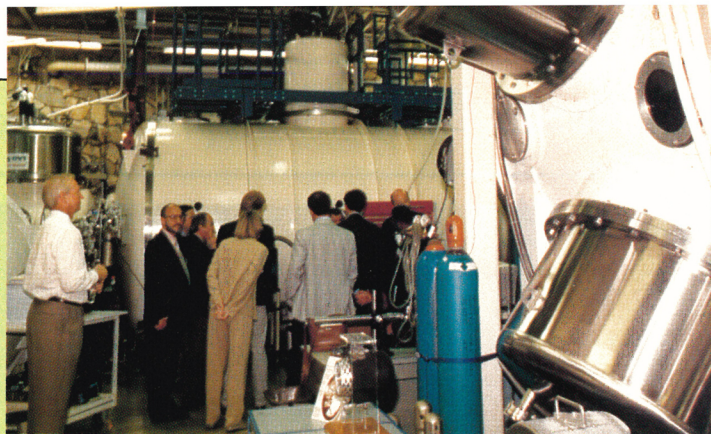




CECELIA BRESCHIA/AIP

A TOUR OF HRL LABORATORIES given last October to the American Institute of Physics' Corporate Associates included a laboratory where ion thrusters, used to steer space vehicles, were undergoing life-cycle tests. The thrusters were firing inside the vacuum chambers seen in the right foreground and in the center, beyond the group of visitors. This and other labs on the tour touched on the meeting's general theme, "Wireless and Space Communications." Formerly called Hughes Research Laboratories, the Malibu, California, facility became HRL Labs in 1997 when Hughes Electronics Corp and Raytheon Co assumed joint ownership. Exxon Research & Engineering Laboratories in Annandale, New Jersey, will host the next meeting of the Corporate Associates, scheduled for 25-26 October this year.

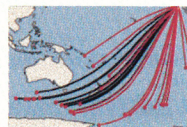
viding \$60 000 in startup money for the first two years of the supplement, which will focus on studies of learning and teaching physics, and is intended for physics education researchers and high school and college physics instructors. The editor of the peer-reviewed publication (and coauthor of the article on page 24) is University of Maryland physicist Edward Redish, assisted by Amherst College physicist and *AJP*

editor Robert Romer and University of Washington physics education researcher Lillian McDermott. Papers will be collected and sent free to *AJP* subscribers, probably this summer; they will also be available electronically upon acceptance at AAPT's Web site, <http://www.aapt.org>. Copies of the supplement can be ordered for \$27 (\$29 for shipment outside the US) from AAPT by calling 301-209-3333. ■

Web Watch

<http://www.ctbt.rnd.doe.gov/ctbt>

To help uphold the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), a wide range of technologies is under research and development. Described on the Department of Energy's CTBT R&D Home Page, these technologies include infrasound and hydroacoustic monitoring, as well as the more familiar seismic monitoring.



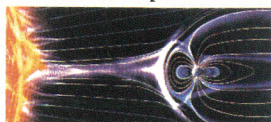
<http://www.gec.com/review/v7n3p167>

"Lord Rayleigh—the Last of the Great Victorian Poly-maths" is an electronic reprint of a 23-page scientific biography of Rayleigh by A. T. Humphrey that originally appeared in 1992 in volume 7, number 3 of the *GEC Review*. Illustrated with 17 figures, the article covers the entire span of Rayleigh's life and career.



<http://www-spf.gsfc.nasa.gov/Education/Intro.html>

All aspects of Earth's environment in space are covered at an educational site entitled *The Exploration of the Earth's Magnetosphere*. Put together by space scientist David Stern of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, the information is readily understandable to a wide readership—from high school students to Stern's fellow space physicists—thanks to its detailed, comprehensive yet nonmathematical approach.



To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please contact ptwww@aip.org by e-mail. Compiled by CHARLES DAY

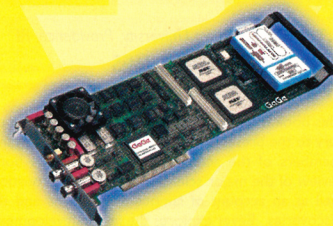
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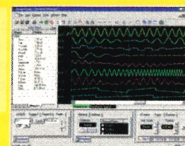


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