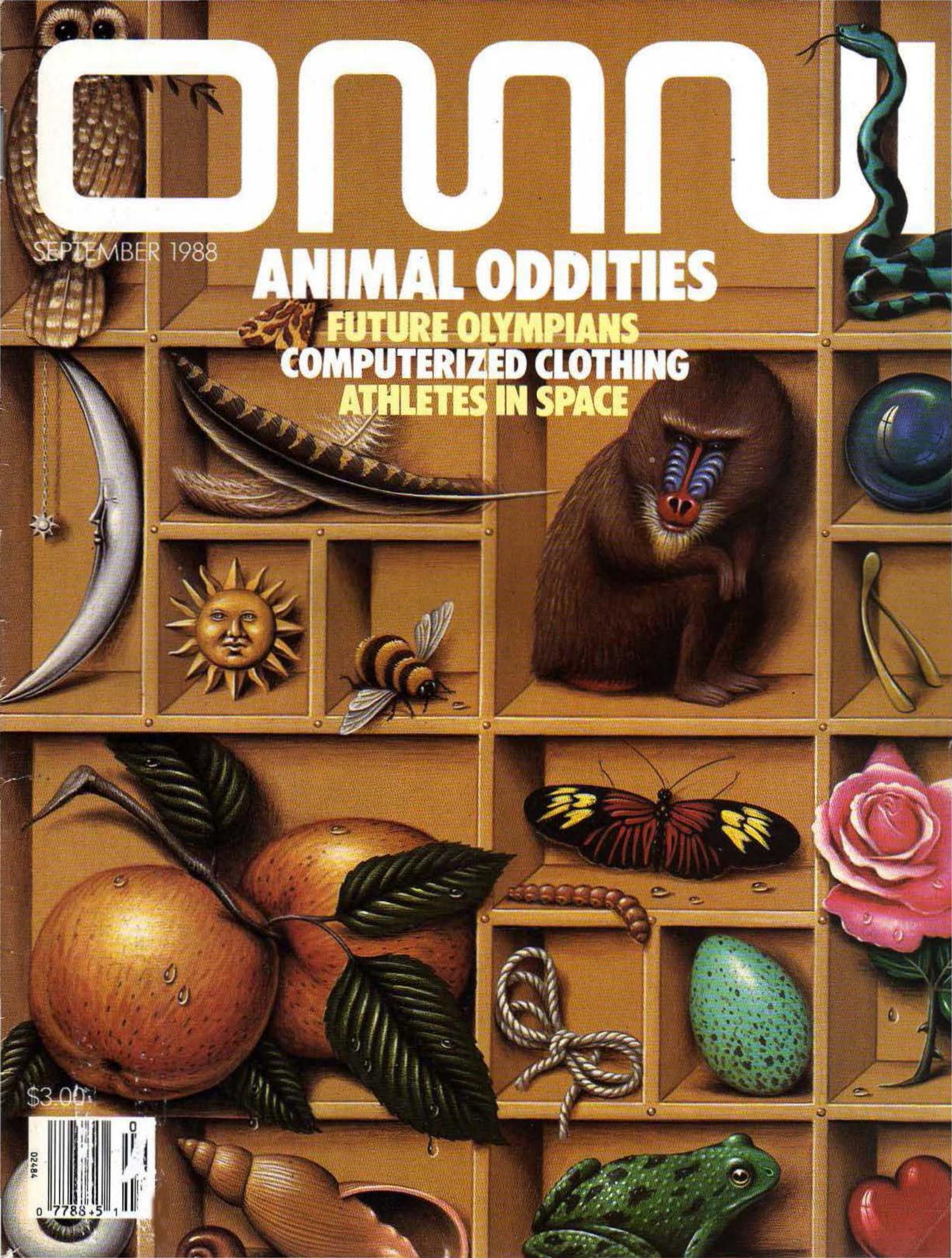


OWN

SEPTEMBER 1988

ANIMAL ODDITIES

FUTURE OLYMPIANS
COMPUTERIZED CLOTHING
ATHLETES IN SPACE



\$3.00

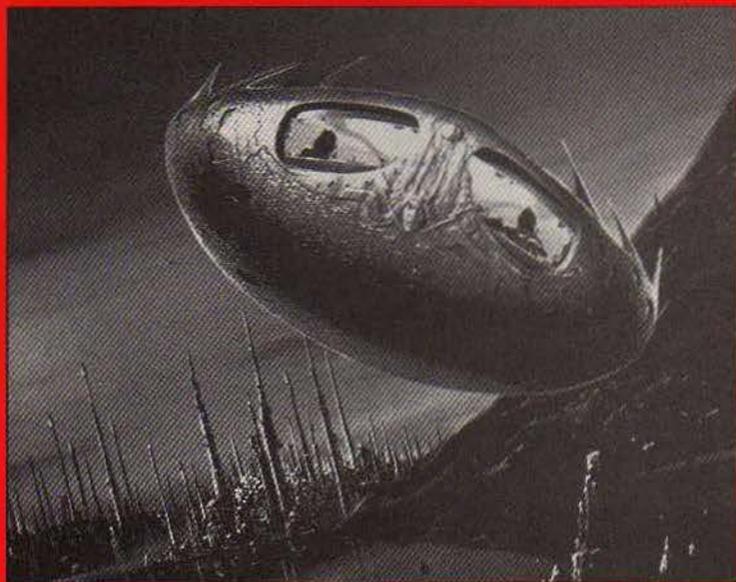


In a canyon east of Aztec, New Mexico, scientists discovered a crashed spaceship and 16 small, humanlike occupants.

ANTI MATTER

For quite some time it has been considered the most notorious hoax in the history of UFOlogy. But a recent book entitled *UFO Crash at Aztec* by William S. Steinman and Wendelle C. Stevens declares that the story of a flying saucer crash in Aztec, New Mexico, in March 1948 was no fake.

The story was first reported by *Variety* columnist Frank Scully, who wrote a best-selling book called *Behind the Flying Saucers*. Scully reported that in the spring of 1948, a "division of top scientists" descended on a canyon east of Aztec, where they recovered



UFO UPDATE

the remains of a crashed spaceship and its 16 dead occupants, small humanlike beings dressed in "the style of 1890" and believed to be from Venus. Scully's sources for this remarkable story were one Silas Newton, identified as a Texas oilman, and the pseudonymous "Dr. Gee," who, according to Scully, was "the top magnetic research specialist of the United States." Investigative journalist J. P. Cahn, who wrote about the episode in *True* magazine, had a different slant. Newton was a lifelong con artist, Cahn said, and "Dr. Gee," one Leo A. GeBauer, was his associate. Cahn claimed that the crashed-saucer story was concocted as part of a scam to sell a bogus oil-detection device allegedly based on extraterrestrial technology.

Steinman and Stevens tell a different story still. In their version, when the spaceship came down near Aztec, the government dispatched a team of about 1,000 specialists and soldiers to the site. Civilian witnesses were threatened into silence—a silence they maintain to this day. When New-

ton and GeBauer, honorable men who knew the truth, spoke out, they were framed and discredited.

The book, for all its 625 pages, never makes clear how—or from whom—the authors learned the truth about the Aztec crash. In an interview Steinman, who lives in La Mirada, California, gives his source as a "guy who was an analyst for the [U.S. government] Research and Development Board." Four other persons, retired government scientists whom Steinman also will not identify, told him the crash took place at Aztec. And in a statement at the be-

ginning of their book, Steinman and Stevens "acknowledge all of the encouragement and assistance by a great number of collaborators who of necessity must remain unknown."

UFO researcher William L. Moore, who has investigated the Aztec story, dismisses the new allegations as "unsubstantiated conjecture." And a reporter for the *Daily Times*, published in nearby Farmington, says nobody in Aztec even remembers a UFO crash. "Several years ago I got a call from a guy in California, and that's the first time I ever heard the story," says the reporter. "I decided to check it out. No one knew anything about it, except George Bawra, who's now dead. At the time he was editor of the *Aztec Independent-Review*. He told me he had written a tongue-in-cheek story about a UFO in the area. Apparently some people outside the area picked up the story as gospel.

"When I told the guy from California about it, he said, 'So the CIA got to you, too.' I told him that if that's what he wanted to believe, go ahead."—JEROME CLARK