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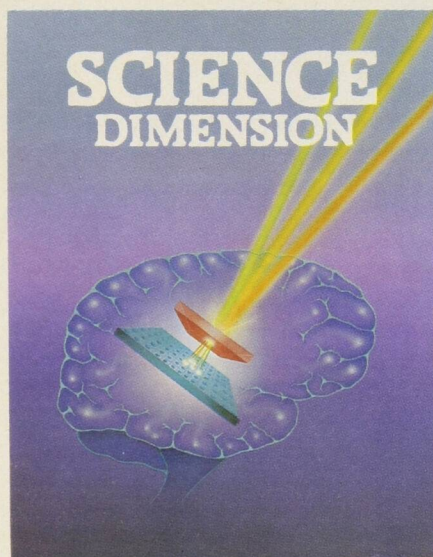
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John Bianchi

COVER

Artist John Bianchi's stylized depiction of how a fifth generation computer might store a million billion bits of information — the number of litres of water in Lake Superior — in a space one centimetre square. 'Crystal memory,' one of whose inventors is Dr. Alex Szabo of NRC, would use the wavelengths of a tuneable laser to write permanent, erasable changes in the supercomputer's random-access memory. (Story p 19)

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