

AN EXISTENTIAL ALPHABET

NYR INDICTOR
Chappaqua, New York

This quiz was inspired by Scot Morris of Omni magazine, who is always looking for odd alphabets. The following sequence of words and phrases lacks an entry for X. Why? Can you identify the principle that links all of these terms? Answers are in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

abscissa	nineteen
broken type	one score
crossing	pirate treasure site
double strength	quantity of unspecified value
eleven	reactance
forty	strike
genetically passed through the mother	thirteen
hybrid	unknown
incorrect	variable
joined in matrimony	wrong
kisses	??
longitude	yule
multiplied by	Zantippe

Swarthmore Earthworms

Sports fans have heard of such mascots as the Nittany Lions or the Princeton Tigers, but...Swarthmore Earthworms? This is one of a set of proposed mascots for Swarthmore College, recently presented to the alumni for a vote (including the option "none of the above"). Besides its self-deprecatory tone (a Quaker-founded college, Swarthmore does not emphasize intercollegiate athletics), this mascot has the logological virtue of being an anagram of the college name. Can anyone find a similar possibility for another college or university? (The only one the editor notes is Reed Deer, a reversal as well.)