New Scientist

WEEKLY 19 October 2024

LIFE DISCOVERED IN 2-BILLION-YEAR-OLD ROCK

HOW YOUR FRENEMIES ARE RUINING YOUR HEALTH

WHY THERE MAY BE NO GOING BACK AFTER 1.5°C OF WARMING



News

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Odd behaviour

Clever test could show if gravity bows to quantum rules p12

Microbe habitat

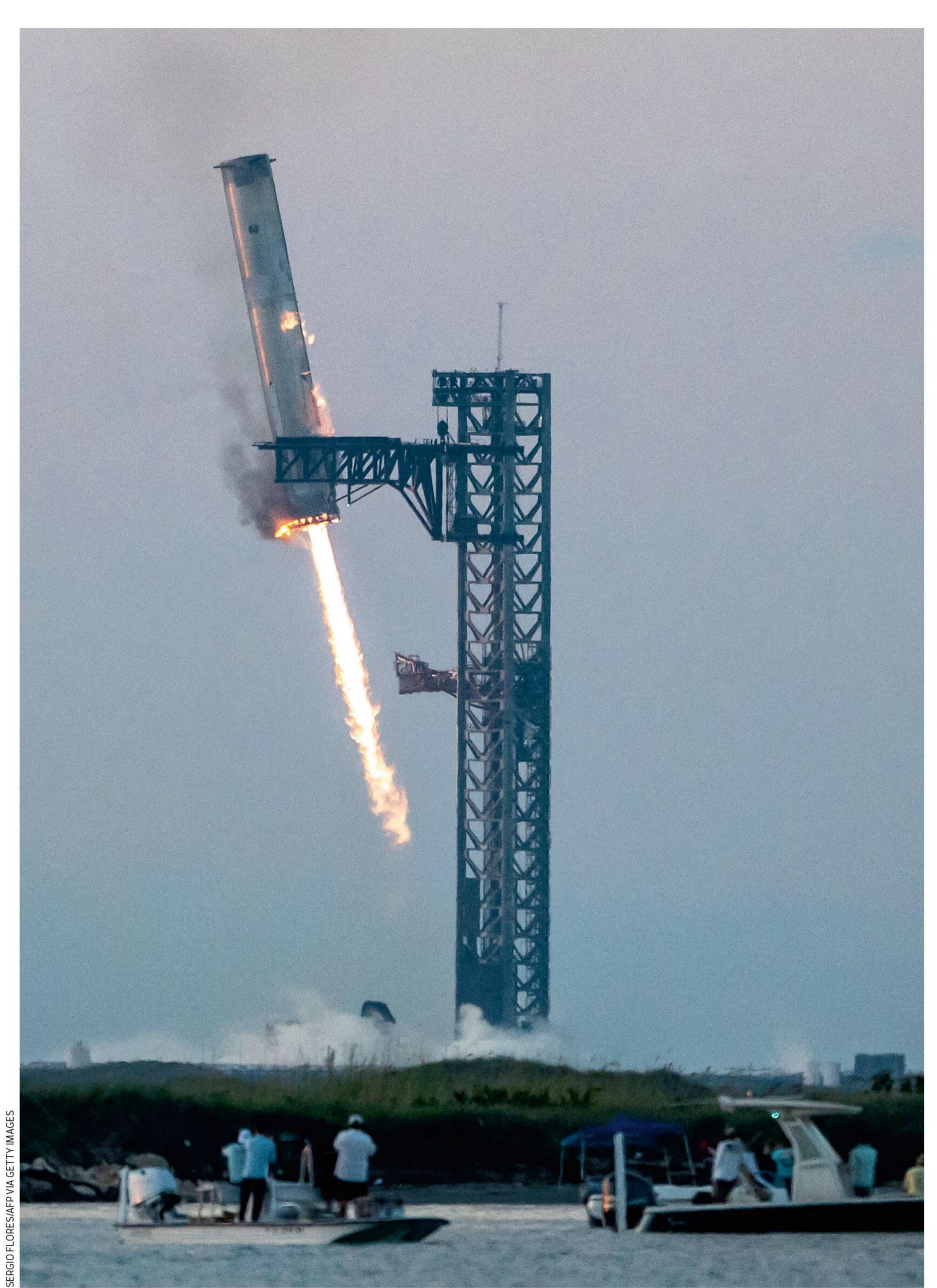
Toothbrushes teem with hundreds of viruses p13

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AIs can cooperate even better than humans can p16

Reaching the limit?

Growth in life expectancy is slowing down p17



Space

Starship plucked out of the sky

A space rocket has been caught on its return to Earth for the first time. SpaceX's Starship powered into the sky from Boca Chica, Texas, on 13 October. The bottom part, or booster, then separated from the rest and returned to the launch pad. It was caught in mid-air just 7 minutes after takeoff by the launch tower's mechanical arms. SpaceX hopes this feat will make its largest rockets reusable.