

SCIENCE ON TV

SCIENCE NEWS prints the latest written word of scientific developments and noteworthy news. We've set this space aside to inform our readers of programs of scientific interest that are scheduled on television. Check your local listings for exact times.

OF THE WEEK

Gravity waves deduced	116
Antarctic meteorite yield	117
SAGE to study upper atmosphere	117
Fat mice support diabetes theory	118
Acne treatment effective	118
Third World wood shortage	119
Food safety laws too stringent for FDA	119

RESEARCH NOTES

Space Sciences	121
Technology	121

ARTICLES

What the web holds	122
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DEPARTMENTS

Science on TV	115
Off the Beat	120

COVER: There's more to the web of this solitary spider *Araneus diadematus* than meets the fly. See p. 122. (Photo courtesy of Peter N. Witt)

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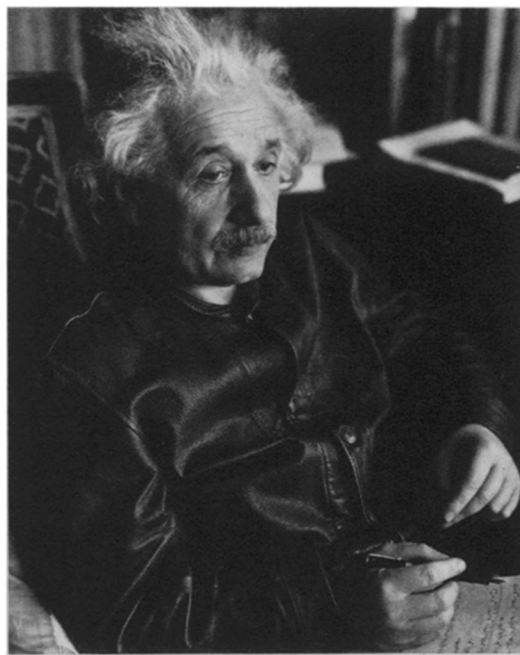
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• March 1 (PBS) NOVA—"The End of the Rainbow" explores the promise of controlled nuclear fusion energy. The process — which involves the forcing together of hydrogen nuclei — has been called the most difficult scientific challenge of the century. This year the United States is spending more than one million dollars each day on fusion research. The program attempts to come to terms with the controversy surrounding the attempt, and fusion scientists and critics — here and abroad — are sought out for their views.

Lotte Jacobi/NOVA



• March 1 (NBC) "Leopard of the Wild" tells the true story of an orphaned leopard which bridged the worlds of protected captivity and her natural habitat in the wilds of Asia. Included are views of the rarely documented wilderness life of leopards in the jungles of India and Sri Lanka.

• March 4 (PBS) National Geographic Society—"Last Stand in Eden" presents the plight of elephants in Kenya who last spring, faced with the threat of drought and illegal poaching, began a mysterious, unprecedented migration. Their move 70 miles to the south wreaked havoc with area farmland and has spurred alarm about the future of all African wildlife.

• March 8 (PBS) NOVA—"The Beersheva Experiment" takes a look at one Israeli medical school that is attempting to re-

verse the current medical trend toward specialization. The Ben-Gurion University Center for Health Sciences is training physicians to think of health problems in the larger context of the patient's family and community.

• March 13 (PBS) "Einstein's Universe" honors the memory of the scientist on the eve of the one-hundredth anniversary of his birth. His theories are expounded by means of concrete examples and visual illustration and a visit is paid to the McDonald Observatory of the University of Texas.

• March 15 (PBS) NOVA — "Einstein" presents a portrait of the man and his mind. Using interviews and rarely seen archival footage, the program takes a personal look at the enigmatic scientist.

• March 22 (PBS) NOVA — "The Insect Alternative" suggests that perhaps chemical pesticides that have been used are not the answer to pest control, having created a "pesticide treadmill" as insects developed resistance (SN: 1/7/78, p. 10).

The program was first aired last May.

• March 29 (PBS) NOVA — "The Keys of Paradise" are endorphins — powerful and complex pain-killing drugs found in the brain (SN: 11/25/78, p. 374). This program traces the history of their discovery and shows, through interviews with scientists in the United States, Britain and Sweden, how endorphins could revolutionize the treatment of emotional illness.

• March 29 (ABC) — "ABC News Closeup" examines "the nation's leading environmental problem" — the improper disposal of toxic wastes. Between 30 million and 40 million tons of wastes are generated each year and more than 90 percent are improperly disposed of.

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