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COVER: Hallucinogenic plants are sacred in many primitive societies. For instance, the symbols of Huichol mythology are based on ceremonial use of the peyote plant. This yarn drawing from northwestern Mexico chronicles the creation of the world. The sacred land of peyote is the area on the left. At the bottom right Our Elder Brother Deer sits on a rock and his sacred words travel down a thread to a prayer bowl and are transformed into life energy, depicted as a white blossom. See p. 75. (Art: Juan Negrin).

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SCIENCE ON THE AIR

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 and radio. Check your local listings for exact times.

Television

• **Aug. 18 (PBS) "Mind, Body and Spirit"** is part of the series **"Human Face of China,"** which offers a glimpse at the life and people of the long-inaccessible land. This particular segment is a look at how traditional medicine is being merged with Western medicine in an effort to build a national health care system. The film shows two "barefoot doctors" on their rounds.

• **Aug. 18 (PBS) National Geographic Society — "Mysteries of the Mind"** is a repeat look at the most powerful force on earth — the human mind. Subjects range from the brain's activity during sleep to its role in human health.

• **Aug. 18 (PBS) "The Predators"** is a documentary on the plight of North American predators whose role in the balance of nature has been upset by human intervention.

• (PBS) **"The Cousteau Odyssey"** **"The Nile"** charts the impact of the technological intrusion of the Nile — the world's longest river. On two successive nights — **Aug. 20 and Aug. 21** — Jacques Cousteau makes the journey from the mountainous headwaters of the Nile to the Nile delta, which contains 60 percent of Egypt's cultivated land.

• (PBS) **NOVA: Aug. 5 "Why Do Birds Sing?"** explores some fascinating and little-known facts; **Aug. 12 "The Williamsburg File"** is a look at this recreation of Colonial life. Chief archaeologist Ivor Noel Hume shows how clues about the day-to-day activities of the period can be gleaned from the reconstruction of archaeological finds; **Aug. 19 "Living Machines"** introduces a new breed of scientists — natural engineers — who look at living creatures through engineers' eyes to learn more about design concepts; **Aug. 26 "Sweet Solutions"** looks at sugar — blamed for numerous health hazards in recent years yet seemingly unreplaceable.

• (PBS) **"Here's to Your Health" Aug. 9 "Coping with Cancer"** is a summary of the latest progress by medical research; **Aug. 14 "The Sun and Your Skin"** features a discussion of the dangers to skin of overexposure to the sun; **Aug. 22 "Breast Cancer"** is an investigation of facts and myths about breast cancer; **Aug. 30 "Headaches"** looks at a variety of treatments and coping mechanisms.

Radio

• (CBS Radio) **"Science Editor"** — Produced at the University of California at Los Angeles and distributed to CBS Radio Network affiliates, the program is aired in two forms. The 15-minute version consists of three or four short stories, each of which may be broadcast separately in the shorter version. The format of the show is in the process of undergoing a revision from question-and-answer to a single speaker. Consult your local CBS affiliate.

• **"Exploring Health"** — Produced by the Medical College of Georgia, "Exploring Health" is a 4½-min., weekly program of health features. The program covers complex topics in a clear, easy-to-understand manner. Topics covered include asthma, plastic surgery and microsurgery. For more information contact: The Office of Institutional Relations, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Ga. 30912.

• (Canadian Broadcasting Corp.) **"Quirks and Quarks"** — This popular science series can be heard outside Canada via shortwave radio at 12:05 p.m. EDT, Saturdays on 11720 and 9625 kHz (via the CBS Northern Service). Host Jay Ingram, microbiologist, bacteriologist, teacher, writer and broadcaster, tries to help the listener experience the world in new and exciting ways.

• (NPR) **"BBC Science Magazine"** — A weekly half-hour program provided by the BBC transcription service to stations around the world and handled in the United States by National Public Radio. It deals with new scientific developments, the latter half of the program focusing on "the frontiers of knowledge." Check with your local NPR affiliate for broadcast times.

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