

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.

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COVER: Ringed Saturn and two of its satellites, Tethys (above, with its shadow near the rings at bottom) and Dione (below), was here photographed by the Voyager 1 spacecraft from 13 million kilometers away. The planet's limb clearly shows through the rings' Cassini division, though closer-in photos reveal the division to contain numerous thin ringlets. For more, see page 324. (Photo: JPL)

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Radio

• (CBC) **"Quirks and Quarks":** Dec. 13 includes a segment on 4-year-olds and their search for meaning and an interview with John Gribbin, author of *The Jupiter Effect*, in which he discusses the idea of parallel universes; Dec. 20 includes a special report on the possible link between stress and cancer, a segment on a new allergy test that has been developed in Paris and an interview with British science broadcaster Magnus Pike, who discusses foods of the future.

• **"Perspectives in Science,"** produced by the Carnegie Institution in Washington, is a series of five- and 10-minute interviews with scientists who discuss current research in everything from solar astronomy to developmental biology. The program is currently being carried on about 16 stations across the United States. To find out where it is available write to the Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1530 P St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 or call (202) 387-6411.

Television

• (PBS) **"The Body in Question":** Dec. 2 **"Balancing Act,"** an analysis of the body's control mechanisms, which serve preventive, reactive and repair functions; Dec. 9 **"Brute Machine,"** a look at modern neurology; Dec. 16 **"Heads and Tails,"** an examination of the relationship between the brain and the lower nervous system, or the spinal cord; Dec. 23 **"Perishable Goods,"** a graphic demonstration (Jonathan Miller is shown performing a post mortem) of how medical detective work can yield answers to the body's secrets and a discussion of current trends in life expectancy.

• (PBS) **"Connections":** Dec. 2 **"Yesterday, Tomorrow and You,"** the final episode of this series, looks at the common factors causing technological change at different times and in different places. James Burke examines where we go from here and whether technology will dominate our ability to control our destinies.

• (PBS) **"Cosmos":** Dec. 7 **"The Persistence of Memory"** questions the nature of intelligent life with an eye toward finding it elsewhere in the galaxy. Included are observations of humpback whales and a trip through the brain and nervous system; Dec. 14 **"Encyclopedia Galactica,"** an examination of the probability that life will be found elsewhere, what we should look for and how we should deal with it; Dec. 21 **"Who Speaks for Earth?"** is a weaving

together of some of the series' main themes—ideas of cosmic evolution and of scientific approach, history as teacher and our limitations as a species — with warnings about our future.

• (PBS) **"Here's to Your Health";** Dec. 6 **"Allergies"** is a repeat look at the medical progress being made in this area, with a special emphasis on the most common and serious of all allergic reactions, asthma; Dec. 13 **"Epilepsy"** is an investigation of a disease that is widespread but little-understood by most people; Dec. 20 **"Medical Emergencies"** is a look at how to cope with life-threatening emergencies.

• (PBS) **"NOVA":** Dec. 2 **"Moving Still"** is a film showing the work of the early pioneers of still and cine photography and tracing the story to the present day, where the use of film is giving scientists remarkable insights; Dec. 9 **"A Touch of Sensitivity"** describes the function of the skin's five million touch cells; Dec. 16 **"The Safety Factor"** is an examination of how safe air travel really is; Dec. 23 **"Red**



Red deer "laboratory" on Isle of Rhum.

Hans Reinhard, Bruce Coleman Inc.

Deer of Rhum" shows a group of scientists on the island of Rhum off the west coast of Scotland who study the deer living there; Dec. 30 **"It's About Time"** is an investigation of time that questions what time is, when it began and when it will end.

• Dec. 3 (PBS) **"Survival Special: Gentle Giants of the Pacific"** tells the story of the endangered humpback whales.

• Dec. 3 (PBS) **"Voyage to the Edge of the World"** shows Jacques Cousteau as he undertakes his most dangerous expedition to date in Antarctica. Shown are sequences of penguins swimming at lightning speed, ice fish that contain a built-in "anti-freeze system" and the "insides" of an iceberg.

• Dec. 29 (PBS) **"Stalking Immortality"** is a documentary examining science's attempts to deter aging. Included in the examination of research on many fronts is a discussion of artificial organ transplantation, thymus gland research and genetics, with a discussion of progeria (premature aging) (SN: 10/4/80, p. 216).