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Science on the Air

Science News prints the latest written word of scientific development 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. (R) indicates a repeat broadcast.

- **March 1 (PBS) "The Doomsayers" (R)** is an exploration of the possible end of Western civilization by such authorities as Edward Cornish, president of the World Future Society, Adm. Gene LaRocque, president of the Center for Defense Information and Helen Caldicott, president of Physicians for Social Responsibility.
- **March 6 (PBS) "Flight from Extinction" (R)** examines the danger of extinction faced by cranes — residents of the world's marshes for more than 55 million years.
- **March 9 (PBS) National Geographic Society — "Save the Panda"** includes a visit to the Wolong National Reserve in China, where panda studies are carried out by a New York Zoological Society scientist and

This Week

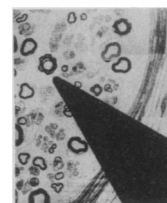
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Cover: By positioning a fine electrode in a nerve, scientists can record from, and stimulate, individual nerve fibers of a conscious volunteer. They are analyzing the nervous system activity behind complex movements, sensations and reactions that cannot be examined in anesthetized animals. (Micrograph by Jose Ochoa, Dartmouth Medical School)



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his Chinese counterpart. The program also looks at efforts to breed pandas in zoos.

- **March 14 (PBS) "The River in the Desert" (R)** is a documentary about the Colorado River that also examines the water crisis in the Southwest and how it came about.

Series

- (PBS) **"Life on Earth" (R)**: **March 6 "Lords of the Air"** examines, through the latest techniques in nature photography, the varied uses and advantages of the feather; **March 13 "The Rise of the Mammals"** is a recounting of the development of mammals; **March 20 "Theme and Variations"** focuses on such descendants of a prehistoric mammal as the anteaters, moles, bats, porpoises and whales; **March 27 "Hunters and Hunted"** is an examination of mammals and their roles as hunter or prey.
- (PBS) **"NOVA": March 1 "Asbestos: A**

Lethal Legacy" investigates the consequences of asbestos use and the controversy over who is responsible; **March 8 "City of Coral"** takes a voyage through a coral reef; **March 15 "The Case of the Bermuda Triangle" (R)** explores the mystery and tries to separate fact from fiction; **March 22 "Fat Chance in a Thin World"** comes up with some surprising facts about the war on fat; **March 29 "Sixty Minutes to Meltdown"** is a special 90-minute broadcast that chronicles, in docu-drama form, the malfunctions and mistakes that led to the Three Mile Island nuclear accident and examines its lessons and the economic and safety questions of nuclear power use.

- (PBS) **"Enterprise": March 3 "The New Space Race"** surveys the space industry, in which a growing number of companies are vying for large profits; **March 10 "West Meets East"** looks at how one company tries to meet the Japanese challenge in industry.

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