

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 and dates. (R) indicates a repeat broadcast.

Nov. 1 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Salt: The Pillar Is Crumbling" Addresses the growing concern about this highly used and potentially dangerous condiment.

Nov. 2 (PBS) Nature — "The Galápagos — How They Got There" Discusses several theories explaining how animals came to inhabit the Galápagos Islands.

Nov. 2 (PBS) Out of the Fiery Furnace: "Into the Machine Age" The American Industrial Revolution and its effect on life in almost every Western country.

Nov. 2 (PBS) Power Struggle (R) Meryl Streep examines the problems that stem from U.S. reliance on nuclear power and fossil fuels.

Nov. 3 (PBS) The Making of a Continent — "Collision Courses" Journeys 4 billion years back in time to uncover the titanic forces that shaped North America's mountain ranges.

Nov. 4 (PBS) Nova — "High Tech Babies" The science and controversy surrounding the new advances in reproductive technology.

Nov. 4 (PBS) Managing Our Miracles — "Technology Rocks the Cradle" Panelists discuss whether premature babies should be kept alive by artificial means.

Nov. 5 (PBS) Discover: The World of Science — Looks at avalanche prediction, aircraft simulators and a foolproof test that determines whether a fetus has cystic fibrosis.

Nov. 6 (PBS) The Living Planet: A Portrait of the Earth — "The Baking Deserts" (R) Although they rival arctic regions as the harshest habitats, deserts exhibit a variety of life when the sun sets.

Nov. 8 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "The Protein Fix" Explores different sources of protein and discusses "protein overdose."

Nov. 9 (PBS) Nature — "The Galápagos — Cold on the Equator" Survival in the surprisingly cold waters surrounding the equatorial Galápagos Islands.

Nov. 10 (PBS) The Making of a Continent — "The Rich High Desert" Examines how ferocious winds, immense glaciers and prehistoric seas shaped inland North America.

Nov. 10 (PBS) The Day the Universe Changed — "Infinitely Reasonable" Chronicles how the discoveries of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler and Newton eroded belief in the Aristotelian doctrine of an earth-centered universe.

Nov. 11 (PBS) Nova — "Can AIDS Be Stopped?" Reports the latest in the search to find a vaccine to treat AIDS and examines new theories about how the disease is spread.

Nov. 11 (PBS) Managing Our Miracles — "The Smoking Dilemma" The U.S. Surgeon General and others discuss governmental control over private lifestyle.

Nov. 13 (PBS) The Living Planet — "The Sky Above" (R) Investigates natural phenomena in the sky, from parachuting spiders to sweeping weather patterns.

Nov. 15 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Cooking for Kids" Focuses on the special nutritional needs of growing bodies.

Nov. 18 (PBS) Managing Our Miracles — "Battered Children, Battered Trust" Explores the question of doctor-patient confidentiality in child abuse cases.

Nov. 18 (PBS) Nova — "Is Anyone Out There?" Lily Tomlin hosts this examination of the search for intelligent life in space.

Nov. 20 (PBS) The Living Planet — "Sweet Fresh Water" (R) Travels to several of the world's major rivers, including the Amazon, home of the gigantic Victorian water lily and the flesh-eating piranha.

Nov. 22 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Fat and Its Sidekick, Cholesterol" Palate-pleasing tips on reducing fat and cholesterol intake.

Nov. 23 (PBS) Nature — "Pantanal: Prairie of Great Waters" Examines how unusual South American animals cope with an environment that is a dry savannah for five months and an inland sea for the rest of the year.

Nov. 25 (PBS) Nova — "The Mystery of the Animal Pathfinders" Investigates how different animals navigate over huge territories.

Nov. 27 (PBS) The Living Planet — "Margins of the Land" (R) Explores estuaries and salt marshes, both of which support a myriad of life forms.

Nov. 30 (PBS) Nature — "Death Trap" (R) Can plants eat people? Studies the myths and facts surrounding this question.

Books

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Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems Sourcebook — V. Daniel Hunt. Begins with an introduction to both artificial intelligence and expert systems, followed by an extensive illustrated dictionary of the terminology used in this field. Also includes brief descriptions of software products and vendors and brief biographies of leaders in the field. A detailed bibliography, lists of acronyms and contacts for additional information complete this source book. Chapman & Hall (Methuen), 1986, 315 p., illus., \$34.50.

Machinery of the Mind: Inside the New Science of Artificial Intelligence — George Johnson. Traces for the general reader the history of artificial intelligence (AI) from its beginnings to the state of the art today. Discusses the major challenges of AI and the philosophies of the principal avenues of AI. Describes how a number of AI programs function. Touches on international competition in this field and the concern that the major funding for AI research comes from the U.S. Department of Defense. Times Bks, 1986, 336 p., \$19.95.

Mars: Our Future on the Red Planet — Robert M. Powers. Tells what we have learned about Mars over the years and more recently from the Mariner and Viking projects. Then outlines step by step how we could begin colonizing Mars early in the next century. HM, 1986, 230 p., illus., \$17.95.

Mathematics and Optimal Form — Stefan Hildebrandt and Anthony Tromba. An account of the symmetry and regularity of nature's forms and patterns, especially those that maximize or minimize a particular quantity. Discusses and illustrates examples of this tendency to economize by looking at a wide variety of phenomena, such as soap bubbles, honeycombs, igloos and the nuclei of atoms. Sci Am Bks (W H Freeman), 1986, 215 p., color/b&w illus., \$29.95.

The Medical Implications of Nuclear War — Frederic Solomon and Robert Q. Marston, Eds. Based on papers presented at a symposium organized under the auspices of the Institute of Medicine and held at the National Academy of Sciences, Sept. 20-22, 1985. Provides an overview of the physical and environmental effects of nuclear war; considers the consequences of nuclear war from a standpoint of deaths, injuries and, especially, the health of the survivors; describes the problems of the evaluation and care of the injured survivors. Addresses the question of how the threat of nuclear war affects the attitudes and behavior of adults and children, and offers two contrasting views of the long-term consequences of and prospects for recovery from nuclear war. Natl Acad Pr, 1986, 619 p., illus., \$43.50, paper, \$33.50.

Spiders: Webs, Behavior, and Evolution — William A. Shear, Ed. Articles here examine one aspect of spider behavior — web building and use — and then go on to make an evolutionary analysis of spider webs. For biologists, ethologists, sociobiologists and the scientifically inclined general reader. Stanford U Pr, 1986, 492 p., illus., \$55.