

## 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.

**Dec. 1 (PBS) The Day the Universe Changed — "Fit to Rule"** Examines the evolution of Darwin's theory from its conception to its incorporation into society.

**Dec. 1 (PBS) The Making of a Continent — "The Land of Sleeping Mountains" (R)** Geologic tumult created and now threatens the fragile lands of the North American Great Basin.

**Dec. 1 (PBS) Nova — "Are You Swimming in a Sewer?"** How several major U.S. cities are dealing with harbor pollution.

**Dec. 2 (PBS) Managing Our Miracles — "Final Choices"** Panelists discuss who is responsible for elderly patients who cannot or will not follow medical advice.

**Dec. 3 (PBS) Discover: The World of Science — Human-powered water vehicles,** new stress tests predicting heart attacks, and attempts to solve the mystery of the Inca pyramids highlight this episode.

**Dec. 4 (PBS) The Living Planet: A Portrait of the Earth — "Worlds Apart" (R)** The isolation of island habitats has permitted the development of some unusual life forms, from the kiwi to a 10-foot-long lizard called the Komodo dragon.

**Dec. 6 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Exercise: It's Not a Question of If, But When"** Exercise and nutrition in a healthy lifestyle.

**Dec. 7 (PBS) Nature — "Cats"** Examines the behavior of our feline friends.

**Dec. 8 (PBS) The Day the Universe Changed — "Making Waves"** The development of the electric battery in 1800 led to an astonishing separation between science and the public view of science.

**Dec. 8 (PBS) The Making of a Continent — "The Price of Gold" (R)** Explores how California's geologic evolution enriched the land with gold but at the same time destined the state for catastrophe.

**Dec. 8 (PBS) Nova — "Sail Wars"** A behind-the-scenes look at how a team of designers is attempting to create a sailboat capable of winning back the America's Cup.

**Dec. 11 (PBS) The Living Planet — "The Open Ocean" (R)** Investigates the range of life supported by the ocean, from microscopic plankton to the humpback whale.

**Dec. 13 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "The Fiber Fad"** Examines how fiber helps prevent constipation, colon cancer and hardening of the arteries.

**Dec. 13 (PBS) Newton's Apple —** Discusses alcohol addiction and the physics of a roller coaster.

**Dec. 14 (PBS) Nature — "Leopard: A Darkness in the Grass"** Closely documents the experiences of an elusive female leopard over a two-day period on Africa's plains.

**Dec. 15 (PBS) Nova — "Leprosy Can Be Cured"** Examines why leprosy still afflicts 12 million people worldwide when a cure has been available for 40 years.

**Dec. 15 (PBS) Nuclear Legacy —** Chronicles nuclear history and the problematic disposal of nuclear waste.

**Dec. 18 (PBS) The Living Planet — "New Worlds" (R)** Explores how humans have changed and will continue to change the environment.

**Dec. 20 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Company's Coming"** Discusses safe social drinking in a party setting.

**Dec. 20 (PBS) Newton's Apple —** The difference between juvenile and adult-onset diabetes and the chemistry of ice cream highlight this segment.

**Dec. 21 (PBS) Nature — "Ganges Gharial" (R)** Focuses on the fish-eating gharial crocodile, a rare and endangered native of India.

**Dec. 22 (PBS) Nova — "Farmers of the Sea" (R)** In China, Japan, the United States and Scotland, scientists are attempting to grow food underwater.

**Dec. 27 (PBS) Good Health from Jane Brody's Kitchen — "Health Hype"** Separates fact from fiction on the subject of a healthy diet.

**Dec. 27 (PBS) Newton's Apple —** Takes a look at the body's immune system and at one of nature's best construction engineers, the beaver.

**Dec. 28 (PBS) Nature — "Kingdom of the Ice Bear" (R)** An exploration of the sea creatures of the Arctic.

**Dec. 29 (PBS) Nova — "The Fountains of Paradise" (R)** Describes the impact of an enormous hydroelectric project on the island of Sri Lanka and on its people.

## Books

**Books** is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print please remit retail price, plus \$1.00 handling charge for each book, to **Science News Books**, 1719 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only.

**Bare Bones: Everybody's Inside Out** — David Hawcock. A cardboard skeleton to assemble with scissors and household glue. Step-by-step instructions with illustrations are provided for the construction of the one-meter-tall skeleton. Includes a four-color skeleton poster and a four-page illustrated folder about bones. Facts on File, 1986, illus., \$12.95.

**Computer Languages: A Guide for the Perplexed** — Naomi S. Baron. A nontechnical examination of the theory and linguistic basis for computer languages, explaining what they are, how they evolved and are still evolving, and why it is essential to know about them. Twenty-three individual languages are discussed, examining the development, diverse applications, structure, genealogy and future of each language. Doubleday, 1986, 419 p., \$27.50, paper, \$17.95.

**Mind Benders: Games of Chance** — Ivan Moscovich. The author, creator of the Museum of Science and Technology in Tel Aviv, suggests three different approaches that can be useful in solving puzzles: the logical approach; the "indirect" approach, thinking about a subject in a way never done before; and the visual approach. He then presents four sample games with answers to introduce the reader to the kind of puzzles included here. The solutions to all the puzzles are given. Random, 1986, 64 p., illus., paper, \$4.95.

**Mind Benders: Games of Shape** — Ivan Moscovich. Even the cover is a puzzle in this collection of shape games for the mind. The puzzles are concerned with distinguishing shapes when they have been dissected, the orientation and re-orientation of shapes, comprehending the changes in shapes following specified transformations and visualizing and conceptualizing shapes or patterns from linear information. The solutions are given for all the puzzles. Random, 1986, 64 p., illus., paper, \$4.95.

**The Sickled Cell: From Myths to Molecules** — Stuart J. Edelstein. Sickle cell anemia, which originated in the African tropics, is caused by a genetically transmitted mutation that alters hemoglobin molecules of red blood cells. This book by a leading researcher in the field summarizes what is known about the evolution and the molecular basis of this disease and the research efforts to find an antisickling agent. Explores the historical and cultural roots of sickle cell anemia among several African ethnic groups. The author believes that the natural products used in traditional African medicine may hold the secret to a major advance in treatment. Harvard UPr, 1986, 197 p., illus., \$25.

**Story of W and Z** — Peter Watkins. A firsthand account of, in the author's words, "one of the most exciting scientific searches in modern times," the search for the W and Z particles. The author's intent is to communicate to the interested general reader some of this excitement surrounding the experiment carried out at the CERN laboratory in 1983. A summary of background information on particle physics leads the reader to the early planning for the experiment, and the book ends with a brief review of current ideas and experiments in particle physics. Cambridge UPr, 1986, 240 p., illus., \$44.50, paper, \$13.95.