

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.

Feb. 1 (PBS) Nature — "Secrets of an African Jungle" (R) Korup, one of the last great African tropical rain forests shelters a unique assemblage of wildlife.

Feb. 2 (PBS) Planet Earth — "The Climate Puzzle" (R) Discusses the earth's changing climate including theories about the atmospheric greenhouse effect and a new ice age.

Feb. 3 (PBS) Nova — "Why Planes Crash" Investigates why pilot error is the leading cause of air crashes and whether airlines can better train pilots.

Feb. 4 (PBS) Discover: The World of Science — Looks at robotic hands, a new rabies vaccine for wild animals, and this year's engineering competition to build tug-of-war vehicles at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Feb. 5 (PBS) Wild America — "River of the Bears" Focuses on the summer spawning run by Pacific salmon — a four-week feeding frenzy for North America's largest carnivore.

Feb. 7 (PBS) Bodywatch — "The Savvy Patient" Examines the doctor/patient relationship and offers suggestions to improve communication.

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 (PBS) Newton's Apple — Host Ira Flatow answers science questions from both television viewers and the studio audience on this weekly show.

Feb. 8 (PBS) Nature — "Ichkeul: Between the Desert and the Deep Blue Sea" Travels to a lake in the middle of a Tunisian desert.

Feb. 9 (PBS) Planet Earth — "Tales from Other Worlds" (R) Features pictures of Jupiter, Venus and Io taken from space.



Noel Rowe

Feb. 10 (PBS) Nova — "Orangutans of the Rain Forest" Follows the orangutans of Borneo, which are more like humans in DNA composition than are other apes.

Feb. 11 (PBS) National Geographic Specials — "In the Shadow of Vesuvius" Excavation of ancient Herculaneum is now uncovering what happened during the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79.

Feb. 12 (PBS) Wild America — "Wild Texas" Examines the ecological diversity of Texas, home to at least six dramatically different life zones.

Feb. 14 (PBS) Bodywatch — "The New, Sensible Workout" New studies show that the benefits of fitness can actually be achieved with less exercise.

Feb. 15 (PBS) Nature — "And Then the Rains Came" (R) Investigates how the animals on Kenya's Tsavo plains dealt with one of the worst droughts in memory.

Feb. 16 (PBS) Planet Earth — "Gifts from the Earth" (R) The quest for mineral resources reaches both beneath the sea and into outer space.

Feb. 17 (PBS) Nova — "Freud Under Analysis" Examines Freud's impact on modern society and offers never-before-televized footage of Freud.

Feb. 19 (PBS) Wild America — "A Prairie Park?" Looks at prairie ecosystems and the status of national land preserves.

Feb. 21 (PBS) Bodywatch — "Fat Stuff" Exposes hidden sources of fat in foods and explains the differences between types of fat.

Feb. 22 (PBS) Nature — "See No Evil" Follows the fight to save the endangered macaque, a monkey indigenous to Japan.

Feb. 23 (PBS) Planet Earth — "The Solar Sea" (R) At the North Pole, scientists fly through a supercharged aurora shaped by a violent solar storm.

Feb. 24 (PBS) Nova — "The Hole in the Sky" Follows a hazardous midwinter expedition to Antarctica seeking to determine the reasons behind the opening of a hole in the earth's ozone layer.

Feb. 26 (PBS) Wild America — "The Grouse and Goshawk" Explores the natural balance between the hungry and the hunted, a situation illustrated by these two birds.

Feb. 28 (PBS) Bodywatch — "Well-Concepted" Scrutinizes the latest research on the importance of prenatal care.

Feb. 28 (PBS) Knowzone — "The Dinosaur and the Cosmic Collision" This show, tailored to the 10- to 14-year-old viewer, examines a recent theory concerning the extinction of the dinosaurs.

Books

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Asthma: The Complete Guide to Self-Management of Asthma and Allergies for Patients and Their Families — Allan M. Weinstein. Allergist Weinstein examines and discusses the nature of asthma, the triggers of symptoms, the latest treatments, asthma management measures, asthma in children and pregnancy, adverse environmental influences and emergency and difficult-to-manage conditions. Although this book is referred to as a guide to self-management for asthma sufferers, it is intended to be used only with the consultation of the patient's personal physician. McGraw, 1987, 350 p., illus., \$17.95.

Atlas of Ancient America — Michael Coe, Dean Snow and Elizabeth Benson. This handsomely illustrated book is about the indigenous Americans, both North and South, and the rich variety of cultures they created, from the hunters of Tierra del Fuego in 10,000 B.C. to the splendid and civilized empires of the Aztec and Inca. Facts on File, 1986, 240 p., color illus., \$35.

The Blind Watchmaker — Richard Dawkins. Here biologist Dawkins attempts to convey, according to the preface, the sheer wonder of biological complexity and, having built up the mystery, to remove it by explaining the solution. Explores the various aspects of evolution for the general reader and maintains that the Darwinian view is the only known theory that could, in principle, solve the mystery of our existence. Norton, 1986, 332 p., illus., \$18.95.

Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water — Marc Reisner. The story of the quest to control and allocate the West's most precious resource — water. From the early settlers lured by extravagant claims to John Wesley Powell's advocacy of irrigation projects, to the federal government's entry in the water business to the efforts of Los Angeles to attain water from other areas to sustain its rapid growth. With all the efforts of the various federal and state agencies, the water storage situation has worsened, according to Reisner. He offers the prospect of a bleak future for the West with the disappearance of America's most productive farmland due to the exhaustion of groundwater, the silting up of reservoirs and more and more soil and irrigation water being contaminated by salt. Viking Pr, 1986, 582 p., illus., \$22.95.

The Dinosaur Heresies: New Theories Unlocking the Mystery of the Dinosaurs and their Extinction — Robert T. Bakker. In readable text and striking illustrations, the author paints a revolutionary picture of dinosaurs as dynamic, warm-blooded creatures that ruled the terrestrial ecosystem. No nondinosaur larger than a modern turkey, according to this paleontologist, walked the land during the Age of Dinosaurs, and the dinosaurs kept their commanding position for an extraordinary span of time — 130 million years. Morrow, 1986, 481 p., illus with drawing by the author, \$19.95.

The Encyclopedia of Climatology — John E. Oliver and Rhodes W. Fairbridge, Eds. Covers climatological developments that have evolved over the past 20 years. It includes some 200 articles on a variety of subjects ranging from acid rain to El Niño to wind chill to climatic zones. Van Nos Reinhold, 1987, 986 p., illus., \$89.95.