

## 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.

**Mar. 1 (PBS) Nova**—“**Battles in the War on Cancer**” Looks at the latest research in the fight against breast cancer.

**Mar. 5 (PBS) Bodywatch**—“**Hidden Family Agendas**” Shows how relationships within the family unit can be the cause of, and cure for, the dysfunctional family.

**Mar. 6 (PBS) The Brain**—“**States of Mind**”(R) Explores the science of the brain and looks to its future in medicine and its role in artificial intelligence.

**Mar. 6 (PBS) Nature**—“**Okavango: Jewel of the Kalahari**” Looks at the people who live in the fascinating country of Botswana and the complex changes taking place during its development.

**Mar. 8 (PBS) Nova**—“**The Mystery of the Master Builders**” Travels to some of the world's most beautiful structures, including Notre Dame and St. Paul's Cathedral.

**Mar. 9 (PBS) National Geographic Special**—“**Inside the Soviet Circus**” Examines the circuses of four Soviet cities, which are considered by some the “greatest shows on earth.”



© Pat Lanza Field

**Mar. 9 (PBS) Nova**—“**Seeds of Tomorrow**”(R) Examines the worldwide effort of scientists who use aggressive agricultural technologies to ensure food for the future.

**Mar. 11 (PBS) Nature**—“**Ichkeul: Between the Desert and the Deep Blue Sea**”(R) Travels to a lake in Tunisia that lies in the middle of the desert.

**Mar. 12 (PBS) Bodywatch**—“**The Knowing Nose**”(R) Looks at the crucial role our sense of smell plays in establishing relationships.

**Mar. 16 (PBS) Wild America**—“**Wild Turkey**” Part I Examines the nation's largest game bird and the differences between Eastern and Western varieties.

**Mar. 18 (PBS) Wild America**—“**Wild Turkey**” Part II Shows how game management retained a surplus of this once-threatened species.

**Mar. 19 (PBS) Bodywatch**—“**Sexually Transmitted Disease**” Reviews all forms of sexually transmitted diseases and the latest on treatments, cures and self-help groups.

**Mar. 19 (PBS) Wild America**—“**Snake-dance**” Captures Western diamondback rattlesnakes engaged in the hypnotic “combat dance.”

**Mar. 20 (PBS) Nature**—“**Lord of the Jungle**” Focuses on the behavior of the Asian elephant, whose intelligence and learning ability are matched only by its strength.

**Mar. 21 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater**—“**Treasure Is Trouble**” Looks at the ethics of treasure hunting and examines the frequently blurred distinction between treasure hunting and archaeology.

**Mar. 22 (PBS) Nova**—“**The Man Who Loved Numbers**” Profiles the life of Indian clerk Srinivasa Ramanujan, who in 1913 astonished the dons of Trinity College with his self-taught math skills.

**Mar. 23 (PBS) Survival Specials**—“**The Forbidden Desert of the Danakil**” Features a tribe of Ethiopian nomads who are considered the most hostile people on earth.

**Mar. 26 (PBS) Bodywatch**—“**Doctors Are People, Too**”(R) Discusses doctors under stress and how some associate long workdays, malpractice suits, high patient expectations and family pressures with a high rate of physician burnout.

**Mar. 26 (PBS) Wild America**—“**Managing Wildlife**” Examines the complex but vital process of balancing human interests with those of wild creatures.

**Mar. 27 (PBS) Nature**—“**The Miracle of the Scarlet Salmon**” Follows the sockeye salmon as it traverses whitewater rapids that lead to the Pacific Ocean and its return two years later to spawn at the site of its birth.

**Mar. 28 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater**—“**New Worlds**” Looks at the equipment used in underwater salvage, spanning the invention of the aqualung to the ultra-sophisticated technology of today.

**Mar. 29 (PBS) Nova**—“**Race for the Superconductor**” Follows the race by the United States, Japan and others to find the elusive high-temperature superconductor.

## 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.

**The Armchair Universe: An Exploration of Computer Worlds**—A.K. Dewdney. A collection of Dewdney's columns from *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN* for those interested in computer recreations. Here one can, for example, explore the infinitesimal reaches of the Mandelbrot set, visit the four-dimensional realm of hypercubes or write a simple program that displays successive generations in the life of a cellular automaton. WH Freeman, 1988, 330 p., color/b&w illus., \$19.95, paper, \$13.95.

**Flowers for All Seasons: A Guide to Colorful Trees, Shrubs and Vines**—Jeff and Marilyn Cox. The gardens described and beautifully illustrated here are mixed gardens, where many types of blooming plants are brought together in an artistic arrangement to provide flowers and color throughout the year. This book focuses on the woody perennial flowers—trees, shrubs and vines that form the all-important framework of a garden. Three extensive charts are included to simplify the task of selecting appropriate flowering trees, shrubs and vines for your garden. Rodale Pr, 1987, 312 p., color/b&w illus., \$24.95.

**Games for Math: Playful Ways to Help Your Child Learn Math From Kindergarten to Third Grade**—Peggy Kaye. Games, this teacher/tutor feels, put children in the right frame of mind for learning difficult things. She goes on to say that games can, if properly selected, help children learn almost everything they need to master in elementary math. Games also offer a way for parents to get involved in their children's education. Pantheon, 1987, 236 p., illus., \$17.95, paper, \$8.95.

**Handbook of Chemistry and Physics: 1st Student Edition**—Robert C. Weast, Ed. This edition incorporates essential information specially selected for the needs of students. It provides, according to the preface, certain core information that remains constant or that changes only slightly over an extended period of time. CRC Pr, 1988, 1768 p., paper, \$29.95.

**Natural History of Vacant Lots**—Matthew F. Vessel and Herbert H. Wong. An introduction to the natural history of vacant lots, roadsides, idle future construction sites and playground edges. Sites like these are usually within easy reach of most urban and suburban dwellers and are excellent places, according to the introduction, to learn of the interrelationship of humans to their environment and to gain an appreciation of ecosystems. This book outlines the effects of seasonal changes, discusses how life springs up in these untended areas and points up the interesting adaptations among species as they become established. Describes and illustrates the common organisms that live in vacant lots and similar areas. Offers suggestions for both outdoor field investigations and further study indoors. Although this is the 50th volume in the California Natural History Guide series, much of the information applies to vacant lots across the United States. U of Cal Pr, 1987, 284 p., color/b&w illus., \$22.50.