

## 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.

**Apr. 2 (PBS) Bodywatch** — "Having Babies After 30" Unveils the pros and cons of postponing parenthood.

**Apr. 2 (PBS) Wild America** — "Wild Texas"(R) Looks at the six dramatically different life zones of Texas, which provide homes for a wide variety of creatures.

**Apr. 3 (PBS) Nature** — "Alyeska: The Great Land"(R) Explores how Alaskan plants and animals have evolved to cope with the harsh and unrelenting climate.

**Apr. 4 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater** — "Prehistoric Man" Follows archaeologists as they travel underwater to uncover some of the earliest known human remains.

**Apr. 5 (PBS) Nova** — "Can You Still Get Polio?" Reveals how the polio vaccine is accountable for most new polio cases and examines the controversy surrounding the U.S. vaccine policy.

**Apr. 6 (PBS) The Infinite Voyage** — "Fires of the Mind" Discusses the development of human intelligence and how cells, electrical signals and chemicals make up the awesome and creative human mind.

**Apr. 9 (PBS) Bodywatch** — "Beautiful Dreamers"(R) Looks at the hidden world of dreams and the clues they hold for mental health.

**Apr. 9 (PBS) Wild America** — "A Prairie Park?"(R) Takes an in-depth look at prairie ecosystems and examines the status of national land preserves.

**Apr. 10 (PBS) Nature** — "Baja Lagoon"(R) Examines the great abundance of life in a shallow Baja lagoon.

**Apr. 11 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater** — "The Oldest Shipwrecks in the World" Travels to the Mediterranean Sea, where archaeologists uncover what may be the oldest shipwreck in the world.

**Apr. 12 (PBS) Nova** — "What Einstein Never Knew"(R) Follows the quest of many of the world's finest physicists to devise a grand theory of unification to explain the enigma of the universe.

**Apr. 16 (PBS) Bodywatch** — "Hyperactivity" Explores some of the myths surrounding hyperactivity and takes a close look at treatment, including the controversy surrounding the commonly used stimulant, Ritalin.

**Apr. 16 (PBS) Wild America** — "The Grouse and the Goshawk"(R) Examines the natural balance between the hungry and the hunted, illustrated by two birds — the grouse and the goshawk.

**Apr. 17 (PBS) Nature** — "The Forgotten Garden"(R) Investigates the natural invasion of a well-maintained garden when it is left alone.

**Apr. 18 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater** — "Ships of War" Explores the remains of 17th-century warships that were outfitted with the most advanced technology of their time.

**Apr. 19 (PBS) Nova** — "The Hidden Power of Plants"(R) Follows the urgent efforts to track down new medicines in nature.

**Apr. 20 (PBS) National Geographic Special** — "Mysteries of Mankind" Travels back millions of years and around the world in search of clues to the origins of the human race.

**Apr. 23 (PBS) Bodywatch** — "Mastering Pain" Scrutinizes the latest information on acute and chronic pain and its treatment.

**Apr. 23 (PBS) Wild America** — "Otters of the Adirondacks"(R) Explores every aspect of the river otter's existence in the Eastern mountain wilderness.

**Apr. 24 (PBS) Nature** — "Cowboys, Caimans and Capybaras" Travels to Venezuela and Colombia to follow efforts of ranchers to protect threatened indigenous animals.

**Apr. 25 (PBS) Discoveries Underwater** — "Ships of Trade" Examines the cargo and treasures of two trade ships and reveals the clues they hold to the richness of life in the 17th century.

**Apr. 26 (PBS) The Journey Back — Surviving Coma** Looks at the lives of three coma victims and discusses the medical, legal and ethical issues in the efforts to care for victims of severe head injuries.

**Apr. 26 (PBS) Nova** — "How Good is Soviet Science?" Travels to the Soviet Union for a look at Soviet science and technology today, as well as an overview of the relationship between Soviet political policy and scientific progress.

**Apr. 30 (PBS) Bodywatch** — "Eating for Fitness" Focuses on athletes' eating patterns and what can be learned from their nutritional habits.

**Apr. 30 (PBS) Wild America** — "Growing Up Wild"(R) Shows the parallels between the upbringing of wild animals and human children.

## 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.

**Blue Corn & Square Tomatoes: Unusual Facts about Common Vegetables** — Rebecca Rupp. The first carrots, botanist believe, came from Afghanistan and were purple. Through artificial hybridization, researchers have developed a square tomato best suited for packing and shipping. Processed corn in various forms is found in such products as cardboard, crayons, fireworks, aspirin, shoe polish, instant tea, surgical dressings and soap. These are but a few of the fascinating facts included in this book about 20 garden vegetables. Traces the origin of scientific and common names, gives the history and life story of each vegetable, tells of its nutritional value and includes some unusual recipes. Storey Comm Inc, 1987, 222 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.

**Inventors at Work: Interviews with 16 Notable American Inventors** — Kenneth A. Brown. "Inventors," says the introduction, "seem to have an intuitive feel for science and technology . . . inventors are continually creating and discovering. [They] seem more ready to explore the unconventional or unusual." Among the inventors interviewed here are Jacob Rabinow, holder of more than 220 patents; Paul MacCreedy, inventor of the Gossamer Condor, who made human-powered flight a reality, and Steve Wozniak, who developed Apple computers. Microsoft Pr, 1988, 388 p., illus., \$17.95, paper, \$9.95.

**Invisible Frontiers: The Race to Synthesize a Human Gene** — Stephen S. Hall. The fascinating story of the three groups — one at Harvard, one at the University of California at San Francisco and one at City of Hope Hospital in Los Angeles — that worked on the synthesis of the first human gene, the insulin gene. Tells of the formation of the early biotechnology companies and the involvement of the pharmaceutical industry in this research. Atlantic Monthly, 1987, 334 p., \$19.95.

**Mind Matters: How Mind and Brain Interact to Create Our Conscious Lives** — Michael S. Gazzaniga. A summary for the general reader of what is current in brain research, by a leading U.S. neuroscientist. Begins by outlining brain mechanisms. Goes on to explore mind states and how they interact with brain states, spelling out the implications for a variety of mental states, such as pain, depression, addiction, love and stress. Other topics discussed include memory and thinking after age 40, intelligence, schizophrenia, obsessions and compulsions, and healing. Includes an annotated bibliography. HM, 1988, 255 p., \$17.95.

**Plants from the Past** — David Stuart and James Sutherland. Describes the flowers grown in earlier ages, the "antiques" of the garden. Many of these varieties still survive; however, many are in danger of extinction. Gives the histories of some of the most attractive of these herbaceous flowers, bulbs and annuals. For those who wish to create a period garden, contemporary illustrations are included, along with information on how plants were used in different periods. Gives suggestions for further reading as well as a listing of nurseries, both English and American, that deal in "plants from the past." Viking Pr, 1988, 255 p., color/b&w illus., \$24.95.