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Out of cod, Canada tells fishers "kill seals"

ST. JOHNS, Newfoundland—Blaming harp seals for a 99% decline in the mass of spawning cod off the Atlantic coast of Newfoundland, Canadian Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin on December 18 moved to appease out-of-work cod fishers in his home province by expanding the 1996 seal killing quota to 250,000—actually higher than many annual quotas during the peak years of the seal hunt in the 1970s and early 1980s.

In effect resuming the all-out seal massacres that prompted international protest until clubbing newborn whitecoats and hunting seals from large vessels was suspended in 1983, Tobin also pledged to maintain a bounty of about 15¢ U.S. per pound for each dead seal landed, and said he would encourage the revived use of large vessels to help sealers attack seal breeding colonies on offshore ice floes.

The prohibition on killing whitecoats remains in effect, but only means young seals will be killed not as newborns but as two-week-old beaters, just beginning to molt and crawl.

Tobin's announcement came two months after Tobin and the fisheries ministers for the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russia, and a representative from Greenland, agreed on a joint plan to promote sealing—and one month after international newswires circulated an unconfirmed report that Canada was close to striking a deal to sell up to 250,000 seal carcasses a year to an Asian buyer. The Canadian government has been severely embar-

rassed by an International Fund for Animal Welfare campaign worldwide to expose the lack of market demand for seal products. A report on seal marketing strategy commissioned by the Canadian government, published in November 1994, confirmed that more than half of seal product income is derived from the sale of penises to the Asian aphrodisiac trade. At that, the average price paid to sealers for seal penises is only \$20 to \$26. The report found no viable markets for seal meat, oil, or fur.

Lack of sales opportunities helped hold the official 1995 Atlantic Canada sealing toll to just 67,000, of a quota of 186,000.

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ANIMAL

News For People Who

PEOPLE

Care About Animals

Federal grand jury indicts top veal feeder

ILLEGAL DRUG MAY HAVE TAINTED MEAT

MILWAUKEE—In the first of an expected series of indictments striking at the brain trust and bankroll of the crate-raised veal and milk-fed spring lamb industries, a federal grand jury empaneled in Milwaukee on December 6 charged the Vitek Supply Corporation, Vitek president Jannes Doppenberg, and Vitek office manager Sherry Steffen with 12 counts of conspiracy, smuggling unapproved drugs into the U.S., and illegally adding the drugs to feed mixtures sold to veal and lamb producers throughout the country.

A prepared statement from U.S. Attorney Thomas P. Schneider said, "It is alleged in the indictment that the unapproved drugs were shipped to feed companies and growers in Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Illinois. Over 1.7 million pounds of Vitek product containing unapproved drugs, valued at over \$1.3 million dollars, were sold by Vitek between 1988 and April 1994."

Three drugs were involved, explained Schneider. Clenbuterol, a banned but still popular synthetic steroid growth enhancer, has also been at the center of recent livestock show and horseracing scandals. "Clenbuterol has been associated with the acute poisoning of humans who consumed meat from clenbuterol-fed animals," Schneider said. In Spain, clenbuterol tainting of veal and calf's liver caused 135 people to be hospitalized in 1990, and another 140 people suffered dizziness, heart palpitations, breathing difficulty, shakes, and headaches from a similar incident in February 1994.

The second unapproved drug, Avoparcine, is "an antibiotic, which through uncontrolled use, may result in strains of bacteria resistant to other antibiotics," according to Schneider.

The third drug, actually a drug family, includes Furaltadone, furazolidona, and nitrofurazone, "all members of a class of compounds referred to as nitrofurans," Schneider said. "Though previously approved, since January of 1992, all three drugs have been unapproved due to substantial evidence that they are carcinogenic.

The indictments are a milestone for the San Francisco-based Humane Farming Association and HFA chief investigator Gail

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INSIDE

The King & Duke

*NIH says probe
human link to
mad cow disease*

Racehorses on a PMU line?

WHAT THE POLLS TELL US

Working with elephants

Steve Hindi and Dan Green: the Flying CHARC Squadron.

The Wright stuff

REND LAKE, Illinois—Chicago Animal Rights Coalition president Steve Hindi, a licensed pilot, on December 16 startled the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, hunters culling deer at the Rend Lake Wildlife Refuge, and fellow protesters by soaring up in a paraglider to videotape the action from above—as deer fled from the sound of the aircraft, away from the hunters.

"This is going to change everything," Hindi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "Air power revolutionized warfare, and it's going to revolutionize protest. No longer can the DNR and the hunters hide anything from us."

Hindi's flight was brief, due to technical problems with the brand-new equipment. By the time repairs were made, the wind had become too strong to attempt further flights. However, Hindi said, CHARC expects to have two paragliders in the air over future major events, each able to stay aloft for two hours at a time. The only significant problem, he reported, is that he's put so

much time into developing the CHARC remote video and airborne capabilities that fundraising has lagged. National activist groups make extensive use of the CHARC videos, but none have funded the equipment acquisitions. [Support for CHARC may be addressed to POB 66, Yorkville, IL 60560.]

Ironically, the Rend Lake protest was backed by deer hunters who believed the cull was unethical. "I couldn't believe how well we were treated by most of the local hunters," Hindi said. Local hunters and activists joined on the night of December 14-15 to drive hundreds of deer out of the Rend Lake refuge before the cull hunters were allowed in. Noise grenades set off by alarm clocks kept the deer from returning to the refuge during the three-day hunt. In consequence, Hindi said, the cull hunters killed only eight or nine deer total, compared with an expected bag of 12-plus deer per day.

"It was a complete defeat for the DNR," Hindi said.

Editorial

The King, the Duke, and who gets the money

North Shore Animal League president John Stevenson spends more money on animal sheltering, neutering, and adoption promotion than anyone else ever. He spends more, too, to help other animal shelters, through North Shore's Pet Savers Foundation subsidiary. To support \$33 million a year in animal rescue work, Stevenson further spends \$10 million on fundraising—more than any other hands-on animal care organization.

Stevenson strongly favors donor accountability and strict public oversight of fundraising, to ensure that charities do the work they claim to be doing. The North Shore and Pet Savers IRS Form 990 filings are among the most detailed of the many we monitor. But, as a nationally respected expert on nonprofit law long before assuming his present post, who spends much commuting time contemplating how to make charities in general more honest, Stevenson admits to being perplexed by donor attitudes. The most important number in the annual **ANIMAL PEOPLE** charts on animal protection spending, he believes, should be not the percentage of receipts an organization spends to raise more money, but rather the amount of money actually spent to fulfill charitable purposes.

"What does it matter to donors how much we spend on fundraising," he asks, "if we can put another million dollars into it and get back two or three million extra to spend on programs? Even if there is a diminishing rate of returns on additional fundraising expenditure, above a certain level, if your programs are effective, shouldn't you be spending as much as you can to advance them?"

Massachusetts SPCA vice president Carter Luke asked a similar question several years ago concerning salaries—in essence, paraphrased, "If we do the job people give us money to do, who cares how much anyone gets paid?"

From the perspective of nonprofit organization heads, spending more money to make money only makes sense. Paying people well to get the job done, at least as the organization perceives the job, may also make sense.

But for six years now, donors have responded to our annual publication of the budgets, assets, and salaries paid by leading animal protection groups with shocked outrage. "I need to know which executives are getting the money I contribute," writes Camilla Adler of Bronxville, New York, speaking for many, "and I need to know more."

It may be that the organizations spending the most on fundraising are able to spend more on programs, though unlike North Shore many do not, and it may be that some highly paid executives justify their salaries, in business terms, by raising more money than anyone else. Business as usual, however, is not what donors expect of charities, which are granted tax exemptions because, presumably, they operate free of self-interest for the public good.

The operative phrase here is not "for the public good," but "free of self-interest." Many and perhaps most people working in for-profit businesses also work essentially for the public good, albeit motivated by self-interest: the builder, the baker, the tofu maker, the doctor, the lawyer, and the chief executives of the corporations providing our food, clothing, and shelter. Providers of information, transportation, health care, and entertainment include a mix of nonprofit and for-profit institutions, often differing from each other only in the degree to which they can attract self-interested investors. Non-profit organizations enjoy special privileges in our tax code not because they uniquely do socially beneficial work, but because they purport to do work from altruistic motives that would otherwise not be done.

When donors contribute to a nonprofit organization, they expect to see altruism in

The obtuseness of some groups in steadfastly promoting punitive enforcement instead of incentives for compliance seems otherwise difficult to explain. Certainly the belligerent anti-ESA attitude of much of the present Congress has boosted environmental fundraising out of the prolonged funk that followed Earth Day 1990.

- Are some self-proclaimed humane advocacy groups knowingly promoting policies

that perpetuate pet overpopulation, to keep themselves in business? Judging by the peeved response of certain organizations to early neutering, low-cost neutering, mobile clinics, high-volume adoption, off-premise adoptions, neuter/release, breed rescue, feral cat rescue, and the no-kill initiatives of the North Shore Animal League and San Francisco SPCA, continuing years after each tactic has proved itself, and considering those same perpetually nay-saying organizations' emphasis on fundraising, it is hard not to wonder.

Finally, when nonprofit institutions seem to act from self-interest more than altruism, altruists are more easily inspired to form their own institutions—and so are the self-interested, attracted by the prospect of tax-exempt easy money. While the altruists struggle to do a lot with little, fundraising according to need, the self-interested just raise funds fulltime, diverting out of the cause an ever increasing share of the donated resources.

As Mark Twain allegorically predicted in *Huckleberry Finn* (1884), which appeared at about the same time as organized philanthropy, would-be Kings and Dukes with bogus hard-luck stories steal aid from widows, orphans, victims of injustice (Jim) and abused children (Huck himself), as well as from animals, the favorite cause of the mother of Twain's real-life model for Huck (the son of a freed slave whom Twain remembered in his 1874 sketch *Sociable Jimmy*). The frauds reassure any who recognize falsehood that their lies told are told, after all, in the interest of encouraging the soul-redeeming faith of the defrauded victims.

When the self-proclaimed Humane Society of the United States can raise funds for 41 years without ever either sharing the wealth with or being accountable to the hands-on humane societies that many donors think HSUS represents, when the so-called American SPCA can do nationwide solicitation while doing no sheltering and little cruelty investigation outside of New York City, and when the equally self-designated National Humane Education Society's educational efforts consist almost entirely of flyers tucked in with direct-mail fundraising appeals, what ethical standard is to discourage an Ann Fields of Love and Care for God's Animalife from not fulfilling her own real and implied promises to donors? When the chief executive of HSUS receives a salary and perquisites comparable to those of the President of the United States, what mores tell an Ann Fields that she isn't to divert donations to enjoy comparable luxury?

Mark Twain saw to it that through Huck's intercession, the King and the Duke were tarred, feathered, and ridden out of town on a rail, while their victims were at least partially recompensed. Ann Fields died at age 49 of a heart attack, perhaps brought on by her own self-indulgence—but her victims won't recover one cent, and her family may continue the questionable practices. We've meanwhile heard from several one-time major donors to Fields who are themselves now indigent, after having given Love and Care and other animal-related non-profits hundreds of thousands of dollars.

How you get cheated

action. If they see self-interest instead, if they see business as usual, they have every reason to begin thinking of nonprofit institutions as businesses like any other, to stop sending gifts and making bequests, and to start demanding the repeal of tax exemptions. Donors also have every reason to become cynical. We're now often hearing two questions that once seemed unthinkable—and we're hearing them from longtime stalwarts of animal causes:

- Did major environmental groups actually encourage conflicts leading to the possibility the Endangered Species Act might be dismantled just to have a good fundraising issue?

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Gullible donors are certainly responsible for much misdirection of funding. But that is not to say such donors deserve blame. Donors understandably like to believe there is a care-for-life haven somewhere looking after all homeless animals—and like to believe it so much that many don't ask hard questions. Donors equally understandably like to believe there are simple solutions to complex problems. And donors, fortunately for legitimate charities and the beings they help, like to respond to a sob story by writing a check and feeling better.

Donors are by nature kindly people, who mean well and have difficulty believing that others who claim to feel as they do may be scheming crooks. Many have great difficulty even looking at pictures or written accounts of suffering. They just flip over the form letter, give the amount the "love card" asks for, and rush the check off, hoping to end the misery or at least get it out of their minds.

Of course that isn't what happens. The more checks the donor mails, and the more promptly in response to solicitations, the more solicitations arrive. The donor advances to the "frequent donor" and "high donor" lists: the prime targets. Pitches become more sophisticated. Telemarketing requests join direct mail. On average, about two-thirds of a donation made in response to direct mail actually goes toward programs, but typically only one third of donations to telemarketing go into actual charitable work. The rest finances even more fundraising.

Because there is an inherent upper limit to donors' ability to give, the total amount of money received by charities in a particular field tends to rise to a ceiling and then holds even. Thereafter, charities fight ever harder for shares of that relatively fixed amount. The ceiling in animal protection, in inflation-adjusted dollars, year after year, comes to between 0.9% and 1.1% of all U.S. charitable contributions. Organizations that don't aggressively compete for a share tend to be starved out, rewarding aggressive solicitors at the expense of those who solicit according to need. Over the past six years we've seen several one-time major national animal protection charities virtually disappear, through a variety of circumstances that disrupted fundraising for a year or two, while the gap in wealth between established charities that fundraise as necessary and those of equal age that fundraise at maximum capacity has more than doubled.

The most encouraging sign for the future of animal charity is recent growth in incorporations of local and special-focus groups, mostly engaged in the hands-on work that the majority of nationals long since abandoned as unprofitable—in disregard of their implicit mandate to do what is unprofitable, if they are to be tax-exempt. If local and special-focus groups only compete with each other for funding, of course, the poor will continue to struggle as the rich get richer; but if they compete successfully for the funding that ineffective and wasteful nationals currently suck out of their respective communities, much more can be done with the limited donor dollars.

First, though, donors must learn to give with deliberation. Compile a list of which charities you support from a year's worth of bank records, and tally up how much you've given to each. Most animal protection donors we know who have undertaken this exercise have been shocked to see how far their actual patterns of giving are from their intentions. Most find themselves unwittingly rewarding those who send the most frequent solicitations with by far the most money, even if all the individual gifts are small. Most are also surprised to find out how much money they are giving—and how little of the total actually goes to the charities they most like. Often donors tell us that the mere exercise of listing their donations inspires resolve to change their donation patterns, because they have discovered for themselves how certain organizations' appeals deceive them.

Whatever your animal protection goals, your beliefs about tactics, and your philosophy about how humans and animals should relate, you can only help the cause by tempering impulsive generosity with deliberation. Be generous; give more if you can; but make sure you're truly rewarding the conduct you wish to encourage.

Letters

Who gets the money?

At last! The issue I've been waiting for! Too bad I didn't have this at my fingertips when I was sending all my waitressing tips from two long shifts at a restaurant in Seattle and another in Bellevue to fat steak-eating businessmen who ran animal protection groups to get fatter on, while I starved. Then in the later years I was one who fell for those direct mail appeals—until I saw some of the big groups actually claiming victory and responsibility for a march, demo, event, etcetera, which I had organized with local grassroots animal rights activists or some small hardworking group like the Animal Crusaders, run by three literal little old ladies and a handful of radical students I'd recruited by my own tabling and conversations.

The ultimate slap in the face came when I put on a fundraiser for the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society at Pier 10 circa 1981. The major humane society in the area decided they could not help in any way due to their own local projects and priorities. They wouldn't even commit to sending a couple of volunteers down to shuttle crew members to a local laundromat or to do some laundry for the small Sea Shepherd staff. When I asked for volunteers at the fundraiser or an endorsement, I was told by the whole board that the Sea Shepherds would be gone in a few weeks, so they had to look out for what was here, and would remain here—their group, their projects. Fine. That made sense to me. Then, in their five-year report, 1980-1985, they listed the event, which they practically boycotted, as one of the huge successes they put on to "help the marine mammal group." So I learned the hard lesson of doing the work and letting the big groups capitalize from it.

Further lessons were learned from getting ripped off by people who work you to death and drop out of sight. More rude awakenings. But enough sour grapes. The purpose of this note is to finally get some money off to you with a photo of two of your most loyal readers—but I'm asking to get a bulk box in return of your December edition to help protect people from the financial drain and disappointment I've had to endure since the mid-1960s.

Thank Goddess for the Watchdog! You've done your most positive work to benefit the innocent who trust that people and groups are what they present themselves to be.

—Marcia Pearson
Burton, Washington

Pearson, then a fashion model, was among the coordinators of the March 1979 week of antifur protests in New York City, led by Ethel Thurston of Beauty Without Cruelty, which furriers bitterly recall as the beginning of antifur movement media success.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

thanks you for your generous support:

Honoring the parable of the widow's mite, we do not list our donors by how much they give—but we do appreciate generous gifts that help us do more.

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Henry Spira

Letters

Says whalers are humanitarians

In your December issue, I am identified as working for Zimbabwe Trust, and am quoted as saying that I have been instructed "To gather any and all information I can that may be used to discredit the Humane Society of the U.S."

Actually, I am currently employed by an affiliate of Zimbabwe Trust, the Africa Resources Trust, but this is a very new assignment, and I wish to clarify that my investigation of HSUS was not on behalf of the Africa Resources Trust (or Zimbabwe Trust, as your article implies.) In fact, I explicitly declined in our communications to identify the source of funding for my investigation of HSUS.

I further wish to comment on your statement that "Ward readily admitted interests directly opposed to those of the humane movement, having previously worked for a decade for the Japanese whaling industry." I do so not out of personal vanity, but because I am concerned that the suggestion I am opposed to the humane treatment of animals may cause my new employer to be seen in an unfair light. I actually worked for about five years in public relations for the Tokyo-based Institute of Cetacean Research, the nonprofit semi-governmental organization responsible for, among other things, conducting a controversial research program involving the lethal take of minke whale samples. At the time I joined the Institute, the wrangle between pro-and-anti-whaling forces was still involved with scientific issues, not the ethical arguments which have now largely superceded them. It was my function merely to assure that the public were supplied with accurate scientific information to compare with the sensationalist quasi-science being fed to them by, in particular, Greenpeace. It is not in the remit of the institute to research more humane ways of killing whales, though certainly some work has been done in this area secondary to the main purpose of providing data on population parameters to the International Whaling Commission.

As for the conflict between pro-whaling forces and the humane movement, you are perhaps aware that whaling interests, in particular Norway and the Faroe Islands, have been making great efforts to reduce times to death for whales, and if truly humane organizations are still not happy, this should be a question of degree. There is, however, a direct conflict between whalers and the animal rights movement, and if you wish to characterise me in any way, I prefer it to be "Ward readily admitted interests directly opposed to those of the animal rights movement."

If I may take the liberty of characterizing myself, it would be as a conservationist with a profound interest in bringing honesty to

Animal Welfare Act

75%

I just got a mailing which reproduced your October article entitled "Is it time for Helen Jones of ISAR to retire?" I was sorry to find that the article included the highly inaccurate statement that, "Jones and the National Catholic Society for Animal Welfare were instrumental in securing passage of the 1966 Laboratory Animal Welfare Act, forerunner of today's Animal Welfare Act."

Helen Jones was strongly opposed to the bill that became the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act. She led a picket line in front of the White House in an attempt to prevent its enactment. This was, indeed, the first protest I know of at the White House relating to animal protective legislation, but the protest was against, not for, the first federal bill on laboratory animal welfare.

—Christine Stevens
President
Animal Welfare Institute
Washington, D.C.

—K.B.

Wild horse story

Your November article on wild horses leaves the impression that the betrayal of these tragic animals by the Bureau of Land Management has been at the hands of a few renegades. The truth is that along with western ranchers and their friends in Congress, the BLM has always been an enemy of the wild horses. This is graphically revealed in an article by Nancy Whitaker in the fall 1995 issue of *Mainstream*, the Animal Protection Institute's magazine. In reference to Cy Jamison, the new BLM boss, she says, "He convened an advisory board to develop a monitoring program, then without them wrote a Strategic Plan for the Management of Wild Horses. This Strategic Plan manipulates field data in such a way that not only do wild horses always take the reduction in numbers, but also the 1964-1965 forage allocation gets carried over another decade on the 10-year permits being issued in 1994-1995. The Strategic Plan is purposely designed to destroy the harem bands and do as much damage to the integrity of wild horses as possible." The BLM top man can hardly be described as a renegade! Wild horses need to be protected from the BLM itself.

—Greta Bunting
St. Petersburg, Florida

The Editor replies:

Cy Jamison was a 1981 Ronald Reagan administration appointee and a 1990 George Bush administration appointee, who hasn't held a BLM executive job since January 1993. The present head of the BLM is Mike Dombeck. And the BLM wild horse program is not budgeted in current versions of the Interior Department budget bill. Wild horses have been protected from the BLM, all right. Now who's going to protect them at all?

Setting the floor for horse haulers

the debate over what constitutes good conservation, while striving to accommodate the wishes of the humane movement and counter the wish of extreme animal rightists to halt all use of animals. I may also add that I used to spend my summer vacations working in an animal shelter, and am a strong supporter of the humane treatment of animals—as indeed are all of the whalers I have met over the years.

And to summarize as briefly as I can the interest of the conservation community in HSUS, it is that HSUS is considered by many parties to be making a negative contribution, and indeed is seen as actively trying to undermine sound conservation efforts in the name of animal welfare, but with a hidden animal rights agenda.

—Simon Ward
Africa Resources Trust
Epsom, England

ANIMAL PEOPLE finds much of the above fascinatingly surreal.

Touching base

It's time for me to touch base. Reading **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has opened my eyes to a lot of behind-the-scenes information regarding abuse of funds in the animal groups. What's this I read about Helen Jones of the International Society for Animal Rights being an alcoholic and this Dave Sickles? Then there is this disagreement between Farm Sanctuary and the Humane Farming Association over California's Downed Animal Bill.

So far I haven't read any bad reports on the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Thank goodness for that, because I am a supporter.

Do you have investigators who check out these groups and have witnesses who come to you with these incidents? So far I have been putting my faith in your newspaper because it acts as a guide for what direction I should go. Right now your paper is the only guidance I have to help me get the information I need.

Are there a lot of other horror stories out there?

—Jennifer E. Holmes
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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—K.B.

Noah

I was reading the paper the other day and came across the information that the first person in the Bible to drink wine and the first drunkard was Noah. I now understand why so many people who deal directly with animals are considered drunkards. Perhaps this comes with the territory. God must understand that after shoveling animal poop eight hours a day, it is okay to have a few beers. The next time someone calls me a drunkard, I am going to explain that I am following in the tradition of the greatest animal keeper ever known.

—Stephen Rene Tello
Primarily Primates
San Antonio, Texas

Thank you for giving S 1283/HR 2433, the Safe Commercial Transportation of Horses for Slaughter Act, the attention it deserves.

One comment. Under the six amendments we require to reform this bill, you imply that horses should not be hauled in double-decked vehicles because they defecate and urinate on one another. Actually, horses should not be hauled in double-decked vehicles first because the center of balance of a horse is two feet higher than that of cattle, and double-decked cattle trucks were not designed, built, or safety-tested for horses. Therefore, they are top-heavy and a public safety hazard. As one trucker told me, "Thank God I've never been pulled over, because I'd flip for sure."

Second, requiring that equine transport vehicles be one level will automatically eliminate the use of double-decked cattle trucks.

If we are going to regulate the commercial transport of horses, whether to slaughter or the Kentucky Derby, we should require them to be transported in vehicles designed, built, and safety-tested for horses.

—Cathleen Doyle
The California Equine Council
Studio City, California

S.F. SPCA (Jan/Feb, March, April reserved, not yet paid)

OBSCENE SALARIES

Recent articles in *Animal People* and *Vegetarian Times* revealed outrageous salaries and perks at HSUS and other groups collecting funds to help animals.

Boards of Directors should be made accountable for this greed.
Suggestions welcome.
Send stamped, self-addressed envelope for networking and action.
Pro bono attorney needed.

OBSCENE SALARY WATCH
POB 168, Gualala, CA 95445

VITEK, DOPPENBERG BUSTS STRIKE AT CORE OF VEAL INDUSTRY (from page 1)

Eisnitz, who found out about the illegal use of clenbuterol in the veal industry in early 1994, and has been working to expose it ever since.

Biggest drug case

"This is the livestock industry's largest illegal drug case ever," Eisnitz told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "It only confirms what we've been saying all along: that the illegal use of powerful and potentially deadly drugs is endemic within the veal industry."

Clenbuterol is used to make confined calves and lambs gain muscle mass even though they get no exercise. Strong antibiotics are used to try to curb the chronic inflections and diarrhea that afflict calves and lambs who never go outside and may not even get colostrum from their mothers' milk.

The real significance of the December 6 indictments is that Vitek and Doppenberg are not only important figures within the veal business, they're part of the interlocking chain of companies that forms the central part of the vealing infrastructure.

Search warrants executed in connection with the case in September 1994 establish a direct business relationship between Doppenberg and Aat Groenveldt, the Dutch immigrant who founded the Provimi veal empire in 1962, introduced the use of the veal crate to North America, and created a market for "milk-fed spring lamb," starting

slightly later in the 1960s.

Groenveldt today is not only president of Provimi, but also vice president of Pricor Inc., the Dutch-based veterinary pharmaceuticals firm of which Vitek is a subsidiary. The September 1994 search warrants place Groenveldt, Doppenberg, Pricor president Gerard Hoogendijk, and other influential people in the veal industry together during high-level meetings at which the use of clenbuterol was allegedly discussed.

Various federal law enforcement agencies already had a considerable amount of evidence linking clenbuterol to veal and lamb feed when Eisnitz was tipped off that no one seemed to be bringing it together. Kansas lamb grower Stephen Beal was allegedly introduced to the illegal use of clenbuterol through Doppenberg in late 1988, while a partner of Hoogendijk and Groenveldt under the business name Provi-Lean. He reported the matter to the Food and Drug administration in August 1989, but there was apparently little serious investigation before February 1994, when U.S. Customs traced illegal veterinary drug imports to Vitek.

HFA shines spotlight

The probe gained priority after Eisnitz was alerted by a friend who works for the USDA that it would take exposure and public pressure to insure that the government followed up the implications of the evidence.

Over the next year, Eisnitz criss-crossed the nation, picking up, copying, and distributing affidavits and search warrants.

"First we uncovered and documented the federal investigation and exposed this international scandal in the media," she said. "Then we gathered our own concrete evidence of widespread clenbuterol use, which we turned over to federal authorities in Milwaukee. Then we mobilized support, generating thousands and thousands of letters to Attorney General Janet Reno's office, demanding that Clenbuterol smugglers and distributors be prosecuted like the drug king pins they are."

Transactions recorded in the indictment issued December 6 indicate the scale of the Vitek operations involving illegal drugs. Eight times between August 5, 1988, and February 16, 1989, or slightly more often than once a month, Vitek imported anywhere from 75 to 600 kilograms of substances containing clenbuterol. Outgoing product covered by the indictment includes 454 tons of feed containing clenbuterol, worth \$434,784. The total volume of unapproved and/or misbranded animal drugs identified as having been sold by Vitek comes to 866 tons, worth \$1.3 million.

"If convicted," said Schneider, "Vitek faces fines up to \$500,000 on each of six counts, and fines up to \$10,000 on each of five counts. Both Doppenberg and Steffen

face up to five years incarceration, a \$25,000 fine, or both, if convicted of the conspiracy alleged in count one of the indictment. The smuggling-related offenses charged in counts two through six each carry up to five years incarceration, a \$250,000 fine, or both." Additional counts could add as much as three years incarceration and a fine of \$10,000 per conviction.

Collapse of industry?

"What we are witnessing," predicted HFA national director Bradley Miller, "is the collapse of the veal industry, an industry that as far as we are concerned, more closely resembles a criminal enterprise than it does an agricultural commodity group. The veal industry's disregard for animal suffering is only surpassed by its disregard for the health and safety of consumers."

"The December indictments mark the beginning of the end for the anemic veal industry," Eisnitz agreed, anticipating that the ripple of public attention to the case thus far will build into a wave of concern among consumers as more indictments are issued and high-profile convictions are secured.

"While the recent indictments represent a significant development," Eisnitz predicted, "they are just the tip of the iceberg in regard to the veal industry's use of clenbuterol and other toxic drugs."

Vealers under scrutiny in Europe, too

BRUSSELS—Concerned about the use of illegal growth hormones in livestock generally, and increasingly aware, as well,

HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION one-time

of animal welfare issues, the European Union moved recently to address both issues.

EU Farm Commissioner Franz Fischler on November 29 convened a three-day conference to review the EU rules on the use of illegal meat growth hormones. On the one hand, there is strong sentiment for maintaining stiff standards and cracking down on a "hormone Mafia" whose activity last year included the assassination on the job of Belgian animal health inspector Karrel Van Knoppen.

On the other hand, the U.S. government, which permits the use of certain steroids to enhance livestock growth, has threatened to make a formal complaint to the World Trade Organization in Geneva if the longstanding EU ban on imports of all hormone-treated meat is not amended to give U.S. farmers access to European markets.

Even EU representatives who favor freer rules on imports of hormone-treated meat are concerned that any move to allow hormone-treated meat to move freely could permit the "hormone Mafia" to operate with greater latitude, under the cover of the legal trade.

European Consumers Organization food officer Kees de Winter urged the EU to stand firm. "Consumers do not want artificial substances to be used in agricultural production if they are not necessary or if they do not offer any benefits to consumers," he said. "The fact is that the use of hormones in meat provides no benefit for consumers."

Phase out veal crates

On December 15, meanwhile, the European Commission, the executive body for the EU, adopted a report calling for the phase-out of individual veal crates by no later than 2008, and arguing that calves should be given a balanced diet.

The report wasn't actually due for another two years, but was issued early as result of pressure from Britain, Germany, Denmark, Austria, and Sweden. The major veal-producing nations, notably France, the Netherlands, and Italy, are expected to resist any move to actually ban veal crating.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH & TESTING

The December edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE had just hit the mail, reporting that University of Washington Regional Primate Research Center acting director Dr. William Morton had declined to comment on a series of leaked reports about animal care problems, when Morton and staff faxed us confirmation of most of the material—delayed to coincide with official announcements. As reported, the Washington RPRC in October agreed to a \$20,000 civil penalty for alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act contributing to the accidental deaths of exposure of five baboons; half will be spent for facilities improvements and repairs, environmental enrichment, and employee training. Also as reported, the Washington RPRC this summer will begin transferring 80% of its macaque breeding colony, 700 to 800 animals in all, from the Primate Field Station at Medical Lake, near Spokane, to the Tulane University RPRC in Covington, Louisiana. The Medical Lake facility is to be closed within two to three years, replaced by a new facility planned for a site on Department of Defense land at Fort Lewis, near Tacoma. But a report that a Washington RPRC researcher had been disciplined for performing terminal experiments on primates without Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval was false. In fact, veterinary pathologist Dr. Che-Chung Tsai was cleared of allegations that he misrepresented the toxicity of the potential AIDS drug PMEA in three scientific publications.

Four frostbitten, hungry three-month-old male piglets, found under rubble nine days later, were the sole survivors of a December 20 fire that leveled the University of Wisconsin-Madison's 11-year-old state-of-the-art Swine Research Center. Among the 700 dead pigs were three herds bred for use in studies of organ transplants, nutrition, and bone development. The property loss was put at \$5.3 million. At deadline there was still no clear indication of cause.

Newly released British government statistics on animal use in British laboratories during 1994 show that, "A total of 2.8 million scientific procedures were started, lower than in any other year since the late 1950s, except for 1993. As in 1991 there was a small increase in procedures of about 0.5%, halting the downward trend which has prevailed since the mid-1970s. As in 1993, commercial concerns carried out just over half of the procedures, and about four-fifths of all procedures were performed on mice and rats." Biomedical research accounts for 69% of animal use; product safety testing accounted for about 20%. Toxicity testing accounted for approximately three-fourths of the product safety testing. "Just over a third of all procedures used anaesthesia for all or part of the procedure." The balance of animal use occurred in the production of biological material, e.g. the use of fertilized eggs, counted as "birds" in making vaccines. Rising demand for a particular poultry vaccine apparently could have accounted for all of the net increase in animal use, as bird use increased from 4% of the total to 7%. Overall, mice were used in 52% of procedures, rats in 27%; guinea pigs in about 5%; fish in 5%; rabbits in 2.5%; primates in 0.2%; dogs in 0.1%; and cats in 0.1%.

Six leading physicians from three different institutions, led by Dr. Louisa Chapman of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, argued in the November 29 edition of the *New England Journal of Medicine* that medical professionals and policymakers "must recognize that although xenotransplantation," the transfer of animal parts into humans, "promises benefits for specific patients, that promise is accompanied by an unquantifiable but undeniable potential for harm to the wider community," by enabling diseases such as AIDS, ebola virus, and hanta virus to cross species barriers. Often a microorganism harmless in one species devastates another.

Wild and getting wilder

The "Wild horse story" featured on page one of the November 1995 ANIMAL PEOPLE got wilder on December 17 when Doug McInnis of the *New York Times* office in Casper, Wyoming, revealed that a grand jury probe of alleged diversion of wild horses from the Bureau of Land Management adoption program to slaughter has been underway for four years, not two as we had believed, with still no indictments and no indication that key witnesses have even been called.

The case made national headlines on September 19, after the American Wild Horse and Burro Alliance and nine other groups alleged a coverup of illegal wild horse slaughter at a press conference attended by five current and former BLM law enforcement agents. But the agents, purportedly gagged by the grand jury, didn't speak. The only supporting evidence offered was a letter from former BLM staffer Reed Smith, which cited wild horses only in the first sentence and otherwise apparently concerned a dispute between Smith and superiors over an oil-and-gas leasing case. ANIMAL PEOPLE recognized Smith as the author of many dubious claims over the past 33 years, including that the Nazis didn't kill millions of Jews.

One former BLM law enforcement agent who attended the press conference, Steve Sederwall, did describe to ANIMAL PEOPLE several diversions of wild horses to slaughter that took place between 1987 and 1989—but all were long since exposed by animal protection groups, media, and a 1990 probe by the General Accounting Office. Sederwall acknowledged that he had been on leave since January 1995 due to stress-related mental disability; on December 1, he retired.

Call for uniform cruelty-free standards

WASHINGTON D.C.—The

Heading the grand jury investigation, located far from any known site involved in the BLM wild horse program, U.S. deputy attorney Alia Ludlom neither answered her telephone nor returned calls, including from BLM information officer Tanna Chatten. Formerly a nationally known investigative reporter, Chatten began probing the case herself after she attended the September 19 press conference to find out what was going on, eight months after joining the BLM, and was thrown out as an alleged spy.

As the September 19 accusations reverberated, Congressional Republicans cut the BLM wild horse program out of the Department of the Interior budget, killing enforcement of the 1970 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Protection Act.

ANIMAL PEOPLE noted the possible role of the press conference as a diversion while BLM grazing lease holders averse to sharing grass and water with horses in effect undid wild horse protection.

On the spot, Sederwall wrote to the U.S. Attorney in San Antonio, alleging, McInnis said, "that BLM employees tipped off suspects in the case to an impending search warrant, and divulged other critical information, allowing suspects—some of whom worked for the BLM—to remove, alter, or destroy evidence."

About then, McInnis added, the Justice Department wrote to horse broker James Galloway, of Colleyville, Texas, "formally notifying him that he was under investigation." Galloway's attorney, Chuck Aspinwall, of Albuquerque, told McInnis that Galloway was "in danger of being indicted." Galloway claims to have adopted out 9,000 wild horses as a BLM subcontractor. McInnis indicated that Sederwall and possibly other investigators had obtained search warrants asserting that according to an informant Galloway was actually sending horses to friends' ranches, fattening them, and reselling them to

NIH: investigate mad cow disease link to human illness

WASHINGTON D.C., LONDON

--Leading researchers from the National Institutes of Health and other biomedical research institutions worldwide are calling for intensive investigation of a long hypothesized link between bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), afflicting 53% of British cattle herds during the past decade, and Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD), a once rare degenerative condition chiefly afflicting the elderly.

In the past three years CJD has killed three British cattle farmers in mid-life—and in 1995 killed an 18-year-old part-time cowhand and a 16-year-old girl who ate cow's brains in Cyprus. The boy lived with CJD for nine months to a year; the girl survived for 14 months. Only four other cases of teenagers developing CJD had ever been reported—in France, Canada, Poland, and the U.S. None of the teen victims to date had known exposure to cattle with BSE, but the disease has a latency factor of up to 30 years in humans and at least six or seven years in bovines.

BSE is believed to have jumped species barriers before, having apparently evolved from the sheep disease scrapie, invading cattle via processed sheep offal formerly used as an additive to some cattle feed. The disease has apparently attacked cats by the same route. Britain banned all use of offal from sheep with scrapie in 1988, but another 18,000 BSE cases have been detected since.

Trying to bolster plummeting British confidence in beef, Imperial College School of Medicine researchers in early December publicized test results showing that genetically engineered mice with human proteins developed CJD when injected with CJD-causing prions, but not when injected with BSE prions. British prime minister John Major told Parliament on December 6 that "There is currently no scientific evidence that BSE can be transmitted to humans or that eating beef causes CJD."

But opinion polls found nine out of 10 Britons didn't believe him. Beef sales fell

25%, according to the Federation of Fresh Meat Wholesalers. Several hundred schools quit serving beef to children. Oxford University professor of physiology Colin Blakemore told the *London Times*, "I stopped eating beef as soon as the first BSE scare was made public in 1986. Thames Valley University professor of food policy Tim Lang said he'd quit eating beef in 1989 and would not allow small children to eat it. Brain surgeon Sir Bernard Tomlinson stated he wouldn't eat beef "under any circumstances." The British Ministry of Agriculture meanwhile banned the sale of mechanically recovered meat from the spinal columns of cattle after veterinary inspectors paid surprise visits to 193 slaughterhouses and found 92 violations of rules intended to keep material from spinal cords, brains, thymuses, and spleens out of products sold for human consumption.

Up to 34 million people are believed to have had exposure to BSE; if there is a causal relationship between BSE and CJD, the effects may not turn up for decades, but then could overwhelm medical institutions.

Despite a European Union ruling that British cattle born after 1992 are free of BSE, the upper house of the German parliament on December 15 demanded a total ban on British beef imports. The militant French farm union Rural Coordination urged Paris to ban all imports of British cattle and sheep.

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*Flyers also available on insect abuse
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National Consumers League and the Massachusetts SPCA have asked U.S. Commissioner of Food and Drugs David Kessler to follow the lead of the European Community in requiring that "any reference to testing on animals" in product labeling or advertising "state clearly whether the tests carried out involved the finished product and/or its ingredients."

Consumer surveys done for the NCL and MSPCA found that while 63% of women prefer to buy cruelty-free health and beauty aid products, many are confused by the six different types of "cruelty-free" claims in common use, many of which conceal certain kinds of animal testing. Lists of cruelty-free companies circulated by animal protection groups are rarely up-to-date and accurate. The NCL and MSPCA said 90% of women would favor a uniform cruelty-free standard.

slaughter. Twenty-seven BLM horses were seized from one of the ranches in raids conducted in July 1993 and December 1994.

A mid-1993 BLM internal memo by bureau chief of law enforcement Walter Johnson said, "The scope and complexity of the investigation also increased to include scores of individuals, including allegations against private citizens and middle and upper management of the BLM."

But none of that explains how Galloway could be close to indictment if as Sederwall and other potential witnesses claim, none have been called to testify to the grand jury and all were threatened with dismissal if they gave evidence directly to Ludlom. None of it explains, either, why the Department of Justice gave Galloway a warning—at risk it might become public knowledge, potentially prejudicing public opinion and interfering with jury selection.

FARM (Jan/Feb only? Not yet paid.)

—K.B.

Racehorses on a PMU line? Don't bet on it

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The North American Equine Ranching Information Council, representing more than 450 PMU farms, has opened a breed registry to promote the use of Thoroughbred stallions in impregnating PMU-producing mares.

PMU stands for "pregnant mare's urine," and is the basic ingredient of Premarin, the most often prescribed estrogen supplement for relief of menopausal symptoms—and the only estrogen supplement made from an animal product.

"Since the resulting foals will be half Thoroughbred, they will be eligible for registration in the Jockey Club's Performance Horse Registry," a NAERIC press

Weeks after dismantling the Bureau of Land Management wild horse program, House Republicans on November 7 pushed through a bill—unanimously passed by voice vote—ordering the National Park Service to leave alone about 30 wild horses living in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. The bill directs the Department of the Interior to arrange for herd management with the Missouri Wild Horse League, which would be required to keep the herd smaller than 50. The league and the Park Service have fought in court since 1990 over a Park Service plan to exterminate the horses. The bill must clear the Senate to take effect, with enough support to overcome a potential presidential veto. Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks George Frampton opposes the bill, and wild horse protection generally, consistent with the position of conservation groups including the Wilderness Society, which he formerly headed, the Nature Conservancy, the National Audubon Society, and some factions of Earth First, that introduced species should be removed from public lands.

Diane Richards, of Big Bear Lake, California, claims to have crossbred speedy Grant's zebras with domestic mares to produce a rideable "zorse"—a claim often made by others, but never yet demonstrated by the production of rideable zorses in quantity. Breeders have long tried to harness the athleticism of zebras through crossbreeding, but until the advent of artificial insemination were generally frustrated. Zebras are the last equine to resist domestication.

Humane Farming Assn. (paid through 3/96)

Horses

An expedition to investigate the properties of the Nangchen horse, a rare wild Tibetan breed first documented in 1993 by French ethnologist Michel Peissel, in November reported another discovery, dubbed the Riwoche horse, for the Riwoche region in which it was found. The horse, believed to be the earliest to evolve of any living breed, was discovered in ancient growth forests amid high plateau near the source of the Salween River. The forests do not appear on maps. Peissel's team found several separate herds of the horses. Also unexpectedly found in the forests were macaques and white-lipped deer.

The Akhal-Teke horse, descended directly from the first known domesticated horses, and more recently a component of the English thoroughbred bloodline, is reportedly making a comeback of sorts in Turkmenistan since the fall of the Soviet Union. Nikita Krushchev nearly exterminated Akhal-Tekes during his push to mechanize Soviet agriculture, but fanciers including International Association of Akhal-Teke Breeders chairman Geldy Kyarizov began surreptitiously trading worn-out workhorses to slaughterhouses for doomed Akhal-Tekes, are now breeding them, and have rebuilt the population to about 2,000. There are about 100 in the U.S., including 30 owned by Philip and Margo Case, of Staunton, Virginia, who began importing and training them for dressage, jumping, and endurance racing in 1978.

Noting a recent proliferation of self-proclaimed horse rescue groups, some doing questionable fundraising, the International Generic Horse Association has pledged to begin taking a look at rescue groups' claims. IGHA is located at POB 6778, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90734-6778.

Police officials say crime in the parking lots at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago is markedly down since the lot concessionaire, Standard Parking Inc., hired Ashland Equine Security of Des Plaines, Illinois, to provide mounted patrols, whose high vantage point, speed, and maneuverability enable them to quickly spot trouble. AES patrols other big parking lots in the Chicago area, and is adding riders as quickly as they can be trained by the Chicago Police Academy. Each rider provides his/her own horse—and the horse must pass a rigorous stress test, intended to weed out any who might bolt in crowds or traffic at the scream of a low-flying jet. "I throw fireworks at them, pop plastic bags, set off car alarms, throw basketballs at them, and toss cherry bombs under them when they're not looking," says AES director of security Joe Morici. "We try to acclimate them to every noise they might encounter on the job site."

Kenton Mosley, of Ovapa, West Virginia, thought he might beat an August 19 arrest for alleged drunk driving because his vehicle was a blind, lame pony, but after several months of contradictory rulings from the State Division of Motor Vehicles, the case is reportedly proceeding.

release states.

The purpose of this effort, suspects Project Equis founder Robin Duxbury, is to enable PMU producers to better pretend that their foals are in demand as something other than horsemeat. Gambling that keeping mares in urine collection lines can be made as acceptable to the public as keeping cows in milking stalls, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories recently launched a new PMU product, Prempro, which combines Premarin, the major PMU-based drug, with progestin, a non-animal-based hormone.

But the international boycott of Premarin meanwhile gained momentum with the publication of a World Society for the Protection of Animals report affirming the previous findings of the Canadian Farm Animal Concerns Trust, whose 1992 and 1993 annual reports spotlighted the growth of the PMU industry, and after amplification in the April 1993 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, drew the attention of major New York media. Friends of Animals, the International Generic Horse Association, and PETA almost simultaneously targeted PMU for protest a few months later.

Wrote Massachusetts SPCA inspector Joseph Silva after visiting 32 PMU barns, two feed lots, and one slaughterhouse on behalf of WSPA, "The conditions in those barns do not meet our standards for basic humane care. The horses," 13,043 total at the facilities Silva visited, "are kept in tiny stalls for months at a time without what we consider a sufficient amount of exercise, water and veterinary oversight. We feel strongly that Wyeth-Ayerst has a moral responsibility to those horses and to the consumer to either provide a more comfortable environment for the mares or stop producing Premarin altogether."

Humane Farming Assn.

**See it all in
The Pig Picture
—a powerful and easily
watchable 18-minute video,
suitable for showing
in any public forum—
\$15.00, from:**

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San Francisco, CA 94109.**

Wildlife

The Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine has begun trying to hatch and rear threatened Blanding's turtles in captivity. Habitat loss and predation has caused the loss of whole turtle generations, says project chief George Kollias, DVM.

Exxon has pledged to contribute \$5 million over the next five years to the Save The Tiger Fund, formed by Congress in 1984 and managed by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Seven inches of snow, rare for western Mexico, killed a third of the 11 million to 13 million Monarch butterflies wintering there in oyamel trees, Homero Aridjis of the Group of 100 reported on December 30. The five Monarch sanctuaries in the region are the species' main wintering areas. Monarchs still haven't recovered from a 1992 snowstorm that killed 70% to 90% of their population.

Hoping to restore the trapped-out once-native fisher population, Pennsylvania is offering New Hampshire trappers \$100 for each male fisher and \$150 for each female they catch alive and uninjured in box traps. New Hampshire claims to have a fisher surplus.

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation is trying again to pass a bill to allow beaver snaring and dam-dynamiting, without public oversight. The Fund for Animals asks that letters on behalf of beavers be sent to Gov. George Pataki, Exec. Chamber, State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224; and Commissioner Michael Zagata, NYS DEC, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12223.

The Animal Alliance of Canada welcomes organizations to sign on to a "7-point plan to end the trade in bear parts" in Canada. Fax 416-462-9647.

A record 89 Florida Key deer were killed in 1995, 65 by cars. Thirteen fawns were known to be born. The previous highest toll of the endangered miniature deer was 86, back in 1971.

Wolves

Wolf reintroduction ran into trouble in both the northwest and southeast during November and December—and not just from Congress, where Senator Conrad Burns (R-Montana) failed in an attempt to amend the Interior appropriations bill to prevent further wolf reintroductions to Yellowstone National Park, but succeeded in cutting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's wolf reintroduction budget by a third. Three of the five wolf project staff were laid off, but private funders donated the \$30,000 needed to buy radio collars for a group of 15 Canadian wolves who in early January will be released to join the 21 wolves already in the park.

On November 5, one of the three pups from the Boulder wolf pack in western Montana was found shot, a month after the trio plus two adults were moved into Glacier National Park and radio collared because their pack killed three calves. The pups' mother, not moved, was believed to have done the actual killing. On December 20, the region lost another young wolf when a pup born to the group who were relocated into Yellowstone last winter was hit by a delivery truck.

But the death that created the most stir came when Banner McLean of Fishtail, Montana,

Red wolf. (K.B.)

Wildlife refuges

The comptroller's office of Colombia reported November 7 that guerrilla bands are operating out of 20 of the nation's 42 national parks and nature reserves; drug traffickers are based in 15 more; and six of the remaining seven are full of bandits. But U.S. wildlife refuges are scarcely less embattled, at least in the political sense. Among the more noteworthy Congressional efforts to dismantle the refuge system are HR 1675, an attempt by Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to close refuges, obstruct the creation of new ones, and open all existing refuges up to hunting and trapping by defining hunting as a purpose of the refuge system. Young is also boosting legislation to allow commercial alligator farms to collect gator eggs from wildlife refuges, on condition that they return a certain number of captive-reared alligators to the habitat. Louisiana has had a similar program in effect for over a decade, requiring the return of 17% of the hatched alligators over four feet long—but wildlife biologists say the captive-reared alligators don't survive well, tending to challenge cars, in particular, instead of hurrying away. Working on a smaller scale, Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Oklahoma) is merely promoting a bill to sell off 13,000 acres of wildlife habitat in northwestern Oklahoma, coveted by hunters and developers, and use the proceeds to set up a 325-acre Washita Battlefield National Historic Site.

took his cougar-hunting dog out, the dog attacked a wolf, and the wolf killed the dog. Senator Max Baucus (D-Montana) joined Burns in howling that the public should have been notified that wolves had wandered into the area, 40 miles north of Yellowstone, never mind that if the dog had been leashed or not trained to attack, he'd still be alive.

On November 29, meanwhile, USFWS biologist Chris Lucash found an 18-month-old female red wolf shot to death near Dalton Gap, more than a mile inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park on a section of the Appalachian Trail that has been retired in favor of a different route. It was the first wolf shooting since red wolves were reintroduced in 1991.

Wolves are actually doing better in areas they recolonize themselves. About 200 wolves now roam northern Wisconsin and the Michigan Upper Peninsula; 2,000 in Minnesota. The USFWS now anticipates that wolves could be removed from the Endangered Species List as early as 1998.

—Sue Clark

Fall was hard on squirrels

ALBANY, N.Y.—Prolonged summer/fall drought had a mixed effect on wildlife in the Northeast, generally helping birds but hurting other species. Already menaced amphibian populations suffered as breeding pools dried up and shallow water made both surviving tadpoles and adult frogs easy pickings for great blue herons and egrets—who also thrived on exposed small fish. Pennsylvania and New Jersey delayed trout-stocking because of the risk they would be killed by oxygen depletion in low streams and lakes. Beavers became unusually vulnerable to foxes and coyotes. Bears and deer were driven down from the hills to find water, into often dangerous proximity with humans. Authorities in Ottawa, Ontario, relocated 62 black bears during the summer, 10 times the usual number. But crickets and grasshoppers hatched in high volume, much to the benefit of wild turkeys and quail.

New York state biologists reported extraordinary numbers of dead squirrels on highways. New York Department of Environmental Conservation wildlife pathologist Ward Stone said one person counted 922 dead squirrels along the New York State Thruway—where roadkills are normally relatively few—just between New Paltz and Albany. Secondary school students at more than 100 New England locations who participate in the Dr. Splatt roadkill census project also found lots of dead squirrels, and not many of other mammals. The Dr. Splatt project, begun in 1993, is coordinated by Brewster Bartlett, a science teacher at Pinkerton Academy in Essex, New Hampshire, and is the largest, longest-running study of roadkills ever conducted.

Some authorities speculated that the squirrel deaths were caused by drought. A sounder explanation, however, may be that the mid-Atlantic rabies pandemic, depleting raccoons throughout the region for the past five years, has left more hollow trees and food available to squirrels, who apparently had a record breeding season. Squirrels tend to gather nuts along roads partly because Northeastern roads are typically lined with nut trees, partly because nuts that land on roads are easy to find. And squirrels usually respond to cars as if they are hawks, their leading wild predator, zig-zagging to avoid swooping talons only to run right beneath speeding wheels.

Sending a message to the would-be refuge-rapists, especially Young, President Bill Clinton has thus far kept his word to veto any and all budget bills that include provisions to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling.

Endangered Species Act

Rep. Jim Saxton (R-N.J.) in February or March is expected to introduce an Endangered Species Act reauthorization bill authored according to specifications from House speaker Newt Gingrich. Gingrich is currently saying ESA reauthorization won't move to the House floor earlier than April. Senator Harry Reid (D-Nevada) is also rumored to be planning to release an Endangered Species Act reauthorization bill in spring, possibly an adaptation of the anti-“takings” bill introduced last fall by Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho). Pending the resumption of the actual ESA debate, most recent ESA-related activity in Congress has focused on riders and amendments to freeze the designation of new endangered species, and/or prevent spending on specific species protection projects.

Wildwear (renewed through March)

Meet the Flying CHARCs!

For years animal abusers got away with canned hunts, deer slaughters, pigeon and turkey shoots, bison kills, etc., held out of sight and, they hoped, out of mind.

That's over! On December 16, 1995, the Flying CHARCs took wing. ***The killers can no longer hide.***

We accept the risks of flying and flak. But we need money, too, to keep our machines in the air. Help us with upkeep and gas, and we'll supply the guts and graphic video to teach hunters what it's like to be hunted.

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So-called sportsmen

Hunting writer and safety instructor Roger Vanderlogt, 43, of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, drew 15 years in prison on December 9 plus 15 years on probation, for producing sexually explicit photographs and videos of very young girls.

William Douglas Hinson, 71, of Myrtle, Mississippi, pleaded guilty on November 28 to conspiring with his granddaughter, Teresa Jean Hutcheson, 30, to murder her husband Jimmy Dean Hutcheson for life insurance proceeds in a staged "hunting accident." Each drew five years in prison. Hinson has two great-grandchildren by his granddaughter, with whom court officials said he has had sex since she was 11.

National Rifle Association president Thomas Washington, 58, died December 5 of a heart attack suffered while deer hunting on November 16. He was succeeded in office by Florida lobbyist Marion Hammer, 56.

Taxidermist Frank Entsminger, 52, of Tok, Alaska, was indicted December 6 by a federal grand jury on one felony and three misdemeanor counts of illegally possessing or trading migratory birds. Entsminger was the 10th guide or taxidermist indicted since August 1995 as result of an ongoing U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sting; five already pleaded guilty to misdemeanors. Entsminger is husband of Alaska Board of Game member Sue Entsminger, famous for posters depicting her in a fur bikini, who was appointed by former governor Walter Hickel in January 1993 at the height of controversy over his plan to kill wolves in order to make more moose and caribou available to trophy hunters. Her term expires this January.

Convicted cockatoo smuggler William Wegner has been sentenced to five years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a fine of \$10,000; convicted of related offenses, Brian Bradley drew 41 months in jail plus three years of supervised

release. In all, 15 members of their ring were convicted. An even bigger bird-smuggling case is ahead: Tony Silva, who posed as an outspoken foe of the wild-caught bird trade but according to federal prosecutors headed a smuggling ring, is scheduled for a mid-January trial in Chicago.

China on December 31 announced that a policeman, a retired soldier, a government official, and a restauranteur, all from Yunnan Province, will be executed for leading a gang that poached 21 Asian elephants—10% of the Chinese herd—in just six months during 1993-1994.

New Mexico Game & Fish plans to hold the first bison hunts in the state since 1884 at Fort Wingate, on the second, third, and fourth weekends of January. The hunts are being promoted as a cull, with a killing quota of three a day, but NMGF admits the 11,000-acre property could support 75 bison; only 60 live there now. Since the bison have never been hunted, shooting them will take about the same skill as shooting cows.

The Lend-A-Hand Society, producing and distributing pro-animal radio spots since 1992, recently issued a 30-minute anti-hunting radio drama, and offers it to "any radio station that wishes to audition the narrative drama.." For details, call Lend-A-Hand director Gary Gabriel, 914-353-1639.

Mark Spengler, an inmate of the Oakhill Correctional Institution near Madison, Wisconsin, alleged in mid-December that he and other members of two prison work crews were sent out to cut firewood on November 24, and were then compelled to drive deer toward a hunting party they found waiting on adjacent land.

The federal budget crisis reportedly kept 42,000 hunters out of the 275 National Wildlife Refuges, among 506 total, which normally permit hunting.

The Yukon Territorial Government continues to target wolves in the Aishihik region, to make more moose and

Fund for Animals

Trap ban makes ballot

Needing 65,000 validated signatures to qualify for this year's ballot, a Massachusetts initiative to restore the state ban on leghold trapping, extend it to cover padded leghold traps and snares as well, ban hunting bears and bobcats with dogs, ban bear hunting with bait, and reform the state Fisheries and Wildlife Board actually drew 131,164—and still had 117,049 signatures after disqualifications. The initiative if approved by voters will overturn a 1975 state law requiring that four of the seven members of the Fisheries and Wildlife Board must represent hunters, trappers, and fishers.

CASH

caribou available to human hunters. The current round of Yukon wolf-killing began at about the same time as former Alaska governor Walter Hickel proposed to kill wolves so as to increase trophy-hunting opportunities in the region south of Fairbanks—but international protest stopped the Alaska wolf massacres just over a year ago, after wolf expert Gordon Haber, working for Friends of Animals, obtained dramatic video of the suffering of wolves in neck-snares as a state trapper tried clumsily to dispatch them with a gun. Despite the ongoing efforts of Friends of the Wolf, the Yukon killing tends to go on with scarcely any public notice.

Fund for Animals

RELIGION & ANIMALS

ANIMAL HEALTH

Ebola virus

The World Health Organization on December 16 declared a two-year drive to discover how Ebola virus is transmitted from other primates, who often survive it, to chimpanzees and humans, in whom it is usually fatal. An early clue came from Colonel Nancy Jax of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, in Frederick, Maryland, who reported in the December 22 edition of the British medical journal *The Lancet* that Ebola is probably transmitted by airborne droplets, much like the common cold. Jax observed that two monkeys kept in cages 10 feet from others who had Ebola also developed Ebola and died in 10 and 11 days, respectively, even though they had no physical contact with the sick monkeys. "The findings emphasize the advisability of at-risk personnel employing precautions to safeguard against ocular, oral, and nasopharyngeal exposure," Jax wrote.

Reports that Russian researchers found and used a cure for Ebola in combatting the early-summer outbreak in Zaire were "somewhat inaccurate and premature," says USAMRIID immunologist Peter Jahrling, who recently evaluated the product for WHO. The substance, produced by the Russian firm NPO Vector, "is highly purified immunoglobulin G with a high concentration of antibody that neutralizes Ebola," Jahrling confirmed. It "protected guinea pigs when treatment was initiated immediately after Ebola virus inoculation. However, when treatment was delayed until the guinea pigs became sick, four days after infection, all the animals died." Russian researchers reported that the product cured baboons of Ebola, but Jahrling and colleagues found that tests on monkeys yielded results similar to those of the guinea pig tests. Jahrling did call the experimental results "grounds for cautious optimism. If the equine IgG now being tested serves to con-

Rabies

The French pharmaceutical firm Rhone-Poulenc is to complete a year-long series of free vaccinations of veterinary students against rabies in January by inoculating 1,500 Chinese students from 14 different universities. About 100,000 veterinary students will have received a total of 300,000 doses of the preventive vaccine, costing the Pasteur Merieux-Connaught and Rhone-Merieux divisions of Rhone-Poulenc about \$3 million. "On a daily basis, according to official statistics, more than 200 people are dying of rabies," Pasteur Merieux-Connaught Asia managing director Josef Bockmann says. Forty percent of the deaths are in Asia.

Rabies deaths in India usually go unreported, Dr. M.K. Sudarshan of the Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences in Bangalore charged at a November 27 press conference hosted by Pasteur-Merieux in New Delhi. Sudarshan called for "the immediate launching of a surveillance system for rabies in India." WHO estimates that rabies kills about 70,000 people a year, with 30,000 deaths in India, but Sudarshan said, "These are 20-year-old statistics and come just from isolation hospitals. The best guesstimate is that the real figure is nearly 10 times higher," circa 250,000 in India. Sudarshan claimed that rural health clinics often send victims home to die—and to infect family members. But he said 95% of rabies cases in India were caused by dogbite or contact with fresh dog excrement. India has untold numbers of roving stray and feral dogs, with only rudimentary animal control in most communities.

The Florida Veterinary Medical Association recently won an amendment to state law that requires veterinarians offering "limited service clinics" to pay an biannual registration fee of \$250 plus \$25 more to register each individual location where a "limited service clinic" is held. "The SPCA of

Help for dogs who have been hit by cars

WEST LAFAYETTE, Indiana—The Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine's Center for Paralysis Research seeks dogs with spinal fractures, to participate in a study of oscillating field stimulators, a type of surgically implanted rehabilitative device. Eligible dogs cannot weigh more than 35 pounds; must be two to eight years old; must have suffered fracture and dislocation of bones in the spinal column, a type of injury common in dogs hit by cars, within the past 14 days; and must be completely paralyzed in the hindquarters. Prospect dogs must be brought to the center by the owners. The center will cover all medical costs of dogs accepted into the study. For further details, call 317-494-7600.

This is the second major Purdue study of spinal injuries in dogs to use only dogs who already need medical help. A study of naturally occurring disc herniations, begun in 1988, has helped more than 300 dogs, 90% of whom were otherwise euthanasia candidates.

War on rabbits goes awry Down Under

ADELAIDE, S.A.—Australian officials admitted November 27 that the premature release of calicivirus into the outback of New South Wales and South Australia state in October was an accident.

Apparently carried to the mainland by insects after deployment at a test site on Wardong Island, the disease soon killed 850,000 rabbits—22 an acre—in Flinders Ranges National Park alone. Ranger David Peacock said that was counting only rabbits who died in the open; experts predicted most afflicted rabbits would die underground. Farmers eager to get rid of rabbits were reportedly paying \$75 apiece for infected rabbits to release on their property.

Australia has been trying to eradicate rabbits for more than a century. Hunting enthusiast Thomas Austin, of Victoria, released the first dozen in 1859,

hoping they would breed abundant targets. By 1940, nearly 600 million rabbits had overrun the continent, outcompeting native wildlife. Circa 1955, the government imported myxomatosis, a Brazilian virus fatal to rabbits, and knocked the rabbit population down to about 100 million within two years, but the survivors shared immunity with their fast-multiplying offspring, and have reportedly rebuilt their population to 500 million.

Calicivirus, already used against rabbits in China and parts of Europe, was under study as a potential myxomatosis replacement, over opposition from the Royal SPCA and Animal Liberation. It kills rabbits by causing internal hemorrhaging. Death typically takes 24 to 40 hours. Calicivirus purportedly does not affect humans or other animal species.

Other epidemics

Washington, Oregon, and Idaho biologists in early December evacuated 58 bighorn sheep from Hell's Canyon, along the Snake River, hoping to save them from a pasturella outbreak that killed at least 30 in the previous two weeks. The three states have tried for years to restore bighorns to the region, several decades after domestic sheep diseases extinguished the native population. The afflicted herd grew to 141 individuals in 1986, but then a previous pasturella outbreak left just 31 survivors. The new outbreak

fifteen months after Gold Coast horse trainer Vic Rail and 14 of his steeds died of lung hemorrhaging, Australian authorities have identified the cause as a morbillivirus, akin to measles, but don't know if quarantines have contained it, after the October death of farmer Mark Preston, 35, husband of a veterinarian, whose only known possible exposure came when he helped his wife do a necropsy on a dead horse in 1994. The virus—now named equine morbillivirus—is the first case on record of a dis-

firm the principle that antibodies have a place in treatment of Ebola fever," he wrote, "the stage will be set to develop second generation therapeutic strategies using bioengineered forms of human antibodies."

WHO investigator Dr. Emmanuel Moussi reported on December 16 that a rumored Ebola outbreak in Liberia apparently had just one victim, Jasper Chea, 25, whose infection was detected after he traveled to Ivory Coast. Chea lived. At WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, spokesperson Dr. David Heymann explained that epidemics of cholera and yellow fever in Angola, Sierra Leone, and Liberia were producing victims with bloody diarrhea, which inexperienced observers were confusing with the internal hemorrhaging caused by Ebola. Earlier, WHO found that three mid-October deaths in Zaire, first attributed to Ebola, were actually due to other diseases. The deaths occurred in Vanga, 50 miles north of Kikwit, where the worst Ebola outbreak on record killed 244 of 315 known victims last May.

Volusia County was recently stopped the morning of a scheduled low-cost rabies clinic because a not-so-supportive vet made a complaint," Network of Humane Organizations president Paul Kershner told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. The Florida Board of Veterinary Medicine last September rejected a request from NOHO and the Florida Animal Control Association to allow an exemption for clinics held by humane societies and animal control agencies.

Dr. Petrie DeVilliers of Durban, South Africa, is to stand trial for allegedly causing the death of Christo Engelbrecht, age 12, in January 1995. Engelbrecht's parents claim DeVilliers refused to prescribe post-exposure rabies vaccination after the boy was bitten by a rabid dog near his home in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal province. DeVilliers says he warned the Engelbrechts at least twice that Christo should be vaccinated. KwaZulu-Natal attorney general Tim McNally ruled on October 31 that the crown could proceed with culpable homicide charges.

came days before Oregon was to release bighorns from British Columbia into Hell's Canyon—and was detected within eight miles of where 13 bighorns from Alberta were released last winter, as well as within a dozen air miles of other herds including the largest bighorns found in each of the three states. Wardens shot a domestic goat found running with the afflicted herd, who may have been the source of the outbreak.

The U.S. Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention in early November identified a mystery disease that hit at least 3,000 people and killed 26 in northwestern Nicaragua and southern Honduras as a bacterial infection called leptospirosis, probably spread by rat urine. Cuba donated 5,000 tons of rat poison to help Nicaragua contain the epidemic. The most puzzling aspect of the outbreak was that it caused lung hemorrhaging, rare with leptospirosis, though occasionally reported in China and Korea, but common in cases of hanta virus, Ebola virus, and equine morbillivirus, all simultaneously breaking out elsewhere.

ease organism previously unknown to science jumping from one species to another. "The best guess," said Australian Animal Health Laboratory spokesperson Niall Byrne, "is that this virus normally lives in a native mammal that rarely has contact with horses and people." It is not believed to be closely related to the morbilliviruses that cause canine distemper and have hit seals and dolphins in the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and western Pacific since 1988.

A miner, age 39, not named, died November 24 of hanta virus while en route to the Nye County Regional Medical Center in central Nevada. He apparently came into contact with infected deer mouse droppings while collecting firewood.

An outbreak of leishmaniasis, a fly-transmitted disease of dogs, is causing "a public scare" on Cyprus, according to Animal Responsibility Cyprus, believed to be the only humane organization on the island. Leishmaniasis apparently has little history of afflicting humans, but Cypriot authorities say it can finish off AIDS patients.

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Dog logo

The Watchdog

Values

Findings from a telephone poll of 1,004 randomly selected adult Americans from all states but Alaska and Hawaii, commissioned by the Associated Press, and published on December 2, are in plain type. Findings from the methodologically most similar polls we have on file, if we have any, are in italicized parenthesis.

Animal protection laws go too far: 18%.

Animal protection laws don't go far enough: 33%.

Laws are okay now: 43%.

Don't know or no answer: 6%.

An animal's right to live free of suffering should be just as important as a person's.

Agree strongly: 38%

Agree somewhat: 29%

Disagree somewhat: 18%

Disagree strong: 12%

Don't know or no answer: 4%

Do you think the use of animals to test medical treatments is always right, right under some circumstances, seldom right, or never right?

Always right: 8% (36%)

Right under some circumstances: 62% (28%)

Seldom right: 15% (6%)

Never right: 14% (23%)

Don't know or no answer: 2% (8%)

(AMA Survey of Public Opinion
on Health Care Issues, 1989.)

Do you think the use of animals to test cosmetics is always right, right under some circumstances, seldom right, or never right?

Always right: 2% (38%)

WOOFS & GROWLS

Bidding to take over her late mother Ann Fields' Love & Care For God's Animalife fundraising empire, which paid Fields \$75,000 to \$100,000 a month according to the Alabama Office of the Attorney General, Tina Fields Denny has formed an organization called Saving Animals From Euthanasia (SAFE, Inc.), and is now raising funds herself apparently using Fields' list, ostensibly to be able to meet the bonding requirement necessary to take custody of the 900 dogs and cats left at the Love & Care shelter after a January 30 hearing. Fields Denny is also urging donors not to send money to the Andalusia Humane Society; those funds go, by court order, to court-appointed animal caretaker Allen Corey, and actually feed hungry dogs and cats. "We will have the same goals and guidelines as the no-kill animal shelters of my parents, Ann and Jerry Fields," one Fields Denny appeal proclaims. It may be worth noting that the June 1994 edition of the Love & Care newsletter accused Tina Fields Denny's husband Ronald Denny of stealing equipment, misappropriating shelter vehicles, and running drugs.

Jailed financial radio talk show host and former Humane Society of the U.S. board member Irwin "Sonny" Bloch is to go to trial on April 15 for allegedly defrauding listeners of \$21 million. His son Paul Bloch, 28, pleaded guilty to similar charges on December 15 in federal court at Newark, New Jersey, and agreed to testify against his father, along with five other accused co-conspirators. HSUS has yet to answer questions from ANIMAL PEOPLE as to whether it accepted investment advice from the senior Bloch, and if so, what the outcome was. Enough investors did profit by Bloch's advice that his

MSPCA missed heads-up

BOSTON—A federal district jury on December 18 awarded \$787,621 to former Massachusetts SPCA head of radiology Marjorie McMillan, DVM. The award included judgements of \$171,250 against MSPCA president Gus Thornton, DVM, and \$269,925 against Paul Gambardella, DVM. McMillan, a pioneer of bird radiology, in August 1989 filed a gender-based salary discrimination complaint against the MSPCA with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. In November 1991, her 20th year at the MSPCA, McMillan was terminated. Thornton's December 19 announcement of intent to appeal said the termination "was in no way connected to her discrimination complaint, as stated by the MSPCA and as found by the federal court."

McMillan sued the MSPCA, Thornton, and Gambardella in 1992. Her star witness, former MSPCA lobbyist Martha Armstrong, took a new post shortly after the trial as director of companion animals for HSUS.

In April 1989, McMillan's complaints and others of a related nature came to the attention of ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton, then news editor for *The Animals'*

willing to have their names used in coverage. Clifton nonetheless interviewed Thornton and numerous other MSPCA executives, beginning with Armstrong, who was grilled for two hours on April 24, 1989, at the home of longtime CTV reporter Cynthia Drummond, with Canadian animal protection columnist Barry Kent Mackay and American Humane Association lobbyist Adele Douglass, among others, also present. The interviews could have given the MSPCA early warning of simmering conflicts among staff—but apparently did not.

According to the *Boston Herald*, Armstrong testified on December 6 that Thornton offended her when she told him "she had talked a reporter for a trade publication out of doing a story 'ripping' the MSPCA."

The *Herald* quoted Armstrong, "He asked me, 'How did you get the guy to give you all his information? Did you sleep with him?' I said, 'No, I did not.' Then I hung up."

In fact, the investigation continued for another month, but since the complaining sources were unwilling to go on record and did not directly confirm each other's claims, found little of publishable substance. The findings, including some potentially problematic aspects of staff relations,

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

Right under some circumstances: 29%. (5%)

Never right: 46%. (49%)

Don't know or no answer: 3%. (8%)

(*Denver Post/News 4 Poll, 1990.*)

Do you think there are circumstances where it's okay to hunt an animal for sport, or do you think it's always wrong to hunt an animal for sport?

Yes, under some circumstances: 47%. (53%)

Always wrong: 51%. (47%)

Don't know or no answer: 2%.

(*Pennsylvania Wildlife & Its Use, Donald Heintzelman, Wildlife Information Center, 1986.*)

How often do you eat meat, poultry, or fish?

Frequently: 71%. (73%)

Occasionally: 21%. (17%)

Rarely: 6%. (7%)

Never: 2%. (3%)

(*HealthFocus, 1995.*)

The AP poll was conducted by the ICR Survey Research Group, and was weighted to proportionally represent key factors such as age, gender, region, income level, and level of education.

show was aired for 15 years, with a peak audience of about one million. Bloch left the HSUS board after his indictment last spring.

Among the members of the National Wetlands Coalition, a misleadingly named anti-wetlands protection wise use group, is the New Orleans-based Audubon Institute, whose president, Ronald Forman, is noted for raising funds from the mineral extraction industry. The Audubon Institute runs the Aquarium of the Americas, one of the most popular aquariums in the world that does not include marine mammals; the Audubon Zoo; the Audubon Center for Research on Endangered Species; the Freeport-McMoRan Species Survival Center; the Louisiana Science and Nature Center; Audubon Park; Woldenberg Riverfront Park; and the Entergy IMAX Theatre. Major backers, besides Freeport-McMoRan, whose gifts total \$11 million, include Louisiana Light & Electric, Amoco, Shell, Exxon, Midland Pipe, Chevron, Kerr-McGee, and Tenneco Inc. Forman's pay package is circa \$265,000 a year.

Agenda magazine—but none of the complaining staff and former staff were

New Jersey veterinarian Robert Bleasie, who founded Common Sense for Animals as an anti-animal rights group in 1991, is now soliciting donations for a no-kill shelter also called Common Sense for Animals. A longtime mail-order supplier of veterinary drugs to veal farmers, with nearly 500 customers, Bleasie was hit with federal injunctions in 1981, 1984, 1987, and 1988 for violating drug packaging and distribution laws.

were slated for publication in the September 1989 *Animals' Agenda*, but the article was pulled at the last minute to make room for breaking news about the June 1989 arrest of Earth First! cofounder Dave Foreman for allegedly plotting to blow up power line towers in Arizona.

Thornton called **ANIMAL PEOPLE** after the *Herald* article appeared to state that the account garbled Armstrong's testimony, and that what she actually told him she had done was ascertain that the MSPCA would get a fair chance to respond to staff allegations. Thornton's recollection of ensuing interviews closely corresponded to Clifton's notes.

Tufts University (reserved through April)

Garo Alexanian (paid through Jan/Feb)

Woofs & growls

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ADDENDA: WHO GETS THE MONEY? BUDGETS, ASSETS, FUNDRAISING, OVERHEAD

This addenda to our sixth annual report on the financial affairs of the major national animal and habitat protection groups includes those whose IRS Form 990 didn't reach us before our December issue deadline.

Groups are identified in the second column by apparent focus and philosophy: **A** is for advocacy, **C** for conservation of habitat via acquisition, **E** for education, **H** for support of hunting, **L** for litigation, **P** for publication, **R** for animal rights, **S** for shelters and sanctuaries, **V** for antivivisection, and **W** for animal welfare. The **R** and **W** designations are used only if an organization makes a point of being one or the other.

ORGANIZATION NOTE	TYPE	BUDGET	PROGRAMS	OVERHEAD	%	ADJ	ASSETS	FIXED	CASH/SECUR.
American SPCA	AES	\$ 23,214,435	\$ 17,893,948	\$ 5,320,487	23%	30%	\$ 24,123,075	\$ 16,454,661	\$ 2,992,616
Sea Shepherd Conservation Society	AE	\$ 718,370	\$ 705,221	\$ 13,149	2%	2%	\$ 467,374	\$ 228,598	\$ 239,813 A
Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund	L	\$ 10,180,188	\$ 7,891,960	\$ 2,288,228	23%	28%	\$ 6,495,640	(none claimed)	\$ 1,934,212
Tree House Animal Foundation	S	\$ 1,025,805	\$ 775,674	\$ 250,131	24%	N/A	\$ 486,538	\$ (not available)	B

INDIVIDUAL COMPENSATION (EXECUTIVES, DIRECTORS, TOP-PAID STAFF AND CONSULTANTS)

The Pay column below combines salaries, benefit plan contributions (if any), and expense

accounts. Individual independent contractors are listed as well as directors and regular staffers.

Individual	Position	Group	Pay	Note
ROGER CARAS	President	ASPCA	\$ 188,018	
Laurens Silver	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 114,157	
Michael Sherwood	Atty	SCLDF	\$ 109,824	
William Curtiss	Atty	SCLDF	\$ 105,072	
Stephan Volker	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 100,672	
John Foran	ExecVP	ASPCA	\$ 95,218	1
Stephen Zawistowski	SrVP/Ed	ASPCA	\$ 89,578	
David Guest	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 88,448	
Individual	Position	Group	Pay	Note
Karen Parker	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 27,150	

Individual	Position	Group	Pay	Note
Robert O'Neill	VPHumnLaw	ASPCA	\$ 79,418	2
Amelia Tarzi	VP Advocacy	ASPCA	\$ 79,280	2
George Watford	VP ShlOps	ASPCA	\$ 78,942	
Stephen Musso	VPDirHospit	ASPCA	\$ 75,626	
Joseph Brecher	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 75,000	
Stephen Eudene	VP/CFO	ASPCA	\$ 59,226	
ELLEN SAWYER	ExDir	Tree House	\$ 50,000+	3
Carla Robinson	OffMg	Sea Shepherd	\$ 30,000	

Individual	Position	Group	Pay	Note
Karen Parker	Attorney	SCLDF	\$ 27,150	

Marine mammals in captivity

A year after ANIMAL PEOPLE reader Janice Garnett, of Venice, Florida, asked us to look into the plight of two dispirited Pacific whitesided dolphins at the Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco, the dolphins were flown to Sea World San Antonio in November to join the biggest pod of their species in captivity, at the facility considered the state-of-the-art for keeping whales and dolphins. ANIMAL PEOPLE passed Garnett's letter to San Francisco SPCA ethical studies coordinator Pam Rockwell, who learned that the dolphins, named Amphrite and Thetis, had been in a tank only 25% of the legal minimum size since 1975 and 1978, respectively, sharing the space with four harbor seals whom local stranding rescuers judged unsuitable for return to the wild. The California Academy of the

Closed only on Christmas and New Year's Day since 1930, the Shedd Aquarium shut down for a 10-day cleaning and maintenance bee at the beginning of January. Director Ted Beattie said no animals would be displaced, and performing animals would get extra trainer attention to compensate for the temporary absence of interaction with visitors.

April, an orphaned California sea otter rescued, raised, and released by the Monterey Bay Aquarium in 1990, has joined four other sea otters on display at Sea World San Diego, after five years in the wild ended with a summer of hopping on surfboards, bumping kayaks, and nuzzling sunbathers. The Monterey Bay Aquarium has treated 113 sea otters in all, of whom only April has developed an abnormal interest in people. Several other sea otters were recaptured

Except where otherwise stated, the financial data comes from current Internal Revenue Service Form 990 filings, covering either calendar year or fiscal year 1994.

To put these numbers in perspective, consider that the National Charities Information Bureau requires approved charities to spend at least 60% of their budgets on programs, not including direct mail associated with fundraising. This standard is stricter than the IRS rules, which allow charities to write off some direct mail costs as program service under the heading of "public education." Thus the figures that organizations declare and the figures as amended in accordance with

NCIB guidelines are often very different. The % column states each organization's overhead and fundraising costs as declared to the IRS. The ADJ column states those costs as they would be under NCIB guidelines. Differences appear in boldface.

The seventh through ninth columns provide data on assets. Note that shelters and sanctuaries tend to have more fixed assets (land, buildings, and equipment) because of the nature of their work.

For further information on interpretation of data, please refer to the preface to the tables published in December.

NOTES

A - The Sea Shepherds did no mailings during the fiscal year other than of the *Sea Shepherd Log* magazine.

B - Expenses and asset breakdowns were left out of the copy of IRS Form 990 that **Tree House** sent in response to our request.

C - Info is from annual report.

Sciences, operators of the Steinhart, had special dispensation from the National Marine Fisheries Service and USDA to keep the dolphins, in part because they had remained healthy for longer than any other whitesided dolphins ever captured. The dolphins had been used in behavioral research, ended due to ill health on the part of senior researcher Hal Markowitz. Visiting Sea World San Antonio, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** discovered curator Glenn Young knew Amphrite and Thetis, and was eager to have them, to give his pod more natural diversity of age. Working with former Steinhart director John McCosker, now retired, and his successor, Bob Jenkins, who began his career with Sea World and readily agreed to the transfer, Rockwell found ways around political obstacles created in part by past anti-dolphin captivity protests at the Steinhart. Technical problems were resolved by advisors Joe Giraci, Sam Ridgeway, and Bruce Stephens.

The Shedd Aquarium, in Chicago, hopes to achieve a first soon by breeding Australian lungfish in captivity. Ultrasound technician Theresa Robot of St. Francis Hospital in Evanston recently discovered a way to tell lungfish males from females without dissecting them, enabling biologists to pair them. Next problem: inducing mating. Australian lungfish, the most primitive of their kind, apparently haven't changed in 100 million years. Pollution and agricultural drainage are devastating their habitat.

when they proved unable to feed themselves.

Opened in 1984 with no marine mammals among 6,500 resident plants and animals, the Monterey Bay Aquarium now has three sea otters among a total of 364,953 plants and animals, representing 571 species, according to an October census. Many came in through the pumps that keep the tanks filled with water from the bay; the aquarium is believed to be the only one in the world to circulate seawater 24 hours a day. The census found 356,436 invertebrates, 7,789 fish, 669 plants, and 37 birds.

The Florida state attorney's office on December 5 dropped a trespassing charge filed against Ric O'Barry of the Dolphin Project by Joe Roberts of the Dolphin Alliance, who objected to O'Barry's presence aboard a truck delivering the dolphins Bogie and Bacall from the Sugarloaf Dolphin Sanctuary to a sea pen on the Indian River late last summer. A year and a half after O'Barry and Roberts took Bogie, Bacall, and an older companion named Molly from the former Ocean Reef Club to Sugarloaf, starting a troubled rehab-for-release project, and about nine months after O'Barry and Roberts split, both Bogie and Bacall are pregnant as result of summer swims with Luther, an ex-Navy dolphin from another rehab-for-release project, also underway at Sugarloaf. Roberts blames O'Barry for the pregnancies, which could delay their release past his April target date. Bogie and Bacall

—K.B.

are to give birth in June. O'Barry has meanwhile resigned from Sugarloaf, in part, he says, because over his objections, recorded in board meeting minutes, Sugarloaf president Lloyd Good III allowed Bogie, Bacall, and Luther to mate. O'Barry argues that due to pollution and the recent cold snap on the Indian River, Bogie and Bacall should be returned to Sugarloaf, to be released with Molly, who now has no female companions and cannot be put with Luther and two other ex-Navy dolphins without risk of mating.

Construction of the \$100 million Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific began on December 8. Animals are to begin arriving in late 1997; the opening is set for 1998.

Dolphin-safe may be on borrowed time

WASHINGTON D.C.—Motion to implement the October 4 Declaration of Panama, rolling back U.S. dolphin-safe tuna standards, commenced with the November 29 introduction of S 1420, the International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, by Senators Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski (both R-Alaska) and John Breaux (D-Louisiana).

Favored by the Clinton administration, S 1420 would replace the U.S. ban on imports of tuna netted on dolphin with a rule allowing the import of tuna caught on dolphin if no dolphin deaths were seen during the operation, and would allow the incidental deaths of 5,000 dolphins a year. The Declaration was signed by all the major Pacific tuna-fishing nations, and was endorsed by the Center for Marine Conservation, Environmental Defense Fund, Greenpeace, the National Wildlife Federation, and the World Wildlife Fund, all of which favor “sustainable use” wildlife management.

Opposing the Declaration of Panama and S 1420, are the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Earth Island Institute, and most other major animal protection groups.

Senators Barbara Boxer of California and Joseph Biden of Delaware, authors of the 1990 law creating the dolphin-safe tuna standard, on December 7 introduced a bill they claim would implement the Declaration of Panama without allowing netting “on dolphin.” California Representative George Miller introduced a House companion bill. All are Democrats.

Bycatch

Defending the Declaration, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission director James Joseph argues that dolphin mortality from netting “on dolphin” is down 97% since 1986, including a decline of 96% in mortality per set. “Improved performance, rather than the dolphin-safe policy, has been the major cause of the drop,” according to Joseph, who says the number of sets “on dolphin” is down only 27% over the same period. Joseph also holds that netting “on dolphin” produces less bycatch and therefore harms other species less than the alternative methods, “log sets” and “school sets.” Declining bycatch could, however, reflect declining marine populations, rather than more careful fishing.

Most observers cite as impetus to the Declaration of Panama the conflict between the U.S. dolphin-safe stan-

Canada declares war on seals

(from page 1)

But that was before Canada moved from trying to encourage sealing as an industry to the present stance of wanting to kill seals willy-nilly.

Captain Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and *Sea of Slaughter* author Farley Mowat in a joint statement quoted *Ottawa Citizen* coverage of a Tobin speech made on July 7, 1994: “Canada will not consider a return to seal culling on its east coast, despite fishermen’s claims that the seals threaten Newfoundland’s endangered cod. Evidence of the impact of seals in the destruction of cod was not clear, Tobin said. ‘There is no doubt in my mind that man has been a far greater predator,’ he said.”

Tobin argued in his December 18 declaration of war on harp seals that their numbers have doubled since 1983, to 4.8 million, and could reach six million in just five years without a revived massacre. His logic was weakened, however, by his simultaneous claim that up to 287,000 seals a year could be killed before leveling the population. According to Tobin, the seals ate 142,000 tons of Atlantic cod.

“There is no scientific data that harp seal populations have increased substantially,” responded Watson and Mowat. “There is scientific data to demonstrate that cod is not a major or significant part of a harp seal diet. In fact, the largest predator group affecting cod are other fish species. It is these species that harp seals do prey upon significantly. Removal of harp seals could increase the numbers of fish that prey upon young cod. The ecological complexity of the Grand Banks is not factored into Tobin’s decision.”

Suppressed evidence

Guelph University marine mammologist David Lavigne and the International Fund for Animal Welfare anticipated Tobin’s announcement of an expanded seal hunt with a December 17 press conference, at which IFAW publicized a British boycott of Canadian salmon to protest Canadian sealing, while Lavigne accused Tobin of suppressing evidence that seals as well as cod need protection.

“If [government] scientists aren’t allowed to freely discuss their results,” Lavigne charged, “they cannot function as scientists.”

Former Department of Fisheries and Oceans biologist Peter Meisenheimer, now with the International Marine Mammal Association, had rebuked Canadian government manipulation of scientific data in a December 6 posting to the Conservation Biology Discussion Group on the Internet.

“Every result produced by DFO scientists who have actually looked for evidence of an impact of [cod] stock

“The cod population crashed,” Watson and Mowat argued, “because of Canadian Department of Fisheries mismanagement,” based on falsified science, “in allowing large Canadian drag trawlers a free rein on the Banks. The Sea Shepherds have waged campaigns on the east coast to protect both cod and seals. In both cases, we are protecting them from the same thing—the incompetence of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Brian Tobin managed to hoodwink Canadians with his so-called get-tough policy against Spain,” Watson and Mowat added, referring to Tobin’s spring order to intercept Spanish trawlers, which came nearly two years after Watson and crew, with Mowat’s cash support, intercepted the Cuban trawler *Rio Las Casas* in the same general area—and five months before Watson served 30 days in jail for the effort. But the *Rio Las Casas* fished no more after the 1993 encounter with the Sea Shepherds, whereas, Watson and Mowat charged, “Four to five dozen giant foreign trawlers continue to take cod, turbot, redfish, etcetera each day” in the area of the government interception.

“The Sea Shepherds will be organizing international demonstrations, advertising campaigns, mobilizing celebrities, and returning to the ice floes to once again protect harp seals,” Watson and Mowat pledged.

Political timing

They also suggested, on December 20, that Tobin might be acting with further political ambitions first in mind. On December 28, Newfoundland premier Clyde Wells, 58, announced his retirement, after heading the provincial government since 1989. Reported the Reuter news agency, “Widespread media speculation suggests that Brian Tobin, the high-profile minister of fisheries and oceans in the Liberal-led federal government and a native Newfoundlander from Cornerbrook, will run for the leadership job.”

As a former TV reporter, Tobin is well-positioned to feed such speculation while using sealing to keep himself before Newfoundland voters until a leadership convention is convened to pick Wells’ successor. Wells said he hoped the convention would be held before the end of March—shortly after the sealing season ends.

Friends of Animals noted another aspect of Tobin’s timing. “It was only last week,” said FoA president Priscilla Feral, “that Canada persuaded the European Council of Ministers to accept a 12-month delay in the implementing their regulation to embargo the import of furs caught by use of cruel trapping methods,” which was to take effect on January 1, and now has been postponed to 1997—or may be

dard and the ban on restraint of trade based on so-called "process standards" imposed by the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs. A GATT tribunal found the U.S. dolphin-safe standard in violation in October 1991.

Heinz vs. Heinz

Syndicated columnist Alexander Cockburn offered a further explanation, however, on December 1, pointing to the clout of Teresa Heinz, heir to \$670 to \$740 million, vice chair of the Environmental Defense Fund, confidante of Undersecretary of State for Environmental Affairs Tim Wirth, widow of the late Senator John Heinz, and wife of Senator John Kerry. Wrote Cockburn, "Heinz Corporation subsidiary Star-Kist is the world's largest tuna processor. Having invested millions in dolphin-safe fishing fleets and having mined excellent publicity, Star-Kist is loath to see the dolphin-safe law changed. Nonetheless, Teresa, one of the Heinz Corporation's largest stockholders, is pressing hard for Star-Kist to reverse its stance."

Cockburn predicted that the Clinton administration would try "to sneak the dolphin death bill through as a rider to the Magnuson Act, due to be voted on before the Christmas recess," but the budget impasse with Congress put the Magnuson Act reauthorization on hold.

recruitment [by harp seals] has shown absolutely none," Meisenheimer said. "In a recent paper in *Science*, DFO biologists found no evidence. At a recent North Atlantic Fisheries Organization meeting, DFO folks presented an abstract which specifically addressed the issue of seals and stock recruitment and reported no evidence of an impact. Whatever the reason," Meisenheimer continued, "DFO has chosen to ignore the findings of these biologists and has pursued a campaign that is an insult to those who are legitimately concerned with conservation and to many of their own staff. In support of their position, they have used a population model of harp seal abundance that is methodologically biased toward producing a higher result in the recent year; an inappropriate statistical test is employed, apparently because the appropriate test would find no significant difference in population between 1990 and 1994; and DFO public relations indicates that there has been a stepwise annual increase in [seal] populations, when they have no data to show such a finding. Models for grey seals are structured around the assumption of an effect on recruitment and are then used as evidence of such an effect. This has culminated in a release from DFO in which they make the definitive and utterly false statement that harp seals are limiting groundfish stock recruitment. DFO scientists who have made public statements contradicting this claim are rumored to have been officially reprimanded."

dismantled. "We recall that the bloody slaughter of harp seal pups on Canadian ice has long been a sensitive issue in Europe, which has a longstanding embargo on their furs, as well. Imagine if Tobin had made his announcement before the European ministers met. Such an offensive announcement might have jeopardized the delicate politics involved in persuading the Europeans to accept the products of cruelty."

Seal notes

On December 20, two days after Brian Tobin announced the expanded Atlantic Canada seal hunt, the pro-hunting British Columbia Wildlife Federation called for a Pacific coast hunt of harbor seals, ostensibly to protect overfished salmon.

Norway set 1996 sealing quotas on December 23. According to Georg Blichtfeldt, secretary for the High North Alliance, who cited government sources, the toll could include 10,900 adult harp seals and 17,500 weaned pups.

Storm waves swept hundreds of seal pups off of Seal Island in False Bay on the Cape Peninsula of South Africa during mid-December. Most drowned. Wildlife officials said the remains of 420 seal pups were recovered from Muizenberg and Strandfontein beaches on December 17-18. The deaths were not expected to greatly affect the population, as 12,000 to 15,000 seals a year are born at Seal Island.

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Cetaceans

Captain Paul Watson honors

Captain James Waddell, commander of the Confederate warship *Shenandoah*, in the 3rd/4th Quarter 1995 edition of *The Sea Shepherd Log*. Waddell in 1865 sank 38 of the 85 Yankee whalers in the North Pacific—fighting on for seven months after the Confederacy surrendered—without either taking or losing a human life. His official goal was doing economic harm to the Union, but crewman Joshua Minor told one whaling captain, “We have entered into a treaty offensive and defensive with the whales. We are up here by special agreement to disperse their mortal enemies.” Watson credits Waddell and crew with preventing the extinction of bowheads and grey whales.

Marine mammologist Steven Leatherwood in November warned that estimates of as many as 120 surviving Yangtze River dolphins may be far high.

“The first carefully planned and coordinated survey of the species’ entire range, from Shanghai to Yichang, was conducted in late 1994 and early 1995,” Leatherwood wrote. It “resulted in sightings of only five river dolphins,” along with about 2,500 finless porpoises. “Even accounting for animals missed, it is difficult to conclude that the population is more than a few dozen animals,” Leatherwood said. “It is difficult to find any reasonable scenario in which this species can survive very long into the next century. An 11th hour effort is underway to capture as many of the remaining dolphins as possible and move them into Shi Shou Semi-Natural Reserve,” a 40-square-kilometre oxbow of the Yangtze. Until December 22, when a 10-year-old female was captured near Wuhan, the population of the three-year-old reserve was one, an 18-year-old male.

Cyprus fisheries director Andreas Demetropoulos announced December 29 that

in mid-January Cypriot fishers will begin testing echo devices intended to warn dolphins away from their nets. Similar devices to warn whales away from nets are under study off Atlantic Canada.

Commerce Secretary Ron Brown on December 11 formally notified President Bill Clinton that, “Japanese nationals are engaged in scientific whaling activities that diminish the effectiveness of the International Whaling Commission conservation program,” by killing up to 440 minke whales this winter within the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary surrounding Antarctica. Clinton now has until February 9 to tell Congress what he plans to do about it—but is not obligated to do anything. Brown said he certified Japan because the Japanese government, while promising it would not increase minke killing within the sanctuary for at least seven years, “made no commitments regarding [a reduction in] scientific whaling in the North Pacific or regarding the possibility of lethal research in any location involving another species of whale.” A similar certification of Japanese research whaling in 1988 brought a ban on Japanese fishing within U.S. waters, and Japanese compliance with the letter, if not the spirit, of the global moratorium on commercial whaling. New Zealand foreign minister Don McKinnon on December 24 issued a parallel criticism of Japanese research whaling.

The Scripps Institution of Oceanography on November 30 was allowed to resume the use of underwater speakers off the northern California coast to measure ocean temperatures, after investigators determined that sound generated during equipment tests was unlikely to have had anything to do with the discovery of three dead humpback whales in the vicinity.

The New England Fishery Management Council on December 14 recommended closing a 5,000-square-mile zone off northern Massachusetts and southern Maine from March 25 to April 25, to protect migrating harbor porpoises.

South Australia state primary industries minister Dale Baker on December 18 formed a study group to find ways of halting dolphin damage to the sea pens of tuna farmers.

Fish

The captains of four Chinese vessels on December 29 drew 10 months in jail for illegal entry into Philippine waters, on top of the two-year, four-month terms they are already serving for possession of explosives and cyanide, with apparent intent to poison fish. Fifty-eight crew were pardoned in October after serving six-month terms—just as Australian reef ecologist Bob Johannes reported that cyanide fishing has extirpated older Napoleon wrasse from Philippine and Indonesian waters. Elite restaurants in Hong Kong and China pay as much as \$82 a pound for Napoleon wrasse, which if unmolested may live more than 100 years. Ironically, the Tang dynasty (618-907) and Sung dynasty (960-1279) banned poison-fishing.

European Union fisheries ministers on December 22 agreed to a total allowable 1996 North Sea catch of 78,000 tons of fish, down from 115,000 in 1995 in order to allow overfished stocks to recover.

“Deep fisheries are often not sustainable,” warns Center for Marine Conservation senior scientist Jack Sobel, noting fast-growing interest in trolling at depths of 800 to 2,400 feet due to depletion of upper water species. Many deep sea fish mature and reproduce slowly, and one, the orange roughy, native to waters off New Zealand, is already overfished.

More than 80,000 captive-reared Atlantic salmon have escaped from British Columbia sea pens during the past two years, the *Vancouver Sun* reported December 9. Escapees have been found from Seattle to the Aleutians, and in spawning runs in at least three rivers. Many, the *Sun* said, are “freakish mutants.” The exposé came a month after the National Research Council recommended that U.S. salmon policy shift from emphasizing numbers of fish to protecting wild fish and genetic diversity, using hatcheries to restore rather than replace wild runs.

Manatees

A late December cold snap caused 656 manatees—about a third of the North American population—to gather at five Florida Power & Light plants near Cape Canaveral, Fort Lauderdale, and Fort Myers. 1995 may have been the worst year on record for Florida manatees, with 199 found dead as of December 29. The highest known toll was 206 in 1990, including many victims of a record cold snap in late 1989. This year’s cold snap also killed thousands of fish in the Indian River Lagoon and devastated tropical fish farms in Hillsborough County.

Off-course manatees appeared in New Orleans and Houston canals in early December. The Houston manatee was netted out of heavily polluted Buffalo Bayou and trucked to Sea World San Antonio, where staff hope to figure out where she came from, and if she can be taken back there.

Conservation

The California Department of Fish and Game and University of California have planted 50,000 juvenile red abalone in Bodega Bay, off Salt Point, off Fort Bragg, and in Half Moon Bay, emulating a New Zealand experiment that found 50% of planted abalone survived at least one year. Each abalone can spawn up to 300,000 eggs; successful planting could facilitate recovery of the species, in trouble from over-collection, poaching, pollution, and at some sites, predation by sea otters.

Eighteen volunteer field docents began patrolling the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in early December, after completing a 40-hour training course provided by the Center for Marine Conservation. The program is the first of its kind in the U.S.

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society

Animal control & rescue

Michigan governor John Engler on December 22 vetoed a bill to require sterilization of pets adopted from animal shelters. "I believe that mandates from state government should come only in instances of protection of the health and safety of the general public. I am not persuaded that the sterilization of adopted pets, while a meritorious goal, meets this standard," Engler said. He also claimed that under the state's Headlee tax limitation amendment against the imposition of unfunded mandates, the requirement of the bill that shelters collect a \$25 neutering deposit and keep sterilization records could oblige the state to pick up enforcement costs.

Judge Michael Kirby on November 17 agreed with Legislation In Support of Animals that Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, was violating a 1990 state law by refusing to issue neutering contracts to adopters of dogs and cats from the parish pound. Apparently to spite LISA, parish president Clyde Giordano announced that the pound will no longer do adoptions; all animals not reclaimed by their families will be euthanized.

To spur dog license sales, the chief dog wardens of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, are using license applications as entries in a raffle for three pairs of seats behind home plate at a sold-out Indians game. For that, some guys might license the whole neighborhood.

Veterinarian Robert Cortesi, of Naperville, Illinois, recently bought the mortgage on a piece of land for the animal rescue group ADOPT, which is now fundraising to repay him and build a shelter. Founded in 1989, ADOPT has placed 5,500 dogs and cats in homes via a fostering program and a cable TV show. Cortesi currently boards some animals for the group in exchange for help cleaning his cages and bathing pets.

Former British Veterinary Association president Paul DeVile was on December 1 appointed chief veterinary officer for the National Canine Defence League, the leading dog protection organization in the United Kingdom.

Fort Wayne, Indiana, nationally noted for progressive and effective animal control enforcement based on conflict resolution, recently elected a city council committed to privatization—and that has residents nervous that the animal control unit may be disbanded in favor of the lowest bidder.

Animal control officers in Virginia Beach, Virginia, are reportedly unhappy with a new regulation requiring them to leave firearms locked up at headquarters when off duty—a common police policy, usually implemented to prevent city liability for accidents involving service-issue weapons.

CAPER, Last Chance For Animals, and Animal Aid Inc. have posted a \$1,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for recent pet thefts in Linn, Benton, Marion, and Douglas counties, Oregon, using a white pickup truck decked out to look like an animal control vehicle.

Lake Mills, Wisconsin, has repealed an ordinance limiting residents to just two pets, in favor of enforcing a nuisance ordinance against people whose animals become neighborhood problems.

Oklahoma City on December 12 approved a \$2 million bond issue to outfit the new city animal shelter, 19,997 to 8,524.

The Massachusetts SPCA produced Preparing Fido For Your Child's Arrival, a 30-minute video, upon discovering that 75 pets were surrendered at just one of the eight MSPCA shelters in a six-month period due to the arrival of a new child in the home—even though none of the pets had actually injured a child. Info: 1-800-711-6877.

Contrary to widely circulated rumor, says the Sheriff's Department in Adams County, Ohio, 200 dogs did not starve to death just before Christmas at Peebles Pet Haven, a private shelter. Instead, the elderly proprietor went into the hospital, and local dog wardens, sheriff's deputies, and the HSUS regional office teamed up to find new homes for 55 dogs. No dogs died, and the proprietor still has her personal pets.

ANIMAL LINK KEEPS D.C. CONTRACT

WASHINGTON D.C.—

Former Humane Society of the U.S. vice president for investigations David Wills was apparently out of the picture but still a presence when the Washington D.C. Department of Human Services extended the District of Columbia Animal Control contract with Animal Link Inc. for a second 50 days from December 20, despite the complaint of the Washington Humane Society, the service provider from 1980 to October 31, 1995, that "In a matter of weeks the shelter became dirty and disorganized; the number of animals taken in declined by nearly 50%; and patrons are calling WHS complaining of lack of response from DCAC."

With the complaint, WHS sent the city a list of alleged Animal Link violations of humane standards, backed by an incident log signed by 13 former shelter volunteers, who charged in a December 3 letter that Animal Link has "repeatedly created situations that pose a great risk to public health and safety."

The Washington D.C. administration did not respond to ANIMAL PEOPLE's inquiry as to whether the allegations by WHS and former volunteers were investigated before the contract with Animal Link was renewed, and if so, what was determined.

WHS yielded the DCAC contract because the strapped city was \$400,000 behind in payment for services. However, WHS executive director Mary Healey has made clear that WHS wants the job if a properly funded longterm contract is offered. Animal Link took over as a hastily assembled coalition of volunteers and former shelter workers, still in the nonprofit incorporation process, headed by executive director Dee Atwell, former WHS veterinarian Gerald Eichinger, and former WHS volunteer Phyllis Horowitz.

Wills never had an official role in Animal Link, but was prominently involved, along with his wife Lori Wills (White) during the first few days after Animal Link assumed the DCAC management, which came just two weeks after his October 14 termination by HSUS. Wills, who had been involved in negotiating a proposed takeover of DCAC by

HSUS that fell through in September, a month after HSUS put him on administrative leave, appeared to be trying to pick up the pieces of his career, but "absented himself," according to the incident log, after alleged problems at DCAC under Animal Link drew local media attention, and media discovery of his presence attracted more.

One broadcast, by WUSA-TV, interviewed Sandra LeBost of Royal Oak, Michigan, about the circumstances of Wills' 1989 resignation after 10 years as executive director of the Michigan Humane Society, shortly after the MHS board learned that funds were missing. On December 14, LeBost told ANIMAL PEOPLE, a WUSA-TV staffer informed her that Wills had sued the station for libel, producing a letter from former MHS board president Bob Sorrock stating that the board had exonerated Wills of any involvement with the missing money. However, Sorrock said this was done while he was board president; according to *Detroit Free Press* coverage of the case, he resigned with three other board members and Wills almost at the outset of the investigation. WUSA-TV had no comment.

The Humane Society of the United States on November 15 sued Wills in U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland alleging that "From at least in or about December 1992 through August 1995," Wills "improperly received at least \$93,414 in cash, goods, and services" at HSUS expense. Among the transactions cited were shipping a personal horse to Michigan and allegedly paying the transporter as a consultant on horse slaughter, and double-invoicing HSUS and the National Geographic Society for expenses in connection with a trip to Vietnam.

Wills has reportedly countersued HSUS and HSUS president Paul Irwin.

Irwin on December 8 sent a strongly worded letter to the Washington D.C. city government, stating that, "HSUS offers our total, unequivocal support to the Washington Humane Society as the agency to provide animal care and control services to Washington D.C."

Animal control officer Ralph E. Holmes, 52, of Granville, New York, resigned on December 7 and pleaded guilty to one count of cruelty on December 8 for drowning a cat in the Mettawee River on November 11. Holmes has admitted drowning more than 100 cats to save on vet bills.

Dog-shooting policies are under fire in Clarksville, Tennessee, where police officer Jay Skidmore shot an 8-pound Chihuahua on December 11, claiming the dog was vicious, and Xenia Township, Ohio, where a local farmer and Greene County animal control officer Scott Finley shot two dogs on December 3 for allegedly chasing cattle. Realizing the dog he shot survived, Finley took him back to the animal control office and notified the owner. Finley took the tags from the other dog, but didn't realize he was still alive, too. That dog was finally rescued 17 hours later.

Frank Zigrang ad--
paid through 1995

Pat Klimo, of Ringwood, Illinois, was fined \$50 plus court costs on December 19 for continuing to operate her Pets In Need no-kill shelter from her residential property, 18 months after she was initially notified of being in violation of zoning. Ironically, Klimo could legally operate a breeding kennel, she told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** midway through her protracted fight to avoid closure, as "agricultural" enterprises are allowed.

Morocco killed one million stray dogs between 1986 and 1994 to fight rabies, says the Health Ministry, including a peak of 260,000 in 1989, but only 62,986 in 1993 and 65,579 in 1994.

Shanghai, China, reportedly picked up more than 5,000 unlicensed dogs in a November anti-rabies sweep. Shanghai has had 13 human rabies fatalities since 1989, and had 40,000 known dog bites just last year.

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News from zoos

Improvements

Four months after giving the Los Angeles Zoo one year to make improvements necessary to keep accreditation, American Zoo and Aquarium Association representative Stephen McCusker credits interim zoo administrator Manuel Mollinedo, 49, with accomplishing many of the goals. "He's worked miracles," adds Los Angeles city council member Rita Walters, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Zoo Improvement, indicating that Mollinedo could soon be given the top zoo job on a permanent basis. A longtime Parks and Recreation official, Mollinedo took the interim post with no background in either zoo management or veterinary science. His hand was strengthened by a recent report to the Ad Hoc Committee by Los Angeles chief legislative analyst Ron Deaton and chief administrative officer Keith Comrie, who argued that the zoo should become an independent branch of the city government, with greater authority over the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, the private fundraising organization that runs the zoo concessions. Zoo attendance has fallen since 1990, while the concessions lost money in both 1993 and 1994.

The Bronx Zoo has begun work on a \$30 million "Rain Forest Trail," to include 300 animals and 20,000 plants of 400 species simulating the central African rainforest. Two colonies of about 15 gorillas apiece will share semi-natural habitat with mandrills, monkeys, Red River hogs, and rock pythons. Visitors will pay a 50¢ surcharge—and will be allowed to direct it to their choice among rainforest projects sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society. Formerly known as the New York Zoological Society, WCS operates the three New York zoos and the New York Aquarium, and is among the world leaders in funding field research on endangered species. The "Rain Forest Trail" is in turn subsidized by \$9.5

A clause in the year-old deal that separated the Lincoln Park Zoological Society from the Chicago Park District left the 70-year-old Indian Boundary Park Zoo under interim joint management, and allows either the society or the Park District to close it permanently after December 31, 1995. Two alpacas were moved to the Lincoln Park Zoo last spring, the USDA cited the zoo for several minor violations of Animal Welfare Act in July, two Sardinian mouflon rams were sent to a Tennessee zoo in October, and zookeeper Richard Tranel said in early November that he'd been told the zoo would be shut down. Public outcry apparently saved it, however, as on December 13 the Park District committed \$50,000 to renovations. The zoo now houses just eight pygmy goats, two whitetailed deer, seven pheasants, and two mute swans.

Fourteen zoos are using a less toxic antifreeze in their vehicles this winter as part of a demonstration project coordinated by the AZA. Spilled conventional antifreeze, which includes sweet-tasting ethylene glycol, is a leading cause of accidental animal poisonings. Although no animals at AZA-accredited zoos are known to have died from ingesting antifreeze, the AZA has asked them all to switch to the safer antifreeze as soon as possible.

Trouble

The Milwaukee County Zoo expects to have a deficit for 1995 of \$726,500. The zoo was ahead of projected annual attendance on July 11, but was already running at a loss after several rainy weekends in April and May. More rain put final July attendance at the lowest level since 1981—and still more rain made August attendance the worst since 1983. The run of bad luck also included the July 10 birth of twin Siberian tiger cubs whose mother became

"People don't even look good in animal skins. The skins look best when they are healthy, sleek and supple, and on the animal," asserts Sharing the World with Animals, an educational series distributed by the San Diego Zoo. This Bridgeport Zoo otter agrees. (K.B.)

Acquisitions

Under attack by the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida for purportedly intending to take African species from the wild, Walt Disney World conservation initiatives manager Kim Sams acknowledges, "Some animals will come from wild areas." In specific, she explains, "we may take some elephants and hippos from Kruger National Park," in South Africa, where wardens have been shooting purported surplus animals. "These would only be animals who would otherwise be culled," Sams emphasizes. "The majority of mammals and birds will come from captive breeding."

The Lowry Park Zoo, of Brookfield, Florida, expects to begin attempting to breed endangered red wolves in March at an isolated 1,320-acre site in Polk County. Offspring may be released as part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's red wolf reintroduction program. The breeding center plans

Foreign zoos

China in November announced plans to turn the Wolong panda breeding center at the foot of Mount Futou in southwestern Sichuan province into an eco-tourist destination, to be called China Panda World. Dongdong, the star of the breeding center, in late August gave birth to her sixth cub in five years. About 1,000 wild pandas also inhabit the Mount Futou area. "Completion of the park (scheduled for 2020) will liberate pandas from behind bars, while saving tourists from the inconvenience and risk," an official stated. Developing artificial insemination of pandas in 1978, to circumvent the species' notorious reluctance to mate, China now has 48 captive-bred pandas, with a cub survival rate of 84%, up from 31% a decade ago. Of 36 cubs born at Wolong, 21 lived at least six months. Seven Chinese zoos have also had panda births; outside China, only the Mexico City Zoo has a record of successful panda breeding.

Police warned residents of Pecs, Hungary, to stay indoors on December 28, as a helicopter patrol and detachments on foot sought a wolf who escaped from a local zoo, killed an elderly woman, seriously injured three children, and reportedly bit several other people. News reports didn't indicate if the wolf might have been rabid, but rabies has recently occurred in Hungary as well as neighboring nations.

The directors of Nizhny Novgorod Zoo in Russia on November 30 threatened to free two Siberian tigers if the city didn't feed them. The newly opened zoo hasn't drawn enough visitors to support itself.

Moscow Zoo official Natalia Istratova recently told the *Baltimore Sun* that at least 15 bears have been abandoned in that city this year by failed exhibitors, while boars and lions have been found in cramped high-rise apartments. Two bears left in a vacant building ate a third bear when handouts from passers-by weren't enough to sustain them. The Moscow bird market, tightly policed in Soviet times, now often

million from New York City. A scheduled \$4 million renovation of the Central Park Children's Zoo, including \$1 million in city funding over the next four years, has meanwhile been postponed until 1997 because of a clash between WCS, which wants to remove fantasy structures such as Noah's Ark and Jonah's Whale, and Parks Commissioner Henry Stern, who along with the League of Urban Landscape Architects wants to preserve them. The structures were built in 1961 and abandoned when the Children's Zoo was closed due to dilapidation in 1991. A similar but older Children's Zoo on the Bronx Zoo site was dismantled in 1981.

Sanctuaries

Last July someone dumped four six-week-old kittens at the Wildlife Images Sanctuary in Grants Pass, Oregon. Volunteers caught, neutered, and adopted out three, but the fourth eluded them. Starving, he eventually dashed into a pen where Griz, a 560-pound male grizzly bear, was eating a bucket of chicken. Because male grizzlies are notoriously grouchy, Griz had been kept alone since arriving in 1990, after a train killed his mother and sister. "The kitten was so hungry he walked up and begged for food," recalls Wildlife Images founder Dave Siddon. "I thought, 'Oh my gosh, he'll be killed.' With all due deliberateness, the bear pulled a piece of chicken out and dropped it beside his forepaw, and the cat walked up and ate it." They now eat, sleep, and play together—and the cat won't let humans near him unless Griz is close. He whacks Griz on the nose if the play gets too rough; Griz backs off.

Wildlife Waystation, a 160-acre rehabilitation center in the Angeles National Forest near Sherman Oaks, California, is completing permanent holding facilities for 27 African lions and "liger" lion/tiger hybrids rescued from the Ligertown Game Farm in Lava Hot Springs, Idaho. Fifteen other Ligertown big cats were killed by a neighboring landowner and a 50-member posse on September 21 after a mass escape. Ligertown owners Robert

pregnant despite injections of Porcine Zona Pellucida, a pig hormone used as an experimental contraceptive. The mother had already raised one litter, and being genetically represented, was no longer part of the Siberian tiger Species Survival Plan.

A raccoon killed 11 scarlet ibises, just purchased for \$250 apiece, on November 20, their first night at the San Francisco Zoo's Friendship Lagoon. The flightless birds were trapped on an island, previously occupied at different times by flamingoes, geese, pelicans, and swans. General curator David Robinette said raccoons, skunks, and grey foxes are a constant problem at the zoo.

Fieber and Dotti Martin were well known to authorities. In 1984 state and federal officials raided a game ranch Fieber ran in Oregon. Charged with 54 counts of animal cruelty, Fieber pleaded no contest to four misdemeanor counts pertaining to food storage, and got the rest dropped. Moving to north-central Idaho, Fieber and Martin ran into trouble again in 1986 when one of their lions was shot while stalking a neighbor's horse. Ordered to build better cages, they moved again, to the Lava Hot Springs site, where in 1989 they were convicted of running a wildlife park without a permit but won a reversal when a judge ruled that the legal definition of "wildlife park" was insufficiently specific.

Wildlife Waystation on November 21 took in two grizzly bear cubs, orphaned when Kirk Giroux of Coram, Montana, shot their mother after she surprised him in his yard. The mother grizzly had already been trapped and relocated away from humans three times in three years. The grizzly orphans were the ninth and tenth placed by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks this year, with five others still needing homes. Because grizzlies are difficult to keep in an enclosure and costly to feed and insure, zoo space for them is scarce; because unfavorable weather hurt their natural food supply, conflicts with humans were especially frequent in 1995.

to raise whooping cranes and Florida sandhill cranes as well, starting in two or three years.

Three endangered northern white rhinos borrowed by the San Diego Wildlife Park in 1989 were to be returned to the Dvur Kravole Zoo in the Czech Republic on January 1 after failing to mate—but on November 5 two of them did mate, the first to do so in the northern hemisphere. The wildlife park has now arranged to keep them as permanent residents.

The Port Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, Washington, has accepted an apparent orphan female polar bear cub who was found in October hiding under a house in Barrow, Alaska. Polar bear cubs are usually born in pairs and stay close to their mothers, but an extensive search turned up only reports that a starving mother and two cubs had been seen a month earlier, 80 miles southwest.

The December 17 birth of two polar bear cubs at the Denver Zoo seems to be quelling public distress over the November 12 transfer of orphan polar bears Klondike and Snow to Sea World Florida, whose new "Northern Shores" exhibit is considered by zoo professionals to be the closest approach yet to duplicating Arctic habitat in a year-round indoor situation. The most popular animals the Denver Zoo ever had, whose presence doubled attendance and increased family memberships by a third, Klondike and Snow had outgrown their quarters.

features endangered species, typically kept in appalling conditions. "It's not that we don't have any law," said All-Russian Society for Nature Conservation vice president German Gan. "It's that we're not stable enough to enforce what we have."

Scott Connor, 17, of Beaverton, Ontario, is to receive monthly payments for life beginning in 1997 from an annuity bought with \$934,000 paid by the Metro Toronto Zoo—without admitting guilt—in settlement of an 11-year legal battle that began when Connor, then age six, followed his 8-year-old brother and an 11-year-old friend in climbing over the zoo's back fence. Purportedly mistaking the zoo's Arctic wolves for big dogs, the trio teased them. When Connor fell and caught his arm in the fence, the wolves tore the flesh off to the bone, requiring the arm to be amputated at the shoulder. Connor could receive up to \$11.2 million if he lives to age 80.

Matthews Phosa, premier of Mpumalanga state in South Africa, reportedly told a newspaper on December 19 that criminals must be put "in a zoo so people can go and scorn them." The comment upset zoo people as well as human rights advocates.

A ban on cuddling koalas imposed by New South Wales, Australia, has diverted Japanese tourism to rival Queensland, charges Australian Wildlife Park marketing director Gus Maher. Cuddling one of the park's 60 captive koalas—for a fee—was its mainstay.

The last resident antelope and the hoses that filled the crocodile pool at the Kisangani Zoo in eastern Zaire were reported missing on December 28. State radio said the thieves "were probably hungry, or just greedy for money."

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The memory of an elephant

by Donna Robb

At least one of the estimated 600 elephant handlers in the U.S. has been killed in each of the past 15 years by an elephant's foot, trunk, or tusk, or as part of an elephant sandwich, making elephant training riskier, in fatalities per thousand, than any other occupation.

So who would want such a job? I would. I was an elephant keeper for four years at the Cleveland Metropark Zoo. I worked with two female African elephants, Simba and Tiani, who touched my life more than anything else but the births of my three daughters. I went through two of my pregnancies while working as an elephant keeper, and never received more than a squashed wedding band and a few stitches in my forearm to show for it. What would the statisticians have done with a stomped 9-months-pregnant keeper?

I knew elephants killed people when I took the job, fresh out of college with an Associates degree in animal health. I knew they were immense, strong, intelligent animals who could be trained but never really tamed. I had heard of elephants brutally dismembering their handlers after decades-long relationships. Yet I wasn't afraid. I wasn't even concerned. I was an "animal person." Animals liked me, and I felt safe in the belief that the elephants would like me too.

I was naive, but luckily, I was right. I can't describe the exhilaration I felt the first time I stood right next to an African elephant, pumped with adrenalin, yet with weak legs. I couldn't keep the smile off my face or my hands to myself. I didn't want to go home after my first work day. I wanted to spend the night in the building with the animals. I was scolded repeatedly during my two-month training period for entering the elephant areas without a veteran keeper.

I soon knew when Simba was afraid, angry, or content. I sensed her moods

wasn't much bigger than her body. She tentatively explored the strange walls, fixtures, and storage areas. I let her pick her pace, and retreat when fear became paramount. Once she became comfortable in the hall, I gave her basic commands and she readily complied. Had I forced obedience from the beginning, I think I would have added to her fear and made the exercise futile. Patience paid off, and our pleasant, periodic trips down the hall led eventually to the refrigerator, where Simba would calmly munch an apple or banana. Such excursions helped relieve boredom, and I realized that they signified how Simba had allowed me to become the matriarch of her herd. She must have known that I would not lead her into danger, and that I respected her cautious elephant ways. Although I was always in control when working directly with Simba, I'm sure she did not resent my dominance.

Simba was discerning. Some keepers she liked, others she tolerated, and still others she loathed.

Elders or close kin in an elephant herd push and prod a fallen member to get back up, as if aware that a downed elephant may suffocate beneath her own weight. On November 11, 1995, Simba and Tiani demonstrated this behavior when a 16-year-old companion, Tribby, collapsed from an apparent viral infection, moments after keepers coaxed her out of a moat where she had gone to eat locust tree leaves. Simba and Tiani struggled to raise Tribby for 45 minutes, giving up only after her death.

I was reminded of how I'd tested Simba's affection by lying in the elephant yard, motionless with my eyes half closed. She wrapped her trunk around my arm and tried to pull me up. I was honored to be treated as a fallen comrade.

Elephants are very protective of the ends of their trunks. The trunk is such an

I felt sorry for her, as she would never experience pregnancy and motherhood.

Tiani, the youngster, showed her confidence in me in a different way. She was too busy trying to play with and destroy my tools in the mornings to cat-nap. But when the shoveling was finished, before the zoo opened, I took her for morning walks across the grounds, past the monkey island, the bear grottoes, and the sea lion pool. We circled the bird building, and startled roaming peacocks. Those morning walks were special to me and exhilarating for Tiani. She was titillated by the sights, sounds, and smells around her. Her trunk searched the air and seemed to analyze everything we passed. With her head held high, her ears were radar. She walked with excitement and curiosity. She rumbled at the other zoo residents, and her feet, brushing the asphalt path, sounded like those big, fuzzy bathroom slippers on a tile floor.

On mornings that a certain co-worker took Tiani for her walks, it was a different story. Then Tiani would scream and defecate in fear, not an enthusiastic

Simba, Donna Robb, and Tiani, in 1984.

have periodic nightmares, vividly reliving the day Simba could have killed me. She didn't, and I continued to care for her and Tiani for two more years. Simba had attacked and injured other keepers. Once she thrust her tusk through a man's shoulder. She threw another keeper out the front of her barred exhibit into a brick wall. Simba had scared many a keeper into transfer. I was among the lucky ones. I did need five stitches in my left forearm on one occasion, after slicing myself open with a hoof knife while trimming Simba's foot pads. And I had to have my wedding band cut off of my finger after Simba smashed it with her molar teeth. This was my fault. I was rubbing her tongue. I never could figure out why she liked that, but I would occasionally indulge her. One day I was distracted as I talked to a visitor, and was unaware that I had my hand between her large back teeth. She must have felt the ring and decided to bite down on it. I learned my lesson: no jewelry on the job.

I left to go back to college, majoring in biology. I wanted to return to the zoo and improve the elephant program. I had

through ear flapping, head-shaking, leg positions, tail wagging, swaying, kicking, trumpeting, and rumbles. It was up to me to read the signs and respond. Most important, the elephants expected fairness. They accepted correction when it was understood and warranted. Punishment had to be immediate and humane. It usually consisted of a whack on the rump or a tug on the leg with my elephant hook, coupled with an I-mean-business tone of voice, but only when I was sure that the elephant understood what she was asked to do, and that she could physically obey me, but was choosing not to. I learned that patience, positive rewards, and reassurance got me farther than brute force. I strived to remember the natural behavior and social psychology of elephants as I worked with the girls, especially in novel situations.

I didn't believe in trying to work with an elephant who was overwhelmed by fear. For example, I would let Simba venture down the wide hall behind her indoor room. She was both curious and nervous. The hall

Fire kills primates

PHILADELPHIA—Fumes from an electrical fire killed 23 residents of the Philadelphia Zoo monkey house in their sleep early on December 24, as alarms failed to sound and security guards misattributed the smell of smoke to railroad locomotives idling nearby.

Ranging in age from 11 months to 30 years, the victims included a family of six western lowland gorillas, three Bornean orangutans, four white-handed gibbons, two ruffed lemurs, two mongoose lemurs, and six ringtailed lemurs. Ten primates housed farther from the blaze survived.

Shocked keepers were offered bereavement counseling.

Upon completing repairs, the zoo is expected to rebuild its primate collection by recalling animals it has out on loan to other institutions—including another six gorillas, one of whom, Chaka, 11, has sired six offspring at the Cincinnati Zoo.

Begun in 1859, the Philadelphia Zoo is the oldest in the U.S.

intricate, sensitive, and essential part of their bodies that to injure it in the wild would almost certainly mean death or at least severe handicap. Simba would cat-nap in the mornings while I raked, shoveled, and wheelbarrowed around her. Her delicate trunk would lie curled on the concrete floor within inches of my noisy activity. She did not do this with other keepers. When she remained in her cat-nap position while my shovel and rake came within an inch of her trunk, I knew she trusted me. We bonded. In subtle ways, she let me know that she knew me. She knew when I was depressed; she knew when I was menstruating; she knew when I was pregnant and lactating. She went through a false pregnancy, and developed mastitis as a result, while I was on maternity leave. False pregnancies are rare in elephants; I still wonder if I was to blame. Did my pregnancy trigger maternal yearning in Simba? Throughout my first pregnancy, Simba would place the end of her trunk, her "fingers," on my belly. She would gently press on me and draw air into her nostrils, then puff it out. She seemed to know I was pregnant, and I know, with that highly sensitive trunk, she could feel the baby move. The bigger my abdomen got, the gentler Simba was. She didn't bump into me, whack me with her tail, or "accidentally" pressure my feet with hers, as she had done earlier when aggravated. I was still breastfeeding when I returned to elephant keeping after a 6-month leave. Simba noticed right away. She again would probe my body with her trunk, gently grasping my milk-laden breasts. She had recovered from her false pregnancy and infected breast, yet

adventure-seeker but a quivering bundle of nerves. She did not trust or like that keeper. She feared his domineering, unreasonable hand. I suspect that if he had continued to work with Tiani as she grew, he would have become a casualty. Elephants keep score, bide their time, and await an opportunity to get even. Luckily for him and the elephants, he was promoted to a supervisory position.

Berserk

Elephants displace their aggression.

Simba hated heavy equipment: backhoes, loaders, large lawn mowers. The zoo maintenance department was supposed to warn us before approaching the pachyderm area with noisy machinery. One morning they didn't. Simba and Tiani were in their yard as I finished the last of the indoor cleaning. Suddenly, I heard a backhoe. I looked up and through the doorway came all four tons of Simba, wild-eyed, staring right at me, ears spread wide, head up, legs flying. I thought for a second that I was a goner. But I stood my ground, having no time to flee, and firmly yelled, "No!" She ran a complete circle around me, then flew back out as fast as she had arrived. With trembling knees I walked to the public viewing area at the perimeter of the yard, and safely watched as Simba kicked, stabbed with her tusks, and slammed into any inanimate object she could reach in the yard. She even beat at the air with her trunk. Those objects could have been me. Only a fool with a death wish would have entered that yard then. It was best to let Simba work out her anger and hope the enclosure could withstand her rage.

The enclosure survived, but I still

tried to get the elephants off of chains before I left. Conventional practice then was to keep captive elephants on two leg chains 16 hours a day. This seemed inherently wrong to me, since elephants walk for 16 hours a day in the wild. Overnight chaining frustrated their natural behavior, I reasoned, and might contribute to sparking dangerous tantrums. Frustrated that I could not convince zoo management of this, I left, hoping to someday return in a position to make changes. But I never did. Zoo officials have even longer memories than elephants, and did not appreciate having been challenged.

Fortunately, all-night chaining did end. Simba lived long enough to enjoy at least a few years of relative freedom to move.

I rarely visited Simba and Tiani after leaving. I still feel guilty that I did leave them. I found it hard to stand with the crowd, not close enough to touch "my" elephants, uncertain if they remembered me.

On December 10, Simba died, at age 42, almost exactly a month after Tribby's death. She was the third-oldest elephant in North America, one of the last survivors of the 1955 bring-'em-back-alive expedition that stocked the zoo. Only one hippopotamus and three tortoises outlived her.

I feel even worse that Simba's keepers didn't even notice she was ill. I'm sure I'd have noticed symptoms of her condition, hyperthyroidism, which by coincidence I noticed in my cat, Moses, and had treated not long before Simba collapsed. I can only be thankful that I didn't witness Simba's death on the concrete floor and her subsequent dismemberment with chainsaws—and that I had the chance to know and love her.

NACA 100
(through January 1996)

Cindy Kessler through March

More elephant news

Activists thought a July 10 stampede by two Clyde Beatty-Cole Brothers elephants during a performance in Queens, New York, might have marked a turning point in efforts to halt traveling elephant acts. None of the 12 spectators who were injured were hurt seriously, but the stampede did occur before the New York media, drawing national publicity, and came shortly after the same elephants made national TV with a May 20 stampede in Hanover, Pennsylvania. Within 10 days, the Beatty-Cole circus had cancelled scheduled elephant performances on Long Island, and retired the two elephants involved. Within 21 days the Performing Animal Welfare Society sued the USDA, asking that the Beatty-Cole, Hawthorn Corporation, and King Royal Circus elephant collections be confiscated due to alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act, purportedly contributing to the stampedes. Momentum soon shifted, however, as on August 25 the town board of Southampton, New York, unanimously voted to ask Beatty-Cole to bring performing elephants. Beatty-Cole followed with a media blitz defending its elephant handling. Although publicity about the New York and Hanover stampedes encouraged North Chicago, Illinois, to shut down elephant ride concessionaire David Tesch over the Labor Day weekend, under a city ordinance against possessing any animal "capable of causing injury or fright to any person," no new reports of elephant performance cancellations have reached **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in the four months since—possibly because there have been no more stampedes, supporting the Beatty-Cole claim that the only problem all along was that the two rogues, a pair of young females, disliked each other.

The \$5 million, 200-acre Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Center for Elephants, situated in central

The first male African elephant born in captivity since a 1984 birth at the Toronto Zoo was delivered at the Oakland Zoo on November 3, just a week after staff realized the mother, Lisa, age 18, was near term after a 22-month pregnancy. However, Lisa rejected the baby, named Kijana, obliging keepers to provide around-the-clock nursing and sanitary attention. A second male African elephant was born 18 days later to Donna, an older female who struggled unsuccessfully for four hours to raise him to his feet—assisted by Lisa. The second newborn, however, seriously dislocated his hip during the birthing and was euthanized after an examination at the University of California at Davis showed a ligament tear that might never heal sufficiently to support his weight. In theory, he might have been immobilized in a special framework for a healing period of indefinite length, but the technique has a poor record. An attempt to use it with an elephant named Stoney who suffered a similar injury during a September 1994 performance at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas failed on August 28 when the elephant fell, after seven months of immobility in a dark maintenance shed, and died anyway. The hotel was meanwhile cited by the USDA for inadequate feeding and sanitation. In consequence, the Performing Animal Welfare Society called a boycott of Circus Circus, owner of the Luxor Hotel, and elephant experts of a variety of perspectives questioned the wisdom of putting an elephant through prolonged immobility with no certainty of healing the injury. The Oakland Zoo now hopes Donna will become a surrogate mother to Kijana. The father of both calves was Smokey, a bull who killed his trainer in 1991 during musth, the hormonal state that precedes mating. The calves were conceived in January 1994.

Three days after Bangkok

Overhead at the National Zoo

WASHINGTON D.C.—Closed to the public repeatedly during the November/December federal budget impasse, the National Zoo made headlines earlier for introducing a unique 400-foot Orangutan Transit Line enabling the six resident orangs to swing from cables 35 to 45 feet above visitors as they cross at will from the current ape house to a schoolroom in the original monkey house, built in 1907. Unauthorized descents from support towers are inhibited by a 9,000-volt electric skirting around the tower platforms. The orangs were introduced to the

Orangutan

transit line in pairs, to see what one could learn from watching another. In the schoolroom, the orangs are learning to use a computer with a special symbol keyboard, which may eventually enable them to talk to visitors. The complete project, funded as a study of intelligence, is costing \$250,000.

Acclaim for the orang project helped overcome criticism of reptile curator Dale Marcellini's decision to retire a Komodo dragon named Sobot from breeding, and to donate her last 10 fertile eggs to an attempt by University of Florida at Gainesville researcher Tim Gates to find a method to determine the sex of unhatched Komodos. As in other reptiles, sex differentiation in Komodos is determined by temperature. "By knowing the sex of the animals as hatchlings," Marcellini said, "we can be much more efficient in our captive breeding," achieving greater reproductive success and genetic diversity without taking more Komodos from the wild. The wild population is estimated at 5,000 to 7,000.

Sobot, with 57 offspring, is the only Komodo dragon ever to produce viable eggs outside Indonesia. She is now believed to be over-represented in the captive gene pool—and Marcellini also believes the captive population may be too big. "There are not that many facilities that can display these animals humanely," he added.

Objected Wayne Hill, director of the National Reptile Breeder's Expo and president of the Central Florida Herpetological Society, "If zoos choose not to breed rare animals and sell the offspring, they are doing a disservice to their supporters and to the taxpayers. The day every American kid can see a Komodo dragon in the flesh, without a very long journey, then we can talk about a glut of Komodos."

Photo by Robert Harrison.

Primates

Forced to cut costs by 24 weekends of rain during the first nine months of

Among the last silverback gorillas in private hands in the U.S. are believed to

Florida, opened on December 12—exactly 200 years after the first elephant imported into the U.S. arrived. Directed by Asian elephant authority Richard Houck, the center includes 30 retired circus elephants who are now in a breeding program, together with six offspring. The Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus maintains the largest Asian elephant gene pool outside of the wild, where poaching pressure threatens to extirpate the species.

A 32-year-old elephant named Nadia, inclined toward depression and tantrums in recent weeks, on December 7 fatally tossed and trampled Cairo (Egypt) zookeeper Hamed Mohammed Salem, 64, as he brought her breakfast—the second time within days that she attacked him.

newspapers reported on the condition of an emaciated elephant kept chained for 20 years as a visitor attraction in a temple at Pathum Thani, Thailand, abbot Phra Kru Udom Pawanaphirat yielded to local protest and agreed to transfer the elephant to the Dusit Zoo in Bangkok. “We plan to feed him in the zoo for a while to see his condition and teach him to walk,” said zoo director Alongkorn Mahantanop. “Then we will send him to live in a national park.” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** published the initial story in our November 1995 edition, hours after receiving it, helping spark international protest on top of the local protest—but the issue was barely mailed before the rescue was effected. Our December edition went to press before we got the update.

Zoo people

Jim Fouts, 42, an unaccredited exotic animal broker/transporter who in 1990-1991 surfaced as a central figure in routing animals from AZA-accredited zoos to canned hunts, is now breeding about 25 species at his Tanganyika Wildlife Co. ranch near Goddard, Kansas, and promoting the sale of meat and antlers from captive-reared elk, after several years of breeding and selling ostriches. For several years beginning in 1977, Fouts captured South American monkeys for laboratory suppliers; then ran an exotic bird import business; and operated an avian quarantine station from 1982 to 1985. Because zoos are now more particular about who they deal with, Molly McMillin of the Wichita Eagle reported recently, Fouts now trades mainly with “privately owned zoos, circuses, and wealthy animal collectors,” and finds Kansas “a good place to do business because it does not have as many restrictions on raising exotic animals as does California.” Fouts is, however, advising Sedgewick County on a proposed ordinance to ban private ownership of “inherently dangerous” animals including “undomesticated cats over 15 pounds.” Presumably this does not include feral domestic cats.

Betty Dresser, director of the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Wildlife at the Cincinnati Zoo, will in January relocate to Algiers, Louisiana, as newly named head of both the \$15 million Audubon Center for Research of Endangered Species, set to open in July, and the Freeport-McMoran Audubon Species Survival Center, which opened in 1994. Dresser is perhaps best known for having led the research that brought the October birth of a test tube-conceived lowland gorilla.

**PRIMARILY PRIMATES
(through 7/96)**

1995 plus a \$53 million construction debt load for expanded marine mammal facilities, Marine World Africa USA on October 31 discontinued the chimpanzee act run since 1982 by husband-and-wife team Liam and Kim Hussey. Of the seven MWAUSA chimps, four, ages 13, 15, 21, and 22, were already retired from performing, and two others, ages 9 and 11, were near the usual upper age limit for performing chimps. They are, however, just coming into their prime breeding years, and are highly valued members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association-administered chimpanzee Species Survival Plan gene pool. “We have always wanted to build a new primate habitat for our retiring and breeding apes,” MWAUSA vice president for communications and public affairs Mary O’Herron told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** shortly before leaving MWUSA herself to form a consulting business with her new husband, former San Diego Zoo public relations chief Jeff Jouett. “That habitat has been put on hold for now,” O’Herron continued, “so we made the prudent yet difficult decision to find new and better homes for them.” In the interim, she said, “we plan to continue to showcase some of our younger chimps in our primate play area. The best thing for the older animals is for us to find a quality zoo or wildlife park where they can live out their lives.” O’Herron said there is no chance the chimps will be sold to laboratories. “Until the best homes possible are found, they will not leave Marine World,” she stated. MWUSA is now O’Herron’s major consulting client.

The South Texas Primate Observatory on December 17 completed the long-pending purchase of a new 186-acre site near Millett, Texas, assisted by a \$30,000 loan from Patricia Dailey, owner of the present leased 58-acre location, which STPO has occupied since 1980. The original population of 150 Japanese snow monkeys whose native habitat had been destroyed now numbers over 600, and frequent escapes by young males prompted one Texas Parks & Wildlife official to suggest last spring that the monkeys might be hunted. STPO hopes to complete fencing the new property and relocate the monkey colony by late spring.

be King, of Monkey Jungle in Miami, and Otto and Gori, two aging males exhibited separately since 1971 by Noell’s Ark Chimp Farm, of Palm Harbor, Florida. Gori is now partially blind and toothless; Otto, who arrived with tuberculosis, is now in good health. Anticipating a movement to relocate King, Otto, and Gori to Zoo Atlanta or another quality public facility, Noell’s Ark owner Mae Noell has reportedly formed a nonprofit trust and begun expanding the site, which was partially renovated in 1992-1993 during an eight-month shutdown due to violations of the Animal Welfare Act. Mae and her husband Robert Noell bought the barren concrete-and-steel cage complex in 1954 as winter quarters for a traveling chimp show they then ran, and turned it into a roadside zoo 17 years later, upon their retirement. Noell’s Ark also houses about two dozen chimpanzees and other animals.

The Gorilla Foundation, following a multi-year legal battle with a neighbor who wanted to cut trees adjacent to its enclosures, plans to relocate from Woodside, California, to a six-building compound on 70 undeveloped acres of Hawaiian rainforest by the end of 1996. The Gorilla Foundation has leased the 70-acre site from the Maui Land & Pineapple Co. for 70 years at \$1.00 per year. The Gorilla Foundation grew out of experiments by linguist Penny Patterson with Koko, a San Francisco Zoo gorilla, in 1974, and was incorporated in 1976. Patterson moved Koko, now 24, and her 22-year-old companion, Michael, to Woodside in 1979, where they were later joined by Koko’s prospective mate, Ndume, 13. Patterson hopes that in Maui the colony can grow to 20, by taking in gorillas retired from zoos. She claims Koko—also known for her affection for cats—has a “signing” vocabulary of about 2,000 words and an I.Q. of circa 75-90.

The Klagenfurt Animal Home in Klagenfurt, Austria, is trying to learn the history of a six-or-seven-year-old chimpanzee found in mid-November wandering the grounds of the Klagenfurt Europapark. The chimp shows exceptional intelligence and aptitude at household chores—and frequently withdraws into depression in mid-activity.

ANIMAL RACING

Greyhounds

The Shoreline Star greyhound track in Bridgeport, Connecticut, opened on November 1, drawing dogs and managerial talent from The Woodlands, a Kansas City-area greyhound track reportedly in economic trouble. By Thanksgiving, Shoreline Star was in trouble too, with purses averaging circa \$77,000 a night, well below the projected \$100,000-\$150,000. Attorney Robert Zeff financed the track—a converted jai alai fronton—with \$30 million of his own money. Zeff previously made headlines in Detroit as subject of two high-profile legal malpractice cases, one of which Wayne County circuit judge Mariane Battani called “the worst case of attorney manipulation that I have ever seen,” and as organizer of a 1988 scheme to export hazardous waste to Guinea-Bissau, Africa.

The Cour d'Alene greyhound track in Post Falls, Idaho, went out of business on December 17, three months to the day after J. Todd Foster of the Spokane Spokesman Review published a page one expose of abuses causing one trainer to call it “the Auschwitz of greyhound tracks.” The National Greyhound Adoption Network and the Spokane activist group Animal Advocates of the Inland Empire were at deadline seeking homes for 200 to 500 greyhounds who would otherwise be euthanized. Earlier, similar placement efforts saved hundreds of dogs after track closings at Harlingen, Texas; Belmont, New Hampshire; and Joplin, Missouri. Tracks in Alabama, Florida, Iowa, elsewhere in New Hampshire, elsewhere in Texas, and in Wisconsin are also reportedly close to folding.

Greyhound Network News reports that there are now 53 active greyhound tracks in the U.S., located in 16 states. Nevada, South Dakota, and Vermont formerly had greyhound racing, but no longer have active tracks. Vermont, Maine, and Virginia have banned greyhound racing. GNN is published from POB 44272, Phoenix, AZ 85064-4272.

Sled dogs

The 1996 International Rocky Mountain Stage Stop Sled Dog Race, running from Jackson to Alpine, Wyoming, will feature a \$100,000 purse—and a new “dog friendly” format. “Rather than a long marathon race, where dogs pull for extended periods of time, the Stage Stop will be run in stages, like the Tour de France,” race director Frank Teasley told *Team & Trail*. “We will have a brand-new race of between 30 and 80 miles starting each day for the nine racing days of the contest. Our mushers should always have fresh dogs in their teams.” Eight members of the International Sled Dog Veterinary Medicine Association will supervise 30 human contestants, who may bring up to 14 dogs apiece. No more than 12 dogs may compete on any given day. Each dog will be given an EKG exam before the race, and will be identified by an injectable microchip. Each musher must be a member in good standing of PRIDE, described by *Team & Trail* as “an Alaska-based organization created to educate mushers on the responsible care and treatment of sled dogs.”

Horses

The French horseracing industry, already in decline, reportedly took heavy losses when employees of the state-run *Pari Mutuel Urbain* off-track betting

We're not quite sure what the guy with the calf was doing, and we don't think he knew, either. (K.B.)

Men who beat up cattle

Rodeo

Three years after lobbying to defeat California state bill AB 1660, which would have required on-site veterinarians at all rodeos, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association has moved to require on-site vets at all events that it sanctions—and to bar the use of prods in bull riding, “without exception,” as well as in other riding events except with animals known to have histories of refusing to leave the chutes.

While longtime rodeo critic Eric Mills of Action for Animals said, “Things are looking up,” he added that even though “vets were present at the 1995 California Rodeo in Salinas, in which five animals died, a roping calf with a broken back was not euthanized but was simply trucked off to slaughter, terrified and in pain [*and in apparent violation of the 1994 California Downed Animal Protection Act*], with no pain-killers given, for ‘That would ruin the meat,’ said the attending vet. After great public outcry,” Mills noted, “the Salinas Rodeo Committee’s new policy will require immediate euthanasia, as well as a ban on the brutal and

Bullfighting

1995 was the bloodiest year of bullfighting since records have been kept by ADDA, the acronym for the Anti-Bullfighting Campaign International. Final figures are still being tabulated, but the number of bullfights in Spain alone rose from the recent low of 440 in 1986 to 720 in 1994, and apparently jumped again. In Spain,

unsanctioned wild horse race," in which a horse died last July.

PRCA may have been inspired by ambitions of attracting a more upscale audience—perhaps more sensitive to animal abuse. Current demographics show that 60% of PRCA rodeo-goers have attended college; 29% hold a degree. Just 7.4% haven't finished high school. The stats parallel those of the U.S. as a whole.

Power struggle

PRCA is also struggling to keep control of pro rodeo. Rodeo cowboys have been organized under the PRCA since 1936, when it formed as the Cowboy Turtle Association, named to symbolize cowboys sticking their necks out. About 5,000 of the current 6,500 members are rodeo performers, but since the CTA became the PRCA in 1975, the balance of power has tipped toward sponsors, contractors, and organizers, who hold seven of the 11 PCRA board seats. Disgruntled cowboys seeking insurance, a retirement plan, and bigger purses tried unsuccessfully to form a breakaway union in 1989, and began another serious attempt, as the Professional Rodeo Players Association, last July. The PRPA got a boost after PRCA chair Rod Lyman resigned in November, following a stormy board meeting at which the board allowed five non-performers to join three performers as non-voting observers. A task force working to set up the new union is to make formal recommendations to membership in January, during the National Western Rodeo in Denver.

The stakes are high and rising: PRCA purses in 1994 totaled \$23 million, up from \$13.7 million in 1984. But the best-paid rodeo performer, six-time all-around champion Ty Murray, earned just \$250,000, a pittance by professional sports standards, and average annual winnings are circa \$2,000.

The rodeo gross is expected to keep climbing as rodeo moves into the east, capitalizing on TV exposure. The richest market of all is expected to form in New York City, where the well-connected Staten Island Rodeo Association wants the Parks Department to turn five acres of undeveloped land into a permanent rodeo arena. (Friends of Animals asks that protest be directed to Henry Stern, Commissioner of Parks, c/o The Arsenal, 850 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10021; fax 212-360-1345.)

France, and Portugal combined, the number of bullfights is believed to be up from the 1994 record of 5,690; counting Latin America, chiefly Mexico, there were an estimated 10,000 bullfights last year—almost all attended mainly by tourists.

Gorings

The bulls won some rounds en route to their deaths, but critically wounded a friend on June 26, goring Fight Against Animal Cruelty president Vicki Moore 11 times in the chest and legs as she videotaped a bull run in Coria, Spain. Moore is reportedly recovering slowly but well. Two days later, bullfighter Jesulin de Ubrique—known for female fans who shower him with underwear—was gored in the groin at Burgos, Spain. On August 21, Japanese bullfighter Atsuhiro Shimoyama, 24, a former dancer and gymnast, suffered temporary paralysis after being butted in the face at Avila, Spain.

The running of the bulls at Pamplona, begun in 1591, brought the July 13 goring death of University of Illinois engineering student Matthew Peter Tassio, 22, who slipped and fell on the cobblestones. Survivors of other serious gorings at Pamplona this year included Fred Kishaba, a Californian who lives in Germany; Alfonso Sola, 37, a Pamplona resident; an unidentified 23-year-old American; and an unidentified 49-year-old Spaniard. Bernard Reich, 18, of Millersville, Maryland, suffered serious head and neck injuries from being trampled not by bulls but by fellow bull-runners.

The mayhem was all one-sided from then until November 25, when seven fighting bulls escaped from a corral in Aguascalientes, Mexico, and injured four people, including a woman who never saw them coming and a policeman who tried to gun them down. Five bulls were killed, but two escaped into the countryside and are believed to remain at large.

Anti-bullfighting activity included a June 17 rally in Madrid, believed to be the biggest show of opposition to bullfighting in Spain yet; a postcard protest against televised bullfights and an unsuccessful effort to repeal the 1991 Spanish law allowing children to attend bullfights, both co-ordinated by ADDA; and the first-ever Latin American anti-bullfighting conference, hosted by the World Society for the Protection of Animals in Mexico City during the first weekend in October.

monopoly struck for job security on December 13. The pari mutual unions believe a computer system upgrade scheduled for 1997 will cost the 1,700-member workforce several hundred jobs.

The British Horseracing Board, with an annual budget of \$30 million, reportedly donates not one cent to horse welfare work. Racehorse breeding has recently accelerated in Britain, taking advantage of the growth of the European horsemeat market to profitably dispose of culs. The 25,500 thoroughbred mares in Britain produced an estimated 11,500 foals in 1995—far more than racetrack demand can absorb. The boom recently inspired Cambridge University to appoint horse fertility expert William Allen as its first “professor of racehorse breeding.”

Other species

Gambling and investment stakes in pigeon racing are bigger than ever, but U.S. participation has fallen from an estimated 100,000 fanciers a generation ago to barely 20,000 today. Prizes currently peak at around \$15,000, but the betting on a \$15,000 race can run as high as \$100,000. Although pigeon racing here developed as a pastime of the poor in crowded immigrant neighborhoods, in England, one pigeon of proven success recently changed hands for \$128,000.

Sugar cane farmer Wa Paopouchong, 41, on October 8 rode an 1,870-pound water buffalo named Korn to their fourth world championship of water buffalo racing in Chonburi, Thailand, at an average speed over the 120-meter course of nearly 25 miles an hour. The victory paid them \$200. The event, the only water buffalo racing meet in the world, has been held for more than a century, but surrounding festivities have been organized for only the past decade.

An ostrich named Flash Harry won the first-ever ostrich race in Kenya on Boxing Day at the Ngong racecourse on the outskirts of Nairobi. Six ostriches were entered in the 200-meter sprint.

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Tales from the Cryptozoologists

Animals in entertainment

On the screen

PETA on December 5 asked the USDA to investigate alleged Animal Welfare Act violations by Tiger's Eye Productions, of Orlando, Florida, which trains animals for use in TV commercials and rock videos. "Our investigator witnessed facility owner David McMillan beating tigers in the face, ramming ax handles down their throats, and depriving them of food and water as punishment," charged PETA researcher Jennifer Allen. "Animals have also been left outside without shade in searing heat, or without shelter from raging thunderstorms, and have been denied necessary medical attention when sick."

Finding venues for his diving mule act scarce, Tim Rivers has turned to Hollywood, training many of the animals used in *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls*, the second of a comedy film series starring Jim Carrey as Ace Ventura, pet detective and animal rights militant. Because Rivers' role was entirely off-set, his involvement eluded American Humane Association observers, whose contractual role in supervising the use of animals in films is limited to on set action. As the November 28 edition of *The National Enquirer* put it, Rivers' diving mule act "is so hideous that Rivers has been arrested on cruelty charges in Alabama, his act is banned in Illinois, and he was thrown out of Atlantic City by Donald Trump."

Filming of a live action version of the Walt Disney classic 101 Dalmatians just began in November, but the project is already filling gossip columns. First, furriers were ecstatic because after intense lobbying, Disney agreed to swathe the female lead in furs in an unspecified future production—and rumor had it that a fur trade group paid lavishly for the exposure. Next, furriers were apoplectic on learning that the production would be *101 Dalmatians* and the actress would be Glenn Close as Cruella DeVille, the fur fanatic reputedly modeled after the late Doris Duke, who buys and steals Dalmatians in order to pelt them for coats. Thirty-five years after the 1959 debut of the cartoon version, Duke—then known for her furs—left \$1 million to PETA in support of antifur campaigning. In the interim, every theatre and video release of *101 Dalmatians* has immediately preceded a sharp fur sales slump. Close, meanwhile, reportedly objected to wearing real fur, even in the role of Cruella. The

Exotic animal acts

Yosi Sarid, Israeli minister for environmental affairs, in late December reportedly barred traveling animal acts from entering the country. The ban was solicited by the Israel Society for the Abolition of Vivisection.

The Akef Egyptian Circus was expelled from Zimbabwe in November after an employee gave Zimbabwe SPCA worker Stella Killick a black eye for trying to seize three dying pythons. The ZSPCA, the Zambian-based Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage Trust, and other groups have followed the circus for five years, suspecting it of covering for illegal traffic in endangered species. Rarely performing, the circus has slowly moved through cash-poor but wildlife-rich Djibouti, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Malawi, as well as Zimbabwe. The number of pythons traveling with it has varied from two to seven, the number of African lions from six to 10, and the number of African grey parrots from nine to none.

Coquitam, British Columbia, on November 20 banned animal acts, leaving only Maple Ridge receptive to circuses among the 15 cities in the greater Vancouver area.

Conflict between protesters and the traveling Circus King, of Britain, has escalated since May, when a lion tamer allegedly shot a female demonstrator in the back during an appearance in London. The bullet lodged so close to her spinal cord that it couldn't be removed. Since then, a protester at Clacton-on-sea suffered a broken jaw; fights reportedly broke out at Colchester; and at St. Ives, 10 circus employees purportedly threw buckets of water over 40 protesters, then beat them with sticks.

A chained tiger on November 13 killed a circus hand who teased her with his foot in Shenzhen, China, a special economic zone abutting Hong Kong. In a similar incident, a bear let out of his cage for exercise fatally mauled a 30-year circus trainer circa November 18 in Moscow, Russia.

Since Missouri began requiring permits to keep exotic animals two years ago, permits have been issued to owners of 64 pumas, 31 bears, 19 tigers, 17 African lions, three gorillas, three elephants, two rhinos, and two hippos. Short-term variances of permit restrictions have been granted to allow circuses to

—K.B.

OBITUARIES

Sonia Cortis, 83, died in her sleep on December 12. Born in Yalta, daughter of a diplomat, she became a successful cabaret singer. She sang from her teens until the early 1960s and performed with Edith Piaff and for royalty. In her later years, this dedicated friend of all animals worked as a waitress and restaurant manager, spreading the good word to staff and customers. And with her bullhorn, the former chanteuse energized activists every weekend for 78 weeks in a campaign to end the cat sex experiments at the American Museum of Natural History, the first public protest successful in saving animals from suffering in a U.S. laboratory. She dedicated her life to helping humans and animals, and left her body to science. We'll miss her.

—Henry Spira

William "Catman" Post, 50, so named for his cat rescue work as an inmate at the Leavenworth federal penitentiary, on November 8 robbed a bank in Lenexa, Kansas; committed two carjackings and kidnappings during the next two days; shot it out with two police officers on November 10, wounding one; and shot himself with his last bullet. The son of a Navy officer, Post at age 8 stole a car. He spent 41 of the next 42 years behind bars. He told Pete Earley, author of *The Hot House*, a book about Leavenworth, that a previous shootout with police was "absolutely, totally, the most beautiful experience in my life." At Leavenworth, Post earned a degree in psychology, and devoted himself to feeding stray cats and placing their kittens. When a warden tried to stop him, Post wrote to Gary and Lisa Silverglat, cofounders of M'Shoogy's Animal Rescue sanctuary in Savanah, Missouri, who took the situation to the media. The cat work resumed. Finishing a 23-year term for bank robbery in February 1995, Post became a live-in M'Shoogy's staffer in April. He reportedly found a girlfriend and planned to marry. On November 5 the Associated Press syndicated an article about M'Shoogy's, including mention of Post's turnaround. Three days later, the turnaround ended.

Miriam Walmsley Cooper, 59, a fundraiser credited by the

British Dog Club opened another controversy in September by refusing to cooperate with the production, claiming Dalmatians might be bred for whom there were no good homes. Disney avoided that problem with a casting call for puppies already in homes.

Hunting groups spent November and

December trying mostly unsuccessfully to spark a boycott of the Disney film *Powder*, which includes an anti-hunting message, ostensibly because writer/director Victor Salva, 37, a former child care worker, served three years in state prison plus a year on parole in 1988-1992 for molesting a 12-year-old who acted in two of his early films. Salva videotaped one of the encounters. Victim Nathan Winters, now 20, issued the initial call for a boycott to churches and child protection groups, who mostly declined to join, then picketed the October 25 debut screening. Responded female lead Mary Steenbergen, "I am saddened for everyone involved, but one aspect of America is that if someone pays for their mistakes, they have the chance to redeem themselves." Hunters have tried to boycott Disney films off and on since the 1951 debut of *Bambi*.

Miscellany

Oklahoma state senator Lewis Long (D-Glenpool) is reportedly drafting a bill to make bear wrestling a felony, based on an existing Arkansas law.

The U.S. Olympic Committee announced December 6 that in deference to humane concerns, live birds will not be released as part of the opening ceremony at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The Michigan activist group For Animals reports that the National Cherry Festival, held annually in Traverse City, has replaced a traditional frog-jumping contest with a game of pog.

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offer elephant rides, but the only permanent variance belongs to Mike Casey and Connie Braun, of Festus, who are allowed to take chimps under age five and weighing less than 60 pounds to private parties. Casey and Braun have 15 chimps in all, plus 45 monkeys.

The USDA on November 20 began formal inquiry into the fate of Bam-Bam, a young black bear stolen from Chicago animal trainer Beth Bishop in December 1994. He was recovered, but Bishop was warned that bears may not be kept within Chicago. She sent him to live with Wisconsin exotic cat keeper Nikki Martin. He vanished soon afterward. Bishop says Martin threatened to shoot him when he proved costly to keep. Martin isn't talking. A preliminary USDA report last April suggested Bam-Bam had been euthanized, but the case was reopened at the request of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Livestock

The 1995 Turner Prize for provocative art, worth \$30,970, was awarded on November 28 to Damien Hirst, of Britain, for "Mother and Child Divided," consisting of a cow and calf split down the middle and preserved with formaldehyde.

The first National Youth Livestock Program Ethics Symposium was held December 1-2 in Las Vegas, to discuss what to do about "unethical and illegal activities in youth livestock programs." Participating were the American Farm Bureau Federation, American Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Industry Foundation, Future Farmers of America, and 4-H.

A pig chase on ice sponsored by Midas Muffler, to precede the November 17 Tulsa Oilers hockey game, was cancelled due to boozing by the crowd when the pigs were brought out. A Midas spokesperson said the stunt would not be tried again.

Bill Nooter

New Orleans *Times-Picayune* with helping "convert the Audubon Zoo from an animal ghetto into one of the nation's most acclaimed zoos," died October 18 of cancer at her home in Point Clear, Alabama. Audubon Institute president Ron Forman said in tribute, "The Aquarium of the Americas, the Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center—all of the things we built would not be there without her."

Frederick Ulmer Jr., 79, died September 13 at a nursing home in Germantown, Pennsylvania. ANIMAL PEOPLE regrets misplacing his obituary, originally slated for our October edition. An uncle took Ulmer to the Philadelphia Zoo as a preschooler. He was never far from animals thereafter. At age 19, in 1939, Ulmer joined the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, maintaining membership until his death; became assistant curator of mammals for the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences; and joined the Academy staff on a collecting expedition to Sumatra and Indonesia. World War II duty with Army hospital units ended Ulmer's formal education. In 1947, after discharge, Ulmer took a group of animals from the London Zoo to the Philadelphia Zoo, then became the Philadelphia Zoo's mammal curator. He supervised the first cheetah births in captivity in 1956 and 1957, and in 1959 and 1965 pioneered bottle-rearing polar bears whose mothers had rejected them. As author of more than 100 published articles on wildlife, Ulmer was honored by colleagues by having his name included in the scientific names of four newly discovered species. Ulmer returned to the Academy of Natural Sciences in the mid-1970s, then post-retirement spent eight years there as a volunteer, ended only by health failure in April 1995.

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COURT CALENDAR

Crimes vs. humans

Convicted rapist Lloyd Frank Millett, of Turner, Maine, charged November 6 with killing Rachelle Anne Williams, 33, of Gorham, New Hampshire, and Terrie M. Lizotte, 39, of Canton, Maine, was said to be good with cattle, as a farm hand but also reportedly had a previous record for cruelty to his dog, as well as for assaulting his ex-wife. Arrested 14 times since 1987, Millett is under investigation in connection with six other murders and disappearances since January 1983.

Northern Territories coroner John Lowndes ruled December 13 in Darwin, Australia, that there is insufficient evidence to say either that a dingo snatched 9-week-old Azaria Chamberlain from her parents' tent on August 17, 1980, or that her mother was involved. The infant vanished without a trace, but her mother, Lindy Chamberlain, screamed "A dingo's got my baby!" to tourists at a nearby campfire. A February 1981 coroner's verdict held that a dingo took Azaria, but was overturned by an Australian Supreme Court ruling. Lindy in October 1992 drew a life term for allegedly murdering Azaria; her husband Michael was convicted as an accessory, but remained free on a good behavior bond. Two appeals failed, but in February 1986 a hiker found Azaria's bloodstained, torn jacket in a dingo den. Lindy was released from prison five days later, and in May 1992 received \$962,000 compensation for wrongful conviction. Lindy and Michael requested the coroner's re-examination of the evidence in hopes of finally clearing their names.

Du Runqiong and her son Tang Youhua, 20, of Jinli village in southern China, drew death sentences on December 27 for killing 18 people, 10 cattle, 300 fish, 240 pigs, and 3,100 chickens with rat poison between May and November 1995, purportedly to rid the earth of "bad people." Another 160 people were poisoned but survived.

No arrests, no charges, but lawsuit in Petaluma shelter case

PETALUMA, Calif.—Sonoma County district attorney J. Michael Mullins on December 1 said there was no evidence to support criminal charges pertaining to the operation of the Petaluma animal shelter by Thunder and Lightning's Cause, but as 1995 ended, the shelter remained under interim administration by the Humane Society of Sonoma County.

Activism

The libel suit waged by McDonald's Corporation against London Greenpeace activists Helen Steel, 30, and Dave Morris, 41, on December 11 became the longest-running civil case in British history—and is expected to continue into summer, costing McDonald's an estimated \$8,000 a day in legal fees. Steel and Morris, who alleged circa Earth Day 1990 that McDonald's promotes an unhealthy and environmentally unsound meat-centered diet, are conducting their own defense plus a concurrent countersuit.

A jury in Roanoke, Virginia, on November 30 awarded bird-lover Ruby Campagna \$135,000 for emotional distress suffered when South Roanoke Apartment Village building manager Judy Woody crushed a nest of wrens in front of her. Campagna's granddaughter, Ginny Davis Owen, a registered nurse, found her half an hour later in a state of clinical shock. Campagna was represented by former U.S. attorney and state senator-elect John Edwards, who said she remains "very sad and depressive."

U.S. district judge James Lawrence King ruled December 21 in Key West that Russ Rector of the Dolphin Freedom Foundation and Ric O'Barry of the Dolphin Project were responsible for their own injuries suffered during a protest against underwater bomb tests by the U.S. Navy on August 9, 1990. Rector and O'Barry held that the Navy and civilian contractors intentionally ran over them with boats.

British activists Sandra White, Gaynor Ford, and Gillian Peachey were arrested Christmas Eve and charged December 29 with a December 5 arson at a poultry farm, as well as with conspiracy to possess explosives and commit arson. Peachey was already under a 21-month suspended sentence for conspiracy related to a 1994 attempted arson at a hotel that was hosting a hunt club meeting.

A 12-year-old girl and a 13-year-old boy have been sentenced for their part in releasing more than 1,000 black mink from a mink farm in Cleveland, Wisconsin, last July, with charges pending against a 13-year-old girl. The 12-year-old was ordered to apologize to the mink farmer. Wisconsin media have often reported, apparently due to a typo in an early account, that the mink were valued at \$3,000 apiece; the going price for a black mink pelt at auction is actually \$30.00 or less.

Humane enforcement

Navy officers Jeffrey Scott Wilkerson, 21, and Dennis Steven Artzer, 20, pleaded guilty to felony cruelty in Sonora, California, on December 13, for dragging a cat behind a car last June 18—right after sheriff's deputy Todd Blankenship warned them not to—but Judge William Polley said he would reduce the charges to misdemeanors on January 16 if he got a good probation report. The cat was rescued by animal control officer Wynette Townsend. Letters to the judge may be sent c/o Tuolumne County Animal Control, 2 S. Green St., Sonora, CA 95370.

James Michael Fishburn, 18, and Robert Francis Lipsky, 20, of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, were charged December 26 with misdemeanor cruelty and conspiracy for allegedly nailing a dog's chain to a tree 10 days earlier and using him as an archery target. Left for dead, the dog dragged himself over a mile to animal rights activist Doris Gitman's porch in nearby Mechanicsville. District Justice Andrew Zelonis of Tamaqua set bail at \$10,000, then raised Fishburn's to \$15,000 after he threatened to kick a witness. Failing to make bail, the suspects were remanded to Schuylkill County Prison. The dog's owners, Joseph and Judy Harkins of Pottsville, said they didn't want him back, but Ruth Steinert SPCA shelter manager Diane Reppy said more than 50 other people asked to adopt him. Pottsville, Mechanicsville, and Tamaqua are all near Hegins, scene of the notorious Labor Day pigeon shoot.

Jesse Bryan, 20, of Menomonie, Wisconsin, on November 16 drew a year in jail on work-release toward restitution, plus 10 years probation, for shooting cats, dogs, cows, horses, and wildlife on a five-county crime spree also including theft, burglary, and vandalism in December 1994.

Alan Dahle, 34, of Haugen, Wisconsin, on November 29 drew 15 days in jail, two years probation, and a seek-treatment order for killing his children's dog and fish because his 12-year-old son played hooky.

William J. Olson, 24, of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, drew an 18-month deferred jail sentence plus 18 months probation on December 13 for abusing two tiger cubs. A 5-month-old tiger with a broken leg and a 2-month-old tiger who was partially blind from malnutrition were found July 28 at Olson's residence. Olson is not allowed to keep exotic animals during his probation.

Allen Laboy, 37, of Miami, Florida, drew 9.5 years in prison on December 9 for brutally killing a dog in August 1994—five years for cruelty, and 4.5 years as a habitual offender, with priors for burglary, assault, and

The Santa Rosa *Press Democrat* reported on December 22 that the Petaluma city council "is considering terminating TLC's contract because of lingering concerns over finances and recent complaints of animal mistreatment."

Attorney Richard Day, representing TLC, reportedly demanded after charges were not filed that TLC be put back in charge of the shelter, that Petaluma compensate TLC for lost income and legal fees, and that the city apologize for ousting TLC from the shelter on November 8. According to the *Press Democrat*, "The city's settlement proposal apparently does not include putting TLC back in control of the shelter."

TLC won a three-year contract to run the shelter in July, bidding \$200,700; HSSC bid \$226,000. TLC backers allege that claims of mismanagement were concocted by city officials who favored HSSC, which resumed running the shelter on November 9.

ANIMAL PEOPLE heard of the eviction on November 13 from Patricia Zimmerman, of Petaluma, who said she and other TLC backers were calling media and animal protection groups on behalf of TLC director Janet Coppini. Requesting coverage, Zimmerman stated repeatedly that Coppini had been "arrested" without charges and the shelter shut by police. Zimmerman acknowledged "severe overcrowding" at the shelter, but said a mobile unit to house cats was to have been "plugged in" on November 9, and blamed cases of kennel cough on the previous administration by HSSC.

ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton advised that Coppini and TLC should get legal counsel. Zimmerman said they were having difficulty finding a local attorney who didn't have a business relationship with Petaluma. Clifton asked if Coppini and/or TLC had called either animal law specialist Larry Weiss, who has a background in criminal law, or the Animal Legal Defense Fund, both with offices in nearby towns. At Zimmerman's request, Clifton provided their telephone numbers.

Clifton requested TLC's IRS Form 990; shelter statistics; copies of the shelter contract bids; local press coverage; and copies of any statements from either Coppini or TLC. Zimmerman said she would ask Coppini what items could be sent. While she did, Clifton faxed Weiss, advising him that Zimmerman or Coppini might call. Already aware of the case, Weiss confirmed by fax the particulars as stated in Clifton's note. Zimmerman called back to say Coppini had found a lawyer, and that as much of the requested information as possible would follow. She declined to give Coppini's telephone number, saying Coppini had been advised not to talk to media.

The promised information from Zimmerman and/or Coppini never came, but based on extensive discussion of the "arrest" and surrounding circumstances with Zimmerman, both before and after her interruption of the conversation to call Coppini, together with confirmation of many of the circumstances via other sources, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** took brief notice of the situation on page 17 of our December edition.

Coppini was not arrested, either as your article states or for any other charge." Noel concluded, "Please have your insurance carrier contact me immediately. If a satisfactory resolution is not concluded by noon, San Francisco time, December 29, 1995, we will file suit against you for compensatory and punitive damages in San Francisco Superior Court."

ANIMAL PEOPLE had been contacted for other reasons by other people claiming to represent Coppini and/or TLC, including Day earlier the same day, and was aware that Mullins had ultimately decided not to file any charges against either Coppini or anyone else involved with TLC. However, Noel's demand was our first information from any source that contrary to Clifton's understanding from Zimmerman, Coppini had not been arrested.

ANIMAL PEOPLE responded, "We welcome Ms. Coppini's written statement, including as to the particulars of her apparent disagreement with the statements of Ms. Zimmerman on her behalf to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**."

At deadline, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had received no statement from Coppini, but was notified by fax that Noel did on December 29 file a defamation suit claiming, "Plaintiff had not been arrested; plaintiff had not been arrested over alleged financial irregularities; plaintiff had not been arrested over alleged financial irregularities amid complaints about overcrowding and disease in the Petaluma Animal Shelter."

ANIMAL PEOPLE has retained a nationally noted attorney to defend if the suit is actually served.

—CORRECTION—

An independent source has confirmed that Janet Coppini was not arrested. We are pleased to correct the statement that Janet Coppini was arrested, which, though erroneous, was made in good faith, according to the best information available to us at that time.

Recently obtained copies of coverage of the Petaluma shelter dispute published by the *Press-Democrat* and the Petaluma *Argus-Courier* confirm that the police seizure of the shelter was due to unspecified alleged financial irregularities amid complaints about overcrowding and disease. Both papers discussed an ongoing criminal investigation of business practices from their editions of November 10 until after Mullins' December 1 decision not to file charges. Public discussion of overcrowding and disease in the Petaluma Animal Shelter surfaced in the *Argus-Courier* of November 10, and continued intermittently in both papers at least through December 22, when the *Argus-Courier* reported that according to a statement by TLC veterinarian Jona Sun Jordan, "accusations by HSSC director Dan Knapp that animals were improperly kennelled, sick animals were put in with healthy ones, two dogs had kennel cough, kennels weren't cleaned and were overcrowded are not true." The *Press-Democrat* carried similar but briefer coverage of Jordan's statement.

drug possession. The total sentence appears to be the longest on record for abusing a single animal.

Jay Messinger, 35, of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, on December 4 drew 90 days in jail for beating a dog who bit his 18-month-old daughter to death with a hammer on November 14—28 days after Alan Roberts of Westminster, California, was acquitted of cruelty for beating a dog who bit his son to death with a baseball bat, in a nationally publicized case. Messinger will get 45 days off if he pays \$210 in necropsy and court costs.

Farmer Daryl Larson, of Craig, Missouri, is to be sentenced on January 11 for 50 counts of animal abuse and 50 counts of improperly disposing of dead animals, all misdemeanors. A jury on December 16 convicted Larson of allowing an unknown number of hogs to starve in his barn. "Estimates of the number of dead hogs ranged from several hundred to 2,000," reported Associated Press.

Three of seven students from McNary High School in Keizer, Oregon—four of them football players—who beat and burned to death an opossum on video in October and then showed the video as a high school class project are now doing 60 hours of service apiece at a local humane society, and are to do another 40 hours with other institutions, according to the *Portland Oregonian*. The other four youths are awaiting trial.

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BOOKS

The Dog Who Rescues Cats: *The True Story of Ginny*

by Philip Gonzalez and Lenore Fleischer. Harper-Collins (10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022-5299), 1995. \$16.00 hardback.

Imagine a tough Vietnam veteran, a laborer who lived to spend, turning into a man who lives impoverished by choice, to enable rescuing and nurturing the outcast cats of the Long Island beach areas—not just lost housepets, but cats born feral and afflicted with every kind of pest, disease, and defect, including some gruesomely damaged by cruel people. He cherishes cats who are blind, deaf, lacking hind feet, and one who is neurologically defective, and tells us that even these can make loving and pleasure-giving friends and companions. Living on disability pay after an accident took away his job and his former physical freedom, this man spent nearly \$1,000 on only one of the many cats he continually sought veterinary aid for, all the time feeding many feral cats and neutering all he could catch.

Philip Gonzalez became a cat-lover when he went to an animal adoption center looking for a big tough dog, but met tiny Ginny, a mother-mutt attracted to his handicaps and depression. Ginny worked her way into the job of making the man a happier life through her love, patience, and practice of what Gonzalez came to believe was her mission, which, as he bonded to her, became his own. Ginny is a dog with an inner radar leading him to cats in need, including a blind cat needing an adoptive home; a litter of kittens thrown down a pipe to die, too feeble to be heard by any ear but Ginny's; and cats too savage to be approached. Her loving makes their rehabilitation possible.

Diary of a Cat, by Leigh Rutledge. Dutton (375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 1995. \$12.95, hardback.

After *Dear Tabby*, this book by the same author may disappoint, because the feline diarist focuses not on cats, but less realistically, on human conversations and activities. The details eventually merge into a "fur-fetched" plot. For example, a mysterious animal named Vlad, of unspecified species, does in a villainous woman who gets buried in the flower bed, and at the final word of this book the deed has still presented no problems. Some of the cats' antics, while

Beyond Prejudice: *The Moral Significance of Human and Nonhuman Animals*, by Evelyn B. Pluhar. Duke University Press (Box 90660, Durham, NC 27708), 1995. 370 pages, index and bibliography, no discernible price.

Add *Beyond Prejudice* to the dusty mountains ground out by pedantic philosophical debaters concerning the strained relations between humankind and animals. Pluhar is meticulous and thorough in researching and presenting her argument—over 300 pages of small type—but does that justify yet another tome on a subject long since picked to death?

Hunting, vivisection, meat-eating, farming, and most of the other things people

do to animals are fraught with emotion and sublimated urges that even the brightest of us only dimly understand. Does the endless search for moral and intellectual consistency actually have any application to psychological truth?

Pluhar herself shows inconsistency when she implies that it is wrong to give a hissing, resistant cat a needle in order to perform experiments, because that would violate the cat's rights, yet implies further that

MEMORIALS

In memory of Bear Cat, who came as a newborn in a rainstorm in the spring of 1983, and died in his sleep curled between Angel and Butch.
Bobbi Edwards

In memory of Angie Youril.
Margaret Cleek & John Youril

In memory of Zeno.
Dennis Mangan

In memory of Black & Tuffy.
Lois Tomassetti

In memory of my beloved cat Grayson, whom I lost on February 22, 1993. I miss him so much. He was with me from one month old. In 61 more days I'd have had him 18 years.
Dede Lipskey

TRIBUTES

In honor of all sentient life.
Brien Comerford

In honor of Sam Johnson & Allen Perry.
Scott Pious

In honor of Annie Cat.
Louise Kreifels

funny, seem improbable; but then, I don't keep 24 cats, as does author Leigh Rutledge, so I concede him to be the authority.

Humans are gently caricatured, bringing out a hidden message: "the trouble with kittens is that they grow up to be cats" is true of us, too. We all become the unlovely needy old, and we may dote on our pets absurdly, because they offer solace. And we owe the aged pet the same solace.

Rutledge does provide a happy ending, insofar as there can be one.

—Phyllis Clifton

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Events & deadlines

Jan. 15: Bat Conservation Intl. 1996 graduate student research scholarship application deadline. Info: 512-327-9721.

Jan. 22-26: Florida Animal Control Officer certification course. Info: 407-237-6906.

Feb. 1: 1997 Alexander Calder Conservation Award nomination deadline, honoring habitat protection via private business. Info: The Conservation Fund, Suite 1120, 1800 N. Kent St., Arlington, VA 22209.

Feb. 9-11: Midwest Animal Liberation Conference, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Info: 513-285-0273.

Feb. 18-20: Sowing Seeds National Humane Education Conference, Monterey, California, sponsored by the Animalearn division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society. Registration deadline: January 5. Info: 215-887-0816.

Feb. 17: Spay/USA Action Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada. Info: 1-800-248-SPAY.

March 27: International Wildlife Law: Preserving Biodiversity in the 21st Century, conference sponsored by the American Society of International Law Wildlife Special Interest Section, the Pacific Center for International Studies, and the Georgetown International Environmental Law Review, Washington D.C. Info: W.C. Burns, 608-256-6312.

it is okay to give the same cat the same needle so that she can be spayed. Pluhar's justification of spaying for the animal's own good usurps some of her own arguments.

The great nature theme novelists, e.g. Herman Melville and Jack London, explored the deeply ambivalent emotional

relationship that exists between humankind and the animal world. Somehow, animal rights proponents similarly must recognize and explore this visceral aspect if they want to reach the people who could make a difference: everyday citizens.

—P.J. Kemp

The Flight of the Osprey, by Ewan Clarkson. St. Martin's Press (175 5th Ave., New York, NY 10010), 1995. 192 pages. \$19.95, hardcover.

Nicola Fray is widowed at age 37. Her late husband, a botanist, taught respect for all creatures. But when fishery owner Martin Collier beds and subsequently weds her, after much dithery coyness on her part, she not only learns to live happily with his fishing, but has her eyes "opened" to the "scientific" virtues of hunting.

Nicola wonders why her first husband didn't tell her about this, since he must have known about "scientific" culling. "Perhaps he had thought it simpler to dismiss [the ideas] than try to integrate them with his philosophy." Or, if you no longer agree with him, belittle and dismiss him.

While Nicola drops her ideals along with her knickers in fine Harlequin Romance style, Iasgair the Osprey does his osprey thing, eating, flying, mating, and migrating. When he is hurt and falls into Nicola's temporary care, he becomes the maypole around which Nicola and Martin do their tiresome mating dance. Otherwise, his story and theirs are pretty much mutually exclusive.

A fluffy little romance with an osprey as a pivotal plot device is not objectionable in itself. What offends is how easily Nicola shifts her beliefs with little more than her hormones to guide her. The message seems to be that the way to treat paradox, such as falling in love with someone whose ethics differ from one's own, is to pretend it is intellectual epiphany that makes the differences seem compatible.

Flight of the Osprey inadvertently shows how our fixation on "moral consistency" makes liars of us. Iasgair, with no such investment in abstract moral issues, flies serenely above all the pretentious nonsense.

—P.J. Kemp

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"SPEAKING FOR THE WOLF"—Video of address by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton to the National Ecology Apostolate Leadership Training Conference at Graymoor Christian Unity Center. \$9.00, c/o Claire Lynch, 84 Hadley Village Road, South Hadley, MA 01075-2187.

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Fellow lover of animals,

. . . and suddenly my prayer was answered. There in the distance

I spotted Bruno . . . a hungry old shepherd . . . stumbling along the trail . . . hurrying to get a morsel of food . . . before it was all gone.

Watching him amble toward me, gray around the muzzle, I wondered who abandoned him in the forest . . . and why.

Every time I fed him . . . I felt his loneliness . . . his longing to be loved

. . . just once in his life.

Bruno always watched me hug the other dogs when I rescued them . . . and he just looked up at me, sadly. My heart always ached for him . . .

I desperately wanted to rescue him.

This morning, he was late . . . and I soon found out why.

Bruno had injured his leg.

In order to get him medical attention I had to immediately lure him into our cage trap . . .

. . . it was risky because if I failed, he might never come near me again . . . he wouldn't trust me.

He watched as I loaded the trap with his favorite can of food. Then I walked away while he went up to it and began eating.

Five times he entered the cage and backed away.

But finally . . . on the sixth try . . . he went all the way in and tripped the door. I was overjoyed!

. . . they even ate

paper sandwich wrappers.

I was so shaken by this, I drove to the city and bought four large fifty pound bags of dog food.

Back in the forest, I spread them over the ground.

Then I whistled for the dogs--they ran toward my car . . . all 35 of them! What a sight! I can still see their faces . . . all my old friends.

They dove into the food piles up to their elbows and started munching

loudly . . . while they ate, they smiled at me . . . thanking me for helping them.

Moved to tears . . . I never left their side.

We were together in the cold winter rains--when they were sick with pneumonia . . .

. . . and I put medicine in their food to help get them through it.

I remember feeling so helpless that I couldn't do more for them . . . my best friends were homeless . . .

. . . living on the cold ground . . . trying to sleep through the pounding storms . . . in puddles of water--rain beating constantly on their heads.

Running up to it, I hugged the trap with the nervous Bruno in it. He calmed right down . . . I poked my fingers through the cage on the ride to our shelter, stroking his face . . . he pushed his head into me for more.

Bruno was probably a "junk yard" guard-dog. He never knew the love and tenderness of a real family . . . and when he was too old and stiff to work anymore he was taken "for a ride" . . .

. . . abandoned . . . in the wilderness . . . left to starve to death slowly . . . to die alone.

I've been feeding hungry, frightened dogs--abandoned in the forest--for years.

People who want to help me save them . . . donate \$30, \$50, \$90 or more to feed them in the forest, rescue them . . . and care for them.

Whenever I show up these abandoned dogs . . . expecting a feast . . . gather around the van. One at a time they eventually begin to trust me . . .

. . . when they do, I pick them up and take them to our no-kill sanctuary. But Bruno always stayed just out of reach.

I rescued many dogs at this spot . . . a campsite in the forest . . . but never Bruno . . . until this lucky morning.

Now at our 89-acre "No-Kill" sanctuary, for the first time in his life Bruno is loved and cared for. He doesn't have to "earn his keep" . . . and every day he trusts a little more.

And the other day he wagged his tail at me!

Bruno is living proof of the difference our love can make . . . and the difference you can make to an abandoned dog with no hope of survival.

For \$30 you can feed an abandoned dog like Bruno . . . for \$50 you can neuter him and treat his wounds . . . for \$90 you can give him warmth and love at our sanctuary.

Bruno always had plenty to eat in the forest . . . thanks to people who care . . . but it wasn't like that when I first started rescuing abandoned cats and dogs.

. . . back in 1979. I still remember that morning as if it were yesterday . . .

. . . sadly, I found 35 dogs in the forest that day . . . so hungry they knocked over garbage cans full of picnic trash . . . trying to find a morsel of food . . .

It took a full year to get them all out of the forest, but I did . . . before the next winter's rains. I found loving homes for some, but many I kept myself . . .

. . . I was too much in love with them to say "goodbye."

I didn't start out to build the only dog and cat wilderness rescue organization in the country. It just happened . . .

. . . because of these 35 beautiful dogs . . .

. . . and as each one passed away over the years, my sadness became a renewed commitment to dedicate my life to saving their friends . . . whatever it takes.

I'm here for these animals . . . 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

With your gift of \$30, \$50, \$90 or more today, I can continue to feed them, rescue them . . .

. . . and shower them with love . . . at our spacious 89-acre sanctuary . . . home to over 750 abandoned cats and dogs.

They can stay as long as they like . . . because we run a "No-Kill" shelter. When it gets crowded, we build more.

And it gets crowded!

YES, LEO! I want to help save an animal like Bruno, abandoned in the

\$30 to rescue a pet, like Bruno, in the wilderness.

\$50 to spay or neuter and medicate this animal.

\$90 to care for him at our No-Kill Shelter.

\$250 to care for a mother and her litter.

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Beyond The Killing Tree: A Journal of Discovery, by Stephen Reynolds. Epicenter Press (POB 82368, Kenmore, WA 98028), 1995. 192 pages. \$19.95, hardcover.

"...I have never been in sync with anti-hunters," Stephen Reynolds declares somewhat provocatively in *Beyond The Killing Tree*. "I haven't respected their opinions because the majority have never hunted. They don't understand the need or the craving for the chase."

When Reynolds himself has hunted, and enjoyed it, he has also undergone a change of heart. Witnessing too many death struggles of noble and innocent beasts for no better purpose than the "craving of the chase" or thrill of the kill has caused him to reconsider the longterm price of indulging the craving.

In bringing up such a thorny issue, Reynolds has taken the bull by the horns, so to speak, and has voiced one of the greatest challenges to the animal rights movement: the apparent fact that hunting and killing provides a high that will not respond to rhetoric or appeals to humanitarianism. Apparently it is like an addict with his substance of choice: though he knows it is destroying his life and harming those around him, the joy of the high outweighs any other consideration.

Added to this already powerful force is the fact that, "this sort of person [successful hunter] may have been looked upon with reverence in the old days. He would have been constantly hunting and killing and bringing in the meat for the entire village." Indulging one's favorite high and receiving respect and approbation for it is not a combination that lends itself easily to paradigm shifts.

Unfortunately, Reynolds does not pursue this potentially important and intriguing line of inquiry—at least not in a way that is readily accessible. He tries to draw the connection by illustration, citing examples from his own life, including experience as a professional hunting guide, and later, as a game warden, in various parts of the U.S.

We can follow Reynolds' adventures, but somehow the "discovery" he intended to share is not so evident as it might have been. *Beyond The Killing Tree* remains primarily a memoir, and the chasm between hunters and non-hunters remains as deep and as dark as ever.

—P.J. Kemp

Animologies: "A fine kettle of fish" & 150 other animal expressions, by Michael Macrone. Cadet RAPTORS AND SONG-Books (151 E. 29th St., New York, NY BIRDS REHAB-ILITATION 10016), 1995. 160 pp., \$14.95 hardback. TION at St. John's Retreat Center (U.S. & Texas scientific

Michael Macrone takes a colorful permit). Also, Teaching = crack at explaining the origins of animal-natural/spiritual laws; related phrases, but misses absurdly often—Healing = people & animals; failing, for instance, to recognize that "ding-

bat" is a typographical term, not animal-related, originally applied to the ornamental battens that kept a hand-operated letterpress

from "dinging" a sheet of paper by forcing it against an uneven surface. Macrone is equally bewildered by "bat out of hell," having

apparently never seen bats boiling from a cavern at sunset. And he asserts that, "Dylan NEWS—For people who love Thomas coined ass---- in a 1935 letter." to garden, and love animals

Many people still alive can testify otherwise. too. \$15/yr (6 issues), POB Macrone cites credible evidence 418, Randolph, VT 05060.

that "swing a cat" and "independent as a hog on ice," among others, originally had no reference to animals. But to me "independent as a hog on ice" will always describe the battle I saw one heroic hog wage as drovers tried to

drag him to slaughter one snowy morning "I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON" near Farnham, Quebec. A thousand pounds SON t-shirts, with logo, of sliding pig knocking cursing men and size small only (supply very

their prods galley-west is an awesome sight limited), \$10 postpaid. ANI- I wish I could have helped him get away. MAL PEOPLE, POB 205,

—Merritt Clifton

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Leo Grillo, Founder

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