

Wolves, seals, kangaroos, & other scapegoats for economic failure

CHINESE WANT OLYMPIC
TOURISTS TO COME FOR
TIGERS, TOO (PAGE 19)

ANCHORAGE, ST. JOHN'S, LIMA, SYDNEY—Political strategy in response to economic stress in Third World dictatorships often includes declaring a rabies crisis and putting troops on the streets to intimidate the public by shooting dogs.

In the underdeveloped democratic nations the strategy varies. Instead of sending out soldiers, armed citizens are authorized to vent their frustration by shooting whatever ani-

mals are most easily blamed.

In Atlantic Canada this spring the "scapegoats" are seals, accused of keeping cod stocks low, though there is little serious scientific doubt that overfishing during the 1980s caused the cod population to crash.

In Australia, kangaroos are the "scapegoats." They even thrive like goats amid dry conditions that kill sheep.

In Alaska, both troops and armed

citizens are sent out to kill wolves.

The wolves, as political cartoons indicate, are surrogates for environmentalists.

Environmentalists have for years prevented the oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge that many Alaskans hope will restore the boom times of the 1970s and early 1980s, when the North Slope oil was just beginning to flow through the newly completed Alaska pipeline, every Alaskan-born resident collected royalties, and there was giddy talk about Alaskans never again having to pay state taxes. Some even suggested secession from the U.S. to become the imagined Saudi Arabia of the North, complete with a strongly male-dominated society and imported harems. Alaska flexed a self-image as last bastion of rugged frontiersmen, ignoring the reality that even with the oil income, it was in effect a state on welfare, heavily dependent upon federal jobs and subsidies.

Bold entrepreneurship was and is a much stronger tradition among the much despised funders of environmentalism in the balmy Silicon Valley of California.

Since shooting enviros is not legal even in Alaska, Alaskans left out of work by the present weakness of logging, mining, and fishing clamor for dead wolves instead.

Wolves are among the icons of envi-

ronmentalism, they kill moose and caribou in competition with human hunters, and because they have fangs they enable those who pursue them with aircraft and snow machines to pretend they are a dangerous foe—although more Alaskans die by falling off their snow machines while blind drunk each year than the sum of all humans killed by wild wolves in the recorded history of North America.

Newly elected Alaska Governor Frank Murkowski, formerly a four-term U.S. Senator, made his fortune in pulp and timber. As a politician he favored logging over all other industries. As overcut wood reserves ran short, he devoted much of his final Senate term to trying to log federally protected old growth in the Tongass National Forest. His environmental and economic short-sightedness contributed much to present Alaskan unemployment—but he was swept into the highest Alaskan office in part because he promised to reverse predecessor Tony Knowles' policy of attempting to minimize wolf-culling.

Murkowski's first action as Governor was to appoint his daughter Lisa to finish his Senate term. He then appointed six outspoken proponents of wolf-culling to serve on the Alaska Board of Game, the state wildlife policymaking body.

"While Governor Murkowski didn't
(continued on page 16)



(Sea Shepherd Conservation Society)

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals



March 2003

Volume XIII, #2

Cockfighting foes face hard fight to keep Oklahoma initiative gains

OKLAHOMA CITY—Oklahoma cockfighters are not just taking their battle to stay in business to the state Supreme Court; they are trying to take the state Supreme Court off the case.

Oklahoma voters approved an initiative banning cockfighting in November 2002, 56%-44%, but in 57 sparsely populated rural counties, of 77 counties in all, the majority voted to keep cockfighting legal.

Local judges in 27 of the 57 rural counties soon thereafter held the anti-cockfighting initiative to have been unconstitutional.

The first prosecution under the initiative was attempted by the Kingfisher County sheriff's department in early December, after one Luis Rangel was found with more than 100 suspected gamecocks while sheriffs' deputies were investigating an alleged case of horse neglect. But Kingfisher County assistant district attorney Ard Gates on December 5 refused to press the case against Rangel.

Attempting to bring order out of the chaos, Oklahoma attorney general Drew Edmondson eventually took the question of the constitutionality of the anti-cockfighting initiative directly to the state Supreme Court, bypassing the intermediate court levels.

On January 24, however, Tulsa attorney Larry Oliver, representing the cockfighters, asked the state Supreme Court justices to recuse themselves, contending that they had previously displayed bias by repeatedly ruling that the initiative could go before the voters.

On February 1 the Oklahoma Supreme Court assigned referee Gregory W.

Albert to review the petition for recusal.

"Albert was the referee assigned by the Supreme Court in 1999 to hear the cockfighters' challenges to the initiative petition," recalled John Greiner of the Oklahoma City *Oklahoman*. "Albert ruled that the petition lacked sufficient valid signatures to be placed on the ballot. The Supreme Court later validated the petition."

Passage of the Oklahoma initiative left only two states, New Mexico and Louisiana, which still have legal cockfighting—and with polls showing that up to 77% of the New Mexico voters would favor a cockfighting ban, New Mexico animal advocates believe obtaining a ban there is just a matter of time.

But cockfighters are full of tricks. Circuit Judge Hubert Lindsey, of Palm Beach County, Florida, in December 2001 dismissed the charges against alleged dogfighters Seve Rousseau and Rousselet Alphonse, because the sheriff's deputies who found eight pit bulls, stacks of cash, and 60 spectators on their premises had served the search warrant after sundown. As cockfights are traditionally held after dark, cockfighting sympathizers in the Florida legislature had long ago quietly amended the Florida anti-cruelty statute to prevent service of warrants in cruelty cases after sundown, except by special judicial order.

Similar politics were visible in the Virginia legislature in January, where—even though cockfighting is illegal in Virginia—cockfighters obliged delegate Rob Bell to omit language pertaining to cockfighting from an
(continued on page 11)



A white horse drinks in Pakistan. (Shoaib Awan)

Slaughter in the streets

MULTAN, Pakistan—"I have been much in vexation since February 11, 2003," Animal Save Movement Pakistan founder Khalid Mahmood Qureshi e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE on February 16, seemingly speaking for the world.

Al Qaida terrorist attacks were anticipated, following the annual *Haj* pilgrimage to Mecca by the Muslim faithful and appeals for strikes against the U.S. by Islamic militant leader Osama bin Laden. A U.S. military effort to depose Iraq dictator Saddam Hussein was imminently expected as well.

But the violence vexing Qureshi had already occurred.

"Millions of cows, camels, oxen, sheep, and goats were slaughtered on the day of *Eid Ul Azha*, after the day of *Haj* in Saudia Arabia," Qureshi wrote. "It is a religious custom," in which male heads of households attempt *halal* slaughter with often haphazard and bloody results, "but it is a tyranny and cruelty," Qureshi continued. "I see it as a genocide of animals. The Animal Save Movement of Pakistan not only strongly protests this terrible and uncivilised operation, but wants to abolish it.

"With love and peace," Qureshi fin-

ished, as if in hope that his communication might help to avert further bloodbath.

Qureshi and friends are trying to keep animal advocacy alive in Pakistan, but have little to work with and not much hope of getting outside help in an atmosphere that makes links to the U.S. and Europe potentially suspect. The nearest nation with a strong animal advocacy movement is India, culturally parallel to Pakistan, yet India and Pakistan are perennially close to war due to the ancient tension between the Islamic majority in Pakistan and the Hindu majority in India.

There was an anti-circus demonstration in Loralai, Pakistan, during the *Eid al Fitr* holiday in early December 2002, but not on behalf of the animals. Instead, more than 100 supporters of the pro-Taliban party Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal followed state legislator Maulvi Faiz Mohammed in attacking the circus for allegedly profaning the holiday by staging motorcycle stunts and suggestive dances by eunuchs.

"They killed a caged fox and two Iranian mice, released a pair of doves, and looted \$1,430," district police officer Ghulam

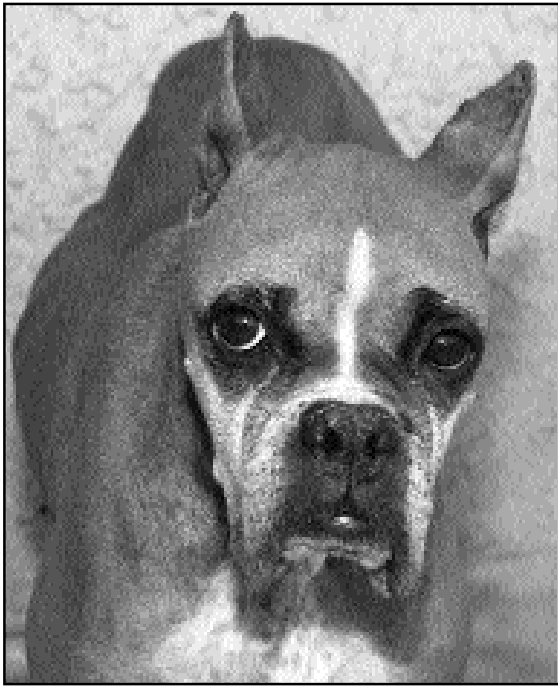
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How can we make it up to her?



March 2003

Dear Partner,

I can still see her lying there all curled up. She was in a pile of trash that was thrown from passing cars on the freeway above . . . and she was stuck against the base of a tree, unable to move. Her hip was shattered . . . and her leg was smashed to pieces. Ants were crawling over “Calamity” as I handed her bits of food. Starving as she was, she was still a lady . . . and she gently took the scraps from my fingers.

When I wrapped a towel around her in order to lift her from the tangle of branches and trash, I had a feeling she was hurt badly and that I shouldn’t change her position.

She was surprisingly light . . . and I carried her all the way to our van and put her on the front seat so she could remain upright.

All the way to our shelter hospital she rested quietly. But she didn’t know what was happening, and knew she was worried, waiting for the next round of pain to begin. She was resigned to pain.

When I got to our hospital, the first thing I did was put Calamity in the bath tub. She loved the warm bath and the comforting feeling of being clean again. But it was during her bath that we noticed her dangling rear leg.

We took Xrays and we ran blood tests. Then we pieced together

Calamity’s story the way crime scene investigators piece together a crime. She’s between 7 and 9 years old and this poor dog has never smiled in her life.

She’s a boxer, but no doubt she was made to breed with pit bulls since she comes from an area known for its illegal pit bull fighting rings. Her children probably all died in these criminal activities.

Calamity has many scars on her body, and there is a piece of metal imbedded in her chest . . . proof of some of the torture she has endured.

Four months before I rescued her, the abandoned Calamity ended up alongside the freeway. She was with another dog back then, but he hasn’t been seen since.

Calamity was starving, picking through garbage tossed from moving cars . . . hoping to find something to eat.

And one day . . . while she was sniffing for a morsel to eat . . . one of those cars hit her from behind and sent her flying through the air . . . and tumbling down a 20 foot embankment . . . into a tree trunk.

She suffered there for days, alone . . . without food or water. She was literally waiting for death. She had a peace about her when I first saw her . . . as if her lifetime of suffering would be over soon.

We must have surprised her. Calamity had surgery to rebuild her leg with steel rods. But her hip has to heal on it’s own, it will take time.

She has been through so much. You can see it in her eyes . . . and she can’t believe that only the good stuff is happening to her now, thanks to people like you who support this mission.

I don’t know how long Calamity will live, months or years . . . a terrible toll has been taken on her body . . . but I do know that she is very special and we will shower her with love, being grateful for every moment we have with her. Thank you for making this possible.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, founder

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue
PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

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Editorial

Conferences build movements

Education, persuasion, fundraising, and political organization all begin with getting to know somebody.

Futurists have predicted since the invention of book-printing that this ancient truism would soon be amended by the advent of mass media, which permit ever more rapid and far-reaching distribution of ideas. Yet this has not happened any more than the evolution of advanced noses enabled dogs to give up their eyesight. The actual major effect of each new development in communication is simply to extend human sensory input capabilities, and the most frequent use of our extended input is always to facilitate more human-to-human contact.

Thus book-printing stimulated the growth of universities. Radio and television stimulated travel. Use of the Internet exploded when people discovered that it eases and expedites meeting others with common interests. The single most frequent specific use of e-mail is in finding conjugal partners. Finding or placing companion animals also ranks among the top dozen uses, according to Internet researchers, some of whom estimate that from a third to half of all pet adoptions are now Internet-assisted.

ANIMAL PEOPLE exists and thrives, like all newspapers and electronic information media, primarily because we make introductions. This is no new insight. “Cub” reporters are taught to develop “a nose for news” precisely because journalists learned as a profession long ago that our “watchdog” function amounts to extending the animal senses of the readers. Because we are humans, we develop our keenest insights more through cogitation and analysis of input than through direct response to the input itself, but what we actually do with what we learn is comparable to what animals might do if able to see, sniff, and sense with their guard hairs at much greater distance.

Here at ANIMAL PEOPLE, our investigative work, financial accountability reporting, book reviews, and editorials each serve to extend readers’ ability to discover information of use in helping animals—and that brings the “watchdog” analogy back around full circle to the purpose of gathering the information in the first place.

In essence, we enable readers to build more successful direct relationships with other people who care about animals. We build the “connectedness” of the international humane community, not only through news coverage but also by sending more than 9,500 complimentary subscriptions to animal advocacy organizations around the world.

The payoff is evident wherever animal advocates meet, putting to work the ideas that we discover and amplify.

ANIMAL PEOPLE and the Internet have exponentially multiplied the chances for animal advocates to become acquainted and share information. Yet newsprint is not a spontaneous medium, and even the Internet tends to initiate and enhance rather than replace direct person-to-person communication. Building trust and understanding, teaching complex tasks, and influencing others through example all are done most easily after people meet face-to-face. This is the chief value of conferencing.

The progress of the humane movement can be measured by the frequency and intensity of conferences. The first U.S. humane conference, in 1876, produced the American Humane Association. The second, in 1878, split American Humane into separate divisions for child protection and animal protection.

Conferencing was difficult in those days, requiring long journeys mostly by steam train, but the cause surged forward at least until 1912, when more than 25,000 children plus 15,000 parents and teachers attended the Band of Mercy convention in Kansas City.

Thereafter, unfortunately, humane conferences stagnated into periodic convocations of executives, and the humane cause stalled for nearly 70 years. Not until the early 1980s did participatory conferences resume, but when they did, an explosion of conferences reputedly sparked in 1981 by Farm Animal Reform Movement founder Alex Hershaft immediately preceded the formation of most of the groups identified with the modern animal rights movement.

The No-Kill Conference series, begun in 1995 with 65 participants, comparably built the momentum of the movement toward no-kill sheltering. The No-Kill Conferences attracted up to 600 participants before morphing into the less confrontational Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy in 2001.

While the CHAMP conference mainstreamed itself into direct competition with the older American Humane and Humane Society of the U.S. conferences, however, the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary—an original No-Kill Conference cosponsor—started the dynamic No More Homeless Pets conference series. Planned deliberately to serve the specific needs of single regions, each No More Homeless Pets conference attracts 250 to 300 participants, many of whom are first-time conference attendees.

More things are happening now on behalf of animals than ever before, in more places around the U.S., because more people know each other, developing the degree of trust after personal meetings which adds depth and strength to the e-mail contacts.

Observing the value of the U.S. conferences, ANIMAL PEOPLE since 1997 has

been actively encouraging similar events abroad. The Animal Welfare Board of India hosted the first foreign conference we attended. This was our introduction to People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi, Blue Cross of India cofounder Chinny Krishna, and Visakha SPCA founder Pradeep Kumar Nath, among others, whose energetic Animal Birth Control programs and other multi-faceted animal advocacy have subsequently helped to inspire the world.

Since then we have become avid participants in the International Companion Animal Welfare Conferences cohosted by the National Canine Defence League of Britain and the North Shore Animal League America, the ¡Pura Vida! Conference hosted by the Veterinary Licensing Board of Costa Rica, and the Asia for Animals conference, organized this year chiefly by the Hong Kong SPCA.

Preceding each conference, we respond to a flurry of skeptical e-mails from activists who doubt that a talkfest will be worth the cost of attending. Money for humane work is hard to come by, especially in the underdeveloped world, and many of the prospective attendees have already had disappointing and disillusioning experiences involving meetings convened by public officials whose sole intent is to get away for longer with doing nothing.

After each conference we are exhausted for weeks by the avalanche of information requests received from new acquaintances—and as we visit shelters, sanctuaries, animal hospitals, and other pro-animal projects, it is increasingly apparent that those doing the most tend to be those who have invested in the opportunities to make contacts, learn new methods, and improve skills that conferences provide.

The experience of Pradeep Kumar Nath may provide the most dramatic example. Two years after starting the Visakha SPCA, he invested the entire treasury of the organization in a round-trip ticket to attend the 1997 Animal Welfare Board of India conference. Not a fellow who mingles and makes friends easily, he managed to strike up conversations with representatives of only two other organizations: ANIMAL PEOPLE and Help In Suffering, of Jaipur. Those conversations, however, gave him the tools and contacts to end the electrocution of street dogs by the municipality of Visakhapatnam, and to start one of the most successful of all of the Animal Birth Control programs. The Visakha SPCA, then housed in a single room, now occupies a new multi-building complex.

Since 1997, Nath has made a point of attending every conference he can. He is less bashful now about introducing himself. He is also increasingly often consulted at conferences by others who are just getting started and recognize the importance of tapping his recent experience in confronting many of the same obstacles.

It is our firm belief that the only way to change things for animals globally is to support and empower local animal welfare organizations, like the Visakha SPCA, wherever changes must be made.

This begins with discovering and identifying the local activists, like Nath, who have the inspiration, determination, and energy to lead. We spotlight the work of as many as we can, after personally verifying their accomplishments—but many others are worthy of attention, which they are only likely to get if they come to conferences and make themselves known more tangibly than can be accomplished through e-mail or a web site.

“Troops on the ground”

Protest campaigns directed from the U.S., Britain, and other developed nations only bring meaningful results when they are in effect the “air cover” for local “troops on the ground,” who generate comparable pressure.

As Australian animal defender Phil Wollen recently observed to us, “An imported, externally forced initiative will be accepted or tolerated only under sufferance, and the real problem will lurk like a cancer beneath the surface. It will re-emerge virulently when the external pressure has abated. No country likes to be bludgeoned by foreigners into accepting change, even if it is for morally sound reasons. I think it was Percy Shelley who said, ‘He convinced against his will, is of his own opinion still.’”

An alphabetized catalog of examples of such re-emergent issues might begin with the expanded Atlantic Canadian seal hunt and Australian kangaroo massacres, and would run on for several paragraphs, concluding with ivory trafficking in Zimbabwe. That such activities are still with us, some killing more animals than ever, long after each was nominally curtailed, in itself illustrates the importance of developing politically empowered local animal advocacy networks, who can keep the issues in their regions under scrutiny 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and can raise an effective hue-and-cry among citizens just as soon as anyone suggests resuming or expanding an abuse.

Direct mail, e-mail, mass media news coverage and advertising, and coverage in ANIMAL PEOPLE all can help to amplify the hue-and-cry, yet whether the animal abusers are South Korean dog and cat eaters or South Alabama coonhunters, the lone voices howling in the wilderness must meet as a pack to develop the strategies taking maximum advantage of individual strengths that tend to underlie success.

Shelters, sanctuaries, and sterilization clinics are part of the humane infrastructure, but without connectedness at all levels the safety net they form for animals is hit-or-miss, and does not tend to lift the standards of whole regions or nations.

ANIMAL PEOPLE donors are very special in understanding the need to build humane infrastructure. By helping to build infrastructure, in terms of both facilities and advocacy, they elevate the moral status and improve the treatment of animals everywhere.

This is significantly different from the response of typical donors, unfortunately. As the tactics of the direct mail industry demonstrate, typical donors rush in response to hyperbolic mailings to send funds to help single animals said to be in distress (even if actually rescued many years ago), yet decline to support publications, conferences, and genuine educational outreach because they derive no immediate feeling of relief and satisfaction from projects with a longterm payoff, no matter how profound the payoff may be.

Thus ANIMAL PEOPLE emphasizes donor education as well as all of the other work we do toward informing and strengthening the global humane community.

If each donor teaches another donor to scrap so-called “urgent” appeals sent by bulk mail, any appeals packaged to look like a government document or an invoice, any appeals sent with “gift” merchandise, and any appeals from groups or fundraisers who spend the greater part of their receipts on further mailings, enough wasted money could be saved right there to fund an unprecedented but much needed expansion of humane outreach.

Even just in donating, getting to know the people and projects you support is indispensable to effectively help animals. If you cannot visit every organization to which you donate, meeting representatives at a conference is the next best way to assess them.

Conferencing is such an ancient communication medium that even elephants, the great whales, most wild canids, hyenas, and many of our fellow primates gather from afar at times to renew acquaintances, spending several days in proximity before dispersing back throughout their range. Gatherings may center upon popular food sources, mating rituals, or joining forces before migration, but among many animals the opportunity to share knowledge and make collective decisions seem to be equally important motivations for convergence.

The more sociable bird species probably conferenced long before mammals did. Dinosaurs may have conferenced, as close relatives of birds, and entomologists have identified conferencing behavior even in honey bees.

The evident evolutionary lesson is that conferencing helps the survival of social animals, no matter how advanced their sensory and communicative abilities.

The same is true of causes. Take in a conference this year, meet some fellow activists and advocates you have never met before, and take away new depth of perspective.

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LETTERS

Lion-tamers vs. dull accountants

Thank you for sending me your fascinating publication. I have just returned from meetings in Kenya and a visit to Mount Elgon National Park to find your December 2002 edition in my pile of post.

I enjoyed your editorial on "Lion-tamers vs. dull accountants." Having watched a number of organisations evolve from "founder's passion" into "professional institution," I am very familiar with that difficult process. Difficult, but necessary, I would say, because unless the "founder's passion" is enough to solve the problem, the organization must outlive the founder to continue the work. Finding the balance is the challenge, and I agree with your conclusion, though I fear your plea will fall on deaf ears in the case of those receiving salaries in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

—Ian Redmond, Head
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Caucasus leopard & Turan tigers

A campaign to save the Caucasus leopard was launched here in Baku, Azerbaijan, last month, where fewer than 25 of the species still exist.

The World Wildlife Fund says it plans to set aside reserves for the remaining leopards in southern Azerbaijan, Armenia, and the Azeri exclave of Nakhchivan.

I don't fancy the leopards' chances. In a country where most of the population struggles to get by on \$45 a week and pensions don't even cover the cost of bread, leopards are a fairly low priority.

One of the reasons for their decline is that they can't find anything to eat. Impoverished and hungry families are eating their traditional prey, including wild goats, sheep and deer. Those who don't starve are shot by hunters, who sell their hides on the black market. And the handful that live in the mountains of Karabakh—the disputed territory over which Azerbaijan and Armenia fought a six-year war—are blown up by the tens of thousands of land mines that still litter the region.

Even worse, the few remaining leopards are spread out across the South Caucasus. Records suggest that about 10 remain in southern Azerbaijan near the border with Iran, five to eight survive in Armenia, and less than seven may still live in Nakhchivan.

They face the same miserable end as the Turan tiger. A hundred years ago, Turan tigers roamed the Talysh mountain range in southern Azerbaijan. But over-

zealous hunters saw to their demise, and by the 1930s they were extinct.

The bodies of the last two Turan tigers—one male, one female—were donated to the University of Medicine in Baku 70 odd years ago. They were stuffed and put on display. They are still there—their magnificent fur with its toffee and chocolate-colored stripes moth-eaten and torn, their teeth chipped, and their claws long gone.

An apologetic caretaker told me it was a disgrace that the tigers had been allowed to crumble away in this forgotten corner.

"They are the only two Turan tigers left in the world, and students come and sit on their backs and have their photographs taken," he said sadly. "But there is no money to restore them or even put them behind glass."

God help the Caucasus leopard.

—Azar Garayev, President
Azerbaijan SPCA
Baku, Fisuli str. 53/96
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Phone: 99450-3125089
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CORRECTION

The photos used with the November 2002 article "South African sanctuaries challenge canned hunts" should have been attributed to Diversity Nature Animals, not the Kalahari Raptor Centre. KRC sent them to ANIMAL PEOPLE on behalf of DNA.

Voting blocks

I would like to thank you for making me aware of the National Institute for Animal Advocacy training seminar given in Connecticut last October by Julie Lewin. I attended, and was so impressed that I plan to bring Julie down to Brazil to put on a similar program, tailored to our situation.

In Brazil voting is mandatory, thereby eliminating the often difficult task of getting people out to vote, and there is proof here that people do care about animals. In Sao Paulo, a city of 20 million people, the city councillor who received the fifth most votes in the last election has a platform almost completely devoted to animal rights and the environment.

I have ideas about an economically feasible way to start developing voting blocks in order to support the lobbyists who would interface with the city, state, and federal governments, and Julie's visit would help to start this new organization.

NIFAA opened my eyes to the dynamics of power in legislative chambers, the world of lobbying, and why there is no substitute for a politically organized grassroots. I now have the savvy and the tools to implement a system that will allow people concerned for the welfare of animals to effect significant change. And, all as a result of ANIMAL PEOPLE, because without your publication I would never have heard of the National Institute for Animal Advocacy (P.O. Box 475, Guilford, CT 06437; telephone: 203-453-6590; <jlewin@igc.org>).
—Debbie Hirst
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Veg scholarship

Thanks for mentioning our new vegetarian scholarship fund in your "Events" calendar. This will be an annual project for at least six more years.

I also greatly enjoyed your January/February coverage from Moscow. I met Tatyana Pavlova for the second time there in 1999, after previously meeting her in New York City once. She's a neat woman.

—Debra Wasserman
The Vegetarian Resource Group
P.O. Box 1463
Baltimore, MD 21203
Telephone: 410-366-VEGE
<www.vrg.org>

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Have a heart for chained dogs

Dogs Deserve Better, Inc. is a voice for all dogs living chained and penned outside. They deserve a better life. I have formed this organization to raise awareness about chaining and penning, in my own area and across the country.

Dogs are loving, pack-oriented creatures who want nothing more than to feel as if they belong to their family. Chained dogs, living the lives of prisoners instead of valued pets, often become very territorial and may bite or become overly aggressive.

Dogs long to stretch their legs and their knowledge of the humans they work so hard to please. To be endlessly chained by the neck or imprisoned within four tiny walls is the ultimate torture for a creature so full of life and love.

Some parts of the U.S. already ban or restrict prolonged chaining, so it is possible to abolish this abusive practice.

We are working on as many avenues of education toward this goal as we can afford. We sell t-shirts and bumper stickers that send a message. We just had our first 5,000 brochures printed, and got orders in the first week for 7,500! We are now printing 10,000 more. We ask everyone interested in this cause to help us get these

brochures into the hands of those who need to see them.

We held our first "Have a Heart for Chained Dogs" campaign during the week before Valentine's Day, publicized nationwide thanks to an article first published by the Cox News Service. We sent Valentines to chained and penned dogs who were sponsored by neighbors or family members, mostly anonymously. Each dog got a chewie and each caretaker got information about the cruelty of chaining. We personally delivered more than 50 Valentines to local chained dogs.

We have also bought crates to help housetrain dogs, and will continue to do so. We would like to help with fencing costs for people who want to properly fence their yards so that their dogs can run. We would also like to mount a nationwide billboard campaign targeting areas with high concentrations of chained dogs.

We will move forward, step by step and dog by dog.

—Tammy Sneath Grimes, Founder
Dogs Deserve Better, Inc.
P.O. Box 23
Tipton, PA 16684
Phone: 814-941-7447
Fax: 814-742-8679
<Tammy@dogsdeservebetter.com>
<www.dogsdeservebetter.com>

San Francisco Zoo orangutans

Denny, the San Francisco Zoo orangutan also known as Rusty, whose obituary was in your January/February 2003 edition, was my baby from age 18 months until he was more than 20 years old. He came from the Chaffee Zoo in Fresno as a companion for our female, Josephine, who was then three. He was registered as Denny in the Species Survival Plan orangutan studbook, but the then-San Francisco Zoo keeper said he was going to call him Rusty, and called Josephine "Rita." We never changed the names we called them, and I always said they were smart enough to go by two names.

We saw and played with them daily. For a time there was a sign on their grotto saying "Denny, donated by Mrs. Carroll Soo-Hoo," and as you reported, their daughter Violet was named after me.

They were together for 20 years, beloved by one another, but then the zoo decided that they had to be separated because Denny was Sumatran while Josephine was Bornean. I stood at the grotto in the zoo and collected 5,000 petition signatures against the separation, to no avail. They sneaked her out before daylight and sent her to the Philadelphia Zoo, as witnessed by In Defense of Animals founder

Eliot Katz. I never will forget the newsreel photo of her pounding herself on the pavement.

I told Carroll, "I think my life is over."

A couple of times I talked to the Philadelphia Zoo about her, and they said how wonderful she was. She died there in the March 1996 fire that asphyxiated 23 non-human primates in all.

—Violet Soo-Hoo
San Francisco, California

Violet and Carroll Soo-Hoo, who died in June 1998, donated more than 40 animals to the San Francisco Zoo between 1958 and the early 1970s, but eventually became outspoken critics of zoo policies that harm individual animals in the name of preserving species. Often, they pointed out, the species are only being preserved as zoo specimens, since there is little chance that they can be reintroduced to wild habitat which no longer exists. The first priority in maintaining captive animals, Violet Soo-Hoo continues to emphasize, should be keeping the animals as happy as possible.

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His family destroyed.

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Why animal advocates’ “war on terror” must be nonviolent

by Steve Hindi, founder, SHARK

It has happened again. Thugs misappropriating the name of “animal rights activism” have struck another blow against all animal advocates and the animals for whom we toil. This time the crime occurred in Villa Park, Illinois, a Chicago suburb, where during the first weekend in February 2003 someone reportedly cut the brake lines of as many as 40 trucks owned by a company that sells live lobsters.

The people responsible for this act have again allowed those who abuse animals to paint all who care about animals as terrorists. I hope these criminals, whoever they are, are caught and convicted. And I hope they were not actually involved in animal defense.

Fourteen years ago my rage over the use of captive live pigeons as targets at the annual Labor Day shoot in Hegins, Pennsylvania completely transformed my life.

Since then I have watched, documented and exposed more animal abuse than I want to think about. I live with horror at what I have witnessed, with the knowledge that my past as a former hunter embraced a world of abuse for which I was personally responsible.

It took me years to learn that losing control and giving over to anger and contempt for animal abusers was the surest way to lose opportunities to help the animals. Even today, maintaining my self control can be difficult, yet there can be no question that violence begets violence.

In the struggle to help animals we may feel with our hearts, but we must think with our brains.

The vast majority of people are neither wanton animal abusers nor animal activists. Most people are horrified by animal abuse—when they recognize it.

As animal protectors, educating the public to recognize animal abuse is our job. Educating the public is not accomplished by threats and intimidation. Teachers who do not win the respect and attention of their students have little chance of educating them.

I acknowledge that words alone will not bring about a more responsible and compassionate world. Anyone who knows me knows that I believe in action, and truth be told, I also take pleasure in watching the opposition squirm.

I have witnessed and I daresay enjoyed immensely the effects upon our opposition achieved by documenting and exposing their misdeeds. I watch with great satisfaction when those in positions of power are brought low by the truth of our video footage. I laugh when the supposedly strong run from our little videocassettes.

Violence not only works against us: it lets animal abusers off far too easily. If you really want to reduce your opposition, nothing is more effective than exposure, shame, and public ridicule.

Are the thugs who claim to employ violence for compassion merely thoughtless, or are they agents of the opposition? I don’t know, and I no longer care. Either way, I am convinced that they are as great a threat to a better world for animals as any identified opposition.

Whether the crime is cutting brake lines, arson, sending razor blades to exploiters, or threatening their families, to name just a few of many grossly misguided violent tactics, those in the animal protection movement who commit indefensible acts should be treated like the criminals they are.

At the very least, it is time for the great majority of animal protectors who are **not** thugs to take a very strong public stand against tactics that imperil the cause.

The acts of the animal protection movement lunatic fringe strike me in the same way as, when I was still a hunter, I first saw the Hegins pigeon shoot. I saw more than pigeons being blown away. I saw also the death of hunting, then central to my own lifestyle, and at the time that was the last thing I wanted to see. The Hegins pigeon shooters were to hunting what the brake line-cutting thugs are to animal protection.

There was no way to put a positive spin on the Hegins slaughter, and for anyone to even try was only to worsen the public relations nightmare. The Hegins killers operated outside any ethical boundaries. They were slob shooters who violated every purported hunting or conservation ethic, and their arrogance and don’t-give-a-damn attitude left me certain that their demise was inevitable.

If hunters had possessed even half a

collective brain, they would have turned out in overwhelming numbers and taken the shotguns from the hands of the killers at Hegins. Their failure to do so proved to many people, including me, that so-called hunting and conservation ethics had no validity. As a result, I terminated three decades of membership in the hunting and fishing fraternity.

Society will not swallow high-minded rhetoric when terrorist tactics follow our words. We cannot preach nonviolent principles on the one hand, and condone violent acts on the other.

Ironically, today as never before, there are many nonviolent opportunities to promote a better world for animals. One example was the recent Utah Animal Rights Coalition use of direct action to expose the violence done to pigs and cattle at the Circle Four Farms complex. Documenting horrendous conditions with both still and video cameras, UARC activists allegedly committed a crime by removing two young, sick piglets to find them veterinary care and homes.

The UARC activists were declared to be “terrorists.” But the public was not convinced, because the UARC action was clearly nonviolent and compassionate.

After the UARC action, two former Circle Farm workers came forward to testify also about how the company mistreats animals. Had the UARC action been violent, this would not have happened. As a result, the public has seen multi-stage coverage of agricultural animal abuse in Utah and beyond, and there is a chance that farm animals, who cur-

rently have no legal protection in Utah, may now receive legislative consideration.

Effective actions result in exposure, education, and positive change. Ineffective actions perpetuate ignorance, retarding the cause of compassion.

I have read about the children of animal exploiters being threatened. That is a tactic as low as anything done by the exploiters we claim to oppose. Apart from the heinous nature of the act itself, the children of animal abusers are often themselves traumatized by what their parents do.

I recall encountering such a case during our campaign to stop the Hegins pigeon shoot. The attorney for the shooters was himself a pigeon shooter. On one occasion he brought his son to court, and it was clear to me that the son had no more regard for his father than I did. He had a miserable enough life just having to live with the guy, without anyone giving him grief simply because he had the misfortune to be the progeny of a pigeon shooter!

I am in no way defending the lobster company, whose work I consider to be vile. That is all the more reason I am so outraged at the behavior of the brake line-cutting thugs: they turned the abusers into the victims.

The public did not learn about the suffering of lobsters at the hands of these people. The public did, however, learn about the “animal rights terrorists” who victimized the people at the lobster company, and could have victimized many others if a brakeless truck had careened out of control.

I would suggest that only by following the Golden Rule might we hope to succeed. We should only employ tactics that we are willing to have employed against us.

In the case of SHARK, that means we might have to tolerate our opposition standing outside my home with video cameras—big deal!

If we practice compassion while our opposition practices violence and terrorism, it is easy to tell the good guys from the bad. When both sides practice hate and violence, it isn’t just hard to pick out the good guys: there are no good guys.

[Steve Hindi debuted in animal advocacy by challenging Hegins pigeon shoot organizer Bob Tobash to a prize fight, to be held in lieu of the shoot, as a fundraiser for the Hegins Park Association. Tobash declined. Hindi’s videography was later instrumental in ending pigeon shoots in both Pennsylvania and Illinois. Using a paraglider to turn deer, geese, and prairie dogs away from hunters on many occasions during the mid-1990s, Hindi was repeatedly jailed for alleged hunter harassment, but put the oldest canned hunt in the Chicago area permanently out of business. His extensive exposes of animal abuse in rodeo have helped to end several rodeos. His most successful campaign, however, may have been persuading Pepsico to stop sponsoring bullfights. Contact Hindi c/o SHARK, P.O. Box 28, Geneva, IL 60134; telephone 630-557-0176; fax: 630-557-0178; e-mail <SHARKIntl@SHARKonline.org>; web <www.sharkonline.org>.]

HFA

If you know someone else who might like to read ANIMAL PEOPLE, please ask us to send a free sample.

Slaughter in the streets

(from page 1)

Rasool Baloch told Agence France-Presse. Apparently to avoid contributing to ethnic tensions, the U.S. and European animal advocacy groups that normally criticize the post-*Haj* slaughter were quiet this year. The silence in France, usually scene of the most protest, was especially conspicuous, contrasting with French fervor against the prospect of a U.S. invasion of Iraq.

Among the post-*Haj* slaughter stories moving on the international newswires:

- A ferry sank on February 8 in the Dhaleswari River, 15 miles south of Dhaka, Bangladesh, killing 300 cattle.
- District chief Heri Bimanto, of Karangnunggal, West Java, Indonesia, hired psychic Eyang Jayaningrat to rid the city of “supernatural” red dogs who allegedly killed 350 goats, hundreds of chickens, and various other livestock on the eve of the *Eid Ul Azha*.
- At least 620 Turks either cut themselves or were injured by terrified animals while performing the slaughter.

“Although officials have set up public facilities for the sacrifices and impose heavy fines on anyone found slaughtering animals elsewhere,” Associated Press reported, “many Turks still choose to sacrifice the animals in their back yards or alongside roads.”

Eid Ul Azha translates “Feast of Atonement,” but the slaughtering is not actually a sacrifice, strictly speaking. The meat from the slaughtered animals is to be eaten by the family of the slaughterer, with any surplus donated to the poor. To show status, the faithful who can afford to do so often slaughter extra animals for the poor. Sometimes a wealthy community kills so many animals in excess of the demand for meat that the disposal of the carcasses becomes a public health problem. That was reported more often, however, at the height of Middle Eastern oil prices and resultant affluence than in recent years.

In Mumbai, India, where Hindu and Muslim leaders have been trying to avoid any spillover of the religious rioting that killed more than 100 Hindus and 2,000 Muslims in Ahmedabad last May, the Bombay High

Court restricted the 15 Muslim families within the 37-family Versova Seaside Premises Cooperative Society to killing no more than one goat apiece. As many as 50 animals were killed there last year, after some residents invited friends and relatives to join them.

“As far as possible and in my personal opinion, this slaughter should be stopped,” said Justice A.P. Shah. “This should not be done in cooperative housing.”

Reforming halal

Rather than addressing the post-*Haj* slaughter in specific, Animal Life Switzerland veterinarian Monika Koller and colleagues hope to reform *halal* slaughter in all contexts. As with kosher slaughter, practiced by Jews, *halal* slaughter was originally prescribed as an article of religious faith to try to minimize the suffering of animals killed for meat. At the time, centuries ago, there were no faster or less stressful killing methods.

Because that has changed, Koller holds that the *halal* rules should change, too, making essentially the same case that Colorado State University slaughterhouse consultant Temple Grandin and the late Coalition for Nonviolent Food founder Henry Spira made 15 years ago in convincing many U.S. kosher slaughterhouses to update their techniques.

“Since 1997,” Koller reported recently, “Animal Life Switzerland has been campaigning for sedation to be introduced in Lebanese abattoirs.” After providing captive bolt guns and ammunition to the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture, “and with the massive support of Islamic religious leaders,” Koller said, “we have so far succeeded in convincing 140 Lebanese abattoirs of different sizes to introduce stunning animals.”

The Lebanese slaughter project is managed by Rosmari Jaouhari, DVM, her university professor husband Issam Jaouhari, and their son, “who maintains and repairs the stunning equipment, supplies the abattoirs with cartridges, and instructs the slaughterhouse workers,” Koller explained.

A similar project begun in Turkey in 2001 recently won the approval of the High Commission for Religious Affairs. Tansas, the largest slaughterhouse in Turkey, was among the first to institute stunning, according to Koller.

Two institutions investigating animal health in transport in January 2003 issued recommendations relevant to the welfare of sheep en route to *Haj* slaughter from farms in Australia and northern England.

The Independent Reference Group, appointed by Australian agriculture minister Warren Truss, reported that “Unless robust systems are in place to support animal health and welfare, and to address customer and community concerns, the ongoing viability of the livestock export trade will be jeopardized.”

A spokesperson for Truss said that after two livestock exporters’ licenses were revoked in 2001, the number of “incidents” involving sick and injured livestock aboard transport vessels fell by half in 2002, even as the number of shipments doubled.

The Newcastle University Centre for Rural Economy focused on the spread of disease via “fat lambs” in transit, and procedural lessons that could be learned from the 2001 hoof-and-mouth disease outbreak in England. More than seven million animals were killed before the outbreak was contained.

The hoof-and-mouth strain involved apparently originated in northern India, spread to Saudi Arabia with animals exported for the post-*Haj* slaughter, fanned out across the Islamic regions of Asia for several years as if carried by returning *Haj* pilgrims, reached Chinese seaports, and then hit Europe.

Continental Europe contained the outbreak with vaccination, but Britain resisted vaccination in the mistaken belief that as an island nation, it could keep itself completely free of hoof-and-mouth.

War and wildlife

While Qureshi spoke out against the war on livestock, BirdLife International



(Shoaib Awan)

warned what war in Iraq might do to wildlife in a dossier sent to the government of Iraq and the U.S., British, French, Russian, and Chinese members of the United Nations Security Council. The dossier was also posted at the BirdLife International web site.

“Based on the unprecedented environmental damage caused by the 1990-1991 Gulf War and available data on the environmental effects of recent conflicts in Yugoslavia and Afghanistan,” BirdLife International said, staff scientists “identified seven risks to the environment and biodiversity” posed by war.

The risks include “physical destruction and disturbance of natural habitats” resulting from weapons use; “toxic pollution resulting from oil spills or oil well fires caused by fighting or deliberate damage,” like the scorched-earth retreat that Iraq made from Kuwait in 1991; “radiological, chemical or bio-toxic contamination resulting from the use of weapons of mass destruction and conventional bombing of military or industrial facilities”; “destruction of natural habitats and wildlife resulting from mass movements of refugees”; “burning of wetland and forest vegetation as a result of fighting or deliberate damage”; “desertification exacerbated by military vehicles and weapons use”; and “extinction of endemic species or subspecies.”

(continued on page 8)

SWEEPING PRO-ANIMAL BILL IN TURKEY

ANKARA, Turkey—The Parliamentary Domestic Affairs Commission on January 15, 2003, adopted a draft national animal protection bill which would provide prison terms for animal torture, allowing animals to starve, and bestiality; would prohibit all forms of animal fighting; would prohibit killing animals by electrocution, cervical dislocation, drowning, burning, and boiling; would forbid training animals by methods that cause avoidable injury or distress; and would prohibit killing animals for population control unless necessary to halt the spread of an epidemic.

The draft bill would require drivers to make every reasonable effort to avoid injuring animals on the road, and to take any animals they hit to a veterinarian and pay for the necessary treatment.

Only licensed veterinarians would be permitted to perform euthanasia. Vets would be directed to use the least painful method available of killing an animal.

The draft bill would form a national animal protection foundation, and would create animal protection boards in each province, under the deputy governors.

As drafted, the bill would be perhaps the most comprehensive and progressive animal protection statute on the books of any nation. Whether it can gain enough support to pass into law without substantial amendment remains to be seen.

NIGER ACTIVISTS OPPOSE ARAB HUNTING

NIAMEY, Niger—“Animal rights campaigners in Niger are protesting against the Niger government’s decision to allow visitors from the Persian Gulf to hunt protected animals and birds,” Idy Baroau of BBC reported on January 9. Barou said the activists, led by environmentalist politician Ibrahim Sani, had filed a formal complaint against the issuance of permits to kill gazelles and capture birds of prey.

“The Gulf princes have been using big-caliber guns and cargo planes to carry their booty,” Baroau added. “In response to the criticism, Abdou Mamane, a spokesman for the Ministry of Animal Resources and the Environment, said that the Arab guests had paid \$300,000 to get *carte blanche* to hunt in Niger.”

HOUSTON—Members of the Houston Animal Rights team and PETA picketed the Houston headquarters of the oil exploration firm Halliburton on January 12 to protest the alleged poisoning of 200 feral cats at a remote work site in Algeria.

Former Halliburton employees said that the Halliburton construction subsidiary KBR, Andarko Petroleum, and an Algerian subcontractor brought cats to the site to control rats, but failed to sterilize the cats before releasing them. The cats were poisoned after Halliburton withdrew from the project. The demonstrators argued that Halliburton had a moral obligation to ensure that the cats were treated humanely.

Reported KTRK Channel 13, of Houston: “Halliburton issued a statement saying its company left the work site before the cats were killed. Andarko said the Algerian company brought in the cats and is working with the Algerian government to remove the animals in a humane manner.”

Halliburton employed U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney immediately before he agreed to become running mate of President George W. Bush in 2000.

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Swathi Buddhiraju of the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, cleaning a dog's teeth during her training at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue.



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“Waders and waterbirds will be particularly at risk from oil spills,” said BirdLife International researcher Mike Evans, “because Iraq is at the northern end of the Arabian Gulf, which is one of the top five sites in the world for wintering wader birds and a key refuelling area for hundreds of thousands of migratory waterbirds during spring and autumn.”

Evans was part of the scientific team sent to Iraq in 1991 by BirdLife International and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to collaborate with BirdLife of Saudi Arabia in assessing the biological impact of the Gulf War.

“Many of the natural habitats and sites impacted in the 1990-1991 Gulf War will be at risk again,” BirdLife International pointed out, identifying 42 critical habitats for various bird species within Iraq.

Saddam Hussain has already virtually destroyed the marshlands at the mouths of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

The region was inhabited for more than 5,000 years by the Ma’dan people, who are primarily Shi’ites with cultural links to Iran. Anticipating local support, Iran used the marshlands as an invasion route while fighting Iraq from 1980 to 1988. Rebels from the marshes then rebelled against Saddam Hussein after the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Saddam Hussein retaliated by draining the marshes. Of 10,000 square miles of wetland shown by satellite photos in 1991, only 35 square miles are still wetland habitat.

The United Nations Environmental Program recently reported that the drainage has “significant implications for global biodiversity, from Siberia to southern Africa.”

Some affected species, like the purple swamp hen and the Basra reed warbler, found new habitat in Kuwait. Local varieties of bandicoot and otter reportedly went extinct.

The prospect of renewed fighting in Iraq comes as ecologists are still assessing the fallout from 20 years of warfare in Afghanistan, where sporadic shooting and bombing continues as Allied forces try to extinguish Al Qaida and force local warlords to accept national government.

Chilka Lake in Orissa state, India, hosts 173 bird species each winter, including 92 migratory species, many of which may pass through Afghanistan. According to annual surveys organized by ornithologist Uday Narayan Dev and the Bombay Natural History Society, the Chilka bird count fell from 1.9 million in January 1999 to 1.3 million in January 2001, rose slightly to 1.5 million in January 2002, and then fell again to just 450,000 in January 2003.

Local officials blame poachers for the decline.

The birds may also be finding congenial habitat farther north, as an effect of global warming.

At the Hokersar wetland, nine miles north of Sringar, capital of Kashmir state, “Bomb blasts and fierce gun battles are not preventing thousands of migratory birds from as far away as Siberia from visiting,” Izhar Wani of Agence France-Press reported in April 2002. “Officials say nearly 400,000 migratory birds visited Hokesar this year,” Izhar Wani continued, “the most since the launch of the Muslim separatist militancy in 1989. In 1992, 25,270 migratory birds visited Hokesar. 1998 brought 94,694, wildlife officials said.”

The increase in bird arrivals came despite violence killing more than 35,000 people and despite drainage projects which have reduced the local wetland area by 60% since 1970. Shujaat Bukhari of *The Hindu* confirmed in January 2003 that bird arrivals this winter were also in the 400,000 range.

Using war to attack ESA

Most U.S. environmental groups, preoccupied with defending the Endangered Species Act, have said little or nothing about the prospects of war in Iraq.

Polls continue to show that up to 85% of the American public favors a strong Endangered Species Act,



Pakistani bird seller. (Shoaib Awan)

including the critical habitat provisions that have brought the most opposition from property rights advocates.

President George W. Bush and the Republican majorities now controlling both the House of Representatives and the Senate are, however, committed to weakening the ESA, especially the critical habitat provisions—and are also doing well in public opinion surveys, despite the slumping economy, largely because of support for the “War on Terror.”

The multipronged Republican strategy against the ESA consists of a continued barrage of riders to spending bills which seek to restrict ESA enforcement, as was pursued in the House while the Democrats held the Senate, plus a frontal assault behind the claimed need to exempt the U.S. military.

The Pentagon itself did not claim such a need until in March 2002 House Subcommittee on Military Readiness chair Joel Hefley (R-Colorado) “summoned Pentagon officials to Capitol Hill to explain why they were not seeking exemptions from environmental laws,” reported *Denver Post* Washington D.C. bureau chief Bill McAllister. Hefley’s Congressional District is a hotbed of “wise use” advocacy, and also includes the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs.

Although the Pentagon has a long history of trying to evade most environmental regulation, all four branches of the U.S. military have for at least a decade taken evident pride in showing off their ability to train troops without harming such species as the California gnatcatcher, native to Camp Pendleton, California; the spotted owl, whose critical habitat includes Fort Lewis, Washington; the southern pronghorn, native to the Barry Goldwater Memorial Bombing Range in Arizona; and the Mojave desert tortoise, native to Fort Irwin and several other bases in California and Nevada.

Military personnel have often explained that practicing for combat in proximity to endangered species is good preparation for avoiding harm to civilians in actual warfare.

The biggest recent conflicts between the U.S. military and protected species have both involved the Navy: deployment of the SURTASS-LST low-frequency sonar system, which appears to kill whales with underwater sound blasts that cause their inner ears to explode, and practice gunnery at *Farallon de Medinillas*, a remote Pacific island.

Even after Hefley hit upon attacking the ESA through the military, Pentagon spokespersons were slow to fall into line. The House in May 2002 approved a rider exempting the military from the ESA and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 359-58, with scarcely any visible military support—and despite a General Accounting Office finding that complying with the laws had not harmed military preparedness.

The rider eventually failed in the Senate, then controlled by Democrats, although a temporary waiver of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act was approved to enable the Navy to continue bombing and shelling *Farallon de Medinillas*.

Pentagon falls in

After Republicans gained the Senate majority in November 2002, the Pentagon toed the party line. Deputy undersecretary of defense for readiness Paul W. Mayberry and deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment Raymond F. Dubois Jr. had argued almost alone for ESA and Migratory Bird Treaty Act exemptions, but were joined in early 2003 by deputy defense secretary Paul W. Wolfowitz and Army vice chief of staff General John M. Keane, pursuing a campaign strategy engineered by Mayberry.

The Mayberry plan became known when in January it was leaked to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility executive director Jeff Ruch.

Congressional leaders who are reportedly involved in drafting the 2003 edition of the military exemption from the ESA and Migratory Bird Treaty Act include Hefley, who was openly disappointed when the House Republican leadership chose Richard Pombo (R-California) ahead of him to head the House Resources Committee; Pombo, a committed wise-user who believes elephant conservation should be funded by ivory sales; Billy Tauzin (R-Louisiana), another longtime committed wise-user; and Senator James Imhofe (R-Oklahoma), now chairing the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

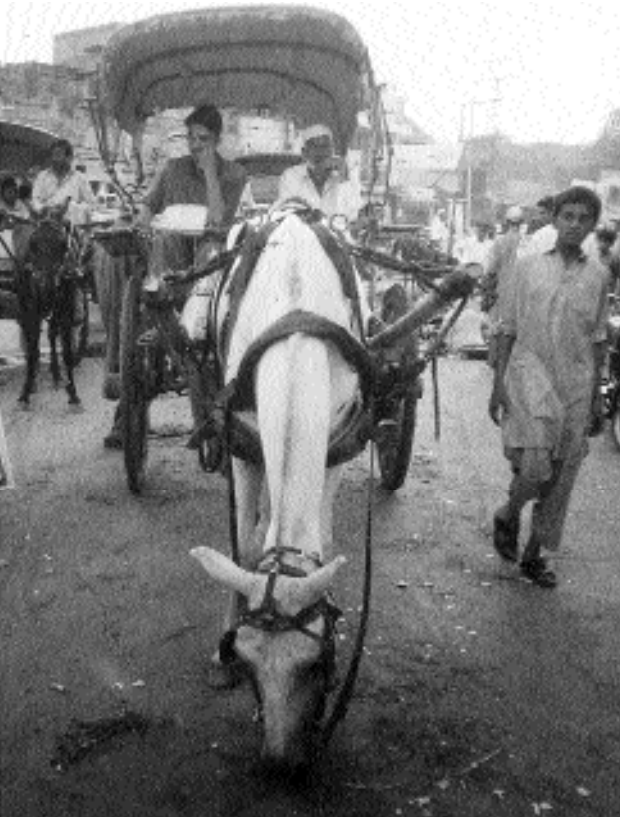
The exemption bill is expected to carry with it numerous riders extending ESA exemptions to activities other than military training, including economic development projects of particular interest to prominent members of Congress.

As with the renewed Congressional effort to authorize oil extraction in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which is touted in the name of making the U.S. less dependent upon foreign oil, environmental groups are tip-toeing around any possibility of being portrayed as soft on terrorism or unpatriotic.

The extent of the enviro jitters was evident in November 2002 when the Sierra Club board of directors approved a resolution in favor of disarming Iraq, stating that “The Sierra Club is concerned about the global dangers presented by possible Iraqi aggression and about the dire environmental consequences of war,” and warning that Sierra club policy “does not authorize individual members, leaders, or club entities to take public positions on military conflicts.”

Patrick Diehl, vice chair of the 175-member Glen Canyon chapter of the Sierra Club in Moab, Utah, defied the warning with a November 26 press release asserting that, “The present administration has declared its intention to achieve total military dominance of the entire world. We believe that such ambitions will produce a state of perpetual war, undoing whatever protection of the environment that conservation groups may have so far achieved.” The statement was endorsed by fellow chapter officers John Weisheit, Dan Kent, and Tori Woodard, who is Diehl’s wife.

Sierra Club president Carl Pope threatened them with legal action—although the San Francisco chapter, in the Sierra



(Shoaib Awan)

Club’s home city, adopted a similar resolution.

“The intimidation is not likely to work,” wrote syndicated columnist Jeffrey St. Clair. “Weisheit is perhaps the most accomplished river guide on the Colorado. He has stared down Cataract Canyon and Lava Falls in their most violent incarnations. Woodard and Diehl live in the outback of Escalante, Utah, where they routinely receive death threats for their environmental activism. A couple of years ago local yahoos vandalized their home, threw bottles of beer through two front windows, kicked in the front door, trashed the garden, and cut the phone line to the house. Pompous chest-thumping by the likes of Pope won’t scare off these people.”

St. Clair, a personal friend of the late longtime Sierra Club executive director and board member David Brower, remembered that Brower was a World War II combat veteran who came to oppose warfare as ardently as he championed the environment and endangered species. In 1990 Brower, his late wife Anne, and St. Clair demonstrated together in Portland, Oregon, against U.S. tactics in the Gulf War.

Seeking shelter

Far from the policy disputes, animal shelters and rescue groups in communities with military bases struggled to cope with thousands of pets surrendered by U.S. troops who were transferred overseas on short notice. Compounding the crisis, the U.S. Marine Corps announced the scheduled closure of the Camp Pendleton animal shelter by August 2003, to cut costs. No more animals were to be admitted after March 1.

“The overhead is simply too high,” base public affairs officer Captain Chris Logan told Dave McKibben of the *Los Angeles Times*, “and other shelters in San Clemente and Oceanside are now more available. There was a greater need when we opened over 10 years ago.”

The Camp Pendleton shelter was created to accept pets left by troops leaving for the Persian Gulf War.

Soldiers still on the base and the families of soldiers already shipped out reportedly volunteered at an unprecedented rate to help find new homes for the animals at the Camp Pendleton shelter, the Animal Rescue League of El Paso shelter, and other shelters in military communities.

In El Paso the local Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter reportedly subsidized pet fostering for military families.

Cat Welfare Society of Israel director Rivi Mayer e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that her organization was also “doing our best to get ready for the coming war, may it never happen. From experience during the last war in Iraq,” Mayer said, “we know that many cats and dogs will be abandoned.”

May 7-9, 2003

Asia for Animals

//

conference in

Hong Kong

Info: HONG KONG SPCA

“ANIMAL RIGHTS” VS. “WISE-USERS”

DENVER—Colorado state representative Mark Cloer (R-Colorado Springs) on Valentine's Day 2002 withdrew a bill which would have redefined pets as companion animals rather than property, by way of enabling petkeepers to seek punitive damages rather than just the replacement value of an animal in cases of abuse and veterinary malpractice.

The intent of the Cloer bill was to extend the definition of veterinary malpractice to include unnecessarily frequent vaccination. Although modern anti-rabies vaccines provide protection for three years or more, many vets still “remind” petkeepers to get annual vaccinations as a way to get the pets into their clinics for the general examinations that often discover health conditions in need of treatment.

The redefinition of pets as companion animals coincided with the goal of In Defense of Animals' effort to get legislative bodies to replace the term “owners” in pet-related statutes with “guardian.”

Cloer pulled the bill after wise-users, hunters, farmers, and others opposed to any “animal rights” legislation lined up with veterinarians in opposition to it. Cloer warned, however, that if the veterinary profession does not stop allowing practitioners to push unnecessary vaccinations he will introduce another bill of similar intent.

Although the Cloer bill was withdrawn, it gave wise-users a scare by attracting much favorable publicity and by coming from an unanticipated direction.

Continuing to pursue a strategy of attacking animal advocacy by playing up violent incidents, engineered in the mid-1980s by public relations consultants for the Canadian

fur trade and the American Veterinary Medical Association, the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance announced in January 2003 that it intends to push a draft “Animal and Ecological Terrorism Act to combat animal rights terrorism...in all 50 states” this year, along with right-to-hunt legislation and a “model bill” to prevent the use of birth control drugs instead of hunting to regulate wildlife populations.

The Sportsmen's Alliance said it was seeking endorsements of the “Animal and Ecological Terrorism Act” from the Criminal Justice Task Force and Homeland Security Working Group of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a key entity in advancing conservative legislation since 1973.

The “Animal and Ecological Terrorism Act” was apparently first introduced into a state legislature by Texas state representative Ray Allen (R-Grand Prairie).

The American Civil Liberties Union immediately identified numerous clauses which it said violate the First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and assembly. The ACLU pointed out that it would even criminalize the activity of news reporters who legally enter animal facilities to describe and document cruel or negligent conditions.

State constitutional amendments guaranteeing a “right to hunt” are already due to go before Wisconsin and New York voters on their next state general election ballots. Voters are expected to approve the Wisconsin amendment on April 1, 2003.

Others are considered likely to win legislative approval and go before the voters in Montana and Nebraska. Similar amendments are already in effect in six states.

Farm Sanctuary fined \$50,000 in Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Florida—The Florida Elections Commission has fined Farm Sanctuary \$50,000 for 210 alleged willful violations of campaign fundraising laws in connection with the passage of Amendment 10, a November 2002 initiative which banned the use of farrowing crates to raise pigs in a state which had only two working pig farms.

One of those farms was already going out of business, and state and federal water quality regulations virtually ensure that no others can be started in Florida.

“Farm Sanctuary raised nearly half a million dollars from people coast to coast for the Florida ballot measure, in large part, I assert by falsely promising tax deductions” for campaign contributions, attorney Allan D. Teplinsky of Northridge, California, told the Florida Elections Commission in requesting the strictest possible penalty.

Teplinsky, who filed the complaint that initiated the prosecution, has not responded to an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiry as to why he pursued the case. He has no known prior history involving animal issues.

Teplinsky pointed out that by routing funding to the campaign through its New York headquarters, Farm Sanctuary “succeeded in keeping political contributors' names and addresses away from public view and government scrutiny...in contradiction of the basic purpose of Florida's campaign finance laws.”

“Earlier,” Teplinsky added, “Floridians for Humane Farms convinced Florida officials to waive tens of thousands of dollars in fees associated with the processing of petition signatures, by claiming that the fees

would have been an overwhelming financial hardship to the supposed ‘volunteer’-run initiative campaign.”

Farm Sanctuary founder Gene Bauston accused **ANIMAL PEOPLE** of practicing “negativity and divisiveness” by reporting about the Florida charges, which resulted in the heaviest penalties ever assessed against an animal advocacy group for violations of campaign finance and public disclosure laws.

The laws involved usually help public interest groups to overcome the economic strength of big corporations, by clarifying to voters and news media who supports what.

Farm Sanctuary was not alone among animal advocacy groups in being penalized. The Washington State Public Disclosure Commission in January 2003 fined Protect Our Pets and Wildlife the applicable maximum of \$2,500 for failing to promptly disclose the purchase of \$535,205 in TV advertising time during a successful 2000 initiative effort to ban the use of bodygripping furbearer traps. Protect Our Pets and Wildlife attorney Shawn Newman promised to appeal. Winning 55% of the vote, the Protect Our Pets and Wildlife initiative was funded primarily by the Humane Society of the U.S.

The fine was announced soon after Washington State Senate Fish, Parks, and Wildlife Committee chair Bob Oke (R-Port Townsend) introduced a bill to repeal most of the initiative. The Oke repeal bill, one of two before the Washington Senate, on February 10 was approved by the Fish, Parks, and Wildlife Committee and sent to the Rules Committee for further review.

Events

March 2: Have A Heart for the Animals dinner, Tampa. Info: Florida Voices for Animals, 813-969-3755.

March 2-4: Animal Care Conf., San Jose, Calif., cohosted by the Calif. Veterinary Medical Assn., Calif. Animal Control Directors Assn., and the State Humane Assn. of Calif. Info: 949-366-1056.

March 7-9: Compassion for Animals Action Symposium, Tampa, Fla. Info: 386-454-4341 or <www.vegetarian-events.com>.

March 9: city/county political tactics seminar, Madison, Conn. Info: Natl. Inst. for Animal Advocacy, <jlewin@igc.org>.

March 11-12: Minnesota Animal Control Assn. conference, St. Cloud, Minn. Info: 651-228-1888 or <harding@qwest.net>

March 12: Noon protests against dog-and-cat-eating at S. Korean embassies and consulates. Info: <www.koreananimals.org>.

March 14: In Defense of Animals “Guardians for Life” art & essay contest deadline, open to students in grades 2-12. Info: <www.idausa.org/gfg/essay.html>.

March 20: Great American Meatout 2003. Info: 1-800-MEATOUT or <www.meatout.org>.

April 1: Deadline, Be Kind to Animals Kid Contest. Info: 1-800-227-4645 or <www.americanhumane.org>.

April 3-5: HSUS Animal Care Expo, Reno, Nev. Info: <www.hsus.org>.

April 25-27: No More Homeless Pets, Anaheim, Calif. Info: Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 435-644-2001, x129, or <www.bestfriends.org>.

April 8-10: North American Interagency Wolf Conf., Pray, Montana. Info: <www.keysecure.com/-



www.fund.org

Since 1967, The Fund for Animals has been providing hard-hitting information to the public and crucial resources to grassroots organizations and activists. Cleveland Amory's landmark book, *Man Kind? Our Incredible War on Wildlife*, launched the American anti-hunting movement. And today, The Fund carries on Cleveland Amory's legacy by launching campaigns, lawsuits, and rescue efforts to stop animal abuse around the nation. Please visit The Fund for Animals online at www.fund.org, where you can find the following information and resources.

Legislative Action Up-to-the-minute alerts on federal and state legislative issues that affect animals. Look up your legislators, and send them automatic messages. Find out how your federal representatives voted on animal protection issues. And join the Humane Activist Network to get more involved nationally and locally!

Library and Resources In-depth reports such as *Canned Hunts: Unfair at Any Price* and *Crossing the Line: When Hunters Trespass on Private Property*. Fund Fact Sheets on everything ranging from entertainment to agriculture, state agencies to student activism, and solving common problems with urban wildlife.

Humane Education Free publications for teachers, as well as curriculum units on hunting, circuses, companion animals, and much more. Kids can order free comic books and coloring books on animal protection issues, and can enter The Fund for Animals' annual essay contest.

Multimedia View streaming video footage of The Fund's Public Service Announcements featuring celebrities such as Ed Asner and Jerry Orbach. See trailers and clips from award-winning documentaries and view educational videos about humane ways to solve urban wildlife problems.

News and Updates See photos and read current updates about the rescued residents at The Fund's world-famous animal sanctuaries. Link to news articles about The Fund, as well as to other animal protection organizations and resources, and subscribe to a weekly email alert telling you what's new at The Fund.

Online Store Use The Fund's secure online server to order merchandise such as t-shirts, mugs, and companion animal items, and activist resources such as bumper stickers, buttons, books, and videos.

Find out more at www.fund.org



Progress at the Kabul Zoo

KABUL, Afghanistan—“The bear Donatella’s nose is looking much better,” Whipsnade Wild Animal Park senior curator Nick Lindsay reported to Kabul Zoo relief effort coordinator David M. Jones on December 20, 2002.

That is not the latest information **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has from the Kabul Zoo by far, nor the most important in terms of the future of Afghan animal welfare, but it answers the question most asked about the war-torn zoo and the resident animals, who became familiar to TV viewers worldwide during the military campaign that ousted the former Taliban government of Afghanistan in December 2001, then dropped out of sight after the fighting mostly ended and most of the visiting news media returned to the U.S. and Europe.

Marjan the lion, who survived 20 years of nearby combat and deprivation, died in January 2002, but Donatella, the Asiatic brown bear with the pitifully inflamed and infected nose from frequent torture by stick-wielding Taliban and militia visitors, now has two smaller bears for company. All three bears have newly re-excavated dens, into which they can retreat to avoid visitors, and within which they may hibernate for part of the winter.

“The main focus was to prepare for the winter,” Lindsay said of his December visit to Kabul. “We hired a contractor to run electricity to all of the dens and stables that needed it, and to install heaters and lights. This will not be ideal,” Lindsay acknowledged, noting the local technical limitations, “but it should be okay barring an extreme winter.”

Heated indoor aviary space was prepared for the birds, bed boards or next boxes were installed for all animals as appropriate to their species. Straw was providing as bedding.

“This was well-received by the animals, which helped to reinforce these ideas with the staff,” Lindsay noted.

“Slides and cage doors were fixed or installed, as required,” Lindsay continued, “so that all of the animals can be shut indoors in cold weather. This will also allow the staff to work safely,” when they must enter the outdoor cages.

Among other animal welfare improvements, Lindsay said, “Platforms were built for the lions, so that they can see out of their enclosure, and were used extremely well, as was a new platform for the bears.”

Lindsay hopes to soon “remove the small old and damaged cages, and replace them with big, new, more natural enclosures to match the gazelle and lion areas.”

In addition, Lindsay and Jones are working with the zoo staff to develop a plan for transitioning toward operational self-sufficiency. The zoo attracted 210,000 paying visitors between April and December 2002, along with 1,500 nonpaying visits from school groups. The volume of traffic should be enough, Lindsay and Jones believe, to cover the necessities of maintaining the animals and paying the staff. Outside help would continue to be essential in rebuilding the zoo facilities.

Jones, who is also director of the North Carolina Zoo in Asheville and board president of the London-based Brooke Hospital for Animals, has come under criticism from some quarters for carefully husbanding the funds collected for Kabul Zoo relief, but has explained to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** the necessity he perceives of avoiding any loss of resources to waste and corruption, and of encouraging the zoo to learn to operate on a sound and accountable economic footing.

If properly managed, Jones says, the Kabul Zoo can become a central example of how to rebuild an Afghanistan that works. If managed as strictly a charity case, it will continue to be a charity case, knowing no other way to operate.

The Mayhew mission

Lindsay concluded his report on progress at the Kabul Zoo with brief but effusive praise of the work and management skills of Mayhew Animal Home site representative Mohammed Ashraf, DVM. The Mayhew Animal Home joined the Brooke Hospital for Animals, North Carolina Zoo, European Zoo Association, and World Society for the Protection of Animals early in the international effort to assist the Kabul Zoo, and is the only animal welfare group with fulltime staff in Kabul.

Founded in 1886 “for the benefit of the lost and starving dogs and cats of London,” the Mayhew Animal Home grew to serve an ethnically diverse part of the city in which 85

languages other than English are commonly spoken, vice chair James Hogan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“Our involvement in Afghanistan came about,” Hogan explained in March 2002, “because of a personal connection we have with the country: a member of our veterinary team, Abdul Jalil Mohammadzai, DVM, is a graduate of Kabul University. He is advising us, and through his contacts and colleagues in Kabul we have been ideally placed to assist with such things as organizing a reliable food supply for the zoo animals and establishing links with the city administration.

“After discussions with Dr. Jalil, his colleagues in Kabul, and the Kabul city administration,” Hogan added, “it was agreed that the best longterm contribution we could make would be to establish a clinic in Kabul to provide veterinary care for the zoo animals and a basic veterinary service for animals belonging to the general population.”

These continue to be the major part of the Mayhew mission in Kabul.

Outreach veterinary help is also provided by a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization rabies vaccination team, a World Health Organization leishmaniasis control team, and the U.S. Army 476th Civil Affairs Battalion, stationed at Bagram Air Base, whose vets mostly treat livestock.

Mike Eckel of Associated Press joined five members of the Army vet team on a December mission to Tadokhiel village, where they examined and treated about 50 animals. At other villages, Eckel said, they have seen 600 animals.

The UN/FAO team hopes to vaccinate as many as 150,000 dogs. Dogs suspected of being rabid bite about 400 Afghans per month, according to the WHO estimate.

WHO is seeking \$1.2 million worth of drugs and insecticide-treated bed nets to fight the sand fleas who carry leishmaniasis. About 200,000 people in Kabul and 70,000 in Herat, Kandahar, and Mazar-I-Sharif suffer from the disfiguring disease, according to WHO leishmaniasis expert Philippe Desjeux. The spread of the disease is often blamed on dogs, who also suffer from it, but infection from bedding is the most common mode of transmission.

The Mayhew Animal Home veterinary project is the only one treating all animals for all treatable conditions.

The Mayhew Animal Home is now building a clinic for the Kabul University veterinary program, scheduled for completion in early 2003.

“We would like to establish a training facility at the clinic, enabling young graduate vets to gain vital practical experience,” Hogan said. “When sufficient stability has been restored to Afghanistan and the people are able to resume normal life, access to vet care will surely be an important consideration in helping to develop the rural economy.”

“Afghanistan remains a very difficult, volatile and often dangerous environment in which to operate,” understated Mayhew Animal Home animal care manager Helen Betts in a web site resume of the project.

Culture conflicts

The Taliban forbade as distractions from prayer the traditional Afghan pastimes of cockfighting, dogfighting, and *buzkashi*, a horseback game in which the object is to drag a headless calf or goat into a scoring circle, but all three were revived almost as soon as the Taliban fell. Televised *buzkashi* caught the fancy of viewers in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, so on January 28 the Afghan *charge d'affaires* in Dubai, Rashid D. Mohammedi, announced plans to bring 24 trained horses and riders to Dubai for a *buzkashi* exhibition.

The Dubai event will use a fake carcass made from cloth and plastic, Mohammedi told Nissar Hoath of *Gulf News*.

This may reflect an April 2002 controversy over the karakul hat favored by Afghan chief administrator Hamid Karzai. Designer Tom Ford of the Gucci leather empire called Karzai “the most chic man in the world.” The hat was also praised by Italian furrier Silvia Venturini Fendi. Sales of karakul hats reportedly surged.

But that gave People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi of India the chance



This Central Asian dog found a home in Turkey. (K.B.)

to educate the world via Associated Press and Agence France-Presse about the origin of karakul.

“Karakul wool is made by beating a pregnant ewe until she aborts,” and usually dies, Mrs. Gandhi explained. “The aborted lamb has very curly tight hair.” The hat is made from the hide of the lamb.

Former Indian prime minister Vishwanath Pratep Singh provided backup testimony. Singh acknowledged that he had worn a karakul hat himself until he found out how it was made. “When I was told,” Singh said, “I switched over to synthetic and have worn synthetic hats ever since.”

PETA meanwhile ensured that more fur would be worn in Afghanistan, but less in the U.S., by shipping 850 fur coats donated by Americans who no longer wear fur to Kabul via the Michigan charity Life for Relief in Development.

Dog rescuers

Though the Taliban prevented dogfighting, it and Al Qaida were not kind to animals, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out as early as November 1996, as the Taliban regime was just beginning. Dogs were especially often victimized, including in demonstrations of weapons and the use of poison gas.

Convicted Al Qaida explosives smuggler Ahmed Ressam, 34, described such incidents during a July 2001 Manhattan federal court hearing. Confirmation came in August 2002, after CNN correspondent Nic Robertson obtained a collection of 251 Al Qaida videos from a remote location in Afghaistan that Osama bin Laden had reputedly used as a hide-out. CNN broadcast clips of three dogs being gassed.

Incidents witnessed of both deliberate and thoughtless casual cruelty to animals have often disturbed U.S. and British troops and news media stationed in Afghanistan. Some found ways to set a better example.

Malcolm Garcia of the *Kansas City Star* and Peter Bosch of the *Miami Herald* rescued a white puppy they found being used as bait for fighting dogs. Named Maggot, the puppy found a home in Berlin.

British Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Graeme Smith and his deputy, Sergeant Mick Hart, both of the 216th Signals Squadron, rescued an abused and abandoned dog they named Tiger. Treated by Australian veterinarian Jamie Darling, 35, who was in Kabul for WSPA, Tiger caught the notice of *Daily Telegraph* editor Charles Moore, and through Moore found a home in Britain.

Countless soldiers fed and befriended street dogs. Perhaps this will help to transform Afghan attitudes toward animals. At the very least it will mean some dogs are less hungry and have known a kind hand.

Join the No More Homeless Pets Forum

Join us to spend a week with some of the leaders of this lifesaving, nationwide movement. They'll share an inside view of their thoughts and daily work and answer your questions about subjects that are near and dear to their hearts.

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3/10 - 3/14 How can we get vets to work with us? Dr. Brenda Griffin of Auburn University talks how you can work with veterinarians more effectively.

3/17 - 3/21 Why can't we get our message out? Julie Castle of No More Homeless Pets in Utah shares marketing secrets and tips on getting the word out.

3/24 - 3/28 Humane Education? Isn't that just for kids? Nathania Gartman of Best Friends provides creative ideas for how you can educate and inspire.

3/31 - 4/4 How can we get our community involved in helping animals? Dennis Stearns of Leadership Greensboro and No More Homeless Pets in Guilford County offers insights into how you can be a more effective leader.

To join, visit the Best Friends website:



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Fighting to keep new laws (from page 1)

anti-dogfighting bill.

The Oklahoma anti-cockfighting initiative has also run into recent legislative repeal attempts, as have an anti-canned hunting initiative approved by Montana voters in 2000 and the Washington state anti-trapping initiative approved the same year.

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, the Oklahoma repeal effort was deferred pending the outcome of the state Supreme Court case. The Montana repeal proposal had been amended into an attempt to compensate former canned hunt proprietors for going-out-of-business costs. The fate of the Washington repeal bill appeared uncertain.

Three animal protection laws adopted by state legislatures in 2002 have also run into challenges to their enforceability.

“The first local test of Colorado’s new felony animal cruelty law proved that it doesn’t have the teeth necessary to charge suspected offenders for the greater penalty,” *Boulder Daily Camera* staff writer Mary Butler observed in November 2002, after University of Colorado student Garrett Parker Brodie, 22, was charged with misdemeanor cruelty for allegedly killing his girlfriend’s puppy. “Prosecutors decided against charging the felony,” Butler wrote, “because they feared that the new legislation, approved in July, is unconstitutional.”

Judge Edward Turner III of Floyd County, Virginia, “regretfully” sent a felony

cruelty charge against Lloyd D. Kempa Jr. to a grand jury in November 2002, and the grand jury agreed with him on December 2, refusing to indict Kempa for admittedly shooting a new neighbor’s wandering German shepherd.

JoGenia Sexton, 47, of Anchorage, in December reportedly decided on behalf of other alleged wolf hybrid breeders to challenge a new Alaska law forbidding the sale, possession, or advertisement of wolf hybrids. Sexton admits advertising her Malmute/husky/German shepherd mixed breed pups as “wolf dogs,” but contends that since they are not actually wolf hybrids, the law does not apply.

The first test of a new Maryland felony cruelty statute was successful, however, as Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge Durke G. Thompson on January 14 sentenced Rick Speight, 21, to serve 14 months in prison with 22 months suspended, spend two years on probation, and get anger management counseling. Speight allegedly beat a pit bull puppy to death on July 4, 2002.

Other bills adopted in late 2002:

California now requires pet stores to provide written care-and-feeding instruction as part of the purchase of any animal; requires the addition of a bittering agent to antifreeze to keep animals and small children from drinking it; subjects animal blood banks to state inspection; prohibits furbearer pelt sales by private citizens as well as predator and nuisance animal trappers; and requires all predator and

Dogs and gamecocks take their revenge

For 40 years dogcatcher Manuel Pascual, 61, of Bulacan city in Bulacan province, The Philippines, caught stray dogs and reputedly sometimes stole freeroaming pets, selling them to restaurants in Malolos, Marilao, Bocaue, and Baliuag, the *Philippine Inquirer* reported on February 1, 2003. Eventually, however, a dog caught Pascual, who died from rabies on January 26.

His was the second turnabout death in the Philippines in just two weeks. On January 12 gamecock handler Elmer Mariano

of Zamboanga had just strapped spurs to the legs of a cock in preparation for a fight when the cock wrested one leg free and fatally stabbed him in the groin.

A similar incident occurred at Kampung Murni, Nabawan district, Malaysia, on January 29. According to *The Star of Malaysia*, cockfighter Tungkaling Ratu had also just strapped the spurs to a cock when the bird escaped, fatally slashing the thigh of his 12-year-old son Henrysius, who had crowded close to the ring to watch the fight.

nuisance animal trappers to be licensed.

Florida now allows petkeepers to provide for their companion animals after their own deaths in designated trust funds. Sixteen other states have similar laws.

Indiana now allows the felony prosecution of suspects accused of “knowingly or intentionally” torturing, beating, or mutilating” any vertebrate animal, with a penalty of up to a year in jail on conviction, plus a fine. Indiana also now punishes possession of “animal fighting paraphernalia with intent to participate in an animal fighting contest” as a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail, and if such possession occurs along with “harboring an animal bearing scars or wounds consistent with participation in an animal fighting contest,” the offense becomes a felony.

Massachusetts now requires suspects in cruelty and neglect cases to post security bonds providing for the care of any ani-

mals seized pending conviction or acquittal, and makes the animals forfeit to the animal care agencies looking after them if the proper bonds are not posted.

New Jersey now prohibits debarking dogs except when necessary “to protect the life or health of the dog.”

New York now forbids the slaughter of dogs and cats for human consumption, and requires people who keep wild or potentially dangerous animals such as exotic cats, primates, crocodilians, venomous snakes, and wolf hybrids to notify local police and fire departments of their presence.

Ohio in December 2002 gained the first comprehensive update of the state anti-cruelty statute since 1877—but it exempts farmers and hunters. Under the old law, a 1996 Ohio State University study found, only 85 of 25,000 animal cruelty cases reported that year got as far as prosecution.

More events

forwolves.org/confer2003.html>.

(continued on page 11)

April 27-29: Texas Fed. of Humane Soc. conf., Plano. Info: POB 1346, Manchaca, TX 78652.

May 4-10: Be Kind to Animals Kids Week. Info: 1-800-227-4645 or <www.americanhumane.org>.

May 7-9: Asia for Animals II conference, Hong Kong. Info: <asiaforanimals@spca.org.hk>.

May 10: Fur Ball Auction for Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society, Newburyport, Mass. Info: 978-462-0760; <www.mfrs.org>.

May 16-18: Off-Lead Training Expo and Natl. Pet Expo, Lebanon, Pa. Info: <Barkleigh@aol.com>.

May 20-24: Intl. Seminar on Wildlife Rights and Wild Nature Freedom, Kiev, Ukraine, co-presented by the Kiev Ecology Cultural Center, Azerbaijan SPCA, and Wildlife Protection Center. Info: <aspca@azintex.com>.

June 4-7: A.L.I.V.E. in Canada: Converting to a Let-Live Nation, Windsor, Ontario. Info: <conference2003@jazzpurr.org>; <www.jazzpurr.org>.

June 17-21: Vegetarian Festival, Turkey. Info: <www.european-vegetarian.org>.

June 27-July 1: Animal Rights 2003/East, McLean, Va. Info: c/o Farm Animal Reform Movement, <chair@animal-rights2003.org> or <www.animal-rights2002.org>.

July 11-13: 2nd Intl. Conf. on Transport of Horses, Gloucestershire, U.K., co-presented by Intl. League for the Protection of Horses, Fed. Equestre

IF YOUR GROUP IS HOLDING AN EVENT, please let us know—we’ll be happy to announce it here, and we’ll be happy to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.

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- Helpful “how-to” pieces by experts in the field
- Timely information about pioneering programs
- New Maddie’s Fund grant awards



Maddie’s Pet Rescue Project, Alachua County, Florida



Western University College of Veterinary Medicine, Pomona, California



Maddie’s Pet Rescue Project, Maricopa County, Arizona



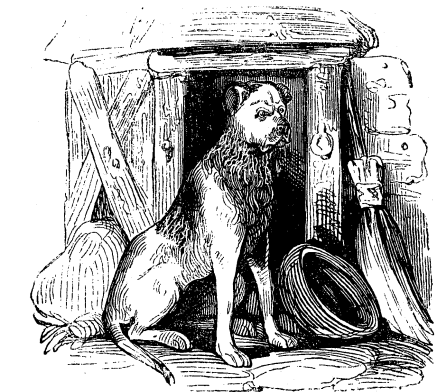
Maddie’s Spay/Neuter Project, Maricopa County, Arizona



The Pet Rescue

Maddie’s Fund® The Pet Rescue Foundation (www.maddiesfund.org) is a family foundation endowed through the generosity of Cheryl and Dave Duffield, PeopleSoft Founder and Board Chairman. The foundation is helping to fund the creation of a no-kill nation. The first step is to help create programs that guarantee loving homes for all healthy shelter dogs and cats through collaborations with rescue groups, traditional shelters, animal control agencies and veterinarians. The next step will be to save the sick and injured pets in animal shelters nationwide. Maddie’s Fund is named after the family’s beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

Maddie’s Fund, 2223 Santa Clara Ave, Suite B, Alameda, CA 94501
510-337-8989, info@maddiesfund.org



The Watchdog

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.

Coin-can conflicts in New Jersey: *who is collecting all that spare change?*

TRENTON, New Jersey— The Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey in early February 2003 updated a “phony organizations” alert originally issued in September 2002 about coin-can fund-raising by an entity calling itself “The National Animal Welfare Foundation.”

The alert was soon amplified with more information by other animal welfare organizations in the Hudson River region.

A “National Animal Welfare Foundation” was incorporated as an IRS 501(c)(3) charity in 1998 by Patrick G. Jemas and Gus C. Jemas of Metchuchen, New Jersey, and William E. Helwig of Holmdel, New Jersey. The one IRS Form 990 it filed, in January 1999, was mostly blank, with the identification data supplied in hard-to-read Old English or German “black letter” type.

Investigations by Associated Humane assistant director Rosann Trezza, Sara Whelan of Pets Alive in Middletown, New York, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** have found little trace of NAWF program activity. A NAWF web site active on February 18, 2002 could no longer be found on February 18, 2003. Addresses in Union, New Jersey, and Washington D.C. turned out to be mail drops.

The Union address “does not have any name on the door except ‘Intelligence, Inc.’” Trezza said.

NAWF coin-cans in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania came to the attention of Associated Humane because they bore photos from Associated Humane Society mailings, Trezza said.

“We contacted the Charitable Registration Section of the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs several months ago,” Trezza said. “However, there seems to have been no action taken and there is an increase in the number of cans placed.”

Said Whalen, “I found 28 collection cans, most of them half filled, within eight miles of Pets Alive. Figure even \$5.00 a can every two weeks just here in Middletown and that is a lot of money. They have cans as far away as the Petco store in Melville, Long

Island, so I wouldn’t be surprised if they have 1,000 cans out there in all.

“Two stores I contacted called me to say the cans were picked up by a man who also picked up cans for a ‘prevent child abuse’ group called ‘1-888-525-SAFE,’” Whelan added. “I called and an elderly man told me that it educates about child abuse. I gave him my name and address and asked for information. I asked if they were affiliated with the National Animal Welfare Foundation. He swore that they were not. He told me that they were licensed to raise funds in New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, and have an application pending in New York.”

The 1-888-525-SAFE telephone number appears on the web site of a group called Experience Counts Inc., of Cliffwood, New Jersey, which filed IRS Form 990 only in 1997. The filing confirmed that the group was funded partially by coin-cans.

The Experience Counts web site promotes a book called *Bring Back The Woodshed*, by Arnold D. Herman. According to the web site, “Herman and his wife have raised 32 teenagers. Five were their own children. Twenty-two were placed in their home by the New Jersey Division of Youth & Family Services. Herman was given custody of two more by the New Jersey Family Court System. Two others were relatives, and one was a neighborhood girl who came to spend a weekend and stayed for two and one-half years. Twenty-eight of the teens were female. Most were hard-to-handle abused youngsters who had been in multiple placements. Herman was a certified trainer of prospective foster parents for the NJ/DYFS, specializing in teaching methods of handling adolescent acting-out.”

The Bergen Record identified Herman in 1986 and 1989 as head of an organization called Foster Friends Inc., which was crusading against a New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services rule prohibiting the use of corporal punishment on foster children.

Herman told *Bergen Record* staff writer Victor E. Sasson in December 1986 that in 1983 he spanked one his then four foster

daughters for allegedly pulling a knife on another girl. “The girl he spanked reported Herman to her teacher,” Sasson wrote, “and the NJ/DYFS ordered all four girls removed from his home, said Herman. Herman said he and his wife won a court order preventing the removal of the girls, then had the DYFS decision reversed at an administrative hearing.”

“Experience Counts Inc. has no organizational connection with the National Animal Welfare Foundation,” Herman told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The National Animal Welfare Foundation does place canisters for Experience Counts Inc.,” he acknowledged, “under a ‘piggyback’ arrangement in New York state, because of the high cost of gasoline and wages. We are not crazy about the arrangement,” Herman claimed, “because child abuse prevention canisters do not do well alongside animal protection canisters. However this does allow us to get our name into areas where we would not be otherwise.”

“I am not aware of the scope of the activity of the National Animal Welfare Foundation,” Herman said. “I am led to believe that they make donations to animal protection groups. Patrick Jemas worked at one time for Associated Humane as a fundraiser, and I believe there is hostility between him and the top staff. Gus Jemas is Pat’s father. I have no idea who William E. Helwig is.”

Herman said Foster Friends was dissolved in 1995.

Trezza confirmed that Patrick Jemas was once an Associated Humane coin-can collector. She added that Herman closed Foster Friends and incorporated Experience Counts after she complained repeatedly about Foster Friends fundraising tactics to the New Jersey State Division of Consumer Affairs.

Prior incidents

Associated Humane and other South Atlantic region humane societies have had much past experience with obscure and unauthorized coin can fundraisers.

In March 2002, for example, Associated Humane discovered its own photos on coin-cans placed by a group calling itself “Exotic Rescue,” using unverifiable addresses in Wood-bridge, New Jersey, and Washington D.C. A representative of an Iowa charity called Exotic Rescue told Trezza that “a man named Mark Lee places candy vending machines for her,” Trezza wrote in a May 2002 letter to New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice director Paul H. Zoubek—but the Iowa charity also said it had not received any money from Lee, according to later correspondence from Trezza to the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs Charities Registration Unit.

“Associated Humane was recently notified that Lee has a plain piece of paper which he gives to merchants that states he is authorized to pick up Associated Humane collection cans,” Trezza told Zoubek.

In January 2001, Associated Humane and a charity formed by

the Kinneton Harley Owners Group on behalf of a two-year-old girl with a serious heart condition were allegedly victimized by Kelley Gormley, 23, and Tracey Pearsall, 21. Identifying Gormley and Pearsall as heroin addicts, Pompton Lake police charged them with stealing at least \$1,400 from collection cans that they picked up in three counties under false pretenses.

In 1995, two years after former pet store owners Sheri Gould and Alan Deitschman were convicted of neglecting dogs, the Bucks County SPCA traced coin-cans for an unknown “Animal Welfare League” to Gould and Deitschman. As neither the IRS nor state agencies pay much attention to charities financed by small change, although the take from 100 well-placed collection canisters can exceed \$50,000 per year, and since the U.S. Supreme Court has held that begging is constitutionally protected free speech, the Bucks County SPCA could only tell merchants who had the cans on their counters that the “Animal Welfare League” had no connection with recognized humane groups.

Beginning in fall 1996 groups calling themselves the Volunteer State Humane Society and Humane Society of the Carolinas placed hundreds of tin banks shaped like dogs on counters in Tennessee and the Carolinas. Both organizations appeared to have been formed by one Troy Taylor, the listed owner of the PostNet maildrops in each city, where the “humane society” telephones rang—but **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, in repeated tries, never got an answer, nor were messages returned.

Neither group appears to have ever filed IRS Form 990, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** did obtain bylaws, articles of incorporation, a mission statement, and a letter of introduction from the Volunteer State Humane Society.

“Our organization is primarily a fundraising entity,” the letter said, “which frequently serves to engender fear and suspicion on initial contact with animal welfare organizations.” The letter went on to decry “people worried about high school kids dissecting frogs,” and to deplore “people taking their children to see the Barnum and Bailey [circus] and being screamed at.” It asserted that “the animals in a high-quality circus have a better life than the majority of humans.”

Added the letter, “We have pledged to keep our overhead at less than 50%,” well above the 35% ceiling set by the Wise Giving Alliance. The letter suggested that an attorney might contact any critics.


The Volunteer State Humane Society mission statement said it would “provide assistance to animal shelters, rescue groups, and low-cost spay/neuter clinics.”

Humane societies in Tennessee and the Carolinas told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that they had not received any VSHS or HSC money, adding that the tin dogs had cut into their own coin-can revenue.

ANIMAL PEOPLE published an expose of the scheme in April 1997.

Coin-cans from both organizations have occasionally reappeared, according to callers to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but have been removed after local humane societies began asking questions.

Sultan was confiscated by the Houston SPCA from a breeding facility. He was malnourished and had rickets due to lack of calcium. Hundreds of these animals are sold as pets each year. Many are displaced when they become ill or too costly to keep. Sultan was one of the lucky few—he found a home at Wild Animal Orphanage.



The Wild Animal Orphanage is currently caring for more than 350 of these once unfortunate animals. When you send a loved one or a friend a Care Card you will be helping hundreds of animals find stability in a safe, secure and loving environment. You will be showing your friends and loved ones that YOU CARE! You will encourage them to do the same. What better message to send to those whom you have grown to love, cherish and respect. Thank you on behalf of the animals.

C. Aquestas

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Jordan hero dog dies for love and freedom

ZARGA, Jordan—A teaching of strict fundamentalist Islam is that it is the duty of brothers to keep their sisters “pure” by isolating them from contact with unrelated men prior to arranged marriage. A three-year-old German shepherd named Big Joe recently defeated that custom by carrying secret correspondence several blocks back and forth between a man identified only as “Thamer” and a woman whose identity news media concealed. Big Joe on January 11 carried the man’s marriage proposal to the woman and fought off her brother when he tried to intercept it, but the brother fatally beat him with a large stone. The father of both the woman and her brother approved of the marriage, perhaps in appreciation of what the loyalty, bravery, and resourcefulness of Big Joe implied about him.

Stegman strikes out at Tony LaRussa’s ARF

CONTRA COSTA, Calif.—David Stegman, executive director of Tony LaRussa’s Animal Rescue Foundation since May 1997, resigned for undisclosed reasons on January 17, 2003.

Stegman ended a six-year career as a major league outfielder playing for LaRussa with the Chicago White Sox in 1983-1984. His successor at ARF has not yet been named.

LaRussa and Stegman in 1999 contracted with Maddie’s Fund, of Alameda, California, for ARF to become the lead agency in administering a planned five-year program to take Contra Costa County to no-kill animal control. It was to have been the first of many such programs sponsored by Maddie’s Fund—but ARF withdrew after failing to meet some of the first-year goals.

Under Stegman, 36% of the 1999 ARF program budget and 15% of the 2000 program budget went to operate a driving school headed by Art Lee-Drews, who formerly worked with Stegman at the San Ramon Valley Community Services Group.

ANIMAL PEOPLE consulted two leading nonprofit attorneys who confirmed that this project should not have been construed as a charitable program of an animal shelter. Stegman and LaRussa claimed it was intended to make money to support animal rescue, but since it was originally independently incorporated on a nonprofit basis, it should not have been operated as an unrelated-for-profit business activity either.

The driving school was eventually dropped, but during Stegman’s last three fiscal years the percentage of Tony LaRussa’s Animal Foundation budget spent on fundraising and administration rose from 46% to 65%, according to IRS Form 990 filings. The Wise Giving Alliance recommends that charities should spend no more than 35% of their budgets on fundraising and administration.

Tony LaRussa’s ARF operates animal rescue programs in both Contra Costa County, California, and Phoenix, Arizona.

People & projects

British Columbia activists Anthony Marr, Brenda Davis, and her son Cory Davis have rescheduled their HOPE-GEO “Compassion for Animals Road Expedition” across the U.S. and Canada “due to U.S. Immigration temporary visa requirements.” The new scheduled starting date is September 1, 2003. The 25-week tour of 40 states and four provinces in a van equipped to display pro-animal videos to the public was to have begun on January 8, but the HOPE-GEO team “were not permitted to enter the U.S.,” they told supporters. Marr is widely known for his investigations of wildlife trafficking, both in British Columbia and abroad. Davis, a registered dietician/nutritionist, is author of four books on vegetarian and vegan nutrition and health. More HOPE-GEO/CARE information is posted at www.hope-care.org.

The Massachusetts SPCA on January 31, 2003 announced that American SPCA president **Larry Hawk** will in February begin transitioning from his present post to succeed **Gus Thornton**, who is retiring, as president of the MSPCA. Formerly director of veterinary marketing for **Hill’s Pet Nutrition**, Hawk in 1995 became president of **PETsMART Veterinary Services** and was founding president of **PETsMART Charities**, now headed by **Joyce Briggs**. He succeeded the late **Roger Caras** at the ASPCA in 1999.

The Fund for Animals on February 10 increased the standard price for cat sterilization at its **Have-A-Heart Clinic** in New York City from \$25 to \$85, and increased the price for dog sterilization from \$35 to \$95. This was the first raise in fees since the clinic opened in October 1996. “The ASPCA charges \$165,” [for dogs] Fund president **Michael Markarian** told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, adding “We will continue to offer discounted or free service for people who receive public assistance, we will continue to provide free spay/neuter for pit bull terriers, and we are considering discounts for feral cat rescuers.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE

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WWF SPLITS OVER LINKS TO CORPORATIONS

GENEVA, Switzerland—World Wildlife Fund U.S. president Kathryn Fuller has reportedly refused to resign at request of WWF International president Claude Martin.

Martin asked Fuller to quit after she abstained from voting in her capacity as a board member of Alcoa, rather than oppose a company plan to build a dam complex that will flood 22 square miles near Karahnjukar, Iceland, submerging nesting and feeding areas for barnacle and greylag geese who migrate from Greenland to Britain. The dam project is opposed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, as well as by WWF International.

Fuller joined the Alcoa board after

Alcoa donated \$1 million to WWF-U.S., wrote Severin Carrell of the London *Independent*.

Martin and WWF International were meanwhile ripped in an open letter from Kevin Dunion, former director of the Friends of the Earth chapter in Scotland, for failing to oppose a plan by the French mining, quarrying, and cement-making firm Lafarge to open a “super quarry” on Harris Island in the Hebrides. Lafarge and WWF also have a “very close” relationship, Dunion said.

WWF-Britain came under criticism at the same time for its ties to the HSBC banking empire, a major financier of rainforest logging in Indonesia and dam-building in fragile areas including the Three Gorges region of China.

ESPN drops weekly rodeo broadcasts

CHICAGO—“Ever heard of the Outdoor Life Network? I haven’t,” SHARK founder and longtime anti-rodeo campaigner Steve Hindi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** at deadline. “Nevertheless, that is where most of the televised rodeos for the 2003 Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association season will be aired. The love affair between the ESPN and the PRCA seems to be over.

“We don’t know the sordid details of the apparent breakup,” Hindi added, “but we have some clues. A few weeks ago, I was called by a producer for an ESPN show called ‘Outside the Lines.’ This program, I was told, delves behind hype and headlines in examining sports issues. Incredibly, ‘Outside the Lines’ was interested in looking at rodeo. I told the

producer that if ‘Outside the Lines’ did a story on rodeos, ESPN would never be able to air another rodeo, as the truth would be known and admitted to by the network. The producer said he wanted to go forward nonetheless.

“After that, I didn’t hear from the producer again. I left messages, but got no response. Now perhaps we know why.

“I told the producer that the PRCA would hit the roof when they found out that they were going to be investigated,” Hindi said. “I strongly suspect that the PRCA not only hit the roof but left the building.

“There are still a few rodeos scheduled to air on the major networks this year,” Hindi concluded. “But the weekly coverage on ESPN is at least for now over.”

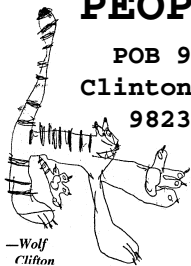
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Thai government to buy surplus elephants for forest patrol

BANGKOK—Two hundred out-of-work domesticated elephants are to be purchased by the Thai government and be re-employed patrolling 37 national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, natural resources and environment minister Prabhat Panyachartak announced on February 12.

Prabat Panyachartak expected to obtain cabinet approval for the purchases as a Valentine for Queen Sirikit, who apparently suggested using the elephants for patrol work after the national police reported promising early results in training 50 street dogs for investigative duties, as King Bhumibol Aduladej recommended in his November 2002 birthday speech.

The King, 75, and Queen, 72, have no formal political authority, but are viewed as the moral guardians of Thailand. Always fond of animals, both have become outspoken about animal welfare since adopting a street dog in 1998.

“Elephants would be well-suited to the job. Using elephants is better than using four-wheel-drive vehicles, in terms of pollution reduction and energy savings,” World wildlife Fund Thailand secretary general Surapon Duangkhae told Ranjana Wangvipula and Kultida Samabuddhi of the *Bangkok Post*.

Surapon Dunagkhae earlier was outspokenly critical of a plan to release the elephants into the Kanchanaburi forest. Of 70 former working elephants previously released into the wild, just 40 survived, Surapon Dunagkhae said. Some could not find enough food and turned to raiding plantations, some tried to cross fortified borders and stepped on

landmines, and some were hit by vehicles.

The elephants lost their former jobs when Thailand curtailed logging to save the native rainforest a decade ago. While some of the logging companies replanted trees after clear-cutting, they reportedly planted mostly eucalyptus, a fast-growing species which provides wood pulp for papermaking, but does not provide adequate food for elephants or most other Thai native wildlife.

The National Elephant Institute counted 3,500 working elephants in 1992, of whom 990 were employed in tourism and the rest mostly in logging. By May 2002 only 2,343 elephants still had jobs anywhere. As many as 500 elephants were roaming the nation with their mahouts, doing odd jobs and begging for food, with about 40 elephants illegally living in Bangkok.

Unofficial estimates put the Bangkok elephant population closer to 150.

Although the elephant surplus dictates that very few elephants are added to the working stock these days, PETA in mid-2002 released a video that it claims depicts mahouts violently “breaking” young elephants to work, and started an aggressive international campaign against Thai elephant use. PETA demanded that Thailand should seize all working elephants and return them to the forest, against the advice of Friends of the Asian Elephant, whose spokespersons said that the PETA video did not show typical Thai elephant training.

A Thai government investigation of the video concluded that it was “doctored.”

Bangkok residents meanwhile called

for a crackdown on mahouts who bring their elephants into the city. Elephants blocking traffic, sitting on cars, and going on rampages have become common in recent years.

One of the most menacing episodes yet came on January 3 when a hungry 30-year-old bull elephant named Ole came into musth and picked a fight with a younger elephant named Pumpui. Pumpui’s mahout, Thongsai Homhuan, 45, fled, along with dozens of bystanders, as Ole smashed trees and billboards for nearly four hours. His mahout, found later in a drunken stupor, had not fed him in two days. Ole destroyed a taxi, whose occupants escaped, before veterinarian Alongkor Mahannop calmed him with tranquilizer darts, fed him, and led him away.

Pumpui was badly injured, but Alongkorn Mahannop said that, “A elephant in rut could go on a rampage and cause more damage and trouble than this.”

Bangkok police for the first time began actively enforcing the law against bringing elephants into the city, arresting seven mahouts and confiscating their elephants within the next two weeks. At least five of the elephants were later returned to the mahouts after Sirinthep Ruampattana of the Assembly of Elephant Handlers assembled an army of 130 elephants and 500 mahouts to invade Bangkok in protest. They marched as far as Surin, en route to Bangkok, before halting to consider the government offer to buy their elephants.

Sirinthep Ruampattana reportedly wanted the government to subsidize a cooperative to keep all of the elephants and mahouts fed and working.

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Orangutan. (Kim Bartlett)

tions, and in September 1998 won a landmark U.S. Court of Appeals verdict affirming the right of activists to file lawsuits seeking AWA enforcement. That case involved a now deceased chimpanzee who was kept at the Long Island Game Farm.

“The Kualoa Ranch has offered to allow the Marines to use its property for jungle warfare maneuvers,” Jurnove objected, citing e-mails from Goeggel. “Currently a spider monkey is kept [there] in a rusty cage with no environmental enrichment. Rusti’s holding area will be a small concrete and metal cage.”

Jurnove asked “all humane organizations and humane people” to ask that OFI “be investigated” for allegedly misusing donations, of which **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found no evidence in the most recent OFI filing of IRS Form 990, and for purportedly sending Rusti “to a private roadside zoo.”

Orangutans in Kalimantan coal smoke & heated dispute

DENVER—Underground coal fires beneath Kalimantan province, Indonesia, could exterminate the island’s orangutans and sun bears, Indonesian Ministry of Energy coalfield fire project chief Alfred Whitehouse and East Georgia College professor Glenn Stracher told the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual conference in Denver on February 15, 2003.

Of the 20,000 remaining wild orangutans, about 15,000 live in Kalimantan, Whitehouse and Stracher said. Already imperiled by habitat loss due to logging and slash-and-burn agriculture, orangutans have now lost about half of Kutain National Park due to underground fires and lethal smoke, according to Whitehouse and Stracher.

The Kalimantan coal reserves apparently ignited after slash-and-burn fires raced out of control during the drought years of 1997 and 1998. razing an area the size of Costa Rica. Since then, at least 159 separate underground fires and perhaps as many as 3,000 have evaporated groundwater and dried sur-

face vegetation, allowing more fires to start and burn uncontrolled on the surface. The fires emit as much carbon dioxide per year as all the motor vehicles in the U.S. combined, Whitehouse and Stracher said.

There is no known way to extinguish large underground coal fires. Some such fires have burned in China for hundreds of years.

Meanwhile at Kualoa

The warning from Whitehouse and Stracher came while U.S. orangutan defenders were distracted by heated disagreement over housing and custody of Rusti, 23, a male orangutan who was rescued from the defunct Scotch Plains Zoo in New Jersey in 1997.

“Orangutan Foundation International will build a state-of-the-art orangutan sanctuary at Kualoa Ranch in Oahu, Hawaii, for Rusti,” OFI announced on February 11 from the OFI headquarters in Los Angeles.

“Rusti, who has been housed at the Honolulu Zoo, will soon be moved to a temporary enclosure at the Kualoa Ranch,” as his

zoo home is soon to be demolished, OFI said. Begun by renowned wild orangutan researcher and rescuer Birute Galdikas and her former student Gary Shapiro in 1986, OFI operates the Camp Leakey research station in Tanjung Putting National Park, Borneo, Indonesia, and has long planned to start a Hawaiian sanctuary for captive orangutans.

After receiving custody of Rusti, OFI several times announced that construction on leased state land was imminent, and got as far as a groundbreaking ceremony at a site on Hilo, but after repeated delays in obtaining permits, while the estimated building costs escalated, Galdikas and Shapiro decided to send Rusti to the Center for Orangutan and Chimpanzee Conservation in Florida.

“To that end, OFI designed, funded, and constructed a very fine indoor facility,” the OFI press release said. “Fortunately, as construction of the Florida facility was nearing completion, Kualoa Ranch offered space for not only a temporary facility but also to become the site for our sanctuary.”

As keeping Rusti in Hawaii while the OFI sanctuary is built will eliminate the risks inherent in sedating him for the long flight to Florida, OFI cancelled the plan to send him to Florida.

The Kualoa arrangements were not applauded by Cathy Goeggel of Animal Rights Hawaii and Marc Jurnove, founder of the International Society for the Protection of Exotic Animal Kind and Livestock, Inc., in Plainview, New Jersey.

Jurnove was involved in closing the Scotch Plains Zoo, which had been repeatedly cited for numerous Animal Welfare Act viola-



Faculty of the Kharkov Zoological & Veterinary Academy, above, with Bioethics Centre chair Olga Ivanovna Tolstova fifth from left and sponsor Igor Parfenov of the Center for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Leo Tolstoy Chapter, third from right.

Kharkov bioethics course makes a difference

KHARKOV, Ukraine—Humane educators have been wondering ever since Massachusetts SPCA founder George Angell introduced the first humane curriculum more than 100 years ago whether the results of their teaching can be effectively measured.

Olga Ivanova Tolstova, founding chair of the Bioethics Centre at the Kharkov Zoological & Veterinary Academy in the Ukraine, believes she and her fellow faculty members have developed evidence that encouraging students to think about the ethics of animal use makes a profound difference.

Like a growing number of universities in the U.S. and Europe, Kharkov Zoological & Veterinary Academy requires students to take a bioethics course.

At the start of the course the instructors ask students to rate on a scale of one to five whether 16 common human uses of animals are cruel, and whether they are acceptable. The uses include whaling, biomedical research and testing, purebred dog breeding, keeping hens to lay eggs, fishing,

fur farming, keeping a pet dog, cosmetics testing, factory farming, hunting, trapping, keeping a pet parrot, operating a pet shop, bullfighting, zoological exhibition, and keeping a sick or injured deer in a sanctuary.

Keeping deer in a sanctuary is among the activities of the academy, and most of the other uses involve topics that Ukrainian zoologists and veterinarians may encounter in their work.

Initially, 75% of the students believe that 12 of the 16 uses of animals are acceptable, Tolstova told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Only bullfighting, trapping, biomedical research, and cosmetics testing are generally seen as cruel.

At the conclusion of the course the students are asked to evaluate the common uses of animals again. Then, Tolstova said, 82% consider 12 of the 16 uses of animals to be unacceptable. The four uses considered most acceptable, she said, are keeping a pet dog, keeping a pet parrot, zoological exhibition, and keeping hens to lay eggs.

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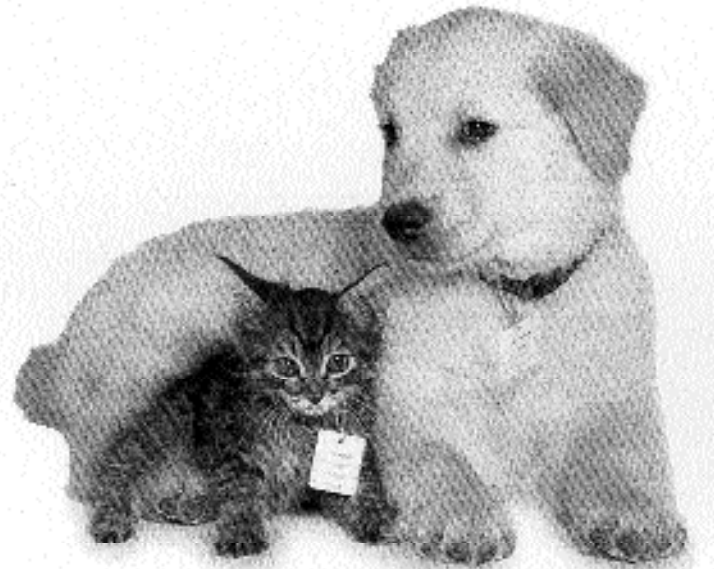
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American Humane, fighting losses, drops Farm Animal Services—FAS to go independent

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The fiscally troubled American Humane Association on February 20 cut loose Farm Animal Services, which had been the first major new program started under AHA auspices since it began supervising the screen industry in 1940.

While Farm Animal Services may continue to certify products from animals raised according to standards it has developed for dairy, poultry, and egg producers, FAS vice president Gini Barrett said, it is discontinuing the Free Farmed logo program that it started in partnership with the AHA.

FAS has required that farm animals be able perform natural behaviors, do not have antibiotics and hormones added to their diets to enhance growth, receive nutritious food, and are humanely transported and slaughtered.

“When the Free Farmed program was started, the commitment from AHA was to fund it from startup in 2000 to projected self-sufficiency in 2006,” Barrett explained in a press release. “Unfortunately, after two and a half years, American Humane decided that it could no longer make a binding long-term financial commitment. The FAS board felt it would be unethical to continue to promote the program and add producers with this uncertain financial future.”

Free Farmed was a U.S. counterpart to programs created by the Royal SPCA of Great Britain and the Royal SPCA of

Australia. FAS was begun by former AHA Washington D.C. office director Adele Douglass in fulfillment of a pledge to the late Henry Spira, founder of Animal Rights International and the Coalition for Non-Violent Food. Spira died in 1998.

Seeking a new image, after more than a decade of frequent operating losses, the AHA in January announced that it would become simply “American Humane,” dropping use of the word “Association.”

Started in Albany, New York, in 1876 as an intended national umbrella for U.S. humane societies, the AHA debuted by asking Congress to prevent the extinction of the North American bison. The AHA split into separate but parallel animal and child protection divisions two years later.

From 1900 until 1950 the AHA operated orphanages for New York state, and except for initiating the Red Star animal disaster relief program in 1914, which later became Emergency Animal Services, the most prominent AHA campaigns were child-oriented. Of particular note was “Wear White At Night,” a poster campaign that brought a lasting drop in the numbers of children—and adults—who were killed by cars while walking after dark.

Relocating to Denver in 1956, the AHA for the next 40 years fought a losing battle against the Humane Society of the U.S., founded in 1954, for primacy of influence

within the animal sheltering community.

The initial distinction between them was chiefly that under the influence of the child protection division, the AHA favored the use of shelter animals in biomedical research; HSUS did not. The AHA also lagged behind HSUS in opposing hunting and wearing fur. By the early 1980s, however, their policies on most issues were virtually identical, as were their shelter accreditation standards. When economic stress obliged the AHA to halt shelter accreditation in 1992, the HSUS shelter accreditation program metamorphized into a consulting program.

HSUS pressed its advantage in 1993 by starting the HSUS Expo to compete with the AHA Training Conference, then the biggest of the annual humane conferences. HSUS also started a disaster relief program parallel to the AHA program, which had already gained competition from United Animal Nations.

[Terri Crisp, founder of the UAN disaster relief team, left UAN in November 2001, and in March 2002 formed her own disaster relief group, Noah’s Wish, at P.O. Box 997, Placerville, Ca 95667; 530-622-9313; <info@noahs-wish.org>.]

AHA countered by pushing “The Link,” a campaign to make animal and child protection professionals aware of the frequent association of animal abuse with child abuse. The campaign was eminently successful, yet was eclipsed in public recognition by an HSUS

campaign promoting awareness of how often animal abusers go on to commit violent crimes against people of all ages.

During the brief tenure of Ed Sayres as director of the animal protection division, 1995-1997, the AHA co-hosted the 1996 No-Kill Conference, but missed the chance to share the momentum of the no-kill movement when a traditionalist faction forced Sayres out. Sayres subsequently headed PETSMART Charities for a year and has been president of the San Francisco SPCA since January 1999.

The 1999 No-Kill Conference and AHA Training Conference were held back-to-back in Chicago and Minneapolis. The No-Kill Conference, by then a project of the North Shore Animal League America, drew the 500-plus participants that the AHA conference drew at peak. The AHA conference drew half as many—barely more than the 1996 No-Kill Conference had.

The strengths of the AHA in the 1990s, amid frequent rumors of internal splits and mergers with other groups that never occurred, were the Hollywood office, which under Barrett 1997-2001 became larger and more active than the rest of the animal protection division, and the Washington D.C. office, which under Douglass took leading roles in passing the 1990 Pet Theft Act and the 1994 Horse Protection Act.

HSUS recently added a Hollywood office by absorbing the Ark Trust and the Genesis Awards program it coordinated.

Earth Island again tries to save dolphins

SAN FRANCISCO—Earth Island Institute and six other environmental and animal protection groups on February 12 applied for a federal injunction against a December 31 rule change by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration which would allow U.S. firms to market tuna netted “on dolphin” as “dolphin-safe,” if no dolphins are known to have been killed during the netting.

The injunction application takes the “dolphin-safe” issue back into the same court where chief judge Thelton Henderson in May 1990 banned imports of yellowfin tuna from Mexico, Venezuela, and Vanuatu, under a set of 1988 amendments to the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act, and in January 1992 invoked the same law to ban \$266 million worth of tuna imports from 30 nations.

Introduced by Congress in 1990, in reinforcement of the first Henderson verdict, the “dolphin-safe” label has until now denoted tuna caught by methods other than netting “on dolphin,” the method preferred by Latin American tuna fishers. The Latin American tuna industry has contended since 1990 that discriminating against imports of tuna netted “on dolphin” amounts to trade protectionism on behalf of the U.S. fleet.

Netting tuna “on dolphin” works because dolphins and tuna feed on the same fish species and often swim together in search of schools to attack. Tuna fishers therefore scan the seas for dolphin activity, then enclose pods of feeding dolphins with purse seines of

many miles in length. Although dolphins can easily jump out of the purse seines as they begin to close, they typically do not.

As many as 350,000 dolphins per year were drowned in the nets or crushed in winches before the introduction of the “dolphin-safe” label and the legal exclusion of tuna netted “on dolphin” from the U.S. market.

Since then, the Latin American tuna industry claims to have cut the “on dolphin” netting toll to 2,000-3,000 dolphins per year.

A General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs panel in 1995 held that the U.S. “dolphin safe” law was an improper trade barrier. The law was eased by the 1997 International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, but Henderson and U.S. Court of International Trade judge Judith Barzilay issued contradictory verdicts when then-Commerce Secretary William Daley moved to admit non-“dolphin-safe” tuna to the U.S. market.

After successor Donald Evans issued the December 31 rule change, the Commerce Department agreed to delay implementation for 90 days to allow legal challenges.

The three leading U.S. tuna retailers, Starkist, Chicken of the Sea International, and Bumble Bee, said they would continue to abide by the 1990 definition of “dolphin-safe.”

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-California), who as a member of the House co-authored the 1990 “dolphin-safe” labeling bill, pledged to introduce legislation to re-establish the original definition.

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Wolves, seals, kangaroos, and scapegoats (from page 1)

come right out and say it, the underlying message was clear: game management in Alaska will be geared toward hunters and trappers, not tourists,” wrote *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* staff writer Tim Mowry.

Updated Mowry on February 12, “The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will begin killing wolves and moving bears from moose-deprived areas around McGrath as early as March 15...Wildlife biologists are proposing to remove all the wolves from a 520-square-mile area around McGrath and neighboring villages to increase the number of moose available for local hunters.”

Under the plan, about 30 wolves would be strafed from helicopters.

In other early actions as Governor, Murkowski asked Interior Secretary Gail Norton to halt reviewing Alaskan habitat for potential protection as roadless wilderness, and transferred responsibility for issuing permits to alter wildlife habitat from the state Department of Fish and Game to the Department of Natural Resources, effective April 15 pending an unlikely legislative override.

“The governor’s plan to streamline permitting can only make things better for the timber industry,” enthused Alaska Forest Association representative Owen Graham.

The first effect of the move was expected to be putting 20 more Alaskans out of work: those who constitute the Alaska DFG permit review-and-issuance staff.

Did someone say, “Let them eat moose?”

Moose calves

Despite the purported moose shortage, widely blamed on wolves but more accurately attributed to changes in vegetation patterns associated with global warming, the DFG this winter started a two-year experimental authorization of moose calf hunting.

Mowry explained that calves were targeted because last year the Alaska DFG decided that the moose population lacks sufficient antlered bulls, as a legacy of years of trophy hunting, to impregnate all the females. Therefore fewer permits were issued for bull



Moose. (Kim Bartlett)

moose. Because hunters then complained that not shooting bulls deprived them of needed moose meat, the Alaska DFG issued by lottery 274 permits to hunt calves.

That “raised a ruckus in the hunting community,” Mowry wrote. “Many hunters were adamantly opposed to a calf hunt and some went so far as to apply for permits in hopes they would draw one and not use it, a tactic used by animal rights activists in Alaska for several years” to thwart bear hunting.

Among the first 231 permit holders who were polled, Mowry continued, only 32 actually killed a calf, while 97 did not hunt. Getting antlers, not meat, was for many moose hunters clearly the major issue—whether or not they admitted it.

Refugees from change

The cold, wet, Alaska-like climate of Atlantic Canada and the parched Outback of Australia were both settled by refugees from the enclosure of former common grazing land and the coming of the Industrial Revolution in the British Isles. The settlers in Atlantic Canada were mostly displaced tenant farmers, while the first Australian settlers were mostly ex-city-dwellers who had been convicted of petty crimes or nonpayment of debts, but they had in common an inability to adapt to the first major economic transition of modern times.

Relocated to habitat where pursuing a traditional resource-based economy was still possible, each repeated the ancient pattern of stripping and depleting one source of abundance after another until their lifestyle could no longer be sustained.

In Atlantic Canada that meant exterminating or extirpating the great whales, the Great Auk, and many other seabird species, before the cod ran out.

In Australia, native species of all sorts were destroyed to make room for sheep, cattle, and rabbits, introduced to be hunted after marsupial prey became scarce. Since then, whenever cattle and sheep destroy the ecologically fragile arid grasslands, rangers blame the rabbits and, even more, the resurgent kangaroos, who evolved to thrive there despite the often harsh conditions.

Ecological understanding and traditional resource-based economies rarely mix, but Atlantic Canadian fishers and Australian sheep ranchers have a strong grasp of small-town politics, in nations where small towns hold disproportionate Parliamentary clout and typically no one party is strong enough to form a government without building a coalition. Though the fishers and sheep ranchers long since ceased to be the major contributors to their nations’ economies that they once were, they still form potent voting blocks on behalf of the elected representatives who do the most to shield them from finally having to make the transition away from a resource-based economy that their immigrant forebears avoided circa 200 years ago.

During the 1980s politically appointed directors of the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans placated Atlantic Canada by consistently endorsing overestimates of the cod stock, essentially presuming cod numbers were up if more cod were caught.

Similar math contributed to the decline of Atlantic salmon, whose spawning habitat was hard-hit by acid rain, and to diminishing numbers of almost every other



Timber wolf. (Kim Bartlett)

species fished or hunted in the region.

Now harp seals are the only species that the DFO can allow anyone to kill in growing numbers, based on a claim of abundance. The DFO claims the Atlantic Canada harp seal population is at an all-time recorded high count of 5.2 million.

Record seal quota

Based on that estimate, the DFO set a 2002 sealing quota of 275,000. Then, when pelt prices proved to be unexpectedly high due to Chinese demand, the DFO allowed the toll to soar up to 307,000—the most seals killed since 1966.

The killing was easier than usual because relatively little ice formed on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, obliging mother seals and their nursing pups to congregate more densely than they otherwise would.

International Fund for Animal Welfare senior science advisor David Levigne and Duke University Marine Laboratory scientists David Johnston, Leigh Torres, and Ari Friedlander warned on January 16 that the DFO is misreading the evidence.

“Ice cover in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off Newfoundland has been significantly reduced in six of the last seven years,” the team explained.

Beyond meaning that 307,000 seals were more easily found and killed last year, the ice shortage may mean that fewer seals were born where they had a chance of survival.

“In the past few years,” Levigne outlined via publicist Katy Heath-Eves, “IFAW has observed first-hand the reduction of ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In some years the ice melted and broke up prematurely. Thousands of nursing pups were separated from their mothers and died.”

Levigne estimated that a prudent sealing quota would be no higher than 50,000. Otherwise the population might appear to be stable for several years despite low pup survival, and then plummet.

Twelve days later the DFO set the 2003 sealing quota at 975,000 over the next three years, not to exceed 350,000 in any one year. This is the highest quota ever set. In only a few years did sealers kill more, even before quotas were introduced.

Fisheries and Oceans minister Robert Thibault claimed that even if the entire quota was killed, the 2006 harp seal population would still be 4.7 million.

Responded Lavigne, “The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans is making critical management decisions without taking into account the best available science and changing environmental factors that are already ring-

ing alarms in other government departments.”

Lavigne has also produced evidence that up to 42% of the seal pups killed in Atlantic Canada are still alive when skinned. Canadian politicians have not wanted to hear that, either.

“The problem now,” said Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson, “is that the international public and even the Canadian public believes that the slaughter of baby harp seals was ended years ago,” due to the moratorium on the offshore hunt that was in effect from 1985 to 1994.

“The Canadian media downplay the cruelty and the waste, and the Canadian government has made it a crime to photograph, film, or witness the seal kill. We need to rejuvenate this campaign. This is the single largest mass slaughter of a marine mammal species in the world, and it is being ignored.”

Watson himself was on almost the opposite side of the world when the quota was announced, trailing the Japanese whaling fleet off Antarctica. About all he could do from there was start assembling an e-mail list of potential protesters, expecting to gather about 6,000 names before the killing actually starts.

Stellar sea lions

Blaming marine mammals for a fish scarcity is hardly unique to Atlantic Canada, but only Norway, Russia, and Namibia allow comparable commercial seal hunts, and none of them have permitted the massacre of even a fraction as many seals, if only because none have as many in the first place.

There is a recent precedent for a pinipod population crash which may have been caused by killing to reduce a purported threat to fish populations, documented in a December 2002 U.S. National Academy of Sciences report on the causes of an 80% decline in the Stellar sea lion population over the past 30 years.

The report identified eight possibilities, including destruction of the sea lion food supply by overfishing, and also predation by orca whales and sharks, who have turned to hunting seals, sea lions, and sea otters because the large fish they would prefer to hunt are depleted.

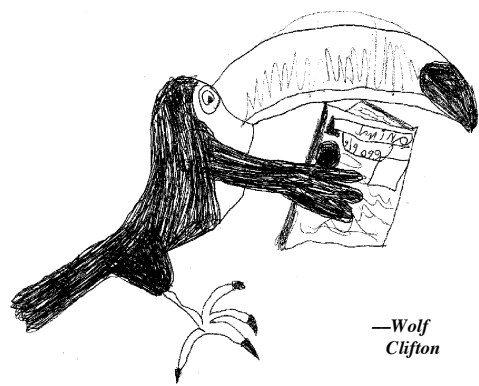
The investigators found that no one cause of the Stellar sea lion crash seemed to be more clearly responsible than the others, but added that the effects of deliberate killing appear to have been underestimated.

Between 1963 and 1972 more than 45,000 sea lion pups were killed under government contract in the Aleutians and the Gulf of Alaska, the investigators discovered. Many of

(continued on page 17)

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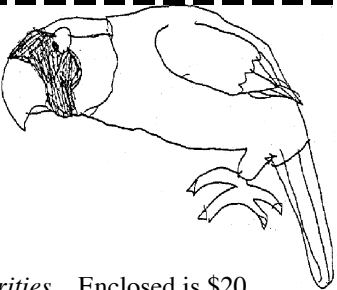
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Wolves, seals, kangaroos, and scapegoats

(from page 16)

these animals would have been part of the breeding population during the first decade of the population crash.

Poaching off Peru

A parallel example may have occurred within Paracas National Reserve, 140 miles south of Lima, Peru.

For about 20 years the Peruvian natural resources agency, called Inrena, has been officially puzzled by the decline of the Paracas sea lion population. About 2,500 sea lions shared the reserve with Humboldt penguins and other sea birds circa 1980. There are now half as many sea lions, and the count is still falling, four years after Peru belatedly made sea lions a protected species.

Inrena inspectors on September 28 discovered the remains of 147 sea lion bulls on one of the San Gallan islands within the reserve, noted that their genitals had been removed, and said nothing about it. Supposedly this was in hopes that they might pick up loose talk about the local fishers that might enable identification of the killers.

Word of the massacre at last reached news media in January. Congressional environment commission chair Fabiola Morales initiated an investigation, concerned that the removal of the genitals might indicate the involvement of "a global mafia."

The case confirmed what the small Peruvian animal advocacy community has been saying, to little notice, for some time.

Stefan Austermuhle, executive director of the Peruvian marine mammal defense group Mundo Azul, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the sea lion massacre was "only the tip of the iceberg. The illegal killing of sea lions by Peruvian fishers who see the animals as competitors is common," he said.

"According to surveys conducted by Mundo Azul in fishing communities, 70% of the fishers oppose sea lion conservation," Austermuhle continued, "and most are of the opinion that sea lions should be killed."

Carlos Yaipén-Llanos, president of Organization for Research and Conservation of Animals: Marine Mammals, recently found that fishers often blame sea lions for shortages

of fish caused by the *El Niño* climatic phenomenon. The poorly educated fishers have little or no understanding of how *El Niño* affects water temperatures and currents, nor of how the changes affect the species they pursue.

"A series of necropsies performed by the scientific staff of ORCamm on the dead sea lions and fur seals found on South American beaches revealed that 62.5% presented signs of human impact such as gunshots, fractures, or poisoning," Yaipén-Llanos added. More than 70% of the dead were males, probably poached for their genitals.

Dolphins are also still hunted along the Peruvian coast, despite official claims that this has been halted, Austermuhle testified.

"At one beach in northern Lambayeque, members of Mundo Azul found more than 20 dolphins killed for human consumption in a single day," Austermuhle recounted. "On another beach, south of Chimbote, within one week three dolphins who had been cut into pieces washed ashore. The problem is not restricted to hard-to-control isolated beaches. Last September," Auster-muhle said, "we had the case of a dolphin found on the beach at Pucusana, five meters from the fishing dock and 50 meters from the office of the port authorities. This shows," Austermuhle charged, "that the killing of dolphins is still seen as a peccadillo" by the authorities who are supposed to stop it.

On February 8 Austermuhle e-mailed that 10 dolphins had been butchered in the preceding four days aboard vessels just offshore at Playa Pulpos, near Lima. The killing and butchering were witnessed by numerous tourists and local police.

The police tried to intervene, said Captain Juan Torres Diaz, chief criminal investigator in the district, but "We don't have boats," he told Austermuhle. "We don't even have binoculars. We stood on the beach switching on our sirens and yelling."

Diaz called Mundo Azul and found a private citizen who tried unsuccessfully to approach the dolphin killers with a jet-ski.

In the end all anyone could do was collect the evidence.

Japanese paradox

Having little industry based on maritime resource extraction, Australia and New Zealand have long been among the most ardent champions of marine mammals.

Australian environment minister David Kemp on February 6 continued that record by filing a formal protest against the readmission of Iceland to the International Whaling Commission, after Icelandic prime minister David Oddsson announced on January 17 that Iceland will follow Japan in doing "research whaling," beginning in 2006.

Oddsson announced that Iceland will resume whaling while in Tokyo seeking economic investment and foreign aid.

Japan during the past decade has often economically assisted many other island nations in *quid-pro-quo* for political support in trying to resume commercial whaling and thwart further international protection of ocean species and habitat.

Much as Canadian and Peruvian fishers blame seals and sea lions for depleted fisheries, Japan Fisheries Agency chief Masayuki Komatsu blames minke whales, whom he calls "cockroaches of the sea."

That offends many Australians. But Japanese donors heavily support several charities dedicated to protecting charismatic Australian wildlife, and are equally offended and perplexed that many Australians regard kangaroos as "cockroaches of the Outback."

"The Outback Sea"

If "the ocean is a desert with its life underground," as Massachusetts environmentalist Don Henley sang during his earlier career as a rock star, the arid Outback is conversely much like an ocean: a vast habitat of great biodiversity, which nonetheless cannot sustain the present intensity of human use.

The worst drought in decades hit Australia in mid-2002—and hit from Queensland to Western Australia all at once. Aerial surveys showed ecological damage to 96% of New South Wales in October, and 99% by mid-November.

Grain crops failed, sheep and cattle ranchers lost stock as grasslands dried out and were trampled to dust, and grain scarcity sent food prices soaring.

Overall, the Australian economy managed 2% growth in 2002, as industries other than those based directly on use of the land held their own, but this was less than half the growth rate of previous years.

The hard times were shared by many species. Wildfires, for instance, killed countless koalas, brush possums, and sugar gliders. Nancy Small of Waterways Wildlife Park in Gunnedah, who was among thousands of Australians actively trying to relieve the misery, told Frank Walker of the *Sydney Morning Herald* in December 2002 that she had never handled so many animals in need before in all her 37 years of wild animal rehab work.

Staff at the Healesville Sanctuary in Victoria state told Tony Chambers of the Melbourne Age that their workload increased 25% during 2002, and that 65% of the animals



Koala. (Kim Bartlett)

they treated were heat-stressed birds.

The attempted rescues were at times exercises in sheer exhaustion, despair, and frustration. Staff and firefighters who in January 2003 tried to save the animals at the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve near Canberra were offered psychological counseling after the fast-moving blaze killed 31 of 35 resident brush-tailed rock wallabies, 11 of 15 freckled ducks, 99 of 110 red and grey kangaroos, 20 koalas, and one corroboree frog.

The same fire left more than 200 dogs and cats homeless and wandering, along with about 100 horses.

The fires put much previous work in jeopardy. The Western Australia Department of Conservation and Land Management, for instance, reintroduced 40 rare western swamp tortoises to the wild near Gingin in 2000. Of the 11 who had radio transmitters, five were killed by fire in December 2002.

Australian Platypus Conservancy biologist Geoff Williams noted that the drought put platypuses at high risk from predation by lowering the levels of the streams where they spend most of their time swimming underwater, potentially undoing efforts to propagate platypuses.

Fires in northeastern Victoria state and Kosciuszko National Park killed about two-thirds of the endangered corroboree spotted tree frog population, leaving about 1,000 to try to live and breed in ash-choked streams.

Animals who escaped the fires ran into other problems, not always associated with scarce food and cover.

For example, the failure of the monsoons kept the male crocodiles of Queensland from producing sperm and breeding. The crocs generate sperm in response to thunder storms, Koorana Crocodile Farm owner John Lever told Associated Press.

"In real terms, we are like any other farmer," Lever said. "If you don't get rain, you don't get production."

Lever said wild crocs would be equally affected.

Mallee fowl were unable to reproduce for a different reason.

"Early in the season, they rely on rain to get the leaf-litter in their mouths fermenting to produce the warmth to incubate their eggs. Without the rain, they can't get started," explained South Australia National Parks & Wildlife ecologist Jodie Gates.

(continued on page 18)



Pacific bottlenose dolphin races an albatross. (Carroll Cox)

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Scapegoats (from page 17)

Even before the drought, James Cook University tropical ecologist Chris Johnson estimated in a report commissioned by the World Wildlife Fund, deforestation and development were killing 19,000 koalas and 115,000 possums and gliders per year, chiefly in Queensland. The drought just made everything worse.

“We have already destroyed 80% of the tree cover in eastern Australia, and it is likely that koala numbers have declined at the same rate, possibly faster,” said University of Queensland koala expert Frank Carrick.

Poisoning the wells

If misery loves company, sheep ranchers and restoration biologists trying to preserve native habitat had no shortage of opportunity to appreciate and commiserate with the plights of others. But sheep ranchers, clinging to their traditional way of life, and restorationists, trying to roll back biological succession and evolution, often showed markedly narrow empathy.

Northern Territory Parks & Wildlife Service senior scientist Glenn Edwards told anyone who would listen that feral dromedary camels outnumber red kangaroos in much of the Outback by as much as 100-to-1. Introduced to Australia between 1840 and 1907, the dromedaries now number 600,000 to 750,000, Edwards estimates, predicting that they will reach 60 million eventually if 60,000 a year are not culled. This would require killing or capturing 10 times as many as now.

New South Wales central west manager Nick Rigby boasted of the ease of strafing feral goats, pigs, and foxes during the drought, as they gathered around water holes. Also in NSW, Narrabri Rural Lands Protection Board ranger Simon Oliver claimed to have shot 257 pigs from the air in one week.

Wise-users in Tasmania fulminated over the cancellation of a \$30 million dam project in the Great Western Tiers Conservation area, ostensibly because it would have flooded the homes of 12 spotted-tailed quolls.

Investigating that particular incident, Simon Bevilacqua of the *Hobart Mercury* reported on February 9 that the presence of the quolls was actually just one among many reasons why the dam will not be built.



Animal welfare inspector Dharmesh M. Solanki of Ahimsa First in Mumbai (far right) with Thane wildlife conservation officers and a fresh leopard pelt that Solanki’s brother’s mother-in-law discovered in a garbage bin in March 2000 after a poacher apparently feared getting caught and dumped the evidence.

India loves leopards (with some reservations)

MUMBAI—India still has about 6,000 wild leopards, approximately half of all the leopards of all species left in Asia, because much of the public is concerned about their survival—and might even be said to be fond of leopards despite their penchant for getting into serious trouble.

Since January 1999, when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** began keeping track, at least 111 leopards are known to have been poached or otherwise illegally killed.

During that same time, Indian leopards have killed 62 people and injured at least 62 more in reported incidents. The victims were typically either children or elderly people, mostly poor and rural, who were attacked at night near their homes, and in some cases were actually dragged from homes whose doors and windows were open to the night breeze because of the heat.

The leopards were usually believed to be in the vicinity to hunt goats, dogs, sheep, pigs, cattle, or chickens. Many attacks occurred in areas where wild prey populations had crashed due to drought, disease, fire, or poaching.

Yet not every leopard who entered a village seemed to be looking for trouble, and not every village responded to visiting leopards with terror. Among the accounts of gruesome attacks, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** also found a story about leopard who in 1999 walked into a house, sat down beside a four-year-old, and watched a nature program on TV, leaving politely when the program was over, and found several stories about leopards who befriended and played with dogs who were staked out as bait in attempts to trap them.

The quirkiness and occasional friendliness of leopards may explain why for every instance of villagers lynching a leopard for killing children or livestock, there seemed to be an instance of villagers going to extraordinary trouble to save leopards who had fallen down wells or had entered buildings from which they could not find their way out.



Kangaroo mob (Kim Bartlett)

The story continued to have legs, however, among those who insisted that the lack of water and green grass was somehow the fault of animals.

But the greatest vitriol and most deadly ammunition was aimed at kangaroos. Roos were even tentatively targeted by one native species restoration project, the Katarapko Community Action Group, whose spokesperson Sandy Loffler expressed dismay when the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife department refused to permit a cull.

The 2002 kangaroo quota for Australia, exclusive of Victoria state, was 6.9 million. Victoria prohibits commercial kangaroo hunting, but Victoria farmers were authorized to kill more than 91,000 kangaroos under depredation permits.

Irate that Premier Peter Beattie and Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson had not taken “some action to stop us from being overrun and pushed into debt by the kangaroo population,” estimated at 38 million in Queensland alone, a group

of Queensland farmers in October invoiced Beattie and Anderson for \$2.1 million in grass and water that they believed the 152,463 kangaroos on their property had consumed.

In Queensland, kangaroos outnumber sheep by about 4-to-1. Yet the essential irrationality of hating kangaroos as imagined rivals to sheep was exposed the same week when Queensland police arrested a rancher at Eromanga in the far southwest for killing more than 100 kangaroos—along with emus, crows, galahs, and some sheep—by poisoning a water trough. The police were investigating several similar cases, involving allegedly poisoned springs and ponds.

“One grazier actually advertised his success and was inviting friends and neighbors to come and inspect how effective his system was,” a police officer told Tony Koch of the *Brisbane Courier-Mail*.

What sort of intelligence poisons his own wells in a drought? Not the sort, one must suspect, that Darwinian selec-

United Arab Emirates try to save the Arabian leopard-

SHARJAH, UAE—Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Quasimi of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates in mid-February 2003 hosted an international conference on saving the Arabian leopard, which was considered extinct until a goatherd shot one in 1992. Experts now think 150 to 250 Arabian leopards persist in the UAE, Yemen, Oman, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia.

About three times larger than a domestic housecat, the Arabian leopard normally hunts Nubian ibex, the Arabian gazelle, and wild or feral goats. The Animal Management Consultancy, funded by Al Quasimi, has a wild population of 10 Arabian leopards, has bred eight in captivity, and in January purchased a wild-caught leopard named Al Wadei from a roadside zoo in Yemen, where according to Severin Carrell of the London *Independent* he was kept in “appalling” conditions.

The Sharjah leopard conference was convened two weeks after reporter Nasouh Nazzal of Ras Al Khaimah disclosed that one Abdullah Khamis Rashid Al Habsi, 65, recently stoned to death a “lynx” that he claimed was about to attack him, and that Al Habsi admitted to shooting one two years earlier, also in purported self-defense.

Lynx or Arabian leopard, the endangered cats of the UAE “do not harm human beings,” scoffed Saif Al Ghais, vice chair of the West Indian Ocean Marine Specialist Turtles Group.

“They go on the prowl in residential areas in search of food because their wild prey have disappeared,” casualties of hunting and poaching.

“Had there been alternative prey in the mountains, the lynx would never enter residential areas,” Al Ghais added, suggesting that “The government should release prey for the lynx in the mountains. This will protect them and prevent attacks on cattle.”

Al Ghais told Nassouh Nazzal that he would initiate such an effort.

Al Ghais was among the UAE turtle conservationists who were honored on February 5 for preserving the hawksbill turtle breeding habitat on Qarnein Island in the Persian Gulf, 110 miles northwest of Abu Dhabi. The island is also breeding habitat for about 20,000 pairs of lesser-crested and bridled terns, sooty gulls, and Socotran cormorants.

The UAE leopard conference reflected growing concern about the survival of rare leopards and other wild cats throughout Islamic Asia. The leopard populations of India, Africa, and southeast Asia, including China, are considered stressed but stable wherever prey is abundant and active efforts are made to suppress poaching.

Relatively little has been done to protect leopards in the Islamic parts of Asia, however, where they have been aggressively hunted and where arid habitat keeps prey scarce.

The United Nations Environ-

ment Program and International Snow Leopard Trust warned in January that western aid workers and soldiers shopping at the Chicken Street bazaar in Kabul, Afghanistan, have become frequent purchasers of leopard pelts.

“They are not bought by the locals because they are too expensive,” said Kabul-based British reporter Lucy Morgan Edwards. “The aid workers are much more careful with their money,” she added, “perhaps because they are not well paid. They tend to spend more time haggling over prices than the soldiers.”

UNEP said that leopard poaching appears to have increased since the former Taliban government of Afghanistan fell in December 2001.

About 100 snow leopards are believed to survive in Afghanistan, and about 3,500 throughout the whole of Central Asia.

The World Wildlife Fund cautioned meanwhile that as few as 20 Caucasus leopards remain in Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Georgia.

Like the Arabian leopard, the Caucasus leopard was considered extinct by the 1960s, but poachers have been caught with fresh remains once or twice a year since the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union, which permitted a revival of clandestine traffic in wildlife parts.

WWF announced a \$250,000 effort to save the Caucasus leopard which will focus upon anti-poaching measures and public education.

Is Malaysia big and wild enough to keep wild tigers?

SUNGAI PETANI, Kedah, Malay-sia—The mid-January 2003 disappearance of Malaysian oil palm plantation owner Haji Zaitun Arshad, his family, and the pet tiger he allegedly imported from Thailand combined into one case the dilemmas surrounding both private tiger-keeping and wild tiger survival.

Zaitun was photographed a few days earlier in the act of giving the tiger a jeep ride. Possessing the tiger exposed him to a fine of up to \$4,000 plus four years in jail.

Before vanishing, Zaitun reportedly admitted that the 18-month-old tiger was trapped in the wild. Malaysian Wildlife and National Parks Department policy called for returning the tiger to the wild if found, but Sahabat Alam Malaysia president Mohamed Idris warned that even brief habituation to humans could increase the risk of the tiger killing people and livestock.

The alternative to release would be a zoo—the fate of a Sumatran tiger who was caught in Riau province, Indonesia, in September 2002, after eating five people, and of a leopard who

was trapped near Janda Baik, Pahang, by an Orang Asli tribal hunter near Janda Baik, Pahang, in November 2002.

Sitrac Development Holdings executive chair Syed Mustaffa Shahabudin bought the severely injured leopard from the hunter and notified the Wildlife and National Parks Department. The leopard survived after enduring a five-hour leg amputation at the Universiti Putra Malaysia hospital.

Zoo Melacca director Mohd Nawayai Yasak said the leopard would “show people who visit the zoo how such a beautiful animal now has to spend the rest of his life limping about it a cage. All this could have been avoided,” Nawayai told the *New Straits Times*, “if not for the cruelty of hunters.”

While Nawayai welcomed the leopard, the Malaysian Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria has proposed releasing some of the 18 tigers at the Zoo Melacca into a yet-to-be-designated wildlife sanctuary, along with tigers from two other member zoos, to relieve overcrowding.

But Kelantan state chief minis-

ter Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat in August 2002 asked the army to exterminate tigers, after tigers killed three rubber tappers and mauled another in an area where two previous fatal attacks have occurred since 1995.

“Malaysia already has far too many tigers. Tigers must not be here any more,” Nik Aziz fumed. “They are better off dead. They should be shot. They cost too much money, and zoo fees are not enough to pay for their maintenance. Our money could be put to better uses, such as providing education and social services,” said Nik Aziz, who heads the opposition Parti Islam seMalaysia.

“This is totally against Islam, or any religion for that matter,” responded Malaysian Zoological Society director Jimin Idris. “What happened to live-and-let-live?”

The army remained in camp. Federal science, technology, and environment deputy minister Zainal Dahalan in late October 2002 affirmed the determination of the government to protect the 500 to 550 wild tigers left in Malaysia, down from about 3,000 in 1955.

MORE TALK THAN TIGER-SAVING IN INDIA, WITH POACHING ON THE RISE

NEW DELHI—Former U.S. President Bill Clinton and his daughter Chelsea in March 2000 viewed a tiger named Bhambu Ram in Ranthambore National Park.

This for a time made Bhambu Ram the poster-cat for Indian tiger conservation—but he is now believed to be a posthumous poster-cat.

Months after rumors reached mass media that Bhambu Ram had disappeared, police supposedly seized his pelt in Delhi.

Months after that, Indian minister for the environment and animals T.R. Baalu in February 2003 proposed a meeting among government officials and conservation groups to discuss what to do about escalating tiger poaching.

Tigers, elephants, leopards, and smaller species are all under increased poaching stress lately. This is partly because India is among the last nations where significant populations of animals valued in traditional Asian medicine still can be found. Poaching persists because of corrupt and inefficient links in wildlife habitat management and law enforcement, and because the political priorities of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Dal party do not favor animals.

Like the Congress Party governments that preceded the 1998 ascent of the BJP, the BJP powerbrokers have discovered that there are more votes and kickbacks in economic activ-

ity with a quick payoff, whether legal or illegal, than in taking a hard line on animal and habitat protection.

The depressed global economy, the May 2002 mob killing of more than 100 Hindus and 2,000 Muslims in Ahmedabad, and fears that all-out war may erupt between India and Pakistan have combined to depress ecotourism to India, which was already declining when the BJP came to power because of underpromotion in the U.S. and a paucity of tigers accessible to view.

The chief economic value of tigers to India these days may be misperceived as funding granted to tiger conservation projects—\$10 million since 1995 just from the Save The Tiger Fund, a joint project of ExxonMobil and the U.S.-based National Fish & Wildlife Foundation.

Most of the money went to India, but what it bought is unclear.

A dam project reportedly near final approval is expected to isolate the 43 tigers in the Tadoba-Anhari Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra from other populations to the north and east. As the Maharashtra tiger count dropped from 257 in 1997 to 238 in 2001, the Tadoba-Anhari count increased by five.

The Palamu Tiger Project in Patna, begun in 1976 as part of the original crash effort to save Indian tigers, claimed then to be protecting a population of 30. By 1984 the official

count was said to be 62, but a 1999 count found just 37.

Tigers were in November 2001 declared extinct in Gujarat.

Madya Pradesh claimed 912 tigers in 1993 and 927 in 1997, but former director-general of police R.P. Sharma, now heading an organization called the Crusade for Revival of Environment and Wildlife, warned in 1999 that the official counts should be regarded with great skepticism due to increasing economic use of the habitat, resulting in reduction of the tigers' prey base.

As wild prey declines, tigers prey more on humans, a phenomenon most evident in the Sunderbans swampland of West Bengal, lying between Calcutta and Bangladesh, where tigers kill an average of more than 10 people per year.

Officially, the Sunderbans are home to 284 of the 365 tigers living in West Bengal, who feed mainly upon 80,000 antelope of various species and 20,000 wild pigs.

The major economic development underway in the Sunderbans, however, is oil drilling begun in October 2002 by ONGC, a firm owned by the Indian government.

The most recently reported tiger conservation project was putting up seven kilometres of nylon netting intended to keep animals from the Sajnekhali Tiger Reserve from entering Baligram village.

China wants Olympic tourists to come for tigers

BEIJING—A camera trap set up by staff of the Hunchan Nature Reserve in early February captured the first known photo of a wild Amur tiger in northeastern China.

Members of the nature reserve staff positioned the camera after hearing from a local farmer that an unknown large predator had killed a mule that morning. The tiger tripped the electric eye that operates the camera upon returning to the carcass late at night.

The photo provides "strong evidence that tigers are crossing from the Russian Far East to repopulate previous tiger strongholds," said the Wildlife Conservation Society, whose equipment the Hunchan team used.

Best known for operating the Bronx Zoo, New York Aquarium, Central Park Zoo, and Prospect Park Zoo, all in New York City, the Wildlife Conservation Society applies the profits to funding overseas field research.

If Amur tigers are finding suitable habitat in China, with adequate wild prey and safety from poaching, the species may yet survive a population crash in Siberia that has cut their numbers from an estimated 400 in 1997 to just 190 at the end of 2002.

Siberian authorities seized six poached tiger pelts in December alone, Agence France-Presse reported. Logging, drought, forest fires, meat hunting by hungry humans, and three very harsh winters in a row have meanwhile squeezed tigers' habitat and prey base, inhibiting successful reproduction.

"Last winter 90% of the tiger cubs starved," Agence France-Presse explained. "Ecologists predict the story could be the same this winter and could push the predators toward inhabited areas in search of food."

The saiga saga

The decline of Amur tigers accompanied but was probably not directly related to a 97% loss of the population of saiga antelope, once the staple of the diet of the Caspian tiger, believed to be extinct since the early 1960s.

Saiga numbers soared briefly after the 1990 collapse of the Soviet Union preceded a collapse of the huge collective farms which held much of the available habitat. As less land came under cultivation, saiga increased—but have since almost disappeared.

"In 1993, over a million saiga antelopes roamed the steppes of Russia and Kazakhstan," Fred Pearce reported in the February 12 edition of *New Scientist*. "Today fewer than 30,000 remain, most of them females. So many males have been shot for their horns, which are exported to China to be used in traditional fever cures, that the antelope may not be able to recover unaided."

Hunters and poachers pursuing saiga on motorcycles killed off about half of the saiga by 1998. Researchers believe the biggest reason for the subsequent further fall in numbers was failure to reproduce.

Saiga resemble deer, whose population soars when the gender ratio is skewed toward females. As among deer, saiga bucks keep small harems if they can. But the saiga gender skew is now so pronounced that the remaining males apparently cannot mate enough for reproduction to outrace mortality.

Said saiga expert Eleanor Milner-Gulland of Imperial College in London, "We don't know of any other case in biology where the sex ratio has gone so wrong that fecundity has crashed in this way."

Added Fauna & Flora International zoologist Abigail Entwistle, "This is the most

sudden change in fortune for a large mammal species recorded in recent times."

The closest parallels would be with the 19th century destruction of the passenger pigeon and North American bison. Even African and Asian elephants have not been hunted and poached as ruthlessly as the saiga.

"In the early 1990s," Pearce recalled, "groups such as the World Wildlife Fund actively encouraged the saiga hunt, promoting its horn as an alternative to the horn of the endangered rhino."

The loss of saiga could have been catastrophic for any remaining Caspian tigers, but may not have affected Amur tigers much, since their range as of 1993 only touched the saiga range, without greatly overlapping. However, Amur tigers—if allowed to do so—could have followed abundant saiga from the Russian Far East into Mongolia, whose native tigers were annihilated decades ago.

Heavily wooded northern Mongolia might support tigers, if any got there, but the recent severe winters have hit southern and central Mongolia even harder than Siberia. Mongolians returning to the land after the collapse of Communism and state-run industry increased the national livestock herd from 24 million animals circa 1990 to 32 million by 1998. The winter of 2000-2001 killed 3.5 million cattle, goats, and sheep; the winter of 2001-2002 killed 4.8 million; and more than two million were already dead by the beginning of December 2002.

"There are no tigers."

The confirmation of the existence of at least one wild tiger in northern China came amid a heated dispute over whether or not the South China tiger is extinct in the wild.

In early November 2002, after eight months of field research, Minnesota Zoo conservation director and Tiger Foundation chair Ron Tilson reported that "There are no tigers. There is no prey and no habitat. All of China's tiger conservation areas have been converted to spruce and fir forests," Tilson said. "I did not even hear any birds. We did not find tigers, anything left by tigers, or much for a tiger to eat. "Based on the fact that people let their animals graze in the forest and only one was reported missing," during the five-province study by a multinational team, "our conclusion was that there were no tigers."

Tilson told *Oryx*, the journal of Fauna & Flora International, that "Our Chinese colleagues declined to have their names on either our final reports or manuscripts because they believed it would threaten their positions."

Tilson found just 47 severely inbred South China tigers in captivity, few of whom he believed to be fertile.

A World Wildlife Fund study in 1991 reported that tigers might persist in 11 parts of China. Tilson and team were excluded from the Wuyunjie Provincial Reserve, believed to be the best remaining South China tiger habitat, but discredited official Chinese claims about 34 alleged discoveries of tiger trails since 1990, three of them in 2002. Tilson said plaster casts of the purported pug marks were often either too large or too indistinct to be verifiably from a tiger, and that villagers who said they saw tigers proved to be unable to distinguish them from leopards.

The Tilson study was partially funded by Save Chinese Tigers, a London-based charity. But Save Chinese Tigers founder and

director Quan Li told Delma J. Francis of the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* that Tilson's findings were "A little bit of a joke," citing two recent ox killings by unknown predators in Fujian Province and a tiger sighting reported in November by farmers in Hubei Province.

Tiger Moon

Quan Li, an organization called Chinese Tigers South Africa, and the China State Forestry Research Station on November 26 signed an agreement to prepare captive-bred tigers for release into the wild by 2008, coinciding with the Beijing Olympics.

"Selected tiger cubs from Chinese zoos will be sent to South Africa, where they will be trained to hunt in a 300-square-kilometre area secured by the two nonprofit organizations," Hamish McDonald reported from Beijing in December 2002 for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. "Once able to hunt their own food," McDonald continued, "they will be returned to a pilot reserve in China, where the habitat and prey animals have been restored."

This followed an October 2002 announcement by South African wildlife filmmaker John Varty that he and his brother Dave would combine several former cattle and sheep ranches into a preserve called Tiger Moon.

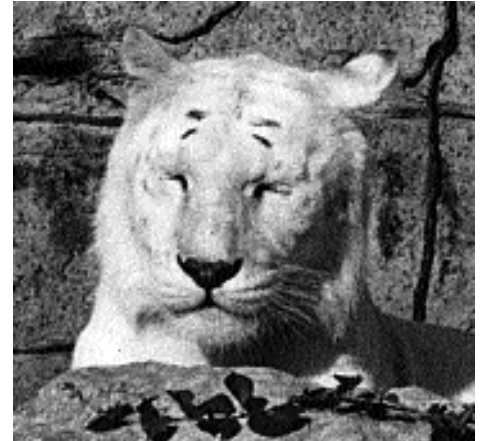
There, spokesperson Mike Mentis said, they would "create a viable population of highly endangered South China tigers, with the aim of later restoring wild tigers to their natural habitat in South China. Tiger Moon will restore a large African landscape to its previous biodiversity and potential," Mentis promised, "except that the South China tiger will replace the African lion as top predator. Tiger Moon will make possible a similar project in southern China," Mentis added.

Not known until Quan Li and her husband Stuart Bray sued the Varty brothers in the Johannesburg High Court in February was that the project planners had already split, after working together since August 2001 and after Bray invested \$5 million in it.

"The trouble arose when Quan Li wanted the Vartys to pump more more money into the project, according to court papers," wrote Gillian Anstey of the *Johannesburg Times*. "She pulled out in October, putting Bray, who had supplied most of the money, in a difficult situation. Yet Quan claims that it was the Vartys who left the project in October," Anstey continued.

In the lawsuit, Bray reportedly accuses the Vartys of having "misappropriated and mismanaged funds."

Longtime captive tigers have never been returned into the wild, although Billy Arjan Singh of India has reputedly rehabilitated and released several short-term captives.



White tiger at Xiangjiang Safari Park. (K.B.)

In the U.S., private tiger breeders often claim that they are preserving the tiger gene pool to facilitate reintroduction, even though almost all tigers in private hands are descended from tigers sold by zoos during the 1970s and early 1980s because they were considered genetically redundant.

Claims that the wild tiger population might eventually be replenished through captive breeding have also been used by Chinese zoos and wildlife parks during the past decade to rationalize the common practice of feeding live prey to tigers as a public spectacle.

The latest twist on the theme followed the Christmas Day 2002 import of 100 Bengal tigers from the Si Racha Tiger Farm in Thailand by a firm called Sanya Maidu Creations, in the city of Sanya. Sanya city officials said the tigers were to be bred for a Thai/Chinese tiger restoration project. The *Jiangnan Times* of Nanjing reported, however, that the tigers would stock a new wildlife park called Love World, funded by Thai investors, and that the park would sell tiger bones and meat. *The Shanghai Youth Daily* said that China would ask the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species for permission to export tiger products.

"This is a totally baseless rumor. Selling tiger meat is illegal, and we would never do it," a Sanya representative told London *Independent* writer Martin Fackler.

Bengal tigers, native to several bordering nations, are not native to China. The nearest wild population is in Nepal, blocked from descending into Tibet and Sinkiang province by the Himalayas.

Nepal during the early 1990s was lauded for protecting tigers and one-horned rhinos in Royal Chitwan National Park. In 1996, however, as Communism was in global eclipse, a Maoist insurgency erupted. Supporting themselves in part by poaching, the rebels killed at least 25 rhinos in the last half of 2002, while tigers, their natural prey depleted, killed as many as 10 rhinos.

The fighting has cost at least 7,300 human lives, primarily civilians.

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Man-Eaters of Kumaon *by Jim Corbett*
The Secret Life of Tigers *by Valmik Thapar,*
and Tiger Haven *by Billy Arjan Singh*

Oxford University Press (YMCA Library Bldg., Jai Singh Rd., New Delhi 110 001, India), 2002. Circa 750 pages, hardcover. No U.S. price listed.

Relatively few people in India will ever see *Tigers and Tigerwallahs*, a magnificent four-volumes-in-one collection of tiger conservation classics—but many might avidly absorb it if they could afford it.

Tigers and Tigerwallahs is available in other nations only by special order.

People who care profoundly what becomes of tigers must go to that trouble, because as grim as some of the accounts in *Tigers and Tigerwallahs* are, and as bleak the prophecies, the experiences of the authors over the past 100 years amount to a comprehensive manual of what to do and not do in trying to save large, charismatic megafauna of almost any kind.

The first great tiger conservationist was the tiger hunter Jim Corbett. Not at all the stereotypical “great white hunter,” Corbett was born in India, albeit of British parentage, and was thereby excluded from advancement in either British expatriate or native Indian society. He hunted as a youth to help feed his rather poor family. As an adult, he came to loath sport hunting, making no secret of his rather caustic opinion of anyone who would kill animals without need.

Corbett hunted tigers, but only maneaters. He believed that only a small minority of tigers ever turn to killing people, and then only in dire circumstances, such as in arthritic old age or when suffering from severe disability. If the “maneaters” were eliminated from the breeding pool, and/or put

out of their misery, Corbett believed, humans might tolerate tigers. Otherwise, all would be exterminated for the deeds of a few.

Corbett never took pay for killing a tiger, always hunted “maneaters” alone, and never hunted any tiger if sport hunters were anywhere in the area. He endured almost incredible hardship, illness, and injury in his pursuit of “maneaters.” His methods often included staking out live buffaloes and goats as bait, but he seemed sensitive to their suffering as well as to the plight of the tigers’ human victims. He knew from his own background what families endure after the loss of a mother or wage-earner, and though he never had children, he appreciated the grief of those whose children were killed and eaten.

Yet Corbett did not pretend that the killing done by tigers was evil while his own killing was morally justified. On the contrary, Corbett was troubled by his work, and eventually felt that it was all for nothing. Retiring with his sister to Kenya after Indian independence, Corbett expected the Indian tiger to be extinct within a decade of his own death.

That nearly happened. Geoffrey C. Ward, Billy Arjan Singh, and Valmik Thapar take turns describing the trophy hunting bloodbath that engulfed India for more than 25 years after independence. While British hunting declined, the Americans and oil shieks who followed proved to be even more trigger-happy, with more firepower at their disposal. Tigers and blackbucks were only



(Kim Bartlett)

two of many species that were hunted to the brink of extinction before the political ascendancy of the late prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Morarji Desai finally brought into effect and enforced the 1973 national ban on sport hunting.

Billy Arjan Singh meanwhile tried to save tigers, blackbuck, elephants, and other species by establishing and defending his own private refuge, called Tiger Haven, not affiliated in any way with the captive tiger facility by the same name in Tennessee. The preserve that Singh started eventually became federally protected habitat. Once a ruthless hunter himself, as was Ward, Singh metamorphized into an equally ruthless warden, who dragged poachers to town behind his jeep and expressed unsympathetic views about the losses of employees and visitors who were foolish enough to bring their children into proximity with the captive tigers and leopards he rehabilitated for release. Most people were afraid of Singh, whose closest companion for many years was his elephant.

Singh preserved wildlife at the cost of antagonizing so many people that elected officials came to treat him as a leading public enemy. Backlash against his methods, as well as naked greed, contributed to the near ruin of the Indian refuge system during

the 1980s and much of the 1990s, under the mantra of “sustainable use.” The theory was that ordinary Indians would support refuges only if the refuges contributed to their prosperity. Refuges were opened to grazing, wood-gathering, and eventually to so much other economic activity that some, like Sariska, were reduced to narrow heavily trafficked tourist corridors.

Valmik Thapar, an initially reluctant student of Singh’s, in time redeemed Singh and the refuge concept by demonstrating with Singh’s help and investment how habitat reclamation could provide even greater economic benefits than the other common uses of refuge land.

The struggle to save tigers is far from over, and indeed may barely have begun, with intensifying poaching and human population pressure evident throughout their remaining range. Thapar has, however, emerged as a unique and original voice in wildlife conservation. His challenges to conventional wisdom are grounded in both experience and the ethical views of animals embodied in Hindu, Jain, Bishnoi, and Buddhist culture. Thapar has begun to be heard not only in India, but far beyond, suggesting that his approach may eventually be widely emulated. —M.C.

Heaven and Earth and I: *Ethics of Nature Conservation in Asia* Edited by Vivek Menon & Masayuki Sakamoto

Penguin Enterprise (c/o Penguin Putnam Inc., 375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 2002. Published in association with the Wildlife Trust of India, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and Asian Conservation Alliance. 223 pages, paperback. No U.S. price listed.

Eighteen essayists contribute to *Heaven and Earth and I*, including the Dalai Lama, Queen Noor of Jordan, the Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, Maneka Gandhi, and King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Dev of Nepal—but the famous names discuss the ethics of nature conservation only in broad and general terms, for the most part, with only People for Animals founder Mrs. Gandhi having much to say about animals.

The more memorable offerings come from Sri Lankan elephant conservationist Jawantha Jayewardene and five relatively obscure Islamic scholars from three different nations, all of whom hold that the humane treatment of animals is ordained by their religions, whether the teachings are obeyed or not, and seem to view respect for animal welfare as fundamental to successful environmentalism.

Jayewardene in “The Rediscovery of Ahimsa: Sri Lanka’s Conservation Philosophy through the Ages,” recalls that the King Devanampiyatissa was in 247 B.C. interrupted during a deer hunt by Arahata Mahinda, son of the Indian emperor Asoka the Great, who had introduced the first Indian animal protection law and sent emissaries to spread Buddhism, including humane teachings, throughout southern Asia.

“Arahata Mahinda stopped King Devanampiyatissa from killing the deer and told the king that every living creature has an equal right to live,” writes Jawardene.

Persuaded, the king became a Buddhist and “decreed that no one should kill or harm any living being,” Jayewardene continues. “He set apart a large area around his palace as a sanctuary that gave protection to all fauna and flora. This was called Mahamevuna Uyana, and is believed to be the first sanctuary in the world.”

The next five kings, according to Jayewardene, “completely prohibited the killing of any animal within the kingdom. Following this, the killing of animals and the consumption of meat were greatly minimized. There is also historical evidence,” Jayewardene adds, “that a number of kings, in extending their practice of *ahimsa*, established places where sick and injured animals could be treated. King Buddhadrta in

341 A.D. went to the extent of becoming a reputed veterinary surgeon. In the 12th century King Nissanka Malla issued a decree, as seen in a stone inscription in the city of Anuradhapura even today, which broadly reads: ‘It is ordered, by beat of the drum, that no animals should be killed within a radius of seven *gau* from the city.’”

Beginning in the 16th century, European colonization gradually eroded the Buddhist tradition, including the teachings about animal protection. British trophy hunters were especially ruthless, Jayewardene recalls. To control their own excesses, lest they extirpate all possible targets, the British introduced the first modern Sri Lankan wildlife conservation law in 1862, reinforced in 1872, 1894, and 1909, and created the first modern Sri Lankan wildlife refuge in 1885.

The British conservation act of 1862 may have come in response to the Buddhist formation that same year of the Animals Non-Violence Society, the first modern Sri Lankan humane organization. The first Sri Lankan anti-cruelty law was not adopted until 1907, however, and it has only been amended once since, Jayawardine laments, in 1955.

While the Buddhist humane tradition is generally known but often ignored, the Islamic humane tradition is almost entirely obscure even among Islamic scholars.

This should not be, argues Jasmi Bin Abdul in “an Islamic Viewpoint from Malaysia.”

Writes Bin Abdul, “The care and love of wild animals has been emphasized both in the Qur’an as well as in *Sunna*, the traditions of the Prophet. In verse 54:28, there is a reference to Allah insisting that the people of Tamud share the water with their camels. In the *Sunna* of Prophet Muhammad, we see many instances to show that He advocated kindness toward animals. Two examples would suffice here. According to one tradition, Allah punished a woman because she imprisoned a cat until the cat died of hunger. The Prophet also tells us that a prostitute’s sins were forgiven because she gave water to a thirsty dog,” a story which if better known would suggest that women subject to the Islamic fundamentalist law of *Sharia* should be spared if they have been kind to the street dogs who are much feared and despised in many Islamic nations.

“In Islam, it is also not permitted to disturb nesting

birds or separate the young from their parents,” Bin Abdul states. “The Prophet once saw His believers carrying a young bird and He promptly ordered them to return the little bird back to his mother.”

The same stories are recited in slightly different form, but similar context, by Zuhair S. Amr and Mahdi Quatrameez in “Wildlife Conservation in Jordan: A Cultural and Islamic Perspective.”

Add Mohammed Anwarul Islam and Zinat Mahrkh Banu in “Lessons for Bangladesh,” “Neither hunting nor slaughter of domestic animals is prohibited in Islam. However, there are restrictions that take animal welfare into account. Hunting is forbidden during the months of pilgrimage (Qur’an 5:95), and so also is hunting for mere sport. There are restrictions even in the case of animals slaughtered for human consumption. To minimize pain, a Muslim has to make sure his knife is sharp enough before the slaughter. Charity, according to Islam, is not only feeding and helping people, but also planting trees for the benefit of animals. Says Prophet Muhammad in a Hadith: ‘If anyone plants a tree or sows a field, and man, beasts, and birds eat from it, he should consider it a charity on his part.’”

Environmentalism and humane concerns have largely gone separate ways in Europe and North America during the past century-plus, primarily because of the influence of the well-funded hunter/conservationist lobby. The World Wildlife Fund and Safari Club International, among other multinational hunter/conservationist organizations, have seen to it that hunter/conservationism is the dominant ecological perspective in overseas policymaking, as well. But that could change, as underdeveloped nations mature economically and politically, recognize the multinational advocacy groups as vestiges of colonialism, and form their own environmental institutions. Amid the transition, the Buddhist and Islamic teachings brought forward in *Heaven and Earth and I* may emerge as central to the ecological philosophy of the post-development Asia.

—M.C.



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For The Love Of Wildlife

by Chris Mercer & Beverly Pervan

Kalahari Raptor Centre (P.O. Box 1386, Kathu, 8446 Northern Cape, South Africa), 2000. 252 pages, hardcover.
For current ordering info, e-mail to <enquiries@bookpro.co.za>.

Chris Mercer and Beverly Pervan educated themselves about wildlife sanctuary management, before making the Kalahari Raptor Centre their fulltime "retirement" pursuit, by closely observing the operations of the Harnas Lion Farm in Namibia.

Not everything was done there as it should have been done. Mercer and Pervan record a shocking number of accidents and injuries to staff, visitors, and animals, often resulting from actions or inactions that would violate the U.S. Animal Welfare Act.

However, Mercer and Pervan also point out that Harnas was a pioneer in introducing the very concept of "sanctuary" to a part of the world where animals have historically been kept for hunting, eating, or as a tourist attraction, or have been hounded, poisoned, and shot to the verge of extinction. Much about Harnas has been improvised, from lack of other examples to follow.

For The Love Of Wildlife is partially the story of Nic and Marieta Van der Merwe, who gradually transformed their cattle ranch into the rehabilitation and longterm care center it is today, while raising four children who appear likely to keep the sanctuary under family management for at least another generation.

For The Love Of Wildlife is also partially the story of the children, especially daughter Marlice.

In addition, there are chapters detailing what is known about the pre-Harnas lives of some of the animals who came to the Van der Merwes.

Anti-poaching law

The most important part of the book, however, are the two epilogues. Mercer, an attorney, argues that "All wild animals shall have the following legally enforceable rights, which shall be written into the Constitutions of all Southern African nations: The right to live free from physical or mental cruelty. The right to live undisturbed in all existing proclaimed game reserves. The right to share unproclaimed wilderness areas free from human persecution. The right to protection of the law against any person who violates these rights."

To enforce these rights, Mercer suggests that, "The High Courts shall act as Upper Guardians of all wild animals," while any citizen should be able to initiate legal proceedings on behalf of wildlife.

Mercer would ban all sale, possession, or use of three types of trap and snare, require forfeiture of vehicles used in connection with poaching, and allow confiscation of land "used for cruel or inhumane purposes," at judicial discretion.

So far, so good, but Mercer also suggested many "changes to the law of criminal procedure and evidence" to combat poaching which have already been tried in various nations, with abysmal results.

Mercer recommended that "evidence [given] by telephone or radio should be admissible," due to the cost and difficulty of pulling rangers out of the field to attend distant trials.

The admission of *absentia* trial testimony, however, allows unseen persons to coach witnesses, undermines the principle that witnesses should be identifiable, and would preclude asking witnesses to identify physical evidence—an often critical part of winning a poaching conviction.

"Game rangers and landowners should have the right to shoot at poachers who are either armed or fleeing to avoid arrest," Mercer asserted, adding that "Any trespasser on any game reserve, proclaimed wilderness area or private land where there is wildlife shall be presumed to be poaching unless he can prove to the contrary."

Similar edicts prevailed in Zimbabwe, Kenya, South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, and Zambia from 1984 into the early 1990s. At least 160 alleged poachers were killed in Zimbabwe and 130 in Kenya, but the shoot-to-kill policies also gave anyone carrying anything that might look like a weapon cause to flee from anyone resembling a ranger or landowner.

Among the "poachers" at constant risk were truck drivers lightly armed for self-defense against bandits—or lions and leopards if obliged to sleep outdoors after a breakdown. Serious poachers meanwhile improved their armament and shot back at the rangers.

"All exclusionary rules of evidence

should be replaced by one rule which states that no relevant evidence shall be inadmissible," Mercer continued. "The right of silence of an accused person should not apply in poaching cases. In Zimbabwe," he noted approvingly, "this is already the law."

Yet it would be hard to find an African nation now where the law is less respected, or where wildlife is at more peril.

Mercer further endorsed the formation of private anti-poaching militias. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** extensively examined the history of private anti-poaching militias in an April 1999 cover feature entitled "Can mercenary management stop poaching in Africa?"

The weight of experience involving at least seven militias funded by private conservationists between the mid-1980s and the present indicates that they do not increase respect for law and order, may provide cover for covert operations to destabilize governments, import weapons and equipment which easily disappear without a trace (including helicopters), and in some instances hire individuals whose chief interest in fighting poachers may be to reduce the competition.

Over time, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found, the short-term achievements of anti-poaching militias were offset by catastrophic failures, especially at the political level after mercenaries abused the public trust.

Another book?

Mercer acknowledges that he might not have written the same book today, now that the Zimbabwe model of wildlife management has imploded and now that he has four more years of sanctuary experience.

Indeed, Mercer could compile a book about battling the South African wildlife authorities on behalf of KRC and other sanctuaries just by collating and editing the e-mails sent to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** since his first e-mail to us announced publication of *For The Love Of Wildlife*.

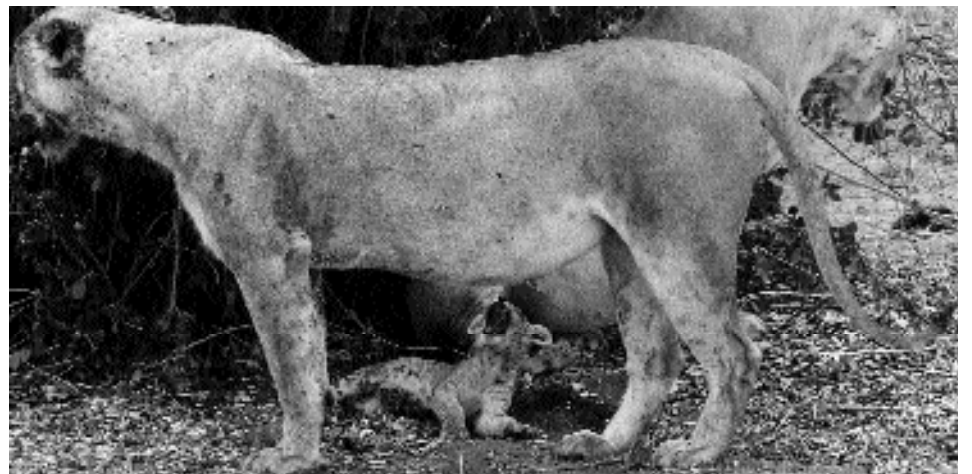
Notably, Mercer and Pervan won a long fight on behalf of three orphaned caracals whom they rehabilitated in contradiction of government policies which called for killing them. Two caracals were returned to the wild; one, missing a leg, remains at KRC.

Mercer, Pervan, and Friends of the Tahr are still fighting, after three years, on behalf of the feral Himalayan tahrs who have resided for 70 years on Table Mountain, a large natural preserve within Cape Peninsula National Park in Cape Town. Though endangered in India, their ancestral home, the Cape Town tahrs are slated for massacre in April 2003 as a non-native species. About a dozen trophy-sized rams were shot in November 2002, ostensibly to inhibit breeding, although shooting females would have more effect.

India would repatriate the tahrs, but lacks funding for their capture and transport. Friends of the Tahr, so far unable to raise the funding, continues efforts to prevent or delay the killing through legal action.

Most directly relevant to the issues discussed in *For The Love Of Wildlife* are several recent incidents involving lions.

In a reprise of the opening chapter, a young male lion was in June 2002 driven out of Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park by older lions. Seeking his own territory among cattle ranches where wild lions were extirpated long ago, the lion killed seven cows and a donkey during the next month, but eluded extermination until November 24, when he was treed and shot.



(Kim Bartlett)

Enkosini

The focus of a new book, however, would probably be an ongoing legal battle between the scandal-plagued Mpumalanga Parks Board and Enkosini Wildlife Sanctuary cofounders Greg Mitchell and Kelsey Grimm, an immigrant from Bellevue, Washington.

"From March 2000 until September 2001," according to Mercer in a Response to Allegations prepared on behalf of Mitchell and Grimm, the Enkosini cofounders "ran the Camorhi Game Lodge's ecotourism business in the Orange Free State, where they saw tame lions sold for canned hunts, cubs ripped away at birth from their mothers, and lionesses forced into estrus for 'speed breeding.'"

"The Johannesburg Zoo brought two High Court cases against the Camorhi owner, Marius Prinsloo," Mercer wrote, based on information from Mitchell and Grimm that Prinsloo had falsely reported the death of a lion named Zeus, sent to him on a breeding loan. Zeus, bearing a rare white gene, was still producing white cubs, whom Prinsloo sold via the Internet. The Johannesburg Zoo in 2002 won a series of court orders for the seizure and return of Zeus and his offspring.

"With the help of Mitchell in identifying the lions, the zoo managed to remove four of Zeus' offspring in February 2002," Mercer related. "The removal was no easy task, as the Prinsloo contingency bolted the gates to the lion enclosures, fired gunshots into the air to stress the animals, and physically assaulted the zoo veterinarians. Lion & Rhino Park operator Ken Heuer, a Camorhi investor, told zoo attorney Lucien Pierce that he would 'break his legs and make him bleed,' and threatened to 'kill' Mitchell. The Bethlehem sheriff has written an affidavit describing the threats made by Ken Heuer on this occasion," Mercer said.

Mitchell also gave evidence against Prinsloo and Heuer in a case alleging that they "organized for wild cheetahs to be captured in Namibia and flown into South Africa," Mercer said.

Mitchell and Grimm meanwhile purchased eight lions from Prinsloo so that they would not be hunted, but when they tried to collect the lions in September 2001, Mercer alleged, Camorhi personnel used two vehicles to run Grimm and the four cubs she was hauling off the road, while Mitchell's trailer tires were slashed. Mitchell had the four adult lions. "The Enkosini trustees immediately took the matter to the High Court in Bloemfontein and received an interdict to remove the trailer and the four lions," Mercer wrote.

As Enkosini was not yet ready to house the lions, they were boarded first at the Johannesburg Zoo and later at the Honeydew Lion Park.

Ironically, the Mpumalanga Parks Board then invoked regulations that were supposedly meant to prevent the growth of captive lion hunts to deny the necessary permits to Enkosini to receive the lions.

In May 2002 Mitchell and Grimm

Grimm then offered their support in caring for the lions and meeting their food and veterinary costs. The MPB refused this involvement," Mercer said in a February 7 press release. "The likely motive for this seemingly pointless prohibition," Mercer charged, "is to build up a large debt to the Rhino & Lion Park, and then to present Enkosini with the bill as a final slap in the face if the Enkosini trustees win their High Court case and come to collect their animals."

Great Cats In Crisis

Heuer, Mercer promised, will be sued for defaming Mitchell and Grimm in profane e-mails posted to an electronic discussion board operated by Great Cats In Crisis, with which Heuer is associated. Great Cats In Crisis is a promotional umbrella for big cat facilities, founded by Brian Werner of the Texas-based Tiger Missing Link Foundation, also known as Tiger Creek. Many of the "accredited members" do fundraising direct mail via Bruce Eberle of Virginia.

As Mercer and *Animal Act* magazine of South Africa pointed out, citing coverage by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, Great Cats In Crisis became known to the international protection community in late 2001 for raising funds in the name of helping the Kabul Zoo in Afghanistan, even though it had no connection with the official Kabul Zoo relief project headed by North Carolina Zoo director and Brooke Hospital for Animals president Davy Jones. In early 2002 Great Cats In Crisis issued an appeal produced by Eberle on purported behalf of the Kabul Zoo lion Marjan—which was apparently mailed after Marjan was dead.

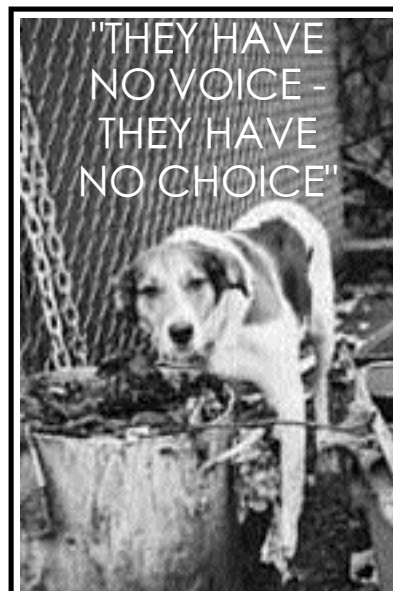
Currently Great Cats In Crisis is distributing press releases from Eberle about a case he brought against **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in July 2002 for allegedly libeling him and interfering with his business relationships, chiefly by pointing out that according to IRS Form 990 filings, his animal-related nonprofit clients often spend more than 70% of their budgets on direct mail.

ANIMAL PEOPLE recently rejected a "settlement offer" from Eberle which amounted to demanding that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** should cease critical coverage of his fundraising operations and allow him to advertise. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** made clear that we will not compromise either our news coverage or our advertising acceptance policy.

The relevant **ANIMAL PEOPLE** coverage on Eberle is grouped at our web site, <www.animalpeoplenews.org>; click on "Why is fundraiser Bruce Eberle suing us?"

The case is scheduled for trial on July 2-3 in Fairfax, Virginia.

—Merritt Clifton



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OBITUARIES

Kalpana Chawla, 41, remembered in Indian newspaper obituaries right after mention that she was an astronaut as “A devout Hindu and fourth generation vegetarian,” was killed on February 1 along with all six of her flightmates when the space shuttle Columbia exploded over Texas during re-entry into the Earth’s atmosphere. Born to Pakistani immigrant parents in Haryana state, India, Chawla married flight instructor Jean Pierre Harrison soon after starting aerospace engineering studies at the University of Texas at Arlington. She lived in Texas for the rest of her life, but maintained her links to India as well. Haryana residents saluted her first spaceflight in 1997 with a torchlight parade that they hoped she could see from orbit.

Tracy Bragg, 57, drowned or died from exposure on January 21 near her home in Fort Collins, Colorado, while saving her chocolate Lab puppy Clara, who had fallen into a partially iced-over pond. Freed from the pond, the puppy raced to fetch her husband, Thomas Bragg, and sons Jake and Al, who followed Clara’s tracks back to the scene but arrived too late to save her.

Ouyang Changwei, 24, a zookeeper at the Wuhan Forest Safari Park in Hubei province, China, was fatally mauled on January 15 by two African lionesses who had reportedly escaped through an open cage door to roam the grounds.

Dylan Bradbury, 10, of Stephenville Crossing, Newfoundland, on December 31 escaped from his burning family home with his sisters, but was killed when he ran back inside to try to save his dog.

Michele A. Matras, 53, director of the National REGAP Network in Illinois, died on October 28, 2002, from esophageal cancer. Matras and her husband John had been active in greyhound rescue since 1991.

Roger Gould King, 61, died in Johannesburg, South Africa, on February 4. “Although virtually bedridden after years of fighting pneumonia, and needing a breathing machine more and more, Roger was an indispensable ally in campaigns,” recalled Kalahari Raptor Centre operators Chris Mercer and Beverly Pervan. “Despite his disabilities,” they added, “he was among the most important links in the South African animal rights movement, a pioneer of Internet-based animal activism,” whose particular concerns included saving caracals and wild dogs from persecution by game farmers.

Chellu Singh, 17, and fellow Bishnoi youth from Sewdi village, Nagaur district, near Jaipur, India, on January 30 tried to detain a gang of poachers who had reportedly shot more than a dozen deer from the backs of camels. The poachers shot Singh and fled.

Grace Staton DuMond, 95, died on January 24 in Miami, Florida. “Enamored by the theories of Charles Darwin and bent on building a home for primates,” recalled Tere Figueras of the *Miami Herald*, her late husband Joseph abandoned a career as a commercial artist in Connecticut in 1932. The DuMonds bought the 10-acre Monkey Jungle zoo site in 1932, released several monkeys into it, and began charging visitors 10¢ apiece for a tour. They turned the business over to son Frank and retired to Cuba in 1956, ran a hunting goods store in Costa Rica after Fidel Castro came to power, and returned to Monkey Jungle in 1965. Joseph DuMond died in 1967 and Frank DuMond died in 1977. His wife Mary headed the operation until her death in 1987, when Sharon DuMond, daughter of Frank and Mary, became the third generation of DuMonds to run Monkey Jungle. The zoo became an animal rights *cause célèbre* in the 1980s over the living conditions of male gorilla named King. Acquired in 1979 from a circus, King lived alone for 20 years in a barred cement cell about the size of a small mobile home. Demonstrations led by the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida and critical comments by visitors including Jane Goodall and Doris Day eventually persuaded Monkey Jungle to build King a more comfortable new home, which he has occupied since early 2001.



Jackie Ciano, 47, a Wildlife Trust whale researcher from Wellfleet, Massachusetts, conservation biologist **Emily Argo**, 25, of St. Petersburg, Florida, researcher **Michael Newcomer**, 49, of Los Altos, California, and pilot **Tom Hinds** of Fernandina Beach, Florida, were killed on January 26 when their aircraft crashed into the Atlantic Ocean for unknown reasons while they were looking for migrating right whales.

ANIMAL OBITS

Dolly, 6, the sheep who was the world’s first cloned mammal, was euthanized due to an incurable lung disease and chronic arthritis on February 14 at the Roslin Institute in Midlothian, Scotland, her lifelong home. Produced from an udder cell from a six-year-old ewe, Dolly was born in July 1996 and named after the singer Dolly Parton. At age two she showed signs of premature aging, and by her death she appeared to be twice her chronological age. Similar effects have now been seen in all mammals cloned to date. Researchers now believe that cloned animals are the biological age of the cells they were made from—a major setback to the theory that cloning might enable humans to practice self-perpetuation, as each clone would in effect be born at the same biological age as the cell source, and all would reach elderly decrepitude at the same time. Dolly’s death “highlights more than ever the foolishness of those who want to legalize human reproductive cloning,” said Alan Colman, one of the scientists whose work produced her.

GHR-KO 11C, a dwarf mouse who lived four years, 11 months, and three weeks, equivalent to 180 to 200 years in human terms, died on January 15 at Southern Illinois University. The next oldest mouse ever raised at Southern Illinois U. died at four years, three months, said physiology researcher Andzej Bartke. GHR-KO 11C was genetically engineered for nonresponse to a growth hormone. He was put into a longevity study when Bartke and others noticed that he had outlived all the other mice of his generation.

Matilda, 3, the first Australian cloned sheep, who gave birth to triplets at only nine months old, died suddenly of unknown cause on February 6 at the Turretfield Research Centre, north of Adelaide.

Canus, 39, the male whooping crane credited with saving his species, died in January at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland. Only 42 whooping cranes were known to exist in 1964 when Canadian Wildlife Service scientists Ernie Kuyt and Nick Novakowski found him downed with a dislocated wing in a marsh at Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta. After receiving veterinary care in Edmonton, Canus was sent to start a captive breeding program in Patuxent. There he became sire, grandsire, and great grandsire to 186 descendants, including Lucky, the first wild whooping crane chick to fledge in the U.S. in 60 years. His remains were repatriated to a museum in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, Canada.

King, 8, a Percheron horse kept by northern Alberta resident Evelyn Presisniuk, known for pulling sleighloads of children at Churchill Square in Edmonton each Christmas season, on January 26 became the fifth known victim of a serial killer who had already killed one other horse and wounded three more in three weeks of drive-by attacks.

Freeloader, 7, a bucking bull used in the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, was euthanized on December 12, 2002, after suffering a broken back during a ride by Colby Yates of Arizona, a 26-year pro bullrider.

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August 1-5: *Animal Rights 2003/West*, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: c/o FARM, <chair@animalrights-2003.org> or <www.animalrights2002.org>.

August 16-17: *United Poultry Concerns Forum*, Boulder, Colorado. Info: <www.upc-online.org>.

tion would favor.

—*Merritt Clifton*

