The Joy and Tragedy of Pigs
**Wanted:**

**Pachyderm Protectors**

The African elephant, the greatest of land mammals, is doomed to extinction unless effective action is taken soon. The 1980's have witnessed the destruction of more than half of Africa's wild elephant population, and the decline continues to this day.

Elephants are being slaughtered and their tusks hacked off to provide ivory for international trade—including the U.S. market. In fact, about 25,000 elephants a year are destroyed just to provide ivory trinkets for the U.S. market.

Tragically, most of the captive, breeding elephants have already been killed off and ivory hunters are now aiming their sights at juveniles.

If the elephant goes extinct, and ivory can no longer be produced, its value will skyrocket. Therefore, greedy investors are hoarding ivory and banking on the elephant's extinction.

**There is a solution**

The only way to save the African elephant is to end the ivory trade. Friends of Animals is working at all levels to stop the commercial trade in ivory.

Internationally, we are seeking to include the African elephant on Appendix I of CITES, the endangered species treaty. Our aim is to achieve elephant protection at the October 1989 meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES. This would stop all legal and most of the illegal trade in ivory.

On a local level, we're asking for your help. We're asking protectionists to approach jewelry and gift shops, requesting that they discontinue trade in ivory. Friends of Animals will send the merchants you enlist our new Pachyderm Protector decal to spread the word. We're also circulating petitions which demand an end to the ivory trade at both the national and international levels.

Please join Friends of Animals' campaign to save the African elephant. Friends of Animals, National Headquarters, P.O. Box 1244, Norwalk, CT 06856.

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**Friends Of Animals**

National Headquarters
P.O. Box 1244
Norwalk, CT 06856

Attention: Priscilla Feral, President
$________ donation enclosed.

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**BE A PACHYDERM PROTECTOR.** For a gift of $20.00 or more, Foa will send you a Pachyderm Protector decal, a petition for the U.S. Government to include the African elephant on Appendix I of CITES, a Merchant's Voluntary Commitment form, and a year's subscription to ActionLine, Foa's magazine.

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This plea was made possible by a contribution from Regina B. Frankenberg.

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**ANIMALS' AGENDA**

JANUARY 1989 VOLUME IX NO. 1

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THE GREAT TRAGEDY OF ALL

In this issue, we feature one of the most abused, most misunderstood animals of them all: pigs. These intelligent, sensitive, and social animals have the misfortune to be a favorite item for fast food restaurants. For centuries, and their wild ancestors were probably hunted by prehistoric humans for millennia. But only in the past few decades have pigs become targets of "factory farming." Since the advent of intensive confinement systems, pigs have been raised mostly in cages, in filthy concrete floors. Along with the rejected, diseased, male pigs have become the victims of "factory farming." The battery cages which produce grocery-store eggs, pigs are today one of animal agriculture's most abused creatures.

We are proud to join in the world's blooded animals slaughtered for food comes to five billion per year in the U.S. alone. That's more times than are killed in every category of animal used for food and clothing combined. In 1989 alone, the number of animals used for food and clothing exceeded the amount of attention by the animal defense community. There are signs that priorities are beginning to shift, however. The new Swedish "battery bill of rights" may give impetus to farm animals efforts worldwide, and the Massachusetts referendum on humane standards for farm animals—though defeated—was a major step forward.

While we look forward to a world without slaughterhouses, realistically, it's going to be a long time coming. Animal agriculture will be with us for many more years, unless something unforeseen occurs. Working for reform measures to lessen the suffering of farm animals—even if those measures are less than perfect—is one of the most important tasks before the humane community today. The pigs, cattie, chickens, sheep, and other farm animals are waiting for our attention. But they're not waiting patiently.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO SEND A CHECK

If you put off responding to our holiday funding appeal, please do so now. We need the financial support of individual readers more than ever, as it's becoming increasingly difficult to obtain funding from a shrinking philanthropic community. While we can still count on a few of them for help, most have either reduced giving or cut it off entirely.

To those readers who made a contribution to The ANIMALS' Agenda last month: you made our holidays a little brighter and gave us hope for the new year. Except for problems related to incineration, which are serious, everyone in the magazine's increased vitality and visibility are splendid. We were elated recently when our bookstores distributor announced that The ANIMALS' Agenda was its top-selling title in the category of social issues.

NEW ARN directors elected

At the November annual meeting of the Animal Rights Network, Inc. (ARN), publisher of The ANIMALS' Agenda, three new directors were elected to the board: Ronnie Bambarger, Donald Barnett, and Kim Bartlett. Ronnie Bambarger is the Angel Foundation for Animals, Holly Hazard, an animal rights attorney as well as executive director of the Doris Day Animal League; and Esther Mecher, head of Focus on Animals (an audio-visual resource group) and one of ARN's original founders. Ronnie, Holly, and Esther join ARN's six other directors: Donald Barnes, director of the Washington office of the National Anti-Vivisection Society; Kim Bartlett, editor of The ANIMALS' AGENDA; Syndie Brinkman, founder of the National Alliance for Animal Legislation; David Patrice Greenewalt, an editor of The ANIMALS' Agenda as well as president of Voice of Nature Network (VNN); Evelyn Kimber of CEASE; and Jim Mason, an author and former editor of this magazine.

An advisory board was also established, composed of widely recognized and respected leaders of the animal rights movement. Their names appear at the bottom of the masthead on this page.

VIOLENCE BETRAYS THE ANIMALS

As we go to press, a woman is under arrest in a nearby town for allegedly placing a bomb at the offices of U.S. Life, a company that uses dogs to demonstrate its surgical stapling products. The incident and its possible ramifications will be examined in the next issue. For now, it must be said that The ANIMALS' Agenda is totally against all acts of violence, whether for the use or threat of violence. Violent acts betray every principle of animal rights philosophy, and must be condemned as unethical and counterproductive.

- The Editor

CONSERVATION GROUPS GOOD OVERALL

I would have to answer "Savior" to the question posed in the title of this article on wildlife organizations in the July/August 1988 issue ("Saviors or Saviors?") In the conservation groups that I have worked with and others I've heard of, most have been working to save and expand wilderness areas, National Parks, etc., which is of course, much more worthy than the useless and cruel practices of "hunting" for sport and "trapping" for profit. But the new generation will have to respect for other animals and the welfare of the environment, and to that end, we will all have to work together in the future. People with respect for life will not desire to destroy wildlife, and there will be wilderness saved and preserved, as a result of the conservation groups' foresight.

- Carol H. Cassetti

LEXINGTON, SC

Although there were various statements in the article "Savior or Saviors?" regarding the philosophical rift between animal rights and conservation groups, I did not wonder at the real intent of the article. Placing the "fence-sitters" in the article insulted those groups that are actually as guilty as the National Rifle Association in supporting hunting. I also wonder how the groups were selected for inclusion in the article, and why there is no mention of organizations that are preserving habitat and do not condone hunting.

If we are going to condemn those organizations that are actually pursuing wilderness legislation and habitat acquisition because we don't agree with them on the issue of hunting, then perhaps we have created a great error which we have not made. Hunting is an animal rights issue that is addressed by many groups that are opposed to habitat legislation and wilderness preservation. Therefore, we should support those groups (preferably those with views closest to ours) that preserve habitat and wild areas, and we should continue to abolish hunting and trapping wherever possible. These two efforts go hand in hand, because one is not good without the other. All organizations must make decisions where the purist may not agree, but organizations that do not preserve habitat should not be condemned unless the purist can offer an alternative.

- Sandra Eti Zety

PITTSBURGH, PA

Some addenda to the fine piece on environmental groups' policies on hunting: 1) The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) supports trapping as well as hunting. 2) The Audubon Society, by their own admission, is totally against hunting, but they support hunting. 3) The National Audubon Society (NAS) (not affiliated with NAS) is a licensed hunting group). 4) Animal Liberation Connection does not do wildlife. 5) We do want to visit our local nature centers to inspect the living conditions of captive animals and determine whether some could be released to the wild.

- Julie Lurie, Connecticut Coordinator

The Fund for Animals

WEST HARTFORD, CT

AUTO OUR WORST IDEA

I was glad to see Steve McRoberts' "Why I Won't Own a Car" in the Sept./Oct. 1986 issue, since I believe that the automobile will eventually prove to be our worst enemy. Since it has been assumed that it has taken a heavy toll on humans and nonhuman alike. But he didn't mention the animal ingredients in the fuel, which for some, it has been exempted from steering wheels and tires and leather upholstery. The water and air pollution resulting from its manufacture is the noise pollution. Unfortunately, we each have a place where we compromise. I don't wear leather or own a power lawn mower, but I'm addicted to my pickup.

- Gene Franks

DENTON, TX

COMPANION ANIMAL BEREAVEMENT

It was with great interest that I read Patricia Gallagher's excellent article "When Animal Friends Die: Overcoming the Grief in the Sept.-Oct. 1988 issue. Much of the mail we receive reflects her comment that one grief-stricken pet owner lost receive little comfort from either his relatives, friends, and especially, their clergy. Our organization is trying to change that. We offer bereavement counseling in the form of free biweekly literature which, among other services, describes the hope we have of being reunited with beloved animals in the afterlife. Many of our correspondents have written back to tell us that their in-
Continued from previous page

upset and wept uncontrollably. As I held and comforted him, I initially tried to breast his compassion for fear, assuming that he was too young to experience such feelings. It was during a quiet dialogue with the tiny boy on my lap that the empathy for animals I had suppressed for many years returned. The conversation went something like this: "I think I heard the bat cry. Do bats cry?" "I don't know. I never thought much about bats." "But if we do think about bats, do you think they cry?" "Yes, I think they might be able to cry." "If he did cry, why didn't anybody help him? When I cry, somebody always comes." "Well, humans, bats are different than people." "How come they're different? Aren't they scared when they get hurt?" "Yes, I'm sure they must be." "Then how come nobody came?" "Well, bats are dirty. If I get dirty, will people beat me up?" "God, no! You're not a bat, you're a person. You're much smarter than a bat!" "So if someone comes to help him, are we supposed to kill him?" "No, no. We read and speak and think and feel. It's hard to explain." "I think he felt stuff, Mom. He was crying, I know he was crying and, Mom, I can't read." I realized there was no rationale to justify the violence that took place that day without contradicting every principle and moral I'd tried to teach my baby and which he understood much better than I. As a young child, I had experienced strong feelings of compassion for the human animals I encountered in the community and for animals, all of whom I'd witnessed being brutalized. I was often deeply depressed because of my helplessness to change matters. As I progressed through elementary school, however, I became systematically desensitized in an effort to survive in my environment and to adapt to society such as it was.

- Beverly Whelan
Eastlake, OH

Olympic Dove Release
Symbolic but Senseless

The opening ceremony of the 1988 Olympics turned into a stomach-churning event for my family as we watched hundreds of birds—helpless and frightened by noise, smoke, and fire—trying to get out of the stadium after being released in a dramatic gesture. The Olympic flame was lit with dove sitting on the edge of the bowl. Hours after the release, we could see weak birds desperately trying to find their way to freedom. There must be some other way to symbolize the spirit of peace.

- Jutta E. Roett
St. Lauderdale, FL

Tuna Boycott Suggests Speciesist

The current campaign to halt the slaughter of dolphins caught along with tuna in some nets is important, but I think it's missing the mark by a bit. Sardine-like, the tuna caught with poles may help dolphins, but it implies that it's acceptable to kill the fish. Fish suffer, too. Recently a West German court ruled that fish feel pain. Hamen Civil Court Judge Horst Brinkmann based his decision on testimony given by wildlife experts that an increased heart beat and labored breathing by a fish pulled from water would indicate suffering. A fish "shivers" in the air much like a dolphin drowns in water. A vegetarian diet is the least violent way to live, and has medical benefits as well. A peaceful world begins with a peaceful diet.

- Rick Hare
Santa Cruz, CA

Selfish Reasons to Spay/Neuter Needed

As a social worker, I see that traditional spay/neuter messages have so impact on the poor. In order to care about the welfare of animals, one must have reached a fairly high level of psychological, intellectual, cultural, and economic development. It is a waste of money, effort, and time for humane organizations to send out animal welfare messages that cannot be received by the large number of people who cannot get beyond their own immediate needs and desires in order to care about the big picture of animal suffering.

In order to help animals, it is necessary to communicate with their caretakers in terms that are meaningful to them. I have found that I can persuade people to spay and neuter their pets when I stick to specific facts about the animal in front of them. I will say things like the following: 1) If you don't spay your dog or cat, it's only a matter of time before she gets malignant breast tumors, cystitis, or a teat cancer called pyometra. 2) If you don't neuter your dog, he may get prostate infections as well as other tumors, or become aggressive and engage in marking behaviors that will cause damage to your home; or 3) If you don't neuter your cat, he will spray urine around your home, wander off, or get into fights with other male cats in which he can be badly hurt. The point is that those problems will cost money, time, and aggravation, and it is cheaper and easier to have one's pet altered now.

- Irene Machtel
New York, NY

Ending Animal Slavery

One can imagine that if Abraham Lincoln were president of this country today, he might be trying to help the world by freeing the nonhuman animals from bondage. But though he's not with us, we can look back into history and get some ideas from a comparison of present-day animal slavery with the human slavery that ended forever in the U.S. just a little over a century ago. The attitudes and belief systems that justified human slavery to many people have much in common with contemporary views on animals:

- Slave owners believed that human slaves could not happily exist without their help, administration, or control. We now know that was untrue; however, the same idea is applied to animal slaves today.
- Slave owners declared that slavery was approved by God. We hear the same from those who believe humans have a God-given right to exploit animals.
- Human slaves were considered subhuman, or "beneath humans." The same sort of thinking today keeps humans at the top of a theoretical power pyramid— with nonhumans at the bottom.
- Spectacular research "proved" that human slaves were inferior in intelligence to their "masters," and so there was no need to give them equal rights or equal treatment. Differences in intelligence—measured by human standards, of course—are used today to deny rights to nonhumans.
- Not only did attitudes and prejudices sanction the injustices of human slavery, there were also economic incentives and justifications. Human slavery was an industry as well as an institution, with a huge economic structure that supported it.

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January 1989
The ANIMALS' AGENDA
An Interview

with Luke Dommer

BY WAYNE PACELLE

Even without an orange vest wrapped around his torso or a shotgun in hand, Luke Dommer looks the part of a hunter. While that perception suits him well on television talk shows or in the woods, Dommer's got to be a bit insulted by that association. The burly, often controversial, ex-Marine has dedicated his life to degrading hunters and defending animals. His forum has been the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting (CASH), which he founded in 1976. CASH has led many anti-hunting rallies, overturned the U.S. Department of the Interior's ban on demonstrations on the Great Swamp Refuge in New Jersey in 1979, and successfully fended suit to stop hunting in the 52,000-acre Harriman Interstate Park in New York in 1982. Dommer and CASH are now trying to raise money to fight a legal battle against the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) that could wrest power over wildlife from the hunters and restore it to all the people of the state.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to set priorities on animal abuse. But you have made sport hunting your cause. Why? Simply in the course of my thought, I gravitated to the hunting issue. I was looking for the weakest link in the chain of animal and ecological abuse, and, of all types of animal abuse, hunting has several distinguishing weaknesses. First, unlike the far or food issue, there is no market for its product. In addition, the hunters are hypersensitive to attack, and that reaction can be used against them. Finally, besides the cruelty involved, it can be shown that hunting is ecologically and biologically destructive, and is thereby a human welfare issue. On these premises, I decided to create CASH.

Thus far, the movement's efforts to stop hunting have met with significant success. For years, I picked up stray dogs, and it was an endless battle. In that struggle, I learned the valuable lesson that much too often the movement treats effects and not causes. Like the dog and cat issue, our actions to stop hunting are "reactive." The problem we face with hunting is that a minority of people—the hunters and other consumptive wildlife users—have a stronghold on state and Federal wildlife agencies, where wildlife management policy is set. And in our battles to date, we have been fighting the effects of their control.

Take a look at CASH's two-year battle to stop hunting at Harriman State Park. While we were ultimately successful, our "euphoria" was tempered by our recognition that the DEC spread 32 other state parks to hunting during the time of our battle. If you add that up—using the time spent at Harriman Park as a standard—it totals 64 years' worth of fighting and perhaps millions of dollars worth of lawyers and legal fees.

Since I don't have that much time and energy, I've dedicated myself to dismantling that system. CASH, if it is able to muster enough money, will file a lawsuit against the New York DEC to force a re-examination of the existing conservation laws in the state. If we could get such a precedent, the idea of more democratic control of wildlife could spread throughout the United States. To finance our lawsuit, we desperately need support from the movement.

Tell us a little bit more about the lawsuit. The lawsuit is appealing for more than just animal welfare reasons. There is an undeniable constitutional element to it as well. Wildlife has been declared a "national treasure" by the U.S. Supreme Court, and it's a treasure that all of us are supposed to have an equal share in. But nonconsumptive wildlife enthusiasts have been denied an equal say in deciding how wild animals are treated. A mere eight percent of the public—the hunters—control our wildlife heritage.

When you talk about hunters dominating state wildlife agencies to the exclusion of the rest of the public, that's really an issue of democracy. Yes, it is. Let's take California, where, like other states, the wildlife managers' salaries are paid by hunters. The Fish and Game Division asked for public comment on a proposed sport hunt of mountain lions and got 100,000 letters in protest of the hunt and 9,000 in support. Ignoring that public mandate, they instituted a hunt. Fortunately, the Mountain Lion Preservation Fund has effectively used the courts to stop the past two hunts. But that result doesn't make the wildlife agency any less like a banana republic dictatorship.

In order to serve on many of the wildlife boards of these commissions, you must have had a hunting license for a number of years. That's true. Another thing is that many of these Fish and Game agencies have concocted innocuous names for themselves. Some of them are called the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Department of Environmental Protection, or the Department of Natural Resources. The Fish and Game people hide behind these euphemisms.

And another thing, these "wildlife" agencies spend the bulk of their money on game animal projects. They spend it on hunter-landowner relations councils to promote hunting on private land, stock-

Continued on next page
The existing wildlife management system is one of the biggest abusers of animals. Well more than 150 million animals are killed every year by hunters. What animals are hunted?

It seems that any animal desired as a target is hunted. There are large mammals, such as deer, bears, elk, pronghorn antelope, buffalo, mountain lions, and coyote; small mammals, such as squirrels and rabbits; upland birds, such as turkeys, pheasants, quail, and partridge; and migratory birds, such as doves, geese, and ducks. And they shoot these animals not just with shotguns, but with muzzle-loaded weapons, bows and arrows, and even handguns.

We must understand that besides the suffering to individual animals, current wildlife management practices harm wildlife populations as well. Today’s wildlife management philosophy is based on propagating game animal populations for the sole purpose of increasing hunting recreation. For instance, prescribed burning or clearcutting of forests to promote more game animals necessarily results in the decline of animals occupying the previous forest type. This leads to a deterioration of biological diversity.

The list of hunted animals is long. But, the hunters spend most of their public relations efforts talking about one species: white-tailed deer. Specifically, they talk about the need to limit deer “overpopulation” by hunting. You don’t hear them talking about starving bears, ducks, or doves. Why?

Well, you pretty much answered the question. They don’t talk about it because starvation of these animals is not a problem.

But with deer, they justify their activity by creating the impression that there is a problem. The fact is, wildlife managers deliberately inflate deer numbers to hunt them. One way is by manipulating habitat. They cut down mature forests, and the forest that results is one with more low-lying browse, more biomass for the deer. The better the browse, the higher the birthrate, the more deer there are.

Wildlife managers capitalize on a biological principle shared by most animals. When there is a weak year, populations rebound and fill that void. In a dramatic way, hunting reduces competition among survivors for food, space, and mates. This results in decreased competition for available resources and increased fertility. Some studies show that hunted herds can produce two to three times as many fawns as a nonhunted herd.

Also important is the destruction of the natural sex ratio. Deer are born on about a one-to-one ratio, females to males. By killing off thebucks, they establish ratios anywhere from 2 to 15 females to each male. This maximizes the herd, because it is females who bear young, and more male can impregnate any number of females.

It’s an irony, but the states with the most hunting have the biggest deer populations.

That really tells all, doesn’t it? And it’s bound to stay that way too. Today’s modern-day wildlife managers’ job is to increase the demand for hunting by making sure there is an adequate supply of “game animals.”

Is there any truth to their argument that non-hunted deer populations will experience massive mortality from starvation?

You’ll have deer starving in any situation. You get a severe winter and the fawns get snowbound. If you maintain the optimum levels, you increase the number of deer and some will starve. More often than not, there is food scarcity and intense competition, animals will not die of starvation, but live with some degree of undernourishment. Undernourished deer—animals who, incidentally, have reduced fertility because of this condition—are different from starving deer. But the wildlife managers’ public relations people don’t want you to make that distinction. The point is, they have got a prime culpability in creating most of the problems that exist.

I often think of overpopulation as a human construct. The wildlife managers start crying “overpopulation” whenever deer begin to eat something somebody’s ornamental shrubbery, or where there is an increase in deer-carc collisions. But, in a dynamic ecosystem, factors are always at work to regulate populations. Ecological systems always fluctuate, and scarcity and abundance are temporary conditions that are part of a living process.

That’s easily right. Lots of people seem to buy the line that since some predators are gone, deer populations immediately explode with no factors limiting their numbers.

Another aspect of this issue is how hunting affects the long-term health of a population. You think with the way humans hunt, they compare themselves with nonhuman hunters, they’d protect predator populations whenever they live. But again, it seems it’s just the opposite.

Hunters hate predators with a purple passion. On the upper peninsula of Michigan, in Baraga County, I remember when hunters were offering bounties on wolves, with pamphlets saying “save the deer; kill a wolf today;” and changing that the predators were decimating the deer population. Some government agencies hired a botanist, went in there, and deter-

mined that the forest was in an advanced stage of development and that the wolf was the “shortage” of deer in that area. What’s more, the hunters had exterminated wolves from that area ten years prior to that time.

Ted Williams, a former employee of the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Game has said that hunters and wildlife agencies are against the reintroduction and protection of predators because every deer or other game animal killed by a predator is a one more license fee lost to the state.

Absolutely. These people want to convert everything into something that can be converted into paper dollars. Animals have no intrinsic value to them. They are hiding behind this mask of conservation.

I assume you don’t buy their argument that hunters pay for conservation.

That is the biggest lump of nonsense. They are paying for ecological and animal destruction. The money goes back to policing themselves and promoting game animal populations. It doesn’t go to preserve healthy ecosystems where there is biological diversity. The people didn’t pay for national wildlife refuges, and they certainly don’t pay for previous hunting. The animals are primarily supported out of general tax paying funds, these "refuges" have turned into killing grounds for hunters.

Every year, while you hear the hunters express concern for animals, you hear many stories of their killing endangered animals.

Some hunters purposefully shoot bald eagles, and kill others indirectly with the lead shot that they use. You see this every year. Hunters lure grizzlies out of the parks to shoot. And the Safari Club International—rich trophy hunters—has repeatedly tried to get importation permits for the "trophies" of endangered animals from Africa and other faraway lands.

You mentioned that the Safari Club people are sick. Do you really think that many hunters would condone or encourage the killing of animals that they just conditioned to want animal heads hanging in their dens? A lot of hunters are conditioned to youth to kill. But it can’t be denied that many hunters get a real thrill from killing. I’ve seen hunters shooting wolves with a pinshak head, glassy eyes, like they had been injected with some kind of drug. Many hunters in my opinion. They kill beautiful animals, they pick up their heads, they lay rifles across their necks, and say aren’t they gorgeous, aren’t they beautiful? They see beauty in death, not in life. They can invent all the excuses they want, but when you boil it all down, they want to kill something.

If they can’t kill the animals they want, sometimes they’ll kill other animals. In Massachusetts, five hunters returning into an unsuccessful hunt saw a puppy tied outside and opened fire on the animal. In California, two hunters killed a black man on a railroad track, and they admitted in court that they did it because they didn’t get anything else.

In dealing with farm animals, people can take a positive step in their lives by becoming vegetarian. People opposed to animal research can choose cruelty-free products. What can people opposed to hunting do?

Once again, CASH needs financial support for its lawsuit. We need to raise $200,000. People should understand how destructive hunting is to living systems and to ecosystems. Read Rein Bakker's The American Hunting Myth and Cleveland Amory's Man Kind? People should write to their federal representatives to encourage them to support the Refuge Wildlife Protection Act initiated by the House that would ban hunting and trapping on national wildlife refuges. Most important, they can get involved and oppose hunting on the local level. It is the state wildlife agencies where the problem really lies and where hunting is most vulnerable. They might consider direct action, too. Peter Kropotkin astutely said in his The Theory of Revolution, "One audacious act gains more followers than a thousand books which if not translated into action become nothing, mere collectors of dust."

Readers can send donations for the lawsuit and information requests to the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, P.O. Box 43, White Plains, NY 10605.
Amnesty for Animals
Amnesty International (AI) has suffered a setback to its efforts to stop experiments on animals. Twelve years ago, Danish doctors tried to help AI develop methods to detect and prove torture. They demonstrated chemicals to right-ethernalized pigs. The AI International Council stopped it and warned in June, 1976, that "AI should not support or condone medical experimentation involving the use of other human beings or animals.

Israeli SPCA Needs Help
Israel's first SPCA, Israel's only full-time animal shelter, faces a crisis after a TV expose revealed its use of a captive bolt pistol for euthanasia. Smaller sanctuaries and suffering animals are killed via carbon monoxide. Israel's “true friends” quit the SPCA food supply, which was its only food source. Donations are needed. For info, call Dr. Yaacov Boas, SPCA. Tel: (02) 835-2443.

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Blessing the Beasts
An eagle, a lynx, a bear, a bison, a raven and eight other species were blessed at the New York Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The mass was accompanied by David Weters on sax, Eugene Eissen on clarinet, recorded wolves, and whooping whales, the Omega Liturgical Dancers, and many others. St. Francis of Assisi, October 4, 2002, opened World Week of Prayer for Animals. The Rev. Anderson Lange, chaplain to the University of Iowa (Iowa City), and author of Christianity and the Rights of Animals, lectured in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Peterson, Raleigh, and Washington, D.C. Other celebration leaders included Dr. Robert L. Heuck, professor of religious studies at St. John's University, New York, and Dr. David Weters, creator of "The Raven," a musical about the bird's role in Native American culture.

Heavy message in a Baltimore parade.

New Groups
The Animal Rights Coalition, based in New York, held a "parade" for animal rights. The parade, on Saturday, November 21, consisted of hundreds of people marching down the streets of Baltimore with signs and banners. The parade was organized by the Animal Rights Coalition and was supported by several local groups, including the Baltimore Animal League. The parade concluded with a rally at the Baltimore City Hall.

CATALOG PROJECTIONS
When you get a sales catalog that includes offers for products, boycott the company—and tell them why. Many catalogs include a prepaid envelope that could convey a noise of protest as easily as an order. The current Senate jewelry catalog plugs decorative cut-out ornaments for display stands; and noisy cawing birds. According to the catalog, the cut-out products “come from domesticated bird ranches” where they’re said to “live out the same as our American pet birds.”

UC-Berkeley Prof. Russell Selvadori found under fire for cat and primate studies.

Be Careful with Anti-Freeze
Car owners should be careful with anti-freeze, which has a sweet taste, has been found to poison many animals, and can be deadly. It is also a risk to the environment. If you see a spill of antifreeze, call the local animal control agency.

SAY “Boil” to Bullfights
Current Air Canada ads for a flight to Canada feature a bullfighting theme. The ads use images of a bullfighter having fun in the ring. These ads are misleading and unethical. Bullfighters are subjected to extreme stress and injuries, and the use of bullfighters in such an ad is not appropriate.

In the Heat of the Battle:...

UC-Berkeley Prof. Russell Selvadori's findings on the effects of noise on animals, which were published in the journal *Behavioral and Neural Biology*, are under fire. The findings have been criticized for being unethical and for not being replicable. The Berkeley laboratory where the research was conducted is also under scrutiny for its practices.

Dolphins:...
The Joy and Tragedy of PIGS

BY JOHN ROBBINS

Have you ever given a belly rub to a pig? If not, you don’t know the fun you’ve missed. And you probably wouldn’t qualify for the President under Harry Truman’s eligibility test: “No man should be allowed to be President who does not understand hogs.”

If we abide by Truman’s criteria, there’d hardly be any candidates. You see, there is no creature on this earth whose reputation is more undeserved. If it were possible to measure our all-too-common misunderstanding of other animals on some giant scale, our ignorance of this particular animal might well be the greatest of all. This is an animal who, because of our misconceptions, has been abused and violated by people for centuries. But when they aren’t maltreated, pigs are remarkably friendly, forgiving, intelligent, and good-natured creatures.

To call a man or woman a “pig” is considered by most of us to be a grievous insult. This doesn’t say much about these animals, but it says a lot about us. After all, we always accuse others of our own vices. Pigs do not “eat like a pig.” Far from it, they are virtuous gourmets who profoundly enjoy their virtual meals. Pigs never boil their food, but chew it slowly. I’ve watched pigs in natural conditions eat and I’ve watched people eat, and I can tell you the average pig savors food with more discernment than most humans. Pigs will often show their food about with their noses to more fully release the aroma they so thoroughly enjoy. And unlike dogs, horses, and humans, they will never dangerously overeat even when given access to unlimited food.

The sole exception is when they are fed drugs such as Hog-Crave, which the pork industry uses to fatten them faster for slaughter.

The stereotype has it that pigs are insensitive creatures, but they actually have one of the highest measured IQs of all animals—surpassing even dogs. Not only do they clearly identify individuals, but if treated kindly often develop sophisticated and subtle relationships with their human companions. They can be exceedingly social, affectionate, and fun-loving friends.

The naturalist WH. Hudson lived with a wide variety of animals, and reported: “I have a friendly feeling towards pigs generally, and consider them the most intelligent of beasts, not excepting the elephant and the anthropoid ape.... I also like his attitude towards all other creatures, especially man. He is not suspicious, or shrinkingly submissive, like horses, cattle and sheep; not an impatient devil-may-care like the goat; nor hostile like the goose, nor condescending like the cat; nor a flattering parasite like the dog. He views us from a totally different, a sort of democratic, standpoint as fellow-citizens and brothers, and takes it for granted, or granted, that we understand his language, and without servility or insolence he has a natural, pleasant, camaradish-all, or half-fellow-well-met air with us.”

The common image of pigs has it that there is something vile or disgusting about pigs, but in fact the only thing disgusting about pigs is our usual attitude and behavior towards them. They are playful, sensitive, friendly animals with a marvelous curiosity and enthusiasm for life. Sir Walter Scott had a pig as a “pet” and did pop singer James Taylor. In fact, a rapidly increasing number of people are today discovering the pleasure of scratching behind a pig’s ears, and the joy of their friendship. As one young Manhattan executive put it, “You can be yourself with a hog!”

We should get rid of the idea of “pig-mania.” You could chalk it up to a fad, perhaps influenced by Porky Pig of Warner Brothers cartoons, Miss Piggy of Muppet fame, Walter Brooks’ marvellous Freddy the Pig books, or E.B. White’s endearing young pig Wilbur in Charlotte’s Web. But whatever the reason for the increasing interest, the growing number of people who are keeping pigs as companions are learning how out-of-step with reality are the cultural stereotypes.

For example, you may not think it possible but pigs don’t drown. A couple of years back, United Press International carried a photograph and story that was picked up and printed in many of America’s major newspapers. The photo was of Carol Bark, a 11-year-old Mr. Anthony Melton, a pig. What made the story such a sensation was that mother and son were swimming in a Houston, Texas lake when the boy made the mistake of jumping into the water with his pet. The little boy panicked, and began to sink. A pig named Priscilla—whom had been brought to the lake for a swim by her human companion Victoria Herbert—happened to be nearby and evidently felt Anthony’s distress, because she rushed into the water and began to swim towards him. While Anthony’s anguish mother watched avertedly as Priscilla the pig, evidently fully understanding everything that was happening, proceeded to pull the terrified boy safely to shore.

Many other people with pigs as companions discover what fine friends they can be. A North Carolina neurosurgeon, Dr. Raymond Sattler, has had years of keeps pigs who not only can swim with the family, but watch television, go for walks, and enjoy rides in the family station wagon. In Hyde Park, N.Y., Chris and Kelly Johnson take their pigs on picnics and play music to them.

Many of us think of pigs as being uncouth, but this is simply another case of our being wrong. The fact is that these animals will never foul their living space if they can possibly help it. In fact, they are remarkably considerate in this respect, as the David-son family of Green Horizon Farms in upstate New York discovered when they tried to immerse their bulk (“rather pathetically” she noted) in a dog’s water bowl. Realizing how much they wanted to be in water to cool off, she hooked ropes up to shower taps, and before long these tame animals had learned to turn on the water so they could have a shower when they wanted one. Two weeks later, they had also developed the knack of turning it off when finished. Pigs are not obedient creatures, but we shouldn’t hold that against them.
Continued from previous page...

a virgin tract of land, particularly in the springtime, may be likened to Balboa's reaction when first he glimpsed the Pacific. And the ensuing grunt of contentment may be likened to a large body of water erupting through a drain. Once loosed on unsupplied terrain, pigs will methodically excavate units, in the words of one veteran observer, "It looks like a World War I battlefield, trenches and all."

Further testimony to the considerable intelligence of our captive friends comes from animal trainers, who report that pigs are natural performers who can easily be taught to dance, tumble, retrieve, dive, fetch things, and pull carts. These professionals state emphatically, however, that in training pigs, you can only use affection, food, and other rewards. Punishment will get you absolutely nowhere, and will only serve to make the animals intelligent. It seems these creatures will not comply with anything that injures their dignity. They are happy to play with us and be our friends, but only so long as we respect them.

People who have had companion pigs invariably report examples of their unique intelligence. Kent Britt of Washington, D.C., for instance, tells of putting a bolt lock on the door of his confinement cabin to keep his pig from going outside. But it didn't work. When he came home, there was ketchup all over the place, because the pig figured out how to open the lock. Melanie Chruszcz-Bradley of Montgomery County, Md., has closely observed the way pigs go about solving problems, and finds the evidence for their intelligence undeniable. She concludes: "I'm convinced that if pigs had digits like primates, they could be taught to talk in sign language."

Despite the unmistakable intelligence, friendliness, and sensitivity of pigs, the vast majority of people still hold them in low esteem. Even self-proclaimed "pig lovers" often remain fixed in an attitude of profound disrespect towards these sensitive creatures. This became painfully apparent to Sharon Ombke when she joined the Short Snout Society of Greenville, S.C., a few years back. She was appalled to discover that the organization, which was then composed of over 500 people who claimed to love pigs (many of them had bumper stickers "Have you hugged your pig today?"); actually cooked a pig in the ground at one of their meetings, and served pork at their events. This was a group of human beings who gathered together specifically to share their appreciation for these remarkable animals. Yet they evidently felt no compunction about slaughtering one to eat. I am re-

which misguided disdain for these animals is rampant. The corresponding exploitation of them is so pervasive as to seem "natural" to many. Once finds the disrespect everywhere. At the University of Missouri's Sinclair Comparative Medicine Research Unit for the Study of Chronic Diseases and Aging, biochemist Dr. Myron Tumbleson spent many years turning pigs into alcoholics. One poor pig was named "Friendly" because he could be made to consume the equivalent of four quarts of 86 proof vodka a day. At Animal Behavior Enterprises in Hot Springs, Ark., Bob Bailey surgically implanted 25 pounds of "all sorts of things"—wooden blocks, ball bearings, aluminum cylinders—in the abdomens of pigs to see how much they could manage to carry around. Bailey says the military funded these experiments. He doesn't know why. I could guess, but I'd rather not. Other researchers have fed massive quantities of poisons to pigs, battered them at regular intervals with hammers, blotted them with hair removal products, deprived them of sleep, and starved them to death for the supposed benefit of humans.

Modern pig "factories" are huge industrial complexes that may house over 100,000 animals in intensive confinement systems.

"I'm convinced that if pigs had digits like primates, they could be taught to talk in sign language.

minded of Cleveland Amory's penetrating comment: "Man is infinite in his capacity to rationalize his rapacity, especially when it comes to something he wants to eat, or wear." The pork-eating members of the Short Snout Society probably didn't feel they were being hypocritical; they live, as you and I do, in a society in which misguided disdain for these animals is rampant. The corresponding exploitation of them is so pervasive as to seem "natural" to many. One finds the disrespect everywhere. At the University of Missouri's Sinclair Comparative Medicine Research Unit for the Study of Chronic Diseases and Aging, biochemist Dr. Myron Tumbleson spent many years turning pigs into alcoholics. One poor pig was named "Friendly" because he could be made to consume the equivalent of four quarts of 86 proof vodka a day. At Animal Behavior Enterprises in Hot Springs, Ark., Bob Bailey surgically implanted 25 pounds of "all sorts of things"—wooden blocks, ball bearings, aluminum cylinders—in the abdomens of pigs to see how much they could manage to carry around. Bailey says the military funded these experiments. He doesn't know why. I could guess, but I'd rather not. Other researchers have fed massive quantities of poisons to pigs, battered them at regular intervals with hammers, blotted them with hair removal products, deprived them of sleep, and starved them to death for the supposed benefit of humans.

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afforded in these abominations.

Some pig factories are huge industrial complexes with over 100,000 pigs. Here these robust animals, naturally full of honest-hearted zest for life, are trapped in stainless-steel cages so small they can hardly move. If you were to peer inside one of these buildings, you'd see rows upon rows of confined—each standing alone in a narrow, cramped steel stall, and each facing in exactly the same direction like cats in a parking lot. But you'd hardly notice what you saw, because you'd be overwhelmed by the stench. The overpowering ammonia-saturated air of a modern pig factory is something no one ever forgets.

I know what sensitive, intelligent, and friendly critters pigs can be.

Many "modern" pig stalls are built on slatted floors over large pits, into which the urine and feces of the animals fall automatically. Thousands of this type of confinement system are in operation, in spite of the fact that many serious diseases are caused by the toxic gases (ammonia, methane, and hydrogen sulfide) that the excreta produce, and which rise from the pits and become trapped inside the building.

Pigs have a highly developed sense of smell, and their noses are—in a natural setting—capable of detecting the scents of many kinds of edible roots, even when those roots are still underground. In today's pig factories, however, they breathe night and day and the stench is unbearable. The hundreds of pigs whose stalls are in the same building. No matter how much they might want to get away, no matter how hard they might try, there is no escape.

The type of pig farm I'm describing is, unfortunately, not an isolated bad example. It's "par for the course." In a couple of years ago, the owner of Lehman Farms of Straffon, Ill., was chosen Illinois Pork All-American by the National Pork Producers Council and the Illinois Agricultural Association. On this farm are 2,000 pigs, each individually fed, milked, and housed in a spacious barn. The pigs are clean, healthy, and content. Yet the conditions on this farm are far from normal. The pigs are fed a diet of corn, hay, and molasses, and the hogs are constantly monitored by the farm staff. The pigs are kept in clean, spacious pens, and the barn is well-ventilated. The pigs are happy and content. The pigs are fed a healthy diet, and the farm staff is well-trained and knowledgeable. The pigs are well-cared for, and the farm is a model of modern pig farming. This is the type of pig farm I'm describing, and it's not an isolated example. It's "par for the course."
suffering the pigs endure from damaged feet and legs is not figured into the financial equations that determine policy. Of course, the pig producers are aware that the animals are crippled by the flooring, but they are not disabused. As Dr. Newman Steel and Steelbreeder explain, "The slatted floor seems to have more merit than disadvantage. The floor will usually be slaughtered before serious deformity sets in." In other words, the pigs are usually slaughtered before their deformities become so extreme as to affect the price their flesh will fetch.

The producer summarized industry thinking rather colorfully: "We don't get paid for producing animals with good posture around here. We get paid by the pound."

It is difficult for us to fathom the suffering of pigs today. They are crammed into cages in which they can hardly move, and are forced against their natures to stand in their own waste. Their sensitive noses are continuously assaulted by the smell of excrement from thousands of other pigs. They are fed ad libitum, which features their own manure, and is always filled with drugs. Their skulls are deformed, and their legs buckle under the unnatural weight for which they have been bred and fed.

I have looked into their eyes, and I can tell you it's a terrifying sight. These sensitive, intelligent creatures have been literally driven mad. In their frustration, the animals will often try to bite each other's tails. The fact that the factory manager's solution is as simple as it is cruel--to off their tails to prevent the temptation, while doing nothing at all about the conditions that cause it in the first place--this practice, known in the trade as "tail-docking," is now standard operating procedure in the U.S. pig industry--despite the fact that it causes severe pain to the animals and drives them even crazier. I asked one pig farmer about tail-docking, and he replied, somewhat angrily, "We have to do it or the pigs just hate us! And I suppose we could probably do without tail-docking if we gave the pigs more room. But the pigs just don't do that."

I have seen many more depredations he makes in the building.... Federal tax policy has, for years, enabled gigantic producers, many of whom are the same men of massive financial support in non-agricultural businesses, to make huge profits through tax shelters when they invest in the buildings and installations of total confinement farming. This is a hard lesson to estimate the contribution of Federal tax subsidies and research programs in promoting the growth of factory farming. AWI reports, "Tax supported agricultural research paved the way for hog factories by developing the drugs and medications for which the confinement of large numbers of hogs would be impossible. Tax supported land grant research, often leveraged by small, strategically designed hog industry grants, continues to work on hog factory technology and generic redesign of the hog."

The gigantic corporate-owned factory farms are particularly good at taking advantage of Federal tax legislation.

An example is Tyson Farms, the single largest producer of pork in the U.S. This monstrous enterprise also pro...
Continued from previous page
discuss more poorly than any other American outfit. Yet Tyson Farms
defines itself for tax purposes as a "family farm," thus making itself eligi-
ble for generous tax breaks intended
to protect small family operations.

**Environmental burdens**

Today's pig factories take a toll on the environment which matches
the pain they cause the animals. In a week, a relatively small operation
with 2,000 pigs will produce close to
30 tons of manure and more than that
of urine. One producer I spoke with,
complained to me that his neighbors
"got all hysterical about the stench." Having appreciated the unique bou-
quet permeating the place, I know why.

People whose unfortunate plight is to
live in the vicinity of modern hog
factories are also generally displaced
with the huge quantities of excrement
that end up polluting the waterways
and water tables. And it's hard for
anyone to be delighted with the waste
of food involved in growing grain for
feedlot pigs. Pigs are unable to digest
forage or roughage, and so directly
compete with humans for food. The
amount of grain fed to U.S. hogs could
be itself easily feed every single
human being who will die of starva-
ton our planet this year.

**Signs of change bode well for pigs**

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of
concerned individuals, however,
there are some signs of change.
The second largest pork producer in
the nation, National Farms, was
blocked in early 1988 from its attempt to
build a $60 million hog confinement
facility in South Dakota. In spite of its
desire for the business development,
South Dakotans foresaw the massive
environmental problems implicit in
corporate-owned pig factories, and re-
soundingly said, "No thank you!"

July 1, 1987 marked the first time a
pork producer was thrown out of
business for cruelty to animals.
In Morning View, Ky., Judge William
Schmaedick ordered pig farmer Paul
Frisch to shut down his operation or
else spend 90 days in jail. This inspir-
ing case may set a precedent for
future farm animal abuse cases. Cur-
rently, though, a level of pig abuse is
considered normal in factory farms
that would be profoundly unsettling to
any sensitive person who saw what
was going on.

For those who respect life and want
our society to embody compassion for
all creatures, it's tempting to become
discouraged. But I see grounds for
hope. If you heat a large volume of
water from 35 degrees to 210 degrees
Fahrenheit, there will be no visible
changes. The amount of energy
needed to raise the water a total of 175
degrees may be enormous, but the eye
will not be able to perceive the dif-
ference. But then a comparatively
small amount of energy can heat the
water over the threshold of 212
degrees, and drastic changes will be
apparent. The water will boil and turn
to steam.

The volume of mistreatment to pigs
in today's pork factories is indeed
enormous, and we may not see ap-
plicable results for while. But there
are many fine people working to
change attitudes and generate the
conditions necessary for the much-needed
transition to materialize. Though the
results of this work may not be im-
mediately perceptible, a different
ethical climate is being created and the
culture is moving towards compassion.
I take solace in knowing that we are
not as alone as we may sometimes
feel. We are connected in the great
web of life to all who live. Just as we
can feel, and must respond to, the
pains of others, so can we draw on
their strength.

Above: Approximately 80 million
pigs are killed for food each year
in the U.S. alone. It is estimated
that another 24 million die of in-
jury and disease prior to slaughter.

As a result of this, the movement
towards compassion is growing.
John Robbins is author of Diet for a New
America.

Recommended reading on factory
farming: Diet for a New America by
John Robbins, available from The
ANIMALS' AGENDA, for $10.95 plus
$2.00 shipping and handling; Animal
Experiments: The Experiment That Failed, available from The ANIMALS'
AGENDA for $9.95 plus $2.00 shipping
and handling; and Factory Farming: The
Experiment That Failed, available for
$3.00 from the Animal Welfare In-
stitute, P.O. Box 5650, Washington, D.C.
20007.

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in support of the animals.
The heartbreakings images of the trapped gray whales desperately gasping for breath has once again raised the melody cry to "save the whales." Even Presi-
dent Reagan lent his voice in support of the approximately 200,000 persons who took to the streets to free the whales from the ice. The vicissitudes of nature are often beyond human control. Sadly, no amount of public agony would have staved off the ice fences had the vexing efforts failed. We are a similar global concern could make the difference in saving thousands of whales from an even more agonizing death—gunned down by exploding-dip
harpoons fired from Japanese, Nor-
degian, and Icelandic whaling ships. The President quite rightly raised his voice to
save those gray whales, but conserva-
tions' pleas for the U.S. government to enforce existing legislation that could end the slaughter of whales fell on deaf ears during his administration. The Commerce Department is em-
ployed in a battle with the whale hunters that diminishes the effectiveness of the Inter-
national Whaling Commission (IWC), yet it took a lawsuit, backed by the en-
vironmental and animal protection com-
munities, and the threat of another suit before Commerce levied even superficial sanctions against Japan.

Despite the IWC moratorium on com-
mmercial whaling, a handful of nations led by Japan and Iceland have flouted the ban; they continue killing whales under the guise of scientific research. They employ the same ships with the same crew, and the results of "research whal-
ing" and commercial whaling are identi-
cal: thousands of tons of whale meat to stop the fish markets and sushii bars of Japan. The Commerce Department can either cut the whaling nation's quota for catching U.S.-origin fish or slash the amount of fish whaling nations can export to the U.S. This latter action would prove the deterrent: the U.S. is Iceland's largest market for more than $200 million worth of Icelandic fish, and Japan exports $500 million of seafood products to our shores every year. Unfortunately, both the Commerce Department and President Reagan were too reluctant to take either measure. When the IWC moratorium on com-
mmercial whaling took effect in 1985, Japan refused to recognize the ban and con-
tinued its commercial whaling operations, killing more than 1,000 whales in 1986 alone. The U.S. then cut a deal: if Japan would adhere to the moratorium, the U.S. would forgo sanctioning Japan during a three-year phaseout of Japanese whaling. But within a week of the culmina-
tion of what was supposed to have been Japan's final Antarctic whale hunt, the Japanese government an-
nounced an off-season research hunt to kill nearly 1,000 whales. The United States had been duped.

In February of 1988, Greenpeace and other organizations launched a boycott campaign to pressure large buyers of Icelandic seafood to find alternative sources for fish. This grassroots effort has in turn accomplished what the Reagan admin-
istration was empowered to do, but refused to—to getting Iceland to stop whal-
ing by hitting its fish industry. Cancellations of multimillion-dollar fish contracts by Jerrico Inc. (parent of Long John Silver's), a major German supermarket franchise, and the City of Boston, prompted a representative to Iceland's na-
tional parliament to introduce a motion calling on the government to end the beag research whaling. The incredible rescue efforts conducted by an unusual alliance of Eskimo whales, oil companies, U.S. and Soviet officials, and conservationists shows that their desire to save the whales transcends political, social, economic, and interna-
tional differences. Yet if the United States does not act, the fate of endangered whales will be sealed as tightly as any Alaskan pack ice.

CAUTION: The Animal Rights Reporter May Be Listening

The Animal Rights Reporter: a publication that recently made a sensational debut, is not the pro-animal organization's name suggests. It is written for people opposed to the animal rights movement—vivisectors, furriers, and others who are look-
ing for information to use against us. The first edition is full of gossip and mis-
information, much of it probably provided by people who thought they were talking into a tape recorder. If you receive a copy, tell the editor Vivienne Lebhey or S.D. Westermarck, or any of their scribes, who are most probably being animal activists. Westermarck himself has been spotted at humane conferences and demonstrations.

Anti-Fur Demonstrations Began Early This Season

Threatened by animal rights groups, the U.S. retail fur industry budgeted $150 million for this season, three times as much as 10 years ago, expected to gross sales of $1.8 billion. As much as $9 million is directed against the fashion fur industry. An industry ad budget has grown 20 percent relative to sales since 1979, but a Rolling Stone poll show 30 million Americans now favor fur, four times as many as in 1984.

The bad public image received by the department stores merchants' industry fashion jour-
nal Accessories to ban fur ads. Still, fur advertisers are trying to throw the weight around. "I wish to draw your attention to the attached [unfavorable] press arti-
gest that you remember this negative attitude ... when it comes time to place your advertising."

Some fur industry efforts have already backfired. After Rocky Mountain Humane Society (RMHS) director Robin Daxbury ripped fur on a KUVO radio talk show, for invading a shoot. The Rocky Mountain News ran a story to his speed. RMHS "very quickly seemed to realize [RMHS] to violence in a letter to show host Ken Hamilton. Rivel refused to go on the air, however, even alone, with no open phone lines. On legal advice, Rivel finally concurred in writing that RMHS "has a very good reputation...has always used peaceful means."

The violence came from furriers at a recent fur show in the Boulder, Colo. Holiday Inn. John Minch of Chris Furs, a pushy demonstrator Deliah Cooper and photographer Ron McCarthy of the Rocky Mountain News, as other photographers stopped away. Police quickly arrested Rivel, an allegedly incor-
porating an officer. The protest involved about 25 members of Speak Out for Animals, the Colorado University animal rights group, RMHS, and Earth First!

Furriers have been struggling for favorable publicity. York Furrier of Elmhurst, Ill., gave a beaver jacket with the "Buck's" of America baseball team's annual Fur Appreciation Day raffle. But winners Nancy and Nathan Weingartner tried to get rid of it. "We don't do furs," said the couple. In New York, an ad photographer was fired for handling anti-fur information to a New York Times reporter. She then got her own rushes back from a reporter who had just testify the furs off herself and quit. So reporters are, the industry is now linking furs with children, in the style of tested toilet paper ads. While a baby played with a fur coat in an ad placed by Los Angeles fashion designer Donna Karen, seven-
year-old Seth Miller, Edmonton, Alta., fell into a leghold trap in a mid-city park. He escaped serious injury.

Furriers are also pushed directly to the young. A mink coat for Barrie dolls ap-
ppeared this past Christmas season, priced at $96. Protest to Mable Inc., 5100 Rosecrans Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250. After similar protests, Columbia Ice Cream Company made fur ads for Cabbage Patch Kids in 1984, taking action against furriers using the Cabbage Patch name.

In Detail Inc., a mail-order boudoir accessories dealer, promotes pelts to or-
nament bedspreads and toilet seat covers. Send protests to Box 7249, Milwaukee, WI 53201. American Express, through its Travel Related Services catalog, intro-
duced hamster-lined coats. The company offers "no-fur" ticket jackets. Cardmembers should protest, or cancel their cards.

Fur production is as nasty as ever. En-
forced by the $1.40 price of scarce lynx pelts, fur farmers have begun raising lynx in captivity. The cats are skinned at nine to 12 months of age. Recommended cage length is 54 inches, but the average adult lynx is 41 inches long. Potential breeders sell for $1500 a pair.

Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney wrote to a constituent who ob-
jected to the leghold trap, "Our govern-
ment has identified that these traps are totally unsatisfactory!" Still, with an elec-
tion coming, Mulroney's government is expected to block the European Parliament's effort to label leghold-trapped fur. As the debate peaked, 272 Parliament members signed a statement urging passage. Blasting "the strategy of using indigenous peoples as a public relations front for the fur industry," they noted that Natives earn seven percent of Canadian fur revenue.

The Shame Of Fur Campaign Packet, from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), includes details about trapping economics and fur ranching. There's still time to use it this winter. After Christmas, furriers' top sales come the week before Valentine's Day, when they dump overstock. To order their anti-fur materials, write HSUS, 2100 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20057.
ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Game Commission Arms Florida Youths

Perched in a tree before dawn, Michael Hall anxiously waited for a chance to kill his first deer. His unspoken expectations probably did not think to look up in the tree, since it was the first day of the hunting season. What's more, if they had, they might not have thought a ten-year-old boy to be much of a threat. But the fourteen-year-old Hall was balancing a three-shot gun. When the first doe walked past, Hall sent a misfired blast of buckshot her direction. The force of the blast knocked Hall out of the tree. After sustaining nothing but a bruised ego, Hall scrambled back up the tree. Upon seeing another deer, he again took aim and pulled the trigger. This time, not only did he stay in the tree, but he got his deer.

On that October 13th morning, Hall was the first child to register a kill in the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission's special youth deer hunt. More than 30 kids, ranging from eight to 15 years old, were out to kill deer at the Camp Blanding National Guard Installation in Starke, Fla. It was this state-sponsored hunt and three subsequent weekend hunts to take place at Camp Blanding and another National Guard site, Camp Andrews (where kids could also kill wild hogs), that animal rights activists had set their sights on stopping.

In the week prior to the first hunt, Cleveland Amory, founder and president of the Fund for Animals, wrote to Florida's Republican Governor Bob Martinez at a Chamber of Commerce meeting and demanded he stop the hunt. "Have you no shame? Have you no pity?" a stoned-faced Amory said an angry Amory. "It is high time for a brave governor to know what he is doing with this," Stonefaced throughout Martinez's presentation, Martinez did not call off the hunt. In fact, he later offered his support to the hunt as a means of fostering a closer relationship between parents and their children.

But it was the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, not Martinez, that was principally under attack. Notoriously known as a body unaccountable to anyone but hunters, trappers, and anglers, the Commission had also recently drawn fire for its plan to start hunting for alligators, who would be killed by bullet but by blinding instrument or spear. But the youth hunt had drawn even greater attention to the policies of the Commission. During one radio broadcast in south Florida, Cleveland Amory likened the Commission to a "junta" and claimed he was "taking on some eight-year-old killing Colonel Bristley the Commission's Executive Director) in the backside with buckshot." That same week, Friends of Animals held a demonstration as a regional office of the Commission near Miami. Florida school system officials also addressed the issue. Dade School Superintendent Joseph Fernandez commented, "I'm outraged that we could be encouraging our students to use guns."

Like other state wildlife agencies across the country, the Florida Commission has seen a thinning in the ranks of hunters. In order to boost their numbers, the Commission has tried to encourage younger hunters to hunt, using the special hunts as a means of re-investing. Advertised by the Commission throughout Florida, the hunt was free to children, and included lessons on the use of firearms and the care of wildlife. An adult had to accompany each child, but could not carry or discharge a firearm. On the day of the hunt, Commission officials delivered kids to and from mapped-out hunting sites and provided live stands from which they could hunt. In addition, if a child killed a deer, Commission officers picked up the carcass and gutted it for the child.

In the four weekend hunts, children killed 17 deer and two wild hogs. Some had rather easy kills. One 13-year-old was positioned in his tree stand when a spike-antlered deer walked within 12 feet of him. He let go with three blasts from his 20-gauge shotgun and watched "the deer go behind some bushes to bleed to death." Other children were not so successful, such as nine-year-old Matthew Wallace. Asked when he was out there, he said, "I don't know. The police say you like the great outdoors and you like to hunt, right?" his father Larry offered, "Right," said the boy with his head down.

Local and national pro-animal organizations are continuing their efforts to stop next year's youth hunts. Letters of protest should go to Rob Martinez, Governor of Florida, State Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida. With the 1981 session, Florida residents should write to their state and Federal legislators and request that they intervene; and within Florida, the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission can be reached at 1-800-323-2066.

—Wayne Pacelle
ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Culture for Animals

Each year in Spoleto, Italy, a festival is held that brings together the finest in art, music, and theatre presentations. In the same cultural tradition, a Spoleto Festival for the Arts has been held annually for the last two decades in Charlotte, South Carolina. Now, the North Carolina Triangle of Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill is following this tradition by offering what Attorney for Animal Rights Gary Fracquez called "The Spoleto Festival for the Animals." Triangle Animal Awareness, held from September 30 through October 13, brought together a variety of pro-vegetarian activists and thinkers.

Cat Skull-Crushing Experiments Halted

Amid widespread controversy and criticism from medical professionals and animal rights activists, a 14-year, Federally-funded University of Cincinnati research project that involved crushing the skulls of cats has come to an end. (The experiments were reported by The ANIMALS' AGENDA in News Shapers, July/August 1998.) According to university spokesperson Eulalia Bingham, the research was headed by Dr. Patricia Torbern, who will no longer perform the experiments on cats. Instead, future work will focus on tissue studies. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has stated that it does not foresee any future financial support for this project, which has already used approximately $1 million in Federal funds.

The studies involved delivering blows powered by a .22 caliber cartridge to the heads of cats in an effort to simulate human head trauma. Cats who survived their injuries were kept alive for several days with no food or water. Then, while still alive, their heads were immersed in liquid nitrogen in order to freeze their brains, which were then dissected.

The "cat crash" experiments came under increased scrutiny last summer when the Cincinnati-based organization Animal Rights Community brought them to the attention of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), a nationwide network of doctors who promote preventive medicine and alternative to animal research. PCRM contacted more than 20 neurosurgeons, emergency medicine physicians, and other specialists to evaluate Dr. Torbern's work. The physicians unanimously condemned the research on both scientific and ethical grounds.

Dr. Christopher Smith, an emergency medical doctor practicing in Los Angeles, called the experiments "a series of non-results, clinically-irrelevant observations, and bizarre and inhumane protocols." Other doctors voiced concerns about the lack of standardization and controls in the experiments, the effect of anesthesia on experimental results, and the difficulty of extrapolating information obtained from research on cats to humans. Dr. Herbert Backow, a retired anesthesiologist from New York, said, "The studies reflect unfavorably on the entire system that made them possible for more than a decade—the peer review committees, the NIH, the University of Cincinnati, and the reviewers and editors of journals who published this work."

Fueled by these evaluations, local activists launched a series of protests. The controversy generated national news coverage, and resulted in a flood of negative correspondence to the university and the NIH. Last September, in response to the negative publicity, the university defended the cat studies as offering "hope for limiting destructive effects of head trauma and for restoring injured individuals to productive lives." Less than two months later, however, the experiments were called off.

"This is a clear victory for the animal rights community," said Neal Barnard, M.D., chair of PCRM. "It sends a clear message that society will not tolerate this kind of cruelty, and that non-animal study methods can be used—researchers would take the time to investigate their availability."

Clay Taliaferro in "Reflected Innocence," a dance portraying the broken relationship between humans and animals.

In its third year, the North Carolina festival has been made possible by the work of the Culture and Animals Foundation (CAF) in cooperation with local and statewide animal advocacy organizations. The series of events comprising the festival was designed to promote positive concern for animals through intellectual and artistic endeavors. CAF founder and president Tom Regan believes such activities can help the animal rights movement "focus on new tools for activism—drama, poetry, theater, painting."

New York artist Sue Coe presented a slide show on "The Role of the Artist in the Struggle for Social Justice" in Raleigh City Hall's Contemporary Art Gallery, where more than 40 of her social-justice paintings—over half of which portray injustice to animals—were on exhibit. The presentation attracted a standing-room only crowd, and brought her message of animal rights to a mostly new audience.

Co's paintings depict political, economic, and physical violence. Of special concern was a series of graphite drawings of the life of a factory farm pig. At North Carolina State University, Dr. Andrew Linzey, British theologian and author of The Right of Animals, presented a paper on "Reverence, Responsibility and Rights" to a large academic crowd. In his presentation, Rulin on the Foundation on Ecological Trends spoke on the patrolling of animals and continued the theme of sacred respect for life versus utilitarian productivity. And at the festival's gourmet vegetarian banquet, John Robbins, author of Diet for a New America, critiqued the meat industry for an assembly of vegans, vegetarians, and meat-eaters.

A modern music and dance program about animals featured dancer-choreographer Clay Taliaferro and composer Brigette Lucienne Robinson. Their powerful piece, "Reflected Innocence," portrayed the falling apart of human and nonhuman animals and the possible re-formation of that relationship. "Storming Heaven," Michael Jordan's multimedia rock opera about an evangelical singer with a deep commitment to animal suffering, was produced by a 12-member Canadian cast and crew. Jordan is a performance artist who has worked in a variety of mediums. One of her latest works, paintings condemning the slaughter of whales hangs in Ottawa's National Gallery.

The entire "Spoleto" series brought together scholars, artists, and activists from 13 states. Each of the presentations opened new doors, attracting new people to a concern for animals, and recharged the batteries of veteran activists. For information on future CAF projects, write to 1050 Eden Croft Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612.

—Marly Cornell

GOOD NEWS FOR CHIMPANZES

As we go to press, the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service has announced a preliminary finding on a petition submitted by animal activists concerning the status of the chimpanzees. States that have populations of chimpanzees, including the pigmy chimpanzees should be reclassified as endangered species. Following publication in the Federal Register of this proposed rule, which has been scheduled for the week of November 26th, there will be a 45-day period for public comment.

Letters are needed expressing support for the reclassification of chimpanzees as endangered species, and also requesting that the government extend its protection to chimpanzees as well. Address comments to: Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, 18th and C Streets NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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THE ANIMALS' AGENDA
JANUARY 1999

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA
FARM president Alex Hershfield discusses the establishment of a commission on farm animals with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Robert Melland.

**ANIMAL NEWSLINE**

**World Veggies, Farm Animals & Gandhi's Birthday**

Representatives of the Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM) occupied the offices of Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng on October 5, to press their proposal for a Federal Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Commission. The actions were accompanied by a meeting with Robert Melland, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Inspection Services.

The sit-in came one day after World Farm Animals Day, two days after World Vegetarian Day and Gandhi's birthday. Observances for these special days included a memorial service led by Fund for Animals' Cleveland Amory and ASPCA executive director John Kulberg outside the United Nations building, a banquet held by the Triangle Vegetarian Society in Raleigh, N.C., a five-hour funeral procession to the Denver Livestock Exchange Building, organized by the Rocky Mountain Humane Society; a demonstration outside the National Livestock and Meat Board in Chicago, organized by Trans Species Unlimited; and leafleting outside fast-food franchises in St. Louis, New Orleans, and San Francisco.

The Animal Liberation Front struck a militant note by spray-painting slogans and breaking windows of San Francisco butcher shops and a taxidermy studio.

Tennessee governor Ned McWherter, a cattle rancher, refused a request from the Tennessee Vegetarian Society (TVS) to have the state officially proclaim World Vegetarian Day. Instead, the Tennessee Beef Industry Council celebrated October 1 as Beef Day, commencing Beef Month, with half-time ceremonies at Neyland Stadium in Knoxville. TVS countered by hiring planes to circle the stadium with banners reading, "Today is World Vegetarian Day," "Vegetarianism - A Real Healthy Ideal," and "A Meatless Meal Is A Real Deal!"

— Merritt Clifton

**IS THERE AN "ISM" IN THEIR FUTURE?**

If nothing changes, the young woman's future must be bleak by 2000, she says. An estimated 200,000 young women will be affected by hereditary factors. "If you do not change your lifestyle in the next 20 years, you will die," she says. She predicts that the situation in the United States will change little over the next generation because attitudes toward sex and drugs and the accessibility to birth control will not change.

Despite these predictions, she believes that the solution lies in education. "We need to educate people," she says. "The only way to change attitudes is through education." She has been working on a program that includes educational materials and training programs for health care professionalsilter than the United States. She believes that the best way to change attitudes is through education. She has been working on a program that includes educational materials and training programs for health care professionals.

**No matter what the excuse, animal research is inexcusable.**

Spincision shows itself in many forms. The worst of these is vivisection. Animal experimentation claims tens of millions of lives each year from induced diseases, psychological torture, toxic substances, burning, baking, and surgery, only with anesthesia. Only a small fraction of these are related to the kinds of biomedical investigation cited by animal researchers to excuse all experimentation.

Spincision drains our resources. The cost of government funding for animal research is enormous. Yet alternative methods have grown to be better, faster, and cheaper. More scientists should spend their time developing alternatives.

Spincision, like other bad "isms," calls forth our worst instincts. In fact, the more we learn about animal research, and spincision, the more inexcusable it becomes.

— Merritt Clifton

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ANGOLA: MOZAMBIQUE

Ivory for Arms

According to reports in the Western press, including a Sept. 2 item in Johannesburg's The Weekly Mail, a 5-year-old war effort against Angola's illegal ivory trade may even now be largely financed through the poaching and trade of elephants. This practice, led by Josué Savimbi and his UNITA, rebel forces in Angola, largely sup-

ported by South Africa, have killed for the past 5 years at least 70,000 elephants to pay for their guerrilla operation. The figure is an estimate for the number of animals killed over the past 5 years. The conservation group also claims that another major ivory market exists in South Africa. The elephant population has declined from approximately 50,000 animals to a mere 10,000 today—a 70 per-

cent drop in less than a decade. However, the most disturbing aspect of the issue is that a poacher has been killed in Zimbabwe. The Weekly Mail, and The ANIMALS' Agenda correspondents.

IRELAND

Blood Sports Used as Tourism Bait

Although blood sports enjoy the support of only a tiny and ever-

diminishing group of people, Ireland's National Tourism Board is currently attempting to promote the country as a legitimate and

effective alternative for tourists on a budget. In keeping with this objective, a special brochure boasting "live hunting Tours," "deer hunting, and other hunting is now being circulating in the U.S.

All three activities have long been condemned by humanit-

arians as indefensible, but the local tourism industry appears to be making little effort to attract visitors. A report submitted to the Irish government's Tourism Board in 1987 indicate that such blood sports are the only means of supporting the local economy.

IRISH BARREN LANDS

Ireland's barren lands have long been considered as a major obstacle to the development of the country's tourism industry. However, recent developments have shown that the Irish government is willing to consider alternative forms of tourism that could provide an economic boost to the region.

JOHN PLAGUER

A director of the Irish Council Against Blood Sports (ICABS), thinks that Americans are the most susceptible to being sold on the benefits of Irish tourism. He points out that the fact that the tourist board is ex-

tremely sensitive to the opinions of potential American visitors, he thinks it might be valuable for Irish tourism developers and U.S. activists to send a short letter or postcard in care of his organiza-

tion, demanding a reversal of the tourism board's policy. ICABS plans to produce the correspondence received at a large press con-

ference in a week or so, and it over to the tourist board and the Dublin offices of the Board.

NORTH AMERICA

Seal Hunters Perpetuate Atrocities

The news, confirmed by an eyewitness, that some hunters are using skinning seals as a major sector in Norway, whose hunters and fishermen have long argued that seal hunting is essential to their survival. The fishermen complain that seals deplete fish stocks—one of Norway's main exports—and damage nets.

The controversial report was compiled by Odd Lindberg, a writer and photographer ap-

pointed by the government as an assistant inspector. Lindberg noted last spring on a hunting boat near the coast of Greenland. He claims that many seals were not only skinned alive, but "dispatched in deliberately sadistic ways."

Since my report I have received at least 100 telephone threats, some saying that they are going to tear my limbs off," said Lindberg. Ironically, the fisheries ministry, which employed Lindberg to pre-

pare the report, has refused to ac-

cept or carry any amendmen
to. It may be that Lindberg has seen things that he hasn't seen," said Trond Paulsen, a minister in the fisheries ministry.

Despite officials' eagerness to acquiesce, Lindberg's expose has drawn widespread sympathy for the seals, already in distress after a summer in which many animals were killed by a mysterious virus. In the 1970s, environmentalists campaigned against the seal hunt in both Norway and Canada. The effort, which in-

cluded a visit by a French businessman Brigitte Bardot to the killing grounds, resulted in 1980 in a ban by the European Community on imports of seal skins. The ban broke the back of the sealing in-

dustry, but Canada has since spearheaded a counter-campaign designed to revive sealing. Indeed, numerous loopholes in the ban on the killing of "whitecoat" seal pups allow for many seals to be "harvested" every season.

Lindberg was one of three in-
spectors assigned last year in or-

der that the killings were car-

ried out "as humanely as possible." The animals are rarely checked to see if they have been fatly shot and are often alive when shot at.

The Weekly Mail, and The ANIMALS' Agenda correspondents.

Continued on next page
**Jamaica**

**Animal Hospital Nearing Bankruptcy**

Animal hospital and shelters around the world, especially in poorer nations, live under constant financial stress due to the relatively small monetary assistance assigned to the task of coping humanely with the ever-increasing tide of domestic animals. This, added to the de-pressing realities many employees must discharge (such as euthanizing numerous healthy animals), leads to a high turnover rate. “Burnout” is common among shelter staff.

In Jamaica, given the nation’s staggering economic problems, animal hospital and shelter facilities are stretched to the breaking point. The island’s first clinic to treat companion animals was founded in 1991, but it wasn’t until 1995 that the organization—run by the Jamaican Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (JSCPA)—could get around to purchasing, through public subscription, its first ambulance.

Eventually, the JSCPA expanded and improved its operations to include five branches besides the initial headquarters on Kingston’s Spanish Town Road. Today, however, only a couple of branches still remain operational, while the hospital’s fleet of three ambulances has been whittled down to one, and this can barely cope with the demand for its services. Yet there is nowhere else that an average person—especially the indigent—can take sick animals to be treated; only at the JSCPA are consultations nominal or free for those who can’t afford to pay. (A fee of $5 to $7 a day is charged for animals who need to remain at the hospital while undergoing treatment.)

All types of animals are treated at the hospital—pugs, dachshunds, cats, dogs, ferrets, birds. These are 40 kennels, two places for keeping cats, and a few stalls to hold larger animals. The hospital receives a small subsidy from the government, but this barely covers its basic expenses. In an average year, upwards of 1,000 animals are treated at the main facility, while numbers may vary from 600 to 500. In addition, between 100 and 500 stray cats are picked up by police and hospital personnel, while the JSCPA’s ambulance manages to collect from these to five animals a day, adding up to approximately 1,500 cats, more than 600 dogs, and an unspecified number of other animals assisted by the organization.

Due to the inadequacy of its operating budget, the hospital building is in urgent need of repairs. In addition, some of the equipment, such as an outdated X-ray machine, has had to be moved to another location in order to avoid imminent theft. Despite the problems, the staff of 15 is determined to carry on work, with the main objective of treating all animals in need. Most Jamaicans can’t afford to go to a private veterinarian, so the JSCPA’s services are sought after by many, especially those unable to pay for the treatment of their pets.

**Sweden**

**A Victory for Farm Animals**

The Swedish welfare state, long renowned for its general scope, is extending its reach to a new frontier: the barnyard. Thus began a recent front-page article in the country’s largest daily newspaper: "For 15 years, 49 readers of Sweden’s efforts to implement a ‘rights program’ for farm animals that could well serve as the most stringent in the world.

The Swedish Social Democratic government is apparently keeping its word to phase in an animal welfare law first enacted in July of 1978. Under the law, animals are to be freed from biogenic manipulations introduced to make the animals generate faster with specific "desirable" traits, and released from extremely crowded conditions. The intensive method, which causes widespread disease and stress, requires the routine administration of huge quantities of hormones and antibiotics. In the U.S. more antibiotics are consumed by animals than by the human population.

Most of the act’s provisions—such as spring, cattle grazing rights, and feeding pigs from teething—will be phased in gradually in order to give farmers time to adapt to the new standards and, moneys allowed to provide the new accommodations.

The Swedish law represents the cutting edge of an animal defense movement that has spread from its small start in other parts of Western Europe, too. Indeed, on Jan. 1, the European Community banned the importation of meat from animals raised with synthetic hormones. The IC is also likely to bar the sale of a genetically engineered hormone—bovine somatotropin—designed to increase the output of milk and hansen growth.

In recent actions the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has fined lab animal dealers Michael and Diane Wohhobosky of LaGrange, Ohio $20,000 for selling rabbits, harrister, and guinea pigs without a license; collected $2,500 in civil penalties from Ohio State University for Columbus for mistreatment of lab animals, with $2,500 more suspended; penalized two Tennessee Walking Home owners for sorng, and suspended bear exhibitor Walter Naghi’s license for five years. Improperly cared, Naghi’s bears injured children in both Jacksonville, Fla., and Mansfield, Ohio. The OSL settlement allows associate professor Martin Olmстed of the University of Massachusetts to resume the controversial, knee injury experiments with rabbits and monkeys that brought the USDA, the IC, and the courts.

**News Shorts**

- **Help from the circus?**

With under 1,000 pandas left in the wild, China cut off loans to foreign zoos last fall, but sent a performing panda named Cong Cong on tour with the national circus. $1.5 million ticket is in the works toward preserving panda habitat.

- **The Mt. Graham red or spruce squirrel, down to approximately 200 individuals, is urgently imperiled by an observational complex under construction by the University of Arizona.**

- **Eight years after protest began over cramped conditions at Water town, NY’s Thompson Park Zoo, the city has doubled the cost of their renovation plan to $5 million.**

- **Few squirrel monkeys died of heat exhaustion at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) last summer, while left unattended in quarantine.**

- **Vermont declined to prosecute a man who was arrested recently for selling a stolen dog to animal dealer Rosario Parrado, but Los Angeles felt 73 theft and conspiracy charges against Barbara Ruggiero, Rick Spencer, and Ralph Jacobson, who collected animals offered "free to a good home" and then sold them to labs.**

- **The stiped bass population has dropped 9% in 20 years in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento Delta, from 6 million to 600,000, due to pollution and upstream fresh-water diversion projects.**

- **Despite plans to build a new lion compound, the kingly beasts are still kept in cages at the Thompson Park Zoo in Watertown, NY.**
NEWS SHORTS

- Costa del Sol, Calif. spends $1,000 a month to poison rabbits who roam near its retirement town of 2,000. It has declared war on the rabbits.

- Doubleday has published "How to Kill Your Girlfriends' Cat". It is a supposedly funny book by Rob Reis, a.k.a. Dr. Robert Daphine. Many cat-loving humorists have been outraged by the inclusion of Dr. Daphine in a book that they feel is cruel and inappropriate.

- Hurricane Gilbert obliterated the only known breeding habitat of the highly endangered Kemp's Ridley sea turtles. Biologists don't know if adult females will find a new nesting spot next year.

- Eighty hunters shot a doe a pile of trash in the 18,000-acre Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., where hunting had been banned since 1970. Officials said the hunt was to prevent overpopulation. Apparently, 121 deer from the herd of 1,000 were killed by cars last year on the Academy grounds. Nothing twice as long as the hunt in court, the Rocky Mountain Humane Society (RMHS) filed protests instead. Judged by Lou Dobbs, head of CASH (the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting), RMHS executive director Robin Dobbs and two other demonstrators were arrested when they couldn't change a flat tire fast enough to leave the Academy within the 5 minutes allowed by police. Dobbs argues that the deer are not overgrazing, and that the hunt is being planned as an annual event. Colorado big-game license sales jumped 25 percent in 1988, as hunters blazed deer in record numbers.

- Four hundred African cichlid fish were killed to make a suit comic book. John Carlin, a wildlife conservationist, has been told the Nov. '88 issue of Playboy.

- Former San Diego Sea World employee Suzie Siebern revealed that the park photographed "hundreds" of birds in 1980 who were breeding with its collection. General curator Jim Antrim indicated that the birds had been caught and sold, but that the photographs were not newsworthy. Sea World parks now use trout-fishing ponds, stocked to overcrowd.

- As traveling circuses go bust, their animals are often discarded with the tinos. Last summer Virginia and Maryland confiscated some circus animals, including an elephant, a tiger, and a rhinoceros who were left in trucks abandoned by Wonder Zoo. In Florida, the USDA cited Richard Garden for improperly housing eight tigers, two hippopotamuses, a zebra, an elephant, and a llama in Myakka City. Garden also owns the Sterling Brothers and Tyrell Tyler circuses, which have been in trouble in Maryland and New York for fraud and violating public safety. In Washington, a lion, a monkey, a turtle, two tropical birds, two dogs, two baby goats, and a sheep all died in African Safari's inadequate winter quarters. Turkeys were rescued when the landfill reported they hadn't been fed in nine months. Owners Dennis and Penny Williams eventually asked the Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and Primary Primates to help them find better homes for their monkeys and chimpanzees. Many of whom had been acquired from evil situations. One former Safari animal, a Capuchin monkey missing her right hand and of her tail, recently gave birth in Primarily Primates' Texas headquarters.

- The devastating floods sweeping Bangladesh are caused largely by overgrazing livestock in Nepal and India, says Tom Elhman, director of Bangladesh projects for the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Desertification of the Sahara, Sudan, parts of the Amazon basin, and much of Central America has also been caused by the expanding beef industry—but business is great at McDonald's.

- A game bird farmer Daniel MacMaster of Allendale, Md., faces charges in connection with the release of 1,750 wild pigeons. The birds were destinations released for the "sport" of hunting, were found abandoned in his truck without food or water.

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ANIMALS. Do they matter?

The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the world's largest museum of American art, has acquired an extremely rare and valuable gift. The museum purchased 50 copies of the January 1989 issue of the Animals' Agenda, a newsletter dedicated to the protection of animals. The issue includes an article by renowned animal rights activist Dr. Robert Daphine, as well as numerous other articles and stories on animal welfare issues. The museum hopes to display the issue as part of its permanent collection, which includes works by some of the world's most famous artists. This acquisition is a significant step in the museum's efforts to raise awareness about animal rights and to promote the importance of protecting all living creatures. With this acquisition, the Whitney Museum of American Art is proving its commitment to supporting the arts and to celebrating the beauty and diversity of the animal kingdom.
Lethal poisons kill many species.

- The New York City Parks Department spreads the rodenticide Warfarin, Quintox, Talon G, and Maki to kill rats. “The work is unsavory,” report Environmental Protection Agency data shows that all four poisons are lethal to most small mammals, as well as birds and amphibians.

- A proposed ban on the Draize test passed the New Jersey Senate last fall, was weakened by amendment in the Assembly, and was killed by 26 abstentions without winning. Assembly approval 30-24, (41 votes were needed for passage).

- The National Marine Mammal Laboratory tests about 80 juvenile northern fur seals per year who struggle to breathe after becoming entangled in plastic nets, and sends them back to sea—still entangled—to see how long before they starve, drown, or die of infection. Northern fur seals are an officially recognized depleted species. Protest to your Senators and Congressional Reps.

- California hunting license sales dropped 44 percent from 1970 to 1986. To make up the loss of income, the state wildlife department will charge all comers $2 a day or $10 a year to visit nine reserves, beginning this month. “I am curious about what the fees really will be used for,” said Wilderness Society director Patricia Schifferle, suspecting they might be “used for increasing the hunting stock” rather than to benefit all species. The California wildlife department has been catching flak for allowing elk and bear hunting on Louisiana Peak (LP) timberland, at fancy prices: elk hunters paid LP $750 each last year. The Department for Preservation of the Take Elk has sued the state agency over allegedly fraudulent population estimates, issued to rationalize hunting.

- The Northwest Animal Rights Network opened the Christmas season with a 20-minute protest against ivory jewelry sold at the Bon Marche department store in Seattle. Ivory comes from either walrus or elephant tusks.

- At least 42 bears, moose, elk, and mule deer, along with 1,200 domestic sheep, were confirmed dead by wardens and firefighters after last summer’s catastrophic forest fires in and around Yellowstone National Park. The flames annihilated smaller animals in many areas, while fish suffocated in overfished streams. Officials are now debating whether to feed animals this winter, compensating for their loss of habitat at the possible cost of eroding their foraging instinct.

- The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled recently that ranchers have no right to kill endangered species in defense of their stock. Montana rancher Richard Christy was fined $2,500 for shooting a grizzly bear after allegedly losing 84 sheep to grizzlies in a single month.

- Over 70,000 U.S. horses were eliminated as breeding stock since 1986. Most endured multi-day trips in double-deck trailers. Horses on top decimate those below, who fall and can’t rise from slippery floors. Some trucks freight that problem by not feeding or watering the horses. After cruelly slaughtering the stalls in the early 1980s, New York and Connecticut cracked down on horse shippers. The Michigan Humane Society and Toronto Humane Society are pressing for similar crackdowns. Shippers have responded by rerouting horses through Lacolle, Quebec, a town famed for a 19th century horse factory (Lacolle means “the glue” in French). Canadian Customs at Lacolle admitted about 50 horses per year from 1980 to 1986, but the traffic doubled in 1997. Major slaughterhouses at Sarria, Ontario and Ste. Marie du Lac, Quebec, sell horsemeat to Europe, where it fetches five times the U.S. price. Over 15,000 horses being fattened for the European horsemeat market starred in Falls County, Tex., during the winter of 1984. Dealers had trucked them there from across the U.S., neglecting their health in transit. Despite repeated pleas for coverage of the infamous case, the magazine Texas Monthly didn’t even mention it.

- About 300,000 Texas, 250,000 Pennsylvania, and 15,000 Quebecers hunt deer with bow-and-arrow, up from nearby none 10 years ago. Arrows rarely kill quickly. Explains Pennsylvania Game Commission spokesman Ted Godshall, “The arrow simply cuts and the deer dies from hemorrhaging,” issue 30 to 90 of 30 minutes of agony. About one archer in a dozen kills and recovers a deer; crippled deer with lingering wounds are frequently shot later during rifle season.

- In Yellville, Ark., Live turkeys, incapable of flight, were hauled from an airplane in October, according to the Associated Humane Societies. This is an annual ritual; we don’t know when—until then, Worthington, Minn. held its 16th annual turkey race.

- The Animal Rights Agenda. Some companies will even match contributions from spouses, retirees and directors.

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The Animal Rights Agenda. Some companies will even match contributions from spouses, retirees and directors.

NEWS SHORTS
- Gail Magley, 60, horses down 3,000 to 3,000 hogs a day at Dry Lake, Nev., to keep them from cooking alive in their triple-deck rail cars. The hogs are tran- sited from the middle to the Sherman John slaughterhouse in Vernon, Calif.

- While measures to ban the veal crate were stalled in committee, 32 California State Assembly members wrote to California Farm Bureau manager James Eller, advising him of "our intention to boycott 'male-led' veal until the use of veal crates ends." They also advised that they were "also asking our constituents and all Californians not to buy 'male-led' veal."

- British Columbia fined Washington dairy giant Henry Mark $7,000, probably less than the cost of his hunting trips—for illegally shooting a grizzly bear and possessing parts of five protected species. East was previously convicted of killing an undeserved bald eagle.

- White Sox pitcher Barry Jones sports boots made from elephant and rhino hide. Inform the team that these animals are endangered and that Jones is setting a bad example by writing on them. At Comiskey Park, Chicago, IL 60616.

- The National Marine Mammal Laboratory tests about 80 juvenile northern fur seals per year who struggle to breathe after becoming entangled in plastic nets, and sends them back to sea—all entangled—to see how long before they starve, drown, or die of infection. Northern fur seals are an officially recognized depleted species. Protest to your Senators and Congressional Reps.

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a revised policy for acute toxicology testing in September. The EPA recognized that "appropriate information for safety evaluation can be developed using fewer animals than had been envisioned in the past, and urges industry to begin submitting data obtained with alternate methods which use fewer animals on a routine basis."

- While no one was killed, a truck slammed into a school bus in a two-vehicle accident near the city of Williams, Arizona, on October 30. The driver of the school bus, a 21-year-old man, was hospitalized with minor injuries. The accident occurred on the outskirts of Williams, and the cause of the crash is not yet known. It is not clear if any other vehicles were involved in the accident. The Williams Police Department is investigating the incident. The school bus was carrying children who were on their way to school. The accident caused traffic congestion in the area.

- The Animal Rights Network opened the Christmas season with a 20-minute protest against ivory jewelry sold at the Bon Marche department store in Seattle. Ivory comes from either walrus or elephant tusks. It is illegal to import ivory into the United States, and the sale of ivory is prohibited by law.

- At least 42 bears, moose, elk, and mule deer, along with 1,200 domestic sheep, were confirmed dead by wardens and firefighters after last summer’s catastrophic forest fires in and around Yellowstone National Park. The flames annihilated smaller animals in many areas, while fish suffocated in overfished streams. Officials are now debating whether to feed animals this winter, compensating for their loss of habitat at the possible cost of eroding their foraging instinct. It is illegal to feed wildlife in national parks.

- The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled recently that ranchers have no right to kill endangered species in defense of their stock. Montana rancher Richard Christy was fined $2,500 for shooting a grizzly bear after allegedly losing 84 sheep to grizzlies in a single month.

- California hunting license sales dropped 44 percent from 1970 to 1986. To make up the loss of income, the state wildlife department will charge all comers $2 a day or $10 a year to visit nine reserves, beginning this month. "I am curious about what the fees really will be used for," said Wilderness Society director Patricia Schifferle, suspecting they might be "used for increasing the hunting stock" rather than to benefit all species. It is illegal to use public funds for private gain.

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The Path to Anti-Vivisection

BY GEORGE CASY AND DAIN STICKELL

Vivisection is our movement's toughest challenge. Although it remains the cause célèbre of many animal rights groups, vivisection is the area in which we have probably had the most influence in convincing the public of our position. There are a number of reasons for this.

Vivisection is the most ethically complex issue, involving apparently significant conflicts of interest between humans and nonhumans. While most explorers of animals find it difficult to argue persuasively that their practices substantially benefit humans, much less save human lives, the vivisector's specious but constant refrain--"our child or your dog"--has tapped into the public's insecurities and galvanized many of them in support of animal research. Such inroads as we have made are limited, for the most part, to arguing opposition to objectionable laboratory conditions, rather than to laboratory research itself.

Vivisection is also the most factually complex issue. Our opponents, billing themselves as "medical experts," regularly exploit this complexity to obscure the facts with scientific jargon and pseudoscientific assurances about the indispensable role played by animal research in major human health advances. Part of the blame also falls on us as a movement. Whereas the public gets a clear and unequivocal message on animal research from the鳗鱼 movements, it often gets an ambiguous and contradictory message from animal rights activists. In order to have a chance to develop a consistent and lucid position and apply that position to our concrete campaign efforts.

On a more positive note, there is good and bad news to report from the anti-vivisection front. Let me begin with the bad news: the movement that has allegedly been fighting vivisection is dead. It is dead because we committed collective suicide. The pulling of the trigger began when the leaders of the movement decided to challenge the biomedical enterprise and its powerful allies with the idiotic slogan of "animal rights." The construction of the movement continued when the "animal rights" movement stubbornly refused to confront the animal researchers with medical and scientific facts, the only weapons that can destroy once and for all the medical and scientific myths the vivisectors have been perpetuating for decades without any meaningful opposition.

The "animal rights" people do much worse than refusing to use the medical and scientific facts that actually exist; they actually agree with the vivisectors; the vivisectors that at least some animal research has been "beneficial" to humankind. Their opposition is on moral and philosophical grounds that, of course, have nothing to do with the issue of vivisection. This was made abundantly clear one more time in Robert White's devastating article that appeared in Reader's Digest (March 1988).

The "animal rights" people spend most of their time conveying messages not only to their members and supporters but also to the general public. The direct message is that animal research and testing work--at least to some extent. This position is patently defendable by the overwhelming majority of the "animal rights" organizations. Even Kim Bartlett, editor of The ANIMALS' AGENDA, stated in a letter dated September 23, 1986: "Certainly, animal experimentation is bad science, and it has undoubtedly retarded biomedical progress. But that is not the same as saying that research should be stopped from it. The ANIMALS' AGENDA has not taken an official position on the scientific fraud argument; our position is ethical." (See also December 1988/First/Thru.)

The indirect message is even more suicidal: "animal rights" people will risk the health of human beings in order to "liberate" animals. They actually agree with the vivisectors; the vivisectors that at least some animal research has been "beneficial" to humankind. Their opposition is on moral and philosophical grounds that, of course, have nothing to do with the issue of vivisection. This was made abundantly clear one more time in Robert White's devastating article that appeared in Reader's Digest (March 1988).

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The Path to Anti-Vivisection

After decades of struggle to make animal rights respectable, we are advised to scuttle this moral foundation for a narrow focus on "scientific fraud."

The Reusch/Burgos position is that all animal experimentation is scientific fraud in the strictest sense: that no animal experiment has ever contributed anything of benefit to any human being, and that it is completely impossible to extrapolate anything from nonhumans to humans. Obviously, such an extreme position flies in the face of common sense and has led to ludicrous self-contradictions in Reusch/Burgos' claim that you can't learn anything about a human from a dog because dogs walk on four legs and their blood flows horizontally while humans walk on two legs and their blood flows vertically. Obviously, a large part of our concern for nonhumans derives precisely from the fact that they are capable of suffering in much the same ways that we do, and that they react in similar ways to stimuli. If I burn my dog's foot in a bucket of acid, he will whimper and show evidence of pain just as we would if we were burned, just as I would. And he will probably limp afterwards, just as I would. The question is not whether we can learn something from burning the dog in this way but whether we learn anything, and—above all—whether it is right or wrong to do so. Animal research is scientifically worthless most of the time and morally wrong all of the time.

Reusch and Burgos brand anyone who acknowledges plain facts like these as traitors or "infiltrators" and have compiled a hit list of those who are on the "wrong side" of the vivisection issue—which includes some of the most sincere abolitionists in the movement. To acknowledge that vivisection has yielded some benefits for humans is not to condone it, any more than it is as one movement friend incisively put it—to acknowledge that meat has protein and nutrients is to condone eating animals. Equally absurd and detrimental is the Reusch/Burgos position that those who have ever vivisected animals should not be permitted in the movement, no matter how sincere their conversion or how substantial their talents. Isn't our goal as a movement to make converts for compassion? Are we also to exclude everyone from the movement who has ever eaten an animal? Perhaps most detrimental of all is the Reusch/Burgos prohibition against representing oneself as an animal rights advocate when fighting vivisection. After decades of struggle to make the concept and values of animal rights respectable and to build a broad-based moral position that consistently upholds the rights of all living creatures (humans included), we are advised to scuttle this moral foundation for a narrow focus on "scientific fraud." Because vivisection is an extremely complex issue and because animal rights activists are often judged by animal humanists in certain respects to the perpetrators of these crimes. Unless we oppose selfishness and greed as the root causes of all exploitation, we can never hope to end the world of the institutionalized systems of harm so many humans and nonhumans in the world today.

The Reusch/Burgos stand on factual abolitionism constitutes not rationalism but fanaticism—an conditioned blindness to the complexities of the issue and intolerance for other approaches that share the same goals. The net result of the blanket equa-

tion of vivisection and scientific fraud is to propel us into a debate with vivisectors about their best-case scenarios, where they have the strongest claim to human benefit. This distorts attention from the very aim that the factual abolitionists presumably are seeking: to prove that vivisection is scientifically useless. Instead of focusing on the myriad examples of animal research that are clearly of no benefit whatsoever to humans or that are positive

detrimental to humans, we are forced to defend an extreme and preposterous claim which can only succeed in sabotaging the credibility we might otherwise have in concretely demonstrating—in scientific terms—how much of animal research is totally useless. Reusch and Burgos have performed a great service for the anti-vivisection movement in document-
ing and bringing to public attention the numerous incidences of fraudulent and useless research on animals. But they betray that movement in adopting an indefensible position and in calling those who deal more objectively with the facts as those who work to create more fundamental and lasting changes in society's attitudes toward animals.

The writers are the founders and directors of Trans-Species Unlimited.

"Animal Rights": The Suicide of a Movement

The good news is that you do not have to commit suicide. You can choose to join the real anti-vivisection movement and expose the corrupt ways of those who seek to keep the efforts of millions of well-intentioned people paralyzed. We must get rid of the slogan "animal rights," force the infiltrators out from their positions of leadership, and use their millions of dollars to expose the massive damage to human health as a result of vivisection.

It should be painfully evident to anyone...that the suicidal slogan of "animal rights" has been a godsend for the vivisectors and the beholden media whose only job consists of pitting tiny sick babies against dirty rats and an occasional dog or cat. The constant bombardment of the public with the news of medical "advances" and "breakthroughs" that vivisection has accomplished two very important goals: besides making the "animal rights" people look like a bunch of anti-human fools, it has also managed to strengthen the vivisectionists' main cliches by repeating all the medical and scientific lies that nobody in the "animal rights" movement is able or willing to research with.

The "animal rights" people seem to suffer from an incurable case of masochism. Despite having been soundly defeated countless times by allowing the researchers to play the oldest and most puerile tricks in the book over and over again, "animal rights" leaders go back for more and more as if they wanted to make sure that the possibilities of abolishing vivisection are completely and permanently destroyed.

The attitude on the part of the largest and wealthiest organizations to stick to morality, ethics, and philosophy, and to de-

The writer is founder and director of Students United Protecting Pain-

ful Research Experiments on Sentient Subjects.

January 1980

The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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JANUARY 1980
Towards a Green World

BY CHARLES ALLEN Dews

The high point of the First National Green Gathering at Amherst, Massachusetts in 1987 was to be the Fourth of July picnic on the green at Hampshire College. There would be no fireworks. There would be barbecues. That was our first mistake.

I arrived on the green in a festive "Texas" t-shirt and shorts--ready for a down-home Fourth of July, even in New England. Lots of people had beat me to the lunch, including a vociferous contingency of Greens who called themselves animal liberationists. They were all standing just outside the fence that kept the paid from the unpaid, near the large charcoal braziers above which turned golden brown chicken parts thickly covered with brick red barbeque sauce. The smell of burning mesquite reminded me of home.

The same aroma apparently disgusted some of the animal liberationists. They were waving signs, shouting at the barbecuers, and demanding that "Greens should treat animals as equals!" The barbecuers tried to coax them into the fenced picnic area by pointing out that some of the barbecued bounty was really tofu masquerading as cubit chicken. "There's nothing for everyone," they offered. Indeed, Greens are dedicated to diversity.

The demonstrators were undaunted. Their demonstration was unclimbed. Things were heating up to a boiling point just as I arrived at the spill. I chose tofu, happily, it being one of my favorite foods. The memory of mesquite-flavored barbecued tofu from Mother's Cafe in Austin was still fresh on my mind, even though I'd been away from Mother's for a whole long week.

The demonstrators' placards depicting chickens being clubbed over the head were not the only Greens fancied before their feast. Some of the testier carnivores were actually trying to shout down the demonstrators. I moved over to a group sitting in a circle, quietly discussing the "mess in Texas." There was no consensus. There would be no consensus. At the very best, we agreed to disagree.

The animal liberation issue has divided Greens from the very beginning of their political movement. Rudolf Bahro, one of the founders of the Green Party in Western Germany, left the Party in August when Greens in parliament voted (in return for others' votes on another issue, no doubt) to allow two more years of vivisection while Ger- mans debated the alternatives. Bahro insisted that "if vivisection is to be wrong in two years, it was wrong to- day, and it must be opposed now."

Still, the elected Greens compromised and Bahro left the Party in a huff, causing a rift that has yet to heal. Like any bird of any other color, Greens have two wings: the "realists"--their adherents--who themselves are elected to public office and occasionally make compromises with the powers that be; while the fundis ("fundamentalists"--also coined by the realists) insist upon ideological consistency. I have to admit that my bias is toward the fundis. However, I admire people who have the tenacity to work in the political area. I don't have the patience. I know that both positions have strengths and weaknesses. It takes two wings to fly.

In the U.S., our odd, so-called political reality is a political arrangement that exclusively exerts on itself (as usual) through third parties, for the Repubuliacian or the Demopublican). Unlike its counterpart in Western Ger- many, the Green Party U.S.A. is a political fiction. At the same time, it is a powerful force that tries to establish its own political system. Unlike the Greens in the U.S., they are just beginning to confront the reason both statements about the U.S. political system are true: that one of the key Green values is decentralism. It is unlikely the national Republicans will ever have to face a Green candidate for president. They can breathe a sigh of relief at the national level at least. But Republicans are already facing Greens at the local level, and they are not doing as well as they would like. In some communities, they are actually losing elections to Greens.

In Austin, Texas, Greens are the majority on the seven-member city council. Two are elected outright as Greens, and the other three have been easily converted by our hard work and good political and economic sense. They also know that around 30,000 voters in Austin share our views. So far, we have been able to convince our council to stop construction of 345 kilowatt power lines that would have marched across our precious and environmentally sensitive Hill Country.

The Greens are, by and large, people who hold a substantively different (not new) worldview that goes beyond the presently accepted one.

Sweeping mutation rays out 30 meters in every direction, while serving as an umbilicus for yet another ugly subur- ban growth. It's not easy to stop "progress." As usual, the money mongers were all for it. We mounted a phone-calling campaign, and used public access television to reach our constituency. To get mainstream media coverage, we carried a hundred fluorescent tubes out to a site where already existing lines crossed a peaceful country road. As evening settled around us, we raised the tubes up toward the high wire and they lit up for the television cameras. People watching thoughtfully wondered if we were crazy. If we and their kids might do the same.

Austin Greens have worked with other groups to get the city out of the South Texas Nuclear Project. Some of our citizens were bamboozled by the "low cheap to meter" rhetoric back in the old days, and went in with other cities to build one of the costest power plants in the history of the glorious make industry. It still isn't finished, in terms of construction, but it may be finished in a political sense--some people think the silos would make a dandy oil reservoir.

Last summer we convinced the city council to place a moratorium on a waste-to-energy plant. It supposedly would convert trash to energy and toxic residue--so toxic that the air- borne effluent from the plant would be within legal toxicity limits only for the first day of operation. Not impressed with a one-day guarantee, Greens became the first proponents of this informal boon doodge. One of our working groups wrote a cogent white paper for the council and orchestrated an informed lobbying effort. In mid- January, the city council voted five to two to kill the plant. Now Austin will expand its already extensive recycling program. Our air will be clean for a while longer at least, and some clever entrepreneurs will clean up our trash.

Both the mine and the mass burn plant were stopped when we formed coalitions with other groups that had become convinced of the dangers and costs involved. Coalitions are the key to successful Green politics, as they are to all politics (although my friends are not always aware of this)."
Greener than Before

At the first national convention of the U.S. Greens in 1967, one of the major conflicts arose over dietary ethics. But at the 1988 major Green event, the Sept. 30 to Oct. 2 regional "sneaking the West" gathering south of San Francisco, food was all vegetarian—mostly vegan. The kitchen staff at the YMCA camp was unable to handle the unexpectedly large crowd in a flexible way (registration was closed when attendance seriously exceeded the camp's carrying capacity), so most of the 850 people were fed by the Green Cafe, which was originally intended to play only a supplemental role in feeding the group. It was staffed primarily by Food Not Bombs, a national group whose San Francisco affiliates were recently arrested for feeding vegetarian meals to the homeless in Golden Gate Park without a permit. Local animal rights activists were among the rescuers.

People came to the gathering mostly from the western states, some from abroad. There was a frustratingly wide range of presentations, lightened by music, dancing, and comedy. Marri Khodri of Feminists for Animal Rights (FAR) did a workshop on ecofeminism and animal rights. FAR and the Animal Rights Connection co-hosted a table at the gathering's Alternative Fair and left leaflets in the food lines with information about veganism. Except for one leaflet being rather testily told by an organizer that such "pestering" wasn't permitted, there were no food conflicts or other clashes at the very successful meeting.

—Billy Ray Boyd

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- Community-based economics
- Postpartisan values
- Respect for diversity
- Global responsibility
- Future focus/Sustainability

continued from previous page

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New Year's Resolutions For Saving Our Planet

1. I will work to encourage a lower birth rate. Human population is now at 5.1 billion and growing by one person every 11 seconds in the U.S. 5 percent of the world's population uses 30 percent of its nonrenewable resources. I will help inform people that for each fewer-than-two-child family, the Earth will have more of a chance to heal from the damage we inflict on her.

2. I will cut down on the food chain, eliminating or at least reducing animal products. This will mean more food available for more people, less water and topsoil wasted, and fewer trees destroyed to make grazing lands for cattle and other livestock animals.

3. I will work to preserve open space in my community and around the world and protect the wild animals that make this space their home. I will plan recycled newspapers, glass, paper, cans, and compost scraps of fruits, vegetables, and other organic materials. This will save trees, add new topsoil, and save land now used for garbage landfills.

4. I will stop using harmful products such as dangerous pesticides and herbicides that kill living creatures and pollute the environment. Instead I will investigate ways to solve problems that do not damage our fragile ecosystem.

5. I will not wear or use products made from animals or tested on animals. I will tell others how frightening clothing causes pain and robs wild animals of their lives, and will purchase only cruelty-free cleaners and toiletries made without dangerous chemicals.

6. I will find ways to save energy, and will use public transportation whenever possible and drive a smaller, more fuel-efficient car. This will help preserve precious resources and reduce pollution.

7. For a few moments each day I will meditate about these things. As I meditate I will find new ways to help heal the planet and reach out to others so that they, too, can help. If we begin now, our fragile planet may regain her health, and all of us in her living mantle may regain our health and well-being.

—Esther Meckler

Compassionate Entrepreneurs

Making a living, just about everybody has to do it, and some enterprising folks are finding a morality to the marketplace by starting companies that promote reverence for life. These are the compassionate entrepreneurs.

Arthur Schwartz is a handsome young Bostonian who looks like a prosperous businessman of the 80's. His business is Aeosp Unltd., a mail-order source of leather-free accessories. A vegetarian since 1972, Arthur remembers "marching up and down Boston and Cambridge looking for a pair of canvas shoes in the color I wanted. From then on, I wanted to have a store." After a decade of gestation, Aeosp Unltd. came into being. "I became aware of mail order as a relatively inexpensive way to start a venture. And with this specialized market, I'm not just serving the local community as I would with a retail store; I'm serving vegetarians all over the country." Aeosp offers attractive, high-quality shoes, handbags, attache cases, and other products in a variety of natural and synthetic materials—American made wherever possible. The men's belts are made to order for the company and there are plans to develop the custom lines further.

A free catalog is available by writing P.O. Box 315, N. Cambridge, MA 02141.

Celia Perles is an animal rights activist who took the vegetarian plunge nine years ago. The change affected not only her family but her preschool/ kindergarten in Allentown, Pa., that she owns and operates: "The custom lines feature. The school went vegetarian! I didn't lose any students and we still have a waiting list. Only about ten percent of the children are vegetarian, but parents know we serve only natural, vegetarian food. We also have humane education." The annual Thanksgiving celebration features tofu cutlets with stuffing and street potato casserole, and pupil families contributed vegetarian recipes for the school's fund-raising cookbook. The entire school participated. "Zoe LaGree loves baking when she was growing up and started selling her home-made bread when she was in college. The seed was then planted for Zois Do, a vegan, macrobiotic bakery in Kansas City, Mo. The company supplies bread and cookies to natural foods stores in four states and provides a full line of vegetarian clean meats, salads, and dressings for local health food outlets. Having mastered the somewhat difficult art of creating really good eggless pastries, Zoe explains, 'The secret is using high quality, flavorful oils; and for cookies, handling the dough very gently so you don't overwork the flour. With the right day-to-liquid ingredients ratio, it works beautifully and you don't need eggs.' The business recently expanded into a partnership with longtime macrobiotic baker Larry Bethel. This gives Zoe more time with her two children, Zachary—New Year's baby last year—and Jackie who'll be five on the Fourth of July. No wonder this bakery makes special cookies and non-dairy carob candies for every holiday. Stacey Thompson recently turned her Karma Free Cleaning into a partnership as well. Fellow animal activists Niki Romeo has joined the erstwhile one-woman concern that prides itself on top-notch house cleaning without using products that exploit animals. 'I use some Golden Lotus and products like that," says Stacey, "but I basically use grocery store things so my clients will get them, too." Spic-and-span secrets from this Greenwich Village firm include mixing Murphy's Oil Soap and mineral oil in a water-diluted solution to polish furniture, using Benami for toilet bowls and scouring, and Stacey's formula for de-gritting an oven: 'First soak paper towels in hot water and put those on the floor of the oven; then squat on plain ammonia to loosen things, and use a scrub brush and Benami to get everything off. It works as well as oven cleaner.'

Stacey cleaned for a Manhattan agency before going freelance in 1987. "I almost quit cleaning because I thought I was causing people to buy more of the animal-tested stuff. Then I realized I could do it this way. My boyfriend came up with the name, and it's been wonderful to go from working for someone else to working like I am now." Each first-time customer gets information on routinely used tests and cruelty-free products. "It's not a big deal to most of them, but I'm an animal rights cleaner and I think people have an animal rights clientele or not."
**Fossey's Crusade**

**Woman in the Mists**

By Farley Mowat

Warner Books (665 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10036), 1987
380 pages, hardcover, $19.95

Farley Mowat's biography of Dian Fossey, murdered by an unknown assailant in December 1985, focuses on Fossey as a woman highly identified with mountain gorillas. Quoting extensively from Fossey's writings, Mowat, author of such classics as *Silex of Stalag XII and Never Cry Wolf*, attempts to present an objective picture, rather than a psychological profile of Fossey. Hence, he doesn't attempt to defend or criticize her many excesses, evaluate her work's scientific merit, or judge the validity of her concept of active conservation. Instead, he presents her as one who saw tremendous merit, beauty, and value in mountain animals, and, in so doing, became keenly aware of the deficiencies of humans. Fossey thus emerges as a proto-animal activist, with the same hard edges and contradictions possessed by other pioneers of animal rights.

Present-day animal advocates will find much with which to identify in Mowat's portrait of Fossey. Female champions of animal rights will recognize Dian's mother's critical question: "Why can't you be like other girls?" But for Fossey, there seemed no choice but to work to help animals. Throughout her life, she related to animals suffering to animal suffering. While working as an occupational therapist, she saw disabled children as "wild animals penned up with no hope of escape...[and] a tremendous amount of care and kindness..." Most animal rightsists would view animals as "things"..."most..." and "living entities to be understood and cherished on the emotional level as well as with the intellect..." not anthropocentrically "serving for the entertainment of that most primitive—human sapiens". Fossey experienced "her" gorillas in human terms, without fundamental interspecies distinction, much the same as humans experience their companion dogs and cats. She refers to Ntire, an old male gorilla, as "the good old man." She wishes that "[Dian], Uncle Bert, Macho, and Kesti [gorillas murdered by poachers and buried near Dian's cabin] were still on this earth propagating their kind [because] they so much belong here instead of us humans." Dian's murder and mutilation, in particular, shattered her: "From that dreadful moment on, I was determined to live within an insulated world of my own..."

Dian's repeated losses of her animal friends at the hands of humans, combined with her reverence for life ("When you realize the value of life, you dwell...and preserve the future"), predictably resulted in her self-imposed isolation from fellow humans and, in Mowat's opinion, the absence, in her relationships with humans, of the very "softness, tranquility and trust conveyed by Macho's eyes..." that will never diminish." She continually wrote of her Rwandan camp, Karisoke, as "the only place where I belong... where I'm truly happy..." Dian's sense of mission is conveyed by the Tissapla monk who introduced her to Catholicism, who wrote prophetically when he learned of her plan to go to Africa: "She will never be satisfied with...ordinary things...She requires some truly stupendous accomplishment...She will never be perfectly satisfied until she is the saint she longs to be..." Indeed, toward the end of her life, in a reflective mood at night, Fossey listened to the chimps calling and the barks of the bush and skulk...voices I hear every night," and realized "...they were still here because I was here to help protect them."

Despite Dian's scientific work, degrees, and honors, she never forgot the potential of scientific inquiry to abuse the very animals studied. She rejected animals as property ("Please keep in mind that a gorilla is an owner") and knew that studying them out of their natural environment would constitute "robbing them of their natural heritage...forever..."

She appreciated that "science" could easily be used euphemistically for animal abuse, and wrote about the many scientists who called themselves "scientists" who "would decimate whole gorilla families for trophies."

Dian's accomplishments were appreciated during her lifetime, both by novices and seasoned scientists. Gorillas in the Mist, Fossey's landmark book about her work with mountain gorillas, drew a congratulatory letter from Niko Tinbergen, a father of modern ethology. A student, upon leaving Karisoke, wrote a letter of farewell that reflected the essence of Dian Fossey: "There is a very real sense here of the world being created anew each day...a miracle...It has felt like a return to Eden, and to a kind of innocence...Though I know my species is despoiling this fragile earth and is tragically estranged from nature, here it feels not so...the gorillas seem to have forgotten man's shortsighted abuse of the earth."

This faithfully written book is the chronicle of a remarkable woman and a must for anyone who feels empathetically or spiritually connected to animals.

—Murry Cohen, M.D.

The reviewer, a practicing psychiatrist, is chairman of the Medical Research Modernization Committee.

**Gorillas in the Mist**

Directed by Michael Apted

Based on the work of Dian Fossey and an article by Harold Hayes

Released by Warner Brothers and Universal Pictures, 1988, 125 minutes

John Muir, the American naturalist and preservationist, once said that if it came down to a war between people and bears, he'd likely side with the bears. Dian Fossey probably would have gotten along well with Muir. She dedicated, risked, and eventually lost her life in an effort to study and protect Africa's mountain gorillas from poachers and an encroaching human population. While admired by many for her single-minded efforts to defend the great apes, Fossey was sometimes vilified for perceived excesses in defending "her" gorillas.

The producers of Gorillas in the Mist—the who could not have substantively treated Fossey's complexities or even summarized her two decades of work and experiences in Africa in a two-hour movie—chose not to portray Fossey as emotionally distraught, but as exceptionally dedicated to a noble cause; saving the peaceful, endangered mountain gorillas of Africa. In a cursory but gripping way, Gorillas in the Mist spans Fossey's adult life, from her initial contact with famed anthropologist Louis Leakey to her murder at the hands of a still-unknown, machete-wielding assailant. Sandwiched in between is a profile of a remarkable woman and a window into the misty and mystical rainforest world of the mountain gorillas of Rwanda.

Shot on site over the course of three months in the mountains of Rwanda near the Karisoke Research Center where Fossey worked, Gorillas in the Mist stages some remarkable performances. Sigourney Weaver, as Dian Fossey, not only seems to have inherited the ethnologist's passion for the apes, but also her courage. Weaver went face-to-face with the gorillas, shared space with them, and even physically embraced them. Still, it is the unplanned performances, the gorillas, who leave the most lasting impression. Immensely powerful yet remarkably gentle, one can only admire their majesty and become engrossed at their laughter. After witnessing this story, viewers should understand Fossey's determination to fight so doggedly for the gorillas.

—Wayne Pacelle
Are These Dogs Victims Themselves?

BY GAIL FOGELSON

The sun had just started to set through the early morning sky when Janet approached the two-mile turnaround point of her daily four-mile run. She glanced at her watch, unsuspecting and totally unprepared for an event that would forever change her life.

The instant she spotted the massive pit bull dog, she slowed her pace, crippled by the intense fear that welled up from the pit of her stomach. As the dog drew nearer, Janet tried to run, but her legs wouldn't move. She screamed as the dog's jaws clamped tightly on her calf. An overwhelming lightheadedness caused her legs to buckle. Lunging repeatedly, the dog tore and mangled her flesh. She mercilessly slipped into unconsciousness.

Moments later, out of the hospital, she sued the owners of the dog and was awarded a large settlement. The dog was ordered euthanized. Incidents similar to the one just described have occurred across the United States. However, could Janet’s attack and others like it be prevented? Did the pit bull attack because of training, or because of a genetically inherited characteristic? Who should be held ultimately responsible—the dog or the owner? These questions must be answered fairly and objectively.

The history of this awesome breed dates back to the early 1700s when they gained popularity in an English activity called “bull-baiting.” In those days, the dog of choice for this bloody by in the event that one or more of the original dogs needed a rest, or was deemed too worn out or too badly injured to continue. The dogs who stayed alive the longest and displayed the most aggression were rewarded at the end of the match.

With the official banning of bull-baiting in 1835, organized dogfighting took its place. The earlier dogfights

ecological sense and strictly the result of human intervention.”

The mere fact that these dogs fight in silence provides a sadistic sort of thrill for the onlookers who can bear the cracking and popping sounds made by the dogs as they lightly rap each other apart, breaking bones and suffering severe wounds. This willfulness to keep fighting even at serious injury is called “gameness,” and it’s the quality desired in a fighting dog. The pit bull’s “willfulness” to fight sets that breed apart from other dogs, most of whom will retreat from a fight long before either dog suffers extensive injury. John Reynolds, an investigator for HSUS in Phoenix, Arizona, goes a step further in his description of gameness, emphasizing the combination of “aggressiveness and willingness to fight to the death” that was selectively bred in them over generations.

Gunter and Gunther’s Girl have received a lot of love and attention.

the penalties enacted for breaking it don’t pose a big enough threat to deter this vicious “sport.” Whether it’s the officially organized dogfight or the unofficial, gang-organized dogfight taking place in some inner-city alleyway, the dogs are pitted against each other in illegal bloodbaths that promise high stakes, excitement, and violence.

In a modern dogfight, the pit looks something like a boxing ring. Although there are variations, the most common pit is square. The walls on all four sides of the pit prevent a “turning” dog from escaping. When a dog “turns,” that usually sets things up a bit, because a dog who won’t fight is of little use. The tarp covering the floor of the pit no doubt makes it easier to clean up at the end of the match.

Richard Stratton points out in his book “The American Pit Bull Terrier” that perhaps one of the most distinguishing features of the pit bull is the absence of characteristics commonly displayed by other breeds before a fight. That they don’t bare their teeth, growl, or make other threatening noises is attributed by Stratton to centuries of breeding for successful fighters. Also, the pit bull will waste no time snapping in an attempt to avoid actually fighting. The pit bull will hold, shake, and in general punish with his hold, he releases it only to get a better one.” Interestingly, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) calls this behavior “totally abnormal in an evolutionary or neighborhood’s house. A pit bull used to guard illegal drugs attacked an investigating narcotics officer. He shot the dog, but even the bullet wound didn’t subdue the animal; the officer consequently shot the dog four more times, but not until his back-up beat the dog in the head with his nightstick could the dog’s grip be released. These accounts, and others, are indeed tragedies. Some of the injuries warranted hospitalization; some victims had to undergo reconstructive surgery; but, worst of all, some of the victims lost their lives.

Dogs are pitted against each other in illegal bloodbaths that promise high stakes, excitement, and violence.

Are they all vicious?

C

learly, the American Pit Bull Terrier of today has an extensive history of bad breeding. But what about all the media attention these dogs have received over the past few years? Is it really fair to assume that all pit bulls are “vicious” because a handful of them have perhaps fallen victim to their breeding or their inhuman handlers? Admittedly, pit bulls have been responsible for a number of attacks, and in the year 1987, the American Pit Bull Terrier Society reports that 17 dogs had been used in fights. It appears a portion of society misuses the pit bull for their own deviant purposes, with complete disregard for the welfare of the animals as well as that of innocent humans. And how does this affect the pit bull? People are terrified of these dogs, and out of fear comes panic. And in the majority of cases, this panic is unfounded. In California, dozens of people have turned their pets into animal shelters for euthanasia, simply out of fear of attack. In some cases, intimidation by neighbors has convinced people to destroy innocent animals. And, even saddler, some dogs have been beaten to death, poisoned, or shot, simply

Continued on next page

These young pit bulls are as friendly and playful as puppies can be.
Handling the breed

Responsible handling of a pit bull is clearly the first step in avoiding a possible tragedy. Their strength should never be underestimated. Dogs conditioned with weights may be able to pull twice their own weight, and they all require an extra amount of restraint. In some of the attacks reported, the animals broke free of their collars—some of them even tearing completely away from the chains that bound them. In other cases, inadequate fencing or lack of fence allowed the dogs to escape. Ideally, fences should be sturdy and high enough that the dogs can’t jump over.

The character of the pit bull must be judged on an individual basis.

Proper socialization and training from an early age can drastically reduce the incidence of aggressive behavior; in most cases, but caution should be exercised. Help from a professional should be sought at the first sign of aggressive behavior before disaster strikes. The dogs’ conduct towards other animals should also be scrutinized. Some pit bulls who have attacked humans have been trained to hunt. That predatory behavior can easily redirect itself. The same goes with guard dogs—the vicious behavior instilled in dog is introduced to a readily available family member. That strain surveillance is needed when powerful dogs come together with children must be stressed.

The breed’s bad press

During the summer of 1987, one could turn on a television set at any given time and have a good chance of hearing some grizzly tale about a vicious pit bull attack. Without doubt, the attacks occurred. But there were plenty of attacks by other breeds that were not reported. HSUS estimates that “each year in the U.S., one to three million dog bites are reported to public health agencies.” Pit bull attacks have accounted for only a fraction of the total number of dog bites. And certainly, out of those one to three million bite cases, many could be classified as “serious.” It appears, however, that unless it’s a pit bull biting, it’s almost unnewsworthy.

In addition to the tendency of the media to highlight incidents involving this type of dog, there is a problem in identifying a dog positively as a pit bull. HSUS reports, “In an earlier survey of over 2,000 bite reports, we found that any medium-sized black and tan animal was likely to be recorded as a ‘German Shepherd.’ A similar bias to identify any stocky, short-haired animal involved in an attack as a pit bull seems to exist today.”

Until I met Kent Keller, his wife, and their dogs Gunther, Gunther’s Girl (G.G.), and the puppies, the only contact I’d had with pit bulls consisted of a glance on two separate occasions while jogging—and, incidentally, the dogs only glanced back. I saw Keller’s telephone number in a newspaper ad for pit bull puppies, and I decided to call for information. Keller, a longtime fan of this particular breed, invited me over to get some firsthand experience with the dogs, and I accepted eagerly. But when the front door opened at the Keller home and two massive pit bulls ran out to greet my husband and I, it was at first a bit intimidating. Gunther and G.G. had been well-trained, and clearly had received a lot of love, attention, and care. Keller told us the dogs had been very friendly and had never behaved aggressively. They had, of course, never been used in dogfighting. When I asked Keller how he conditioned the dogs, he told me, “My dogs will play frisbee until they drop!” Indeed, they did.

My experience that day confirmed my hypothesis that the character of the pit bull must be judged on an individual basis. Vicious dogs can be found in all breeds; however, many factors in combination appear to play an essential role in the outcome of personality. The long history of selective breeding in the pit bull for bêtching and dogfighting purposes cannot be dismissed as an important factor, but the blame for whatever genetically based aggressive or unstable behavior may exist in the dog should be shouldered by the human who have applauded it.

ONE YEAR AGO....

The chimpanzee was the ASPCA’s 1988 Animal of the Year.

But one year is not enough to reverse decades of cruel exploitation. Work must continue to protect chimpanzees in the wild by helping to save their habitat. Chimpanzees in captivity must be provided with social activity and adequate stimulation to ensure their psychological well-being.

The ASPCA and other humane organizations are working on legislation that will:

- protect chimpanzees from illegal capture and importation for research;
- guarantee their safety and well-being in captivity;
- limit and eventually eliminate their use in biomedical research.

They are our closest living relatives, sharing our genes, emotions, behavior and intelligence. Help to stop their exploitation for the purposes of entertainment or research.

To find out what you can do, contact the ASPCA Education Department, 441 East 92nd Street, New York, NY 10128

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
America’s First Humane Society
Gators Dangerous to Dogs

While I am against any form of cruelty to animals, there needs to be a new look at the alligator problem in Florida. Alligators have a right to live, but so do dogs, and it is common knowledge here that dogs are eaten alive by gators. As a lakefront resident, I am presently being sued by the county because I have put a wire fence in the lake to prevent the gators from eating my ducks.

-Lerrie Nissley
Lake Buena Vista, FL

Activist Arrogance Undesirable

It would be so much easier to help animals if some of the people in the movement would stop acting and feeling superior to others. When I first became an animal activist, I didn’t know much, so I had a lot of questions. I joined a group, but the president was always too busy to talk to me. She ignored others at meetings, and some would be activists were lost. It seems that some people are less interested in helping animals than in showing themselves to be important. The animals need all of us, and all of us are equal.

-Barbara Jean Rechrich
Cilton, NJ

Movement Power Wasted

How many feel that animal organizations have not used their collective membership's financial and political power to accomplish far more for animals than they have now after decades of plodding effort? How many feel that groups are wasting their energies and our contributions trying to court each other or duplicate others’ efforts instead of using their combined power in a concentrated onslaught against the exploiters of animals and the legislative and judicial powers that protect them from us? How many are tired of begging calculistically different politicians year after year to pass bits and pieces of animal legislation—most with loopholes that hardly change the status quo or, if passed, are unenforced or unenforceable? How many are tired of trying to financially support dozens of animal organizations, pulling us in a different emotional direction, resulting in frustration and eventually lassitude? When will animal groups realize they are losing us by not joining forces in a powerful, combined movement to obtain freedom, justice, and rights for animals—one issue at a time, if necessary, to get the job done?

-Elliot Taylor
Sin Lorenzo, CA

Another Kind of Military Increase

One of the most pressing problems in America is dog and cat overpopulation, but I haven’t heard anything about one of the biggest culprits, namely the military. Charleston is home to large Air Force and Navy bases, and for disregard, neglect, and ultimate abandonment of pets, the military takes the cake. The situation places a burden on local taxpayers. A simple solution would be to require military personnel to register animals upon arrival at a new base and account for them before they leave. Also, they should be required to have their animals spayed and neutered. At one time, the Air Force veterinarian was performing spaying and neutering at no cost for military personnel until a local veterinarian threatened Congressional action, which put a stop to the operations. I would like to see some influential group address this military problem.

-Una Ashcraft
Charleston, SC
Too many tigers are jumping through hoops. Too many lions are pacing behind bars. Too many rabbits are subjected to product testing. Too many calves are cramped in crates. Too many dogs have no home. Too many cats have too many kittens. Too many raccoons are cramped in leghold traps. Too many chimpanzees are used as laboratory tools. Too many kangaroos are being “harvested.”

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Towards a Green World

animal rights. I personally presented to the International Committee (representatives from Green groups around the North American continent) of the Green Committee of Correspondence the platform plank written by the Animal Liberation Caucus that formed at the Ambient gathering. The plank, which is printed in its entirety in the November 1987 issue of The ANIMALS’ AGENDA, is radical and thorough, and will certainly be hotly debated. The plank can become part of the platform if animal liberationists become involved in the Green debate.

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And because the founding of a new political party is so newsworthy, the debate will undoubtedly get full coverage in the national media. There are Green groups in cities scattered throughout North America. To find the group nearest you, send your name and address to the Green Committee of Correspondence Clearinghouse, 2030 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20009. Or call them at (202) 339-0111.

You can start making the Green connection by organizing an animal liberation workshop within your local Green group. Here in Texas, animal liberation people and Greens are practically synonymous. We have cooperatively organized successful demonstrations against nuke roundups, animal experimentation, fur wearing, and the imprisonment of marine animals by Sea World. On these issues we have been able to agree. Our coalitions have magnified our collective strength, even if the struggle is far from over.

The animal liberation movement and the Green movement represent one and the same impulse. We are heirs to the tradition that has worked to free black people from slavery, women from male domination, homosexuals from heterosexist intolerance, people of color from racism, and on and on. Will freeing animals from speciesism end oppression on Earth? Probably not, but it is the next step on the way. The strong, non-leather shoes that will protect our tender feet from the rocks along the path can and should be Green.

COMING SOON

❖ ANIMAL RIGHTS ADVOCATES AND VETERINARY SOCIETIES line up on opposite sides on most issues affecting animals. The fundamental difference in philosophy appears to center on whether or not people have the right to use animals for human ends. While there are good omen that bode well for decreased conflict between the two groups, there are many battles still to be fought on animals’ behalf with those who should be their strongest allies.

❖ COCKFIGHTING IS A BLOODSPORT EXTREMELY POPULAR IN LATIN AMERICA, where the bird—a male chicken—is a symbol of machismo. Despite its illegal status in most states, cockfighting is popular in many areas of the U.S. today. What steps can be taken to end this cruel and violent activity?

❖ BRITISH-BORN ARTIST SUE COE is committed to social change. Her work—a series of images about animals, as well as her paintings and prints—have been exhibited throughout the world. Sue uses her art to challenge the abuse of animals in their various forms.
BOTANICALS and the art of PLANT PROTEIN

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