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HELPING ANIMALS AND THE EARTH • July / August 1991



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Sunday September 1

Conference (workshops, evening buffet and notable speakers such as Cleveland Amory, Ingrid Newkirk, Don Barnes, Wayne Pacelle and others), 9:30am-8:30pm. Harrisburg Marriot.

Monday September 2

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The \$55 registration fee (\$75 after August 1) includes three vegan meals. Conference attendees will be given a discount at the Marriot for room reservations but sign up early because space is limited. Please contact Heidi Prescott at the Washington, D.C. area office of The Fund for Animals for reservation information at 301-585-2591.

- 
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# The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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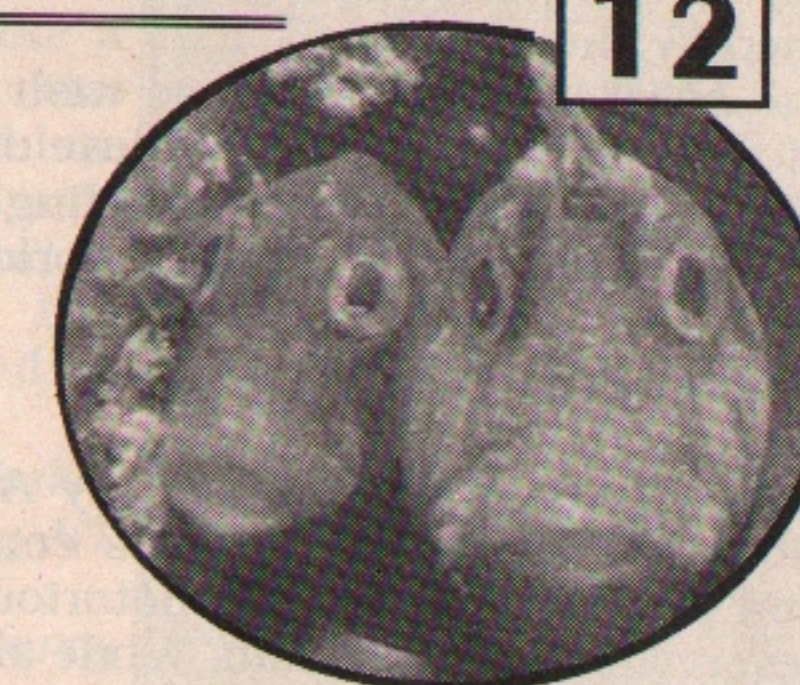
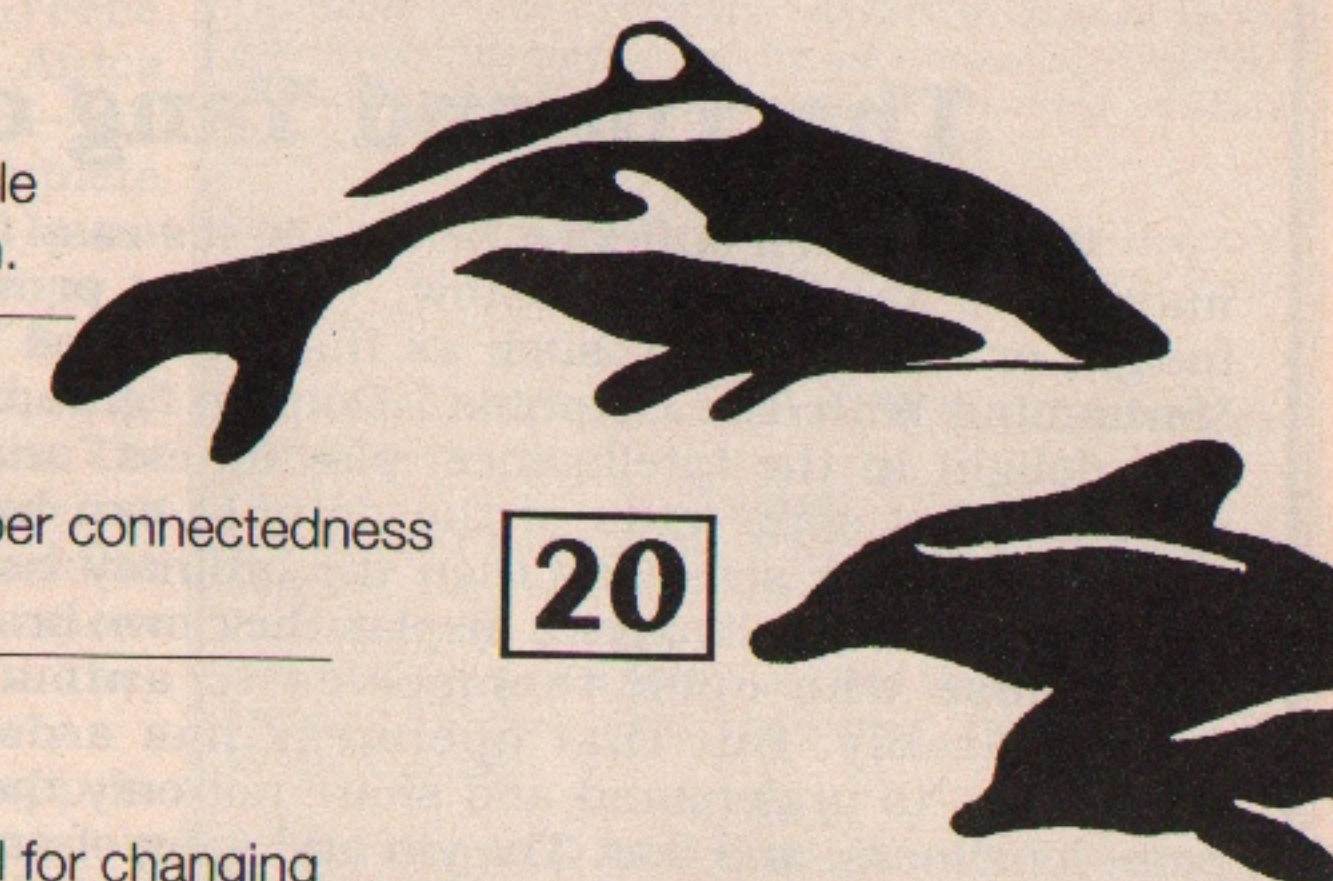
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## The Yin and Yang of Animals

With so much suffering before us, it's easy for animal activists to forget the many gifts animals can bestow. They can provide the stimulus for spiritual insight or introspection, such as that described by Jim Nollman in this issue's "Swimming With The Dolphins." Dolphin "groupies" (and I admit to being one) also delight in the intelligence, playfulness, and sensuality of these exquisite animals. But some gifts of the dolphin can be found closer to home. What creature is more sensuous than the ordinary housecat, or more playful than a puppy? And don't all species display their own brand of wisdom?

Those who open themselves to animals find their lives enriched immeasurably. But that openness has a dark side, too. It forces us to empathize—to understand and share not only their joy, but also their feelings of pain, loneliness, and fear. The yin and yang of animals can provide both torment and solace to those who care for them. The trick, for animal activists, is to find the balance between the poles. Our energies are absorbed by one force, yet they can be replenished by the other.

Here at The ANIMALS' AGENDA, we wish we had pages enough to balance difficult or painful reading with an equal dose of uplifting material. (It does exist.) Unfortunately, the priority for now is presenting the information animal advocates and policymakers need in order to create a world of greater harmony.

### Who's Afraid of the AMA?

Simultaneous with World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week '91, the American Medical Association held press conferences around the country at which a selection of the world's most notorious vivisectionists accused all animal rights activists everywhere of terrorism. While animal advocates have a right to be indignant, it's probably healthier for us as a movement and as individuals to laugh it off.

What the AMA, and other self-interested animal exploiters, are doing with their slander and misinformation is nothing less than a demonstration of their inability to defend their practices. Sure, they may succeed in frightening a certain percentage of the public by conjuring up demons, but in the end—when their "terrorists" fail to materialize—they'll only look ridiculous.

Given that the essence of the animal rights movement is the practice of *ahimsa*, or nonviolence, anyone actually resorting to violence, or recommending it, is likely to be an *agent provocateur* planted by the other side. Though these plants have the potential to be harmful to the movement, they are only dangerous to the extent that people take them seriously. The best defense for true animal activists is to reject them. Every successful social movement has had its *agent provocateurs*—sometimes employed by industry and sometimes by government agencies. They are to be expected.

The ANIMALS' AGENDA has published a number of articles in the past two years concerning the unethical tactics of our opposition and how we can deal with them: "Informant Paid by U.S. Surgical Reveals Bombing Attempt Was a Set-Up" (March '89); "Hello Mary Lou, Goodbye Trutt" (April '89); "Violence, Infiltration, and Sabotage" and "Empowering the Movement" (July/Aug. '89); "Earth First! Founder Busted in Possible Set-Up" (Sept. '89); "Out of the Cage: The Movement in Transition" (Jan./Feb. '90); "The Politics of Animal Rights" (March '90); "Smears, Suits, and Espionage" (May '90); "Tapes Incriminate U.S. Surgical Spy in Trutt Case" (June '90); "The Opposition in Motion" (June '90); "Bombs Rock Redwood Protests" (Sept. '90); "Fur Industry Seeking Friends" (Oct. '90); "The Empire Strikes Back" (Nov. '90); "Flattery Will Get Them Nowhere" (Dec. '90); "Putting Bill Wewer First" and "Foes of Animals" (April '91). Readers who have missed these articles may request copies. A donation to cover the costs of copying and mailing would be appreciated.

—The Editor

The ANIMALS' AGENDA is published by the Animal Rights Network, Inc., a nonprofit charitable organization incorporated in Connecticut. We offer a broad range of materials and information about animals and environmental issues, and provide a forum for discussion of problems and ideas. We try to reach people at all levels of consciousness and commitment to inspire a deep regard for, and greater activism on behalf of, animals and nature.

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# LETTERS

## Ferals

It was wonderful to see the excellent article on feral animals in the March '91 issue, with its extensive data on many species and its welcome point of view that wild habitats are not static. On several points, however, I can provide additional information.

The Maine coon cat is not the only cat who can adapt to a disagreeable climate. Feral cats of many breeds can survive in some truly terrible climates: on the islands ringing Antarctica, for instance, or in the deserts of Australia. The life of the individual cat is not long in such places, to be sure, but we know from the writings of many biologists, zoologists, and ecologists that populations of feral cats have taken hold and burgeoned in some fiercely inhospitable places.

While state game agencies and federal bureaus are depicted as unenlightened in their policies about various feral species, not mentioned was the unfortunate fact that some of the leading humane societies in the U.S. are unenlightened about feral cats. The Massachusetts SPCA and the Humane Society of the U.S. come readily and specifically to mind for their position against the neuter-and-release approach to population control of feral cats. As to why these groups should be so far behind, say, the Royal SPCA (Britain's major humane organization) or the World Society for the Protection of Animals, both of which fully accept neuter-and-release of feral cats, we do not know. Some of the major humane societies in the U.S. believe that feral cats are suited only for the "good death" available at local shelters.

Neutering an entire colony of feral cats and returning these cats to their site is far more widely done than the article indicates. [See also "Feral Cats: Controlled Colonies are Sometimes a Solution," May 1988, and "Louise Holton: Alley Cat Ally," May 1991.] In Britain, UFAW and CAT have indeed promoted the method for more than a decade. But I personally know of similar efforts in Denmark, the Nether-

lands, France, Italy, Greece, Israel, Tunisia, Kenya, S. Africa, Canada, and New Zealand—and I'm sure my list is incomplete. Similarly, the approach is not simply "emulated by groups in New York and California," but is done by groups large and small from New York to California. The people doing this work have not given up on humane education and on the hope of more responsible pet care. But they see neuter-and-release as a proven means—when appropriate (that is, when the cats are not actively endangered in their environment and when human feeders are available to take a continuing interest in the cats)—to alleviate the problem without destroying the animals in the process. The method is effective for precisely the reasons so well explained in Merritt Clifton's article.

—Ellen Perry Berkeley  
Shaftsbury, VT

**Editor's Note:** Ellen Perry Berkeley is author of *Maverick Cats*, reviewed in the May 1991 issue.

Since no explanation was given as to what I was doing with the feral pig in the photo appearing in your March '91 cover story ("Feral Animals: Alien Menace?"), I'd like to tell your readers. That picture was taken in 1985, at Pinnacles National Monument in California, where I was working in Resource Management. I was tagging along with some pig researchers from UC-Davis. One was working on her doctorate in psychology, and it was on feral pigs. My boss thought that by assisting them, I might glean something to help with the Pinnacle's "pig problem."

It was "Pigs in the Mist" for me...first Ethel came, then brought friends, and soon we had 15 juveniles habituated to us. I fell in love with pigs in no uncertain terms.

But I was (and still am) confused as to what to do about their place in the wild. Far from a "largely imaginary alien menace," I saw with my own eyes the tremendous ecological damage these creatures are wreaking on the deli-

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cately balanced area of Pinnacles. Pigs don't "fill empty niches," they create them, and then take them over. The article was far too glib for my painful take on things.

Pigs consume most of the acorn mast in the Pinnacles area, at the expense of deer and various rodent types. They cause tremendous erosion and loss of plant life in an area of shallow and loamy soils. I would love to give amnesty to feral pigs (and all the other feral animals), but is this fair to other creatures and their habitats? I'm not so sure. Jay Kirkpatrick may be on to something; there must be a humane solution.

While some feral animals may fit into certain areas with less damage, I don't think this is always the case. From what I've learned, burros do not fill the niche of bighorn sheep. Bighorns are trying to make a comeback and burros screw things up for them and other animals. Bighorns walk single-file to waterholes, drink one at a time,

Continued on next page



## LETTERS

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then leave with the water-hole intact. Burros (and, far worse, cows) go to waterholes in large groups, drink together, and leave holes as mud.

Nature may change and adapt to our meddling, and we could show a little flexibility in any restoration projects we attempt. But to dismiss restoration as a biocentric psychosis is a bunch of new-age clap-trap.

As an Earth Firster and animal rights advocate, I want to see grizzlies, wolves, and all other wild and nearly extinct creatures come back. Let's tear up the concrete and bring back wildness, for all living creatures, including us.

I thank you for running an article on such a confusing and important issue. I hope to see more

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on it. There were some excellent points made about the complexities surrounding ferals, and I hope we can come up with a national advisory panel and do international review. What a great idea!

—Karen DeBaal  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Merritt Clifton replies:**

Nearly 50 years ago, John Steinbeck, a biologist by training, also contemplated the damage feral pigs do to parts of California—and then, as the hero of *To A God Unknown* started to kill a particularly destructive (and cannibalistic) boar, he brought himself up short with the realization that he was about to impose a human moral judgement upon a problem of nature. True, pigs—native, feral, or domestic—are destructive of certain kinds of habitat. Like other large herbivores and omnivores, they tend to change habitat, to the detriment of some fellow creatures, and the benefit of others (not necessarily including themselves). But this is what nature designed

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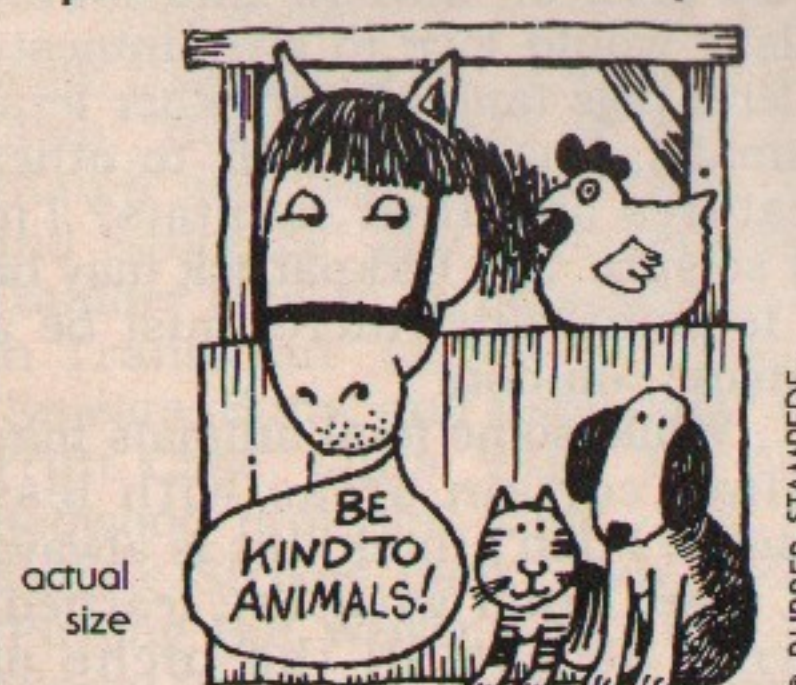
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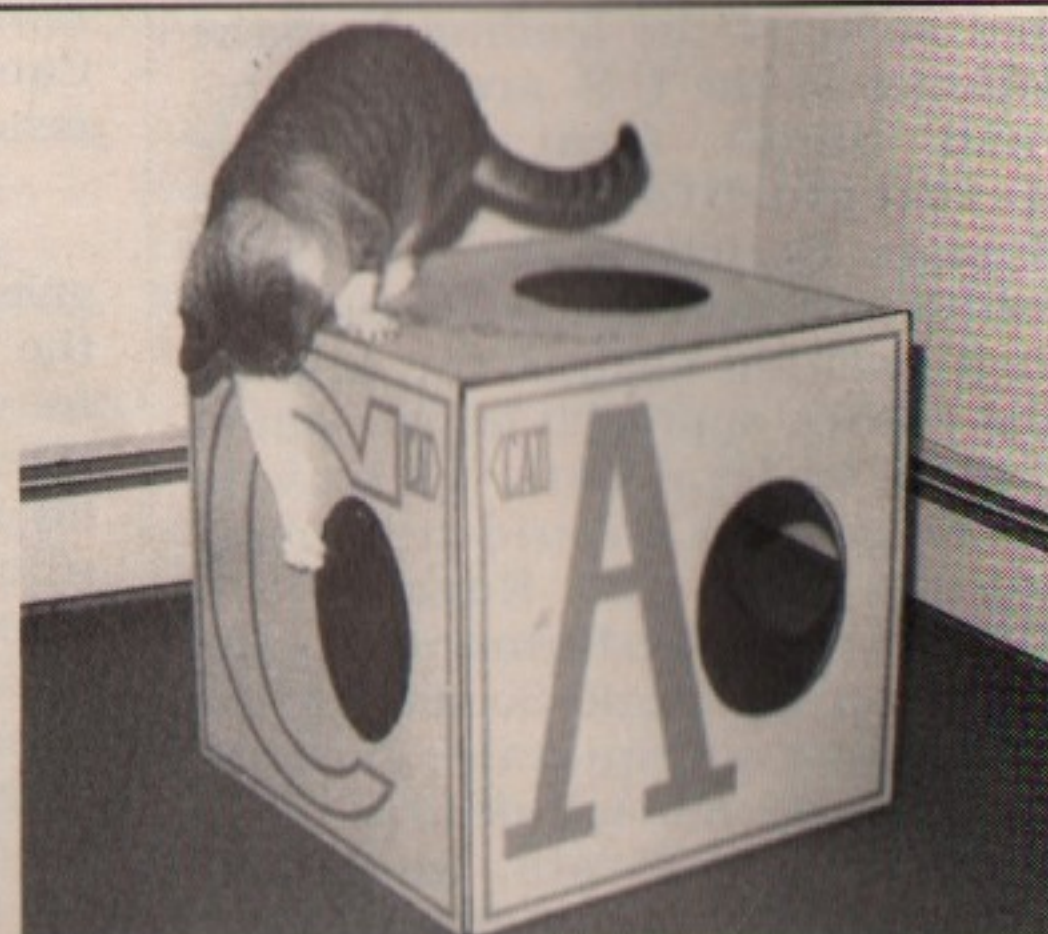
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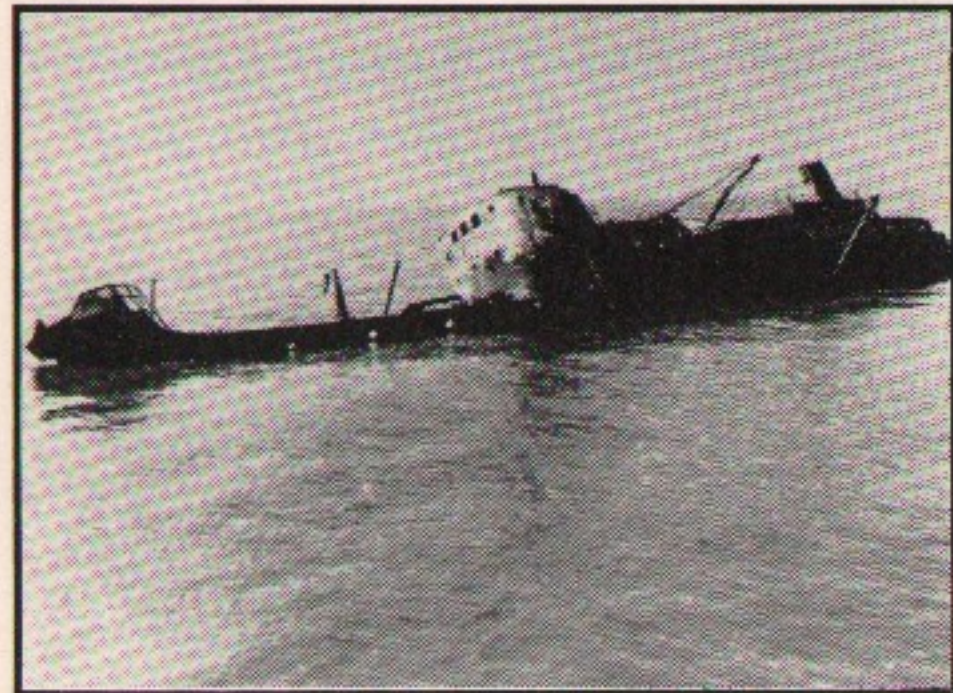
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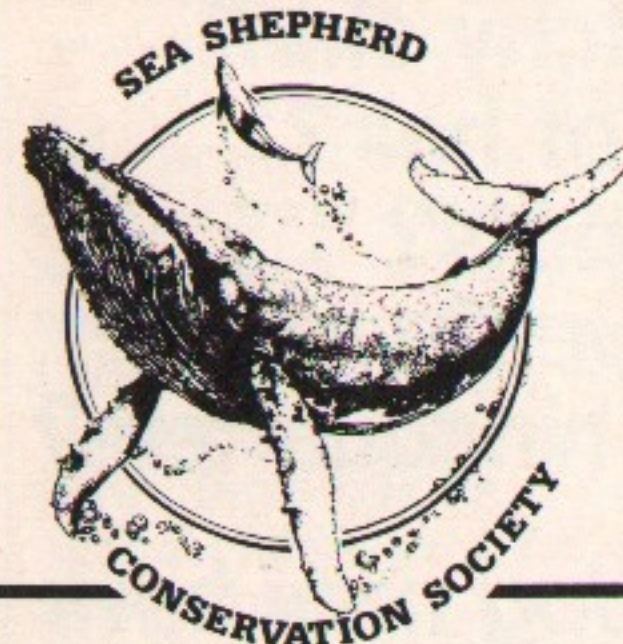


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Continued from page 4

pigs to do: to function as four-footed plows, a job also performed by other hooved animals, including deer, bison, and wild sheep as well as burros and cattle. (If wild sheep do less damage to watering holes than burros, it's only because at present there are many less of them. In equal numbers, among free-ranging animals, a hoof is a hoof.) When you prefer that deer do this job instead of feral pigs, you are not expressing a preference for undisturbed nature; rather, you are expressing a preference for a hooved animal who kills native plants by eating leaves and bark, rather than by eating nuts and roots. Like pigs, deer occupy much of the habitat they do mainly because of human intervention, in this case logging that has replaced old-growth forest with second growth and brush. Unlike pigs, deer have never been domesticated in large numbers, but neither were they even a fraction as plentiful or broadly distributed before European settlement as they are today. (The total ungulate population then was about the same as now, but included many more antelope, elk, moose, and caribou, who were more ecologically appropriate to some regions now populated by the ubiquitous white-tailed deer and mule deer.) You may prefer the ecological consequences of the deer's habits over those of the pig's habits, but the key point is that you are expressing the preference. Left alone, nature will favor both pigs and deer, in different places at the same time but also in the same places at different times, since each species moves on—if it can—after introducing the habitat changes it does. Obviously this natural succession of species is restricted, sometimes to the point of not happening, in biological islands (which may be either literal islands, or fragments of a former ecology artificially preserved in parks and sanctuaries, that may be too small to support the continued evolution of habitat that maintains biological diversity in truly natural settings). None of this has much to do with the survival of large carnivores, who prey upon either pigs or deer. Just as most herbivores and omnivores act to change habitat, most carnivores work to keep it the same by limiting herbivore populations. As to "biocentric psychosis," that's your term and concept, not mine.

### Strays

It may be circular reasoning, but many people I know are reluctant to bring unwanted pets to shelters because they know the chances of adoption are slim ["Throwaway Animals," May 1991]. These same people argue that animals abandoned near barns or condos have a better chance of finding homes. And in some cases, they've been proved right. But why do so many people who are unwilling to visit a shelter willing to adopt a single "stray" left by the road? Some have told me they're too overwhelmed by the number of animals at a shelter and the hard task of choosing just one. I can almost sympathize with both these viewpoints, but something crucial is missing in this equation. All I know is, creatures lose both ways.

—Cathy Czapl  
Randolph, VT

### Mt. Graham Battle Rages

Miriam Graham made a mistake in assuming that the Mount Graham issue is dead ["Squirrels, Mountains, and the Endangered Species Act," March '91]. As I write this letter, the 9th Circuit Court is still deciding whether or not the project collaborators are exempt from the Endangered Species Act. As I write this letter, the San Carlos Apache, to whom this mountain is sacred, are meeting with their lawyers to ready a lawsuit. As I write this letter, 20 activists from the Student Environmental Action Coalition of Ohio State University and the University of Arizona (these two schools are the major collaborators in this project) are encamped on the mountain, and a group of activists are headed to Germany to raise awareness about Max Plank Institute's involvement in the destruction of this mountain and our nation's environmental laws.

The fight is not over. Twenty percent of what is to be destroyed has been, but we can save the rest if we don't allow the project to continue. If we fail to stop it, it will mean the weakening of important laws as well as the loss of a truly unique ecosystem. People can still help: write the SEAC at P.O. Box 141356, Columbus, OH 43214, for more information; or call the Mount Graham Hotline for updates at 602-629-9200.

—Joe Hazelbaker  
Columbus, OH

### VT Not A Sell-Out

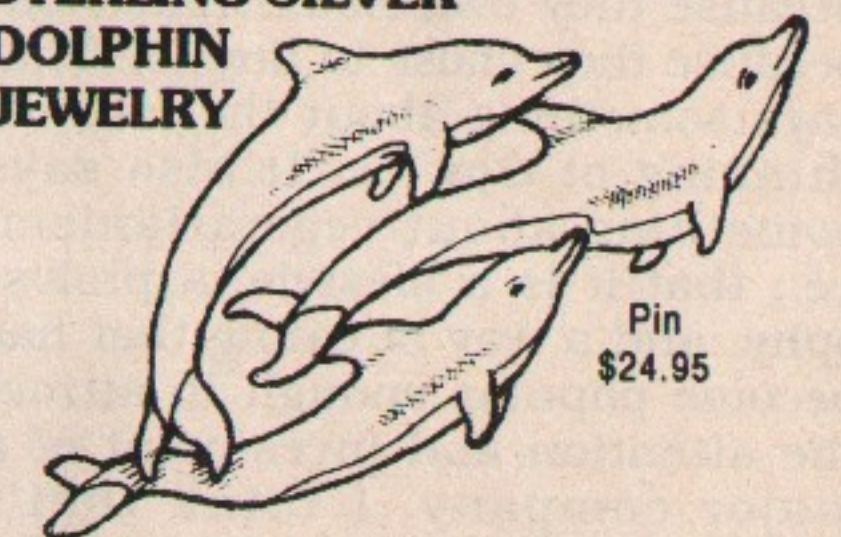
Regarding your April *Network Notes* item on our being owned by Cowles Media, publisher of *Bow Hunter*, I knew that selling *Vegetarian Times* to Cowles would be a problem for some people, and, to be frank, it was an issue for me, too. It is something I discussed at length with the new owners before deciding to sell the company.

While VT was a profitable company, we never had a cash reserve. We never missed a payroll, but there were many times when we were short of money and we wanted more capital as a cushion against bad economic times and to further our growth. We had simply reached a point in our growth where we needed more capital and the resources of a larger company. This was all done with the perspective of growing and protecting VT and providing opportunities for our employees.

Second, while Cowles Media owns some properties that conflict with our philosophy, the company is a \$350 million publishing conglomerate with diverse holdings,

Continued on next page

### STERLING SILVER DOLPHIN JEWELRY

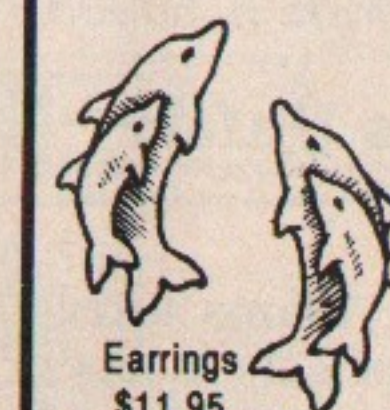


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Continued from previous page

which employs 3,500 people. The consumer magazine division publishes 20 titles, including a veterinary care magazine for horses. Cowles purchased VT, because they felt they could further our growth and help us to develop more products and services for our readers. The fact that we are now owned by a larger company is consistent with the trend towards growth and consolidation within the natural foods industry. In business, acquisitions happen and the results are sometimes surprising.

In the whole scheme of things, Cowles presented us with the best package, and I don't simply mean money; they have the resources to help us grow, but more important, the people who work there are very honest, hard working, decent, and socially-responsible. Their expertise adds to our ability to deliver a quality magazine, but they give us enough space to let us do our own thing. They do not interfere with our editorial message.

For some people, there will be no satisfactory answer, but my answer is that, whatever the differences, the pluses far outweighed the minuses. That Cowles purchased VT is significant not because they own *Bow Hunter*, but because they chose to buy us. That says something about the forward thinking of Cowles. It also says something about vegetarianism: i.e., that it is a lifestyle, a philosophy, and a way of eating that has become popular enough to attract the attention and investment of a major company. I think that's something we can all be proud of.

—Paul Obis

Founder, Publisher, Editor-In Chief  
Vegetarian Times  
P.O. Box 570  
Oak Park, IL 60303

### Feminist Bias Unfair to Men

From the Carol Adams interview (Oct. 1991), we see the deeper meaning behind some premises of feminist philosophy. I totally agree with ecological and other similar philosophies that contradict the ancient assumptions of the current "masculist" culture, but that doesn't mean the system should be reversed.

The term "feminism" has been developed as the antithesis to the evil masculist system. But the con-

cept centers on *women*, and ignores men by etymology, regardless of how some may choose to define it. Therefore, in responding to the unjust discrimination of the male-centered establishment, the feminists have chosen a philosophy that reverses the discrimination, and is just as evil. It's illogical and sexist.

In the interview, Ms. Adams says that the "rights" philosophy is "very male," but she does not explain this; she only says that "emotion and sentiment...have been equated with being female." I thought we were trying to get away from traditional stereotypes of the sexes! And while I'm sure there are cases of wife-beating after meatless meals, I'm sure there also must be thousands of cases of battery after meals of steak and eggs.

I compliment editor Kim Bartlett for her response to the abortion issue: "With the freedom to practice sex comes responsibility." To this, Ms. Adams refers only to the problem of marital rape. But are the majority of unwanted pregnancies due to marital rape? Yes, some women are victims of it, and it may well be a crisis in the U.S., but what's the percentage? Ten percent? Even 30 percent? She

ignored the intent of Ms. Bartlett's response.

I think development and use of an "equal rights" philosophy would be more useful in fighting all kinds of discrimination in society, including sexism, racism, and speciesism.

—Mark E. Rifkin  
Baltimore, MD

### More on Money

There is no doubt that many in the frontline trenches of the animal rights movement had emotions raised by "Who Gets The Money?" (March 1991). Perhaps a sense of betrayal for the individual scraping by from paycheck to paycheck yet somehow always finding enough to save the next abandoned cat or dog, or for the grassroots groups that never end up in the black. The frontline grunts in the movement look upon those high salaries with justifiable disdain.

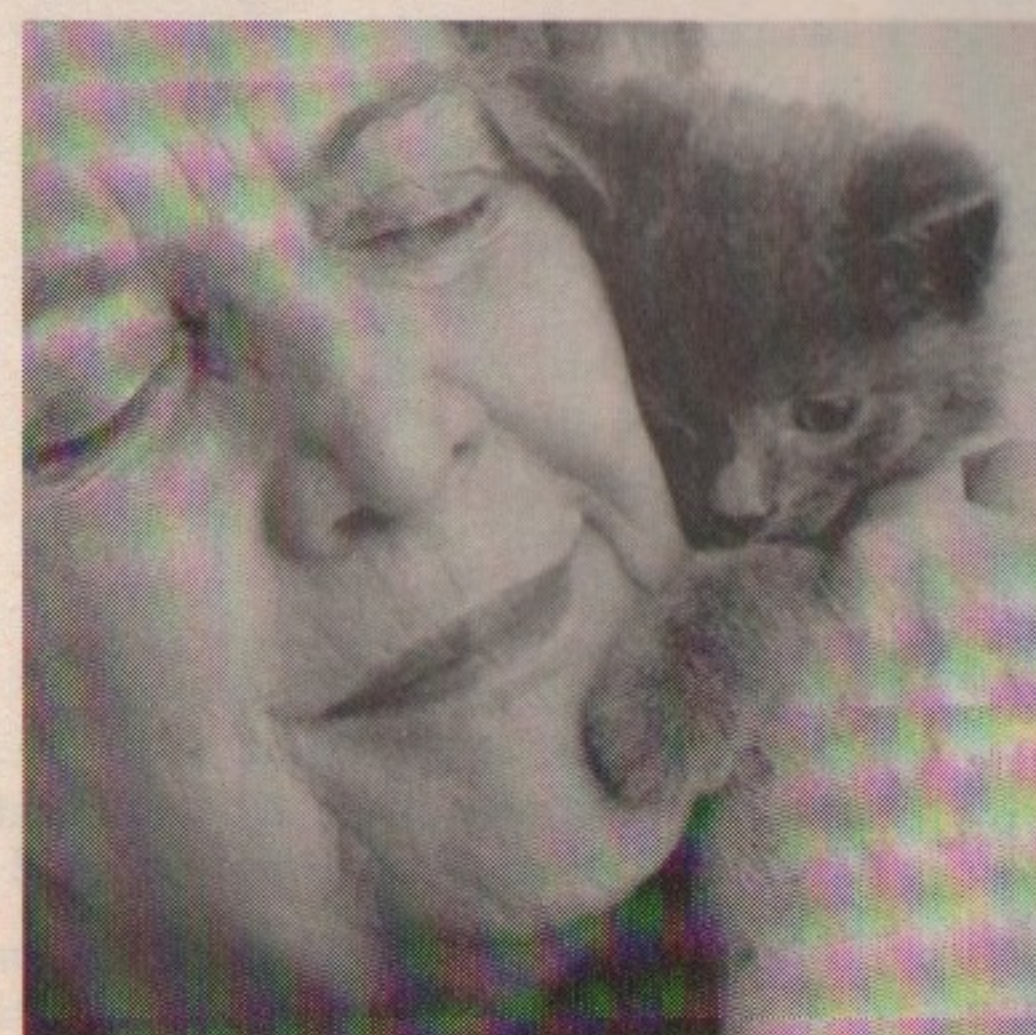
The questions come easily after reading the report, and the search for justification stretches the need to disbelieve what is evident: that there are those among us whose livelihood depends upon

Continued on page 47



The Campaign for Life  
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## THE TRUTH ABOUT YOUR HEALTH & JUSTICE FOR ANIMALS



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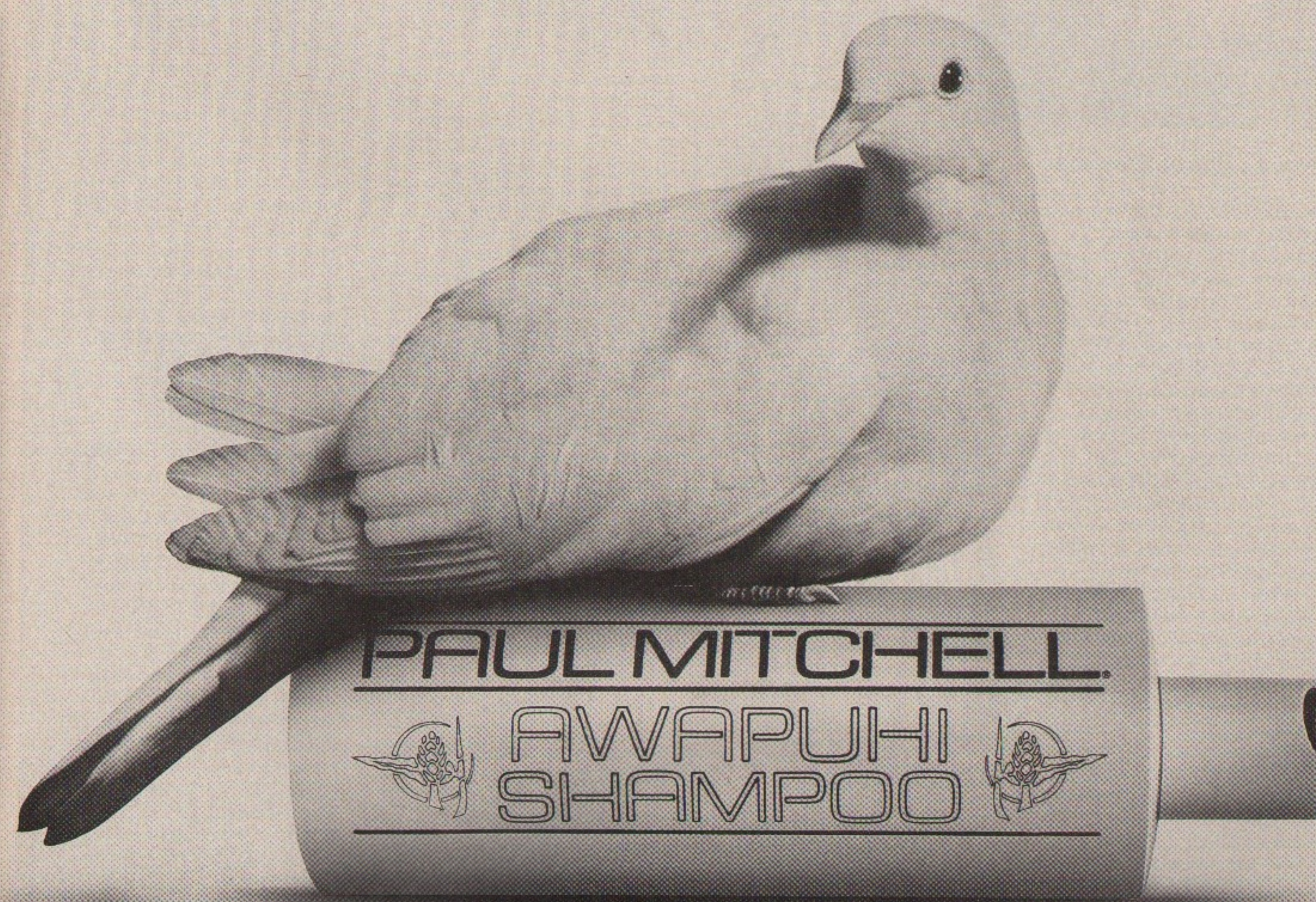
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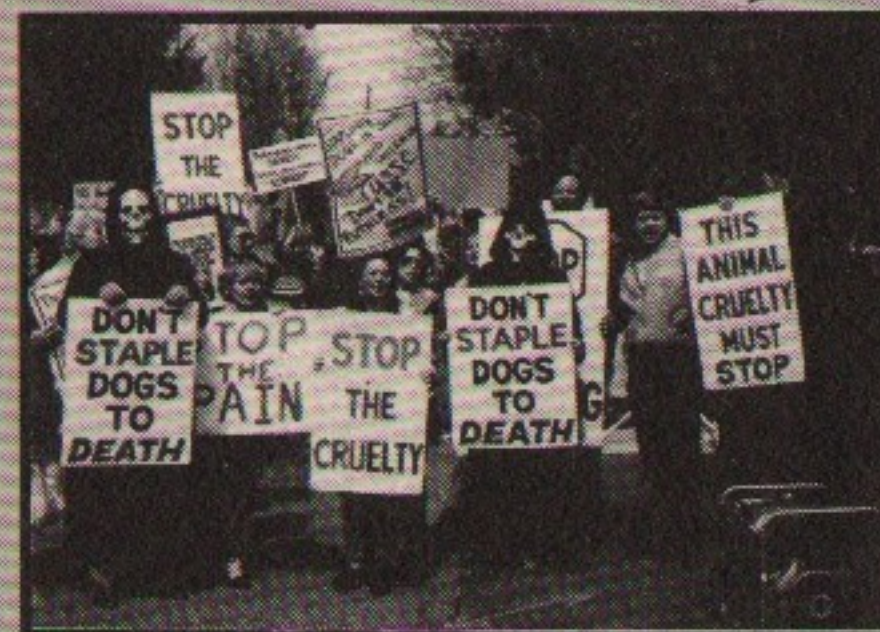


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## Offerings

*The Vegan Diet During Pregnancy, Lactation, and Childhood*, a 16-page brochure by dietician Reed Mangels, is \$2.00 from the Vegetarian Resource Group, P.O. Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203. ♦ *The Hedgehog*, "a homegrown newsletter for people who care about animal rights," includes form protest letters that need only be clipped, signed, and mailed. Get details from Cathryn Bauer, 4288 Gilbert St., Oakland, CA 94611-4119.



Vito Torelli

## Pigeon Shoot Protests

For information on rides to the Hugins, Pa., pigeon shoot protest over the Labor Day weekend, call PETA at 301-770-7444. PETA is also hosting a nonviolence training workshop on August 31, the eve of the shoot protest. ♦ Members of Citizens for Animal Rights, Animal Rights Mobilization!, Mobilization for Animals, the Fund for Animals, PETA, and AWARE held a two-day protest vigil on April 20-21 at the Holford Pigeon Shoot in rural Illinois. The vigil served as a rehearsal for the Hugins protest, which the Coalition to Ban Live Bird Shoots in Pennsylvania pledges will be the biggest anti-bird shoot demo yet. ♦ The Fund for Animals' annual conference (and a birthday party for founder Cleveland Amory) will be held at nearby Harrisburg, Pa., on Sept. 1, with charter buses taking participants to the Hugins protest the following morning. For details, call 301-585-2591. ♦ Both the Holford and Hugins shoots kill about 10,000 birds, between practice and the competitions themselves. The Hugins organizers have claimed that the pigeons they kill were live-trapped as a nuisance in New York City, but the New York Dept. of Health forbids

transporting feral pigeons. Some pigeons killed at Holford reportedly wore colored bands, indicating they had been taken from pigeon flyers' flocks. (Pigeon-flying is a popular hobby in the black and Italian ethnic neighborhoods of many big cities.)

## Actions

Over 400 people—the biggest crowd ever—joined the annual Friends of Animals protest against use of dogs in U.S. Surgical sales demonstrations on April 19. U.S. Surgical, located across town from the FoA national headquarters in Norwalk, Ct., spent over \$2 million on a regional advertising campaign intended to overshadow the protest. ♦ Thirty members of the Fund for Animals picketed the 51st Annual Rattlesnake Roundup on April 14 in Okeene, Okla. ♦ The Farm Animal Reform Movement once again marked Mother's Day with a nationwide anti-veal campaign. ♦ Four PETA protesters led by Dan Mathews crashed the lineup at the May 13 Oscar de la Renta fur fashion show in New York, wearing only flesh-tone bathing suits and carrying a banner that read, "I'd rather go naked than wear fur." ♦ Allies for Animal Rights, of Hamilton, Ontario, recently protested against use of a declawed Siberian tiger, a monkey, various birds, and a four-foot python in nightclub shows by stripper Jane Jones. ♦ PETA and the Humane Society of the U.S. are objecting to an International Space Year (1992) press release that urges students to load insects into model rockets and use miniature video cameras to monitor their behavior as the rockets gain altitude.

## Pet Overpopulation

King County, Washington, is considering a six-month breeding moratorium and mandatory spay/neuter bill, based on the one recently passed by San Mateo County, Calif. The bill was introduced by counselor Ron Sims, who drafted it with aid from the Progressive Animal Welfare Society. ♦ Norma

McMillen of People for Animal Rights chartered a plane from Kansas City to Macon, Mo., on April 20, to ask the Macon council to fire animal control officer Louis Christy. Christy, 74, has admitted to euthanizing puppies by bludgeoning them. Macon officials, who had ignored the bludgeonings for seven years, reportedly resented "outsiders" getting involved.

## Group News

The North American Vegetarian Society has begun a national push to get fast food franchises to offer a vegan option. For details, including a list of franchise chain addresses, write P.O. Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329. ♦ Sanctuary 3000 "will unite the loose network of organizations and individuals who provide permanent homes for multiple animals." Get details from the Animal Rehabilitation Center, P.O. Box 629, Midlothian, TX 76065. ARC is also trying to identify the importer who recently flooded pet shops in six states with baby European hedgehogs. Priced at \$300-\$800, many of the hedgehogs soon died from inappropriate care. ♦ The Independent Animal Activists' Network has formed at 1108 N. Main Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104. ♦ Brontosaurus Movement, opposing the extinction of species, requests donations of literature c/o Green Library, P.O. Box 16, CS-160 17 Praha, Czechoslovakia. ♦ The members of Forgotten Felines of Sonoma County spay/neuter as many as 60 stray cats a month, and hold monthly training sessions for volunteers. Get details from 1275 Fourth St., #366, Santa Rosa, CA 95404.

## People

Sam LaBudde, whose video of dolphins dying in tuna nets brought international pressure on the tuna industry to cease netting "on dolphin," was among the seven winners of the first Goldman Environmental Prize. LaBudde donated his \$60,000 award to Earth Island Institute, which distributed the video. Other winners included Catharine Geinwen Wallace for work to preserve Antarctica, and Kenyan,

Japanese, Swedish, and Peruvian citizens for rainforest conservation projects. One prize was issued to citizens of each of the seven inhabited continents. ♦ Lori Gregory has been appointed Legislative Director for the Natl. Alliance for Animals. ♦ Humane Society of the U.S. vice president for companion animals Phyllis Wright is retiring this summer, after 22 years on the job. ♦ Fashion model Karen Alexander lost a lucrative appearance April 11 when she refused to wear a fur-trimmed dress. ♦ Charles Harvey, 28, of Toronto, died April 25 from multiple injuries suffered when he was swept through rapids after jumping into the fast-flowing Humber River in an effort to rescue his Labrador retriever, Tabatha, who got out on her own, guarded Harvey's shirt, shoes, and wallet on the bank until help arrived. ♦ Horace Dobbs, founder of International Dolphin Watch, is marketing a compact disk of dolphin music in Japan, trying "to change Japanese attitudes toward whales and dolphins in a totally non-confrontational way." ♦ The deadline for nominations for the \$250 Bill Rosenberg Award, honoring an activist under age 18 "who has made a substantial contribution to ending farm animal abuse," is Sept. 27. For details, call FARM, 301-530-1737.

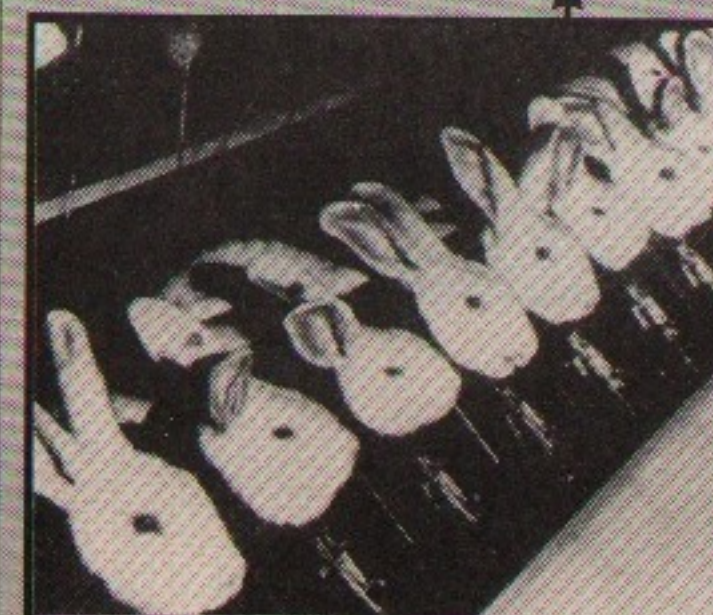
## Dogs

Michele MacLaren of Bryn Mawr, Pa., set up a dog manure scooping service in 1989. Her firm, Dog-Gone-It, now has 100 clients who pay \$40-\$200 a month to have her 11 staffers keep their yards manure-free. ♦ A Natl. Hearing Dog Center survey found that 3,000 hearing dogs had been trained as of January, at the rate of 440 per year, by at least 19 separate programs. About 85 percent of the programs took shelter dogs; 65 percent took donated dogs; 30 percent obtained dogs from breeders; and 15 percent bred their own dogs. Fifty-three percent reported having encountered abusive hearing dog recipients. ♦ Health insurance for pets is available from Veterinary Health Insurance of Anaheim, Calif., and the Animal Health Insurance Agency, of Danbury, Ct. ♦ Infants and

small children should never be left alone with dogs, no matter how well-behaved the dogs seem to be around adults. Family pets, stirred by jealousy or initially friendly tussles, account for the overwhelming majority of fatal dog attacks on toddlers. ♦ K&B Drug Stores, with 25 New Orleans outlets, offered \$5 veterinary vouchers for canine heartworm checks from mid-April to mid-May. Sixty local veterinarians redeemed the K&B certificates. ♦ Dogs who live with smokers are 35 times more likely to get lung cancer, according to findings by Colorado State Univ. veterinary epidemiologist John Reif. ♦ Anti-bark collars tend to cause dogs to transfer nervous response to other activities, e.g. chewing furniture, says Elizabeth Teal of the American SPCA. The Society of North American Dog Trainers adds that shock collars in general are a poor substitute for proper conditioning, which uses positive reinforcement to achieve good behavior.

## Tactics

The Alliance for Animals and the Fund for Animals have begun a planned two-year effort to persuade the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources to use non-lethal beaver control methods. ♦ Volunteers for Wildlife, of Lloyd Harbor, N.Y., staffs a wildlife information hotline at 516-423-0982, runs a wildlife rehabilitation center, and provides guest lecturers to local schools. ♦ The Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation has posted a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of anyone who poaches mountain lions or black bears in California. ♦ The Peninsula Humane Society set up an 800-prefix hotline, May 1 through June 10, to help voters urge Calif. governor Pete Wilson to endorse AB 110, a bill to ban the Draize test (in which substances are forced into the eyes of restrained rabbits).



## Image

A poll of humane officers by the Calif. Humane Action and Information Network found that 54 percent called themselves animal protection professionals, 38 percent called themselves animal welfare professionals, 31 percent saw no difference, and none considered themselves animal rights professionals. Thirteen percent felt that animal rights activism helped them, 21 percent felt it hindered them, and 63 percent said it helped and hindered to equal degrees. Exactly a third opposed all illegal activity on behalf of animals, but 63 percent approved of civil disobedience, and four percent even approved of laboratory break-ins. For full details, see *C.H.A.I.N. Letter*, spring 1991, published by the Marin Humane Society, 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Novato, CA 94949.

## Letters

Beneath a picture of the U.S. flag, the May/June 1991 issue of *Contribution* attacked PETA for opposing donkey basketball, and the Humane Society of the U.S. for criticizing the growing popularity of "fainting" goats. (When suddenly stressed, they fall over because of *myotonia congenita*, an inherited physical defect. Goats are now being bred specifically for the defect, as some people apparently think watching them "faint" is funny.) *Contributions* is a nationally circulated tabloid claiming to reach "the heart of America's nonprofit sector." Protest to 634 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 201, Newton Centre, MA 02159. ♦ The Dept. of the Interior, under pressure from trophy hunters, has proposed a split listing for African elephants on the U.S. endangered species list. Elephants purportedly from South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe would not be considered endangered, enabling ivory traffickers with connections in these three nations to get back into business. Write to your Congressional representatives. ♦ The Natl. Park Service is seeking public comment on a plan to shoot 400 non-native mountain goats who are allegedly threatening to wipe out several endangered native plants in 903,000-acre Olympic Natl.

Park, of northwestern Washington. The goats are descended from stock released in the 1920s to attract hunters. About 150 goats were relocated in 1988 and 1989, at cost of about \$1,000 a piece, but the Park Service decided the effort was too dangerous and expensive to continue. Write the Natl. Park Service c/o Dept. of the Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127. ♦ Caribbean Conservation Corp. urges readers to write their Congressional representatives in support of expanding the Archie Carr Natl. Wildlife Refuge, a breeding site for rare Fla. sea turtles.

## Victories

Three weeks before Farm Sanctuary's Memorial Day protest at the South St. Paul Livestock Market, the operator, United Stockyards Corp., announced that the company's seven midwestern stockyards would no longer accept sick or injured animals (called "downers"). Any downers who arrive will be euthanized immediately, and instead of being paid for the carcasses, the owners will be charged a rendering fee. *National Hog Farmer* editor Bill Fleming said he expected "most major markets" to follow up with similar policies. Farm Sanctuary president Gene Bauston said the Memorial Day demonstration, which had targeted the downer problem, would be reoriented, and would particularly honor Minneapolis activist Becky Sandstedt, whose 40 hours of videotape documenting the handling of downers made their suffering a national issue. Sandstedt, profiled in the April *ANIMALS' AGENDA*, is now a Farm Sanctuary staffer. ♦ Responding to protest letters, the Frank's Nurseries chain has ceased using poisoned perches for bird control. ♦ Safeway has become the first U.S. supermarket chain to sell only dolphin-safe tuna, at urging of Earth Island Institute. ♦ Vermont has once again resisted pressure from hunting groups to start a moose season. Among groups leading opposition to the moose season are the Animal Rights Forum and the Fund for Animals. ♦ The Coachella Valley Narcotics Task Force has informed

Californians for the Ethical Treatment of Animals that this year's fundraising circus will be the last. "I did a little investigation on my own and it really opened my eyes to learn how these animals are actually taught to do certain tricks and how some of these animals are transported from place to place," wrote CVNTF detective Bryan Anderson.

## Call For Papers

Carol Adams, Josephine Donovan, and Susanne Kappeler seek submissions to a proposed anthology on feminism and animal rights. Get details from Adams c/o 814 Grinnell Drive, Richardson, TX 75081.

## Coming Events

The Cousteau Society will lead a pair of two-week diving expeditions to the coral reefs of Fiji in July and August. Call 804-627-1144 for details. ♦ The 43rd annual Intl. Natural Living Conference will be July 26-31, at Hofstra Univ., in Hempstead, N.Y., featuring Dr. Colin Campbell, whose nutrition studies in China have helped establish the value of a vegetarian diet in preventing disease. For details, call 813-855-6607.

## On The Screen

PBS will air eight Audubon documentaries on habitat issues on Thursday nights, at 9:00 p.m., July 9 through August 27. Topics include oil spills, forest fires, rainforest logging, old growth logging, oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, use of public lands by beef ranchers, driftnetting, and the reintroduction of wolves to the Rocky Mountains. ♦ Administration of the Genesis Awards, "an annual presentation honoring... individuals in the media whose artistry and journalistic integrity have increased our understanding of animal issues," has been transferred from the Fund for Animals to the newly formed Ark Trust, 11012 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1258, Studio City, CA 91604.

## Notable Quote

"It is a known fact that the best way for any living mammal to obtain vitamins and minerals is through plant food." —*Fur Age Weekly*, 3/11/91, page 5.



# Fish: Sensitivity Beyond The Captor's Grasp

BY JOAN DUNAYER

**B**lackie, a severely deformed Moor goldfish, could barely swim. Big Red, a larger Oranda goldfish, sensed Blackie's helplessness. As soon as Blackie was added to Big Red's pet-store tank, Big Red started looking after him. "Big Red constantly watches over his sick buddy, gently picking him up on his broad back and swimming him around the tank," a South African newspaper reported in 1985. Whenever food was sprinkled overhead, Big Red carried Blackie to the water's surface so that both could eat. For a year, the pet-store owner said, Big Red had been showing this "compassion."

Most humans show far less compassion for fish. Tragically and ironically, they fail to recognize sensitivity that in many ways surpasses their own.

## The perceptual world of fish

The inner ears of fish capture an underwater world perceptible to humans only through hydrophones. Although they lack vocal cords, fish "talk." By squeezing their swimbladder, gnashing their pharyngeal teeth, or rubbing some of their bones together, they produce sounds ranging from buzzes and clicks to yelps and sobs. Fish "vocalizations," marine biologists have found, communicate states such as courtship, alarm, or submission, along with the "speaker's" species, size, and individual identity. The male satinfin shiner, for example, purrs when courting but "thumps" when defending his territory.

The lateral line, a series of sensory hairs running from head to tail on each side of a fish's body, also registers vibrations. As a fish swims, the lateral line pinpoints nearby objects from the vibrations they bounce back, enabling fish to navigate and locate prey in darkness.

The sensitivity of fish to light exceeds ours. Many abyssal fishes can see in dimmer light than a cat. Shallow-water species have dual vision. As dawn approaches, the eye's color-sensitive cones extend forward while the rods, sensitive to dim light, recede deep into the retina; at twilight, the process reverses. During the transition, an ability to perceive ultraviolet light assists many fishes; this light suffices to silhouette insects at the water's surface. When a fish is night-adapted, sudden brightness (say, from a flashlight) startles

and disorients the fish, who may flee, freeze, or sink. The light may also destroy rod cells.

In most fish, taste buds dot the lips and snout, as well as the mouth and throat. Many bottom-feeders also have taste sensors on pelvic-fin extensions or whisker-like chin barbels that act as external tongues. Covered with hundreds of thousands of taste sensors, catfish can taste food at some distance.

How sensitive are fish to odors? Salmon can migrate thousands of miles and, years later, recognize the smell of their home stream. American eels can detect alcohol at solution strengths comparable to one-billionth of a drop in 23,000 gallons of water (the size of a large swimming pool). By odor alone, some fish can determine another fish's species, gender, sexual receptivity, or individual identity.

Fish react strongly to tactile contact. In courtship, they often gently rub against each other. Narragansett Marine Laboratory recordings have revealed that the sea robin purrs when petted. Underwater photographer Ricardo Mandojana gained the friendship of an initially wary jewfish by lightly scratching the fish's forehead. For months after, the fish, apparently eager to be petted, approached the diver on his rounds.

With hundreds of electric sensors on their skin, fish of many species detect the shape of electric fields they generate. An object less conductive than water, such as a rock, casts an electrical shadow on the field; an object more conductive, such as prey, creates a bright spot. The fish's electrical picture includes objects' location, size, speed, and direction of movement. Electric fish also "read" one another's discharges, which vary according to the signaler's age, species, individual identity, and intentions (for example, courtship or challenge). A male banded knifefish asserts dominance with a rapid succession of pulses; his potential rival yields by falling "silent."

Whether or not they electrically signal, many fishes sense the electricity generated by all living beings and, in this way, detect prey hiding in gravel or sand. Some sharks, neuroscientist Theodore Bullock has noted, can perceive an electrical charge of amount and distance analogous to a flashlight battery's 1.5 volts over 900 miles away.



Jody Bayman



# Fish Farming

As wild fish stocks decline, aquaculture has become the fastest growing form of factory farming—and in some regions, may displace more traditional forms of animal husbandry.

"On paper," South Carolina catfish farmer Jeff Davis told *Farm Journal* recently, "it looks better than the hog business."

U.S. fish consumption rose from 12 pounds per person in 1980 to nearly 15.9 pounds by 1989, but the aquaculture industry more than kept pace despite the near-complete collapse of major salmon ranching schemes in the Pacific Northwest (see "Salmon Ranching Flops," Dec. 1990). Farmed fish and shellfish production quadrupled, from 200 million pounds to 800 million, as the wholesale value increased from \$192 million to \$700 million. While the industry slumped somewhat in 1990, as fish-eating declined slightly to 15.4 pounds per capita, aquaculture held on to a 10 percent share of U.S. fish sales, and continues to attract investment.

Such statistics represent eye-popping numbers of individual fish. Channel catfish are raised in the greatest quantity. As of January 1, 1991, according to the USDA, the 1,818 U.S. catfish operations kept 1.1 billion fingerlings and fry, 413 million stockers (fish who will be raised to sale size), 1.34 million brood fish, and 239 million fish already at sale size. The declining numbers as the fish grow larger reflect extremely heavy mortality. Of the 259 million catfish fingerlings and fry, 14.8 million stockers, and 14.2 million adults who died before slaughter during the last six months of 1990, the USDA estimated 64 percent died from disease. Viral infections and parasites spread rapidly through submerged cages whose initial population density runs as high as eight fingerlings per cubic foot of water. Though the numbers thin out, the fish get no more space relative to their own size as they grow. The crowding also contributes to deaths from oxygen depletion of the ponds, usually brought on by the combination of warm weather, algal blooms, and electrical brown-outs that cause aeration failure.

"It's very similar to a con-

finement floor of hogs," Jeff Davis brother and partner Hal says, but no other branch of animal husbandry could withstand so many preslaughter deaths. Eager to increase profits by reducing the death rate, most catfish farmers now give their stocks heavily medicated feed, a practice that could backfire by lowering resistance to disease in the long run—and could alarm consumers, many of whom have turned to fish, according to supermarket studies, to avoid red meat and poultry that may be tainted by antibiotics and growth hormones.

Kept mostly in shallow concrete troughs, approximately 56 million adult rainbow trout and additional millions of fingerlings and fry endure comparable conditions. Traditionally, trout have been raised by government fish and game agencies to stock fishing streams and lakes, but the USDA estimates that ranched trout now account for more than 99 percent of all human consumption. Thus more and more trout never enter anything resembling their natural habitat, and like catfish remain unnaturally crowded, in confinement, until slaughter at about one pound.

Bass, tilapia, and arctic char are also now raised in growing numbers at inland factory fish farms, whose proprietors see themselves competing for market share mainly with the poultry industry. Salmon ranchers by contrast compete with the beef industry, taking longer to produce a higher-priced flesh. Free-range salmon ranching failed in the Pacific Northwest because driftnetters rustled the stock before they made the spawning runs that were supposed to bring them back to the heavily financed hatchery/processing plants that produced them. Salmon ranching in offshore cages has succeeded big in northern Europe, however, where Norway alone produces as much as 140,000 tons of salmon flesh a year, worth \$1.35 billion. The Norwegian success has inspired American and Canadian entrepreneurs to set up at least 14 cage ranches in Puget Sound (13 of them in American waters). Opposition from environmentalists has held up efforts to start another six cage

ranches since 1987. The major problem is that a single two-acre salmon farm, holding 50,000 to 100,000 fish, produces as much organic waste as a town of 10,000 people. Crowding in the cages, as the salmon grow larger, spreads infection and parasites, which in turn can be passed to the wild with the waste. In February 1990, Washington state officials ordered four million ranched salmon and salmon eggs destroyed to prevent the spread of disease. But sometimes vigilance and such draconian control measures fail. Off Ireland, sea lice accidentally introduced with cage-ranching salmon about five years ago have all but annihilated native sea trout.

All ranched fish have short lives. Though mortality is also heavy in wild populations, channel catfish can survive 20 years in nature, while trout and salmon (depending on variety) may survive nine years. But most ranched fish, regardless of species, are killed at 10 months to two years of age. Researchers are now trying to cut their lives still shorter, by speeding growth through genetic engineering. Noting that male catfish grow faster, the Mississippi Agriculture Department is experimenting with hormone treatments to turn all stockers into males. Because female trout grow faster, and have more saleable flesh, the Clear Springs Trout Co., of Buhl, Idaho, is taking the opposite approach, trying to turn all trout stockers into females. Auburn University is experimenting with interspecies growth hormone transplants—first speeding carp growth with rainbow trout hormones, and later, the scientists hope, using the same technique to produce faster-growing channel catfish.

The Auburn experiments are conservative by world standards. In 1985, Chinese geneticists reportedly used human growth hormones to double the size of goldfish. Subsequent experiments are said to have transplanted genes from people, cattle, chickens, and mice into ranching varieties of fish, a source of alarm among critics of genetic research, who fear that such modified fish will escape into the environment and pass along traits that could be detrimental to wild populations.

—Merritt Clifton

Continued from page 13

## The capacity of fish to suffer

In keeping with their other sensitivities, fish undoubtedly feel stress and pain. Chased, confined, or otherwise threatened, they react as humans do to stress: with increased heart rate, breathing rate, and adrenal hormone release. Subjected to prolonged adverse conditions such as crowding or pollution, they suffer immune deficiency and damage to internal organs. Both biochemically and structurally, the central nervous systems of fish closely resembles ours. In vertebrates, free nerve-endings register pain; fish possess these nerve-endings in abundance. Fish also produce enkephalins and endorphins, opiate-like substances known to counter pain in humans. When injured, fish writhe, gasp, and show other signs of pain.

Fish definitely feel fear, which plays a role in learned avoidance. Once minnows have been attacked by a pike, or have merely seen other minnows attacked, they flee at the scent of pike. Having experienced a jack's attack, fish flee at the sound of a jack's teeth-grinding. Largemouth bass, researcher R. O. Anderson demonstrated, rapidly learn to avoid hooks simply by seeing other bass get hooked. In hundreds, perhaps thousands, of experiments, fish have performed tasks in order to avoid electric shock.

Numerous experimenters have acknowledged inducing fear in fish. Among his "observations on fear-motivated behavior of goldfish," psychiatrist Quentin Regestein has noted, "A scared fish may dart forward, back up, or flip about, or he may simply go limp when the situation becomes too overwhelming."

Fish cry out in both pain and fear. According to marine biologist Michael Fine, most sound-producing fishes "vocalize" when prodded, held, or chased. In experiments by William Tavolga, toadfish grunted when electrically shocked. What's more, they soon came to grunt at the mere sight of an electrode.

## Fish as "pets"

With or without the added cruelty of experimentation, holding fish captive disregards their most basic needs. High-strung and fragile, fish are ill-suited to a glass-enclosed life; yet, in the U.S. alone, hundreds of millions are imprisoned in home aquariums.

Fish are more sensitive to temperature than any warm-blooded animal. A sudden change of only a few degrees can kill a goldfish. Nevertheless, fish are confined to small containers whose water temperature can rapidly fluctuate.

Aquarium fish cannot escape harmful chemicals that enter their water. Cigarette smoke, paint fumes, and aerosol sprays are only a few of the common indoor pollutants that can harm fish. In a bowl or tank, the ammonia that fish themselves excrete can accumulate to toxic levels. As with ammonia, minute amounts of chlorine can cause breathing difficulty and nervous spasms. The chlorine in tap water can easily prove fatal.

Human sights and sounds bombard aquarium fish. Simply switching on the light in a dark room can so startle them that they dash into their tank's walls, and die. Vibrations from a TV, stereo, or slammed door can also cause alarm and injury. In *You and Your Aquarium*, Dick Mills warns that fish are "likely to be shocked and stressed by any knocking on the front glass." Fish repeatedly exposed to loud music, researcher H.H.

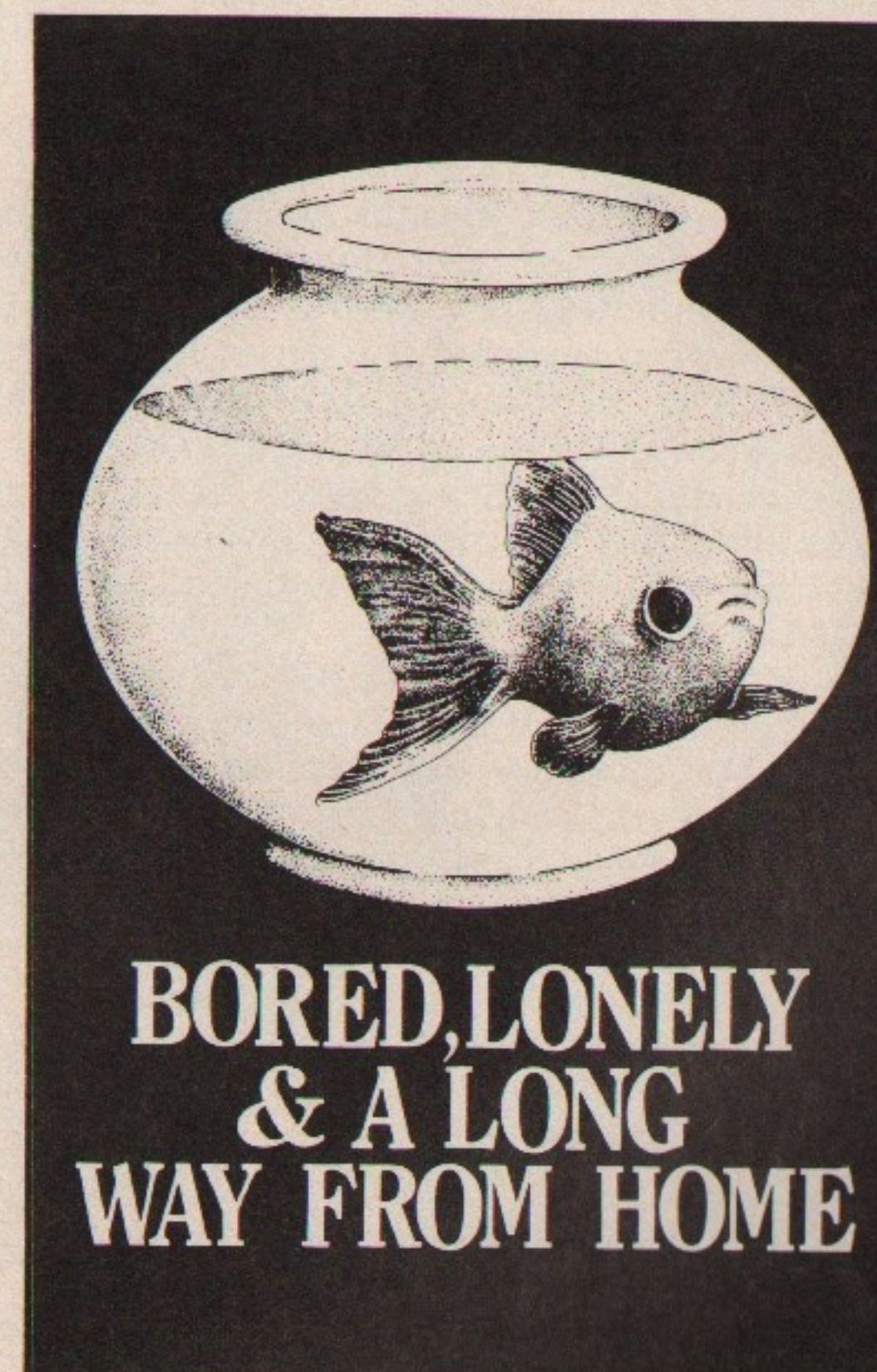


Reichenbach-Klinke found, develop fatal liver injury.

While assailing fish with the artificial, aquariums rob them of the natural. The fish are denied such activities as foraging over brilliantly varied coral reef. Instead they swim and re-swim the same cubic inches or feet, passively receiving the same commercial feed day after day. Aquarium fish, Mills states, often suffer from boredom.

Goldfish and other social fish require companions of their own species; otherwise, Mills comments, they "might well pine away." At the loss of a companion, social fish show signs of depression, such as lethargy, paleness, and drooping fins. In *Animal Intelligence*, zoologist George Romanes shares this incident: When an aquarium owner gave one of two ruffs away, the remaining ruff stopped eating until, three weeks later, the companion was returned.

Continued on next page



Courtesy/Animal Diary



Hobbyists' harm to fish extends far beyond the home aquarium. Countless fish die before reaching the pet store, during transport from either the fish "farm" (where 80 percent of U.S. "ornamental" fish are now bred) or the wild. Capture alone injures and kills millions of fish, who are incapacitated with anesthetics, dynamite, or cyanide before being caught by hand or net. Fisheries biologist William McLarney has observed capture with cyanide spray:

*A dozen bright red squirrelfish abruptly flee from their coral reef home, gasping and jerking. They make a mad dash for the surface, 25 feet above the reef, and keep going a foot into the air. Then they fall back with little sodden plops and float, exhausted, feebly circling. Below them, a three-pound grouper coughs violently, its gills suddenly on fire. It tries to swim but keels over as it goes, until it floats quietly like a grisly marker buoy.*

Meanwhile, fish too "drab" to interest buyers "lie convulsing or still on the bottom."

## Fewer Fish—And Smaller, Too

Heavily fished species in the South Atlantic aren't just getting scarcer, says evolutionary biologist Jim Bohnsack of the University of Miami. They're also getting smaller, in the most rapid instance of genetic evolution on record.

According to Bohnsack, the average size of same-aged fish of numerous species has declined by 50 percent in just the past 10 years. Other scientists had already noted that the average size of chinook salmon had dropped 50 percent in 60 years. Off the Carolinas, a 14-year study begun with the advent of party-boat fishing circa 1975 found the average weight of red snapper falling from 19 to five pounds; gag grouper from 19 pounds to seven; and snowy grouper falling from 18 pounds to four. But the phenomenon didn't just affect large varieties. Even four out of the five smallest fish native to the Carolina reef showed a decline in size.

That the fish are being caught at an ever-younger age is a partial explanation. But Bohnsack argues that much more is happening. By taking the biggest fish first, sport fishing has stripped the genes for large size from the breeding population, he claims. Since smaller fish have smaller appetites and won't take bait set for fish with bigger mouths, they survive. Since the fish population is declining, the trend toward downsizing is accelerated: fish mainly eat other fish, and small fish don't need to eat as many.

Bohnsack believes that traditional size limits, allowing catches of big fish only, are having the wrong effect upon genetic diversity, and that limiting the total poundage of fish each boat can take only encourages trophy-hungry anglers to surreptitiously dump the many small fish they kill accidentally in pursuit of the big ones. Instead, Bohnsack recommends establishing absolute "no fishing" zones along 20 percent of the South Atlantic coast—the most critical breeding areas, where big fish might come back if the pressure on them is removed. The Florida sport and commercial fishing industries, worth a combined \$3 billion per year, have responded with outraged alarm.

—M. C.



Photos by: Gale Annmar/Mississippi State University

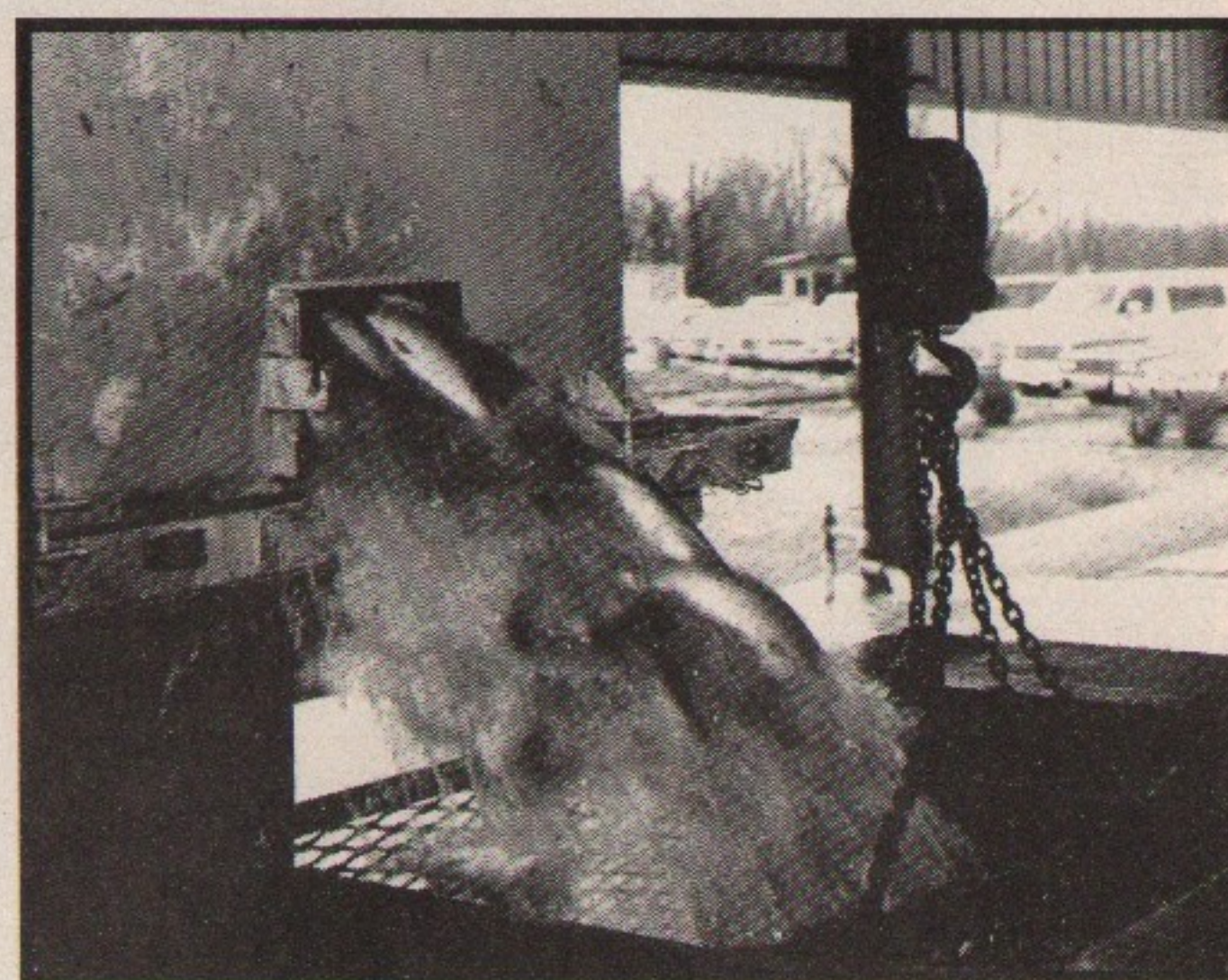
## Commercial fishing

Commercial fishing further decimates fish, killing untold billions each year. Generally, their deaths are neither quick nor painless.

In purse seining, a boat encircles a school of fish with a net that is then drawn tight. Once hauled up, the fish are usually dumped into liquid brine kept below freezing. If they haven't already suffocated or been crushed, the fish die of thermal shock. Purse seining for yellowfin tuna has aroused public outrage on behalf of dolphins ensnared with the tuna swimming below them. Few people, however, have protested the death meted out to the tuna themselves. Surely, the motorboats and underwater explosives that herd the dolphins cause terror and pain to the vibration-sensitive tuna as well. Pressure waves from an underwater detonation can burst a fish's swimbladder.

In trawling, a moving boat drags an enormous net through the water. The tow forces all fish who enter the net into the tapered, closed end. For one to four hours, the trapped fish are squeezed and bounced, together with any netted rocks and ocean debris. "Prolonged tumbling and dragging in the net had caused the fish to rub against each other and file away their sharp scales," author William Warner reported of one haul, in *Distant Water: The Fate of the North Atlantic Fisherman*. "Their flanks, in fact, were scraped entirely raw."

When hauled up from a substantial depth, fish undergo excruciating decompression. As water pressure plummets, the volume of gas in a fish's swimbladder increases more rapidly than the bloodstream can absorb the gas. Frequently, the intense internal pressure



Above: Catfish being dumped from live-haul truck into holding pond at slaughterhouse.  
Left: Inside the catfish processing plant.

ruptures the swimbladder, pops out the eyes, and pushes the esophagus and stomach out through the mouth. "Many of the fish had gaping sockets where their eyes should have been," Warner observed on one trawler. As the net was hauled up on another, he saw "a great froth of bubbles... emanating from the ruptured swimbladders of thousands of fish."

Smaller fish, such as flounder, are ordinarily dumped onto chopped ice; most suffocate or are crushed to death by layers of fish who follow. Larger fish, such as cod and haddock, tumble onto deck.

Eyewitness William MacLeish has described how the catch is sorted: the crew stab the fish with short, spiked rods called pickers, "throwing cod here, haddock there, yellowtail there." Next, the fish have their throats and bellies slit (not necessarily in that order). Meanwhile, non-target ("trash") fish, who sometimes comprise most of the catch, are thrown overboard, often by pitchfork.

On any one evening, fishers may set out some 40,000 miles of gillnets, mainly driftnets on the Pacific high seas, but also anchored nets in coastal waters. Plastic mesh with floats on top and weights at the bottom, gillnets hang like curtains, generally to a depth of 30 feet. In addition to causing the slaughter of more than a million unsought mammals, turtles, and birds each year, gillnets inflict enormous suffering on fish.

Unable to see the netting, fish swim into it. Unless they are smaller than the mesh size, they get no further than poking their heads through. When they try to back out, the netting catches them by their gill-plates or fins. Many of the fish suffocate. Others struggle so desperately in the sharp mesh that they bleed to death, whether or not they have managed to pull free. Because many fishers fail to tend their gillnets daily, trapped fish may survive for days, slowly dying. In *Sports Illustrated* (5/16/88), journalist Clive Gammon described cod pulled aboard after two days. Many were "eyeless, finless, and scaleless"; others had been eaten away by sand fleas. Trapped fish are helpless prey. (The

predators they attract frequently become entangled as well.) When a gillnet is hauled, the fish are pulled out by hook.

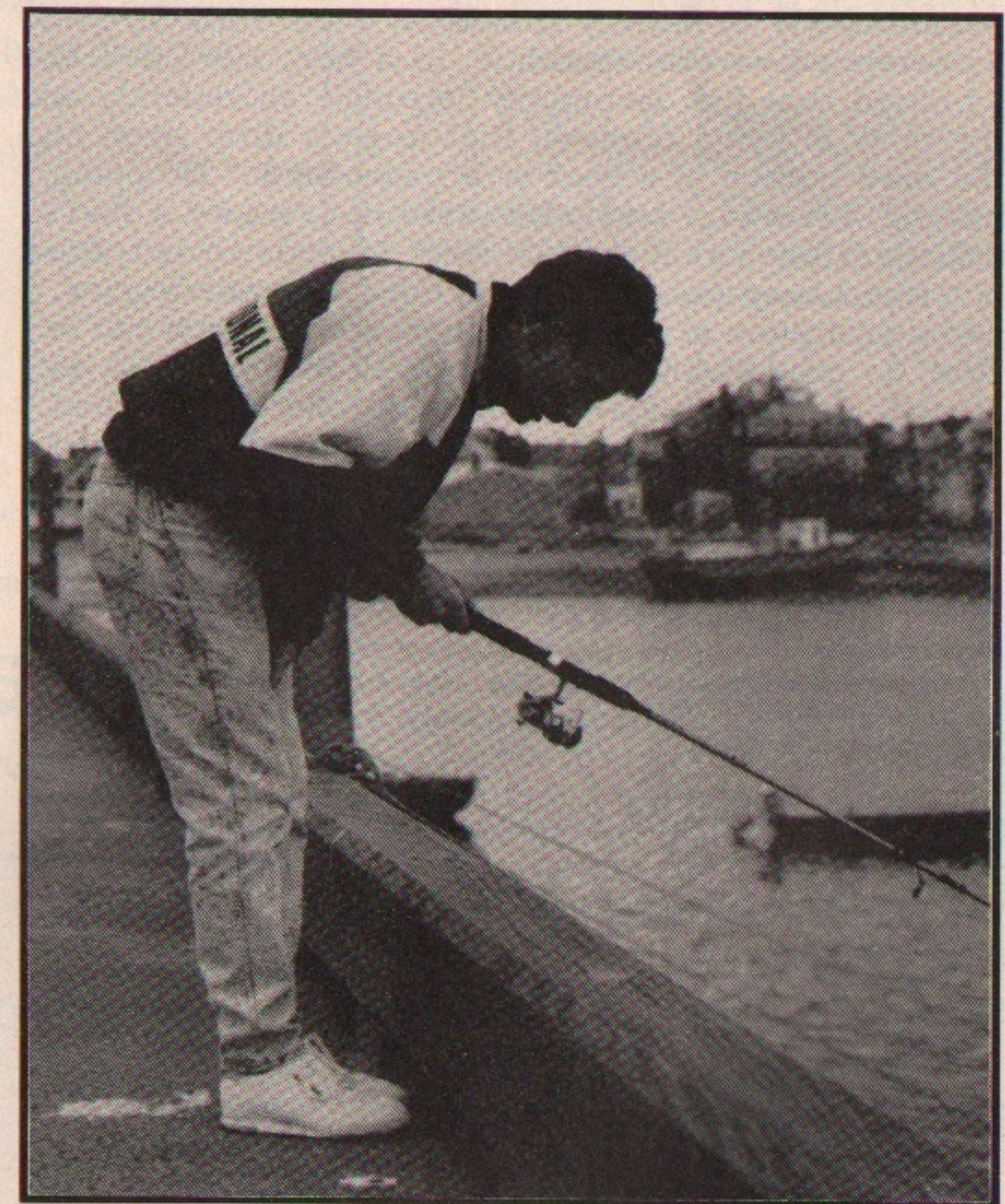
Some commercial fishers still harpoon large, valuable fish (such as swordfish, tuna, and sharks) or hook them individually. Far more commonly, however, large fish are caught by longlining. In this method (also used to catch smaller fish), a ship unreels as much as 30 miles of line bristling with hundreds or thousands of baited hooks.

## Sport fishing

About 40 million Americans—16 percent—abuse fish for "sport." Many sportfishers claim that their victims don't suffer. All the evidence indicates otherwise.

Researcher John Verheijen and co-workers studied carps' reaction to hook and line. When hooked, carp shake their head, spit as if to cough up food, dart, and dive. Electric shock in the roof of their mouth initially elicits the same reactions. When hooked and held on a taut line for at least several minutes, carp spit gas from their swimbladders; after the line is slackened, they sink. Subjected to severe and sustained electric shock, carp also spit gas and sink. Strikingly, they react the same way when frightened by confinement in a small space or by the odor of a wounded member of their species. Hook and line, the experimenters concluded, cause some combination of terror and pain.

Continued on next page





Continued from previous page

As a hooked fish struggles to escape, muscle glycogen (stored glucose) diminishes, while lactic acid rapidly accumulates in the bloodstream. Within a few minutes, strenuous exertion halves a rainbow trout's glycogen store. In the May 1990 issue, *Field and Stream* columnist Bob Stearns acknowledged issue that lactic acid can "immobilize" a fish "in a much more rapid and intense fashion than the similar cramps and sore muscles we humans suffer from too much exercise." The longer the fish struggles, the greater the lactic acid buildup. Yet sportfishers take pleasure in "running" fish hard. In the July 1990 issue, Stearns extolled a "diminutive lady angler" who drove a swordfish for nearly five hours: "Every time the fish would slow, she would seize the moment: pumping, pressuring, aggravating it into expending its own energy reserves, never allowing it to rest." Before being hauled up, many fish die from exhaustion.

For many others, the worst suffering may follow being reeled in. Typically, medium-sized and larger fish are pulled on board by being stabbed with a hand-held hook, or gaff. Sometimes, fish are skinned alive. Many fishers regularly string their still-living catch, for hours, on a rope or chain that hangs in the water. The rope is threaded through each fish, normally through the mouth and one gill-opening. The chain has clips like giant safety-pins on which the fish are impaled, usually through the jaw. Most fish caught in "sport" suffocate. Even out of water, they may die slowly. In October 1980, *Field and Stream* writer Ken Schultz described a bass left out of water for an hour: the fish had reddened fins and gills, and was "still gasping."

Catch-and-release fishing, at a minimum, inflicts terror, pain, and temporary disability. Frequently, it permanently or fatally disables. *Field and Stream* associate editor Jim Bashline, in a May 1990 article, admitted that fish commonly "struggle so violently as the hook is being removed that anglers drop them on the hard bottom of a boat or a rocky bank." Dropping, netting, handling, and other assaults remove a fish's delicate, transparent surface skin. Mucous-coated, this outermost layer protects against infection, waterlogging, and dehydration of internal tissues, any of which can be fatal. As experiments have confirmed, fish may also die of lactic-acid poisoning several hours after overexertion, hours during which they may be completely paralyzed. Always, the hook causes injury. Severe mouth lacerations can destroy a fish's ability to eat. Many fish are released after being hooked by the gills or internal organs, as when they swallow the hook into their stomach.

Fishing also tortures any live bait used. Minnows and other small fish are routinely hooked through the back, the lips, or even the eyes. Because injuries attract predatory "gamefish," some anglers further maim baitfish by cutting their fins or breaking their backs.

### "Managing" fish for sport

To provide a steady supply of catches, U.S. hatcheries annually stock angling waters with hundreds of millions of fish, commonly salmon and trout. A self-described "former barker for the managers," Ted Williams, has called hatchery trout "genetic wrecks." In a September 1987 *Audubon* article, he wrote, "After years of inbreeding, hatchery trout tend to be deformed. Gill covers don't fit, jaws are bent, tails pinched." Some



Gilbert Martinez/Cinnamon graphics

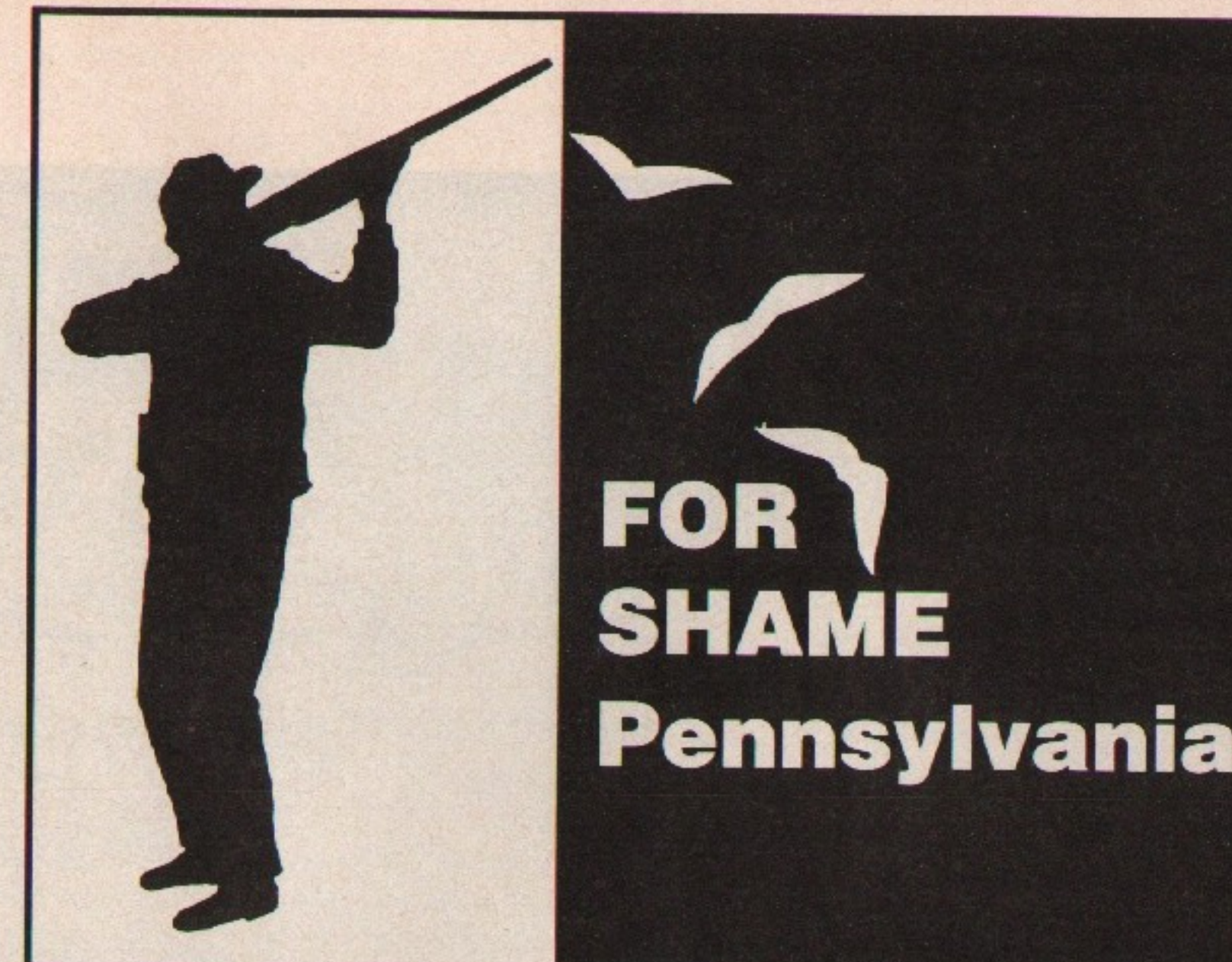
harmful mutations are intentionally cultivated. Utah's Division of Wildlife Resources, for example, has mass-produced light-sensitive albinos to serve as easily spotted catch.

Williams deplores the conditions in which hatchery trout are reared: "filthy, crowded, cement troughs that wear away scales and fins." The fish, he adds, are ill-equipped for life in the wild. Whereas native trout flee at overhead movement, hatchery trout expectantly wait to be fed (convenient for anglers). Himself an avid angler, Williams cut open one hatchery trout to find that the fish, accustomed to eating pellets, had been feeding on cigarette butts.

Sportfisher Mark Sosin and fisheries biologist John Clark have coauthored a book for anglers, *Through the Fish's Eye: An Angler's Guide to Gamefish Behavior*, in which they candidly identify the goal of fish management: "to provide the best sportfishing." To thin native populations of smaller non-game fish and increase water transparency, managers often partially drain lakes or ponds, leaving the non-game species to suffer from reduced food, protective cover, and space in which to avoid predators. "When a lake or pond becomes heavily populated with undesirable species," Sosin and Clark state coolly, "the best solution may be to annihilate all the fish and start over again. This is usually done either by draining the lake dry or by poisoning the fish.... After all of the fish have been killed, the basin is refilled and stocked according to the desired mix of predator and prey species." Desired, that is, by anglers and the "wildlife managers" whose salaries derive largely from license fees.

Most humans feel little empathy for fish. Seeing fish gathered en masse, or viewing them as uniform throughout a species, people easily disregard them as individuals. Because fish dwell in an aquatic world, communicate by means hidden to our perceptions, and have a physical appearance so different from our own, many humans fail to recognize their sentience. The result is massive, socially sanctioned abuse. As more people become aware of the sensitivity of fish, fish will begin to receive the compassion and respect they deserve.

When it comes to feeling, we have much to learn from Big Red. ➡

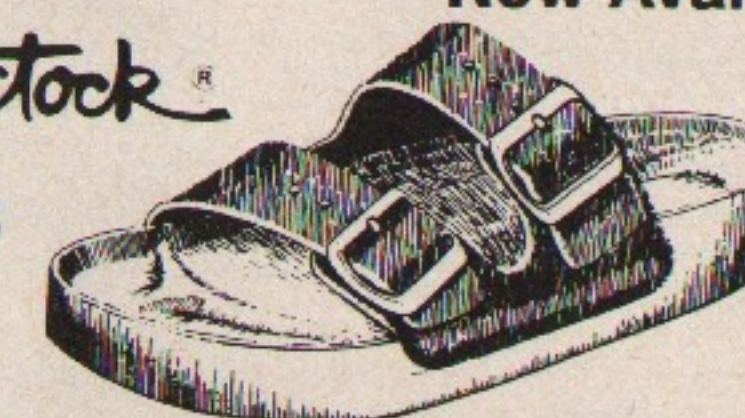


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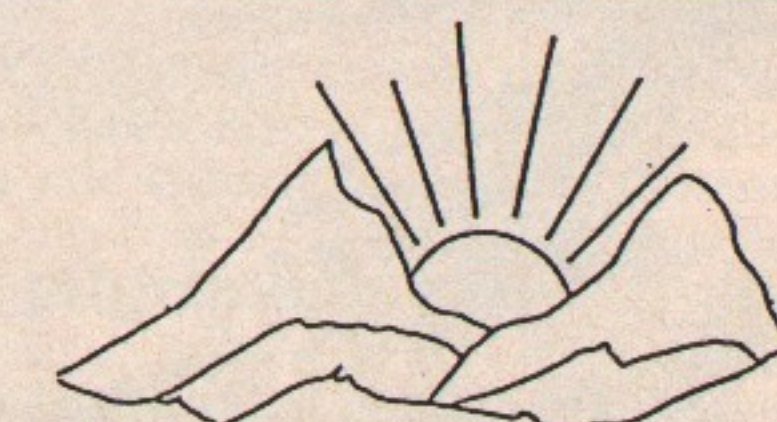
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# Swimming with

# Dolphins

BY JIM NOLLMAN

Many dolphin species possess a brain larger than our own, provoking much speculation about their intellectual and communication capabilities. Moreover, dolphins seem to relate to one another through a social behavior largely founded upon compassion. Such large-brained behavior occasionally manifests in the form of fearlessness and friendliness toward the human presence. We've all heard about it. Dolphins really *do* save people from drowning. When we add in the grace and enormous vitality displayed by a dolphin pod swimming in the open sea, all these traits conspire to create that undeniable dolphin charisma. Throw a generous measure of human imagination into the mix, and you soon start to encounter the full-blown dolphin myth.

Some observers of the phenomenon assert that dolphins possess an uncommon ability to provoke humans toward a deeper connectedness with nature. It is, they maintain, a unique gift of the dolphin race. Although few doubt that this arousal occurs, others explain it as nothing more than the power *we* ascribe to the dolphins. It is best viewed as one more narcissistic reflex of our own species seeking to find its animal heritage in similarly endowed large-brained mammals. Either way, the debate offers some introspection.

In my own 15 years of exploring the human/dolphin bond in depth, I have heard many people describe that connection as if it were somehow akin to a close encounter of the extraterrestrial kind. By contrast, I have rarely heard people talk about raccoons, redwood trees, squid, or elephants in such breathy, mystical tones. The relationship that exists between extinct dinosaurs and very alive human children may come up a distant second.

Sometimes, the terms of this endearment worry me. It's not unlike giving deference to the opinions of a Hollywood celebrity instead of listening to the immediate needs of your own husband or wife. Why do so many people go to such great extremes to protect a few celebrity dolphins held in an oceanarium located a thousands miles away while their own environment gets clearcut? Actually, now that I put the idea into words, it sounds too much like a stingy question voiced by sour environmentalists. Let's save the dolphins. And please, use recycled paper the next time you write those dolphin letters to Congress.

Here's one reason humans give free-swimming dolphins such power. Close and prolonged proximity to a dolphin pod in open water more often than not instills a sense of being chosen to participate in a secret and very sensuous interspecies bonding. It's a mood captured in a dozen or more films produced over the past decade. Several pretty people cavort through

crystal clear waters and then resurface, laughing, to express wonder and awe that any of this dolphin miracle could actually be happening to them. The dolphins do that.

I tend to view this film making genre as the flip side to all the crisis management depicted in all those other environmental documentaries that illuminate the predominant shadow interface that currently exists between human beings and the rest of nature. With the dark side so utterly dark, is it any wonder that the light side often seems so lightweight? That's Hollywood. In fact, the relationship that exists between humans and dolphins cannot be so easily trivialized as the newest water sport. Something mysterious is being revealed here. There is a reason some people refer to dolphin consciousness as a genuine pathway to spiritual awakening.

What does it have in common with, for just one example, a religion that teaches its devotees to stick rattlesnakes between their teeth and then dance around the room in a trance? Not too much. The rattlesnake dancers are utilizing the threat of self-imposed violence as a means to induce an altered state. Dolphin consciousness is, by contrast, much more like a spiritual massage. It invokes a love of nature through a peer relationship with a wild animal. Some call it totem.

## The pilgrimage

My family recently participated in a two-week swim with spinner dolphins off the Big Island of Hawaii. Every morning a number of us pilgrims set off from shore to spend the next several hours floating among 30 or more of these high jumping, fast swimming creatures within the awesome environment of the Pacific ocean.

Swimming with dolphins has always impressed me as a uniquely paradoxical experience because of the way it melds the very active with the very passive. It is active because one does not presume to go swimming a half mile from shore for two or more hours unless one is both physically strong and mentally alert. It is passive because the successful dolphin swim is almost always an experience of unmitigated surrender.

Rattlesnake dancing aside, there may be no other human/animal relationship in which a wild animal is permitted to exert such control over otherwise normal, modern, middle-class adults. But please, don't read this as criticism. To the contrary, if there were only a few more people off manifesting their own version of the animal vision quest, the entire world might start to be a kinder and gentler place. Except it's too improbable to consider. Imagine anybody from an industrialized nation paying \$2,000 to go leap with frogs for two weeks. Or shriek with loons. Graze with zebras, sleep with lions, get your bones picked clean by vultures.

But mention swimming with dolphins and you've soon got a major hotel chain spending several million dollars constructing an interspecies swimming pool fit for kings. See what I mean? Yet just like so many other things wrong with America at this particular juncture, the ends of this venture in interspecies capitalism are woefully out of sync with the means.

Swimming out here in the open ocean, the dolphins come and go as they please. Although most pilgrims start out by trying to swim toward the dolphins, such a maneuver is soon understood by both species to

*Continued on next page*



be an act of ultimate futility. Actually, swimming toward a dolphin would probably be perceived as outright aggression if it weren't so downright pathetic in terms of comparative swimming abilities. This realization soon causes some pilgrims to assert that the best interactions occur when the humans make a special effort to swim away from the dolphins. It makes me realize that the human species is the rule-making species. And the rulemakers among us feel most secure when they are able to explain the dolphins in terms of behavioral score cards.

Fifty percent of the time, the dolphins swim away at the first sight of humans. But the rest of the time, they'll stick around to perform synchronized swimming just in front of you, and occasionally for an hour or more. Less occasionally, they will appear to be making entreaties of platonic love. And very rarely, one of the more rambunctious males may even smell out a menstrual occasion for sexual intercourse. Whatever they choose to do, if you're in the water, you can't escape them. Swimming out here in the ocean, the shore can start to look very far away.

After three days here, I've come to the conclusion that some of the human swimmers simply don't know when to get out of the water. Yesterday I watched a woman suffer cramps and hypothermia for just a fleeting glimpse of the dolphin pod spinning out of sight into the abyss. I suppose it's like any other yearning that turns compulsive.

Ten years ago off the coast of Mexico, I witnessed a man from Los Angeles, who had obviously imbibed one too many margaritas, throw his seven-year-old son over the side of the boat just as the dolphins drew near. "I can't swim, Dad. *Dad, I can't swim!*" cried the boy. "Don't worry," answered the tipsy father, "The dolphins are going to keep you afloat." But of course they didn't, and so I had to step in and rescue the lad. In retrospect, this story seems to share something with God's biblical testing of Isaac's will to sacrifice his only son Jacob.

But unlike the God of the Hebrews, swimming with dolphins seems to interest women much more than it does men. Although such a statement runs the risk of sounding sexist and thus moot, no matter, I stand by it. Actually, I consider it to be a less-than-profound conclusion. There are simply more women than men in this world who are open and willing to place themselves in the intensely passive role thrust upon them by the dolphins. Or put another way, encountering ecstasy through surrender is, sad to say, not an experience pursued by very many male human beings. Unfortunately, for every committed woman dolphin swimmer, we are going to find some guy, somewhere, caught up in the "real world" market-driven capitalism that results in the dolphin entertainment industry, the dolphin military budget, and the slaughter of millions of dolphins in the cause of tuna-fish sandwiches. And—need I say it?—far fewer women.

Instead, women prefer to swim with the dolphins. It's the story of the world.

## Interlocking

Eight of us have been treading water for the past two hours off this blue-green Hawaiian coastline in the near company of spinner dolphins. Their dorsal fins are almost always in sight, although the animals rarely draw close enough for me to call this event what New



Zealand researcher Wade Doak has termed "an interlock," meaning that dolphins are close by and relating.

Do these spinner dolphins put up with our presence because they are tolerant creatures who have nothing better to do at this particular moment? Or let's look beyond mere toleration. These marine mammals do seem genuinely curious about us humans who always get so excited every time they swim close. Watch what happens. The humans get excited. And then the dolphins get excited. And then the humans get more excited.

A few of us pilgrims seek an experience far beyond sorties of sincere curiosity. We aspire, instead, to experience the dolphins by exploring the far more provocative notion of interspecies communication. If a possibility, then by what language will these marine mammals engage us humans? Is it based in sound? Movement? Telepathy? And then there's a better question. Far beyond the format, the medium of communication, what is it that the dolphins will talk about?

For some pilgrims, even asking such questions places the dolphin swim on the same mystical ground as experimenting with crystals, psychedelics, or channeling. Others read the writings of brain researcher John Lilly, who calls dolphins "humans of the sea"—which, ironically, seems an indignity—and too easily fall prey to Lilly's exasperating manner of stating his outrageous speculations as if they were proven fact. When you're out here swimming with these vibrant creatures, Lilly's idea that dolphins are huge brains incidentally surrounded by flesh seems a distortion—the reverie of a lab technician turned mystic—who spent too many years cruelly isolating a few dolphins for the purposes of neurological experimentation. Granted, it makes great fodder for the dozen or so science fiction stories based on Lilly's cybernetic conjectures. And of course, those conjectures provide much grist for a few of

my fellow pilgrims who state with great certainty that dolphins are the latest new-age guru.

Actually, most of the pilgrims here portray the interface they have touched (and which has touched them) as paralleling the mythological and religious foundations of most cultures in human history. The draw is not so much ethereal as if handed to us from above, as it is immediate, kinetic, and experiential. Likewise, most of us are unwilling to declare that the dolphins are communicating anything in particular about this or that. But we *do* all agree that they are touching us with themselves. The dolphins have opened a doorway into our own aspirations for forgotten wildness. Because *they* are nature, when *we* are

close to *them*, we too become nature. Call it totem if you will. Call it clan of the cave bear. Call it communion.

For swimmers so far from shore, myself among them, this glimpse into the heart of communion inevitably transforms into an exercise about opening up our own heart to wildness. The very proximity of the dolphins is the catalyst. It persuades us forward. How to describe it? Let me just say that we reside in community with them for awhile. We feel vibrant. Sensual. Communal. Compassionate. It's like being a dolphin. And yet it's never quite so tangible as I make it sound.

Dolphins really do change people's lives. It can be powerful stuff, although, granted, it's not for everybody. For example, it's here at the cusp between communion and communication that most of the lab-coated dolphin scientists with their Ph.D.s in animal behavior and their objective specimen attitudes well in tow start to throw up their hands in exasperation. They label this...this...*dolphinism* as unscientific, and so find easy grounds to dismiss it outright.

On that note, it seems pertinent to look at what these professional students of dolphin communication prefer to do instead. Take Kewalo Basin, where researcher Lewis Herman directs a high profile, government-funded study into the lingual ability of dolphins. Herman's actions, although not his words, tell us that the best way to explore interspecies communication between humans and dolphins is to snatch a baby dolphin out of the wild, place her in a concrete pool, and then conduct double blind experiments to determine the limits of her ability to learn exactly what it is we wish to teach her. Offer the creature some food and companionship in return for hard data. Publish the results in a peer-reviewed journal, and then admit no connection whatsoever when the findings get snatched up by the military, who—as you read this—may be still trying to determine the very best method to train dolphins to protect nuclear submarines from enemy frogmen.

It makes me wonder. Do dolphins hold as many different opinions about *our* intelligence as we do about theirs?

## Doctor Feelgood

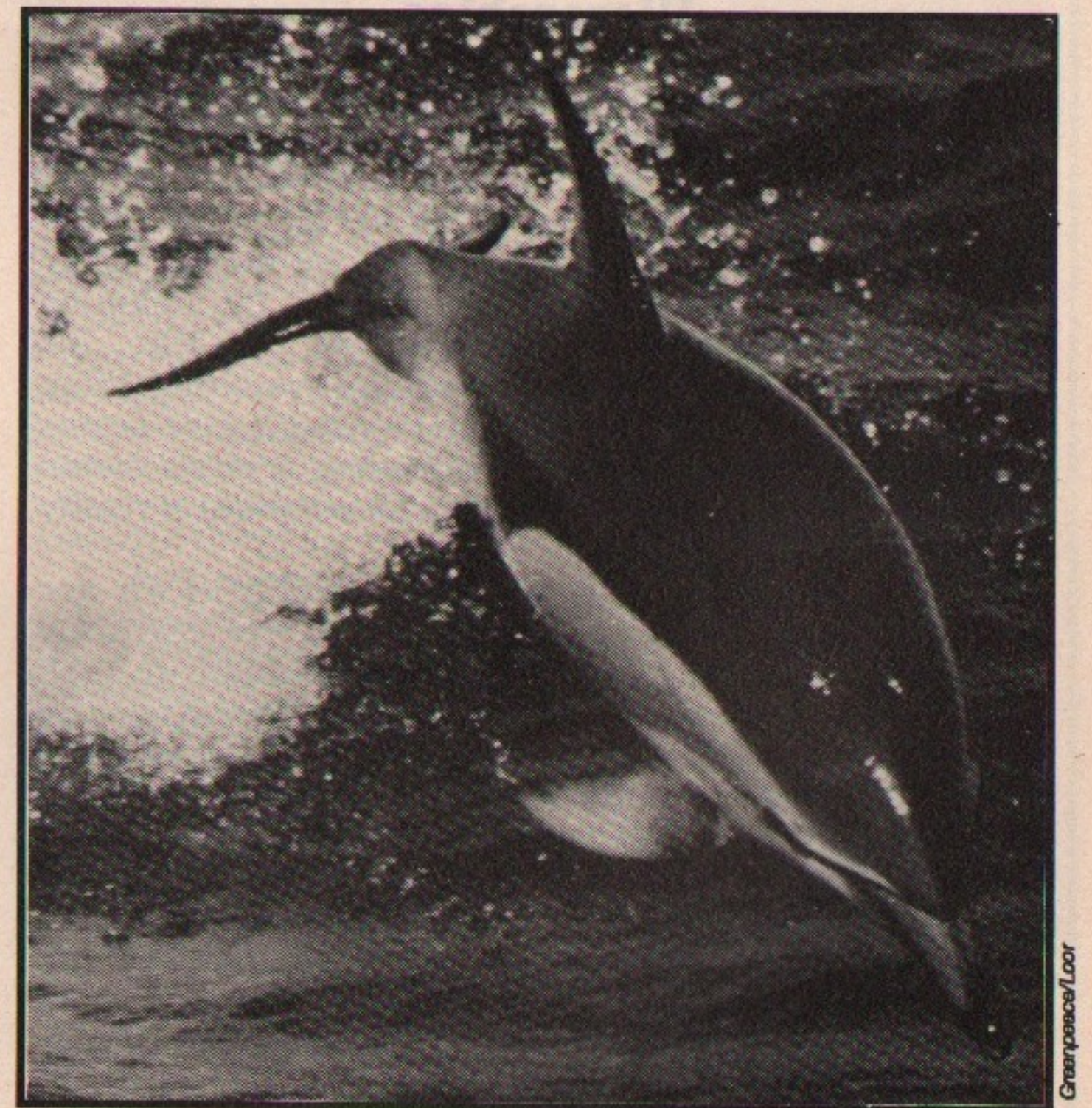
Here in the Pacific Ocean the dolphins are milling about, circling, splitting up, joining together, and occasionally leaping a good six or eight feet out of the water. It's as if they are involved in their own brand of research: trying to get a handle on this phenomenon called gravity.

And every 15 minutes or so, one pod or another swims in close to mingle with us humans. What happens now? Some among us end up paying obeisance to our scientific roots by paying extra attention to the dolphin's movements underwater. This will, undoubtedly, later provide grist for comments about individual markings and behavior. Others among us get excited, and, despite the futility factor, cannot help but swim towards the spinners. They tend to measure success by how close the dolphins choose to venture in response. Unfortunately, the more compulsive of these devotees will never be totally satisfied. They are already hoping that, *next* time, the dolphins will swim just a bit closer. It makes me wonder how much power one ought to give a dolphin.

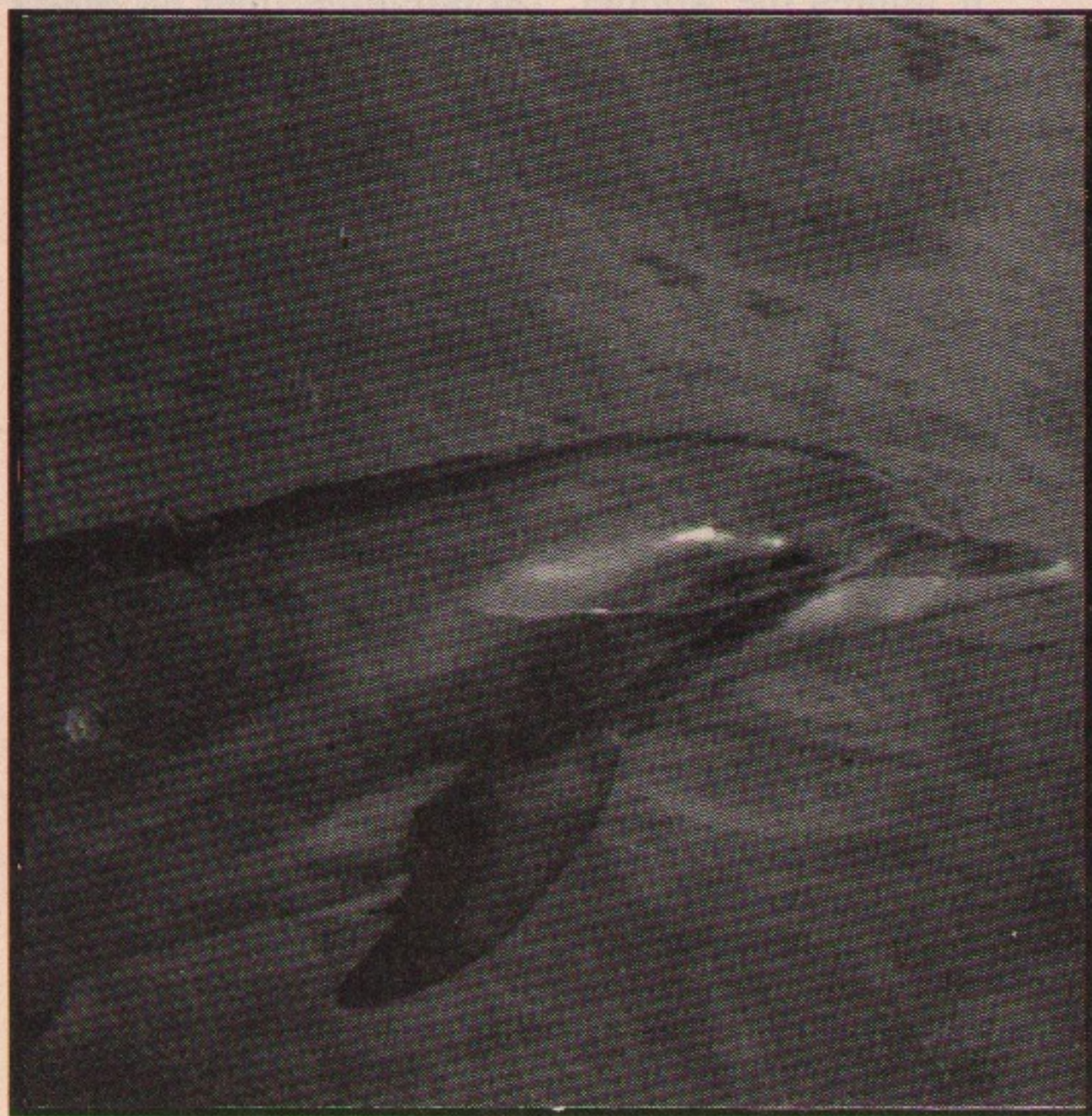
A few of us soon swim back to shore feeling utterly satisfied to have enjoyed an extended dip in this warm and invigorating tropical ocean in the presence of dolphins. Others choose to stay out still longer and explain their perseverance with declarations about wanting to "feel the dolphin's energy for just a little while longer." Like so many other things about this experience, it sounds sexy.

"Feeling the dolphin's energy" is one of those idiomatic sensations that you have to already know the meaning of in order to feel what it means. Just about everybody who *does* feel what it means also

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Doris Brookes/Unicorn Stock Photos

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acknowledges that it probably feels different to everyone who knows what it means. One friend refers to the energy as *telepathy*. Telepathy + empathy = telempathy. It's an especially apt term simply because, like the experience itself, it conjures up many more sensations than any of us can grasp intellectually. In some ways, the term seems like a fancy synonym for love. In my role as group curmudgeon, I cannot resist adding that telempathy refers to a state of grace halfway between Dr. Feelgood and the universal godhead.

## Hierarchies

In terms of these Hawaiian spinners, I soon find myself in the minority by questioning whether such tentative dolphin jaunts into the center of our human pod can be called interactions at all, let alone interlocks or telempathy. When I mention that we might all try something more aloof just to determine if the dolphins will still go out of their way to visit us—like, for instance, spending an entire morning watching them from a boat instead of in the water—no one else seems much interested in the idea of missing a day's swim. With so many dolphins about, who cares about a reality check?

Now, watching the spinners swoop in an arc beneath me, I acknowledge that they are certainly beautiful. But after three days of immersion in such beauty, I find myself wishing to democratize the experience. These feelings seem akin to witnessing the incredible array of multicolored fish who also share these waters. Akin to watching the rainbows that sprout in the sky around here like alfalfa in our salads. But when I describe our dolphin swims as athletic sightseeing disguised as interspecies communication, another pilgrim describes me as jaded. I'm not so sure it's that easy. After all, shouldn't an interaction imply something very different than simply being an

appreciative audience?

What's missing? Well, I have yet to behold any of the close-up mirroring of movement that I've experienced with spotted dolphins in the Bahamas. Nor have I witnessed the jazzy acoustic playfulness I've experienced so many times with the orcas who frequent the British Columbia coastline. I feel little impetus to search out a common ground with these spinners the way I feel drawn, for example, to the very mysterious Arctic beluga whales.

"Why," asks one of my swimmers, "do you always have to grade the various experiences? Isn't it just one more example of human hierarchical thinking?"

I see his point, although I'm not so sure it's that simple. For example, back in January of '83, my wife and I experienced eye contact to the point of disorientation with a pod of 18-foot pseudorcas off the tropical Pacific coast of Mexico. Those pseudorcas were a fearless lot. They came to an abrupt halt just inches from our faces, opened those huge toothy jaws as if awestruck by this unexpected human presence, bent their necks to scrutinize us better, and then peered right throw our facemasks and into our deepest longings of what it means to attain communion with a nonhuman sentient being. I gush when I relate that the pseudorcas' eyes assured me they were every bit as curious and surprised by the experience as we were. And so bold. All the time, their nonstop vocalizations added a soundtrack that was utterly intense if not a bit intimidating.

It was a highlight of my life, and the interspecies interaction that keeps me coming back for more. Its key attribute was that I felt at the mercy of what some would call their whim, but what I prefer to believe was their compassion. How long did the interaction last? I cannot remember. How did it end? Just as quickly as the pseudorcas appeared, so they lit off down the coast at 20 knots. Never to be seen again.

By contrast, these cute little Hawaiian spinners choose to keep their distance, although the margin of that distance occasionally dwindles to no more than a few scant yards from an outstretched hand. Nevertheless, there is nothing to get me out beyond myself.

Still, this Hawaiian vista encloses a gentle ocean, and I am glad to spend time with such an enthusiastic group of swimmers. When the spinners finally venture close, it is a gentle sharing, a safe sharing, a sharing easily accessible to novice seekers.

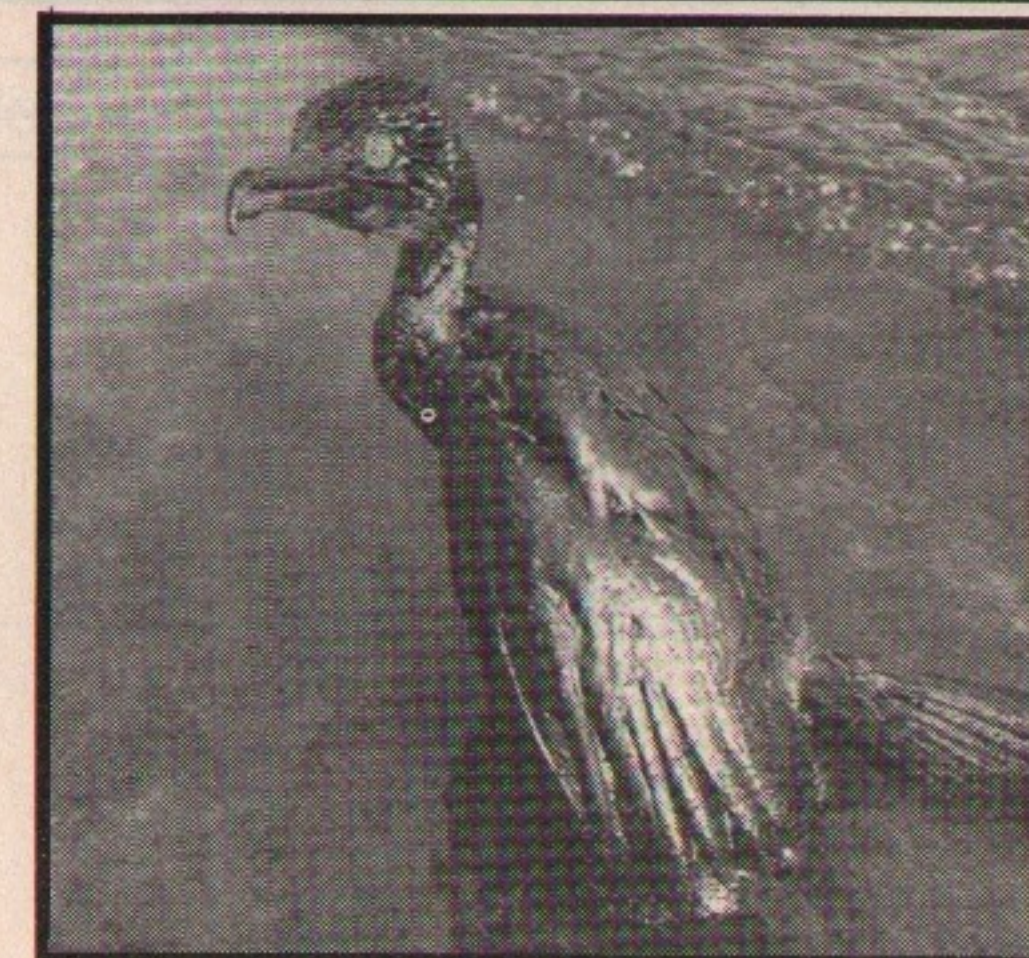
Taken in that light, I find myself happiest whenever my fearless little daughters, Claire and Sasha, get to join all the adult swimmers via their boogy boards and life jackets. I watch as they too get fulfilled by that effervescent connection called "swimming with the dolphins." What does it matter if some formerly-glimpsed personal revelation has eluded me this time around? I seem to have made up for it by *swimming with my family* swimming with the dolphins. Actually, this sense of family, this "podness" as it were, has easily been my greatest joy. It keeps me smiling until my jaw hurts. In retrospect, experiencing my family as a pod of swimmers and floaters and spouters and divers continues to linger as the single most empowering memory of the entire trip.

I thank ye dolphins for granting me such simple pleasures. 🐬

Jim Nollman, founder of the organization Interspecies Communication, is author of *Animal Dreaming* and *Spiritual Ecology*.

# DATELINE INTERNATIONAL

**The Gulf War may be remembered as the first modern conflict in which the environment was used as a political and strategic bargaining chip.**



## Kuwait/Iraq—Ecocide in the Middle East

By David P. Greanville

### The environment held hostage

Although throughout history animals in untold numbers have suffered and died on human battlefields, modern warfare remains unique in its newly found ability to set off climate shifts and push entire ecosystems to the brink of extinction.

For those who engineered it, the "Gulf War" will remain for a while a huge political and economic success; the triumph, if nothing else, of "friendly militarism" (war by high-tech precision weapons works; diplomacy doesn't) and the final nail in the Vietnam syndrome's coffin. But among those who resisted it, including many scientists and environmentalists, the war against Saddam Hussein is likely to be remembered as the first conflict in which both sides cold-bloodedly used the threat of environmental damage as a political bargaining chip.

Leaders in Washington and Baghdad were well aware of the possible serious consequences of such actions. Scientists repeatedly warned about further global warming, health hazards, and dramatic climate changes which could affect vital food crops thousands of miles away from burning oil wells. Even at the United Nations—the body that put the stamp of approval on the war—environmentalists urged combatants "to resist the temptation to resort to the horrifying weapons of mass destruction or to manipulate the environment in a dangerous way."

Their concerns were brushed aside by the usual "reasons of state." As the U.S.-led forces pressed on to conclude the war on the ground, Saddam Hussein, aware that his armies—despite demonization by the US Government and press—were no match for the Western Alliance's assembled might, decided on a policy of cynical environmental blackmail and economic sabotage. Accordingly, on Jan. 25, 1991, Baghdad inaugurated a strategy of "environmental warfare" by pumping between 280 and 440 million gallons of oil from Kuwait's Sea Island Terminal into the Persian Gulf. The spill created an oil slick approximately 70 miles long by 30 miles wide. Containment measures, including huge flotation booms and a Japanese oil "fence" were promptly deployed, but their main purpose was apparently to keep the slick from gumming up water desalination plants and electricity generating stations in Saudi Arabia, not to spare wildlife or the environment from further harm.

This monstrous spill, which easily outstrips the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster (eleven million gallons were lost in Alaska's Prince William Sound) and the biggest oil catastrophe on record, the explosion in 1979 of the Ixtoc I oil well which poured 177 million gallons into the Gulf of Mexico, was reinforced by other "lesser" spills similarly caused by the war.

One, washing ashore at the beaches and mangrove swamps near Safaniah, about 25 miles south of the Saudi coastal town of Khafji, in northern Saudi Arabia, released between 20 and 40 million gallons of oil into the waters. It's said to have been set off by Iraqi artillery barrages shortly after the war began Jan. 17. Another, involving 15 million gallons, is supposed to have originated in an Iraqi oil facility in the far northwestern corner of the Gulf at Mina al-Bakr. It was thought to be growing by 2.1 million gallons a day.

No one knows at this point exactly how much oil reached the Gulf's waters as a result of war-related actions. But most experts are agreed that it will take years and many billions of dollars to inject a new lease on life into this sensitive ecosystem. Incidentally, oil spills from allied bombing account for about 30 percent of the total spillage—roughly from 50 to 150 million gallons. Whether this was intentional or not, considering the US command's claims about surgically precise strikes, is yet to be clarified by US officials.

Environmental warfare is probably as repugnant to most people as biological and chemical warfare, but from Hussein's perspective, the move may not have been entirely arbitrary. With the military situation worsening by the day, the Iraqi strongman was aware that only a new round of negotiations could deliver a political standoff. Holding the region's environment hostage looked like the only promising card in an otherwise depleted

deck. Moreover, from Iraq's perspective, striking a blow against Kuwait's oil industry and reserves may have seemed like an imperative. For some time, a major bone of contention between the two nations had been precisely Kuwait's insistence on pumping huge amounts of oil at values that constantly depressed the world's price of crude. To a financially-strapped Iraq still scrambling to pay off huge debts acquired during its opportunistic war against Iran on the basis of oil sales, this was an intolerable posture.

### A "Nuclear Winter" in the desert

Fouling up regional waters won't be Hussein's only legacy of brutal environmental destruction. In the closing days of the war, with the Iraqi troops in retreat from Kuwait, orders apparently came to blow up the country's oil wells along with desalination plants, electrical power generators and telephone facilities.

The wells were blown up by planting explosive charges on the surface valves controlling the oil flow. At presstime, some 800 of Kuwait's 1,080 high-pressure oil wellheads had been destroyed, and 550 were still ablaze. These were sending up in smoke an estimated 4.5 million barrels of oil a day. The explosive charges didn't work in all cases; some wells were simply broken apart by the detonations, allowing the oil to pour forth on the ground, eventually forming a huge oil lake.

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# DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

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The massive burning of oil has created an enormous smoke cloud that now chokes off sunlight throughout much of Kuwait and adjacent lands. Kuwait City is dark at midday, with temperatures dropping as much as 15 degrees Celsius below normal. Driving toward central Kuwait—which is where most of the oil fires are raging—a traveller passes in seconds from noon's bright sunlight to dusk and the dark of midnight. Temperatures plummet accordingly.

The fires are not likely to be quelled soon. Most estimates range from one to five years. Three factors make the job exceedingly hard. First is the presence of 500,000 to 1 million mines the Iraqi army laid in the area. The US Army and other allied military personnel from France, Britain and Italy are trying to clear the region of all undetonated ordnance and booby traps, but the most optimistic projections expect to find no more than 80 or 90 percent of them. Thus firefighters and support troops, and later farmers, herdsman, livestock and wildlife—will have to contend with between 50,000 and 200,000 unexploded mines in the months ahead.

Another serious problem is the relative scarcity of water. It took 10 million gallons of water to cut off one Kuwaiti oil well fire in the 1960s. Water does not put out the fires, but it lowers the temperature enough to let firefighters move in on the site.

The final factor is the acute shortage of specialized firefighters. The methods to snuff out an oil well fire are complex. Common procedures call for the placing of charges with the aid of booms, or, when possible, the dropping of a person from a helicopter into the



fire to set an explosive charge capable of smothering the flames. In tougher fires, special shafts must be drilled at critical angles so that cement can be poured down the burning well. At present, fires still outnumber the men qualified to fight them. Meanwhile, the overall cost of the effort to liquidate the infernos and restore production is put conservatively at \$10 billion.

In the past, this kind of massive air pollution has lasted at the most a few days. With much of Kuwait and the Middle East suffocating under a pall of oily smoke composed of a variety of toxic chemicals including benzene, toluene, xylene and a host of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, the prospects look grim for any creature—human or non human—forced to breathe this noxious air for long. In Kuwait, the conditions are likely to exist for a year or more. No one knows for sure what the long-term effects of the smoke cloud will be.

## Suffer the animals

The massive oil spill in the Gulf has simply devastated the region's wildlife, killing huge numbers of cormorants, dugongs, green turtles, shrimp, fish, bottlenose dolphins, finless porpoise and coral. According to John Walsh, International Projects Director for the World Society for the Protection of

Animals (WSPA), who recently visited the region, four bird species have suffered the most from the waterborne pollution: Black-Necked Grebes, Great Crested Grebes, Common Cormorants, and Socotra Cormorants. The latter are a threatened species with a main breeding area extending through the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Aden.

The cormorant is a bird that dives for fish. Going through layers of oil soaks their feathers and leaves them unable to fly. The dugong, an extremely shy 10-foot-long mammal related to the manatee, is a vegetarian living off sea grass likely to be obliterated by the oil slick. The disappearance of sea grass is also a serious threat to the survival of Hawksbill and Green turtles, due to arrive by the thousands for spring and summer nesting, during which time their eggs will also be vulnerable to contamination. "Turtles can ingest the oil by eating oiled algae or sea grass," noted Walsh. "As with the birds, the oil will irritate the gastrointestinal tract and absorption will affect the central nervous system."

Rescued animals—mostly birds—have been taken to cleaning and rehabilitation centers where Saudi volunteers, trained by the RSPCA, are attempting to remove the oil. Many of the Grebes were found to suffer from swollen and distended stomachs. Autopsies revealed hard balls of compacted oil, sand and feathers—evidence that the Grebes' attempt to clean themselves had led to fatal internal injuries. A further complicating factor is the Gulf's sluggish water movement; while the waters in Prince William Sound are entirely replaced every month, it takes from three to five years for the Gulf to accomplish a complete turnover.

This may allow pollution to remain in the area far longer than the region's ecosystems can tolerate.

While Hussein's criminal callousness toward the environment is of a piece with the rest of his political stance, after the cheering stops the American people may be shocked to realize that their own government was equally reckless. First, because Pentagon planners knew (and duly informed George Bush) that any military confrontation in the Gulf would include appalling environmental losses. Second, because in order to attain its geopolitical objectives, US planners had few qualms in approving the bombing of Iraqi nuclear reactors, chemical plants, and other highly hazardous targets. "That's the first time operating nuclear reactors have been bombed, and it sets a terrible precedent," says Friends of the Earth Vice President Brent Blackwelder of the US attacks. "It appears that no radioactive material was released, but it could have resulted in regional contamination."

Not willing to trust luck or the pieties of politicians, both Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth are offering plans to help the environment survive the next war. Greenpeace is convening a conference of experts on international law and war to seek a strengthening of the Geneva Convention's environmental provisions. But before such proposals can attract sufficient public support, it may be necessary for ecoanimal activists to help show the Gulf War for what it really was: an unqualified human and ecological disaster.

**Main sources:**  
Shannon Fagan (Greenpeace), and *In These Times*.

## WANTED:

### OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS

Readers who reside abroad, have recently completed trips overseas, or are familiar with specific conditions affecting animals and the environment in those areas, are invited to file reports and graphic materials with us for possible publication. All materials must be subject to independent verification. Please note that while we require high standards of reportorial integrity, we are unable at this point to offer any financial compensation. If you're interested, drop us a note or call me directly at (203) 452-0446.

**David P. Greanville**  
Editor-at-Large  
Dateline: International

# INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Edited By Merritt Clifton

**George Bush agreed** May 17 to delay trade sanctions against Japan on behalf of the endangered hawksbill sea turtle, after Japan agreed to cut turtle shell imports from 20 metric tons a year to five, and to phase out the trade entirely by 1994. About 2,000 Japanese make about \$125 million a year worth of ornamental and fashion items from the turtles' shells. "The raw material for these products is often gathered by ripping the shells from living turtles that are being slowly barbecued alive," Keith Bradsher reported on page one of the May 17 *New York Times*.

**A \$24 million oil exploration project** by Texas Crude Inc. in the Pacaya-Samiria wildlife reserve of eastern Peru violates the Peruvian Environmental Code signed into law by president Alberto Fujimori just last September, says the Rainforest Action Network.

**A new species of beaked whale**, *Mesoplodon peruvianus*, has been identified from 10 carcasses discovered off the Peruvian coast between 1976 and 1989. From reported sightings, scientists believe at least one more as-yet unknown whale lives in the vicinity.

**Mercury pollution and harassment from high-powered tourist boats** jeopardize the estimated 4,000 humpbacked whales who breed each winter in and around Samana Bay in the Dominican Republic. Much of the mercury comes from pesticide applications in nearby rice paddies, but some is the enduring legacy of two Spanish galleons that sank with 400 tons of mercury aboard at the mouth of Samana Bay in 1724. Salvagers apparently stirred up the mercury during 1976.

**The cholera epidemic** that hit Peru in January had killed nearly 1,500 people by mid-May, spreading to Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, and Chile. Over 200,000 people were afflicted by the disease, which was spread by the practice of eating raw fish and pork.

**The African National Congress** has approved a three-month visit to South Africa

by the Moscow Circus scheduled for late this year, on condition that black children be offered transportation to performances in white areas; training workshops be given for aspiring black performers; part of the proceeds be donated to an ANC-designated charity; and animal acts be limited, "for humanitarian reasons."

**About 1,000 members** of the Afrikaner Klub in Lichtenburg, South Africa, paid \$37 per couple to attend a giraffe roast on May 4 that the promoters called the world's longest barbecue.

**The Environmental Investigation Agency** charged April 24 that South Africa remains the hub of the world's illegal ivory trade, despite reported crack-downs. If the current CITES ban on ivory sales is amended to exclude ivory produced in South Africa, the EIA warned, established poaching and smuggling operations would soon cause the extinction of the African elephant, as elephants in neighboring countries would be slaughtered and their tusks brought into South Africa, then certified as being of South African origin.

**Sherbrooke Shire, Australia**, has imposed a curfew on cats from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., to protect wildlife in nearby Sherbrooke Forest. Offending cat owners will be fined \$78. Dogs have been under a similar curfew for some time.

**Flooding from the Fitzroy River** in Queensland, Australia, killed 85 percent of the coral and most of the fish along portions of the Great Barrier Reef this spring. Sediment buildups and the second population explosion of the coral-destroying Crown of Thorns starfish have also damaged the reef recently.

**Caught Feb. 13 in Manaus, Brazil** with numerous endangered macaws, conures, and piping guans hidden in his luggage, leading Mexican conservationist Jesus Estudillo Lopez reportedly will not be charged at home with violating CITES because, despite announ-

cements to the contrary, Mexico hadn't actually signed the treaty at the time of his arrest.

**Ecological Forces for Animal Liberation** seeks letters threatening a tourism boycott out of opposition to the Guadalajara carriage horse trade, addressed to Lic. Guillermo Cosio Vidaurri, Palacio de Gobierno, Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico; and Lic. Oscar de la Torre Padilla, Srio. de Fomento Turistico Artesanal y Pesquero, Morelos #102, Plaza Tapatia, Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico.

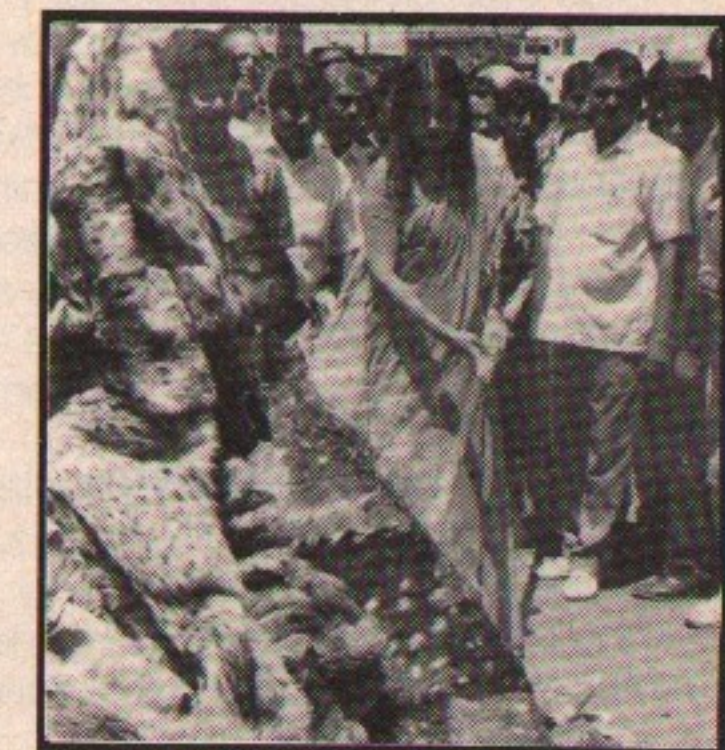
**The Campaign for the Abolition of Cruel Sports** asks that letters seeking a ban on hare coursing be addressed to Mary Robinson, President of Ireland, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8, Ireland. (Hare coursing is the pursuit of captive hares by greyhounds, is presently classed as one of the Irish national sports, and until 1989 was actually promoted as an attraction by the national tourist board.) According to CACS, 43 members of the Irish parliament favor a ban, 76 are uncommitted, and 47 are opposed, including Frank Fahey, the minister for sport.

**Scots hunters are complaining** that mutant tailless rabbits on Shetland Island are depriving them of the 43-cent-per-tail bounty offered by the Shetland Island Council.

**An inquest into the death** of British hunt saboteur Mike Hill, 18, was to begin May 2. On the afternoon of Feb. 9, Hill and two other saboteurs reportedly climbed into the back of a pickup truck driven by Cheshire Beagles huntsman Alan Summersgill in an effort to keep him from moving his hounds to another location. The hounds were in a trailer. Summersgill allegedly sped over five miles at up to 80 miles per hour. Trying to leap from the truck as it slowed for a bend, Hill fell beneath the trailer and was apparently caught and dragged. The other two saboteurs broke the back window of the truck, urging Summersgill to stop, as an unidentified passenger thrashed them with a whip. About 120 demonstrators

vandalized the Cheshire Kennels building and vehicles a few days later, causing the club to relocate. Summersgill's house burned down approximately three weeks after that, of unknown causes. Donations in Hill's memory have been dedicated to the construction of an isolation unit at a nearby animal hospital.

**John Walsh of the World Society for the Protection of Animals** returned management of the Kuwait Zoo to Kuwaiti officials on May 13 and flew home, after providing relief to the 28 surviving animals for about two months. The job included removing ammunition stored at the zoo by Iraqi troops, clearing away the remains of about 400 animals killed by the Iraqis and/or fed to the bears and big cats, restoring the water supply, giving veterinary care to numerous wounded animals, and arranging for the animals to get proper food.



Beauty Without Cruelty

**Maneka Gandhi, India's minister of state** for environment and forests, on April 18 burned \$350,000 worth of animal pelts that had been seized from poachers and smugglers, making plain the government's opposition to the illicit skin trade, and making sure the pelts wouldn't eventually find their way back into the black market. The bonfire was organized by Beauty Without Cruelty, in collaboration with wardens.

**The Animal Welfare Board of India** has issued a brochure by chairman Panna Lal Mundhra explaining through examples and statistics how *Slaughtering Animals Is Slaughtering Our Economy*, and a booklet, also by

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## INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Continued from previous page

Mundhra, on *Why You Should Be A Vegetarian*, including extensive nutritional information. Both are available for a donation c/o #60 4th St., Abhiramapuram, Madras 600 018, India.

**Founded in 1916**, the Charity Birds Hospital run by the Jain sect in Delhi, India, treats about 20,000 animals a year, sheltering from 5,000 to 7,000 birds at a time. Only vegetarian animals are allowed inside; carnivores are treated in a courtyard as outpatients. The annual budget for the two-member fulltime paid staff, including a veterinarian, is \$212. Jain volunteers do the rest. The whole hospital budget is just \$1,900 a year.

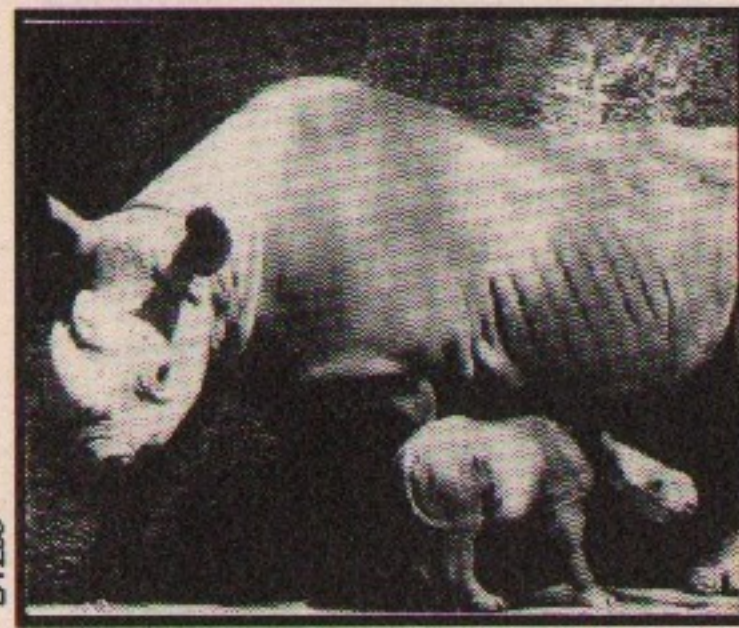
**Dozens of oxen** were again tortured in Santa Catarina state, Brazil, during this year's Good Friday *farra do boi* festivals. While the government said it would send 800 police to prevent *farra do boi* cruelty, journalists on the scene noted no police. A mob at the village of Ganchos do Meio stoned one TV crew and destroyed the camera. One *farra do boi* ox-chaser was killed, as were—eventually—all of the oxen.

**The Catalan Green Movement** requests that letters opposing bullfighting and threatening a tourism boycott be addressed to Ayuntamiento de Figueres, At. Mr. Maria Lorca, 17600 - Figueres, Spain.

**Actor Bruce Willis** reportedly killed numerous chickens by jumping on them during repeated retakes of a scene in the film *Hudson Hawk*, made in Italy, away from American Humane Assn. monitoring.

**The European Economic Community** lifted a month-old ban on horsemeat imports from the U.S. on May 5, although one slaughterhouse remained under embargo after investigation identified it as the source of a trichinosis outbreak.

**Because of overfishing** and pollution, "Bermuda is running out of fish, and certain mainstay species such as grouper face both commercial and local



biological extinction," says oceanographer Jean-Michel Cousteau. The Bermudan parliament is now considering a bill to restrict fishing, and has already moved to reduce pollution from fossil fuels and septic effluent.

**Fish have also become so scarce** off northeastern Brazil that 600 of the 750 raft fishermen who worked the region in 1980 have now given up, taking jobs on trawlers or on shore.

**Brazilian environmentalists** are suing in a last-ditch effort to force crocodile breeders near Porto Alegre to get rid of 110 huge Nile crocodiles recently imported from Zimbabwe. If any escaped, the Nile crocodiles could menace humans and native wildlife far more than native crocodilians.

**The South Korean environment ministry** has proposed designating the 2.5-mile-wide demilitarized strip between the two Koreas as a nature preserve. Few humans have entered the heavily mined strip since the Korean War ended in 1953.

**China is planning** a 123-acre, \$3.85 million safari park to be located in Shenzhen, just across the border from Hong Kong. The park is to include 1,500 animals.

**A Chinese government probe** recently found rare wildlife available as food in 53 markets, 74 restaurants and hotels, and 11 ports. As many as 80 percent of the leading restaurants in the major cities of six provinces offered exotic wildlife entrees. The investigation discovered that banquets held by government officials are a major stimulant to the trade—and that because eating wildlife is considered a status symbol, the same officials

obstruct efforts to protect wild animals.

**The price of ground rhino horn** for aphrodisiac purposes has soared so high that Oriental drug factories are now pulverizing intricate Ming (1368-1644) and Ching (1644-1912) dynasty carvings, worth up to \$30,000 apiece to art collectors. According to traditional Chinese belief, ingestion of powdered rhino horn (and/or antler velvet from ungulates) helps men conceive male offspring. Demand is up in part because of the Chinese policy of limiting families to one child.

**Zambian police recently caught** 21 Chinese officials trying to smuggle poached ivory out of the country in their luggage.

**Japanese vessels killed** 327 minke whales this spring, hoping to obtain population data that would convince the Intl. Whaling Commission to lift a 1986 ban on all whaling at its mid-May annual conference in Iceland. Norway meanwhile announced that Norwegian vessels would not hunt whales this year, for the first time since the 16th century.

**Eating fish not only raw but still alive** has become a big fad on Tokyo's Ginza strip. Waiters gut lobster, squid, yellowtail, loaches, eels, sea bream, and shrimp right on the plate as they're served. Supposedly, this insures that the fish are healthy. The living fish dinners cost from \$44 to \$120.

**After slumping from 1975 to 1985**, Japanese horse race attendance climbed to record highs in 1990, spurred by fast-rising female interest. Female attendance averages around ten percent, soaring as high as 30 percent for major events.

**Tigers reportedly killed** at least 50 people in coastal Bangladesh during the month preceding the May typhoon that killed an estimated 125,000 people, leaving wildlife officials concerned that legal protection of tigers might be unenforceable. After the typhoon, the survival of any tigers in the region was uncertain.

**Letters urging the Knesset** (Israeli parliament) to pass a bill that would ban poisoning stray animals with strychnine may be sent c/o CHAI, P.O. Box 3341, Alexandria, VA 22302.

**Czechoslovakian troops** built tunnels and barriers across a Bohemian highway in mid-April to enable toads to reach their mating swamp without being killed by traffic.

**Antarctic Treaty delegates** reached agreement April 30 on a draft agreement to ban Antarctic mining and oil drilling for at least 50 years. The pact now must be ratified by the 39 treaty nations. France, Australia, and New Zealand had pushed for the ban, while Britain and the U.S. favored limited mining. Japan broke the deadlock by switching in late April from the pro-mining group to the anti-mining group. Approximately 100 other nations are not parties to the treaty. Some, led by Malaysia, have demanded access to the supposed Antarctic mineral wealth, which has yet to be established, and which no one knows how to exploit economically anyway.

**Brazilian president Fernando Collor de Mello** on April 21 revoked 19 decrees by his predecessor, Jose Sarney, that cut Yanomami native holdings from 23 million acres to five million. The revocation is expected to slow mineral exploitation in the Amazon rainforest.

**The European Economic Community** at its June 14 meeting, was to discuss passage of a ban on the import of furs that may have been caught in leghold traps.

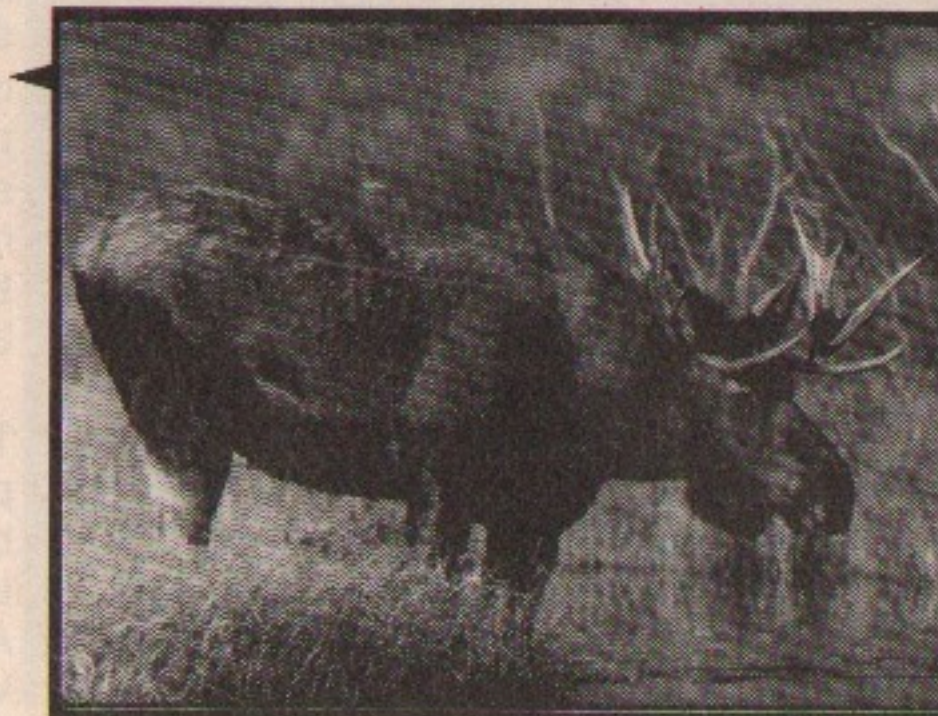
**Washington state blames** dioxin pollution from British Columbia pulp mills and sewage from Victoria, B.C., for significant harm to the fish populations of the Columbia River and Puget Sound. British Columbia, where clearcutting threatens the last temperate rainforest, reputedly has the weakest environmental protection laws in Canada.

**Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney** named Quebec member of Parliament Jean

Continued on page 47

## NEWS SHORTS

Edited By MERRITT CLIFTON



**After initially only reducing** the number of moose whom hunters could kill, Minnesota has now cancelled its moose season entirely because tick infestation has cut the moose population by 45 percent in the past two years.

**Maine wildlife commissioner** William Vail has asked the state legislature to legalize Sunday hunting. Even some gun clubs oppose the idea, believing it will cause more land owners to post their property against all hunting.

**Frank Boren**, past president of the Nature Conservancy, has been appointed to the Calif. Fish and Game Commission as a representative of those who neither hunt nor fish.

**About three dozen bird species** have become markedly more numerous in Yellowstone since the 1988 fires that swept over 75,000 acres of the 2.2-million-acre national park. The birds feast on insects who have proliferated in fire-killed timber.

**The only two survivors** from a pod of 55 pilot whales who beached themselves near Hyannis Port, Mass. in Dec. 1990 were to be returned to the Atlantic ocean on June 25 after over six months of rehabilitation at the New England Aquarium. This would be only the second time pilot whales have been successfully rehabilitated.

**Bumble Bee Seafoods Inc.** announced May 1 that it will spend \$500,000 on a study by the Natl. Marine Fisheries Service and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Assn. to develop more lucrative ways to catch tuna than netting them "on dolphin." Since tuna often swim beneath dolphins, tuna boats traditionally follow dolphin schools and net both species.

**The Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation** has budgeted \$200,000 to seek ways of preventing pavement damage by horseshoes. About 22,000 Amish and Old Order Mennonites in Lancaster County, Pa., still use horsedrawn vehicles.

**A mob of 150 "sportsmen"** protesting Chippewa spearfishing rights burned an American flag and a portrait of an Indian on April 21 near Sand Lake, Wisconsin. The flag was ignited by Larry Peterson, chairman of the pro-sport hunting and fishing group Protect Americans' Rights and Resources.

**Spring rains may have saved** the California arroyo toad from extinction, by permitting reproduction for the first time in five years. An estimated 1,500 of the toads survive in northern Mexico, San Diego County, and the Los Padres Natl. Forest near Santa Barbara.

**Heavy late spring rains** did little to relieve the Everglades drought, now in its third year, but destroyed hundreds of the 1,500 nests of wading birds that rangers had counted in Everglades Natl. Park a few weeks earlier, including 25 of the 150 nests of the highly endangered wood stork. As many as 16,479 wading birds nested in the park only three years ago—and that was sharply down from the population recorded in the 1930s. North of the park, 8,000 white ibis nests counted on April 9 had simply vanished. Fla. governor Lawton Chiles was expected to sign an Everglades restoration bill passed unanimously by both houses of the state legislature in late April, but the native bird population could take decades to recover even if the restoration work offsets the effects of the drought, which has severely harmed the birds' food supply.

**Colorado Gov. Roy Romer** vetoed a bill passed by the state legislature that enabled food producers to sue anyone who disparaged their products—including activists who criticize the beef industry. "Constitutional protection gives individuals as well as consumer groups and researchers the guaranteed right to raise legitimate questions about food safety and quality," Romer stated.

**The 7,000 horses stabled** at the four Los Angeles-area race tracks generate 350 tons of manure per day.

**At least 13 horses** died during the three-month Florida polo season this year, nine of them from game-related injuries. "Horses are repeatedly knocked sideways and hit with mallets without whistles being blown," the polo journal *Sidelines* complained Feb. 23. "Perhaps this is because the horses have not mastered the art of appealing for a foul, and players do not care enough about their mounts to appeal on their behalf." Palm Beach horsewoman Julie Phillips offered a simpler explanation: "Polo horses are underfed and overworked." Professional polo players may use six different horses in an hour-long game (including 42 minutes of actual play), but amateurs may not change horses at all.

**Beef prices hit record highs** in April, as drought throughout the west obliged ranchers to keep smaller herds.

**California governor** Pete Wilson made park lands and wildlife habitat acquisition his top environmental priority in an Earth Day speech—but voters will have to approve a \$628 million bond issue to finance his acquisition proposals in June 1992. The Wilson budget includes \$300 million to buy old growth redwood, oak, and evergreen forest; \$125 million for park land purchase and development; \$138 million to underwrite projects of the Coastal Conservancy, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the Tahoe Conservancy; and \$65 million to protect wetlands and other habitat for endangered species.

**Heterocyclic aromatic amine chemicals** released by cooking meat may cause 1,700 cancer cases per million Americans, Natl. Cancer Institute cancer etiology director Dr. Richard Adamson recently told the American Cancer Society. "If this was regulated by regulatory agencies, this would have been banned yesterday," Adamson concluded. His study didn't weigh the the better-known risk posed by the equally carcinogenic nitrosamine chemicals that are also released when meat is cooked. Eggs and dairy products also can release heterocyclic aromatic amines when cooked at high heat for long periods.

**Connecticut governor Lowell Weicker**, a former lobbyist for the biomedical research industry, closed 19 state parks on the eve of fishing season due to an ongoing wage dispute with state employees.

**A little-known disease** called *fibropapilloma* afflicts as many as 60 percent of the green sea turtles native to both the Florida Keys and Hawaii. First diagnosed nearly 70 years ago, the cause of the disease is still unknown, but researchers fear it could wipe out the species.

**A Dade County, Fla.,** plan to finance better humane services by licensing cats, horses, animal breeders, and pet stores has run into heavy flak, generated mainly by the breeders and store owners, who also would be more stringently regulated.

**A bill to require Fla. pet shops** to kill unsold animals by lethal injection only cleared the state Senate 39-0 and the House 110-0. The bill was authored by Rep. Daryl Jones, D-Miami, and Sen. Peter Weinstein, D-Coral Springs.

**Spiders recognize TV images**, reports Univ. of Cincinnati ethologist David Clark, who

Continued on next page



## NEWS SHORTS

*Continued from previous page*  
showed hundreds of spiders a series of videos of mates, prey, and predators on a pair of Sony Watchman television sets, then watched their responses.

**An accident at the Coors brewery** in Golden, Colo., spilled up to 310,000 gallons of beer into a nearby creek on May 9, killing at least 3,000 white suckers, bass fry, and trout.

**Effective June 1**, licensed hunters in Michigan may keep roadkilled animals of any species they could legally hunt, if taken in season and counted against bag limits. Whether this encourages hunters to run over animals on purpose remains to be seen.

**The cholera epidemic** raging in Latin America (see *Intl. Briefs*, this issue) spread briefly to New Jersey in late April when eight people fell ill after eating crab meat smuggled from Ecuador.

**The U.S. Dept. of the Interior** has granted \$104,500 to the African Safari Club, a hunters' group, for use in helping Zimbabwe fight elephant poachers.

**"Scientists suspect** that the incredible specificity," of a new class of DNA-based drugs called antisenses, "may make animal models poor predictors of safety and efficacy in humans," according to *Science News* ("Upping the Antisense Ante," vol. 139).

**Kanzi, a male pygmy chimpanzee** kept at the Yerkes Primate Center in Atlanta, Ga., has learned to make primitive stone tools similar to those of prehistoric humans.

**Pigs eat an estimated 30,000 tons** of Philadelphia food waste each year. While free-roaming pigs were once the mainstay of waste disposal in most older cities, Philadelphia is the last city that allows farmers to make slop pickups alongside the regular garbage collectors.

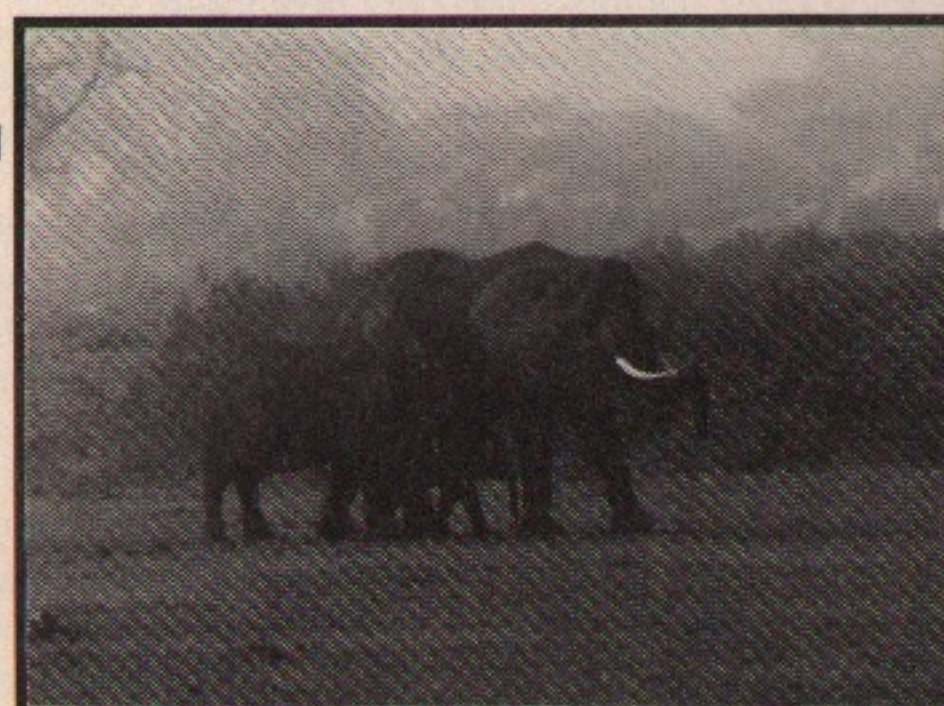


**Country musician Randy Owen** recently donated a bull to Clemson Univ. for use in genetic research.

**The dog used in current Coppertone ads** was scheduled to die in a laboratory when discovered by the firm's promotional staff.

**The Fla. Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission** has proposed regulating the state's 43 pack hunting pens, in which dogs are set upon captive foxes and coyotes. The pens have doubled in number over the past five years, as more and more landowners have posted fields and woodlots against hunters. An estimated 1,700 hunters use the pens, which would be legalized and licensed under the GFWFC proposal. Humane authorities believe the pens are presently illegal, but the GFWFC has refused to prosecute any of the owners.

**Two mountain lions** relocated from Irvine and San Juan Capistrano, Calif. to nearby wildlife sanctuaries in February both died within a month—at least one of them from injuries received during capture.



**By request of Calif. governor Pete Wilson**, the state Dept. of Fish and Game, and numerous expert volunteers in late April live-trapped a mother fox and six cubs who were living close beside a new stretch of freeway in Costa Mesa, and relocated them to the Los Angeles Zoo. "It's not a great situation," said Madeleine Bernstein of the American SPCA, who helped with the live-trapping, but at least in the zoo, she added, the foxes wouldn't be trapped or hunted. Seeking \$25,000 from the state treasury to cover the alleged cost of the relocation, Dept. of Fish and Game director Pete Bontadelli said 33 staffers had been kept busy for 145 hours. In other signs of growing public concern about roadkills, Friends of the Monarchs posted warning signs at nearby Pacific Grove to keep cars from running over copulating monarch butterflies, and across the U.S., at Amherst, Mass., volunteers worked all night to insure that rare spotted salamanders used special tunnels to reach their breeding area, rather than scampering into traffic.

**The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** announced May 7 that three male and three

female Florida panther kittens had been live-trapped for use in captive breeding, and that captive-bred Texas cougars had given birth on April 28, indicating that the panthers—close relatives—should breed successfully as well. The Fund for Animals has opposed removing the rare panthers from the wild, arguing that their habitat should be better protected instead.

**The USDA has raised the compensation** it pays for animals killed to halt the spread of brucellosis. The USDA will now pay farmers up to \$250 per animal for all cattle killed in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands; \$250 elsewhere for all registered stock and dairy cattle; \$150 for other nonregistered stock; and \$150 apiece for bison.

**Burning sugar cane** to prepare the crop for harvest releases 21,500 pounds of mercury into the environment each year, flower farmer John Simons charged recently in *Florida Naturalist*. The sugar industry denies it. Meanwhile, Everglades alligators and fish are officially unfit for human consumption because they contain over three times the maximum safe level of mercury. The Fla. Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission estimates that a 75-pound Florida panther—a highly endangered species—could get fatal mercury poisoning by eating a six-pound raccoon (who eats contaminated fish) per day for 14 weeks.

**The Dalai Lama**, a Buddhist vegetarian, hugged the first penguin he ever met on an April 15 tour of the Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco.

**Two years after a 14-year, \$46 million study** documented extensive harm to marine life by the San Onofre nuclear reactor, Southern Calif. Edison has agreed to build an artificial reef to reduce the damage, but hasn't done it yet, and has taken no other corrective action. Killing 21 tons of fish a year, the reactor has lastingly reduced the fish and kelp populations in 37,000 square miles of ocean.

**The Los Angeles Zoo** spent \$400,000 over nine years to help save the highly endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, but unexpectedly dropped out of the Sumatran Rhino Trust late last year—leaving the San Diego Zoo to claim the first male Sumatran rhino to reach the U.S., who arrived April 25.

**Michael Blake**, author of the screenplay for the hit film *Dances With Wolves*, attributes its success to, "guilt about the way we've treated our country. The people who used to live here, the land itself, and the animals who live here yet."

**The USDA has confirmed** a case of Newcastle's Disease in an apparently

bootlegged Amazon parrot, who was purchased March 23 in Las Vegas, Nevada, but officials said they didn't believe the disease could have spread to chickens. In 1971, after parrots with Newcastle's did infect chickens, the government killed every parrot in much of southern California and Arizona. Chicken ranchers blamed the outbreak for losses of \$56 million.

**Callaway County, Mo.** sheriff Harry Lee found himself investigating more horse thefts within a few months of the opening of the Archway Packing Co. horse slaughtering plant at Desloge, Mo. than he'd seen in all his previous career. At least four of the ten horses reported stolen in January turned out to have been killed at Archway. A trucker meanwhile pleaded guilty to dumping blood from Archway into nearby Turkey Creek, drawing a six-month jail sentence of which five months were suspended. He remains under investigation for dumping blood along dirt roads and into ditches. The incidents confirm the predictions of Missourians Against Slaughtering Horses, who unsuccessfully opposed zoning amendments that allowed the Archway plant to be built.

**The Congressional Office of Technology Assessment** has agreed with the FDA that bovine somatotropin (BST) is unlikely to harm either cows or humans who drink milk produced with the aid of the substance, a synthetic growth hormone. OTA warned, however, that use of BST may speed the trend toward factory-style dairy production.

**The North Pacific Management Council**, an international body regulating fishing, was expected to change the rules for catching Pacific halibut at its June meeting. Pacific halibut, weighing 250 to 400 pounds, are presently hooked legally only during 24-hour derbies, one each spring and another in the fall if officials think the Gulf of Alaska halibut population can stand the pressure. As many as 4,000 people compete to catch the halibut. Human injuries while halibut fishing have increased 300 percent since the derby system began in 1982.

**May 11 was Prairie Dog Day** at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal near Denver, as the U.S. Army, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Colorado Wildlife Federation hosted a day of educational activities for school children intended to enhance appreciation of the ecological role of prairie dogs—who are the victims of killing contests in other parts of the state.

**Orange County, Fla.**, animal control director Don Westfall pledged to resign by July after the county professional standards office cited two staffers for incompetence. The two picked up a dog named Bucksnot on April 5, then euthanized him on April 16, despite



Pat Farrington

receiving daily inquiries from owners Johnny Caillouet and Rebecca Baker who lost him in the confusion following a traffic accident (both were hospitalized, along with their infant daughter). Bucksnot was properly licensed, and was subject of a front-page story in the *Orlando Sentinel* on April 12, as Caillouet and Baker continued their search. At \$47,000 a year, Westfall is among the best-paid shelter directors in the U.S. (see "Who Gets The Money, Part II," elsewhere in this issue).

**Texas Dept. of Agriculture** inspectors quarantined bees from the Rio Grande Valley on April 18, after finding and exterminating a swarm of Africanized "killer bees" near Hidalgo, capital of the state's \$11-million-a-year honey industry. May 5, however, the search for Africanized bees halted because the state and federal agencies involved had exhausted their budget.

**A Vermont Fish and Wildlife Dept. study** of trappers and trapping has discovered that license sales and pelt royalties account for only one-fifth of one percent of department income (under \$15,000 a year). The number of licenses sold fell from 1,162 in 1987-1988 to 660 in 1990-1991. The survey also indicated that trappers trap mainly for sport; 44 percent said they lost money at it.



**The number of U.S. fur farms** has dropped from 1,027 in 1988 to 667 now, while the number of animals they skin has fallen from 4.5 million in 1988 to 3.5 million in 1990.

**The Natl. Park Service paid sharpshooters** \$310,000 in April to kill the last 1,300 feral pigs on Santa Rosa Island, off the Calif. coast.

**The Key West Greyhound Track**, closed by emergency order on Feb. 26 because of dog abuse, is now permanently out of the dog racing business under an April 17 order from the Fla. Dept. of Business Regulation.

**Longline swordfishing crews**, who set as many as 700 hooks a day along 35 miles of drifting monofilament, are reportedly killing numerous highly endangered Hawaiian monk seals by accident and hundreds of albatrosses on purpose, because they steal bait.

**A 1990 study by the NIH** found that 61 percent of primate researchers house the animals singly, with 78 percent of the total number of primates singly housed. While the average length of time primates spend in restraint chairs is down from 5.7 hours per session in 1987 to 3.4 hours now, 27 percent of the researchers still use restraint chairs.

**The Calif. sheep population** has fallen five percent during the current drought, including a 67 percent drop (from 32,378 sheep to 10,714) in parched Los Angeles County.

**Aquatic animals are going extinct** at a faster rate than others, says a Nature Conservancy study. Habitat change causes 78 percent of all fish extinctions. Competition from introduced species (usually stocked "game" fish) is a factor in 68 percent; pollution and hybridization each affect 38 percent; and overfishing helps wipe out 15 percent.

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## NEWS SHORTS



## WLALW Events Target Research Fraud

A spring-long series of media disclosures of biomedical research fraud and funding abuses lent extra weight to World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week events across the United States. (See "More Fraud In Animal-Based Research," June 1991, and "Research Fraud Probe Widens," elsewhere in this issue.)

At least one protest was held during the last full week of April in every major U.S. urban center and in most university towns, for a total of over 100 events in at least 40 states. In Defense of Animals, who organized WLALW, led marches at both Stanford, where the current Congressional probe of fraudulent research billing began, and the University of California at Berkeley. IDA west coast events coordinator Doll Stanley was arrested during the Berkeley protest for allegedly obstructing a police officer. At deadline, the National Foundation for Animal Law was reviewing videotape of the arrest to determine if charges could be laid against the arresting officers for allegedly kicking Stanley repeatedly in the back and beating two other demonstrators. NFAL was also probing alleged police brutality in the arrest of eight demonstrators at the UC-Davis Primate Research Center, where 14 monkeys died from care and handling accidents during the preceding year. Approximately 150 demonstrators joined the Stanford march, while an estimated 350 participated in Berkeley. No crowd count was reported at Davis.

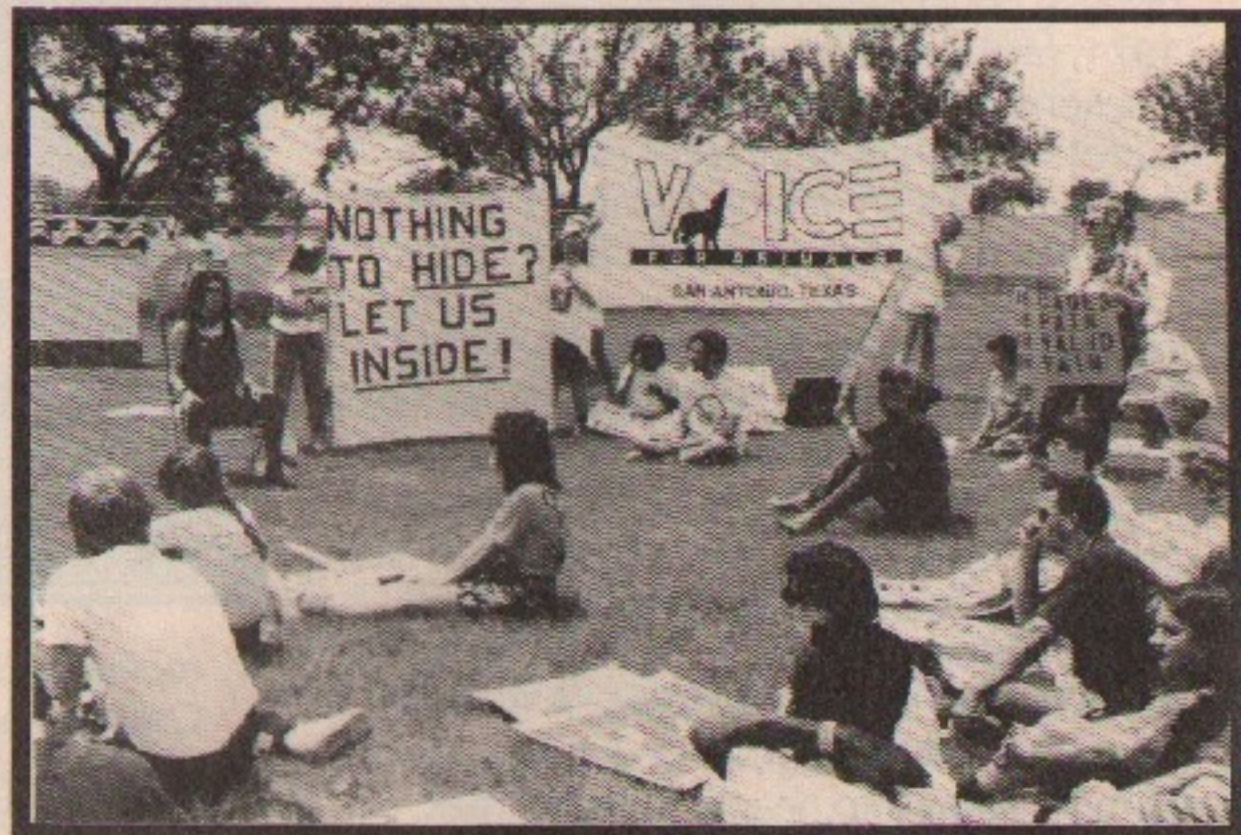
Attempting to counter the WLALW events with a "pro-active" stance, UC-Berkeley biology professor Charles Nichol, founder of the Coalition for Animals and Animal Research, led about 20 people in picketing the IDA headquarters at nearby San Rafael. A running debate via the media between CAAR and Animal Emancipation Inc. meanwhile brought AE's week of activities at the University of California's Santa Barbara campus the most local publicity enjoyed by any of this year's WLALW participants.

In the Boston area, the New England Anti-Vivisection Society coordinated a march by about 200 people on seven animal research labs, including those of Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Leaflets were distributed detailing the misuse of research funds by both institutions, as revealed by an ongoing Congressional inquiry. Friends of Animals, after rallying outside the U.S. Surgical Corp. head office in Norwalk

(see *Network Notes*) drew over 100 people the following weekend to a protest at Emory University in Atlanta.

Around 120 people joined rock star Grace Slick and PETA's Ingrid Newkirk in protesting outside the Washington D.C. headquarters of the Department of Health and Human Services, after police refused to issue a parade permit for a demonstration outside the National Institutes of Health, where protests in recent years brought increasing numbers of arrests. Also in Washington D.C., 150 protesters rallied outside the Armed Forces Radiobiological Research Institute. IDA simultaneously released new information on abusive military experiments to media in Washington D.C. and Dayton, Ohio (locale of the Wright-Patterson Air Force base, where extensive painful research has been done on primates). IDA also held a rally protesting dog labs at the Medical College of Virginia. The institution kills an estimated 92,000 dogs per year. Dog labs and pound seizure were likewise the focus of a demonstration staged by the Animal Rights Alliance of South Carolina outside the University of South Carolina school of medicine.

In other WLALW events, the American Anti-Vivisection Society presented a black rose and a copy of William Kotzwinkle's satirical novel *Doctor Rat* to Temple University psychology researcher Donald Overton. About 50 members of Voices for Animals picketed Brooks Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas, where the radiation tests on primates depicted in the film *Project X* actually took place. The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida demanded an end to studies by Robert Myerburg at the University of Miami Medical Center, in which over 600 cats have been given artificially induced heart attacks, at a cost of more than \$100,000 a year. According to ARFF, "Public documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show no evidence that the cats receive any pain medication," during subsequent open heart experimentation. Several medical experts have termed Myerburg's work redundant and useless. In a demonstration applauded for creativity by some sympathizers, but denounced for bad taste by others, San Diego Animal Advocates ceremonially



flushed stage money and bloodied stuffed animals down a huge mock toilet bowl. About 30 members of Consumers for Animal Rights Education held a march in Austin, Texas. The Alliance for Animals staged a march and rally in Madison, Wisconsin, to protest the University of Wisconsin Primate Laboratory's participation in experiments with squirrel monkeys, under a million-dollar contract with NASA. The Iowa Alliance for Animals exposed a \$100,000 study by Iowa State University professor Donald Dyer into the effects of cocaine, LSD, and amphetamines upon pregnant sheep and their offspring. Several New York groups—including anti-drug abuse activists as well as antivivisectionists—protested against similarly bizarre drug experiments on primates by Ronald Wood of New York University.

In Cleveland, the MetroHealth Medical Center accepted an intubation training mannequin from the Network for Ohio Animal Action, but declared moments later that it would continue using and killing 20 to 25 cats a year in intubation training sessions. Of other major U.S. teaching hospitals, only the Cook County Medical Center in Chicago is presently known to still use cats in intubation training; over 100 have switched from cats to the mannequins.

The Scapegoat Trust, of Surrey, England, lent support to American confreres with 2,000 copies of a brochure tracing parallels between the Biblical treatment of sacrificial goats and the treatment of primates by the research firm Sema Inc. and the National Institutes of Health. (Reports on numerous other WLALW events were received too late for inclusion.)

—M.C.

## Rabies Panic Hits New York Metro Area

Rabid raccoons reached Connecticut and the outskirts of the New York metropolis in late April, prompting panic killings by jittery residents and law enforcement officials. But only four of the first 100 suspect raccoons whose corpses were analyzed by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Conservation actually showed signs of rabies.

Public alarm seemed to be stoked mainly by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, which on April 16 ordered licensed live-trappers to kill any raccoons they removed from homes and yards, rather than relocating them. April 25, the NYDEC ordered Westchester Wildlife Inc. refuge director Barry Rothfuss to surrender 37 orphan raccoons he had rehabilitated

for release into the wild—all of whom had been vaccinated against rabies, according to Sandy Lewis of Friends of Animals. The raccoons would have been killed by the NYDEC. Instead, Rothfuss and companion Pam Novak fled to the Catskill mountains and began releasing the raccoons as planned. The NYDEC suspended Rothfuss' permit to rehabilitate wildlife and filed various related charges against him, which could bring 30 days in prison plus fines totalling \$2,500. The Animal Welfare Alliance set up a defense fund for Rothfuss.

The ANIMALS' AGENDA fought the rabies scare with a five-page memo to all Connecticut media explaining how to tell possibly rabid raccoons from raccoons behaving normally; stressing

that killing healthy wildlife leaves habitat open to unhealthy invaders; urging vaccination of all pets; and urging spaying and neutering to reduce the number of feral and abandoned cats and dogs, since rabies is more often spread to humans from cats and dogs who tangle with infected wildlife than directly from wild animals.

Rabies is transmitted by contact with saliva. Seven out of the 10 Philadelphia residents who were treated for rabies in 1990 had been bitten by cats; 28 residents of Middlesex, N.J., mostly infants, were treated for rabies earlier this year after handling a rabid kitten's toys at a birthday party. The disease has been spreading up the Atlantic coast since 1978, when a group of trappers and pack hunters released rabid raccoons from Florida in an effort to restock the hunted-out hills of Virginia.

—M.C.

## Food Graphic Shows USDA Conflict of Interest

Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan indefinitely suspended distribution of the USDA's new Eating Right Pyramid graphic on April 24, one day after it went to the printer, after concerted lobbying by the National Cattlemen's Assn., the American Meat Institute, and the National Milk Producers Federation.

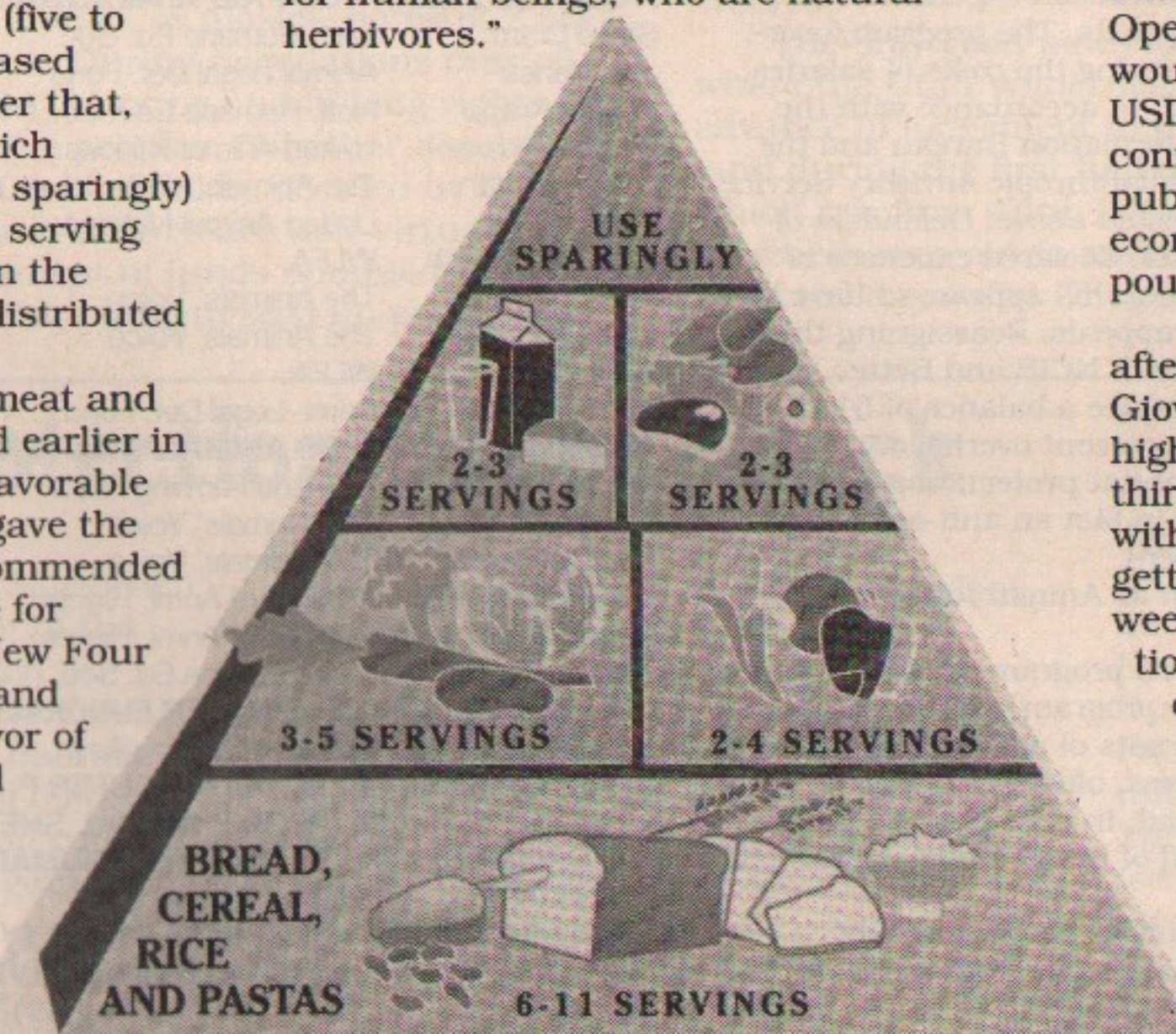
The lobbyists claimed that the graphic stigmatizes animal-based food by showing that consumers should eat much less of it. The pyramid proportionally represents the USDA-recommended diet, with grains and cereals (six to 11 servings daily) at the bottom, fruits and vegetables (five to nine servings) next, animal-based foods (four to six servings) after that, and fats, sweets, and oils (which consumers are warned to use sparingly) at the top. The recommended serving sizes are the same as those on the "Food Wheel" the USDA has distributed for over 40 years.

This didn't mollify the meat and milk lobbies, who were rattled earlier in April by the overwhelmingly favorable coverage the national media gave the "New Four Food Groups" recommended by the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine. The "New Four Food Groups" dropped meat and dairy products entirely, in favor of fruits, vegetables, grains, and legumes.

American Medical Association executive vice president Dr. James Todd attacked the "New

Four Food Groups" as an "absurd suggestion," showing "disregard for the health and welfare of the American public."

But food and health journalists tended to remember the message, if not the exact words, of *American Journal of Cardiology* editor Dr. William Clifford Roberts, who prefaced a recent issue by stating, "Although we think we are one and we act as if we are one, human beings are not natural carnivores. When we kill animals to eat them, they end up killing us because their flesh, which contains cholesterol and saturated fat, was never intended for human beings, who are natural herbivores."



The alignment of the AMA with the meat and dairy lobby impressed neither scientific nor elected critics. "There's a long history, going way back, of the USDA changing dietary policy because of the food industry," said New York University nutrition department head Dr. Marion Nestle, who as editor of the 1989 *Surgeon General's Report on Nutrition and Health* also called for limiting animal-based food consumption, and also ran into flak from the same direction.

Rep. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.), chair of the House Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, promised the subcommittee would soon "review the capacity of the USDA to deal objectively with the conflicting duties of protecting the public's health while also promoting the economic well-being of the meat and poultry industry."

The flap erupted just two days after Harvard researcher Dr. Edward Giovannucci reported that men who eat high-fiber diets low in animal fat have a third to one half as many colon polyps, with correspondingly reduced risk of getting intestinal cancer. The same week, the Food and Drug Administration announced a crackdown on product labels that misleadingly claim various foods are low in fat or cholesterol. For instance, turkey producers claim the meat is "96 percent fat free," measuring by weight, while 28.6 percent of the caloric content is fat.

—M.C.



## Who Gets The Money?, Part II

To better inform readers about how the dollars donated to animal protection are spent, **THE ANIMALS' AGENDA** in April published the budget essentials for 42 of the most visible national groups concerned with animal and habitat protection, compiled from IRS Form 990 filings for fiscal year 1989 (filings for 1990 will not be available for several more months). Since our April deadline, we have received IRS Form 990 filings for 12 more groups who would have been included had they come in earlier. This information appears below, together with corrected information on several others, as explained by the footnotes. Taken together with the charts that appeared in April, this is the most comprehensive review ever compiled of where your donations go. As before, we leave conclusions to your own judgment.

**Table #1** lists the newly included groups in order of the size of their 1989 budgets, and shows the total budget of each group, how much is spent on programs, and how much is spent on maintaining the organization, e.g. on fundraising, office expenses, and salaries. (Because looking after animals is

labor-intensive, groups who run shelters normally have higher overhead.)

**Table #2** lists the animal protection groups (excluding the others) in order of their total assets. Fixed assets include all physical property, such as land, equipment, and shelter facilities.

**Table #3** lists the total compensation of the top executives of each of the newly listed groups, plus the compensation of their five highest-paid staffers, the compensation of their directors if the directors are compensated, and compensation paid to other individuals for professional services. Footnotes are provided where individuals are paid through special arrangements, are no longer with the organizations they were with in 1989, or where other circumstances seem to require further explanation. Organizational heads are listed in capital letters.

The Table #3 salary averages for animal shelter staff are taken from a survey of 101 shelters conducted in June 1990 by the Humane Society and SPCA of Seattle/King County.

—Merritt Clifton

ORGANIZATION	1989 BUDGET	PROGRAMS	OVERHEAD	ORGANIZATION	TOTAL ASSETS	FIXED ASSETS	CASH/ SECURITIES
Greenpeace U.S.A.	\$ 50,200,000	\$ 36,646,000 73%	\$ 13,554,000 27%	Massachusetts SPCA (1)	\$ 62,535,314	\$ 15,610,084	\$ 44,522,717
Natl. Hum. Ed. Soc.	\$ 2,236,871	\$ 1,606,501 72%	\$ 630,370 28%	Defenders of Animal Rights	\$ 1,903,813	\$ 1,715,328	\$ 166,922
Adopt-A-Pet, Inc. (1)	\$ 1,284,826	\$ 489,912 38%	\$ 794,914 62%	Humane Farming Assn.	\$ 1,401,949	\$ 31,866	\$ 1,386,751
Animal Legal Def. Fund	\$ 972,899	\$ 663,137 68%	\$ 309,762 32%	Adopt-A-Pet	\$ 491,321	\$ 120,778	\$ 101,840
The Animals' Voice (2)	\$ 957,937	\$ 641,319 67%	\$ 316,618 33%	Natl. Humane Education Soc.	\$ 428,968	\$ 343,179	\$ 62,706
Humane Farming Assn. (3)	\$ 608,961	\$ 473,622 78%	\$ 135,339 22%	WLFA	\$ 381,230	(none claimed)	\$ 368,738
United Animal Nations	\$ 590,404	\$ 443,143 75%	\$ 147,261 25%	Intl. Primate Prot. Lg.	\$ 294,286	\$ 199,068	\$ 95,218
Def. of Anml. Rights (4)	\$ 584,338	\$ 468,420 80%	\$ 115,918 20%	The Animals' Voice	\$ 160,668	\$ 97,894	\$ 62,774
WLFA (5)	\$ 523,633	\$ 461,380 88%	\$ 62,253 12%	As. of Vets for Animal Rights	\$ 99,408	\$ 7,853	\$ 91,005
TSU (6)	\$ 420,854	\$ 366,175 87%	\$ 54,679 13%	Comm. for Humane Leg.	\$ 83,751	\$ 4,981	\$ 78,770
AVAR	\$ 263,995	\$ 219,339 83%	\$ 44,656 17%	Animal Legal Defense Fund	\$ 82,599	\$ 16,410	\$ 44,469
Intl. Primate Prot. Lg. (7)	\$ 255,582	\$ 180,390 71%	\$ 75,192 29%	Trans-Species Unlimited	\$ 75,344	\$ 19,538	\$ 50,071
SUPPRESS (8)	\$ 104,003	\$ 80,522 77%	\$ 23,481 23%	PsyETA	\$ 56,333	\$ 13,000	\$ 43,333
Comm. for Humane Leg.	\$ 99,265	\$ 72,592 73%	\$ 26,673 27%	United Animal Nations	\$ 34,710	\$ 25,697	\$ 2,844
PsyETA	\$ 27,903	\$ 17,295 62%	\$ 10,608 38%				

- 1 - Adopt-A-Pet is one of seven charities promoted by Watson and Hughey, Inc. that were collectively fined \$2.1 million in January 1991 for fraudulent fundraising during 1988-1989. Additional charges are pending. The group is also known as the National Animal Protection Fund.
- 2 - Corporate name is Compassion for Animals Foundation.
- 3 - The Humane Farming Assn. declared overhead expenses of only \$24,900, with no declared fundraising costs. The program/overhead ratio above was derived by reassigning the costs of salaries, taxes, and accounting fees to overhead, in accordance with the guidelines of the National Charities Information Bureau and the Council of Better Business Bureaus, Philanthropic Advisory Service.
- 4 - In addition to the overhead expenses listed above, Defenders of Animal Rights, a regional animal shelter, declared expenses of \$172,681 for humane education. Most of this appears to have been spent on national direct-mail funding appeals. Reassigning this amount to fundraising in accordance with NCIB and Better Business Bureau guidelines would produce a balance of 51 percent program spending, against 49 percent overhead.
- 5 - Though named to sound as if it is a habitat protection group, the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America is in fact an anti-animal protection front for hunters and trappers.
- 6 - Trans-Species Unlimited is now known as Animal Rights Mobilization!
- 7 - IPPL incorrectly declared all expenses as program expenses, and declared no fundraising expenses. The program/overhead ratio above was derived by reassigning the costs of advertising, merchandise promotions, office expenses, office rent, salaries, taxes, and telephone service to overhead, in accordance with the guidelines of the NCIB and the Council of Better Business Bureaus, Philanthropic Advisory Service.
- 8 - The SUPPRESS initials stand for Students United Protesting Research on Sentient Subjects. This data came from the SUPPRESS annual report.

- 1 - Due to a data transcription error, MSPCA total assets were understated by \$35,321,883 in the April issue. The MSPCA is in fact the wealthiest animal protection group in the U.S.

INDIVIDUAL	ORGANIZATION	POSITION	PAY	NOTES
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF ALL PAID U.S. CHARITY CHIEF EXEC'S</b>				
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF PAID ANIMAL/HABITAT GROUP HEADS</b>				
Steve Cram	Natl. Humane Ed. Soc.	Fundraiser	\$ 71,199	
Joe Manes	Animal Legal Def. Fund	Fundraiser	\$ 65,329	
William Kropp	Natl. Humane Ed. Soc.	Consultant	\$ 53,072	
Deanna Soares	United Animal Nations	Comptroller	\$ 50,845	
Laura Moretti	The Animals' Voice	Editor-in-chief	\$ 47,100	
Vernon Weir	United Animal Nations	Program Sec.	\$ 46,266	
James Goodrich	WLFA	VP/Treasurer	\$ 38,763	2
Arthur Cordts	The Animals' Voice	Director	\$ 38,000	
Cole McFarland	The Animals' Voice	Editor	\$ 36,400	
JAMES GLASS	WLFA	President	\$ 34,011	3
JOYCE TISCHLER	Anml. Legal Def. Fund	Exec. Director	\$ 31,600	
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF ANIMAL SHELTER DIRECTORS</b>				
BRADLEY MILLER	Humane Farming Assn.	Exec. Director	\$ 31,000	4
Vanessa Kelling	The Animals' Voice	Asst. Editor	\$ 30,600	
Constance Cwynar	The Animals' Voice	Director Asst.	\$ 30,200	
MARY JO KOVIC	Defend. of Anml. Rights	President	\$ 29,880	5
James Kovic	Defend. of Anml. Rights	Vice President	\$ 29,880	5
Virginia Dungan	Natl. Humane Ed. Soc.	Vice President	\$ 29,606	
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF SHELTER FUNDRAISING DIRECTORS</b>				
Bonnie Miller	Humane Farming Assn.	Treasurer/Sec'y.	\$ 26,500	4
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF PAID SHELTER P. R. OFFICERS</b>				
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF PAID ANIMAL SHELTER MANAGERS</b>				
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF FULL-TIME HUMANE EDUCATORS</b>				
JOAN MACE	Adopt-A-Pet, Inc.	Exec. Director	\$ 18,000	6
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF ANIMAL CRUELTY OFFICERS</b>				
DANA STUCHELL	Trans-Species Unlimited	Pres.	\$ 15,000	

George Cave	Trans-Species Unlimited	Treasurer	\$ 15,000
Wylie Neal	Adopt-A-Pet, Inc.	Attorney	\$ 14,445
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF PAID SHELTER ADOPTION CLERKS</b>			
<b>AVERAGE SALARY OF PAID SHELTER TECHNICIANS</b>			
J.C. Bryson	Adopt-A-Pet, Inc.	President	\$ 4,555
ANNA BRIGGS	Natl. Humane Ed. Soc.	President (living quarters)	
JAVIER BURGOS	SUPPRESS	Founder/Dir.	None
NED BUYUKMIHICI	AVAR	President	None
PRISCILLA FERAL	Comm. for Humane Legis.	President	None
SHIRLEY McGREAL	IPPL	Chairwoman	None
GIL MICHAELS	The Animals' Voice	Publisher	None
BELTON MOURAS	United Animal Nations	Secretary General	None
1 - This information comes from the American Society of Association Executives. By locale, chief executives in Washington D.C. average \$121,368; in New York, \$111,373; and in Chicago, \$109,253. Female chief executives make on average only 55 percent of the average salary for male chief executives.			
2 - Goodrich's stated workload is 16 hours per week.			

- 3 - Glass' stated workload is 12 hours per week.
- 4 - Bradley and Bonnie Miller are husband and wife.
- 5 - Mary Jo and James Kovic are husband and wife.
- 6 - Adopt-A-Pet was fined for fraudulent fundraising in January 1991.
- 7 - Priscilla Feral is also president of Friends of Animals, in which capacity she earns \$42,000 a year.

**NOTE TO ORGANIZATIONS:** due to overwhelmingly favorable response from donors to animal protection groups, **THE ANIMALS' AGENDA** intends to make publication of IRS Form 990 essentials an annual feature. We welcome voluntary submission of copies of 1990 IRS Form 990 filings from all groups with national membership or who do nationwide solicitation. As we did this year, we shall obtain copies of the filings from groups who do not voluntarily supply them via the Freedom of Information Act.

## Grisly News



Richard Pflanz

## For Bears

Fifty hunters spent the spring hunting grizzly bears in Montana—illegally, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but when the Fund for Animals sought an injunction to stop the hunt, Montana District Judge Thomas Honzel threw out the suit on procedural grounds.

But that wasn't the worst news of the week for beleaguered bears. The worst news came from the 1.9-million-acre Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, in Alaska, home of 2,500 to 3,000 brown and black bears. During negotiations over oil rights in 1971, Congress deeded hunting and fishing rights on two-thirds of the refuge to native peoples. (Whether development rights were also covered is likely to be decided by the courts.) The 4,000 Kodiak Island natives are now virtually bankrupt through mismanagement of funds obtained in the same negotiations, and are threatening to step up promotion

of guided trophy hunts—and to develop hunting lodges in prime bear habitat. Congress, unwilling to buy back the land for as much as \$190 million, recently cancelled an appropriation of \$1 million in preliminary acquisition funds.

The likelihood of a bear massacre increased as Alaska governor Walter Hickel named Ronald Somerville to become deputy commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Somerville was formerly a director of the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America, one of the more virulent pro-hunting lobbies.

The impotence of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service against hunting interests was never more clearly dramatized than in the Montana case, which began when the Fund for Animals pointed out to USFWS that Montana's planned spring grizzly hunt contradicted federal law. USFWS deputy regional director John Spinks agreed, advising Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks director K.L. Cool that the hunt was "contrary to the regulation."

Said Judge Honzel, "That letter is one of the more wishy-washy things I've read in a long time." Honzel ruled that it did not constitute a direct order to stop the hunt.

Montana governor Stan Stephens meanwhile accused USFWS of "unproductive hand-wringing and whimpering," suggesting there was "a distasteful aura of collusion between animal rights groups and your agency." Concluded Stephens, "You may feel compelled, for whatever reason, to take orders from these anti-hunting activists groups, but we in Montana do not. We shall defend our hunt to the fullest possible extent," apparently without regard for laws that state judges would not enforce.

The only good news for bears all spring came from Utah, where the Utah Wilderness Association obtained a stay in advance of judgement to prevent baiting on U.S. Forest Service land during the first half of the state's spring bear season, which ran from April 13 to June 9. A Forest Service decision on whether or not to make the baiting ban permanent was expected days after **THE ANIMALS' AGENDA** deadline.

—M.C.

## Habitat Protection Under Attack

A decade after the so-called Sagebrush Rebellion delayed enforcement of the Endangered Species Act, gutted the Environmental Protection Agency, and moved the leading battles for habitat protection from Congressional offices into courtrooms, corporate and conservative political interests are again threatening war.

Since 1988, such right-wing groups as the Center for Defense of Free

Enterprise, the Wilderness Impact Foundation, and the American Freedom Coalition have touted a "Wise Use Agenda" for U.S. public lands that includes unlimited clearcutting of old-growth national forest, opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling, and rewriting the Endangered Species Act to remove protection for "non-adaptive species," meaning any who aren't likely to survive because of

human encroachment upon their habitat. The groups have also called for civil penalties against anyone who delays such "wise use" through legal action. Sponsors of "Wise Use" events and publications have included Chevron, Exxon U.S.A., Shell Oil, Georgia-Pacific, Du Pont, Boise Cascade, and Louisiana Pacific, as well as off-road vehicle makers Honda, Kawasaki, and Yamaha—and livestock interests, plus the National Rifle Association. The AFC also admits having accepted over \$6.3

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million from "business interests" of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

In addition to old growth timber and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil, the moneyed interests behind "wise use" covet free access to the Mars Prospect, an oil field beneath the Gulf of Mexico discovered recently by Shell and British Petroleum that may be the biggest such find since oil was found under the North Slope of Alaska in 1968. They would also like to expand oil drilling off the coast of California, despite the opposition of governor Pete Wilson, who on April 23 asked Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan to prevent new drilling off Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties. Already, "wise use" pressure was a factor in the U.S. Forest Service's March decision to allow another 500 oil wells in the Little Missouri National Grasslands of North Dakota, where 522 wells already produce nearly 14 million barrels of oil a year.

Looking beyond wood and oil, "wise use" advocates hope to build an even more powerful constituency by inflaming public anxiety over the possible economic effects of diverting Columbia Basin water from hydroelectric generating and irrigation to protect endangered salmon runs (see "Salmon Join Spotted Owls On 'Most Controversial Species List,'" June 1991).

For the moment, however, the "wise use" political guns are trained on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's April 26 proposal to restrict logging on 11.6

million acres in the Pacific Northwest to protect the endangered spotted owl. Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield claimed that the proposal, still subject to amendment, would cost 100,000 jobs; the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management argued it would be 53,240 jobs; and USFWS said it would be 40,000 over the next five years, including 13,259 jobs in timber-related industries.

Regardless of the number of jobs affected, Natl. Wildlife Federation representative Frances Hunt charged, "It is pretty clear they are proceeding in developing a recovery plan in an illegal fashion." She cited a March 22 memo from the spotted owl recovery project team that specified the work "would be guided from the outset by economics as well as biology," in seeming endorsement of the "wise use" philosophy that places human economic interests ahead of concerns for other species. The Endangered Species Act requires that population recovery plans be based strictly on scientific criteria.

On another front, the newly formed National Wetlands Coalition, an umbrella group for 65 major corporations, hopes to block federal protection of wetlands by weakening the Clean Water Act, which is up for renewal this year. The EPA is already redefining the term "wetlands" to declassify millions of acres now used for farming or slated for development.

The Building Industry Association and Homebuilders Council have meanwhile petitioned against adding



W.D. Robinson

the California gnatcatcher, a tiny bird, to the federal Endangered Species List. The groups claim that designating the Stephens' kangaroo rat as an endangered species in 1988 blocked construction of 50,000 houses, costing the southern California economy \$700 million. Not mentioned is that drought would have slowed development anyway, since the region lacks the water to supply as many houses as are there already.

Outbudgeted and politically outflanked in most of the western states by the timber and livestock interests, habitat protection advocates are likely to spend even more time in the future going to court, seeking enforcement of the laws the opposition wants to repeal, while the administration seeks to sidestep the potentially politically embarrassing controversy through delay. Already, the number of legal challenges to U.S. Forest Service policy alone have more than doubled, from 234 in 1989 to 540 in 1990.

—M.C.

## Research Fraud Probe Widens

As George Bush sent Congress a budget asking a record \$8.8 billion appropriation for the National Institutes of Health, Congressional investigators accused another 19 universities of overcharging taxpayers for research overhead, while 250 more were warned May 9 that their overhead billing may be audited.

Of the \$9.2 billion that all branches of the U.S. government paid universities for research in 1990, \$2.5 billion was for "indirect overhead," a catch-all category that seems to have attracted particular abuse. Under this heading, the University of Texas Southwest

Medical Center in Dallas spent \$2.095 for 10 engraved crystal decanters; Washington University in St. Louis billed taxpayers for a sculpture that had already been paid for by private donations; and the University of Pittsburgh collected the cost of trips to Ireland and Florida by the wife of the president, as well as the wages of the president's own chauffeur.

The White House and Congress are reportedly working out the details of tighter rules governing research cost reimbursement. Already, as a result of spring probes, Rutgers has withdrawn \$4.9 million in unallowable billings. Stanford, Harvard, the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology, and Caltech have withdrawn bills totaling \$2.4 million. Unimpressed, the Office of Naval Research (which supervises all federal contracts with Stanford) cut \$23 million from the Stanford federal research budget of \$260 million. Stanford president Donald Kennedy resisted calls for his resignation. Kennedy, a biomedical researcher himself, has been outspoken in defense of vivisection. At least \$21,000 in federal funds were spent on antiques and other amenities for Kennedy's official residence, including \$7,000 for custom-made bedsheets.

The U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Service meanwhile cut \$6 million from Harvard's annual federal research budget of \$42 million.

—M.C.

## COURT CALENDAR

### Laboratory Animals

Oregon State Circuit judge George Woodrich on April 25 threw out all charges against California activists Crescendo Vellucci, Jonathan Paul, and

Bill Keogh, who were to go to trial May 14 for alleged conspiracy in connection with the 1986 removal of about 200 animals from a University of Oregon laboratory. Woodrich upheld the defense contention that the prosecution's failure to disclose evidence

against Vellucci, Paul, and Keogh "severely and irreparably prejudiced their ability to adequately present a defense and effectively confront and cross-examine the witnesses."

A second defendant in the October 27, 1990 laboratory break-in at the State University of New York in Buffalo pleaded guilty April 24, leaving three others to stand trial for burglary, crimi-

nal mischief, petty larceny, and criminal trespass. James Como, 19, and James Clough, 20, who accepted plea bargains, allegedly joined John Wooley, 21, Douglas White, 20, and Patrick Fish, 19, in releasing about 750 animals and doing an estimated \$25,000 worth of damage as a drunken lark—which they subsequently tried to blame on animal rights activists.

Lise Olsen, a nurse/midwife at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, was apprehended April 23 by security guards as she allegedly stole several cats who were to be used in intubation practice. Olsen said she was attempting to take the cats to a veterinarian. "After security consulted with the hospital administration," Olsen told The ANIMALS' AGENDA, "I was subjected to a psychiatric examination and a petition and certificate for my commitment to a psychiatric institution was written. I was also put in restraints...The psychiatric institution refused to admit me, after I was sent there by ambulance, finding no psychiatric diagnosis." Olsen was subsequently accused of absconding from custody, and was arrested April 25 when she returned to Cook County Hospital "to get my medical records, as the American Civil Liberties Union had instructed me to do. I was then taken to jail, and have been fired." Supporters may write Olsen c/o 5130 S. Greenwood, Chicago, IL 60615.

### Open Meetings Ruling Overturned

A four-judge New York State Supreme Court panel has unanimously overturned a 1989 Suffolk County Supreme Court ruling that laboratory animal care and use committee meetings at the State University of New York's Stony Brook campus must be open to the public. The N.Y. Supreme Court held that the committee meetings do not perform a "government function," and that the committee itself is therefore not a public body as defined by the state open meeting law. The 1989 ruling, won by the American SPCA, had been considered an important precedent for gaining access to information about animal experiments under open meeting laws nationwide.

May 7, Oregon Circuit Court judge George Woodrich ruled that PETA and Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals lacked standing to seek judicial review of the University of Oregon's ban on public attendance at animal care and use committee meetings.

However, animal protection groups gained an important precedent from the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on April 1, as Judge Charles

Richey upheld the standing of the Animal Legal Defense Fund and the Humane Society of the U.S. to sue the USDA, seeking Animal Welfare Act protection for rats, mice, and birds. Presently, rats, mice, and birds are excluded from the definition of "animal" in the AWA enforcement regulations issued by the USDA.

"Standing" means that the plaintiffs have a compelling legal interest in the matter at hand. Legal interests have traditionally been defined in terms of personal and proprietary contractual relationships, excluding activist groups from having standing, but in this instance (and numerous recent environmental cases), judges have held that clearly established longterm moral interests can also be the basis of standing.

### Endangered Species

The Supreme Court agreed May 14 to decide whether the Endangered Species Act applies to U.S. funding of projects abroad. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed recently that it does, upholding an appeal by Defenders of Wildlife, Friends of Animals and Their Environment, and the Humane Society of the U.S. against some uses of Bureau of Reclamation and Agency for International Development funds in connection with dam building in Egypt and Sri Lanka. The 8th Circuit ruling overturned a 1986 directive from the Dept. of the Interior that excluded foreign projects from Endangered Species Act safeguards.

El Dorado County, Calif., Superior Court judge Terrence Finney ruled April 17 that Los Angeles must allow the level of Lake Mono to rise at least two more feet to protect endangered wildlife before resuming use of the lake as a water source.

The Ozark Beagle Club of Farmington, Missouri, was fined \$5,000 in April for using pole-mounted leghold traps to kill protected raptors. The club was fined collectively because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was unable to identify the individual trappers. The chief club activity is setting beagles on rabbits, who are held within a 35-acre field surrounded by a six-foot steel mesh fence topped with two electrical wires. Club members accused the raptors of eating rabbits, many of whom are live-trapped at other locations.

Ranchers Floyd and Dawn Patterson and taxidermist Kenneth Oravsky, of Lockwood, Calif., were charged April 24 with releasing tame mountain lions, Bengal tigers, and spotted leopards into small enclosures for wealthy trophy hunters to shoot for \$3,000 to \$10,000 per animal. Hunter Nicholas Miljevich of Saratoga, Calif.,

was also charged. About 200 mourners including *Dances With Wolves* author Michael Blake attended a memorial service for the animals, several of whom purportedly came from zoos.

### Humane Enforcement

Fred Wayne Helvy, 32, was charged May 6 with fatally shooting Elizabeth Castillo, 27, and her daughter Cori Castillo, 9, earlier that day in a Lake Elsinore, Calif., Municipal Court waiting room. The Castillos—and Helvy, whom witnesses said used his own five-year-old daughter as a shield as he fled the scene—had all been summoned as prosecution witnesses against Jeffrey Gude, 35, of Perris, Calif., whose two malamutes had allegedly bitten several neighborhood children, including the Helvy girl. Helvy's motive for the killings was unclear.

Former policeman Edwin Hill, 44, of Memphis, Tennessee, was convicted May 4 of criminally negligent homicide in the death of wheelchair-bound Betty Lou Stidham, 57, who was mauled by his two pit bull terriers. The pit bulls had a history of attacking people and other animals.

Striking the biggest blow against illegal cockfighting on record, Ohio state police arrested 292 people and confiscated 600 fighting cocks May 15 in a series of raids in Vinton and Scioto counties. Also seized was a computerized national schedule of cockfights. Medical doctor Corazon Mallari Inocencio and her husband Reynaldo Cruz Evangelista of La Plata, Md., were charged with cruelty to animals and keeping a cockpit on April 16, as police arrested 32 cockfighting fans at their home, seizing 120 live cocks, 30 dead ones, and about \$36,601 that was allegedly bet on the fights. Oakland, Calif., police made their second major cockfighting bust of the spring on April 13, arresting alleged handler Feliciano Felo, 49, for felonious cruelty to animals, possession of 30 fighting cocks, and possession of cockfighting implements. Four cocks were seized two weeks earlier at the same location, while 50 cocks were seized at another site.

In an apparent Quebec first, the Sherbrooke chapter of the Society for Protection of Animals charged trapper Roland Philippon of Lake Megantic with cruelty on April 8. According to the SPA, Philippon set five cable snares in Milan Township on October 1, 1990. On Oct. 13, a hunter discovered and shot a starving, dehydrated bear who had one of the snares deeply embedded in his leg, and had apparently been caught for several days. Wardens confiscated the

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four other snares on Oct. 20, but left the dead bear behind. Philippon didn't report having caught the bear, as legally required, until Oct. 26.

Animal dealers James Joseph Hickey and Shannon Hansen of Albany and Lebanon, Ore., lost their Class B dealer's license for at least one year (beginning April 16), and were fined \$10,000 by the USDA for numerous violations of the Animal Welfare Act dating back to 1988, but appealed the verdict to the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Ray and Joyce Stoltzfus of Puppy Love Kennels in Peace Bottom, Pa., were fined \$25,000, with all but \$10,000 suspended, for selling at least 372 dogs between Feb. 9 and May 12 of 1989 without having the proper permits.

Westport, Conn., investor Gerald Minsky, 46, was convicted April 24 in Ashland, Ky., of conspiracy, wire fraud, and mail fraud for having conspired to kill a racehorse to collect \$100,000 in insurance. Fort Wright, Ky., dentist Joseph Brown and horse breeding agent Robert West of Midway, Ky., pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the same case in March 1990.

Hunting outfitter Klaus Heynan of Whitehorse, in the Yukon Territories of Canada, has been accused for the third year in a row of allowing horses to starve rather than feeding them over the winter. Charges filed after the winter of 1988-1989 were finally dropped in May 1990 after repeated delays; the defense counsel was reportedly also the agent for the trial scheduling office. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police ordered Heynan to feed his horses properly during the winter of 1989-1990. (See "Eating Like A Horse," Dec. 1990.) Heynan was to be arraigned on the latest charges as *THE ANIMALS' AGENDA* went to press.

Charges against New York Transit Authority officials who allegedly ordered a train to run over a dog who got into a tunnel were dismissed May 6 for lack of evidence. Trains had been held up for more than an hour during a search for the dog before the incident occurred. The dog lost a paw in the collision, and was subsequently euthanized.

## Violence to Animals and Violence to People

New York State Supreme Court Justice Joseph Harris sentenced convicted rapist and murderer Stephen Francis Kuber III, 20, to 23 years to life in prison on May 8, after hearing Kuber's account to state police of how he killed Kimberly Jaye Decker, 30, of

Altamont, N.Y. "You know how you drag a deer by the horns or neck? That's how I dragged her," Kuber said. He then beat her with a wooden bench. "You know how you kill a sunfish? You really have to pound," he continued. "That's how I had to pound on her. She wouldn't die," so he finally cut her throat—like a deer's.

## Habitat

Judge H. Russel Holland, chief federal district judge for Alaska, on April 24 threw out as inadequate the Exxon Corporation's proposed \$100 million settlement of criminal charges resulting from the March 24, 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. Holland's ruling also brought the collapse of a \$900 million settlement of related civil suits. Exxon had until May 24 to decide whether to withdraw guilty pleas to the criminal charges. If the pleas were not withdrawn, Holland could fine Exxon up to \$700 million. Otherwise, the criminal cases would go to trial. Either way, the civil cases will now go to trial barring another attempt at an out of court settlement.

Over 18 months after a series of treaties supposedly put an end to drift-netting for salmon in international waters, an estimated 30 to 90 unmarked, unflagged Taiwanese, Japanese, and South Korean vessels are still at it, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service. May 12, the NMFS arrested fish brokers Kunioki Tayama of Japan in San Francisco, and Hermes Leon of Chile in Seattle, for allegedly "fencing" the illegal take to U.S. markets. They were the 33rd and 34th fish brokers nabbed in NMFS stings since 1986.

## Other Cases

Nationally noted biomedical researcher John Gunnar Linner, 47, was charged May 2 with trying to murder University of Texas colleague Wallace Barry Van Winkle, 46, by allegedly inserting a lethal chemical into his allergy inhalant. Linner had recently been laid off.

The Sandy Mac Food Co. of Pennsauken, Pa., was fined \$1 million on April 27 for selling adulterated meats—the largest fine ever imposed by the USDA. Company president Merton Zintin was fined \$500,000 and may spend eight years in prison; son Michael Zintin and nephew Robert Zintin were each fined \$250,000, and may get three years in prison; and five USDA inspectors plus their regional director face trial for accepting bribes of up to \$30,000 apiece to ignore the offenses.

The Austrian pharmaceutical firm

Immuno AG has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to again review the libel case it brought against *Journal of Medical Primatology* editor Jan Moor-Jankowski and International Primate Protection League president Shirley McGreal in 1983, over a letter McGreal wrote asserting that hepatitis research done by Immuno AG in Sierra Leone could endanger wild chimpanzees. McGreal's insurance company settled out of court, over her objections, but Moor-Jankowski won the case in the New York Court of Appeals in 1989 and again on re-review earlier this year. Moor-Jankowski has already been obliged to spend over \$1 million fighting the litigation, which *New York Times* columnist Anthony Lewis recently suggested should end in a whopping punitive judgement against Immuno AG for making frivolous petitions.

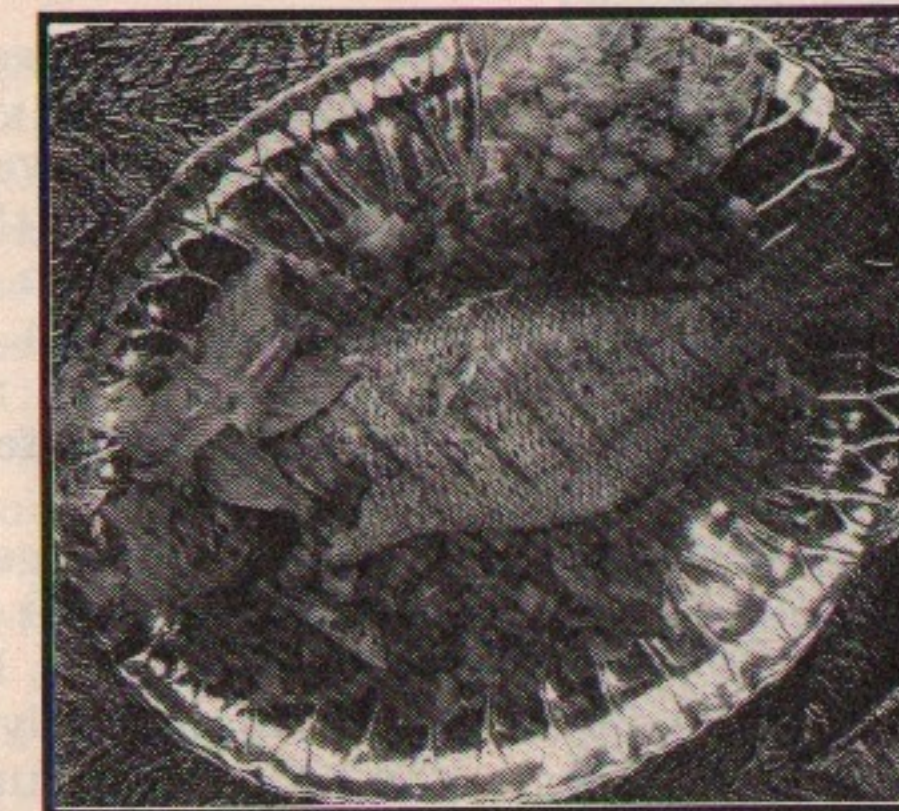
Shortly after Friends of Animals president Priscilla Feral led a major protest outside the U.S. Surgical Corporation head office in Norwalk, Ct., on April 18 (see *Network Notes*), U.S. Surgical representatives told major media throughout New York and Connecticut that police had raided the FoA headquarters across town in Norwalk, arresting Feral for allegedly keeping a cache of ammunition. U.S. Surgical had purportedly been tipped off by the Norwalk police. In fact, Feral was arrested at the FoA headquarters, along with private detective George Hoffman, who helped provide security at the protest. But the only ammunition involved was in Hoffman's fully licensed sidearm, which he notified police he was carrying and which was subsequently returned to him. Feral, who filed a police misconduct complaint, was accused of breaching the peace and threatening to use Mace on tattoo shop owner John Harrick, whom witnesses say accosted her at a restaurant moments after allegedly assaulting FoA vice president Sarah Seymour, who had tried to talk her brother (Feral's estranged husband, William Seymour) out of getting a tattoo. Feral was additionally charged with interfering with a police officer, apparently for walking across the FoA office to get a witness before she was formally charged with the other offenses. Hoffman was charged with assaulting a police officer and interfering with a police officer for standing between Feral and policeman James Walsh. FoA has had strained relations with the Norwalk police for several years, many of whom moonlight as security guards for U.S. Surgical.

—M.C.

# "Caring for Other Animals"

By Eric Dunayer, V.M.D.

## Fish Made To Order



**A**nglers love "wipers" because they put up a fight when hooked and taste good. However, you won't find wipers listed in any guide to native American fish; they don't normally exist in nature. Wipers are products of fisheries biologists' ingenuity, a hybrid cross between white bass and stripers. In nature, interspecies breeding rarely occurs, as fishes have different spawning rituals, times, and areas. To accomplish interbreeding, fisheries biologists first capture spawning fish, usually by stunning them with electric shock. Human chorionic gonadotropin hormone injections then force the females to ovulate. The eggs are squeezed from the females and mixed with semen from a different species.

Traditionally, humans have genetically manipulated other animals through selective breeding, selecting for desired traits and using inbreeding to perpetuate those traits. Recently, however, new techniques are accelerating genetic manipulation. Like animals of many other species, millions of fish are suffering in ever more unnatural ways.

Using interspecies hybridization, fisheries biologists have already produced dozens of popular variations besides wipers. Crossing brown and brook trout yields the tiger trout, while the tiger muskie is a muskie-pike hybrid. Both hybrids have been dubbed "tiger" because of their voracious appetite, an appetite that increases the ease with which they can be hooked.

Hybrids are continually restocked because they usually do not survive the winter and are believed to be sterile. Recent evidence, however, indicates that some hybrids can breed with local populations. Wipers, for example, have reportedly reproduced in the wild, probably with white bass. In the lab, when wipers are crossed with stripers, almost half of the

offspring are severely deformed. The reproduction of artificially created hybrids, then, has frightening implications both for native species and for such hybrids' offspring.

Biologists have also developed "triploid" fish with three sets of chromosomes. Normal (diploid) fish possess one maternal and one paternal set of chromosomes. But with heat, with chemicals, or by other means, a fish egg can be "shocked" into having three sets: two from the mother and one from the father. Triploid fish have deformed, nonfunctional reproductive organs. For this reason, nutrients that would normally be used for egg or semen production are redirected to growth. And so, these fish can grow much larger than diploid fish. While normal mature chinook salmon weigh about 40 pounds, triploid chinooks can reach 100 pounds.

Researchers are using other methods to increase growth. Some have injected young fish with cow or chicken growth hormones which have been mass-produced by genetically engineered bacteria. Subjected to growth-hormone injections, trout can grow to about twice normal size. Fortunately, this method isn't yet commercially viable. Because the fish must be injected weekly, labor costs would be prohibitive. Also, handling can cause fish direct injury. Always it causes stress, which increases

susceptibility to disease. So genetic engineers continue to search for other growth-boosting manipulations.

In one recently developed technique, growth-hormone genes are transferred from one species to another. Researchers have already isolated rainbow trout growth-hormone gene and injected it into carp eggs. If the gene successfully integrates into an egg's genetic makeup, and the resulting transgenic carp has increased growth-hormone production, the fish grows faster and, by maturity, is usually two to four times larger than normal. Scientists in at least 12 countries have been working to perfect gene-transfer methods in about 15 species of fish, especially species commonly "cultivated" for food, such as rainbow trout, catfish, Atlantic salmon, and tilapia.

Gene-transfer experiments are not limited to making fish grow larger. For example, researchers are seeking to isolate the genes that confer resistance to viruses currently decimating "farmed" fish. In addition, some genetic engineers plan to transfer "antifreeze" genes found in arctic species to warm-water species. These genes produce proteins that prevent a fish's blood from freezing. By placing these genes in warm-water species, fisheries biologists hope to produce fish who can survive in colder climates. The "antifreeze" gene is viewed as a way to provide Northern fishers with an enlarged catch and extend the range for cage-raised fish.

Sophisticated genetic manipulations must now be added to the ways in which fish are exploited for profit and sport. Instead of reducing suffering, such use of scientific knowledge simply furthers human abuse of other animals.

*Dr. Dunayer practices veterinary medicine at People for Animals, a low-cost spay/neuter clinic in Hillside, New Jersey.*



# Joyce Tischler: Legal Activist

## Interviewed by Ellen Bring

**J**oyce Tischler is the Executive Director and cofounder of the Animal Legal Defense Fund. Begun in the late 1970s as a study group of concerned attorneys educating themselves about laws pertaining to animals, ALDF has become a legal arm of the animal rights movement. Presently there are over 300 attorney and law student members throughout the U.S., and chapters in Washington, D.C., Boston, Chicago, and Seattle.

Always sensitive to animals, at college Joyce met Esther Dukes and Jolene Marion, both of whom also became animal rights attorneys. Along with other students, they fed, spayed/neutered, and placed numerous cats who roamed Queens College, sometimes begging for money in the street to pay for the cats' medical bills.

Although Joyce's work now focuses on making changes that will affect large numbers of animals, the preciousness of each and every individual animal is not forgotten.

**Until the status of nonhuman animals changes from that of property to that of legal "person," we're limited to doing band-aid kinds of things to help them. If animals had "personhood," wouldn't that eliminate slaughterhouses, pounds, circuses, zoos, vivisection, etc.?**

Yes. That's what excites me and keeps me doing what I'm doing with ALDF—the potential for changing animals' legal status. When we talk about animal rights law, we must ultimately focus on eliminating animals' status as property. So far, there is no animal rights law—not even the new Swedish law. Most laws are anti-cruelty laws, making it a crime to torture, mutilate, or otherwise harm animals "unnecessarily," but they don't forbid the killing of animals. And they generally exempt animals on farms and in research laboratories.

Lack of enforcement of existing laws is a serious problem. Humane societies need to become aggressive about prosecuting cruelty cases, and they have to be very professional about it—with photographs and other documentation. Then, if local prosecutors won't take action, they must get the public involved, with calls and letters to district attorneys.

Sometimes DA's go to court unprepared to properly prosecute cruelty

cases. Then judges sentence lightly even when there are convictions. It's very frustrating. Some of these anti-cruelty laws have been on the books since the mid-1800s, and yet there's no proper enforcement. They create an illusion of protection for animals, but there's no real protection.

**What about the federal Animal Welfare Act?**

It's another good example of a law that offers little real protection. It was originally passed in 1966 as an anti-pet-theft act. In the most recent set of amendments (in 1985), it finally began to address—in the most minimal way—some fundamental issues concerning animals in laboratories, such as control of pain, the exercising of dogs, the psychological well-being of primates.

**Doesn't the Animal Welfare Act exempt at least 80 percent of the animals used in experimentation and testing?**

The Act covers all warm-blooded animals. However, the regulations written by the U.S. Department of Agriculture specifically exempted rats and mice, who comprise 80 percent of all animals in research, as well as birds and farm animals. A few years ago, Henry Cohen, of the Congressional Research Service, wrote a law review article concluding that the USDA was violating the Act. I researched it extensively myself, and came to the same conclusion. As a result, for four years we told the USDA that it had not complied with the AWA in its regulations.

In 1989, ALDF, along with the Humane Society of the U.S., submitted a petition for rulemaking, demanding that the USDA correct its mistake and afford the minimal protections of the Animal Welfare Act to all warmblooded animals used in research. At the same time, the American SPCA sponsored a bill in Congress to clarify that the Act was intended to cover all such animals. In June 1990, our petition was denied as regards rodents and birds, though the USDA did agree to issue rules on farm animals, and we recently filed a lawsuit challenging the denial.

**Obviously you see litigation as an important tool in achieving rights for animals...**

Yes, and we can learn a great deal from other

social reform movements in this respect. A book that influenced me was the NAACP's *Litigation Strategy from 1925 to 1950*. In the 1920s, the NAACP decided to use litigation as a primary tool to combat racism. They knew they had to overturn *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the 1896 U.S. Supreme Court decision stating that separate but equal facilities were acceptable under the U.S. Constitution. Finally, in 1954, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, the court ruled that "separate but equal is inherently unequal." This decision followed sixty years of lawsuits that didn't get anywhere because society wasn't ready to listen to them.

We have to develop animal rights litigation with a sense of this history. We're going to lose some of the cases, but we've got to keep bringing them and use them to educate both the judges and the public.

**In some lawsuits aimed at helping animals, the courts ruled that animal advocates had no "standing to sue." What does that mean?**

Having standing to sue means that the plaintiff possesses a direct enough injury to get into court initially. For example, it may upset me that Farmer Jones is raising veal calves under conditions I consider cruel; however, I don't have an economic interest in his calves or a direct enough relationship to them that a court would say I have the right or "standing" to sue the farmer on behalf of myself, my organization, or the calves.

This is a problem in trying to help any animals in whom we have no direct "ownership." Often the "owner" is the one who is abusing the animals—and who is shielded from prosecution. We're trying to come up with innovative ways to create standing so we can get into court.

In a case involving the Provimi Veal Corp., we sued under a consumer protection statute. Our argument was that members of ALDF ate veal (we had to find some members who would), and wanted to be assured that the animals were raised in a healthy manner, cruelty-free. These veal calves are fed sub-therapeutic doses of antibiotics and other chemical additives that we claimed were bad for the individuals who eat the calves' meat. After considerable argument, the court came out with a lengthy opinion acknowledging that we were raising very important issues. Unfortunately, they did not agree that we had standing to raise the issues. They felt we were attempting to indirectly enforce anti-cruelty laws, something only the state had the right to do. We were told to go to the legislature. We're often told that by the courts.

**At this point, standing would appear to be an obstacle to justice for nonhuman animals.**

Yes, but it may not always be this way. In 1972, the



Joyce Tischler

*Sierra Club v. Morton* decision changed things enormously for the environmental movement. Although the Sierra Club was denied standing, the U.S. Supreme Court spelled out a formula that environmental groups have used since then to secure standing: an organization will have standing to sue on behalf of the environment if it alleges that its members go to the place to photograph, hike, etc., and their aesthetic interests will be damaged by some act or failure to act. We've used this formula in every wildlife case we've brought.

Justice Douglas dissented in *Sierra Club v. Morton*, and argued for the Sierra Club's standing based on the group's long-term interest in the environment and its willingness to use its resources to fight the case in good faith. If his standard had been adopted, standing would not be the problem it is in bringing animal rights cases.

**Would you please tell us about the animal patent lawsuit?**

In 1988, a coalition of individual family farmers, farming groups, and animal protection organizations filed suit against the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, challenging their new rule allowing the patenting of genetically altered animals. Right now, too many people are uninformed about this issue, and perceive this kind of biotechnology as harmless. We're at the stage with this that we were 40 years ago with nuclear power. Society should be given the opportunity to debate the issue fully before significant economic investments are made in this new technology. The patenting of genetically altered animals would foreclose that discussion; decisions would be made on a purely economic basis.

So far, Congress has been slow to act on this. Legislation is needed to place a moratorium on animal patenting until the public can begin to understand the

*Continued on next page*



Animal Legal Defense Fund



Continued from previous page

repercussions. We brought the lawsuit to stop the patenting process until there could be a full court hearing or until Congress acts. The case is presently on appeal, with 75 patent applications pending the outcome.

### Will you take it to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary?

Yes, I think we'd feel duty-bound to try.

### Was that the first time farmers joined with animal advocates in a lawsuit?

No, there was the hot-iron face branding suit, which arose from an emergency program Congress passed to help dairy farmers who were going bankrupt. If a dairy farmer agreed to go out of business, the USDA would purchase all of the farmer's cows for slaughter. To ensure that the cows would not be put back into dairy production, they would be marked by a brand on their faces. Dairy cows aren't normally branded, and the farmers were unhappy about causing that kind of pain and distress. Many complained to the USDA; and, of course, animal advocates also protested. When it became apparent that the USDA was not responsive to public pressure, we went into court, asking for a temporary restraining order to halt the face branding. Farmers joined a humane society as plaintiffs, stating that hot-iron face branding would be in violation of their states' anti-cruelty statutes. If a humane society had been the only plaintiff, we might have had a standing problem again; however, with farmers involved, the court gave the humane society standing, too.

The court ruled that the USDA could not institute a program that mutilated and caused enormous pain to millions of animals. It was a victory in another sense, too: the court recognized that the USDA has an obligation to pass regulations that do not cause cruelty. And the humane society was given standing to challenge a federal program. However, the cows in the dairy buy-out program were slaughtered, and there was nothing we could do to prevent it. Our work progresses an inch at a time, but the inches will ultimately add up.

### What argument do you use in defending animal activists arrested for civil disobedience?

The "necessity" defense. It means that people had to take the action they did because there was virtually no other way to prevent a greater harm. The necessity defense arose from the intentional burning of buildings after the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, to create a fire break. People's property was destroyed because it

was necessary for the "greater good."

So far we have been unsuccessful in using this plea with defendants who have trespassed or blocked public access in order to bring attention to injustice.

### The ALDF has been criticized because it hasn't committed more resources to defending activists. Please explain.

Some activists think ALDF's sole function is the defense of criminal charges. Some of our supporters think we shouldn't be involved in that at all. We stand somewhere in the middle. As with any movement, civil disobedience is part of the process. But it's not why we formed this organization.

Our underlying purpose is the pursuit of "major impact litigation"—litigation that allows us to question directly the abuses of animals. For example, the ALDF has filed suit challenging the constitutionality of a Massachusetts state law which mandates that its Fish and Game Commission be composed of hunters and anglers. We've also been involved in suits on behalf of students who felt it was their right to refuse to dissect animals in science classes. Most of those cases have been resolved through negotiations, and the stu-



Joyce Tischler with Virginia Handley of The Fund for Animals

dents have been allowed to learn science in a manner that does not harm animals, yet meets the curriculum criteria.

### We've seen animal exploiters using libel and slander lawsuits against animal advocates. Are they becoming more frequent?

Yes, as the animal rights movement gains strength and credibility, these suits are increasingly common. Corporations and wealthy individuals can afford to spend a lot of money on attorneys' fees and court costs even if they don't have a case. Their goal is to silence their opposition by forcing the activist or organization into expensive and time-consuming litigation. Just filing the lawsuit necessitates the defendant's getting legal assistance, even if it's to file a motion to dismiss the lawsuit. Often, individual activists and grassroots groups don't have the finances to support protracted litigation.

Some of these cases have been mishandled. Too many have been settled because the attorneys aren't skilled in defamation and First Amendment law, or because the defendants can't afford the expense of fighting back. I can't stress enough that these lawsuits should never be settled, but vigorously fought. They violate free speech guarantees of the First Amendment.

We've begun to organize attorneys and develop materials to advise animal activists about the lawsuits. We want them to know what slander and libel are so that they can protect themselves while working

effectively. For instance, facts must be carefully checked, and activists should stay away from personal attacks.

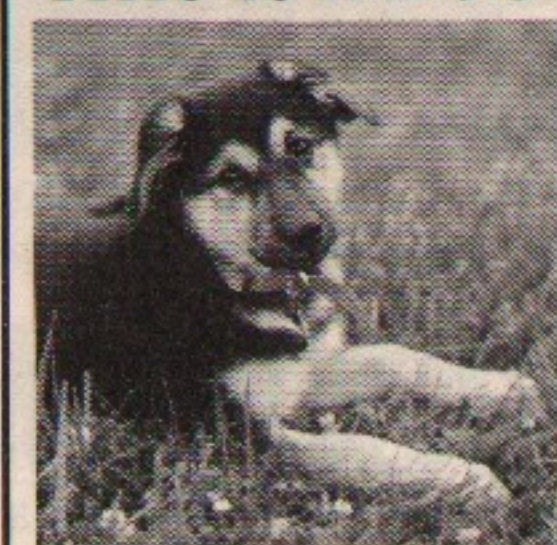
### You want animal activists to be the plaintiffs in litigation, not the defendants, is that correct?

Yes, we activists should be spending our time and money on lawsuits that fight animal abuse, not on defending ourselves. And these lawsuits need to be brought in a cohesive manner with thought as to where the movement wants to be in five, ten, or 20 years. Elevating the status of animals from property to person will be a step-by-step process involving litigation, legislation, and public education.

We've mainly used litigation as a reaction to harm that's already happened or is about to happen. We in ALDF want to go beyond that, with litigation geared towards making fundamental changes in the legal system.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund is headquartered at 1363 Lincoln Avenue, Ste. 7, San Rafael, CA 94901; 415-459-0885.

## THIS IS A DOG.



## THIS IS A DOG ON DRUGS.



Thousands of primates, dogs, cats, mice and other animals are deliberately addicted to drugs in U.S. laboratories each year—even though addiction is a complex tragedy of human society. The allocation of millions of dollars for animal experiments simply means that more people are dying for want of desperately needed, grossly underfunded treatment centers.

Consider some examples of tax-funded findings in drug research:

- Morphine increases heart rate in dogs genetically bred to be fearful of humans.
- Tail-burned mice injected with heroin are equally sensitive to pain whether they were previously addicted to morphine or not.
- Naloxone raises blood pressure in cats whose brains are crushed by an impact-driven piston.

Let's wage war on drugs, not on animals.  
It's time for animal experimenters to kick the habit.

## ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact The American Anti-Vivisection Society  
Suite 204, Noble Plaza, 801 Old York Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046  
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AA

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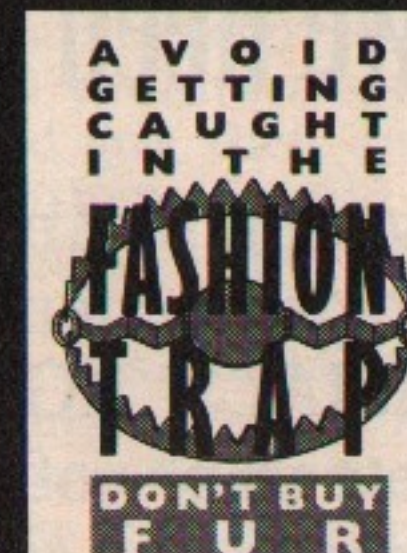
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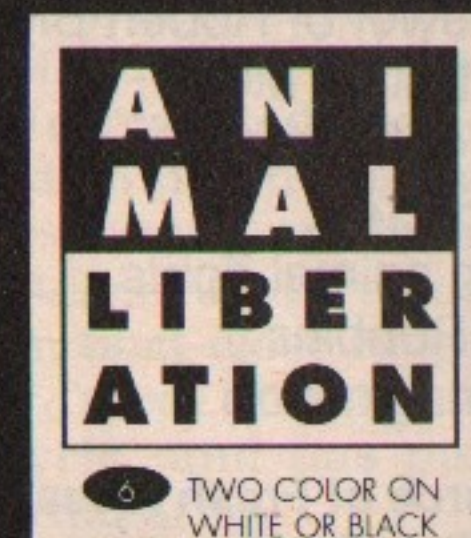
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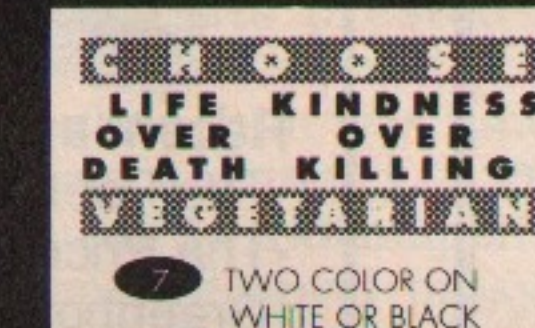
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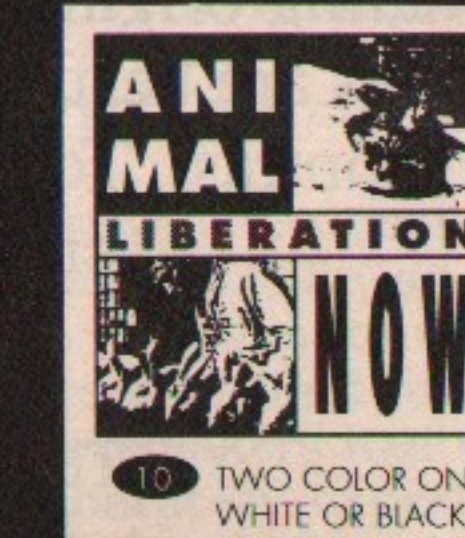
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TO CONTINUE OUR WORK, WE NEED YOUR HELP. Membership in **Alley Cat Allies** is just \$10 and includes a subscription to our quarterly newsletter **Alley Cat Action**. A \$25 contribution will make you a much-appreciated **Alley Cat Ally Sponsor**. Either way, you will be joining a growing network of feral cat advocates.



*No animals have a greater need than America's homeless cats, yet, until the formation of **Alley Cat Allies**, there has been no national network or organization looking out for them. If the animals need another group, this is it.*

Kim Bartlett, Editor  
The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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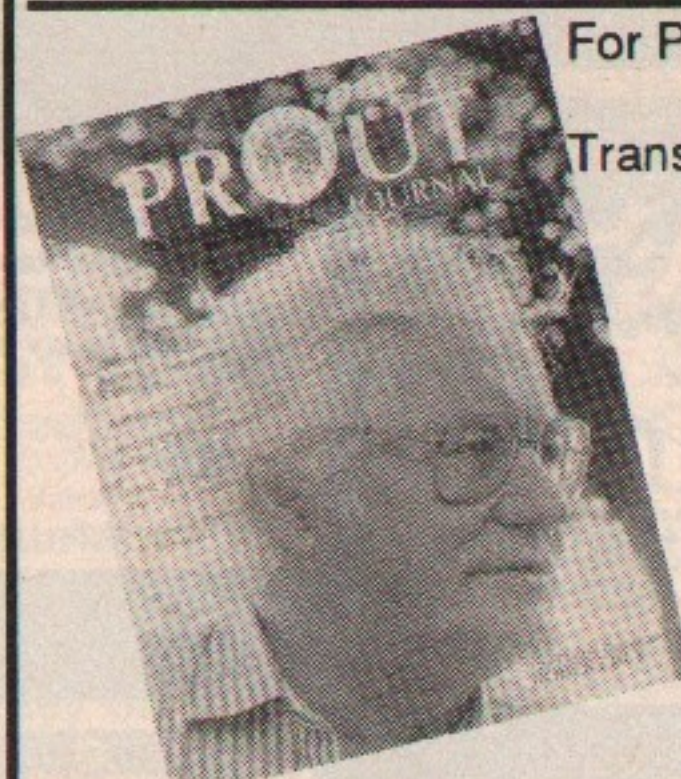
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## PROFILE

# Lawrence Carter:

## The Prodigal Poster Child



Like most people who challenge the medical profession's dependency on animal-based research, Lawrence Carter, director of the Health Care Consumer Network, stands accused of being opposed to medical progress. "I have cerebral palsy," says Carter impatiently. "To say that I'm opposed to medical progress is not only insulting, it's insane. The medical establishment refuses to acknowledge that people opposed to the use of animals in research are in favor of progress—the kind that is only going to come when research goes beyond archaic, ineffective, animal-based methods."

The Health Care Consumer Network, a department of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, was organized three years ago as an advocacy group for persons with serious illnesses who reject the medical community's eagerness to exploit their conditions to perpetuate animal research. Carter believes that "any recipient of medical care in this country" needs to learn that "animal research does not provide the benefits the medical establishment would have us think it does. In fact, much research is a wasted attempt to confirm what clinicians already know."

Lawrence Carter has had a running dispute with prevailing medical wisdom since the day he was born. Three months premature, he weighed two and three-quarters pounds. Doctors said he wouldn't last 24 hours. Ten weeks later he was out of both the incubator and the Army hospital in Fort Irwin, California, where he was born. Considering his present drive and tenacity, one suspects that he let the attending physicians know when he thought it was time to leave.

When Carter was two and not yet walking—his family had moved back home to Indianapolis by then—tests revealed that he had cerebral palsy. Medical wisdom had it that he would spend most of his life in a wheelchair and would never walk without braces or crutches. Once again the sawbones missed the water from boat-close range. Carter walks one or two miles a day, three times a week, zips around on a ten-speed bicycle, and has participated in the theater and the martial arts.

"My parents never accepted the limitations people tried to put on me," says Carter. "They had the attitude that I was going to have to learn how to do things because they weren't going to be around forever. I have them to thank for this activist heart and questioning mind."

He used a wheelchair until he was almost six. Carter was attending a United Cerebral Palsy preschool in 1972, when a group of United Fund officials visited the classroom. "They needed a poster child for their fundraising campaign," he recalls. "One of them spotted me and said, 'That one talks a lot. Grab him.'"

During his reign as a poster child, Carter was shepherded to fundraisers throughout the Midwest. "They would give their spiel about the importance of donations, then I would come on. Afterward, there would be a photo opportunity. It was very exciting for a kid of five."

Carter was walking without crutches by the time he was eight years old. He became a vegetarian for health reasons during his junior year in high school. He first grew suspicious of medical research when he heard about the head-bashing experiments at the University of Pennsylvania. "I wondered how people could get grant money for that kind of thing." His evolution from poster child to animal rights activist was completed when he was living in Terre Haute, Indiana, after taking a leave of absence from Southeastern Louisiana University, where he had majored in social welfare for two and a half years.

"I saw this six-year-old girl with a pacemaker on a fundraising telethon, says Carter. "The sponsors claimed that animal research was responsible for keeping her alive. I did some research and found out that solving the problems with pacemakers had nothing to do with the dogs used in laboratory experiments. The problems involved the way electricity is conducted. I decided to become involved with animal rights issues because I realized that people weren't getting the facts."

Carter's involvement began early in 1988 with Friends for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in Terre

Continued on next page



Haute. Toward the end of the year he had begun sending out resumes, and in January 1989 he moved to Washington, D.C., to start an internship with the Farm Animal Reform Movement. But lightning struck through the television again, this time on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, where a well-coached young child proclaimed that she would give up her cat to help cure cystic fibrosis.

Incensed that "people were being exploited as well as animals," Carter asked himself, "Where am I?" Not that farm animal issues weren't close to my heart, but where could I make the greatest impact? I went to see Ingrid Newkirk at PETA, and she referred me to Neal Barnard at the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine."

Dr. Barnard, president of the PCRM, believes that Carter chose the right place to make an impact. "He has the guts to speak out on issues. He's always looking for opportunities to talk to the press, and he's not afraid of controversy," says Barnard. "He's quite articulate, and he obviously knows from his own experience how people can be exploited. He's helped others with disabilities to assert their right to ethical research that isn't dependent on animal models."

Carter's metamorphosis is not without irony. One suspects that the folks at United Fund didn't realize just how much the big-eyed, blond-haired kid who talked a lot would one day accomplish for medical research—whether or not they like the way he intends to accomplish it.

—Phil Maggitti



Lawrence Carter with HCCN members  
Terry Pettif and David Genton

HCCN's address is:  
P.O. Box 6322,  
Washington, DC 20015,  
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Continued from page 8

preserving the status quo of animal abuse.

Hopefully, this expose will not weaken the movement, but strengthen it by redirecting financial power.

—Lou Peluso  
Philadelphia, PA

## The Other Cat Show

Our organization tabled outside the annual cat show held recently at Madison Square Garden to display purebred specimens and to honor the breeders who have experimented with, manipulated, and created them. The cat of the hour had exceptionally short dachshund-like legs on a normal body. Tragically, anything is possible in the world of cat fancy.

Another cat show occurred at the same time, and although it has actually been playing for many years, it fails to get media attention. The cast is constantly changing, but the plot is always the same. This show, of course, is at the animal shelters which are too often the final step for the millions of homeless cats (and dogs) discarded by a throwaway society. Like the Garden show, these cats are also kept in cages. Most, having been recently abandoned by a human they loved, are confused and afraid. Yet they peer out from behind the bars, hoping they will be chosen. Since there are so many, they have only a few days to make their best impression. Most end up dying in the back room—unwanted and forgotten. Almost 50,000 animals were killed in New York City shelters last year—half of them cats. Nationwide, only 21 percent of shelter cats were adopted out in 1990.

I have nothing against purebreds; they may be innocent victims, too, particularly when bought by someone who only wants to acquire an expensive status symbol. Many of them also end up in shelters when they fail to meet unrealistic expectations.

I am, however, against breeding when for every animal brought into the world, another has to die at the pound. Breeders may try to convince you that they always find homes for their cats, and maybe some do. But the reality is that they do not find homes, they use up homes. It's simple mathematics. There are not enough homes for the cats already here.

The official position of the International Cat Association is that they advocate spay/neutering for mixed breeds or pure breeds who won't be used in a controlled breeding program. This seems to intentionally leave room for interpretation, since many people who buy a purebred cat want to recoup their money by breeding the animal. In addition, controlled breeding simply means that the breeder mates cats with certain characteristics—it does not mean that breeding is policed or regulated in any way.

Even if overpopulation was not a problem, selective breeding is an ethical issue. Although the severe genetic defects associated with dog breeding haven't happened to the same degree with cats, it nevertheless is happening, with the emphasis on extreme and exaggerated features. The Persian cat, one of the oldest breeds, has, through selective breeding, had its face so pushed in that these animals often have breathing problems, clogged tear ducts that cause runny eyes, and teeth that don't meet, causing the tongue to protrude from the mouth. The Scottish fold is prone to ear mites; the tailless Manx often has spinal deformities; and the Rag Doll, bred so that his pain threshold is higher than normal, risks unrecognizable injury. And what about this new "Munchkin" breed with its dwarfed legs? We know that dogs with disproportionately short limbs often have serious problems that include ruptured vertebral discs, paralysis, and dislocations. A cat needs long legs to run, jump, clean herself, and adequately support her body.

Of the 53 or so recognized breeds, approximately 40 are either totally contrived or the result of mutations. This leaves only 13 "original" breeds, such as the Persian and the Siamese, but even these have not escaped the manipulation of breeders.

Twenty million cats and dogs being killed in shelters and labs warrants drastic solutions: a ban on breeding and mandatory spaying and neutering. Maybe one day, there will be loving and responsible homes for every animal bred. But until then, all those precious lives are wasted.

—Elizabeth Forel  
New Yorkers for Companion Animals  
336 Central Park West  
New York, NY 10025

## Law Enforcement

Animal cruelty reports to law enforcement agencies amount to only the tip of the iceberg as far as animal abuse is concerned, because complainants are usually neighbors who fear being identified. The same situation exists with neglect situations.

I have been operating an anonymous animal cruelty referral service in my area for over 10 years with the cooperation of city and county animal control and livestock inspectors with effective results. Animal advocates across the country can set up such operations in their homes without visiting violation sites. I would be happy to assist anyone wishing to set up such an operation in their area. Readers can write to me or call 505-382-7140 or 526-6041.

—Bob Young  
Sangre de Cristo Animal  
Protection of N.M.  
Las Cruces Chapter  
P.O. Box 2153  
Las Cruces, NM 88004-2153

Intl. Briefs continued from Page 28

Charest as his new environment minister on April 21, but put communications minister Perrin Beatty in charge of the cabinet committee on the environment, leaving political observers wondering just how much authority Charest would have during the ongoing negotiations over the future of the James Bay II hydroelectric project. Quebec environment minister Pierre Paradis meanwhile put Cree chief Billy Diamond in charge of the provincial review of Hydro Quebec's James Bay II development plan. Diamond is an outspoken opponent of the James Bay II project, while Paradis has been highly critical of it, in direct opposition to Quebec prime minister Robert Bourassa.

**The Animal Defense League of Canada** has called for legislation similar to the U.S. Animal Welfare Act to protect Canadian laboratory animals.

**Hearings on Quebec's** draft animal protection act began May 7, after a year of delay. The act has the endorsement of every animal protection group and most major media in the province, but is opposed by the \$85-million-a-year Quebec pet trade, powerful hunting, trapping, and farm lobbies, meatpackers, and animal traffickers who supply U.S. biomedical research labs. Under the century-old provisions of the Canadian criminal code that constitutes the only present protection for Quebec animals, the Canadian SPCA conducted 43 raids in 1990, seizing 825 animals—but only 28 cases went to court, bringing just six convictions. The SPCA and Society for the Protection of Animals have been powerless to stop a groundhog killing contest for bowhunters held at St. Francois Xavier de Brompton since 1980.



## COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

### Listening to Nature

I think we've allowed ourselves to open our hearts to the suffering of animals because at some time or other we turned down the volume on the status quo and listened to one of them. The voice may have been that of a dog or cat we knew, a rat presented to us as a "tool" in a science class, or a cow who gazed out at us from the truck taking her to slaughter. Because most people have never taken the time to listen to other animals, it's natural to think that we've stretched ourselves to the limit of empathy and compassion. Lately, however, I've had an inkling—a rather uncomfortable one—that I may need to stretch a bit more. I may need to listen not only to human and nonhuman animals but to all of nature.

The inducement to stretch further usually comes from friends, and that is how this was for me. I was talking with my friend Nathaniel Altman, a prolific author whose books include the vegetarian classic *Eating for Life* and the manual on compassionate living, *The Non-Violent Revolution* (see *Reviews*, Nov. 1989). He is currently working on two books dealing with our relationship to nature, the environmental crisis, and how nature itself may have something to say about what it (he? she?) is experiencing. When I asked Nathaniel what he had been doing lately, he replied, "Listening to trees."

The notion isn't as farfetched as one might think. It has a strong historical precedent in earth-based native religions, worldwide. Priests in ancient Greece slept beneath the Oak of Dodona to receive wisdom, and Celtic, Egyptian, and Oriental mythologies are filled with tales of "talking" trees, waterfalls, groves, mountains, and lakes.

Even now, people garner insight and inspiration from quiet time spent amid trees, flowers, and the other living entities who make up the natural world. This may be the next step in extending our circle of compassion, as Schweitzer admonished. "It's important for people in animal rights to be aware of all of nature," says Altman. "In

any movement for social justice, it's easy to get on a single track: women's rights, minority rights, animal rights. When you're willing to see the whole of nature, to listen to the whole of nature, you expand that.

"Besides, humans and other animals are completely dependent on plants. We need them for food, shelter, oxygen, temperature regulation, soil conservation, everything. If the plants weren't here, the rest of us couldn't be here either."

I had to play with that concept a little. When I listened to my animal brothers and sisters, I heard very clearly with my intuitive ear that these nonhuman beings are not here for my use, that they're independent creatures with independent destinies. It fit my worldview better to leave the rest of livingkind out of it. I thought if I revered plants as I did animals, meeting my basic needs for food and shelter would get pretty difficult. Assures Altman, though, the issue is not according equal rights to animals and plants. What is important is to give the plants respect, and to regard them as *beings* instead of things—even when their beingness is ended to sustain our lives.

"It was hard for me, too," said Altman, "since I'm a vegetarian and those arguments sound a lot like the arguments of meat-eaters who want to justify what they're doing. But after spending a lot of time in forests in California, South America, and Canada, I'm convinced that it's essential to respect and ap-

preciate all other living beings."

The place to start may well be where he did: with listening—not just with our physical ears but with all our senses, including our intuitive sense. "We need to learn to observe nature, not to go into a forest and think we can truly observe what's there with one eye on the trees and the other on our watch. We need to be willing to touch and listen and see, and to be curious. What would it be like to live in a forest? What kinds of experiences do trees have? How are their lives related to their environment? When we ask those kinds of questions without preconceived ideas, they'll lead us to focusing our senses on what we're observing."

Developing that degree of openness to the natural world is a quantum leap for most of us. And it's not without risk. We certainly wouldn't go back to where we were before we extended our circle of compassion to include nonhuman animals, but we're acutely aware of the work and the responsibilities that came with it. It can be frightening to contemplate inviting into our lives more of the same. Since I've been trying it, however, I feel as if I've acquired a wonderful new support group. They're oaks and elms and evergreens, tulips and irises and begonias. These companions are quiet—but not so quiet that listening carefully doesn't let me hear what they have to say.

## AMERICAN REVOLUTION III

The cries and groans of Torture and Ruthlessness, will be answered by the hoofbeats of Justice, sounding and gathering across this hurting land; The Forces of Liberation will soon release the Thunder upon which Freedom's Destiny will ride, and Liberty for ALL will make its greatest stand. . . The AMERICAN DECLARATION OF ANIMAL LIBERATION and the AMERICAN ANIMAL RIGHTS ACT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. . . Imminent Thunder which will "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land, unto ALL the inhabitants thereof" (inscription on the Liberty Bell). American Revolution III will be an uprising of Liberation such as the world has never seen before. A Declaration of Revolution against popularized Tyranny in which the Liberators, who seek the highest forms of Democracy, will stand firm as indomitable respecters of Life and Limb for all Beings, Human as well as Animal, and will not compromise their non-violent beliefs to any foe, under any circumstances, at any time. . . A Declaration of Revolution by which the Liberators, in the name of Liberty for ALL and Oppression for None, will not turn from the callings of their Conscience during the coming times of great moral testing. No price will be too heavy to pay for the countless **millions** of helpless Lives senselessly brutalized and destroyed each and every day in our Blinded Land. . . A Declaration of Revolution which will pound away at the most ominous and deadly forms of prejudice disgracing our Nation. The prejudice which exploits, oppresses, brutalizes, and destroys the most vulnerable, helpless and innocent inhabitants of our Land. . . A Declaration of Revolution which will state as one of its first principles of understanding that, without exception, all citizens have erred and will continue to err; but of the myriad of ways by which citizens fail, there are certain wrongs which are, although pardonable, of such extreme moral reprehensibility that they are beyond the limits of toleration. To contribute to the harming of conscious, feeling inhabitants of a Land, whether they be of Human or Animal origin and regardless of their stage of development, is beyond the Limits of toleration; if that harm is inflicted for reasons other than those that are **absolutely essential** for self preservation or for the **truly** inescapable circumstances of self defense. . . A Declaration which will show our prejudice weary Nation that Fascism, Racism, Speciesism, Creatureism and Embryoism, among others, are one and the same; all arising in their beginnings as subtleties of Societal Favoritism, and all evolving in their fullest forms to the Evil of Societal Destructionism. . . A Declaration which will suffer censure from those who denounce Hypocrisy but yet give way to it; Who are of a moderate persuasion and who widely proclaim they care for the Animals, but nonetheless, will portray the American Declaration of Animal Liberation as the Ultimate Spectacle of Written Extremism. Nevertheless, the Declaration will clearly show that Extremism in the defense of Liberty for ALL inhabitants of a Land, emanates from the highest ideals of Democracy; whereas moderation in the face of brutality and preventable killing of the most helpless, is defense of the most evil of all Tyrannies conceivable by the Human Mind. Among other self evident truths, the Declaration will help bring this Nation to the gates of true **Human Peace** by proclaiming a New Ideal to join with Life, Liberty, Justice and the Pursuit of Happiness for ALL - Empathy. Throughout the history of Civilization there have arisen in the dynamics of human affairs, certain events and circumstances wherein great transformations have come about, forever changing the moral understandings of many Nations of the World. We find ourselves at this moment of Societal evolution, in the Light of indisputable scientific findings which have proven that the human body requires no Animal flesh, or Animal by products, in order to sustain its health and longevity. Therefore, as a people, we now stand on the threshold of enhancing our moral progress, or at the precipice of great moral decay; for clearly, it is now in our well informed and therefore obligatory hands, that the lives of **billions** of innocents are balanced each year. As they go, we are sure to follow. No longer can we claim ignorance for our misdeeds. Our Nation is by far the greatest pluralism of Ideals ever forged by human enterprise, for although we are not always in agreement, we are all in unity. Undeniably however, it is of one accord and in absolute unity, that we all do yearn for the day our Ideals will bring this Nation to a state of True and Lasting Peace, for we are above all else a hopeful and aspiring People. Nevertheless, the Enlightened Reason of higher moral understandings, which waits within all of us, reveals that True Peace for a People cannot be, until the Harmony of **Natural Peace** exists throughout their Land. There was a time long ago when ALL the conscious, feeling inhabitants of this Nation existed in a pristine, uncorrupted state of Natural Peace. This quintessential harmony prevailed only by virtue of the ever present influence of **Natural Law** over ALL the inhabitants of their Land. - The unspoken and inherently understood Law, under which the original inhabitants chose to harm other inhabitants, **but** only for reasons which were **absolutely essential** for their self preservation as well as for the **truly** inescapable circumstances of self defense. Exploitation, oppression, brutalization and destruction were not part of the traditions of our earliest predecessors, especially for those who chose to sustain themselves only by the herbs and fruits of the earth. Life, Liberty, the Pursuit of Happiness and Justice prevailed for ALL the inhabitants of their Land. Clearly, we strive to be a Just People, but now our sense of Justice must be tempered with our Ancient Ancestor's grasp of Natural Law. For the sake of all which comprises Truthfulness, we must be hence forth compelled by our Enlightened Laws of Reason to return to the wisdom of their Instinctive Laws of Reason. . . To write the Spirit of their unspoken Laws into the Letter of our written Laws. . . to write the Spirit of the American Declaration of Animal Liberation into the Letter of the American Animal Rights Act Constitutional Amendment. The Spirit of the Declaration is Empathy; for from Empathy arises, among other Ideals; Justice, Compassion, Mercy and Truth itself, toward the Earth and everything that's in it. Therefore, the Declaration in its call for a moral revolution of our ideas toward Non-human Beings, will show that the Ideal of Empathy is the Vanguard by which **all other** Noble Ideals follow. As such, it is the essential first step of transformation which can lead this Nation back to the state of Natural Peace by which its inhabitants were once in harmony with each other, as well as their surrounding environments of sky, soil, flora, and water. The calling of this Declaration clearly is another manifestation by the forces of Enlightened Reason to accelerate this Nation's ascension to the higher forms of Democracy. The Winds of Great Moral Change have gathered from time to time in our Nation's history to help lift away the stagnation of oppressive traditions, which since Time Immemorial, have widely plagued the Community of Man. The Winds of Great Moral Change first appeared for this Nation, by way of a Great Declaration, created under the laws of Nature and Nature's God on July 4, 1776, and in accordance with the level of Enlightened Reasoning of that time. Ever since, these harbingers of higher moral purpose have occasionally reappeared, and in timely fashion, to assume their assignment in the ever unfolding higher revelations of Democracy. Driven by the irrepressible forces of Enlightened Reason, this Nation has risen to progressively greater understandings of the Spirit of True Democracy and thus to the great betterment of all Human inhabitants of this Justice craving Land. Now America has another appointment with Destiny which will not be denied. America's imminent rendezvous with the highest forms of human existence will come about when it becomes the truest Democracy conceivable by the Human Mind; and the Purest Democracy attainable by the Human Heart. **This** is the True American Dream and it is now, in this the Seventh Generation removed from our Founders, that Enlightened Reason has once again greatly moved the Spirit of True Democracy to unfold its newest, and certainly one of the most important, manifestations of Truth ever to be formally called for by the inhabitants of any Land, during the course of Human Time. It was upon premises such as the above, among others of more graphic portrayal, that the American Declaration of Animal Liberation was first drafted on July 4, 1990. Hopefully, these premises will comprise part of its final form. All individuals and organizations Longing for the Emancipation of ALL Animals are cordially invited to gather in Washington D.C. for the express purpose of composing the final draft of the A.D.A.L. as well as the first draft of the A.A.R.A.C.A. If you are compelled to be a part of the composing of, and/or the signing and distributing of these two crucially needed documents, please contact me and advise in which capacity you wish to contribute.

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# M E D I C I N E:

## Dairy Products and Cataracts

In a previous column, I briefly mentioned the link between dairy products and cataracts. Since that time, I have been deluged with questions, mainly from yogurt aficionados who want to know if they really are risking their eyesight. The answer is not yet absolutely certain. But if fat, cholesterol, antibiotic residues, allergenic proteins, and a direct link to the veal industry is not enough to dampen your enthusiasm for bovine mammary secretions, let us review the data on cataracts.

According to some studies, populations that consume large amounts of dairy products have a much higher incidence of cataracts than do those that avoid dairy.(1) The problem is the milk sugar, lactose—not the milk fat. Non-fat dairy products are under just as much suspicion as is whole milk. Chemically, lactose is a *disaccharide* molecule, that is, a double sugar. In the digestive tract, it breaks apart, yielding two simple sugar molecules: glucose and

galactose. It is the galactose that is suspect in cataracts.

Some people cannot digest milk. They are called *lactose-intolerant*, because the milk sugar causes all sorts of digestive upsets for them. It turns out that these people are probably the lucky ones, because they will avoid milk. Evidence suggests that the less fortunate ones are those who can digest milk without symptoms. During digestion, their lactase enzymes break the lactose apart, releasing its load of galactose, which passes into the blood stream. When blood concentrations of galactose increase, it can pass into the lens of the eye. There, it is transformed into other molecules that lead to the opacities of the lens.(2)

Nursing children can generally handle galactose with no problems at all. They have active enzymes in their liver, kidney, and blood cells that can break down galactose. But as we age, many of us lose much of that capacity. Nature designed the body to be weaned from milk products after infancy. Lifelong milk consumption



# IN LAY TERMS

By Neal D. Barnard, M. D.



was not nature's plan. In some rare cases of genetic defects, children cannot break down galactose properly, and these children tend to form cataracts in infancy.

It should be emphasized that lactose intolerance is not the same problem. The ones at risk for galactose-related problems are those who *can* digest lactose easily and absorb its breakdown products.

When galactose is ingested in combination with glucose, as in the case of the lactose in dairy products, blood levels of galactose are lower than when pure galactose is ingested. Alcohol consumption tends to increase galactose blood levels.

Biochemists are now debating how great a risk dairy products play in human cataracts. While some investigators have used animal experiments to test theories about galactose, such experiments have serious problems. Animals do not replicate the range of risk factors that are important for people. Animals also metabolize galactose at very different rates, among other things.

Galactose has been implicated in other conditions as well, notably cancer of the ovary. Women with this disease have been shown to have a history of greater consumption of dairy products, particularly yogurt, compared to women without ovarian cancer.(3)

It should be noted that there are other contributing factors to

cataracts. Ultraviolet light appears to be an important factor, particularly for cataracts in the outer part of the lens. People who spend long hours outdoors without protective glasses run an increased risk of such cataracts. Tobacco also has a role. But investigators agree that milk sugar can contribute to cataracts, at the very least for those whose capacity to break down galactose is impaired. The problem is, we do not know who they all are. We all lose some of this capacity as we leave our nursing years behind. Those who make dairy products a regular part of the diet are betting—or hoping—against the evidence.

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Dr. Barnard is president of the *Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine* (P.O. Box 6322, Washington, DC 20015; 202-686-2210).

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## REVIEWS

### The Origin of Species' Rights

#### Created From Animals: The Moral Implications of Darwinism

By James Rachels; Oxford University Press (Walton St., Oxford, U.K. OX2 6DP; 200 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10016), 1990; 245 pages, hardcover, \$19.95.

It was Charles Darwin, not Peter Singer, Tom Regan, Cleveland Amory, or Ingrid Newkirk, who first raised the issue of animal rights and thrust it vigorously forward into public debate. Before Darwin authored *The Origin Of Species* (1859) and *The Descent Of Man* (1871), the question of human kinship with animals had scarcely been considered. After Darwin, it was inescapable. On the few occasions when human treatment of animals had been brought up for moral scrutiny, Aristotle, Aquinas, and Descartes had each offered theological defenses of abuse that stood, virtually unchallenged, for centuries. But those defenses swiftly fell before the evidence of evolution—as Darwin himself was

first to realize. A self-taught biologist, educated as a cleric, with a background of opposition to the slave trade, Darwin immediately understood that his scientific insights dictated not only a whole new way of understanding nature, but also a new life ethic.

University of Alabama philosophy professor James Rachels carefully traces the development of Darwinian beliefs about animal nature, human nature, human rights, and animal rights in *Created From Animals*. Rachels notes the conflicts Darwin's work created even within his own household; how Darwin agonized over publishing his findings, hating to unleash the disturbance he knew would follow, but ultimately feeling bound by morality to do it anyway; and how the issues of animal rights, while still undefined, were near the heart of Darwin's own thinking. A hunter in his youth, Darwin came to abhor all bloodshed in pursuit of sport. He was an early, outspoken, and steadfast opponent of steel-jawed traps; his 1863 essay, *Vermin and Traps*, is still current and still quoted in anti-fur literature. Darwin was also, by personal inclination, an antivivisectionist, who reluctantly opposed the stringent prohibition of vivisection advanced in the 1870s by his friend and onetime neighbor Frances Power Cobbe only under extreme and prolonged duress from virtually every other scientist in Britain. Cobbe herself ridiculed Darwin as the "deplorable spectacle...of a man who would not allow a fly to bite a pony's neck, standing forth before all Europe as the advocate of vivisection."

For his part, Darwin concluded that vivisection "is justifiable for real investigations on physiology; but not for mere damnable and detestable curiosity. It is a subject which makes me sick with horror." Perhaps the first advocate of reduction, refinement, and replacement, though not in those words, Darwin always favored behavioral observation in nature—what Konrad Lorenz would later dub "ethology"—over any form of

intrusive experiment. Darwin further insisted that all painful animal experiments be performed with the subject under anaesthesia, then just beginning to be developed. He also apparently never anticipated that the number of animals killed for research would ever remotely approach the number killed in "sports...which entail a hundred or thousand-fold more suffering than the experiments of physiologists."

Had Darwin seen as accurately into the future as into the geological past (and had Cobbe not passionately attacked him in the press), he might have taken a public position closer to his own feelings despite the concerted pressure of the scientific community.

As it was, it was not accidental that the formation of the first humane societies and antivivisection societies closely followed the publication of *The Origin Of Species*. Within the western cultural tradition, it was Darwin who first found the rationale for both an animal protection movement based on prevention of suffering, and an animal rights movement seeking moral equality of species. Without Darwin, such movements might have eventually emerged from the influence of Buddhist and Hindu philosophy; but any movement based upon theology rather than science would necessarily have imported with it a legacy of several thousand years of sophistry, seeking justifications for common practice. The scientific method, in itself a new mode of seeing, brought along no such baggage: only the fact that you and I and the great apes are cousins, with other mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and even invertebrates also part of the family.

Since Darwin's time, vivisectioners have imposed their own sophistry between his observations and the moral recognition of other species that they imply. But as Darwin himself would be quick to point out, this is not so much a failure of science as it is the continued failure of scientific perception to overcome cultural bias—the continued legacy of Aristotle, Aquinas, and Descartes.

—Merritt Clifton

## REVIEWS

### Lemurs and Baobabs

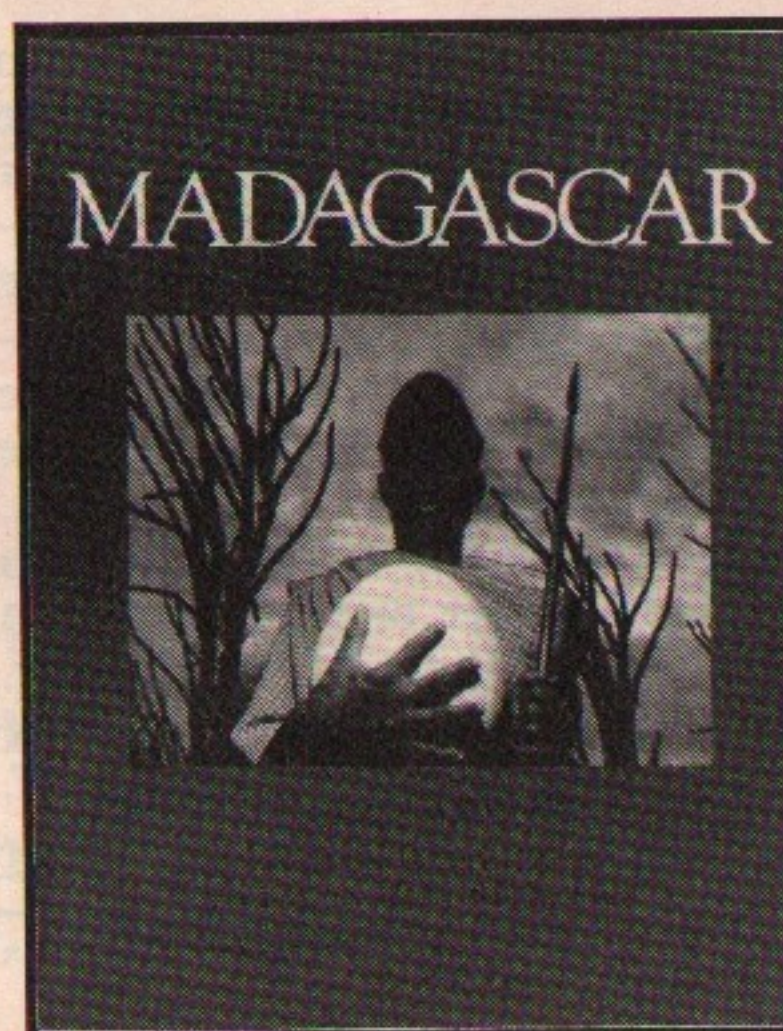
#### Madagascar: A World Out Of Time

Photos by Frans Lanting, text by Alison Jolly and John Mack; Aperture Foundation Inc. (20 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010), 1991; 143 pages; hardback, \$39.95.

Eighty percent of the 8,800 plants and animals native to Madagascar are endemic to the island, having evolved in isolation for at least 40 million years. Many, like the lemurs and baobab trees, are living relics of the age when the first mammals emerged. Virtually

all of these unique and ancient species are threatened or endangered by habitat loss, principally caused by logging and agricultural expansion to feed a fast-growing human population. Internationally acclaimed environmental photographer Frans Lanting and lemur expert Alison Jolly depict and describe much of the wildlife, while John Mack provides notes on the native peoples (some of whom used to bury dolphins who washed up dead on the beaches in their own graveyards).

—M.C.



### An Essential Reference

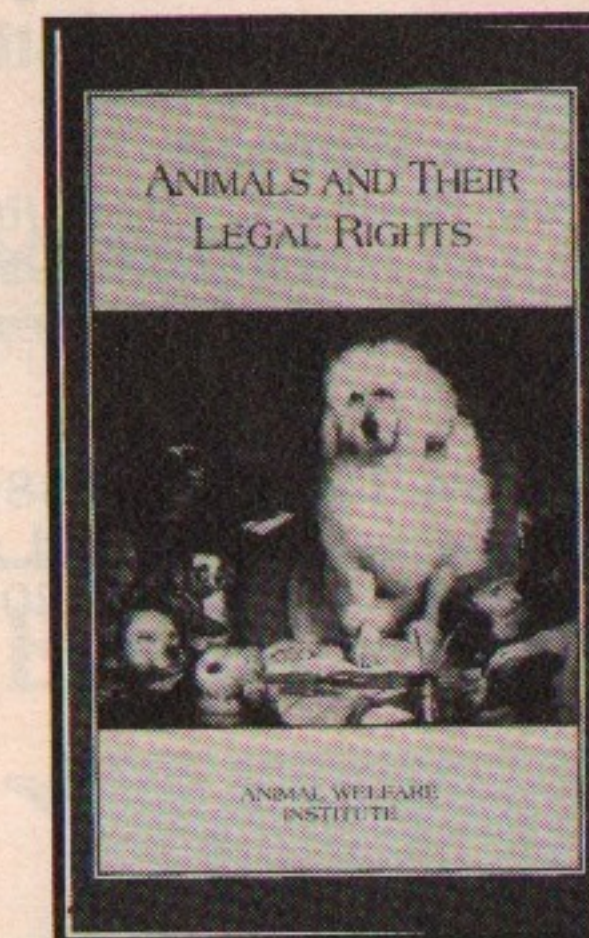
#### Animals And Their Legal Rights

Chapters by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the USDA, Bianca Beary, Fay Brisk, Diane Halverson, Emily Stewart Leavitt, Cathy Liss, Shirley McGreal, Greta Nilsson, Valerie Stanley, Christine Stevens, and Pearl Twyne; published by the Animal Welfare Institute (P.O. Box 3650, Washington, D.C. 20007), Fourth Edition 1990; 441 pages, paperback, \$4.00 postpaid (available free to librarians, chiefs-of-police, and humane societies provided they send their request on official letterhead).

Subtitled "A Survey of American Laws from 1641 to 1990," this fourth updated and expanded edition of *Animals And Their Legal Rights* was in my hands less than twenty minutes when it first saved me ten or fifteen minutes of rummaging through filing cabinets in search of an explanation of the relationship between the U.S. Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species; within hours it had proved itself probably the most useful book on animal rights ever written. The opening chapter surveys "The Evolution of Anti-Cruelty Laws In The United States," succinctly summarizing the

evolution of American attitudes toward animals as well. Subsequent chapters cover humane slaughter laws, laboratory animal welfare, animals and airlines, dog law, cat law, horse law, laws addressing animal fighting as an entertainment, regulation of trapping and poisoning, marine mammal law, bird law, laws concerning nonhuman primates, foreign animal protection law, humane education in the public schools, and the relationship between animal protection groups and law enforcement agencies. The numerous appendices include the complete text of the most important current laws—state, federal, and international—pertaining to animal welfare.

This is not to say *Animals And Their Legal Rights* is without deficiencies. The "Trapping and Poisoning" chapter, for instance, sets the number of furbearers trapped in the U.S. each year at 20.3 million, which is close to the all-time record highs reported near the peak of the fur sales boom in the mid-1980s. Only 4.6 million furbearers were trapped during the winter of 1989-1990; citing the old figure without qualification will leave activists open to accusations of exaggerating. More disturbing, the author of this section criticizes anti-snaring laws on the books in



many states for prohibiting use of plastic-coated cable snares as well as the much more widely used wire snares. It is the author's opinion that animal defenders should encourage the use of plastic-coated cable snares in place of leghold traps because they might cause furbearers less suffering. Having spent at least 60 mornings a winter for 12 years detecting and removing illegal traplines, and having been caught in a plastic-coated cable snare himself with enough of a jerk to wrench the average coyote's hip out of socket, it is this critic's opinion that the author of this particular commentary has never been out in the woods enough to know what she's talking about. There is no such thing as a humane trap; snares are used almost exclusively against rabbits

Continued on next page



## REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

and canids, being most effective in run-sets, whereas leghold traps are used primarily in baited sets near dens; and at subfreezing temperatures with a cold wind blowing, the difference in the feel of a hard-frozen plastic coated cable snare biting into one's leg and a wire snare doing likewise is very slight. Either one hurts, either one can maim, and either one can hold an animal prisoner to anxiety, hunger, and the elements for days until the animal either dies, chews a leg off,

or is dispatched by the trapper.

The quality of the legal information offered fortunately far exceeds the level of this one section. I expect I'll be using *Animals And Their Legal Rights* as a desk reference almost daily, until the cover is held on with double-sided tape and a new edition becomes necessary because continued success in courtrooms has significantly advanced animal protection jurisprudence.

Worth adding next time would be an appendix listing the typical

sentences given for violating the various laws cited. There is a considerable discrepancy between the maximums, which are stated, and what judges mete out. Obtaining and abstracting the sentencing data might prove as monumental a task as assembling this volume was in the first place; but the resulting norms could be of extreme value for humane societies and animal defense groups once cases are brought to court.

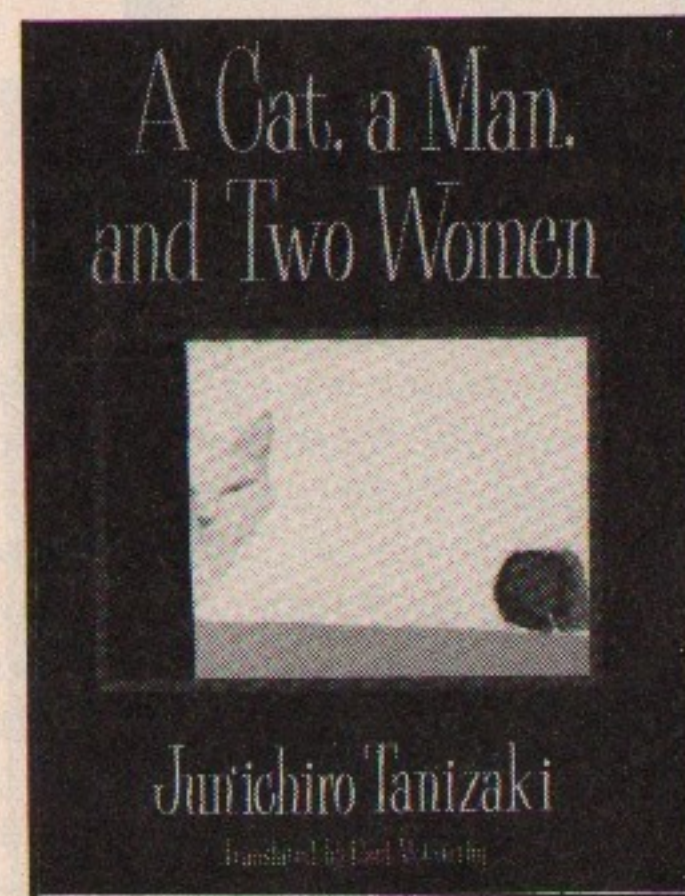
—M. C.

## Classics Revisited

### A Cat, a Man, and Two Women

By Junichiro Tanizaki, 1936; first edition English translation 1990; distributed by Kodansha International, New York.

Junichiro Tanizaki (1886-1965) is universally regarded as one of the great novelists of 20th



century Japan. Many of his works have recently been translated and published in the United States. *A Cat, a Man, and Two Women* was written in 1936, but was translated by Paul McCarthy and published in 1990, to the joy of all readers who admire the works of Tanizaki and, of course, to all cat lovers.

The novels of Tanizaki (perhaps the best known to western readers is *Naomi*) have common themes. His typical male anti-heroes are self-indulgent and ineffectual. The man is manipulated by women, but the reader does not pity the dominated man because he refuses to mature and meet life's challenges. He remains a child who is often bullied by mother, mother-in-law, and wife. In most Tanizaki novels, it is quite easy to laugh with and empathize with his characters, but it is difficult to admire or even like them.

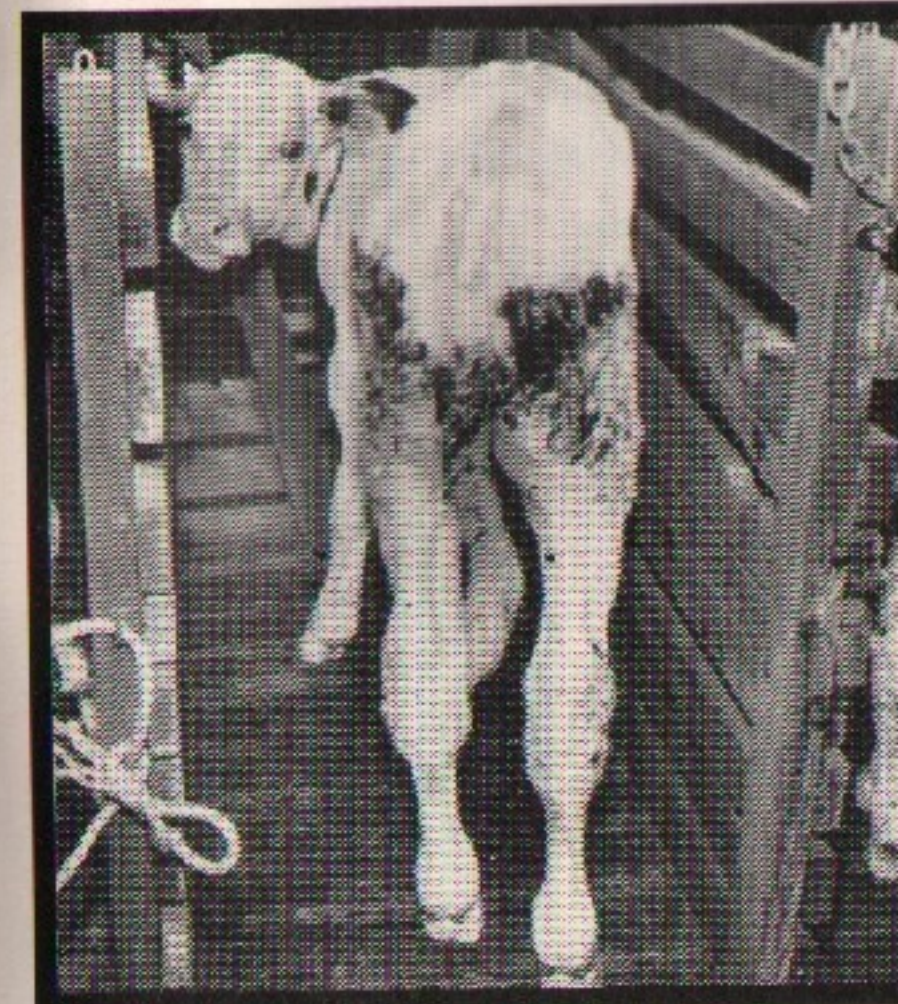
Except for one. Lily is the beautiful and wise cat who is definitely the heroine in *A Cat, a Man, and Two Women*. Although she too is abused and manipulated, Lily is the only character who understands loyalty and true affection. In the end, she is much better off than her human counterparts. Lily is the constant companion of the anti-hero Shozo. He loves her as the only passion in his limited life. None of the women in the book are even described, but the reader has ample evidence of Lily's charms. "Certainly Shozo had never

had such a lovely cat before, with such a magnificent coat. European cats are generally free from the still, square shouldered look of Japanese cats; they have clean, chic looking lines, like a beautiful woman with gently sloping shoulders. Japanese cats also usually have long, narrow heads, with slight hollows beneath the eyes and prominent cheekbones, but Lily's head was small and compact. Her wonderful large and beautiful gold colored eyes and nervously twitching nose were set within the well defined contours of a face shaped exactly like a clam shell placed upside down. But it was not her coat or face or body that so attracted Shozo to this kitten. If it were only a matter of outward form, he himself had seen Persian and Siamese cats that were even more beautiful. It was Lily's personality that was so appealing."

For pages the reader hears how clever Lily is, how she can play tricks, and about her wonderful ability to understand humans. "Cats have a wisdom of their own. They understand at once how someone feels about them. Lily's behavior proved it: as soon as Shinako changed her attitude and began to feel real affection for her, the cat came right back and behaved in the most friendly way possible. Hadn't Lily in fact sensed the change in Shinako's feelings more quickly than she herself had?"

Reviews continued on page 57

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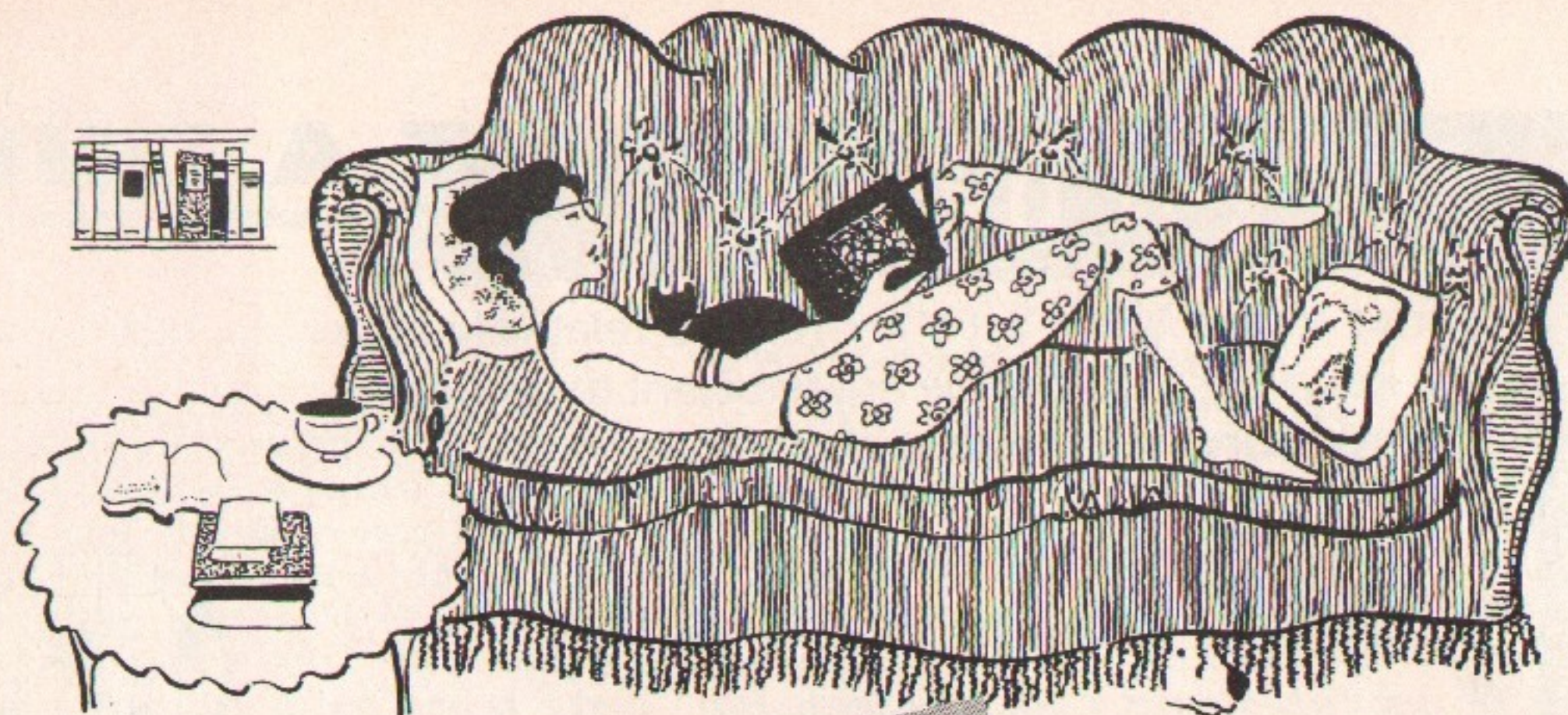
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Reviews continued from page 54

Shozo's relationship to Lily is always one of true passion which seems to be reciprocated. When he tragically gives her away because his mother (who is actually the third and most dominating woman in the novel) insists, Lily journeys for a week to return home to Shozo. But there is no escaping the rule of the mother. When money is low, she plots to break up Shozo's marriage with the hard-working maid Shinako. Their marriage was mostly one of convenience, and the only sign of love is Shinako's jealousy toward Lily. The mother arranges for Shinako to be thrown out of the house (discarded the way many people discard once valued and then unwanted animals), and wife number two, Fukuko, supplants her immediately, complete with a second dowry. To gain Shozo's affection, Fukuko pretends to like Lily, but within a short time she too becomes very jealous. She insists that Lily be given away to Shinako who is living in a state of poverty. She has lost everything from her marriage and now she wants only Lily.

At first it appears that her motive is to make Shozo unhappy and to stir up problems in his new marriage, but when she is victorious, she can't resist the love that Lily is willing to give. In the end, all the human characters have tortured themselves by being unable to love themselves or each other, and Lily is the only character left purring. She is the most desired of them all, and she is the best adjusted as well. She understands give and take, and has, as most cats do, a very strong sense of self-esteem.

This is a very humorous novel with some strong insights into our relationships to companion animals. Except among members of the animal rights community, it may still be considered strange if one shows great affection for an animal. Tanizaki lived with two cats for many years. He loved one and hated the other. This ambiguity toward domestic animals who are dependent on us but who also have great emotional power, is well described in this unique and charming story.

—Naomi Rachel

## Biomedical Essays

### Perspectives on Medical Research, Volume 2

Medical Research Modernization Committee (Box 6036 Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163-6018), 1990; 102 pages, \$10 paper, \$15 hardcover.

This volume explores a wide range of topics, including the Baby Fae experiment, myths of the scientific method, and animal models of spinal cord injury. This anthology of essays and book reviews, all written by medical professionals, should prove useful to animal advocates working on biomedical issues.

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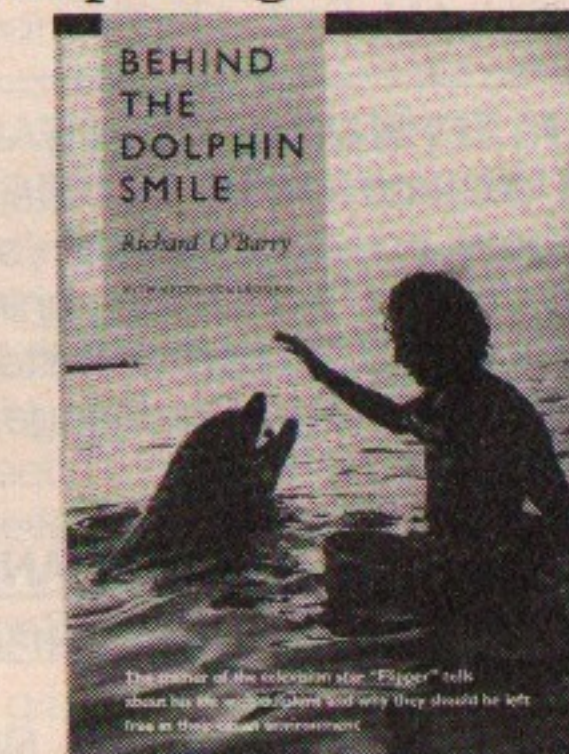
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**REMEMBER OPIE** from the May issue of The ANIMALS' AGENDA? Uniontown, Pennsylvania S.P.C.A. shelter has 2 long-term "Opies" longing for homes. Please help! (412) 329-0893.

**SEEKING PARTIES** who would be interested in working for the development of a Museum/Library for Animal Rights. I have a collection of over 20 years of materials. The time is right for memorials to the billions of innocent creatures who have suffered and died in vain. A coming together of planners and workers interested contact: A.R. UpDate, P.O. Box 483, Flushing, NY 11372.

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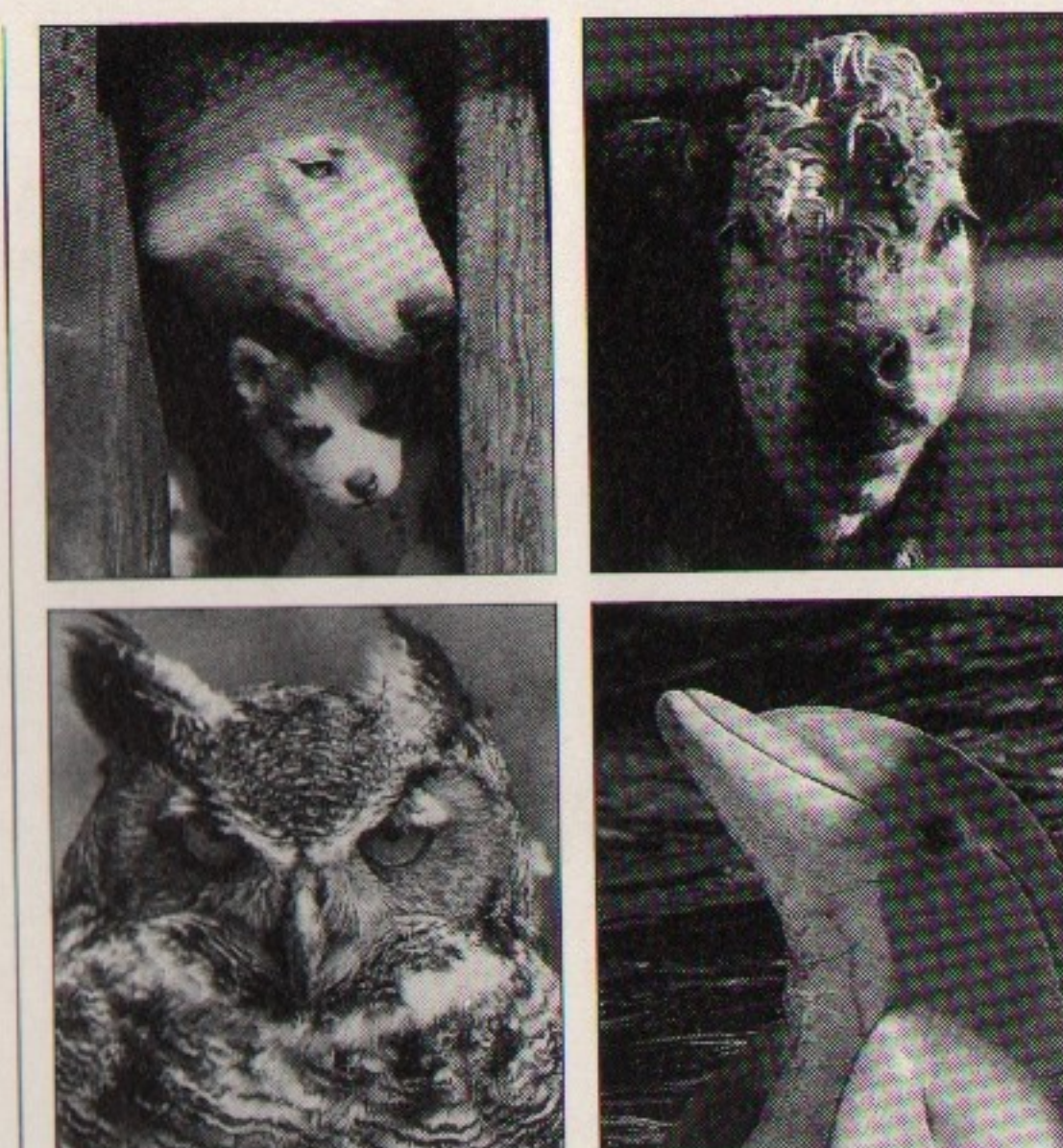
# ANIMAL ACTIVIST ALERT

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packed with news, updates, and activist tips and keeps you informed about the state, national, and international scenes.

## THE ANIMALS NEED YOUR HELP

**T**he HSUS has received that the Endangered Species Act is being threatened recently legislation

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