In an effort to put an end to blood sports in Kansas, the HSUS has established a $5,000 re- ward fund for information leading to the ar-rest and conviction of those involved in ani-mal fighting and the use of animals as bait to train greyhounds. Attorney General Robert T. Stephan was astounded to learn that most sheriffs in the state were under the impression that animal fighting was legal if there was no gambling in- volved. He also discovered that a new law passed in 1987 prohibiting the use of animals to train racing greyhounds was not being enforced.

Midwest Regional Director Wendell Maddox and HSUS Investigator Robert Baker worked closely with Mr. Stephan to set up the reward fund and participate in an announcement throughout the state.

Kansas Attorney General Robert T. Stephan (right) and HSUS Investigator Robert Baker announce $5,000 reward fund.

Regional Director Frantz Duntzler recently helped the Kensko, Wis., County Sheriffs' Department investigate a farm where fighting greyhounds and pit bulls were allegedly being raised and sold. The resulting raid netted about 200 dogs and 13 pit bulls. The farm’s owner was charged with three counts.

A prominent auction gallery in Chicago was persuaded to withdraw an elephant tusk from a planned sale through the efforts of the North Central office of the HSUS and HSUS President John A. Hoyt. The HSUS successfully argued that such sales promote the slaughter of elephants.

Evidence of suspected animal sacrifices in the Great Lakes region will soon be the subject of a standard report form. The Great Lakes office has helped the Bowling Green, Ohio, Police Division and Dr. Dale Griffis, a nation-ally known expert on cult activities, to standardize this form. Information will be shared among the agen-cies involved and with specialists to increase awareness of the seri-ousness of these crimes and to end them.

Twelve people were arrested in Pottsville, Penn., over the Fourth of July weekend under the state’s newly enacted felony animal-fighting laws. Twelve spectators were also charged.

The HSUS was as-sisted by the Pennsyl-vania State Police, their Vice Unit found in Harris-burg, Troop L-Reeds-ville, The Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Luzerne County detect-ives, and the SPCA’s of Luzerne and Schuylkill counties. Officials seized more than one hundred live hawks and falcons on the property of Ronald A. Sabitsky, Sr. Mr. Sabitsky was subsequently charged with manufacturing and possession with intent to deliver marijuana and possess-ion of cocaine and drug para-phernalia. Suspects, if con-victed, face a possible seven years’ imprisonment or a $1,000 fine.

We wish to thank the Schuyl-kill County SPCA for maintain-ing the birds seized.

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A QUESTION OF TEETH

The California Board of Examiners in Veterinary Medicine (BEVM) has proposed Regulation 30, which prohibits the removal of tartar from dog or cat teeth by laymen in California. The groomer sued the BEVM on the grounds that a layman cannot remove tartar legally in California. The Court ruled that the BEVM regulation was constitutional since the profession of veterinarians can keep everyone safe.

One Day—100 Miles

On July 29, 1989, West Coast Regional Investigator Kurt Lapham observed the Tevis Cup Endurance Race, a one-day, 100-mile horseback ride through the rugged Sierra Nevada Mountains of California. This year’s race was completed without any deaths or major injuries. Several riders and their horses were pulled from the race at veterinary check stops for reasons of temporary lameness or exhaustion, but it was apparent to Mr. Lapham from conversations with the disqualified riders that several would have continued the race if allowed.

Northwest Cockfight Raid

Acting on information, Oregon State Police arrested 348 persons and seized more than $90,000 during a raid on a major cockfighting derby near St. Helens, Ore., on May 21, 1989.

Hickey Conviction Held

The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Portland, Ore., has upheld convictions and sentences given to four persons for violation of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). Hickey has been joined to that case without further delay.

Balloons Cancelled

After notification by the State of New Hampshire Animal Rights League, and the New Hampshire State Police of the danger posed by helium-filled balloons to wildlife and the environment, the New Hampshire Health Care Commission, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the HSUS rejected plans to launch 8000 balloons at fifty testing sites across the state for its fund-raising event benefiting the New Hampshire task force on child abuse and neglect.

Rattlesnakes Abused

Gulf State Program Coordinator A.D. Yee, has reported that a number of dead marine animals and have been implicated in the deaths. Several of these animals are listed as threatened or endangered species. Florida has taken the initiative and stopped all operations until further notice.

Hunting in State Parks

In June 1989, the Gulf States office and the Fund for Animals presented 58 signed statements to the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife urging the end of hunting in public parks for the sake of so-called wildlife management and sport. The director promised that the department would not expand such activities.

Overseeing Research Animals

Cambridge, Mass., is the first city in the country to bring research, testing, and educational procedures on live animals under municipal overview. An ordinance passed on June 26, 1989, calls for a commissioner of laboratory animals to oversee their care and use within the city.

Farewell to Mr. Dommers

John J. Dommers, seventeen-year veteran of The HSUS and director of its New England Office since 1981, has resigned to work on non-profit, commercial, and environmental enterprises in California. HSUS members and friends in New England will miss Mr. Dommers's extensive knowledge and eagerness to help when needed. Patrick B. Parkes, vice president for field services, commented, "He has been totally dedicated, unusually effective in whatever he tackled, and a tireless worker on behalf of suffering animals. He has done a great job for us, and while we hate to see him go, we wish him well."

HSUS Produces TV Program

The HSUS Gulf States Regional Office is producing "Protecting Animals and Earth," a sixteen-hour-long program of previously released material on animal issues. The program will air on public-access channels in Corpus Christi, TX, on Thursday nights at 6 p.m.; it is available for other groups to air on their own local public-access channels free of charge. Contact The HSUS/Gulf States Regional Office at 6202 Weber Road, Suite 305, Corpus Christi, TX 78413.