was represented at hearings on this bill by testimony recommending that the center to be established under this policy be located at the Smithsonian Institution, which already has a respected research program, and that the Congress ensure the success of the program by authorizing appropriation of adequate funds. These bills appear to be moving toward votes in the House and Senate.

**FISHING-METHODS FUNDS APPROVED**

The U.S. Senate has approved an appropriations bill for the U.S. Department of Commerce that includes $1 million for a research program, which already has a respected research program. The authorization bill for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) would direct NIH to make alternatives research a priority and establish goals for this research. The HSUS will encourage the Senate to retain this provision in the bill when it is considered there.

**BARRING EXOTICS**

Two major bills dealing with exotic animals have been introduced in California. S.B. 103 would ban the establishment of alligator farms in the state. S.B. 103 would exempt ostriches from sales tax by defining them as poultry. S.B. 103 would prohibit the issuing of permits for the operation of alligator farms if the alligators were kept for the use of their meat or hides. Current law states that it is unlawful to import, transport, possess, release live alligators into California without such a permit, which can be obtained from the state department of fish and game. Passage of A.B. 1740 would set a new definition for ostriches as "exotic livestock." If passed, the bill would make it more lucrative for people to raise exotic animals in California, and the HSUS expects A.B. 1740 and supports S.B. 103.

**LAPHAM REPORTS ON OAKLAND SHELTER**

In December 1990, in response to public pressure, the city of Oakland, California, asked the West Coast Regional office of the American Horse Protection Association and the Oakland SPCA for an on-site evaluation of its program and shelter. Investigator Kurt Lapham compiled, then prepared a high-profile report that was delivered to the city in March of this year. He recommended that a new shelter be built, more staff be hired, and all animal-control personnel be formally trained. He concluded that all euthanasia of animals in the city's shelter should be stopped until the staff was properly trained in euthanasia techniques. Shelter staff members have since received training in euthanasia techniques at the Oakland SPCA.

**WILD HORSES AT RISK**

This summer the HSUS led a coalition of humane and wildlife protection groups in efforts to save wild horses on the Nellis Air Force Base Wild Horse Range in Nevada. After years of mismanagement by the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM), extreme drought had left the severely degraded Nellis range with only limited grazing and dry water holes. In response to the crisis, the Air Force hauled water to traditional watering sites on the range and the BLM removed orphaned foals. The HSUS, the American Horse Protection Association, and other national groups met with BLM officials and demanded more action. The BLM rounded up and removed 2,000 horses from the Nellis range and placed them in the Adopt-a-Horse Program several of the horses were shipped to New Jersey. The state hosted its first wild-horse adoption in August; The HSUS's Paula Jewell and Stacy Bohlen attended. Special thanks go to Dawn Lappin of Wild Horse Organized Assistance and Kathy Barcomb of the Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses for their efforts.

The HSUS continues to monitor the crisis at Nellis (see page 28).

**RANCH OPERATOR FOUND GUILTY**

In June a California jury found a Monterey County rancher guilty of running a hunting operation in which illegally imported exotic cats were shot by trophy hunters for a price. Floyd Lester Patterson III was found guilty on thirty-five misdemeanor counts in connection with an investigation conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Monterey County District Attorney's Office. The HSUS West Coast office had asked Assemblyman Sam Farr to make inquiries about how the exotic cats, including endangered tigers and leopards, were imported and to learn what zoo or dealers supplied them. Initially, the three defendants in the case pleaded not guilty; however, one of the defendants subsequently pleaded guilty to six counts, resulting in a sentence of 880 days in jail and a $50,000 fine. The district attorney has filed
a $1 million unfair-business-practice suit against all of the defendants.

DOGFIGHTERS CONVICTED

Steve Hendrick, who, with seven of his cohorts, pleaded guilty to felony dogfighting and narcotics charges in San Joaquin County (California) in December, has pleaded guilty to felony dogfighting charges in Tuolumne County for his role in the running of a large-scale dogfighting operation raided by officers of the Tuolumne County Department of Animal Control and The HSUS's West Coast office. One of Mr. Hendrick's associates was also convicted on all counts in the felony dogfighting case.

For his testimony and assistance in the case, West Coast Regional Investigator Eric Sakach received a letter of commendation from Tuolumne County Deputy District Attorney Michael Weneberg.

Mr. Hendrick has also been indicted on federal charges stemming from a narcotics investigation that has uncovered evidence of a large-scale dogfighting operation. Mr. Hendrick and the seven others were first arrested last November at the Stockton Airport shortly after they returned from Memphis, Tennessee, where they had taken two dogs to a major dogfight.

During the execution of subsequent search warrants, animal-control officers and HSUS investigators found thirty-seven pit bull dogs, a bloodstreamed dogfighting pit, underground publications, and training equipment. They also found pieces of dead cats and a videotape showing dogs savaging small animals.

"SUPER BOWL" RAIDED

Mother's Day weekend, the "Super Bowl" of cockfighting, also known as the "Buckeye Bowl," was turned into a large and successful cockfighting raid in both Vinton and Scioto Counties, thanks to the cooperative efforts of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the HSUS Great Lakes office, and law-enforcement officials.

In what has been touted as the largest cockfighting raid east of the Mississippi, nearly 400 people were charged with illegal cockfighting. Several were charged with possession of criminal tools (the sharp gaff tied to the bird's legs), which is a felony in Ohio. Approximately 700 birds were seized. Because of a legal technicality, some charges were dropped, but soon they will be refiled.

News of the Ohio raids led to other usable information reaching the ears of law-enforcement personnel. A raid in West Virginia was the result. West Virginia state troopers netted thirty-one people at a cockfight in Putnam County, just three weeks after the Ohio best. The HSUS is pressing for felony cockfighting laws to be passed in Ohio and West Virginia. Passage would make any and all animal fighting in the Great Lakes region felony crimes.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislation creating a perpetual open season on coyotes passed in Indiana, despite vigorous opposition from The HSUS and other animal-protection groups. In Michigan, passage of H.B. 4996 would allow the keeping of ferrets. State law presently prohibits private ownership of ferrets, a position the HSUS supports, since we believe ferrets are not appropriate pets. Another Michigan bill, H.B. 4384, would prohibit the abandonment of animals, the killing of dogs and cats for food, and the mutilation of one's own animal. The HSUS supports this legislation.

In Ohio, pending bills H.B. 284 and H.B. 269 would legalize racing in Ohio. The Missouri legislature, however, recently passed a law that prohibits the operation of greyhound tracks.

In Alabama, H.B. 187 allows Texas courts to release animals cruelly treated by their owners to the care of nonprofit animal shelters for preferential disposition. Prior to the passage of this law, animals seized during cruelty investigations had to be sold at public auction. Animal protectionists feared that the original owners would eventually regain possession of such animals.

State legislators are considering laws to restrict so-called "canned hunts." If passed, H.B. 232 would ban hunting of large cats, felines, and bears in confinement. The HSUS supports this legislation.

In California, the California Governor's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment is monitoring the spread of West Nile virus. The virus has been identified in horses and birds.

In Michigan, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is working with the Michigan Department of Agriculture to develop a multi-species management plan for the Great Lakes region.

In West Virginia, the state Department of Environmental Protection is working with the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources to develop a plan for the management of wildlife in the state.

In Georgia, a bill to ban the use of birds in cockfighting has been introduced.

In Texas, a bill to require the use of protective equipment in cockfighting has been introduced.

In Arizona, a bill to ban the use of dogs in cockfighting has been introduced.

In California, a bill to ban the use of animals in cockfighting has been introduced.

In Nevada, a bill to ban the use of animals in cockfighting has been introduced.

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MISSOURI SYMPOSIUM

Speakers attacked the surrendering of animals by shelters for research purposes at a symposium sponsored by The HSUS in May. Current Missouri law neither requires nor prohibits the practice, called pound seizure. Symposium speakers included Thomas Astorino of the St. Louis Environmental Health Department; HSUS Vice President Phyllis Wright; Vicky Eide of the Iowa Federation of Humane Societies; Mary Meister of the Missouri Animal Control Association; Tonnie Loutzenhiser of the St. Louis Animal Rights Team; Gloria Genteman and Theresa Neske of Protect Our Pets; and Shelley Sostman of the Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation.

HOYT SPEAKS ON OVERPOPULATION

HSUS President John A. Hoyt was a featured speaker at the annual meeting of The Missouri League for Humane Progress. The event was sponsored by the Animal Protective Association, the St. Louis Animal Rights Team, and The HSUS.

AN HONOR FOR GRACE KORSAN

Grace Korsan, president of The Missouri League for Humane Protection, was honored at the Missouri symposium on pound seizure.

NEW LAWS PROPOSED

Representatives from several local humane organizations and the community at large have formed the Nash­ville Coalition for Pet Protection (NCPP).

LEADING IN NEW JERSEY

Bird importers and dealers did not know what they were up against when New Jersey Assemblyman D. Bennett Mazur introduced A. 649, a bill to ban the import of wild-caught exotic birds.

PETTING ZOO PASSES BY

When a major corporation decided to sponsor a petting zoo at a community fair, the Lexington (Kentucky) Humane Society contacted The HSUS for advice on stopping, or at least monitoring, the event. We convinced the corporate sponsors that a petting zoo can subject animals to stress and physical injury.

ANIMAL-CARE WORKSHOP

The South Central Regional Office will cosponsor a workshop with the Animal Control Association of Tennessee and the Tennessee Humane Association, to be held November 8-9, 1991, in Nash­ville. For information, please contact the South Central Regional Office at 800 North Shore Dr., Suite 400, Knox­ville, TN 37919.

WORKING FOR CHANGE

On June 18, 1991, New England program coor­ dinator Frank Ribaudo and HSUS zoo consultant Jane Denning met with representatives from a number of local, state, and national ani­mal-protection groups to discuss the many problems at the Aqua Circus of Cape Cod. Representatives from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and the National Wildlife Coalition, and Citizens to End Animal Suffer­ ing and Exploitation planned strategies.

FIGHT AGAINST TRACK FAILS

Despite an intense effort by state animal-protectionists, the Connecticut legislature recently voted into law a bill allowing conversion of the Bridgeport jai-alai fronton to a dog track. The New England Regional Office will continue to combat abuses at the two Connecticut dog tracks and others in New England.

Aqua Circus management has agreed to an inspection of its facil­ ities. The HSUS and others will work with it to make improvements.

The HSUS's Phyllis Wright spoke at the Missouri symposium on pound seizure.

Progress, was honored at the organization's annual meeting for her decades of commitment to the welfare of animals. Ms. Korsan is also the former sec­ retary of The HSUS and an ac­ tive member of the Missouri animal-protection community.

The NCFF is promoting much-needed improvements in Nashville's animal shelter. Another organization, Friends of the Metro Animal Shelter, has already initiated a number of positive changes in the shelter's procedures and facili­ ties.

BIRDS NEED PROTECTION

In 1980, Kentucky governor John Y. Brown vetoed a bill in­ tended to exclude birds from the definition of "animal" in state statutes. Unfortunately, the veto was registered one day late; in 1990 Kentucky's at­ torney general issued an opinion that the governor's error legalized cockfighting and eliminated all protection for birds under state anti-cruelty statutes.

The South Central staff has met with humane activit­ ies throughout the state urging sup­ port of legislation aimed at reversing this ten-year-old mistake. Kentucky residents who wish more information on this effort should contact the South Central regional office at (615) 588-1843.

The NCPP is promoting much-needed improvements in Nashville's animal shelter.

An assembly committee room was packed with bird dealers, pet-industry representatives, and bird-protection advo­ cates, including Assem­ blyman Mazur and HSUS Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Aus­ tenberg.

A local animal society to make inspections during the event. The owners of the petting zoo later chose to cancel their engagement.

LEADING IN NEW JERSEY

Aqua Circus management has agreed to an inspection of its facil­ ities. The HSUS and others will work with it to make improvements.

The bill was supported by New Jersey animal-protection organizations and the Coalition to End the Wild Bird Trade (comprised of The HSUS, Defenders of Wild­ life, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Society for Animal Protective Legislation). Grassroots supporters generated thousands of postcards to the assembly, senate, and governor.

On April 5, 1990, the assembly committee room was packed with bird dealers, pet-industry representatives, and bird-protection advocates, including Assemblyman Mazur and HSUS Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Austinberg.

The HSUS's Phyllis Wright spoke at the Missouri symposium on pound seizure.