At Press Time...

Ford Considers Lifting Predator Control Poison Ban

HSUS has learned that Interior Secretary Stanley K. Hathaway and other Administration officials are trying to persuade President Ford to rescind the Executive Order that banned the use of poisons to kill predators on public lands. The order, issued by President Nixon in 1972, stopped the federal government's massive poisoning of coyotes to protect sheep grazing on leased public lands. HSUS and environmental organizations had demonstrated that (a.) there was little justification for the program, (b.) the poisons were causing agonizing suffering to the victims, and (c.) other wildlife, humans, and the land were being detrimentally affected. HSUS believes a lifting of the ban would represent a major step backward in U. S. wildlife policies and a further bending of wildlife interests to economic ones. Make your views known to President Ford, c/o The White House, Washington, D.C.

HSUS Asks Court to Ban Rabbits in Dog Racing

HSUS has petitioned the Florida Supreme Court to permit it to participate in an attempt to reverse a lower court ruling that the use of live rabbits is not banned by state anti-cruelty statutes on the grounds that they are necessary in the training of racing dogs. The lower court ruled last March that the state's anti-cruelty law does not apply to the situation because it only prohibits activities that are "unnecessarily" cruel. HSUS General Counsel Murdaugh Stuart Madden has urged the Florida Attorney General to appeal the ruling on the grounds that it strikes at the integrity and effectiveness of all state anti-cruelty statutes.