In an effort to put an end to blood sports in Kansas, The HSUS has established a $5,000 reward fund for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved in animal 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 involved. 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 publicize its existence throughout the state.

Marchers call for no more veal

About thirty members of The HSUS, the Humane Society of Greater Kansas City, and People for Animal Rights marched in protest outside several Kansas City area restaurants for “National Veal Boycott Day,” June 23. Norma McMillen of People for Animal Rights and Wendell Maddox organized the protest to bring attention to the need for better quality veal calves and to make consumers aware of the abuse suffered by veal calves and the veal industry.

Investigator Robert Baker announced at the protest, “We cannot overstress the complete disregard and apparent indifference towards young calves evidenced by the veal industry. The industry’s cruel methods are on parade whenever they advertise ‘special feed, fancy, or milk-fed’ veal to customers.”

Better care for carriage horses

In the spring of 1988, Midwest Regional Director Maddox, along with other animal protectionists, campaigned to remove horse-drawn carriages from the streets of Kansas City. The city council refused to end carriage operations but was willing to make changes to the ordinances and amend agreements with the operators to improve conditions for the horses and the public.

The committee set up to draft changes has since made significant improvements, including stepped-up certification requirements for drivers, which took effect in August 1988.

Rewarded in Kansas

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

At the urging of the Kansas Attorney General, $5,000 was added to the reward fund for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved in animal fighting and the use of animals as bait to train racing greyhounds.

Korean War veterans were honored at a special ceremony held May 23 by the Kansas Attorney General. Mr. Stephan helped to present a Korean War flag to the KANSAS CITY VETERANS’ SERVICE BUREAU.

Statistics on sacrifices

Evidence of suspected animal sacrifices in the Great Lakes region will be heard in the federal court in Chicago. The HSUS and the Animal Legal Defense Fund are discussing with the United States Attorney’s Office further possible legal action against the Illinois-based Chicago Style Kosher Meats, Inc., which is alleged to be disposing of animals contrary to animal welfare regulations.

An HSUS investigator was among the eight people arrested in a raid on a farm near Bowling Green, Ohio, May 10, 1989, which the farmer claimed was a bird sanctuary. The raid netted about 200 birds and 13 pit bulls. The investigation was sparked by a tip from a local citizen and is expected to result in felony counts.

Crackdown on live lures

While trials are pending for twelve persons arrested last October for using a live domestic rabbit to train a greyhound, the state Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering has already held a hearing to consider suspension or revocation of their licenses. The division heard testimony from HSUS staff on the undercover investigation. Industry insiders testified that the fact the arrest created an uproar among greyhound owners and trainers, who had felt little need in the past to stop this bloody practice.

The Northeast office, meanwhile, spearheaded a raid at a training track in Putnam County, Fla., in July. Over the course of several months, an HSUS investigator had observed that after all known penalties were assessed, the track continued to train horses that had been found to have suffered from neglect and injury. The raid resulted in the arrest of the owner and the removal of two pit bulls from the premises.

Greyhound Cruelty Case

“Walking skeletons” is how HSUS Investigator Ken Johnson described the more than 100 racing greyhounds found on the verge of death in a Florida kennel. More than 70 of the dogs had to be euthanized within days of their discovery by the Suwannee County Humane Society.

The tragedy occurred when the poorly trained dogs were caught up in a dispute between their owner and a caretaker. In conflicting stories, each accused the other of neglecting the dogs.

Mr. Johnson is working with the sheriff’s department and the state attorney’s office to file charges against all responsible parties.

No more sacrifices

Southeast Regional Director Marc Paulhus was a key witness in the federal trial that will decide whether animal sacrifice by religious cults is prohibited by the Constitution. The trial took place in Miami, Fla., where thousands of animals are killed each year in gruesome ritual.

The case involves a legal battle between followers of the Afro-Caribbean religion Santeria and the City of Hialeah. The Church of Lukumi Babalu Aye filed a lawsuit against the city following the adoption of several ordinances banning the sacrifice of animals. Mr. Paulhus was called to testify in the trial because he originally urged the Miami City Council to pass the ordinances.

The cult contends the ordinances are unconstitutional under the First Amendment, which guarantees religious freedom. The city argues that animal sacrifice constitutes an unnecessary cruelty and is psychologically damaging to children who view the killings.

Officials seized more than fifty pigeons on the property of Ronald A. Sabitsky, Sr. Mr. Sabitsky was subsequently charged with manufacturing and possession with intent to deliver marijuana and possession of cocaine and drug paraphernalia. Suspects, if convicted, face a possible seven years’ imprisonment or a $15,000 fine.

Nous aujoustons, director of the Mid-Atlantic region, congratulates Rep. Dean Gallo of New Jersey on legislation he introduced to the U.S. House of Representatives requiring double hulls on all long-along-constructed tankers and other vessels carrying oil and hazardous materials in U.S. waters.

Penn. Pigeons: Sitting Ducks?

Members of the Judiciary Committee of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania heard testimony on H.B. 696 on May 26, 1989. This bill makes it illegal to organize or participate in live pigeon shoots in the state. Mr. Hodge, director of the Department of Data and Information Services for the HSUS and a native of Pennsylvania, testified on behalf of the bill. Another important witness was forced to send her testimony rather than appear in person due to threats to her family.

H.B. 696 was passed out of the Judiciary Committee, which is a major feat. The committee’s report is expected to be heard in the Assembly of Pennsylvania. The HSUS will continue to work for the passage of this bill.
A QUESTION OF TEETH
The California Board of Examiners of Veterinarians (BEVM) has proposed Regulation 2037, which would ban the removal of tartar by laymen, which was vetoed by the governor. The BEVM has received numerous complaints from the BEVM’s accreditation that a groomer performing tartar removal was practicing veterinary medicine without a license, a misdemeanor in California. The governor said the BEVM, in March, the San Joaquin County Superior Court ruled that the BEVM could not restrict non-veterinarian tartar removal unless a veterinarian performed the task.

Regulation 2037 is based in California, banning and/or severely restricting layman tartar removal by allowing only the use of dental floss and toothbrushes, subsequent passage of similar regulations is sure to follow in other states. Write The BEVM-West Coast Regional Office for more information on how to become involved. ID J 1 Street, Suite 211, Sacramento, CA 95814.

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 HSUS 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. The raid occurred at the property of Charlie Pearce in Deer Island, Ore. “Many of the persons cited were from outside Oregon,” said HSUS Investigator Eric Sakach, who had informed individuals to the raid and assisted state police in the action. All were cited for involvement in illegal animal fighting. A misdemeanor under Oregon law punishable by a year in county jail.

HICKERY CONVICTION HELD
The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Portland, Ore., has affirmed the conviction of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) against animal dealer James W. Hickey. Mr. Hickey’s son, Joseph J. Hickey, and Joseph’s wife, Shannon Hansen, both licensed by USDA as AWA dealers, were charged with violations of the AWA. The appeal was heard by Judge Alfred T. Arrison.

ERICKSON CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE
Following notification by Erickson Civil Rights League, Law Enforcement officers recently arrested and seized more than 100 cockfighting implements, and related equipment. The raid occurred at several locations around the state for its fund-raising event benefiting the New Hampshire task force on child abuse and neglect. The association notified the nursing homes to tether the birds so that they could be retrieved and properly disposed of after the event on August 1, 1989. Latex balloons have been found lodged in the intestinal tracts of a number of dead marine animals and have been implicated in feeding and deaths. Several of these animals are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

HUNTING IN STATE PARKS
In June 1989, the Gulf States Program of the Gulf States Residents, Inc. released 100 rattlesnakes into the state parks. The current rattle snake population in the Gulf States is estimated to be 5,000. The rattlesnakes were driven out of the state parks by a combination of modern air techniques.

THE RATTLE SNAKES
Gulf States Program Coordinator Jim Smith urges all residents to air a program called “Protecting Animals and Earth,” a six-hour-long program of previously released material on animal issues. The program will air on public-access channels in Corpus Christi on Thursday at 6 p.m. It is available for other groups to air on their own local public-access channels free of charge. Contact the Gulf States Program Regional Office at 6202 Weber Road, Suite 305, Corpus Christi, TX 78413.

Balloons CANCELLED
After notification by the New Hampshire Animal Rights League, the co-operative law under the AWA, secured a citywide ban on the LD-50 Test and Draize Acute Eye-Irritation Test in 1997. HSUS congratulates the CCRR for its important work. We are proud to have supported these pioneering efforts.

FAREWELL TO MR. DOMMERS
John J. Dommers, seventeen-year veteran of The HSUS and director of its New England Regional 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’ extensive know ledge and eagerness to help when needed. Patrick B. Parker, vice president for field services, commented, “John 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.”

Rattlesnakes Abused
Gulf States Program Coordinator James Noe, which secured a citywide ban on the LD-50 Test and Draize Acute Eye-Irritation Test in 1997. HSUS congratulates the CCRR for its important work. We are proud to have supported these pioneering efforts.

The HSUS Gulf States Regional Office is producing “Protecting Animals and Earth,” a six-hour-long program of previously released material on animal issues. The program will air on public-access channels in Corpus Christi on Thursday 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.