

Survival Center fights for ban on leg-hold trapping

By JACK CONDLIFFE
Of the Emerald

If the Survival Center has its way, students won't want to buy natural fur clothing after seeing its presentation on leg-hold trapping of fur-bearing animals today in the EMU.

Leg-hold traps catch prey with steel jaws that close on the animal's leg. The animal is not killed and struggles to escape before going into shock.

Animals will commonly gnaw off a leg to escape the traps.

Leg-hold trapping is more widely practiced in Lane County than in any other Oregon county. Traps for beavers can be found in Alton Baker Park and recently a dog was rescued from a trap near Elmira Junior High School.

Instances of household pets, and occasionally children, being caught in the traps are common, according to Cathy Johnson, assistant director at the Survival Center.

Dr. Craig Miller, a Springfield veterinary surgeon, says animals caught in the traps usually require surgery.

"They're nasty, nasty wounds," he says. "The top of the paw usually seems to be hurt worst. I have to trim off a lot of dead

skin. The wounds are usually down to the bone."

Four states, Florida, Alabama, North Carolina and California, have banned the traps except under limited circumstances, such as near a henhouse to protect the hens from foxes.

Most European countries also prohibit leg-hold trapping. A notable exception is the U.S.S.R., where trapping is still a major industry.

"Facts about Furs," published by the Washington, D.C.-based Animal Welfare Institute, says not only are more humane traps available, but synthetic furs can be readily substituted for animal furs. "Modern fur simulations provide a readily acceptable alternative to fur," the pamphlet says.

Johnson says the Survival Center hopes to more strictly regulate the use of the traps through a Lane County ordinance. The center wants to up the trapping fee, raise the age limit for trapping and institute stiff penalties for the use of illegal traps.

The program includes a showing of the film, "Canada Shame," continuously between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. outside Suite 1. The film will be shown again at 7:30 p.m. in 160 PLC.



Photo courtesy of the Animal Welfare Society

This badger is lying in a three-foot pit he dug while struggling to escape the leg-hold trap on his left foreleg. Springfield veterinary surgeon Craig Miller says pets caught in these traps almost always require surgery. The University's Survival Center hopes to outlaw such inhumane trapping methods. The center will present a film and a slide show on leg-hold trapping today in the EMU.

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damage is done by not answering the questions in full. They continually contend that the point of diminishing returns has not been reached — yet.

The 1980 form asks the number of vans or trucks of one-ton capacity or less that are kept at home for use by members of a household.

Another asks the amount of broken plaster on ceilings or walls larger than a page of the form and whether there are plumbing facilities in the house.

Through census officials and demographers are quick to point out the information is confidential, many Americans are still wary of answering personal questions for the government.

"The Census Bureau is very protective of the confidentiality of the report. They resist giving the information to just anyone," Carter insists. Census workers in the higher echelons of the bureau are civil service personnel. They maintain high professional standards concerning their job responsibilities, he adds.

These census officials claim immunity to political pressure from other governmental agencies, and they say, therefore, that no one need worry about the information finding its way to the FBI, the CIA or even the president.

The information gathered in the census is only useful in the aggregate, according to Carter.

SUAB solicits communication

The Student University Affairs Board wants to establish better communication between board members and University students. The board discussed ways to achieve it at its Wednesday meeting.

"Since students are so apathetic, we have to figure out how we can make it easier for them to talk to us," said SUAB member Harry Benedict. "But we can't call up the phone company and establish an 'open line,' we have to work for it."

Bulletin boards listing SUAB representatives' hours and important issues coming up before the Senate and University Assembly may be one way to establish an "open line" Benedict said.

SUAB chairer Gary MacMahon also asked board members to distribute flyers around their departments with office hours and phone numbers so

students can get in touch with them.

"I think the evaluation issue is one of the most important issues for students," Benedict said. "I think we should take an active role and not let the ASUO take over."

SUAB voted to poll students on the issue of open access to course evaluation information. Board members will work with Jeff Warren, ASUO vice president for state affairs, on the format and distribution of the poll.

In other business, the board discussed upcoming issues in the Senate and University Assembly, including ROTC and affirmative action administrative guidelines. They also appointed a committee to review and clarify SUAB bylaws dealing with the responsibilities of board members.

Student lobbyists to talk tuition with State Board

Members and staff of the Oregon Student Lobby will go to the State Board of Higher Education once again for a discussion of tuition issues when board members meet in Monmouth Friday.

The board will discuss a statement proposed by finance committee member Jonathon Ater that reaffirms the board's opposition to current state policy that ties tuition to a fixed percentage of instruction costs.

Ater's statement came during discussion with OSL members in a December hearing, and reflects the lobby's position that current policy is designed primarily to satisfy revenue concerns rather than accessibility to higher education.

The board also will discuss business programs and management in the state system schools, and

construction and purchase projects on other campuses.

The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. in Room 217, Education, at the Oregon College of Education. An independent organization, The Foundation of Oregon Research in Education (FORE), will make a special half-hour presentation at 11:30.

Today's Incidental Fee Hearings:

- 3:30 Campus Residents Organization
- 4:00 Drug Information Center
- 5:00 ASUO Executive
- 5:30 Crisis Center
- 6:00 Condon Society
- 6:30 Gay People's Alliance
- 7:15 Beta Alpha Psi

Monday's Agenda

YMCA, Model UN, Asian-American Student Union, International Education Center.

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The EMU Cultural Forum
and
John Bauer Concert Company
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The Outlaws



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RESERVED SEATING ONLY
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U of O Students \$4.50-5.50-6.50

Tickets available at EMU Main Desk, U of O Bookstore, Odyssey Records,
and Everybody's Records (Eugene, Corvallis)