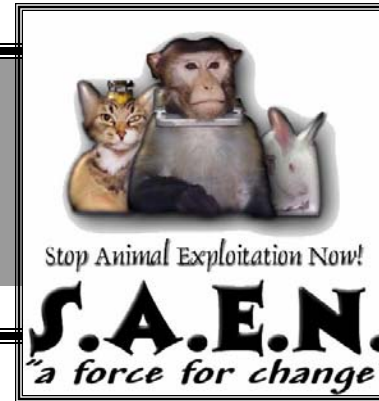


Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!

1081-B St. Rt. 28 PMB 280
Milford, Ohio 45150

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Milford, OH
Permit #447



THE DEFENDER

Summer 2007

University of Wisconsin -- Cruelty Exposed

SAEN Reveals USDA Distortions

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for enforcing the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), the only law which gives any protection to the millions of animals who are subjected to experimentation in the U.S. every year. While this law was designed to protect animals, it often shields laboratories from public scrutiny by providing them with the appearance of legitimacy.

This regulatory façade was dismantled by Stop Animal Exploitation NOW! with startling revelations of massive USDA under-reporting of animals confined in labs and creative minimization of criminal activity by research facilities.

For many years the USDA has released statistics which include the number of animals experimented on in U.S. labs, the number of animals which experience pain in experimentation, and the frequency of AWA violations.

SAEN's detailed analysis of agency reports revealed tens of thousands of animals who seemed to have disappeared from the USDA tallies and uncompiled information about trends in violations of federal laws by laboratories.

United Press International (UPI) ran an in-depth article (posted on our website) on SAEN's findings which reached millions of people through such publications as *Newsday* and *Science Daily*.

USDA spokespersons were left backpedaling, stating in the UPI article that: "**the problems cited in one of the reports are not violations but something the agency calls noncompliance issues.**" Ironically, their report is called "*Violation Summary*" and included a "*Violation Count*" column.

UPI also stated: "... **the USDA report lists approximately 57,000 primates in U.S. labs but the real total is closer to 110,000-120,000.**"

Internal records obtained by Stop Animal Exploitation NOW! have unearthed institutional neglect and abuse at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (UW) – a facility that incarcerates over 2000 primates.

Post-mortem records disclose the shocking details of life and death for rhesus monkeys and marmosets at the UW. During 2005, a four year old rhesus monkey died with a foreign object lodged in her intestinal tract, while another rhesus monkey died of multiple abdominal ruptures and a massive bacterial infection.

Other UW primates ended their lives with severe ulcerations of the skin combined with serious bacterial infections resulting from the use of spinal implants. Implanted 'head caps' led to meningitis and "liquefactive necrosis" in the brains of primates. Other suspicious deaths included an esophageal rupture caused by trauma during the placement of an endotracheal tube for a surgical procedure.

In an official complaint to the USDA, SAEN's Executive Director, Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., said: "It is clear that the documentation for the animals

listed above indicate a widespread pattern of negligence, inadequate veterinary care, and deceitful reporting of experimental procedures at the University of Wisconsin-Madison."

The news of the UW's negligence and abuse was reported in an *Associated Press* story that sped across the state of Wisconsin, bringing the truth to millions of

people -- opening the doors of these heinous labs for everyone to see inside. As a result of SAEN's intervention, the USDA will be investigating the laboratories of the University of Wisconsin in the very near future.



Report Discloses Numerous Deaths & Injuries at Oregon Primate Center

The Oregon Primate Research Center imprisons over 3600 primates and is connected to \$155 million in federally funded research, but these huge numbers are only the tip of the iceberg at this heinous facility.

The following statistics are from the 2005 reporting year. 1600 primates were kept in indoor cages, with 656 housed in isolation. The medical unit of the center handled over 58,000 cases annually including 2,284 incidents of wound management and 1400 cases of bandaging. At least 115 primates within this facility have become so stressed by captivity that they are engaging in abnormal behavior. 463 (13%) of the primates at this facility died from either illness or experimentation.

"The information contained in this report clearly indicates that primates at OPRC are highly stressed, chronically ill animals," said Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T., SAEN's Executive Director. Budkie has written to Susan Smith, Director of the Primate Center, asking for a tour of the facility and to perform an inspection of the conditions and the animals themselves. Primate center officials have turned down our request for access to the facility.

Key Statistics from the National Institutes of Health Report

- *463 primate deaths in one year
- *160 clinical cases (illnesses/injuries) per day
- *115 primates with abnormal behavior out of 700 assessed (16.4%)
- *2284 cases of wound management
- *1400 incidents of bandaging



From the Desk of Michael Budkie, SAEN's Executive Director

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

Animal experimentation is a complex issue which involves many factors. Money, fear, and both individual and institutional prestige are at the very heart of the status quo which prop up animal laboratories. These things support the slaughter of millions of animals for allegedly scientific reasons – but they are not the true foundation of this archaic practice. The foundation, the basis, the very cornerstone of animal experimentation is ignorance. Despite federal reporting requirements and the work of dozens of animal groups to bring out the truth, most people actually know very little about animal experimentation.

How many animals are in laboratories? No one knows for sure, but one thing is certain – the USDA does not want the American people to have the whole picture. Why else would this agency consistently under-report the numbers of dogs, cats, and non-human primates in laboratories – often by as much as 50%?



Why would the USDA Animal Welfare Enforcement Report for 2005 list only 440 primates inside South Carolina labs, when a single facility in that state actually holds over 5000 monkeys? Why are roughly 2200 monkeys listed for the entire state of Louisiana when two labs within this state report housing over 12,000 primates? Why would the USDA, while compiling an annual report that discusses violations of the Animal Welfare Act, neglect to mention that for sections of this law that are relevant only to labs – violations have increased by 90% in a 5-year period? Why are laboratories allowed to deprive primates of water, confine them to restraint chairs, bolt devices to their skulls, and still be permitted by the USDA to report that these animals do not feel any pain or distress?

The only conclusion we can draw is that the USDA is actively disinterested in telling the truth, and as long as this agency is allowed to perpetuate these myths, animal experimentation will never

change. If the sole federal entity that regulates laboratories says that only a bit over 7% of all animals in labs actually experience any pain or distress, then the public will continue to believe that nothing is wrong. If the public is told that the cages are clean, the animals are pampered, and science is being served, then why should they have any questions or doubts of any kind?

The truth is that some of our most prestigious colleges and universities are also our most criminal laboratories. The truth is that animals have become pawns in a multi-billion dollar game whose true goal is institutional and personal wealth.

It is up to all of us to continue to bring the hard facts out from their hiding places. We must continue to be witnesses to the reality of what is concealed behind the laboratory door. No need to exaggerate -- the truth is shocking enough.

While many of our efforts to expose and end animal abuse in laboratories deal with experimental procedures and other issues like inadequate veterinary care, the essential dishonesty of most laboratories in the way that they report animal experimentation must also be emphasized. Laboratories must not be allowed to continue to claim that highly invasive procedures do not cause pain or distress, even though they result in sepsis, tissue necrosis, severe confinement, and nutritional and/or social deprivation. This essential dishonesty denies the very nature of the animals involved in the procedures.

Before animal experimentation can be ended, we must, as a society, open our eyes wide enough to truly see the nature of how animals suffer inside research facilities. This suffering not only makes animal experimentation morally reprehensible, but potentially scientifically invalid as well.

The basis of all that we do at SAEN is the truth, because the truth is a very powerful weapon. One of our goals is to force both individual laboratories and federal regulatory agencies to make that first vitally important step of actually telling the truth about animal experimentation. In the end this vital truth will bring freedom to all animals that are imprisoned in laboratories.

Your donation of \$25, \$50, or \$100 will help us to fight for millions of imprisoned and suffering animals. Larger gifts of \$250, \$500, or \$1000 will help us to take on the 1100 laboratories that blanket the U.S. with animal exploitation. Your continuing financial support will make it possible for us to keep fighting the cruelty and abuse that is intrinsic to every animal experiment. Thank you in advance for your gift.

Dear Michael,

I, too, am shocked and saddened by the suffering of innocent animals in labs today. This must be exposed and ENDED.



Stop Animal Exploitation Now!
S.A.E.N.
"a force for change"

Please accept my tax-deductible donation to help with this cause:

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$250 ___ \$500 ___ other

All information will be held in the strictest confidence and is for the exclusive use of:

Stop Animal Exploitation NOW! 1081-B St. Rt. 28 PMB 280 Milford, Ohio 45150

513-575-5517 saen@saenonline.org

Criminal Labs across the U.S. -- SAEN Declares Nationwide Scandal

The false sense of legitimacy that is often associated with animal experimentation comes from the regulatory framework which surrounds it. What the public isn't told is who the major violators of federal law are and how often they violate the Animal Welfare Act.

Since the majority of animal experimentation is funded by the National Institutes of Health with federal tax dollars and the often-muddled results are used to establish the supposed safety of drugs, the public has a right to know which laboratories are/aren't following the laws. However, the USDA does little to publicize who the largest violators are.

Therefore, SAEN has undertaken a national campaign to expose the worst law-breakers and enlighten the public about how their safety is being endangered. As a result of SAEN's work, news stories across the nation have revealed that research laboratories are often criminal entities violating the Animal Welfare Act on a regular basis. Some of the worst labs are (2005 statistics):

- > University of Pennsylvania (77 violations)
- > University of Wisconsin (20 violations)
- > Covance (42 violations in 2 labs)
- > Harvard (32 violations in 2 labs)
- > Charles River Laboratories (20 violations)
- > Boehringer Ingelheim Pharm. (19 violations)
- > Boston University (11 violations)
- > Vanderbilt University (13 violations)
- > Emory University (13 violations)
- > Merck (8 violations)

The American Society of Primatologists -- Afraid of Dialogue with Activists

Early in 2007 SAEN staff decided to attempt to open lines of communication with representatives of research facilities on a regular basis. After several unsuccessful tries to launch discussions with specific labs, we decided to reach out to a larger section of the "scientific" community by attending a professional conference.

The annual conference of the American Society of Primatologists (ASP) was a natural choice. This conference would have put us in touch with the staff of the largest primate labs in the U.S., and many of the presentations dealt with potentially useful topics regarding the psychological health of primates in laboratory settings. Not too long after SAEN sent the forms off, we received a response by email, declining our registration.

Despite the initial reaction of the ASP, Michael Budkie traveled to North Carolina to attempt in-person dialogue. As Budkie walked into the convention center which housed the conference and attempted to simply talk to ASP officials, he was met by security. Later tries at registration met with flat denials by the ASP President.

Although Michael Budkie's attendance at the ASP conference was prevented by the organization's hierarchy, we were able to utilize the situation to hold a news conference revealing the realities of primate experimentation to local news media. The *Winston-Salem Journal* produced a news story which spread across the state of North Carolina educating millions of people about primate experimentation.