

by Kelly Rahn, Daule

Estoy de regreso (I'm back). Pete covered my trasero: (butt) for the last El Clima because él que sefpera Lima se sentó encima (something like "You shooze, youlose"). But I wasn't really in Lima, Jean.
As you know, April aguceros (showers) brifig Maynlowers. But near me, it's not simply corriendo chiyos (drizzling) it's lloviendo a cántaros (raining cats and dogs). Aguátate (hold on), I'm confusing rainy season with carnival. Con razón (No wonder) my hair wasenredado (tangled) with talco for three days en seguidos (in a row). My little netghbor does say sometimes that I'm patinando el coco (skidding on craziness). At the beach over carnaval there was sio muchtravesura (mischief) going on, it was hastacen la sopa (there was no getting away from it). But when I returned to Daule it was like saliendo de Guatamalay entrando en Guatapeor (going from bad to worse) having to dodge buckets of lodo (mud). iQué ascoll! (grossl) De una vez y para siempre (for once and for all) I decided to be a lamparosa (show off) and toss vejigas (water balloons) to empapar (drench) those below my terraza. I didn't even consultario con la almohada (sleep on it). Una tirada (one toss) and PA! I would try to agacharme rapido (duck quickly) but usually me congieron con las manos en la masa (they'd catch me in the act). Then I'd just hacerme la gringa (pretend like I didn't know what's going on), that's easy, if you know what I mean. Of course some of them got quite picado (pissed off): Geez, it's only carnaval I don't know que mosca les picó (what's bugging them). Maybe por casulidad (by coincidence) they comieron carne de tigge (expression used when someone is angry). Who knows? Por el momento (for the time boing) carnaval is over and we're all sano y salvo (safe and sound). Nowits finally time for me to cerrar mi pico (shut my mouth). A proposita (by the-way), Happy año bisiesto (leap year)!

Me largo (Im outa here).




Iwas walking by a neighbor's house in my community of Playa de Oro a couple months back with two German researchers, and we saw a threetoed sloth harnessed up to a tree. I asked my neighbor where he had caught it and what he planned to do with it. He said, "Muy cerca a la communidad y voy a soltar luego." Wh huh, I thought ${ }_{i}$ nice story. Well, the next day the perico was gone and again I asked what had happened to it. "Sse fue al bosque." said my vecino with a amile. Later in the day I was interviewed by another German researcher, a social scientist trying to determine social changes due to outside intervention. He told me the perico was stoned to death by three young men early in the morning as he was walking by. In the evening I chanced upon my neighbor once again and relayed to him the story of the German researcher. I asked him why he had given me the wrong story. He smiled shyly and said he knew I was concernêd for the animal's well-being and he didn't want to hurt my feelings.

I was upset over the incident. Not because of what they had done. The people of Playa de Oro have been hunting every animal that walks, crawls, swims, slithers or climbs for a long time to supplement their protein source. It is what thay do, how they live. I'm not in Playa de Oro to change the culture but since the community has accepted various measures to supplement their income, like ecotourism, they need to know about certain sensitivities of the people they plan to attract to their commuinity. Ecotourism or the better term conservation tourism implies management of a natural system for the sustainable use of the resources within the system. The resources should be available to the people, but how they catch, maintain and dispatch the various creatures needs modification

Another organization arrived in the community with a gift, a pig. The pig was tied by its hind foot to a peg in the ground. My dog found it great fun to approach the pig and startle it with loud barking. The pig showed little reaction to these antics or even to the people around it. It probably knew it wasn't long to be in this world. In the early morning hours of the next day I was on my way to my research site for the mornings observations. I first noticed a raging bonfire being tended by some young men of the community. The pig was about to be dispatched, probably with the ritual knife to the jugular vein by the throat. Was I ever in for a. shock. Two men deftly grabbed the pig by the legs and hoisted it over the open flames and proceeded to roast it alive. It kicked. It screamed. It arched its back and twisted to and fro to no avail. I was in empathic shock. Pigs are pretty bright animals. It knew what was happening to it but it (and I) were totally powerless to do anything about its predicament and soon the struggling ceased. I wanted to intervene but the expressions on the men's faces stopped me cold. There was nothing in them. If anything I caught a hint of
amusement. My research associate suddenly appeared on the trail and I pointed to the sicene of carnage and cringed. He cringed too and continued on his way. I left too. The nest day I ate pig!

Tourists have been on eco-treks through the jungle with the "trained guides" from the community and watched in horror as beautiful coral snakes or other harmless species were hacked apart. In the center of the ecotourism infrastructure people observed a pair of spinetails, a woodpecker type bird, tend its nest. The next day the tree was found on the ground, the nesting cavity ripped apart, the eggs taken. At the base of the falled tree were tell-tale signs of machete strokes. Later on the culprit was found and reprimanded by his parents but still the young kids go into the area with slingshots and throw rocks at anything.

Snakes are akinned alive, animals killed in various ways, never quickly, never pretty. It just is, and nobody has ever challenged or sugrestad it might not be the most humane way to dispatch animals. Even the concept of humane treatment towards animals seems an idea never considered. The west has developed "animal empathy" and regard a right and wrong way in the treatment of animals. Cultures just coming into contacit with the west show no such eoncern, giving us an anthropological view of development in human behavior. The west can seek to modify such behaviors but it is a very delicate process. Anger and rage towards such acts of seemingly senselesi torture can, in the eyes of the culture being attacked, appear as being no different than what they have been doing all along. In fact, menacing acts towards people are seen as provocations worthy of revenge. Then to try and explain the rage over their treatment of animals makes absolutely no sense to them at all,

My presence in Playa de Oro and my actions towards animals are different. I show love and concern towards my dog. I release snakes and other wildlife back to the wild after catching them or after recaiving them from community members. I watch birds, animals, butterflies and plants. The people seem mystified by my actions but I explain to them my ways, my perceptions and the views of the west towards animals. I talk to the community leaders about the ways their people kill animals and that it will terrify tourists if they saw such acts. I explain my understanding of their customs and their need to use the animals for food and other things and then suggest it might be wise to change the location where they butcher their food. I get nods and other indications of agreement. I shall wait and see and look for other avenues to reinforce the message of change.

by Ron Krupa, Playa de Oro, Esmeraldas ${ }^{\circ}$

## Joe Fersus the Busses

Here'tecthe atory of how onte (not so) little man beat the bus company. As anyone (who is anyone) can tell you, I live on a quiet back street of Cuenda. que afyedrefif bered where the degres cathap:in the midgle of the rogh where pothalet are ereated faster than ection-puppies, where geldom is heárd ádscouraging word. Yup, some might call it boring and that'd be just fine with me. It's a haven against the frenetic, smoke-cloged diandole of lewny town-or at loast it umed to kern

One typically neaceful Sunday my areaming slumber was pièrcèd 'by what sounded liko aitr oil tanker mating with a bulldoz' er. Lifting my head to look out the window onto the street below, I was able to catch the sight of a wheexing junk heap on wheels before it tiobbled out of sight. Then about every two minutes thereafter another battered and bent-over wreck would ka-chug ka-chug just under my window making it impossible to return to my dreams. Sure that I woula frid ond of those ubiquitous" ofernigzt Cónstruction ditches blocking the main road, causing a consequent detour that would end in a few days or so, I walked out to investigate, holding my brath from the black fumes as thick us my hair that puimped happity fröm tifie straining and abotseat Erector Set of a bus that prassedima. Butwhen I got the the road rame found that the way was completely free of obstacles, my deepest horrors. were realized=-ny street was now on thie bus roúte.

From then on, the houseshaking, dust-raising, boher attling, motorizad catastrophes would intrude incessantly from 6:00 in the Godforsaken morning till 7:00 in the gosh darn night-my peaceful strest was held hostage to. the polluting nightmares. Coxps
gave sour milk, women and children ran in terror, doge went about with their tails between their legs. Something had to be done-soon.

At the drawing board, growing more determined with every passing monstrosity, I devised several plans. My most immediate reaction was some sort of terrorist activity to show those inconsiderate choferes who was boss. This culminated in the design of one of those tire-popping nail thingies I saw so much of in my beloved James Bond

flioks. All I'd have to do is stand on my balcony and toss one out on the road when a rusted out hulk approached. But after thinking it through, I realized that I'd probably have to get each and every bus since they operate independently, Not only that; I'd have to get each one geveral times so that they'd realize that perhaps there was some opposition to their presence, that they weren't simply experiencing another routine' flat. This meant up to several hundred poppingsi-without me being detected no less!

So I threw that one out. Then, taling a cue from the neverending paros, I envisioned a ditch cut across the road they wouldn't be able to crose. But no, if I hindered regular neighborhood traffic the plan would immediately fail. As if to add the lemon juice of insult to my road rash dilemma, another lumbering smokestack jackhammered on past. Action had to be taken-we had to take our etreet back!

Well, if I couldn't foribe them away, I'd make them not want. to make the one block trip. The. road was already a migerable mess, I'd aimply add to that midit ery so that the differs woteld finally take pity on the fattigued. and defeated dinosaurs they drove and stick to the main road. My new plan, to do what I saw the people do-to construct a speed bump just big enough that the allready paŝt-rétirénteñt bus shocks would threaten to collapse but small enough that the infrequent butwregular traffic could continue.

A11 thid had been going on ${ }^{+}$ now for about threie: months, filled with false: starts and setbacks. Finally them day came when I could takenon more, With my gloves and work clothes on, I gethered up niy landlady's wheelbarrow, shovelf and pick and headed outside. I had been out trying to break up rocks for about a half an hoyr when what to my astonishment, my neighbor, to whom I had yet to formally introduce myself, came out and joined me with hid tools. And then the guy up the road ventured out with his tools. Working together until after:sunset, we finished our bump and went back to our homes, eager to see how it would work out.

One thing I can say for those. drivers, they're a determined bunch. But after a few days of slamming their pobre beasts of burden into thë spead-bump and crashing down the other side, they gave up. Now I and the dogs sleep in peace content to our dreams. And my neighbor Guillermo and his family, who before never seemed to notice me, wave at me all the time. All is once again well with the world.
by Andres Amador, Cuencea

Well，the＂Gentlemen＇s Guide to Dog Breeds＂was well received， though several Peace Corps wơnen have atguéd for equal time．They whinted a listing of which dog breeds atipacted which types of men．Myself， I guess Pddavoid ginyawoiman who spent more tifine thainuoolng ther dog＇s hatr than her owniforit fin fixniny thiat way．

It has occurped to me that a better under－ standing between the sexes might be a more valuable econtribuition to world harmony than spectous articies on what kind of person woukiniee you for your attack schnauzer．

We all know，for instance，that－while women are naturally intelligent，graceful，and intu－ itive ${ }_{2}$ men can lift heavy things．So，in the interest of cosmic unity andildentifying all thiose woird creains she has in the bathrooini保 the interest of teaching that yes，there－is a differepice Detween＂colors＂，and＂whites＂，here 18 nn－excerpt frim Steve＇s（not me）Humort Avahtie，L\＆L Information Services．

Womeris and Men Differ in More Than Juet： Speling（with thanks to Steve＇s Humor， Archive）

FYrst of all，a man does not call a relationship． a relationship．He refers to it as＂the time when me and Suste were doing it on a sembi－ regular basis．＂

When a relationship ends，a woman will cry and pour her heart out to her girifriends，and she will write a poem called＂All Men Are Idiots．＂Thend she will get on with her life．

A man has a little more trouble letting go． Six months after the breakup，at 3：00am on a Saturday night，he will call and say，＂I just wanted to let you know you ruined my life． and IIl never forgive you，and I hate you，and you＇re a total flobzy．But I want you to know that there＇s a chance for us．＂This is known＇ as the＂I Hate You／I Love You＂drunken phone call，that $99 \%$ of all men have made at least once．There are communtty colleges that offer courses to help men get over thts need；alas，these classes tarely prove offec－ tive．

8 sax
Women prefer $30-40$ minutes of foreplay． Men prefer 30－40 seconds of foreplay．Men consider driving her back to liter place ap part of the foreplay

Maturity
Women mature faster then menis Most． 10 ris 0 year－old females can function as adults．$x, \% \mathrm{i} \%$ Most 17－year－old males are still trading base： ball cards and giving eatih other wedgles after gym class．This is why figh school roingrices rarely work out．

कัtaz

## Baithrooms

A man has six items in his bathrooin－a toothbrush，toothpaíté，sfiaving cream，a razor，a bar of Diad sogn and a towel from Holiday Im．The average nuipiber of tems in the typical womanie bathrognin in 437．A mani would not be able to adentify most of these items．
cats
Women love cats，Men Bqy they loye cats，but when women aren＇t looking men lack cats

## Ollappring

A woman knows all about her chlldren．Spe knows about dentist appointments，and soc－ cer games and romapces and best friends and favorite foods and secret fears and hopes and dreams．A man is vaguely aware of some short people living in the house．

## Laundry

Women do laundry every couple of days．A man will wear every article he owns，including his surgical pants that were＂hip＂about eight years ago，before he will do his laundry． When he is finally out of clothes，he will wear a dirty sweatshirt inside out，rent a U－Haul and take his mountain of clothes to the laun－ dromat．Men always expect to meet beautiful women at the laundromat．This is a myth．

## Hiclanames

If Glopta；Suzanne，Deborahr；and Michelle get together for lunch，they will call each other Glorla，Suzanne；Deborah，and Mickelle，But If Mike，Dave，Rob，and Jack goo out for a brewiskd，they will affectionately rofer to each other as Bullet－Head，Godzilla，Peanít Brain， and Useless．

Analysts wonder if this kid will ever grow up, and if he does, is he headed for the big house?

The kid is a mess.
He'siditusional and deceitful, He's a procrastinator and a provaricator. Hée a cydic, a sadist, a sexist.

Also, he chews with his mouth open, at least when he's pretending to be a living X -ray.
"I live according to one principle, and I never deviate from it," Calvin says. "look out for No. 1."
"It's a lot more fun to blame things," Calvin says' "than to fix them. ${ }^{n}$
"Every time I've built character," Calvin sàisis, "I've regretted it."

When Calvin turns a cardboard' carton into a duplication, his first thought is criminal.
"Counterfeiting is just one of its many uses around the home!"

When Calvin pretends to be God, his first act is to destroy the world. The puny inhabitants of Earth displease him!"

And if all that isn't bad onough; his only friend is a stuffed tiger:

The kid is a mess.
"Calvin \& Hobbes" drops off the comics radar screen at the year's end. Artist Bill Watterson, tired of daily deadlines and small spaces, is walking away from one of the more successful strips in the world.

He leaves behind 2,400 frantic newspapers, millions of distraught fans and one burning question:

## Whither Calvin?

What becomes of an underachieving 6 -year-old reprobate with only one shirt? What happens when Calvin hits his teens, or his 20's or - heavens to Spaceman Spiffl - his dotage?

Is there a future for a boy who founds an anti-eirls clubb Is there a girl for a boy with a tiger?

Maybe creativity will conquer all. Maybe the sheer forct of ingenuity will overcome all the flaws. Maybe hell be the next: Washington pr Lincoln.
Or maybe he's headed far prison.
Deputy warden Ray Tamminga runs the Reception and Guidance Center at the State Prison of Southern Michigan. Every adult convief in the system spends 装s
first month or two in
Tamminga's tender care.

"Would not surprise me," he says, "if I met Calvin."

Given Calvin's attoraction to fire - he once wanted to toss a gasoline can into the barbecue - Tamminge envisions him serying a six - to 15 year Etretch for arson and attempted muřdèr.
"He's the founder and leader of Get Rid Of Slimy Girls," Tamminga says. II think he's going to burn up a sorority house."

Without Hobbes as confidant and bodyguard, Tamminga predicts, "he's going to have a problem when he tries to handle some of these oldtime convicts. But his imagination will save him."

[^0]If nothing else, "I think you can depend on his suryitipe seys. child-rearing guri T, Béry Brazelton. The mayhem Calvin visits upon the galaxy is nothing more than childish fantasy ... he hopes.
${ }^{4}$ I think all kids dream about that sort of thing, Brazeltof says.

Plenty of childien transport themselves to the coof pit of an F-15. Fower, presumably, imagine blisting missles toward a populated area until "a smoldering crater is all that remains of Calvin's.elementary schooll ${ }^{n}$

Creativity consultarit Doup Hall compares the power of imestina: tions to Luke Skywalker dad. Do they go to the farik side of the Force or the positive eide of the Fofice?

Hall, the freewheeling author of "Jump Start Your Brain" (Warner Books, \$12.95)' warns that "the difference between ' brillance and stupidity, or law: fulness and unlawfulness, is a very fine line. The future for children is often determined by the upbringing they're given.'.
Calvin's home life is outwardly stable, even if neither of his parents has a name. Dad is a patent attorney, Mom a homemaker, and they live in a house near a woods. Even more than most parents, however, they seem amibivalent about their child.
"All I know," Dad reminds Mom, "is that I offered to buy us a dachshund, but no, you said..."

Calvin makes the inevitable inquiry about babies, and Dad tells him they come from Sesirs. But "you were a blue-light special at Kmart," he volunteers. "Almost ás good, and a lot cheaper:"

Calvin wonders if there were dinosaurs when Dad was a kid, and Dad assures him there were.
 "Youp grandrather and $\lambda$ used to put on ouf lappard gains and huntbrohtogarus for ${ }^{5}$ all the: clap rituals."

NO STIRAIGET ANSWIARS

Poor Calvin is the unwitting George Burns to his father's Gracie Allen. Can a boy. who never gets a straight : answer grow up to wall the streaight and narrow?
"The cynicism and other traits Calvin shows naw will color junat aboux everything he looks at ${ }^{\text {" }}$ says Southfield; Mich., paychalogist: Christine Panyard. Personality traits tend to be relatively enduring.

## "They're your

 essence, and they're very, very difficultto modify.Personiality disorders are the hardest
to treat because they permeate almost everything the individual does."

Calvin makes no secret of his desire to acquire great wealth withrlittle effort. Given his lack of ethical constraints, he seems bound for a career as a corporate raider - but says Panyard, "he may not have the social skills to reach that level."

Beth Kuibic says her brothers were scamps too, though not nearly in Calvin's class. From her vantage point as a certified teachersfpart-time baby-sitter and office:manager for Fairy Godmother Home Child Care in Birmingham, Mich,, she suge gests the Calvin with a little red wagon will seem like a cherub compared with the Calvin with his first driver's license.
"He'll become a terenager and go through all the
puberty and hormonal changes and hell be even more of a torror, ${ }^{0}$ Kubic says. Then she offers a suggestion: "Maybe he could join the military ${ }^{n}$


It worked for two of her siblings. The Air Force disciplined them. It helped them grow up." And the Air Force is willing to give it atry.

High school graduates can qualify for jobs in satellite tracking or air-to-air refueling, says Sgt. Mike Grassel of the Dearborn, Mich., recruiting office. If Spaceman Spiff makes it through college, he might become n navigator, a pilot or even an aptronaut.
"I can see Calvin fitting in, sure," Grassel says. "As long as he hasn't had any serious law violations or drue problệms, we can use him. Calvin hasn't gotten into that much trogble."
by Neal Ruben, Knight-Ridder Newspapers; reprinted from The Tampa Tribune; submitted by Karl Banks。

. . Un ser que aún no acaba de ser
no la remota rosa angelical
que los poctas cantarốs, no la maldita bruja que los inquistadiores queinaron, no la temiday deseada prostituta, no la madire bendita, no la marchita y burlada: solterana, no la abligada a ser mala, no la que vive porque la dejan vivir,
no la que debe siempre decir que sí. Un ser que trata de saber. quián es y que empieza a existir.
by Alaide Foppa, Desaparecida de Guatemala.


These are from the test papers and essays submitted to t̂tience and health teachers by junior high, high school, and college students aropund the world. It is truly astonishing what weird science our young scholars can create under the pressure of time and grades.
"Whent"you breathe, you inspire: When you do not breathe, you expiré.
"H2O is hot water, and CO2 is cold water."
"To collect fumes of sulphur, hold a deacoñ over a flame in a test tube."

When you smell odorless gas, it is probably carton monoxide."

Nitrogen is not found in Ireland becaupe it is pitt found in a free state."
"Water is composed of two gins, Oxygin ard Hydrogin. Oxygin is pure gin. Hydrogin is gin and water."
"Three kinds of blood vessels are arteries, yanes and caterpillars."
"Blogid fops down one leg and up the other."
"Respiration is composed of two acts, first inspiration, and then expectoration."
The moon is a planet just like the earth, only it is even deader."
"Artificial insemination is when the farmer does it to the cow instạad of the bull."
"Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines down on them and makes them perspire."
*A super-saturated solution is one that holds mote than it can hold."
"Mushrooms always grow in damp placas and so they look like umbrellas."
"The body consists of three parts - the branium, the borax arid the abdominable cavity. The branium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abdominable cavity contains the bowls, of which there are five : $a, e, i, o, u . "$
"The pistol of a flower is its only protection aganst insects."
"The alimentary canal is located in the northern part of Indiaria."
"The skeleton is what is left after the ingides have been taken out and the outesfer have been taken off The purpose of the skeleton is sométhing to hitch. meat to."
"A permangat set of teath con-
 pids, fum inolars, and eight cuspidors."

The thides are a fight between the Etarth and moon. All watex terids towards the moon, beeciuse there is no water in the moon, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins in this fight."
"A fossil is an extinct animal. The oilder it is, the more extinct it is."
"Many women believe that an alcoholic binge will have no ill effects on the unborn fetus, but that is a large misconception."
"Equator: A menagerie lion running around the Earth through Africa."
"Germinate: To become naturalized.:

Liter: A nest of young puppies."

[^1]Momentum: What you give a person when they are going away:

Mlanets A botay of Elath sut rounded by sky."
"Rhubarb: A kind of colery gone bloodshot:"
"Vacuum: A large, empty spacele? where the pope lives.
"Before giving a blood transfusion, find out if the blood is affir- : mative or negative."
aTo remove dust from the eye, pull the eye down over the nose."
"For a nosebleed: Put the nose much lower then the body until the heart stops."

FFor drowning: Climis on top of the person and move up and down to make artificial perspiration,"

"For fainting: Rub the person's chest or, if a lady, rub hir arm above the hand instead. Or put the head between the knees of the nearest medical doctor."
"For dog bite: Put the dog away for several days. If he has not recovered, then kill it.".
"For asphyxiation: Apply artificial respiration until the patient ís dead."

To prevent contraception: wear a condominiúm."
"For head cold: Use an agonizer to spray the nose until it drops in your throat."
"To keep milk from turning sour: Keep it in the cow. ${ }^{\text {n }}$

Compliments of Carole D. Fiore from the Internet; submitted by Jean Seigle*

Dave Barry's profound but profifitic:review featured in The Tampa Tribune, Dec. '95 (submitted by Karl Banks), is excerpted below.

## 

If I had to piak two words to summarize 1995, those words would be "reasonable doubt."

What I mean is, any reasonable person has serious doubts about whether this year should have been allowed to occur.
to endure The Trail That Lasted At Leasti A Century. . If a jury of 12 citizens, after thoroughly considering all of the evidence for approximately 20 mins., honeatly came to the conclusion that O.J. Simpson had not been proven guilty of commiting the crimes in question, then far be it from me to point out that they have the collective intelligence of beaf jerky.

N0 , it was not the verdict that was the problem with this case. The problem was-and lem with this case. The problem was-and word to describe a very complex and subtle flaw in our current legal.system--lawyers.

In summary, the lawyers came off as a group of pompous, overbearing, condescending, self-promoting, obnoxious, unprincipled, slimy, misleading and at times flagrantly lying scumballs. But of course, that is their job.

## January

Meanwhile, in what was hailed as one of the archaeological finds of the century, explorers in southern France discovered a cave containing 20,000-year-old vivid drawings depicting animals, human hands and what appeared to be a primitive Internet address.

## February

In space, crews of the Russian space station Mir and the American shuttle Discovery attempted á historic docking maneuver while orbiting the Earth, but were forced to abort when they realized, at the last instant, that they were orbiting in opposite directions.

## March

Speaking of the human digestive system, here's another true item: Authorities in Washington were searching for a man who disappeared aftar cashing an erroneous refund check from the manufactures of EX-LAX. The man had written a letter demanding a refund of the $\$ 1.99$ he spent for the product, whiph he claimed didn't work; the manufacturer accidentally sent him a check in the amount of his ZIP code-\$98,002.00.

## April

In aviation news, a South American Airways airliner, heading from London to South Africa, was forced to turn back when its fire alarms were trig. gered by methane gas released by 72 pigs in the cargo hold.

## May

A major blow against crime was struck in New York's Central Park, where two city offieors--this is true-cited a grandmother for allowing her four-year-old grandson to urinate behind a bush.
(Editors Note: Maybe we need to bring these fine officers here to Ecuador for advanced training on public urination.)

## June

．．The launch of the space shuttle Discovery was delayed because＇the＂zit extantial fuel tank had been damaged by－ really－woodpeckers．
In other consumer news，the Abalone brothers，operators of
 trafficifg operas do atinounced that they were retooling 3.7 mil－ lion grams dr crack cocaine because it contained a chemical impurity th it com id cause post－ nasal drip

July
ar $x^{+}$s．
July Mise 昭：
．．．Professional basketball play－ ers，whomate millions of dol－ lars apiece announced that they were thing ing of going out on strike We have no idea why，＂ they said．＂It just seems like the professional thing to do．＂ The troubled space program was dealt yetanother setback when a judge declared the shuttle Discovery ta be a federally pro－ tected woodpeaker preserve．

## August

Jerry Garcia went trucking＇off to his final gig：

## September

On the educational front－－this is a true item－a San Bernardino， California，off－duty police officer accidentally shot a hole in the wall of an elementary－school classroom where he was giving a presentation on gun safety． Unfortunately，there is a tragic side to this story：The bullet， after passing through the wall， did not hit Mark Fuhrmari．

## October

Speaking of spore The fife World Series the Atlanta l Braves defeated the Cleveland Indians， thanks in large part to a brio－ liant pitching performance by four－time Dy Your award－win ne Colin Powell：
g


 H．

November
On the crime front，in yet anoth er example of why living in Dade County is nothing whatso－ ever like living on the planet Earth，police were investigating three drive－by shootings in tr e which the victims were attulated by a motorist wiolding－－this is an absolutely true item－－a CROSSBOW．

## December

Grateful taxpayers learned that over the past 20 years the CLA． has spent $\$ 20$ million employing psychics to help gather intelili－ pence．Although the psychics failed to sense that，for example， the Soviet Union was collapsing， they were credited by high－level intelligence officials with help－ ing field agents locate＂at least six＂lost．fgets of car key br

And so as i995 staggers off into history，let＇s just be grateful． that we got through it，And lat＇s also hope that 1996 will be a WHOL de d bettor．

Although werhave every reason to dopibitit．$\theta$ Hes nor Coll Powell．
？


It is，indeed，very hard to believe， but the omnibus 72 era at EL Clime comes to an and with the upcoming June／July issue，I havew－through a great deal of begging，pleading and various monetary transactions－found a stellar replacement for ingself．here among the pens，sketches，applies， logos and designs of the aft dinterton？ world．＂I have seen the futurgi．．f paraphrase a certain rook critirdibi ＂and its name is Mary Rate Rroinen， Beginning with the July／August ifsiinh， her artistic abilities will beautitaides is grace the pages of this pubileat cion．

However，we are still left with the matter of a certain douro
 would like to thank the many people （you know tho you are）who have told． me that they wary much enjoy zeno＇s． trials and tribulations and that they 100k tórwaráa to seating scualand in each in sue．so，11אot ？With the future in mind．I whit $q$ ite－bo throw open the gates of arstistif endepfor and announce a dontabto calling on afr yod comic sty io ditcented dibujadores to submit Sour，entries Each entry should consist of a ofo－page ramatand episode，of your own design．The entries will be scrutinized yuthlesalif by myself and the dither tat maters； Entries should be áubditited by bid deadline of the June／July issue？tray 22，and should Be sent to ki chitin in Quito，c／0 The Edualand Contest．

Remember，people，that winning this little gem means submitting an episode of Rcupland for every issue．A heavy respgnatbility，I know，But you know you＇re worthy of the challenge．
sod luck out there dodges，and happy drawing．

Pete Fontaine，Guayaquil．


## Estimados entrenandos, bien-

 venidos a Ecuador.Muches gracias al Clima por qbrir un espacio de éxpresion para la biblioteca.

5 momento actual es de un virtual desarrollo de las comunicaciones con una combinación de la tecnologta en telecomunicacion con la tecnología de coma putación, entrando en la era de la llamada telamática, potenciando de, esta manera el acceso a la informacion. Este es el caso del desarrollo de lo Red más extendida en el mundo que es internet. Rermittanme escribir un extracto de la revista "On the Internet: an international publication of the Intarnet Society, Wov/Dec ' $95^{5}$ ', que tras informadilan actualizada sobre el desar. rollo de esta Red.

Article by Vinton Cerf (Uno de los fundadoras de INTERNETT)
"THE ROARING 90s: Looking back, it is possible to see the beginning of an exponential growth curve in the number of networks, number of hosts, and amount of traffic on the Internet. NSFNET (National Science Foundation Net) backbone traffic more than doubled annually, from a torabyte per month in March 1991 to 18 terabytes a month in November 1994. A terabyte is a thousand billion, or a trillon, bytes: In the 12 years from 1883 to the beginning of 1995, the number of host computers increased from 200 to 5 millon. That is an increase by a factor of 25,000 .

As 1995 unfolds, a number of Iriternet service providers have gone public, and others have mierged or grown by acquisition. Market valuations of these companies are impressive. America Online purchased Advanced Network and Services for $\$ 35$ million. Microsoft Corporation supplied more than $\$ 20$ million in capital to UUNET for expan-
sion. UUNET and PSI have gone public. MCI has opened up a major international Internet service aind, on top of that, an infarmational aloctronic commerch service it calls
marketplaceMCI. AT\&T is expected to announce a major new service later in the year. Other major carriers such as British Telecom, France
Telecom, Deutsche Telekom, Swedish Telecbm, Norwegian Telecom, and Finnish Teledom, among many othera, have announced Internet services. An estimated 300 services suppliers are in operation ranging from very small resellers to large telecom carriers.
In an extraordinary develop-: ment, the NSFNEW backbone was retired at the end of April 1995 with almost no visible effects from the point of view of users (it was hard work for the Intarnet service providers); A fully compatitive system of backbones has been erected where a goverment-sponsored platform once existrad. Indeed, the key networks that made the Internet possible (ARPANET, SAINET, PRNET, and NSFNETI) are now gone, but the Internet persists and thrives.

One of the major forces behind such exponential expansion is the arrixal of new papabilities in the netwayk, particulary directory, indeking, and searching services thatholp users discover informationtin the vast ocean of the Internet. Many of these started as university research efforts and rapidly evolved into businesses; examples are the Wide Area Information Service; Archie, which spaymed a company called Bunyip in Canada; LYCOS, from Carnegie Mellon University; YAHOO, from Stanford Univerpity; and INFOSEEK. Aiding and stimulating these searoh services is the recent arrival of a "killer" Internet application: the World Wide Web."

Para el praximo númeno, azl desarrollo de WWW."

## ATMIFNTIION PLMASTM!

Para aquetlos voluntarios que han escritto manuales, folletos, y otro material producto de au trabajo de campo con las comu: nidades, $y$ que puede aer de interês, les comunico que ICE (Peace Corps' Information Collection and Exchange), mantiene permanentemente la difusión y publicacion de este material. Para ello ustedes deben enviarlo a Washington (a través del Centro de Recursos) en donde es revisado por especialistdis de cada sector, quienes consideran sw publicación. Los trabajos escogtuos se mantienen en ICE y se envtan listas de estos "field generated materials" a todos los parses en los que se encuentre el Cuerpo de Paz a nivel mundial, y tuego se distribuye copias a quien lo solicite.

Eista es una buena oportunidad para compartir sus experiencias. Cada vez mus y mds voluntarios de otros patses estan enviando: sus contribuciones a ICE, de esta manera en el Centro de Recursos ustedes podran encontrar un listado de este tipo de materiales que podemos solicitar a ICE si ustedes lo necesitan.

## ABRIVING OF PUBLICATIONG

## Estas son las publicaciones que

 han llegado al Centro de Recursos desde la ultima publicacion de El Clima, y que se encuentran ubicadas en orden alfabetico por tttulo, en el anaquel "Magazines".--Develop Net News. Nov/95, Dec/95, Jan/96. Available in electronic files. Published montly by Volunteers in Technical Assistance (VITA). FOCUS: Economics \& Environment: GreenTtechnologies;-Agreement for new satellite.
-World Neighborhoods in Action.
Vol. 25, No, 1E. FOCUS:
Facilitating a Participatory Evaluation.
--Vecinos Mundiales en Acción.
Vol. 24, No. 25. FOCUS:
Evaluacion Rural Participativa.
--Pabo a. Paso. Np. 24, Nov/95.
FOCUS: La salud de la mujer.
No. 25, Feb/96. FOCUS: Lb crianza de peces.
--Footsteps, No. 25, Dec/95. FOCUS: Fiarming with fish. No. 26, March/96, FOCUS: Selfhelp finance for the poor.
--World of Work. The magazine of the ILO. No.14, Deef95.
FOCUE: The talework revolution. (Available in english and spanish).
--Fhnanceras-Development. Publication of the FMI and World Bank. Decf95. FOCUS: Financial markets. Why macroeconomists and envirenmentalists need each other?
--FOCUE. World Wild Fund. Vol. 17, No. 6. Nov-Ded/95. In this issua: Ewtland disaster adverted in South Americ; Yearend update on species of special concern.
-Revista Bosques, Arboles y Comunidades Rurales. No.26, Dec/96. FOCUS: Ferramientas de la extención participativa para planificar viveros forestales locales $y$ desarrollo forestal comunitario.
--EDN. Echo Development Notes. No. 51, Jan/96. FOCUS: ECHO's Annual Agricultural Missions Conference: Nov. 1214; 1996.
--FORUM. English'Teaching
Forum. Vol.,34, No,1, Jan./96
Habta la praxima.
por Mireya Yépez ${ }^{\bullet}$


> Administrative Cormer

This is a difficult time for many of us. This is "IPBS time"; in other words, "Budget time". Even though I like to prepare budgets, I usually immerse myself in the calculations and hardly have time for any thing else. So my El Clima article will be short this time.

1. Naws from Administration: Sandy is onjoying some days in Colombia. She will be back April: 18t. What a day to come back.tó: work!!!
2. Due to the mud slide problem in the roads country-wide, we are authorizing (on a case-by-case basis), the use of planes to Quito or back to your site in emergencies. Please see me (Ana Maria) if this is your case.
3. I would like to welcome the new group OMN 75. I hope that you will leakid quickly that here in Ecuador the vehicles have the right of way dind not the pedestrians. Don't be offerided if even your best frieha خisisses to get your attention instead of calling you by your name, Doin't try to interprat "no sea malito". Courtesy words are used when âkinig for anything, i.e por favor, tensa la bondad. The phrase "ya mismo" ("in a minutú"", "Immediately"), doesn't mean in Ecuador what the Inglish translation implies. It means that something will be done either in two hours or two days. People will ask what seem to be very personal questions, i.e. age, marital status, religion, how much you earn. This is normal conversation; don't let if offend you. Ecuadorians are a warm people. When you are a guest in their house, they will generally do everything they can to make you feel at home. If you feel like talking about some Ecuadorian customs or facts of life, come and see me (after IPBS time please). Welcome to Ecuador.

En Paz, Ana Maria.

## Interested in a trip to the Oriente?

Agencia de Viajes IKIAAM offers tours of the Jungla, Comunidad Schuar-Achuar-Aéreo, Ríos, Ciudad and Parque Nacional Sangay as well as sites in the Costa, Sierra and the Galápagos. Reservations can be made and more information is avaliable at their office in Macas, Morona Santiago (Dömingo Comín 5-18 frente al Parque Centra) or by calling ( 07 ) 700-457 or 700-460 or by faxing? 700 380. Andrés Vizuma, Tour Operador Gulap



Thí Federal Voting Aspibtince Act of 1955 rebuires federal agencies to asisist eligible employees, their spouses' and dependents serving outside the territorial limits of the United States, to vote by absentee ballot in primary, special or general elections. By virtue of section $5(\mathrm{~h})$ and 8 (a) of the Peace Corps Act, Volunteers and trainees are considered Federal employees for this purpose.

Peace Corps Volunteers or Trainees who wish to voţe by absentee ballot arep ppersonally responsible for observing the requirements and regulations of their local authorities.

The Peace Corps office has materials on absentiee voting. The requests for ballot shatild be done five to six months grior to the election. There is a Voẗing Assistance Guide available in the

## office.


BUGENIA. D COBO FOR AssIn Axtce


Ecuador:
Dear Mr. [whoopsi] Selgle:
I am wrthing to request your help in distributing the enclosed quedtiphnaire to volunteers. As a retumed volunteer (Togo 1891-93), I have ofenthioughtivize about what I could do to support volunteers still in the field. Prolethythenitosi rewarding and successful project I particlpated in as a voluntiterte fis atifege illbrary project. It filled a very strong and real need for Inforitation exprosisad over and over by the people of my village. The communltyetpifembraced tie project and wprked dillgently on every stép of its completiatiaisince my departure, I have recelved annual reports and regular lettors frointhe ilipriarian documenting the doftinued expansion of the project. The llbrary hasjbecome a true community center, hosting discussion groups, essay contests, literacy classes and providing a rloh resource for teachers. I was therefore inspired to begin a program to support other volunteers interested in heiplng their communities to establlsh llbraries.

The program will focus on four areas. producing resources on establishing and structuring libraries, a library partnership program that would link ilbraries in developed and developing countries, a book bank volunteers and community leaders could select from, and a database of funding and book sources. I leamed as a volunteer that sound research and community input are néses. sary for the success of any development project, and f look forward to refelving the input of the Peace Corps community:

I would ilke to gather the thoughts and experiences of as many volunteers as I can reach in order to get an accurate ploture of community interests and needs. I am thehofore askingyou to distribite the enclosed questionnalre io volunteer's and return the responses to me within amonth of recelving it. I oftion saw Ilbtailes in Togo that had falled bacause of a lack of pubic involvemient, or because the books were inaccestible or uniriteresting to villagers. The manual I am writing proposes different way's to cope with these and other challenges faced by a committee of about ten volunteers 1 co-chaired In Togo. Each of us worked on libraries in very different stuations that were estabIlshed to meet different needs. We learned a lot from sharing ouf experiences, and I am hoping to leam even more through thls survey. In addition to the comments of volunieers, I would appreclate your thoughts on this subject. If you think the project is a good idea, a letter of support would be very helpful in obtaining funding, but ANY response would be: appreclated.

1 look forward to working with you in the future and wish you and your volunteers the best of success in all your endeavors.

Akpe Kaka (thanks a lot),
Sam'Wiondty
Editor's Note: please flll out the questionnaire on the back cover and retuin tr : to Irene in Quito. Thanks. -


## Attemtion Ommibuses 70,72 amd 74 Volumteers

The Integrated Job Conference is April 17-19.

## Things to Remember:

1. Vans will be leaving for Chorlaví from the PC office at 3 and 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16th for Volunteers arriving from south of Quito.
2. Everyone. . Remember to bring photos or anything relevant to your PC life, work, etc. to display on a sheet of rotofolio paper at the Gallery Walk or even better have the info. sheet ready before you come!! Get creative!.

We the $\bar{y}$ odunteers, through VAE, own and maintain the washer and dryer in the Volunteer lounge. We rely on the boner eystem to generate the necessary revenue to maintain this service, and hopefully one day purchase new machines. Currently the honor system is failing in two ways. First, some Volunteers do not pay to use the machines, and second, some people actually steal money from the boz.
Recently, we raised the price for using the washer and dryer to s. 1000 per wash and s. $/ 1000$ per dry (the old price was more than three years old), but pgople still fail to pay for the service. Since the end of November we received and deposited a total of s $\$ 8.000$ which means about one load of laundry every four days has been washed and dried (I don't think so). In this same period, the machines needed repairs, two separate times, due in part to overloading of the machines, at a cost of s./500.000. With a little math you can see we are going in the wrong direction:

In order to minimize the theft, we purchased a new metal box. Hopefully, this box will help reduce the incidence of theft. We also need everyone's help to report anything they know about the theft from the money box.

As it stands, we now have less than 8.100 .000 in the washer and dryer fund. If one of the machines should break down now, we could not pay for repairs. In this situation, we will make the decision of either taking donations until we can raise enough money to repair the machines, or sell the machines and discontinue the laundry service.

As I said earlier, the machines belong to us, so let's make the effort to manage them responsibly. It's simple: if you use the service, pay for it, and if you are hard up for cash don't steal from your fellow Volunteers (or anyone for that matter).
Mark Reichelt, VAC Pres. ${ }^{\circ}$



omen

n


evelopment
Hópatully by now all Volunteers have recelved intor midtoin from their respegitive WID or VAC representative about the National Art Contest, "Mulares en Mi Mundo," sponsored by the WID Comimittee.

The idea is for each Volunteer to begin at the com-
munity level, judge the art, and adivance three finalists in two categoriesi-12 years and $13+$ years. . to the provincial level: Each Volunteer is responsible for prizes and judging at the community level. The WID rep. In your province/zone of the country will be responsible for the provincial level and the WID Committee will be responsible at the national levél.

Datalls: Entries should be no more than $20 \mathrm{~cm} . x$ 30 cm ., Including on the back. . . name, age, community, and written description of the subject woman and why the artist selected her.
Provincial diadlline: May 1.
National judging: June 11 (next WID meeting). Wenope to have a great respanse from you the Voluntear, to set up an exposition in the PC office, and hopefully in the Qasa de Gultura in Quito. I encourage you to do similar displays in your commurititos and provinces to tiontór women in Fotador and around the world.

If you have not received the information and would like to particlpate, please contact Irene to have tha forms sent to you. Thanks for your interest and paidepation.

Rebecca Gigliotti, Azogues, Cañar•


$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { May 5, } 1996 \\
\text { 9:00 a.m. - } 3: 00 \text { p.m. } \\
\text { Zuleta }
\end{gathered}
$$

contact Pam Lsamona for more Information


## THINGS TO RTAMIGMBERR

- Student loan deferments must be updated annually by the borrower.
- Loan deferment can only be certifitiedifor the amount of time spent in the Peace. Corps, to a maximum of 36 months.


## Student Loans \& Cancellation

- Interest does not accrue on the principal of a Perkins Loan (formerly, National Direct Student LoanNDSL) while the loan is in deferment status.
- Depending on the type of loan you have, interest may continue to accrue during Peace Corps service and must be paid. Check with your lender for specific details, as some institutions do waive this requirement for PCVs. Monthly or quarterly withdrawals may be taken from your readjustiment allowarice to pay interest.


## Forbearance

- Under certain conditions, a lender may grant forbearance to a borrower, PCVs shauld check with their lending institution or the loan service regarding this possibility.


## Studentilonar Cancellation for Peace Corps Volunteers

- Cancallation applies only to Perkins Loans.
- The cancollation provisions may not grandfather past and/or current Volunteers with outstanding Perkins Loans depending on the date of the loan. They also do not allow forgiveness of Perkins Loanis taken after PCV service.
- For each of the first and second complete years of service, 15 percent of a Volunteer's total loan obligation plus accrued annual interest would be canceled.
- For each of the third and fourth complete years of service, 20 percent of a Volunteer's total loan obligation plus the accrued annual interest would be canceled.

It should be noted that Volunteers are reaponsible for contacting their lending institutions directly. Peace Corps is not responsible for admifistering loan deforment or forgiveness. Peace Corps certifies that an individual is serving as a: Pëace Corps Valunteer, or qualifies for an economic hardship" deferment. Also, the laws and regulations regarding deferment or cancellation of student loans are subject to change. Check with your lender for the current information. The Peace Corps Office has deferment and cancellation forms in case you do not have the forms from your lending institution.

Maria Eugenia de Cobo is in charge of processing loan deferments. ${ }^{\circ}$

# Cleryg Cookoling 

## 3hest cocomumyrar







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Peace Corps Ecuador Volunteer Status (2/29/9@)


# Laura Wendell 

1028 Bahama Rd.
Bahama, NC 27503
U.S.A

## Library Project Questiomnaire

Please answer the following questions about your post. I would be very happy to receive any additional comments or insights. Your responses will hetp meassess the level of interest in library projects, and design the best program possible to support volunteiers who want to help their communities to establish libraries.

1. What is the average minimum level of education at your post (approximate)?
lyr-3yrs $\quad 4 y r s-6 y r s \quad 7 y r s-9 y r s \quad 10 y r s-12 y r s \quad$ More than $12 y r s$
2. What percentage of your community is literate (approximate)?
$0-25 \% \quad 26 \%-50 \% \quad 51 \%-75 \% \quad 76 \%-100 \%$
3. What sorts of schools do children at your post have access to?

Level(s): $\qquad$
Distance(s): $\qquad$ -
4. What media resources do most people currently have access to (please circle)? Radio TV Newspapers Books Other $\qquad$
5. Is there a library at your post? yes no
6. If so, how active is it (circle one)?

1. extremely
2. very
3.moderately
3. a little
4. not at all
5. How would your community rank having a library in comparison to its other development goals (e.g. latrines, wells etc.)?
6. top priority $\quad 2$. high priority 3 . moderate priority 4 . low priority 5 . no interest
7. What are (or would be) the major benefit(s) of having a library?
8. What population uses (or would use) the library the most?
9. What were (or would be) the major obstacle(s) to creating a successful library?
10. What sorts of books are (or would be) the most useful/interesting for your community?
11. Where did (would) you locate the library?
12. What other public facilities are present (church, health center, post office, bar etc.)?

## Comments:



# Monkey Hippy 


[^0]:    Ah, yes, his imagination. The optimists - those who picture Calvin without numbers across his chest - base their faith on an inventive nature that turns a simple trip down a plaýground slide into a voyage to planet Gloob:

[^1]:    "Magnet: Something you find crawling all over a dead cat."

