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COVER: The discovery of the Tasaday tribe in the Philippines, the eruption (and associated electrical phenomena) of the Cerro Negro volcano in Nicaragua, and the confirmation of an unprecedented peak in the population of Monarch butterflies in North America are just three of the nearly 600 events reported by the Smithsonian's Center for Short-Lived Phenomena since its creation in 1968. See p. 230. (Photos: Center for Short-Lived Phenomena)

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to the editor

Treatment for PKU

The article "PKU: New insights into cause and effects" (SN: 3/10/73, p. 150) contains an error which is of minor importance to the average reader but is of major importance in the treatment of PKU. The diet must not be "lacking" in phenylalanine (lacking may mean a deficiency or even a total absence of the substance) but must contain a low but sufficient supply of this essential amino acid to provide for the infant's growth. Each year a small number of PKU or misdiagnosed normal infants are treated by physicians who have heard that treatment of PKU consists of giving a phenylalanine-deficient diet. The resulting malnutrition can cause permanent brain damage before the error is discovered. Constant monitoring of plasma phenylalanine levels is essential and these must be maintained slightly above the levels found in normal infants to ensure adequate phenylalanine intakes.

Eleanor S. Brown, Ph.D.
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Conservation vs. anti-hunting

I am a regular reader of SCIENCE NEWS and enjoy your concise reporting on research and developments in the scientific field. Your comments following a letter to the editor by David L. Mech (SN: 3/17/73, p. 168) rather disturbed me. You stated that letters for information on wolves should be directed to either David L. Mech or Louis Regenstein.

May I point out that Mech is a recognized scientist who has spent the better part of his professional career studying the ecology of wolves. On the other hand Regenstein is a complete layman on wildlife management who has done no studies, has never lived with wolves as several wildlife biologists have, and has done limited reading about the wolf. Regenstein's main thesis is not so much conservation as it is *anti-hunting*. He, in representing the Fund for Animals, has vigorously opposed any wildlife management policy that involves use of the gun. I say this as a person who has met Regenstein personally, has heard him speak, and came to realize his main interest. He states that he is a conservationist but his real issue surfaces whenever he confronts

a professional wildlife organization on many a management decision which involves the loss of life of an animal. Then his basic philosophy comes out, i.e.: that it is immoral for man to kill an animal.

I feel that your readers should be aware of this fact when writing to Mech or Regenstein for information on wolves.

Lawrence W. Jackson
Senior Wildlife Biologist
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Environmental Conservation
Delmar, N.Y.

After that article "Last cry of the wolf" appeared in your magazine (SN: 2/17/73, p. 109), I wrote my Congressman and received in reply a copy of H.J. Res. 119, and a copy of H.R. 470.

H.J. Res. 119 calls for "an immediate moratorium on the killing of the eastern timber wolf."

H.R. 470 will protect any wildlife or fish endangered with extinction, or likely to be, within the foreseeable future.

I've been getting many people in Michigan to write our Congressmen and ask them to support these bills, but I would like people from other states to do the same, so many different Congressmen will hear about H.R. 470 and especially H.J. Res. 119.

Mary Veen
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Thank you for your fine coverage of the Minnesota wolf management plan, in your original article and in "Response and follow-up." It is only through extensive publicity that citizens can become aware of the need of governmental protection of endangered species. Please continue to keep us informed of new developments in the crusade to protect wolves.

Two fine sources of basic information on this magnificent animal that you may want to pass on to your readers are *Never Cry Wolf* by Farley Mowat and *The World of the Wolf* by R. J. Rutter and D. H. Pimlott. The sounds of the wolf have been recorded on an LP album, "The Language and Music of the Wolves" available through NATURAL HISTORY MAGAZINE of the American Museum of Natural History.

Elizabeth M. Sajewicz
White Plains, N.Y.

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