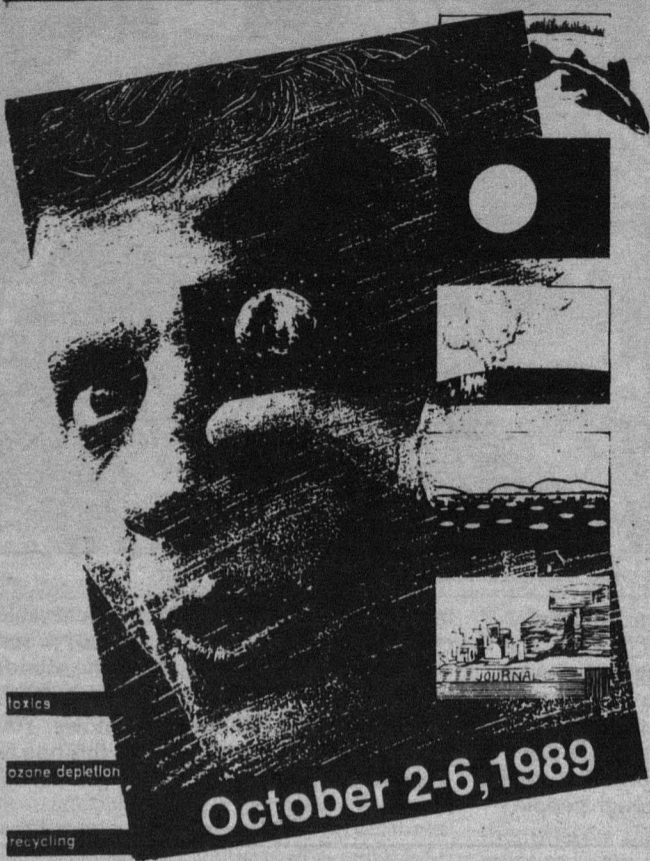


Environment



- toxics
- ozone depletion
- recycling
- waste management
- unprinted paper

October 2-6, 1989

Stop by the displays in HUB, SUB, and CAB.

ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS WEEK
October 2-6, 1989

FREE EVERYBODY WELCOME THURSDAY OCTOBER 5

12:30-1:30 pm. Speaker - Brian Staszewski, Environment Tory Lecture Hall Resource Centre TL-11
"From global concerns to local actions" Come find out how you can make a difference environmentally, just in your day-to-day routine

7-10:30 p.m. Speakers - Myer Horowitz Theatre
Dr. Robert Dykes (relationship of industry and health), Paul Merrell (dioxins), John Bennett, Greenpeace (CFCs, ozone depletion), Jim Butler (slide presentation -forestry/wild-life), Dr. Woodrow Morrison and Chief Chucky Beaver (native science)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6

Noon-1 p.m. Speakers - Myer Horowitz Theatre
Lloyd Egan, Environmental Services, City of Edmonton; Pam Kerslake, Alberta Environment; Tooker Gomborg, host of Terradox - CJSR; "Recycling." Come and learn about the three r's: reduce, reuse, recycle!

* schedule subject to change without notice

Enough gloom and doom.

Come find out how you can make a difference!

For more information check the Gateway or call 492-7088.

Students' Union
Union des etudiantes
University of Alberta



Environment Awareness Week

Watson: We have to s

interview by Dragos Ruiu

Thirty-eight year old Paul Watson speaks softly, but firmly. He states things bluntly, and has strong ideals. Some people call him a criminal, and others call him a guerrilla. But to some, he is a hero — a man with the courage and conviction to risk his life for what he believes in. Spokesmen for Greenpeace, a group he was a founding member of when he joined in 1970 after stints in the merchant navy and the coast guard, have called him a "loose cannon."

"Organizations develop with the best of intentions," says Watson. "Greenpeace was like that for the first seven years, but now its developed into an eco-bureaucracy. For instance, Greenpeace took in 96 million dollars last year and squandered it — they didn't do anything with it."

The burgeoning hierarchy of Greenpeace began to frustrate Watson in 1977. He felt the group was not achieving anything, so he formed his own organization, The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. He considers his group an extremist group, a group which gets results.

"We go in and we are the shock troops. We soften them up and create an environment whereby the moderates can start talking turkey. We don't want to talk to anybody and nobody wants to talk to us. We're just there to bring direct attention to things and to make people sensitive to the issues — we do that through confrontation."

"Confrontation translates into drama which translates into media attention which translates into people becoming aware of the situation. We are trying to dramatize the situation through confrontation as well as actually making a physical difference."

Ramming the Sierra

The Sea Shepherd Society tries to make a physical difference by "actually saving whales, dolphins and other sea mammals." This is usually done through violent means. Watson insists that while his group may use dramatic measures, "we don't allow weapons or explosives, and the possibility of injury to anyone wouldn't be permitted."

In 1979, the society's trawler, the *Sea Shepherd*, located the pirate whaler *Sierra* and rammed it twice. The *Sierra* was owned by a South African business man who was quoted as saying, "the whales are doomed, so we may as well reap what profits we can while there are still a few left."

After being rammed, the whaler was forced into harbor for repairs, where it was sunk. This was just the beginning of the exploits of the *Sea Shepherd*.

Siberian Whale Hunting

"In 1981 we landed in Siberia, to film and document a whale processing plant. We

found out that the whale meat was being fed to foxes and mink on their farms. We got our footage and we were pursued by a destroyer and two helicopter gunships.

"We just ignored them. The captain tried to block our way with his ship to try to stop me. I just informed him that, 'Captain, your ship is worth forty million dollars. Mine ain't worth nearly that much. You better get out of the way.' Then he asked 'Do you want me to open fire?' "I said, 'Do whatever you have to do. You're breaking the law, we caught you. You do whatever you have to do, but we are not stopping.'"

Russian commercial whaling has almost ended except for two hundred Californian

We go in and we are the shock troops

Grey whales that are killed each summer. "We were very critical about the rescue of those two grey whales. Everyone was patting them on the back as heroes, and we had to point out that they spent more money to save those two whales than they made from killing two hundred, two months previously, only four hundred miles away from that same location. It was an incredibly hypocritical PR stunt." Watson intends to go back to Siberia next summer and hopefully focus some more attention on the grey whale situation.

Being chased by the Russian Navy is only one of Watson's outrageous exploits, and the first in a series of campaigns to save whales. Probably his most renowned incident was the sabotage of an Icelandic whaling plant.

The Sinking of Two Whalers in Reykjavik

"It was a well thought out campaign; it was a perfect campaign."

"In 1985 I brought the *Sea Shepherd* into Reykjavik harbor and I held a press conference on the dock. I said that in 1986 the moratorium on whaling comes into effect. You'd better stop whaling. Because if you don't stop, we are going to stop you. We had been given an indication that they were going to continue. So 1986 came along and they continued whaling."

The Icelandic whalers attempted to continue whaling under the pretense of catching the whales for scientific research. "The Icelanders applied for a permit to kill whales for scientific research purposes—which was denied [by the International Whaling Commission]. Therefore the whaling continued to be illegal. We then waited for the United States to enforce its laws, and impose sanctions on Iceland. But President Reagan said, no, we



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