Beat back blood-sucking beasts

1. Know your Adversary

Fleas are blood-sucking parasites. Although they will bite humans, adult fleas must have a blood meal from the pet in order to reproduce. One flea can lay up to 600 eggs. Although fleas prefer warmth and humidity (18-27 degrees Celsius, 75-85 per cent humidity), they are hardy: the flea life cycle can be complete in as little as 16 days, or delayed many months if conditions are unfavourable.

Fleas can be found anywhere, not just on your pet: they lodge in grass, carpets, bedding, and furniture. The adult fleas you see on your pet represent only one per cent of the population. 99 per cent of the problem is the invisible immature stages. If you do not attack all stages of the life cycle,

you will be wasting your time and money 2. Your Weapons

1. Adult flea --can live for 2 years

without feed

are:

The most common active ingre-

dients of flea control products

Pyrethrins, plant-derived insecti-

cides with very low toxicity. Nat-

ural pyrethrins give a quick kill.

The synthetic pyrethrin d-trans-

allethrin is also a quick kill,

while the synthetic Permethrin

has a residual kill of up to 10 days. Microencapsulated pyrethrins are time-released for extended kill, but may be less active during

3. Flea larva -

ds 4-8 days

2. Flea eggs - hatch m 1-2 days

very humid periods.

flea collars.

Carbaryl, a carbamate insecticide

Propoxur, a carbamate insecti-

cide which kills fleas and ticks

and is a common ingredient in

Chlorpyrifos, an organophos-

with 4-5 days extended kill.

phate insecticide for premises only. An aerosol foam form has a 28-day residual kill, while the microencapsulated form has a 90-

> 4. Larva spins emerges in 5 dzys or less

day residual kill and may be less active during humid periods. The microencapsulation reduces toxicity by a factor of ten.

Methoprene, an insect growth regulator which arrests the flea life cycle at the pupal stage but does not kill adult fleas.

All these products are available in chlorofluorocarbon-free, ozonefriendly forms.

3. Battle Strategy

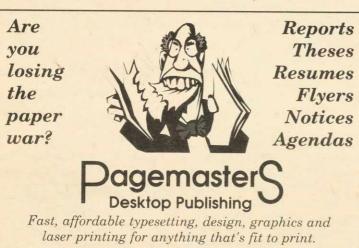
1. Treat your pet with a spray, shampoo, mousse and/or powder containing one of these toxins. Put a flea collar on it. Reapply the product at recommended intervals

2. Vacuum and mop your premises and dispose of the vacuum bag.

3. Spray the premises with : premises spray, or have an exter minator come in.

4. Vacuum and mop regularly and reapply premise sprays as directed. The battle will not be over after just one treatment.

> Dr. Hugh Chisholm Atlantic Cat Hospital



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Dalhousle Gazette

wants the council to fund. CONCORDIA NIVERSITY

Voting for New York? by Heidi Modro

MONTREAL (CUP) - Voters in next year's campus elections at Concordia University could win a trip to New York or Fort Lauderdale if Robert Douglas has his way

Douglas, the chief returning officer for Concordia's student council said the prize is part of a voting incentives package he

He said students who go to candidate debates should get a chance to win a trip to New York, and anyone who casts a ballot should be eligible to win a trip to Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

"Although you can say that a move like this might sound unethical, something has to be done at Concordia about getting more people involved in voting,' Douglas said.

Concordia has a history of low voter turnout. Students at last year's poll stayed away in droves, with only 1402 students voting out of a possible 20,000.

Douglas wants at least 15,000 Concordia students to vote this year

He hopes the New York trip will be sponsored by Travel Cuts, a subsidiary of the Canadian Federation of Students.

The Fort Lauderdale trip will come out of the \$2000 elections advertising budget, he said.

"It's a lot more effective to offer a \$400 free trip to Fort Lauderdale to motivate people to vote than to use that money to buy more ad space in the newspapers and put more posters up.

Douglas also wants to host a huge bash at the campus centre on the night when the election results come in.

"We'll have everything, booze, beer and even bets on who's going to win.'

Concordia student council has yet to approve the plan.

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Thursday November 2