Message from the Editor
by Chandra Heaton

Greetings, one and all, and welcome to a new year.

There is a lot of information waiting to be read in this issue, including club news and a new feature called News and Views. This is a segment of the NR Times (yes, we do now have a title) dedicated solely to student articles and opinions.

In other words, there is now a specific place for you to put your ideas. Use it! In this issue, you can read about a service opportunity and hear a fellow student’s viewpoint on writing requirements in the CNR. If any of you have a response, or some other ideas to get out in the open, our next issue will come out before spring break (spring weekend, that is).

Happy January, get those ideas written out for our next issue, and enjoy.

Student Senator Speaks
by Joanna Garrard

Celebrate at the Winter Interaction - Happy New Year!
Come celebrate the new year during the first week of February, with food and entertainment for all. Similar to the Fall Interaction and the Christmas Social, all you have to do is show up and you can’t help but have a good time. At the Winter Interaction we will be serving hamburgers and garden burgers, veggies, chips, dessert, and drinks. This quarter’s entertainment will be a terrific movie, entitled.... Oops! I guess you’ll have to come to find out. The cost will be one dollar or you can eat free if you bring a plate and a cup. No utensils will be necessary. All of the clubs will be there, selling their stuff. All that’s missing is you. This activity is sponsored by Jo Garrard and all of the CNR clubs. Watch for details.

Something New during NR Week - In April, the College of Natural Resources will be hosting our annual NR Week. We are planning a student seminar which will be held on Thursday, April 17, 1996 from 8:30 to 12:30. The theme of the seminar will be Life after USU: A Guide to the Future. We will have sessions on applying to and surviving graduate school; agency employment opportunities; what’s hot in the career fields of the ‘90s; applying to and interviewing for government work; non-traditional occupations such as environmental education, law, and journalism; and much more. The sessions will be taught by visiting speakers and folks from CNR. An announcement will be sent to all CNR students in late January. If you have ideas for more sessions or would like to help, please see me, Jo Garrard, in the club office, NR 212.

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Decisions - Every day, decisions involving classes, instructors, scheduling, and other important issues are being made. If you think there is something going amiss or you like what you see, you need to speak up. Come see Jo Garrard, NR 212, if you want to get involved. Now is not the time to be silent.

Sweatshirt Dilemma - If you wanted a CNR sweatshirt and didn’t get one, stop by the club office. If there is enough demand, we may order more sweatshirts or T-shirts. What’s your opinion? See Jo today.

News and Views

Horses Helping People
by Cindy Driggs

We Want You!

Cache Valley’s very own therapeutic horseback riding program, Bits-of-Freedom, is looking for people who want to have fun with a bunch of gentle horses and swell kids.

Bits-of-Freedom is a nonprofit organization that gives people with disabilities the opportunity to develop courage and independence while preparing them for the Special Olympics.

Last month, the Range Club donated their time and creativity doing necessary repairs and maintenance for the program. One highlight included the construction of an amazing fence out of discarded materials excavated from a snowbank.

Saturday, January 18th, a group of people will be going out again to do some more work for the program. Meet in the NR atrium at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. We will be out until about 3:00 p.m. Bring work gloves. If you are interested in helping out, or seek more information, please contact Cindy Driggs at 753-0395 or SL5BJ.

This is an editorial, an article based on the opinion of one individual. It does not maintain to be the viewpoint of any person or organization except for the author. If you would like to respond to this editorial or if you would like to write an article on another topic to be published in the next issue, please contact Chandra Heaton 753-8230 or SL5BX, or leave a note in the club office and watch for flyers with the next issue’s deadline. Your submissions will be appreciated. Articles may be edited for length, clarity, or inappropriate content. In such case, the author will be notified before press time.

Learning How to Write...Again!
by a concerned student

“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing,” wrote Helen Keller. In many ways that’s how I view the last three years here in CNR. When I came here, it was like coming to a foreign land. New faces, places, ideas, and fears were all around me. Nothing was familiar. Even the language was different. Although I could speak it just fine, I didn’t know how to write it.

As I see it, students in CNR are taught to write like scientists. In doing so, there are two problems. Most importantly, scientists write to a very limited audience with no emphasis on creativity or interest. Their goal is not a flowing, nicely written document. Their goal is not to write so that the general public can read their material. Their goal is to use big words in a chaotic and haphazard organization attempt. Their goal is to speak to the body of scientists. Therefore, they make sure that the average person, who cares about what scientists are doing but is too busy to sort through the hodgepodge of words, will never read their material and become informed.

Moreover, the students of CNR are learning to write like scientists regardless of whether they will ever be one. How many students will end up submitting articles to journals? And even if they are scientists, won’t they ever need to address the general public? Isn’t the problem that natural resources managers are facing today that they don’t know how to speak and write to the public?

What is CNR doing to prepare us? What are the students of CNR doing to prepare themselves? I know that the shortcomings in my education are largely due to my inadequacies as a student. However, as I am about graduate and am facing the real world for the first time, it would really be nice if I knew how to write.
Club News From...

Forestry Club
by Ty Hunter and Paige Steck

Upcoming Activities:
Jan 16, 1997 Movie Night: “Sometimes a Great Notion”
Trees-Logging-Snacks-More logging

Jan 21, 1997 Guest Speaker (time and place to be announced)

Feb 1, 1997 Tubing Day, meet @ 10:00 a.m. NR parking lot

Feb 2?, 1997 Logger’s Ball/Game Dinner

Beginning of an Outreach Program for the USU Forestry Club:
The Forestry Club’s annual Christmas tree cut turned out to be more than just an activity. In the past years, the cut has been used as a fund-raiser for the club and as a volunteer thinning project for the Wasatch Cache National Forest. The funds obtained from the Christmas tree cut assist the club in providing activities for club members and all others interested. The cut would not be possible without the cooperation of Evelyn Sibbern, Logan Ranger District; Jim Long, USU silviculture professor; and Fred Baker, USU professor and club advisor.

This year, the cut evolved from just a fund raiser and thinning project to the beginning of an outreach program between the USU Forestry Club and the fourth grade class at Providence Elementary school. Parents, fourth graders, and their teacher Dirk Henningsen joined the club on the T.W. Daniel Experimental forest to participate in the annual tree cut. Their presence and enthusiasm excited us to involve them in our future activities.

The children were presented with an honorary membership in the Forestry Club and it is intended that they will be participating in years to come. It is hoped that through club activities the children can participate in and observe activities related to forestry and natural resources.

Geography Club/
National Geography Honor Society (GTU)

This past fall GTU held a number of involved activities. These activities included: opening social dinner; brown bag lunch discussions with four professors from different universities; a field trip to channel 4 weather with Dan Pope; and the annual Christmas social. Service projects included: Christmas food drive, and joint participation with the City of Logan on a Sub for Santa dinner fund raiser.

Many other activities have been planned for this quarter, anyone interested is welcome. There will be several Brown Bags during the quarter, with presentations from Dr. Derrick Thom on Morocco; Kathy Adamson will discuss job opportunities in the field of geography; Mike Butkus will talk about his experiences in Lithuania; and Dave Palozollo will enlighten us on the Bosnia issue. Keep an eye out for flyers with the dates and times of these Brown Bags. There will also be a field trip, flyers will announce when and where we will be going.

Anyone interested in a GTU sweatshirt should contact the Geography office. Please leave the size you want and a phone number so we can get one to you. The sweatshirts cost $20.

Range Club
by Mindy Smith

The USU Chapter of the Society for Range Management (SRM), better known as the Range Club, attempts to foster greater involvement of undergraduates in the conservation and management of rangelands, forests, riparian areas, etc. We also try to promote professional development by becoming actively involved in local, state, national, and international organizations.

Our first meeting this quarter is planned for January 22nd at 6:30 p.m. Location is unknown as of now, but will be posted for flyers with more information.

The Range Club has two service projects planned for this quarter. The first involves helping repair corrals, fences, and barns for the Bits-of-Freedom Therapeutic Riding Program [see related article in News and Views section of this issue]. More information will be posted as plans are made. We have also been given the opportunity to help teach five-to eight-year-old children in a Natural Resource/Environmental Awareness class. The class covers topics such as reducing, reusing, recycling, wildlife, forests, range, and water. The class will be taught every Tuesday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Anyone interested in
helping with either or these projects can contact Mindy Smith at 787-8530, or leave a message in the CNR club office.

Right now, most of the our members are busy preparing for the SRM 50th anniversary meeting, to be held in Rapid City, South Dakota Feb. 15-20. This year’s meetings are predicted to be the largest in the history of the Society.

We are taking two teams to the meeting, where they will compete with colleges from all over the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. The Plant Identification Team members are Sara Fife, Rachel Fugal, and Eric Reid. The Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) team consists of Mike Berry, Cindy Driggs, Lacy Hadley, Chandra Heaton, Rachel Pieterick, and Mindy Smith. Both of these teams have been putting in many hours of work all year to prepare for the competitions. Another Range Club member, Scott Pratt, is putting together a display for the Trade Show held in conjunction with the meetings. Mindy Smith and Scott Pratt are also building a bench out of juniper which will be a gift to the SRM from the Utah Section, and will be part of the Golden Anniversary Silent Auction. All proceeds from the auction go toward the Society’s Endowment Fund.

Overall, this will be an exciting trip (and a nice break from school), and an incredible opportunity for students planning on becoming Range professionals. If you missed out on the action this year, be ready for next year’s meetings, to be held in Mexico.

For info. on Range Club or any of our activities, contact Mindy Smith (787-8530) or Eric Reid (752-5075).

The Wildlife Society
by Tammy Smith

Come be a part of the Utah State University Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society. The Wildlife Society is an excellent way to get involved and gain valuable information and experiences in the Wildlife field. It allows you to get acquainted with the faculty, other professionals, and to make friends with similar interests.

One of the Highlights from Fall quarter was our annual trip to Yellowstone. This year’s adventure included 17 students and Dr. Mark Ritchie.

First, we stopped at the Harriman State Park and met a biologist who talked to us about the migrating trumpeter swans. We learned how to identify the swans and record their neck-band numbers, and were able to view several swans out on the lake. We then headed to the Grizzly Discovery Park and had the opportunity to view the IMAX theater or the bears. We got up early Saturday morning to head to Lamar Valley in hopes of seeing wolves.

After we searched and searched, with no luck, our disappointed group was leaving the Valley when we noticed that a park ranger and some other tourists had stopped. We stopped too, and were able to watch a pack of wolves!! There were 8 wolves (7 were black). We spent an amazing, exciting hour or so watching them in action as they chased some elk herds.

In Yellowstone, the group toured geysers and hot pots. We were also able to see many other species of wildlife, including several coyotes, big horn sheep, elk, moose and bison. Yellowstone biologist Norm Bishop talked to us about the recovery of wolves in Yellowstone, and answered any other questions we had about the park. Everyone had a great time and learned much about the ecology of Yellowstone.

Other Fall Activities included: helping the Division of Wildlife Resources do deer checks and learning how to age, measure, and weigh the bucks; pheasant bag checks in Cache Valley and Sanpete County; guest speaker Tom Walker, who talked about and showed slides of his many adventures with wildlife (co-sponsored by the Audubon Society); and some browse planting for deer winter range on the foothills of the Bear River range.

Many exciting events are already in the works for Winter quarter. Jan. 25th, we will be going on a cross-country ski trip to look for animal tracks with the DWR.

We are participating in the Utah Teaming With Wildlife (TWW) Coalition. TWW proposes to seek passage of legislation that would place a user fee on outdoor-related recreation equipment to generate a $350 million trust fund to support management programs for over 1,800 species of wildlife which currently receive no direct support.

The Utah State Chapter of the Wildlife Society is holding their annual meeting in Provo, Jan.
30 - Feb. 1. If you would like to volunteer to help in running the registration and booths, please contact us.

We are also planning opportunities for student to get hands on experience with elk tagging at Hardware Ranch, so watch for details.

The annual Game Dinner is going to be held in February, in conjunction with the Logger’s Ball. If you are willing to participate on a committee, or have any game meat you could donate, please contact us in NR 212 or contact any of the officers listed below:

President: Tammy Smith 787-9289
Vice President: Kevin Christensen 755-9386
Treasurer: Julie Stiver 797-8484
Secretary: Daphne Price 755-8059
Executive Board Member: Alicia Austin 245-4177

From Maureen’s Office
Maureen Wagner is the Academic Services Advisor for the CNR. Her office is located in NR 112, behind the fish tanks in the atrium.

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CNR Scholarship Applications

Application packets are now available for students interested in CNR scholarships for next year. Scholarships are available at both the college and departmental level.

Deadline for completing applications is FEB. 14th. Don’t put this off!

Summer Jobs

January 22nd, at 3:30 p.m. in NR 204, Maureen will be offering a seminar for students interested in finding a natural resources job this summer. She will cover types of jobs available, how and when to apply, and assistance available to students. The seminar will be geared toward students without prior experience, but all are welcome to attend.

Summer job position announcements are coming in NOW. Check the clipboards across the hall from the office or stop in. Application deadlines are coming up quickly. All types of jobs are available. Act now to ensure a productive summer.

Substitute available for Math 216

Beginning in Spring of 1997 (next quarter), a new math course will be offered which may be taken in place of Math 216.

The new course is Math 281, Introduction to Mathematical Ecology. It will be geared toward NR and other science majors, with an emphasis on techniques useful for solving problems in mathematical biology and ecology. This is a contrast to the traditional calculus courses, which focus mainly on business applications.

The 3-credit course will be offered Spring quarter, MWF at 8:30 a.m.

Peer Advisors Lonely

WHERE ARE YOU????
The CNR peer advisors, Rick Mowery and Chandra Heaton, are feeling neglected. Come see us.

We are available during the hours posted on Maureen’s door. If you have any questions or concerns that you want to talk about, give us a try. We can help with scheduling questions, general education requirements, catchy Russian phrases (ask Rick), or other problems you may be having. If we don’t know the answer, we’ll find it! If we can’t help you, we’ll find someone who can! We’re really nice!!!

Career Fair

The career fair will be held on March 5. Student volunteers are needed to host the company and agency representatives who will be on campus. Students will help set up displays, show the reps around campus, and various other tasks. Interested? Contact Kathie Adamson in Career Services for info.

The NR TIMES is brought to you by:

Editor... Chandra Heaton
CNR Senator... Joanna Garrard
Members of the CNR Student Council

Thank you to all who contributed to this issue.

Next Issue: Early March. Start writing!
The Forestry Club began a new outreach program with Providence Elementary during their annual Christmas Tree Cut.

Dr. Ritchie gave an ecology lesson to the Wildlife Society during their annual Yellowstone Trip.