1998

Cy Joins Veterinarian Staff

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Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol60/iss1/13

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the Block and Bridle Club, Pre-Vet Club, Alpha Lambda Delta, and several other organizations. His involvement in FFA has taken him all over the United States attending conferences and lectures. Mike won a trip from the FFA to Europe in 1995 and spent a few weeks touring their agricultural areas and meeting with other farmers, businessmen, and politicians. To top it all off, Mike is currently pursuing his veterinary medicine degree.

As the FFA's National American Star Farmer Award recipient, Mike has appeared on several television interviews, including a spot on the "Earthday Channel," has spoken on many radio stations, and has been featured in dozens of newspapers and magazines. There is an upcoming article about Mike in JAVMA. This summer, Mike will be taking a trip to Costa Rica as part of his award from FFA. While there, he will be touring farms, sight-seeing, visiting their agricultural schools, and meeting with the Head of Agriculture. At only twenty-two years of age, Mike McIntyre is on his way to becoming a successful farmer, businessman, and future veterinarian.

During his early teens, Mike started his own business venture raising sheep. His flock won many ribbons and prizes at the local and state fair level.

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Amy C. Kearns

Amy C. Kearns. Yep, that's me. At least that's the name I sign with my Iowa State pen everytime I use one of my Iowa State checks that are found inside my Iowa State checkbook holder. I am probably the biggest Iowa State fan you will ever meet. Ever since my parents met on the campus of Iowa State University some 33 years ago, my blood has been destined to flow both red and yellow. So what does that "C" stand for in my name? Well, my parents would like to have you believe it stands for my middle name, but they are off their rocker, because everyone knows it stands for Cy.

I am one of three women who are better known as Cy. This is my second year with Cy as my alter ego, and sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between the two of us. Since coming to Iowa State, I have changed Continued on page 48.

Amy Kearns' alter ego, Cy, never one to hold a grudge, prepares to castrate a Jayhawk.

Amy C. Kearns is a third-year journalism student at Iowa State University.
The three introductory chapters provide a synopsis of the role of viral plagues in the history of mostly Western civilization (Chapter 1), and reviews of virology (Chapter 2) and immunology (Chapter 3). Personal and professional biases of the author are evident in the preface and the first chapter. This is unfortunate, because these distract the reader from the accounts of the viral plagues that Oldstone has written.

The reader may be struck that the author confers much of the credit for advances against these plagues to the medical profession, which leads an array of ancillary researchers and the community behind it. It is impressed upon us that the author is a personal friend of many of the purported modern medical leaders, and by inference, that what is written is the real and authentic autobiography of humankind’s struggle against the plagues. Many of the personalities are familiar to us (Salk, Sabin, Gallo). Oldstone credits veterinary contributions at times but misses the opportunity to fully recognize that the conquest and continuing struggle against viral and other plagues involve a global community effort in which many notable discoveries and efforts are important, and that there are many contributors from other fields and countries.

This book's incorporated history of the conquest of the New World is tainted by the ethnocentrism of the American author. While the real role of viral and other infectious diseases in the destruction of the native American civilizations and cultures are recounted, the author falls into the current vogue of retrospectively judging European cultures and ethics viewed from the present. Typically, the Spanish and French are roundly castigated, and the British and northern Europeans, Dutch, and Belgians, while their misdeeds are noted, are barely criticized though all conquerors operated in similar fashion as the world was opening through exploration and conquest. The death toll in the New World (from the Caribbean through the Americas and the Pacific) as a result of conquest and the transmission of virulent disease was devastating regardless of the origin, beliefs, and culture of the foreign intruders.

The history of plagues in the past, as now, is about change and exploration; in the past it was discovery of new worlds and colonial expansion. Today, it is manifested as extension of power and influence of nations through ownership and complex interactions in trade and economics, about undervaluing rainforests and habitat. The causes of the current plagues are affected by wealth and influenced by poverty, by rapidly changing socioeconomic systems, and extension of humans into wilderness areas. These are difficult to write about from a medical model of health and disease, and it is Oldstone’s relative lack of insight with regard to a more holistic view of humans and disease as part of nature that may be the weakness of this book.

Cy - continued from page 39.

my major five times, and I’m beginning to think that Cy is going to leave Iowa State before I do. Recently, I joined the staff of the ISU Veterinarian because I have a passion for both animals and writing. My current, and hopefully permanent, major is Journalism with a Public Relations emphasis.

Cy has a strong interest in the ISU Veterinarian as well. Through working in conjunction with the ISU Veterinarian, Cy hopes to pick up some useful information. Not only does Cy hope to make friends with some doctors and receive free health care benefits, he also hopes to obtain some knowledge that will help him in the future. What would Cy hope to learn, you ask? He informed me that he wants to learn how to euthanize a Hawkeye and tranquilize some other pesky vermin such as a Jayhawk, a Tiger, and a Buffalo, to name a few.

I’m sure that Cy will be consulting a few veterinarians in the future due to the fact that everyday is a potential danger in Cy’s life. Since I’ve known Cy, he has been clocked by a Colorado basketball player, fallen down countless stairs (his vision is not so good), and been rammed into a goal post numerous times. Cy and I are looking forward to working with the ISU Veterinarian staff and the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine for the next year.