

are achieved by practitioners working under conditions that make formal research and publication difficult. This is true in varying degrees in all disciplines and is especially true in a field such as ecology, where the subjects of study tend to be highly variable and insight often depends on the kind of intimacy that is readily available to the craftsman but may elude the researcher.

This is actually a common situation in the area of environmental management. I deal almost daily with restorationists who in the course of their work have developed an understanding of the systems they are working with that is richly detailed and insightful and that occasionally challenges the conventional wisdom of some established discipline.

Packard's work is a case in point. It is well documented and reflects not only meticulous attention to the outcome of innumerable experiments but also a close relationship with large numbers of projects carried out under a variety of conditions and over considerable periods of time.

These circumstances are notoriously difficult to achieve in a conventional research setting, and this alone should make Packard's results and the ideas he has put forward exceptionally interesting to any-

one who is seriously concerned about the ecology or the restoration of the ecosystems he is working with.

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Michigan Support for Faculty Member

In Christopher Anderson's 1 October article about Carolyn Phinney's lawsuit against the University of Michigan ("Michigan gets an expensive lesson," *New & Comment*, 1 Oct., p. 23), I am quoted as saying that the university was not indemnifying faculty member Marion Perlmutter. At the time that was true.

Since then, the university has agreed to pay Perlmutter's legal expenses and to indemnify her, because the university has concluded that Perlmutter was acting in good faith in her dealings with Phinney.

Moreover, both the university and Perlmutter have filed motions for new trial or judgment notwithstanding the verdict because of errors committed during the trial of the case, and will appeal in the event that these motions are not granted by the trial court.

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Trot and Pace

The handsome schematic illustration of the trotting dog on pages 155 and 196 of the 8 October issue is very helpful for understanding R. M. Alexander's accompanying Perspective on "Breathing while trotting" (p. 196). Note, however, that this dog is not trotting! A trotting animal, shown in figures 1 and 6 of the report by Bramble and Jenkins (8 Oct., p. 235), moves its legs in diagonally opposed pairs, right front together with left back, then left front with right back, efficiently keeping its weight centered near the midline at all times. A walking person similarly tends to swing the right arm and left leg forward in synchrony.

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