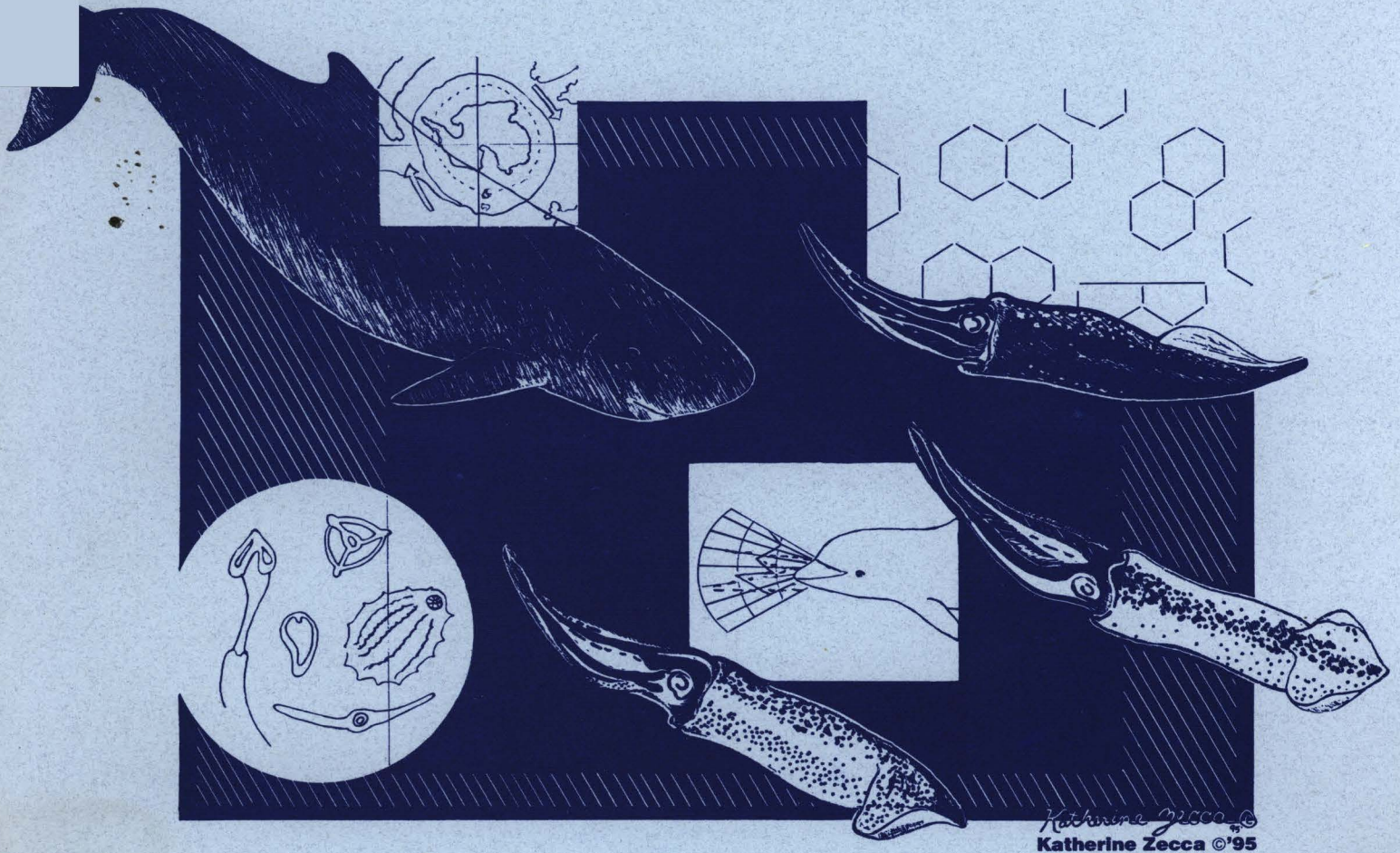


HEMATOLOGICAL VARIATION IN STELLER SEA LION
(*Eumetopias jubatus*) PUPS AND NEONATES.
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Wildlife Pathology Int., Fort Collins CO, 80525,
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Complete blood counts (CBC) and differentials were done on 79 Steller sea lion pups, age birth to four weeks, during the 1994 and 1995 pupping seasons. These results were compared to blood values obtained from 18 post parturient adult females. Both groups of animals were apparently healthy. The mean white blood count in the pups was 16.8×10^3 , the mean obtained from the females was 11.9×10^3 . The differentials done on the blood of these pups, especially those with white counts higher than the mean, generally showed a slight to marked increase in the relative number of neutrophils (percent and absolute counts). The morphology of the neutrophils demonstrated forms of the neutrophils (bands and other neutrophil precursor cells) that were at an earlier stage of maturation (left shift) than the comparative neutrophils from pups with white counts below the mean or the females. These data suggest the presence of a subclinical agent or agents that cause an inflammatory response in these pups.

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ABSTRACTS