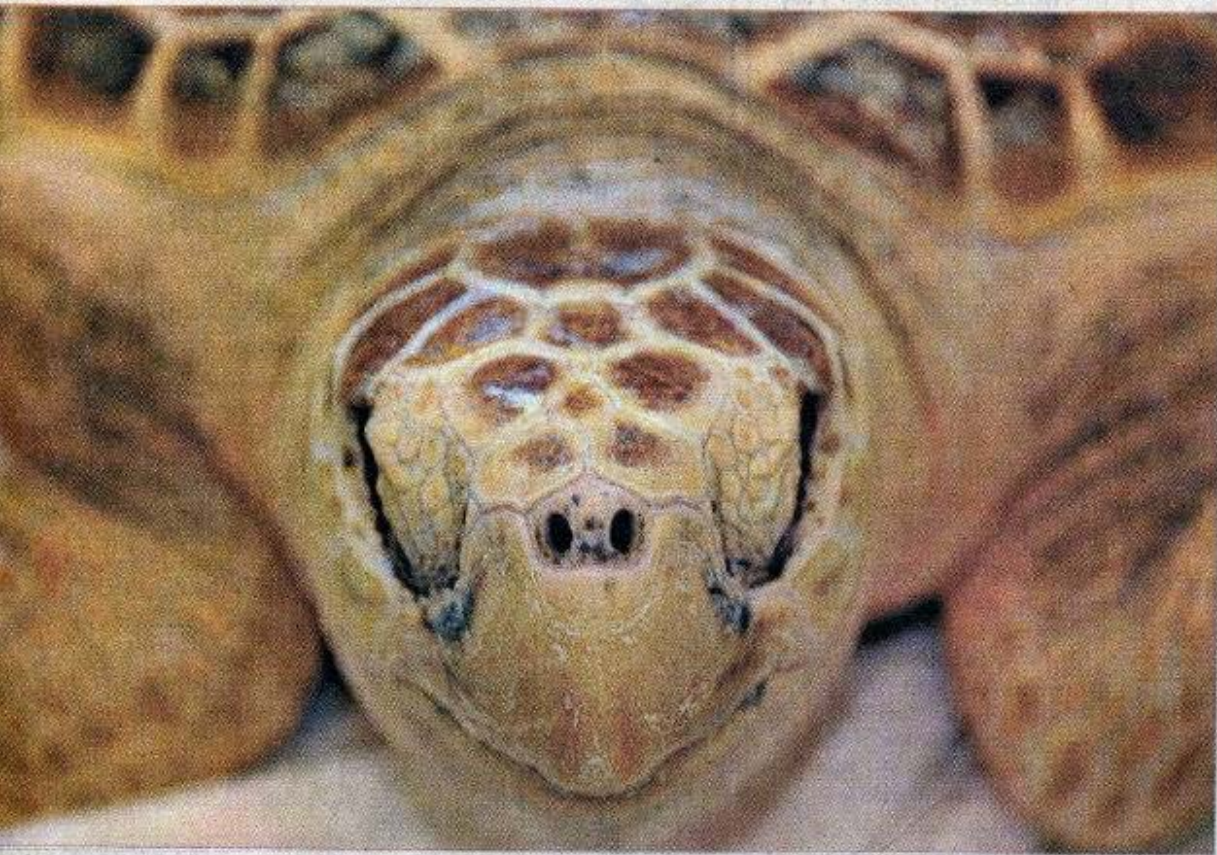


CAPE & ISLANDS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2009

FOLLOWING FLETCHER



STEVE HEASLIP PHOTOS/CAPE COD TIMES



This 70-pound loggerhead sea turtle named Fletcher was found Nov. 29 cold-stunned and upside down on Fisher Beach in Truro. But after receiving critical care at the New England Aquarium in Boston and 17 weeks of rehabilitation at the National Marine Life Center in Buzzards Bay, the marine reptile will be driven to Virginia Beach and taken 50 miles offshore, where the animal is set for release in the warm waters of the Gulf Stream. Top right, associate veterinarian Roger Williams uses a scanner to check on Fletcher's implanted tracking device. To follow Fletcher's progress online, go to the marine center's Web site at www.nmlc.org.