



## Captive Wild Animal Report

August 2005

### Human Fatalities:

- Haley R. Hilderbrand, female, age 17. The girl was killed by a tiger while posing for a high-school photo with the animal. The trainer who was holding the cat's leash was unable to restrain the animal. Mound Valley, KS. Lost Creek Animal Sanctuary, exhibitor.
- Debra Lentz, female, age 41. Trampled and killed by a buffalo at an exotic animal farm. Bovey, MN. Zerebko Zoo-Tran Farm, exhibitor.

### Human Injuries:

- Frances Applegate, female, age 6. Surprised but sustained little or no real injury after an escaped serval (below) pounced on her head, although the cat had to be hit with a brick to release the girl. The serval was killed. Clackamas, OR. Private owner.
- Greg Johnston, male, adult. A veterinarian, he was bitten and scratched by a lynx that had been brought in for spaying and declawing. The cat was quarantined; the owner may be subject to charges for owning the animal illegally. Ogden, UT. Private owner.
- Michael Rodriguez, male, age 12. The boy woke up to find a 4-foot ball python hanging from his arm. He was treated for minor wounds. Fresno, CA. Private owner.
- Unnamed adult female. Bitten by her white-collared mangabey, Jake. The owner surrendered the monkey to the Wild Animal Orphanage in (below). Beeville, TX. Unnamed private owner.

### Animal Escapes:

- 1 monkey. A medium-sized monkey of unknown origin was reported loose near an apartment complex. Elgin, IL. Unknown private owner.
- 1 alligator, juvenile. Captured by a neighbor after being found loose on a farm; was transferred to Catoctin Zoo. Kauffman, PA. Unknown private owner.
- 1 alligator. The 3-foot animal was found in a lake, captured and sent to a licensed rehabilitator. Antioch, IL. Unknown private owner.
- 1 Burmese python, approximate 9 feet in length. Escaped from its shipping container while in a UPS truck; was eventually transferred to its intended recipient. St. Louis, MO. Private owner.
- 1 alligator, Reggie. Found loose in Harbor Regional Park; two men were later arrested in connection with the release of the animal. Los Angeles, CA. Private owner.
- 1 serval, Diego, male, age 3. Escaped and was killed (below) after attacking a 6-year-old girl (above). Clackamas, OR. Private owner.
- 1 llama, adult. The animal was left wandering loose outside the Casper event center after both Wyoming Game & Fish Department and Casper's Metro Animal Control refused to get involved because it was not a pet, a game animal, or livestock. Casper, WY. Unknown private owner.
- 1 alligator. The 3-foot alligator was found in the window well of a suburban home and taken to the Humane Society, where it was awaiting relocation to Florida. Grandville, MI. Unknown private owner.
- 1 ball python. After escaping from its owner, entered a neighbor's house where it bit Michael Rodriguez (above). Captured and taken to the Central California SPCA. Fresno, CA. Private owner.

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- 1 monkey, Dillon. Recaptured after being loose for three days. Springdale, OH. Hendricks Brothers Circus, exhibitor.
- 1 alligator. Escaped from a man who had recently begun rehabilitating reptiles for transfer to other facilities. Captured by sheriff's deputies and later given to Battson's Wildlife Services. White River, IN. Unaccredited rehabilitator.
- 1 monkey, Ernie, male, age 21. Escaped after being left at a campsite in the Cherokee National Forest. Last seen near Knoxville, TN. Private owner.
- 1 alligator. The animal escaped while being moved in a pickup truck, after it was discovered in the basement of an abandon mobile home. It was recaptured after three weeks, and later euthanized (below). Clarksville, TN. Unknown private owner.

### Animals Confiscated/Displaced:

- 1 alligator. A man voluntarily surrendered his pet alligator to the local Animal Control office because he felt he could no longer care for the animal. The animal will be sent to Rainforest Reptile in Massachusetts. Vernon, CT. Private owner.
- 1 alligator. Animal was abandon in a contain outside a veterinary clinic. Ann Arbor, MI. Unknown private owner.
- 3 alligators, 4 piranha, 1 rattlesnake, 3 desert tortoises, 6 tortoise eggs, and 1 scorpion. Confiscated from one of two men arrested for, among other things, the release of Reggie the alligator into Harbor Regional Park (above). Los Angeles, CA. Private owner.
- 1 crocodile, 2 alligators, 1 snapping turtle. Confiscated by authorities along with several types of drugs and guns; the owner was arrested. Lynn, MA. Private owner.
- 1 white-collared mangabey, Jake, male. Given to the Wild Animal Orphanage in San Antonio by its owner, who said the monkey had bitten her (above). Beeville, TX. Unnamed private owner.

### Animal Deaths:

- 1 serval, Diego, male, age 3. Police shot and killed the escaped animal following the attack on Frances Applegate (above). Clackamas, OR. Private owner.
- 1 chimpanzee, Kesi, female, age 11. Died after going into cardiac arrest while under anesthesia for a medical procedure. Asheboro, NC. North Carolina Zoo.
- 1 elephant, Kedar, male, age 5 days. Died after falling into a pool. Syracuse, NY. Rosamond Gifford Zoo & Burnet Park, exhibitor.
- 1 bald eagle, Kentai, male, adult. Died of suspected West Nile virus. Aurora, IL. Phillips Park Zoo, exhibitor.
- 1 lion, Amani, male, age 3 months. Euthanized after he sustained a severed spinal cord when a door inside his exhibit fell on him, leaving him partially paralyzed. Coal Valley, IL. Rock Island County Zoo, exhibitor.
- 1 alligator. Euthanized after being recaptured following an escape from a moving truck (above). Clarksville, TN. Unknown private owner.

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### ***International Incidents***

#### **Human Fatalities:**

- Petrus Malgas, male, age 42. Killed by a lion at the game farm where he worked. Hofmyer, South Africa. Rietfontein Game Farm, exhibitor.

#### **Human Injuries:**

- Unnamed male, age 12. The boy was bitten by a loose monkey, assumed to be a pet because the animal had a chain around its neck. The monkey remained at large. Pahang, Malaysia. Unknown private owner.

#### **Animal Escapes:**

- 1 tiger, Nicky, female, age 3 months. Found safe two days after she was discovered missing from the clinic where she was being held. Malacca, Malaysia. Malacca Zoo, exhibitor.

#### **Animal Trafficking:**

- A Japanese man was arrested at Brisbane Airport while attempting to smuggle several reptiles, including green tree pythons, albino pythons, iguanas, frilled-neck dragons, slider turtles and tree monitors into Australia from southeast Asia. Brisbane, Australia.