



Captive Wild Animal Report

September 2005

Human Injuries:

- Joseph Mason, male, age 5. The boy was bitten on the leg while “playing” with an 80-pound tiger cub, causing bruising; because the skin was not broken, the boy’s father declined rabies treatments for him. Napavine, WA. Private owner.

Animal Escapes:

- 1 Patagonian cavy. The animal was sighted a few days after a resident reported a missing cavy; it was later found dead (below). Springfield, OH. Private owner.
- 1 caiman. Captured by an employee of San Joaquin County Animal Control after being found in a residential yard. Acampo, CA. Unknown private owner.
- 1 caracal, female, adult. Escaped while a keeper was cleaning its cage; the animal was recaptured without incident. San Deigo, CA. San Diego Zoo.
- 3 chimpanzees, adult. The three animals, estimated to weigh up to 300 pounds each, escaped when a padlock was not fully secured. All three animals were killed (below). Royal, NE. Zoo Nebraska, exhibitor.
- 1 tiger, female, juvenile. The 100-pound cub was found, declawed and wearing a collar, on an Interstate highway. She was captured and transferred to Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge in Tyler, Texas. Bowie, TX. Unknown private owner.
- 1 alligator, juvenile. A 3-foot alligator has been seen in the same Harbor Park area where Reggie, a larger alligator, has been loose for over a month. Los Angeles, CA. Unknown private owner.
- 1 ostrich, adult. Escaped from a van on the Golden Gate Bridge; recaptured. San Francisco, CA. Love Farms, private owner.
- 1 alligator, Crocus, juvenile. Escaped from a back yard; was caught by a neighborhood girl and later returned to its owner. Brackenridge, PA. Private owner.
- 1 Nile monitor lizard, adult. The animal was cornered in a garage after repeated sighting around town. Later euthanized to make room at the Humane Society to make room for a snake. Deltona, FL. Unknown private owner.

Animals Confiscated/Displaced:

- 4 boa constrictors. The animals were abandon when their owner was evicted from William Penn Village Apartments; they were taken in by the Stanton SPCA. New Castle, DE. Unnamed private owner.
- 1 boa constrictor. Officers called the Stanton SPCA after stopping a man on the street who was carrying a 5-foot boa. The man did not have a permit and the snake was confiscated. Wilmington, DE. Private owner.
- “About a dozen” animals, including big cats and bears. The owner agreed to transfer the animals to other facilities after the Department of Natural Resources, which was temporarily blocked from seizing the cats, described their living conditions as “horrific” and “living in squalor.” Flat Rock, IN. Willow Hill Center for Rare and Endangered Tigers, exhibitor.
- 2 alligators, juvenile. Found abandon in an old car; later surrendered to authorities by the man who found them. New York, NY. Unknown private owner.
- 1 rhesus macaque, age 11 months. Taken from its owner because monkeys are not legal pets in Pennsylvania. North Scranton, PA. Private owner.
- 14 wolf-hybrids. The animals were confiscated after their owner was shot and killed in a showdown with officials that also left a policeman wounded. Brethren, MI. Private owner.

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Animal Deaths:

- 1 Patagonian cavy. The animal was struck and killed by a car after escaping from its owner (above). Springfield, OH. Private owner.
- 1 wallaby. A wallaby that was original sighted in April was struck and killed by a car on Highway 63. Columbia, MO. Unknown private owner.
- 3 chimpanzees, one of which had been at the facility since its opening 18 years earlier. Escaped from an improperly locked enclosure (above); all three were shot by sheriff's deputies after tranquilizers failed to subdue the animals. Royal, NE. Zoo Nebraska, exhibitor.
- 1 African elephant, Timbo, male, age 48. Died of heart failure. Acton, CA. Shambala Preserve, exhibitor.
- 1 Nile monitor lizard, adult. The animal was euthanized to make room at the Humane Society to make room for a snake after being captured in a garage (above). Deltona, FL. Unknown private owner.

International Incidents

Animal Escapes:

- 1 wolf, adult. Escaped by jumping over an electric fence; remains at large. Gelsenkirchen, Germany. Gelsenkirchen Zoo, exhibitor.
- 1 peccary, female, adult. Escaped from its enclosure; tranquilized and recaptured 40 minutes later. Paignton, England. Paignton Zoo, exhibitor.