

LIOC ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FEDERATION, INC.



# NEWSLETTER

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LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB  
1454 Fleetwood Drive E.  
Mobile, Alabama 36605

Volume 29 - Number 2  
March/April 1985

## LONG ISLAND OCELOT CLUB



*Hey!!! That brush tickles!!!! Thanks MOM, I needu snus, now I m vromuysu.*

*This 2yr. old cougar is the baby to Charles and Sue Marshall, so they call her baby. She weighs 110 pounds and every ounce is full of love. The Marshalls are new members of OEEFC.*



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TO AVOID MISSING ANY NEWSLETTERS IF YOU SHOULD MOVE, SEND YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

Barbara Wilton  
 P.O. Box 66040  
 Portland, Ore 97266

PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DIRECTLY TO BARBARA FOR FAST SERVICE.

ALL NEWSLETTER RELATED MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR, SHIRLEY TREANOR

## Help Wanted

## REPORTERS

LIOC urgently needs material for its newsletter publication. We can only share those experiences, funny, happy, sad or tragic, which are sent to us. This sharing is a part of the enjoyment of exotic ownership

**WRITING EXPERIENCE**: None whatsoever

**PREREQUISITES**: Love of exotic cats

**TYPE OF MATERIAL**: Articles of happy and sad experiences, technical articles, opinions of any and all exotic cat related subjects (including LIOC) all short and long items, also day to day experiences, announcements of : adoptions, pregnancies, births, deaths, (with autopsy report if one was done) all subjects of interest; all questions - give other members a chance to help.

**SALARY**: The love and gratitude of all exotics, their owners and the Newsletter Editor.

**STARTING TIME**: IMMEDIATELY! The newsletter is waiting

# L180C 5

NATIONAL  
CONVENTION  
AUGUST  
16, 17, 18

MINNEAPOLIS  
MINNESOTA

February 22, 1985  
6684 CENTRAL AVENUE N  
FRIDLEY, MN 55432

## ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF THE 1985 CONVENTION

Plan to come to the 1985 convention in the heart of our country. Meet old friends, exchange experiences of your cats, and learn about current research on cat health.

Plans are nearly complete for the convention. Advance notice is being sent so you can make travel plans early and take advantage of the low fares being offered to the twin cities. The convention site is the Hotel Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis. The address is 1014 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404. Please make your reservations directly or through a travel agent, but be sure to mention the Long Island Ocelot Club. (TWO REASONS! First, there is a special rate of \$35/single \$40/double for the club, with extra people \$8.00 per person. Second, if the club uses 20 or more rooms, there will be no charge for the meeting room.)

Registration forms for the convention will be out shortly -- be looking for them. An incentive for early registration will be the opportunity to obtain tickets for the nationally known Guthrie Theater on Friday night. (The summer schedule isn't set yet, but it will be either *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, or a third which they couldn't tell me.)

Events will start Friday morning and conclude by early afternoon Sunday.

Included with this flyer is a book of 10 raffle tickets (\$1.00/chance). The raffle is for a \$250 bond. The drawing will be Saturday night at the Convention. Proceeds of the raffle will go to support the convention, with any excess going to the national treasury. Your support in selling the tickets is appreciated. Please start thinking about items for this year's auction. It is one of the biggest fund raisers for the national organization.

Make your travel plans now. We look forward to seeing you in August!

JOHN PERRY



## OMBRE

Rambunctious, obstreperous, unruly, spoiled, dependent, whimsical, cute, loving and much, much more.

That's Ombre! My first experience of owning and loving a male cougar. I have wanted this dream since I was ten years old. Although I admit that it was a "black panther" that I pictured then, and later, after much reading and looking at pictures, I decided upon the docile and beautiful mountain lion. Hah! Nothing docile here, but the beauty is forever awesome.

I acquired my animal when he was 10 days old. Oh my! That is very young. Ombre was 3 pounds and when the breeder put him into my hands I was quite surprised by the solid little chunk. I had expected a very fragile thing. Here was this robust creature making very loud purring noises; unlike any domestic cat. He purred at every touch, and made the cutest little grunting noises when he ate. After eating he would roll on his back, stare into my face and wave his little paws around, stroking my face. WOW, what a feeling!

The afternoon of the second day, as I was feeding him and he was hungrily, happily and purring indulging himself, the total realization that after all the problems, permits, setbacks, and years of waiting for this bundle had come to fruition. I felt the sublime emotion of it all come rolling down my cheeks.

At 5 1/2 weeks I realized Ombre was a very tough cat. He would wander around with this lower jaw open looking for something to bite and chew. His favorite choice being feet and ankles. At this age his ears, which had been plastered to his head, sprouted and his face doubled in size. At eight months he still bites and chews and in fact, rips and tears. He now bites thighs and bottoms and before he's grown I guess it will be heads and necks.....

I had always wanted an easy-going, docile animal that would lay on my lap in the evening and watch TV. I don't know if there are any out there, but this cat would eat the couch before he'd sit on it. I say this with affection because Ombre has no malice in him. He just has to prove to everyone, every minute of the day that he is tough and proud of it. That takes a lot of energy - especially for me. The first thing I respect about this cat is that he is wild. Nothing domestic here. I have had to change my fantasy of living with this animal closely to enjoying whatever closeness he will allow.

I'm not sure if this is the case for other cougars and would love to hear from owners who have experienced otherwise. I would love to hear about their experiences in any case. We have tried to spend all our time with him, but we found that his strong personality dominated our tender administrations. Therefore he is spoiled, had much affection thrown his way and he doesn't expect to ever have any pain. One day while out on a stroll (in our yard) on a long leash, Ombre decided to jump in

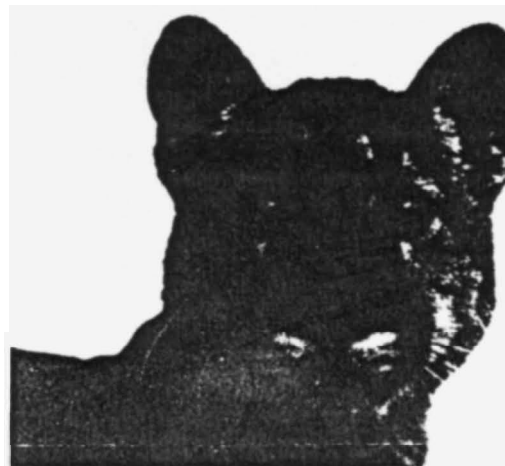
some bushes. He thought it such fun that he jumped again, entangling his leash and jamming himself high in the bush. I attempted to untangle him and he panicked, growled and tried to bite my hand. I managed to free him, but his reaction was not one of gratitude but one of fault. He rushed to my side, jumped on me and hit me with his paws. Then he swaggered away and then as if he were still thinking about it, turned back and repeated this action until satisfied of redressing me for this injury done to him. However, if he is really hurt or scared, and he doesn't consider it my fault, he'll become completely docile and will accept my attentions while he pushes against me to get all the reassurance he can.

I didn't know that cougars squeak and sound like a bird, and still wonder why they do. Such a sound in the wild would certainly attract predators and create a danger for them while they are little. However, it is one of the most delightful sounds, even if it is misleading. Sometimes it is a greeting-like saying; "oh, come to me, I need you" and so you rush over and Wham! he nails you! He also uses this sound to entice, to beg, to show his love, to greet you and tell how much he missed you. In the morning, after what must have been a long night, the chirp becomes a long, arduous complaint. I can't help laughing and encouraging this exaggerated gesture. It's not just a sound, it's a conversation and with it comes rolling eyes, tilted head and a somersault on the floor with his huge back legs reaching in the air.

I have been told that 7 months is the most active age and the cats will mellow as they grow older. I hope so, and I'll let you know. Also, don't let a big cat do anything when they are young that you don't want them to do when they are grown. Things like leaping onto you or wrestling with them. Well that's all Ombre wants to do, and he's so proud of it. I have tried discouraging him by teaching him "NO - DON'T BITE" and he understands, and there are times when he will try to restrain himself, but there are other times when he gives that look that says "I'm sorry, I just can't - I'm out of control. and it is such an exaggerated and crazy mood that I just laugh and leave the cage. Leave the cage? It's very hard with a 60 pound plus cat attached to your leg with his teeth imbedded in your Levis. I'm his buddy and he doesn't want me to go and I love him for it, no matter how outrageous that may seem.

Then there are the times (infrequent tho' they are) when he is sweet and docile. When he's sleepy, when he is scared, when he is exploring the yard I take advantage of the situation and kiss him on the nose and tell him what a magnificent, handsome, gorgeous creature he is. I kiss his huge paws and tell him how beautiful they are, I rub his belly and make ooh sounds. I grab his back feet and feel their power and marvel that I can be a part of his life.

Claudette Riley  
P.O.Box 144  
Camino, CA 95709



7 Months



## Meeting Report

Meeting was called to order by club coordinator Ethel Hauser, and the treasures report was read by Mary. Business discussed included the accepting of two new members, nominations for the 1985 Officers and activity for the new year.

Nominations were the main event which took some time, since we only had one nomination for Secretary-Treasurer that nomination was left open so we could roust out someone to run for office...the other nominations were made and ballots would be mailed promptly in order to get the results in and the new officers installed by the end of February and get on with the year's work.

Jackie will be in charge of choosing the place and the time for the annual installation banquet.

We discussed plans for a cat show to be held at the Marshall Center in Vancouver, Washington. It was later decided to postpone the show until later in the year due to lack of firm commitment, hopefully for more cooperative participation...

Reminder was noted to all membership who had sign-up for the JAFCO inventory the club does as a fundraiser. Annually the club takes inventory and donates wages earned to the club treasury. We usually make little over a hundred dollars at this function.

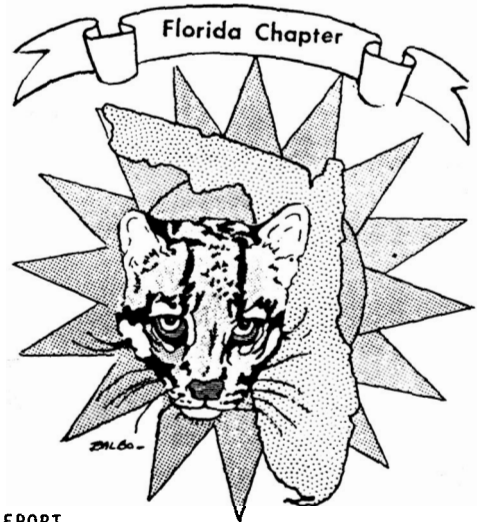
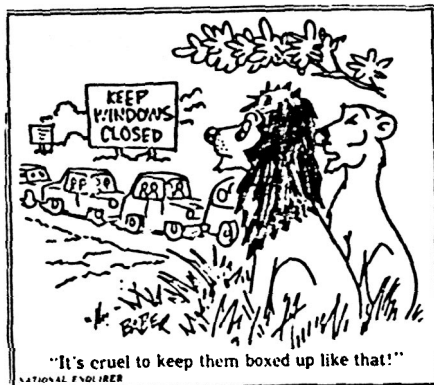
Meeting was hosted by the Wiltons, and attended by the Marshalls, Petersons, Scholes, Schaechers, Ethel, Mary, Pat, Jerry, Glen and Jackie.

A general discussion on what we could do for activities, projects, fund raisers and meetings followed.

Everyone was reminded to make early plans to attend convention in August.

In closing we would like to thank those who made this year an experience.

Respectfully  
Mary Parker



## MEETING REPORT

There is a time in Florida that is extra special to residents. It happens twice a year, the first is after the cold is gone and spring has begun; the other is when the heat subsides and both are usually absent of tourists. It's a time to enjoy our own state and look around at the great place we live.

Our March meeting took place in the south Florida area, down Miami way. Held at the home of Gene Erskine and Mark Pearlman and the fine collection of leopard, jaguar, ocelot, bobcat, cougar, Geoffroys and dogs. Some of the dogs are for protection and some are pedigree pooches.

I must say that Gene and Marc have some of the finest facilities I've seen. All cages are chainlink with safety doors and each cage has a tree for filtered sunlight and shade. The front of the house features a dog run between the sidewalk and the house. Privacy fences stop the curious and all the cats are happy and healthy.

A great turnout of people this time with 33 in attendance...a great bunch and cookout. Hot dogs, burgers and soft drinks helped complete a perfect day.

The meeting portion consisted of encouraging people to attend the upcoming convention (plus telling of some good rates if plane tickets are bought early) and to send things for the auction. Some by-law changes from previous meetings were brought up, in addition to making the members aware that the National Humane Society has stated one of its national goals is the abolition of all pets other than domestic cats & dogs. Their stated position means NO exotics. No hamsters, no turtles. People are encouraged not to support the Humane Society in any fashion, especially with money. If you take time to talk to your local organization you find that they are not as radical....ask your local representatives to voice their opinion to the national organization.

It is the year in which we elect officers of the Florida branch. However this item was tabled in order to advise members of the election and solicit nomination Elections will be held at the next meeting.

Attending were: Jean Hatfield with 2-6 week old ocelots, Gerald May with his ocelot, Terry Hosfeld and his vegetarian hot dogs, Canadian visitors Jeff and Scarlett Bellingham, old margay man Jim Croft, Jim and BJ Scott, Peggy May, April Hosfeld, Leslie Doguttenhofer, Rox Roxton, Danny & Ellen Treanor, Rick Weinstein, Jamie Wheatley, Randy Reiniger, Bridgett Pettit, Connie Hatfield, Jerry, Darlene & Greg Mauer with guest George, Dr. George Baker with Vet-Tech Faith, Joe St. Thomas, Jerome Charles, Geoff and last but not least, Michael Spector.

The next meeting will be in Central Florida at the Treanors' in May.

Submitted from the Margay Motel  
Danny Treanor, President



THE BIRTHS

Lil Smith of California reports in with margay twins-see picture.



Jean Hatfield reports in with two ocelot kittens and expect cougars soon.

Damian Regap reports bobcats and Chinese leopards due any day.

#### CORRECTION ←

PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECT PHONE NUMBER FOR  
DAMIAM REGE IS: (504) 738-9453  
CORRECT YOUR BREEDER DIRECTORY ACCORDINGLY

## AGENDA BEING SET

Each year at Convention, the LIOC Board of Directors meet to address any subjects concerning the operation of the Club.

If you have a subject you wish discussed, or a motion you wish taken up by the Board, please send it to

Ken Hatfield  
President LIOC  
1991 S.W. 136 Ave  
Davie, Fl. 33325

## A Better Tomorrow

Dr. Mark Morris, Jr.D.V.M., research Vice President of the Morris Foundation made these statements recently:

Five projects were funded this year in the feline division of four universities. The subjects include Feline Urillogical Syndrome (FUS), three leukemia studies and cancer. A sixth study deals with mammary cancer in both dogs and cats. The total investment in feline studies was \$110,000.

Seven years ago, the feline division of the Morris Foundation established FUS and Feline Leukemia to be two of the major health problems confronting cats. Recently a vaccine for FeVL has been developed and excessive dietary magnesium has been established as the major cause of FUS.

As a result of this study, practical and effective methods to manage and prevent recurrence of FUS have been developed and are available to cat owners. A very important side benefit of this has been the development of two alternative medical methods of dissolving feline urinary calculi. This development virtually eliminates the need for a rather extreme surgical procedure that was widely used in the past.

From COMPANION ANIMAL NEWS

Contributed by Gayle Schaecher

## Settlement Reached

A five-year old boy who was mauled by a tiger at Lion Country Safari has received a settlement that will pay him \$4 million to more than \$20 million over his lifetime.

Anthony Stopani was 2 years old when his mother brought him to the park in 1982. While they waited in the grandstand for the show to begin, a Siberian tiger broke loose, grabbed the child and carried him about 50 feet to a bush where it mauled him. Due to a pierced skull the boy suffers mild paralysis on his left side and skarring of his arms, legs, head. Settlement payments include periodical lump sum amounts and monthly amounts that will be about \$20,000 a month if he reaches the age of 55 or so.

#### A MISCIBLE MESS

Lions, tigers and bears  
Have become friendlier pairs.  
To say the least, they're mixed up beasts  
Now its Tiglons, Tiglers and mears.

What do we have if a puma  
Makes love to a handsome jaguar?  
To be explicit, it's a mix-a-ma-fixit-  
The creature's a jama-pugar.

Before you know it, we'll have to share  
The announcement of leglons a pair-  
Cliggers and Tiggers'll bring sniggers  
it figures  
And circuses will have new fare.

Ladies and Gentlemen - in center ring,  
We have a new act to you that we bring-  
The lion and the tiger had tiglons and liger  
And the Puma ran off with the "thing".

By Terry Ross Erickson

Reprinted from World Pet Society Newsletter



## The natural history of the major feline viral diseases

ROSALIND M. GASKELL

Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bristol, Langford House, Langford, Bristol  
BS18 7DU\*

### PART IV - FELINE INFECTIOUS PERITONITIS (FIP)

The virus causing FIP is classified as a coronavirus. In the USA other isolates of feline coronavirus, known as feline enteric coronaviruses (FECV) have been recently identified that appear to be indistinguishable morphologically and antigenically by present tests from FIP virus. However, FECV produces an inapparent or mild enteric infection in kittens and does not appear to be the cause of either effusive or non-effusive FIP. FIP virus is also closely related to canine coronavirus, porcine TGE virus and a human coronavirus.

The natural infectivity of FIP virus is difficult to assess, mainly because of the recent realization that antibodies to FIP virus cross react with those to FECV. In FIP problem catteries the disease incidence is usually relatively low (5-10 percent) but until recently it was assumed that most of the animals in such colonies had been exposed to the virus because of the high proportion of cats with coronavirus antibody. However, until a serological test is developed that can distinguish antibodies to FIP and FECV, it is difficult to assess the infectivity of FIP under natural conditions.

Under experimental conditions, the infectivity of FIP virus appears to depend on a number of factors, some of which remain to be elucidated. In general, however, and as assessed experimentally, the infectivity of FIP virus is not very high. Thus a proportion of experimentally infected animals often fail to become infected, as assessed by absence of seroconversion and disease, though to some extent this depends on the route of inoculation.

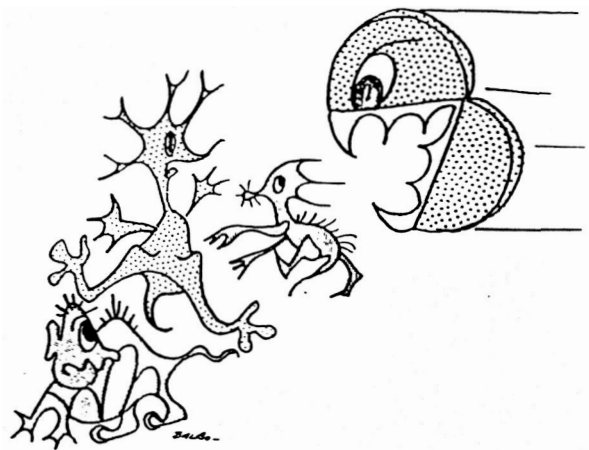
s Pedersen and his co-workers have noted a greater infectivity of tissue-culture propagated virus when administered intraperitoneally rather than on to a respiratory or oral mucosal surface. Others however, have observed an apparently higher infectivity via the oral route. Such discrepancies may also be due to other factors, such as biological variation between isolates and perhaps some degree of attenuation on passage. It is possible that the infecting dose of virus may also play a role. Finally, infectivity appears to depend to some extent on the immune status of the host; successful infection occurs more readily in animals with pre-existing antibody to coronavirus than in sero-negative animals.

FIP virus is present in the blood, peritoneal and pleural exudates, tissues and perhaps on occasion, in the urine of infected cats. It is not known if it is shed in the respiratory, conjunctival or oral secretions or in the feces of infected cats. Unlike the other feline viruses discussed previously, initial isolation of FIP virus in tissue culture requires the use of sensitive coculture and explant techniques, and thus virus shedding for example in oro-nasal secretions or feces would be difficult to monitor by routine swabbing techniques.

Although it is evident, from the sporadic but continuous losses in colonies with FIP, that horizontal transmission of FIP does occur, the natural route of transmission is unknown. Experimentally, virus has been transmitted by a variety of parenteral routes including subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous and intraperitoneal routes, and also via the oral and respiratory routes. Because the virus is present in the blood, and is infectious by parenteral routes, transmission by blood sucking insects such as fleas may be possible. It has also been suggested from epidemiological observations that transplacental transmission might perhaps occur, but there is not definitive evidence to support this.

The low incidence (1 per cent) of FIP in the general cat population makes it unlikely that virus is perpetuated by successive spread from acute clinical cases to susceptible animals, unless there is a high incidence of clinical infection. In some catteries, where in rare cases morbidity can approach 25 percent or more in the first 12 months, it is possible that continuous horizontal spread is responsible for perpetuating the virus.

Immune carrier cats have been postulated but not identified in FIP. Experimentally, most animals either fail to become infected with the virus or die of FIP.



Occasional animals show seroconversion without clinical disease and these animals presumably are the likely carriers. Perhaps a situation exists as in FeLV, whereby more persistent infections are created in susceptible animals in a pre-existing endemic colony situation because of continuous exposure to shedding carriers. Stress may play a role, perhaps in activating latent infections as has been seen for both FVR and FeLV.

FIP virus is rather labile and thus the environment is unlikely to be a long-term source of virus to the susceptible cat. It is inactivated within one day at room temperature whether it is dried or kept moist, and it is destroyed rapidly by heat and most commonly used disinfectants, although it is surprisingly resistant to phenol.

As discussed previously, the development of an active immunity in FIP is in most cases self-destructive. In most experimental infections, serum antibodies appear at the same time as the clinical disease and there is evidence for the disease being immune-mediated. However, in a small proportion (20 percent or less) of cases antibody, which is presumably protective, develops and there is no clinical disease.

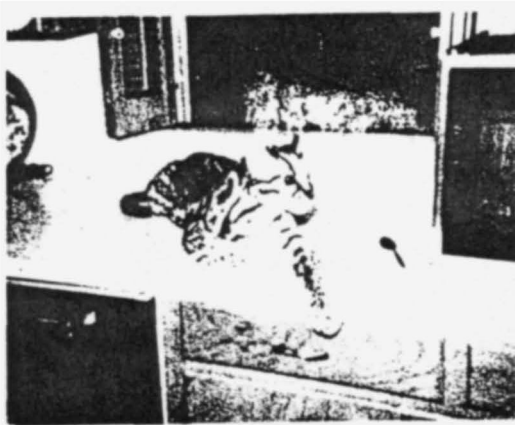
As mentioned before, pre-existing antibody to feline coronavirus appears to increase the susceptibility of the animal to FIP and this is also true for passively transferred antibody. As yet, there is no information on either the existence, duration or significance of passive immunity in kittens born to FIP immune queens.

Since the discovery of FIP virus could be grown in conventional tissue culture there has been an interest in the possibility of vaccination. However, because pre-existing antibody, even induced by vaccination, appears to enhance the disease, it is unlikely that a successful vaccine will be developed without a more complete understanding of the pathogenesis.

KIT 'N' CARLYLE : by Larry Wright



# apollo's story



By Elfriede Vickery

It has been two years now that my baby, Appollo-ocelot had died. He closed his beautiful big eyes forever four days before our National Convention was in Dallas. This helped me some to overcome my grief as I was very busy being the "Go-pher" for hosting SouthWest Branch.

You all know how it feels coming home to a cat-less house; it is so very empty - no one, but an exotic cat lover knows the panic one feels coming home after leaving one's cat for a day alone in his own room which is stripped to the bare walls, hoping he had not chewed the walls or floortiles, not caring if he ate the whole house as long as it does not affect his digestion.

Apollo was a great eater. To the last days of his life ate with a smile on his beautiful face - ZuPreem, ipped chicken necks, live fish, beef hearts, mommy's nightgown, daddy's shoes, floor tiles (which he picked up the corners with his nimble fingers, having been de-clawed).ilet paper, etc, etc.

Apollo was only three weeks short of his sixth birthday as he died the second time and I let him go in peace, knowing his pain in his small body had finally ceased. A pain, which he probably did not understand, but must have felt as his behavior changed suddenly from a sweet little cat to a spitting, snarling sabertoothed tiger which only mommy could handle, having scars to prove it.

Apollo was born at the Hatfield farm and they had done a marvelous job of potty training him. No sand box, he used a large plastic garbage can with a "door" cut in one side for the cat to go in and do his business with privacy over newspaper. He had several in different parts of the house and used them faithfully until he died. We had Apollo neutered as he was a pet and we had no plans to have a female companion for him.

He was about 18 months old when he started to act like a female in heat and pulled his fur in large tufts from his body. I was in a total panic the morning I went into his room to find Apollo had a large, glistening bald spot on the back of his head and tufts of fur all over the floor. I called Ken Hatfield who told me that Apollo's family had several cases of hormonal problems and he suggested to start using "Ovaban" and after a very short time everything started to go back to normal. I kept a journal of his behavior as we were not certain of the dosage and wanted to give him the smallest possible amount to keep him stabilized.

Six months later the cat had again, overnight pulled the fur from the tip of his tail and acted crazy, shaking his head and making odd sounds. I doubled the Ovaban to 20 mg as the cat's weight was 24 pounds.

The veterinary we had up to this time used to give the cat his regular inoculations and had never told me that he also gave him rabies shots. He had also done a very bad job declawing him as some of the nails were beginning to grow back.

As soon as I realized this, I changed vets and was glad that I did as I went back to Marcia Evans, DVM, who those attended the Convention in Dalls met.

She is a very compassionate and dedicated person and due to her pig-headed determination, Apollo's life was prolonged for two more years. For this I thank her with heartfelt gratitude

Beginning of August, Apollo was now three years old, and we had been using Ovaban regularly for about 18 months. Now he started to gag when eating and acted nauseated when even smelling food. Even when I cooked and he smelled something, he gagged. Ken Hatfield thought it might be a tapeworm and we gave him Yomesan, but he threw that up. This lasted a few days while I talked with my vet daily. We tried Pepto-Mismol which settled his stomach for awhile.

I started to put the stripped chicken necks in a blender and mixed them with Zu-Preem, all mushed up. He could tolerate this a little better and did not gag as much, but still be came nauseated by the smell of my cooking.

In the beginnning of September, my husband Jack and I took the cat to the vet as she had decided to make a total study with all the test she could think of.

Dr. Evans put him down and we ran every test and X-ray and a stomach scope - nothing- no foreign object, the only thing odd was a congestion in the lungs and after she took the scope out of his stomach, his heart suddenly stopped as well as his breathing. For all purposes, the cat was dead.

But Dr. Evans said, "No way, you're not going to die on me" and she started to work on him. She ias a small woman in stature, but big of heart and it was fortunate that Jack was with me as she had him hold the cat by the hind legs high off the table with his head hanging down while she used suction and cleared his lungs (the cat had actually drowned right in fornt of us, on the fluid that had rapidly filled his lungs), she palpitated his chest and gave him oxygen.

For hours, we "wrung" the cat's body at regular intervals and gave him every injection she could think of.

Marcia worked on Apollo from 10:30 am to 6 pm. By then he had, for several hours already lifted his head and was looking around with frightened eyes. But she felt better monitoring him and was afraid that we would have difficulty in the car as we lived 50 miles away from her clinic. She continued to monitor the situation, calling me several times that night to check on him.

It took the cat almost 3 days to shake the anesthesia and meanwhile the lab results had not returend and we still did not know what was wrong with him.

The lab results came back the same day as Apollo's potty paper were soaked in blood. The tests showed that his liver, kidney and pancreas were badly affected and he had a high sugar count in his urine. I took him back to the clinic and Marcia started his medication.

We put him on a mixture of Hill's k/d (canned food for diabetic cats), lean beef heart, stripped chicken necks finely blended and vitamin 'C'. After several months we added a little ZuPreem as he loved it so.

We took him off Ovaban as he gagged on the strong protein smell, (we also took him off the vitamin/mineral tablets as they had the same carrier) and changed to the birthcontrol pill "Megase" gave him a diuretic "Ethamine" and enymes "Pancretine".

We had to experiment with the dosage and I kept a tight regime on his pills which were spread out over the whole day, som e pills one day, some three times, others twice.

But it worked, and Apollo-ocelot lived a very happy 2 years which he enjoyed every day, walking in the garden and sitting in the sun and on my lap in the evenings, watching TV. He was with me constantly like a little shadow and I did not let him out of my sight for more than a few hours at a time.

He died very suddenly. One day he was out in the garden smelling the flowers and eating good; the next he did not want to leave his room and did not eat, going into shock. I wrapped him in a warm house coat and sat with him on my lap the whole day and night, talking with him so that he knew I was there - then he closed his eyes and stopped living. He seemed just to go to sleep, apparently a easy, painless death.

Ww will miss him always.

PRINTRIGHT

Printing By

Mail 205



## JUST A PET

Notie cats in Seventy-three  
re classed as "Endangered" for all to see.  
His meant protected, and their domain.  
They couldn't come in, just ones here could remain.

But this one time I had beat the game.  
My cat was here - all safe and tame.  
My beautiful pet with the soft velvet coat  
Had safely avoided the laws of the State.

My house was his jungle, his total domain.  
I was his subject, and there he did reign!  
But soon I noticed, here and there,  
A little spot, a little tear.  
Once I saw him - he sprayed and ran.  
My nice young boy had become a man!

So, to fulfill my ego trip,  
Off to the Vet for a little snip.  
I did have to protect my house.  
He just wouldn't have a spouse!

The years have passed - it's Eighty-five.  
My boy passed on. I cried and cried.  
No more will strangers stop and stare.  
I cannot gloat, or walk on air.

Finally the solution came into my mind.  
As it says in the Bible, "Seek and Ye Shall Find."  
So seek I did from coast to coast  
To find a cat so I could boast.

But all I heard as my phone bill rose  
I'm sorry, My cat is one of "those"!  
I finally learned. A lightbulb lit.  
You can't breed a cat with a spay and an "IT"!

Barbara Wilton

## L.I.O.C. GALLERY

— PHOTO CONTEST WINNER WILL BE  
ANNOUNCED AT CONVENTION '85 —



AIN'T MOTHERHOOD GRAND?

## Legislation

The Pet Industry's Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC) lists the following "hot spots" which need watching. Says PIJAC General Counsel Marshall Meyers, "Count and city ordinances restricting or banning the possession of animals have been on the books for many years. Early laws were often enacted to prohibit the herding of cattle or other livestock through town or to prohibit the keeping of chickens or other fowl in urban areas.

In recent years, many of these laws have been expanded to prohibit or severely restrict the possession of "wild, exotic or dangerous" animals."

WEST DES MOINES, IA - enacted an ordinance declaring ferrets, constrictor snakes and tarantulas, among many other animals, "dangerous animals per se" - which means they are prohibited.

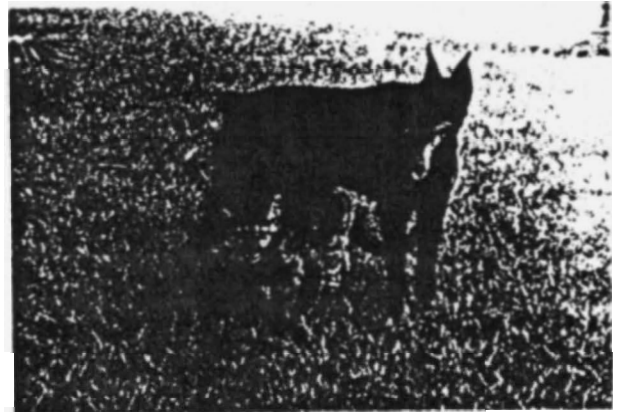
JEFFERSON COUNTY, KY. enacted an ordinance prohibiting the keeping of any animal of the order carnivora - the county includes ferrets.

DAVIES COUNTY, KY. - offered a bill which would ban the keeping as pets of any warmblooded animal "normally found in the wild." The broad meaning has not been explained.

MIDLAND Tx. has enacted an ordinance banning the private possession of ferrets and any animal found in a zoo.

OMAHA, NE - has an existing ordinance which bans the sale or possession of any non-domestic animal - Omaha case is interpreted to include hermit crabs.

Condensed from Pet Business



BREAKFAST IS SUCH A BORE!



## Shock Treatment For India's Man-Eaters

By Peter Jackson

Earlier this year a marauding tiger spotted a fishing boat moored near the bank in the Indian Sundarbans, a mangrove-forested river delta along the fringes of the Bay of Bengal. The tiger leapt onto the boat. One man sat the man, smelling strongly of sweat and fish; the tiger pounced.

As it touched the figure, an electric shock convulsed its body, making it leap back. That was enough. The tiger retreated and has never returned to attack fishermen in the area.

Elsewhere in the Sundarbans reserve, another tiger stalked a woodcutter, who was apparently intent on his work. But when the tiger leapt on the man's back, it too got the shock of its life.

The fisherman and woodcutter were dummies, part of an experiment in shock treatment designed to condition the tigers not to attack humans. There are indications already that it may be helping to solve the age-old problem of the Sundarbans tigers who kill more than 50 people a year.

The Sundarbans of India and Bangladesh extend over 3000 square miles of forested islands divided by rivers and creeks with a tidal range of over 20 feet. It is a strange habitat for tigers: they must swim frequently and eat fish, crabs and big water monitor lizards as well as deer and pig.

But it is the home of the largest single population of tigers surviving in the world today, and the governments of India and Bangladesh are committed to conserving the tigers.

No one lives permanently in the Sundarbans. But fishermen, woodcutters and honey collectors risk their lives to make a meager income.

The Sundarbans' tigers even unite Hindus and Muslims. Images of Banbibi, the Hindu goddess of the forest, and Shah Jugli, the Muslim king of the jungle, sit side by side in little thatched-roofed temples. Those about to enter the forest offer leaves, flowers, sweets and a coin or two as they pray for protection.

The tigers are everywhere, but the animals are seldom seen. Indeed, Pranabes Sanyal, field director of the Sundarbans reserve, has seen tigers only 8 times in over 300 visits.

Sanyal is the man who devised the electric shock tactics. A 12 volt car battery is linked to the dummies through a transformer with an output of 240 volts. A switch, current and a fuse help prevent fatal shocks - for humans or tigers.

In a 1971 study, German biologist Hubert Hendricks estimated that only about one percent of the Sundarbans tigers were dedicated man-eaters, but that about one

third were extremely aggressive and liable to attack. The rest are "normal" tigers, shy around humans.

Hendricks suggested that drinking saline water could have psychological effects on the tigers that might account for their ferocity. Reserve officials are therefore providing artificial ponds to collect rain water, and the ponds are already attracting tigers and other animals.

Attacks by man-eating tigers have occurred periodically throughout the tiger's Asian range, but only in Sundarbans is the problem endemic. If the shock treatment works, it will remove a blot on the character of one of the world's most admired wild animals.

Contributed by Jean Townes

## Neighborly mountain lion chases turkeys on fairway

The mountain lion that has been visiting Chico has been spotted again, this time chasing wild turkeys on the golf course according to an Associated Press report.

An employee of the Bidwell Golf Course said he saw the 200-pound beast about 6:30 PM near the eighth hole. It was the fourth time the lion was seen in three days.

The animal was first spotted around midnight near the Chico State University football stadium on a Saturday evening.

Later Sunday morning, he eluded police by jumping a nine-foot fence at Chico High School. Then he tried to enter a closed bakery, and was seen loitering on a sidewalk outside a downtown bar early Sunday.

Police, animal control officers and game wardens met Monday to plan capture of the animal, possibly with a tranquilizer gun.

"It almost looks as if he was a domestic pet and someone let him go," said police officer Mike Lambrix.

However, Mike Erpino, zoology instructor at the university warned that mountain lions are fast, strong and dangerous if they get cornered or panicked.

Earlier, Jack Parnell, Director of the Fish & Game Department, said the population of wild mountain lions had increased dramatically, and that they have begun to prey on pets as well as live stock in rural areas.



## LOS GATOS

The site of the town of Los Gatos, California was named in 1839 by its discoverer, Jose Hernandez. La Rinconada de Los Gatos, when he observed 2 wildcats fighting ferociously near a water spring.

Jean Townes who contributed this writes: These Los Gatos "bobcats" are quite impressive and tower over anyone who approaches the gate. Made of stone, they look very much like the real thing.

# Jaguarundi —

## the cat that looks like an otter

Reprinted from MAINSTREAM

Early morning in southern Texas. A thicket of dense, thorny chaparral parts to reveal a sinuous cat - tail lowered, short rounded ears alert to every sound. Something makes the cat duck back inside its mesquite cover, only to poke its head up - now here, now over there. It is a mouse which has wandered near the low-growing tangle hiding the cat. Peering intently, keeping its low-slung body close to the earth, barely disturbing a blade of grass, the cat stalks to within eight feet of its prey. Suddenly muscles along its body contract, and with a well-aimed spring it pounces, grabs the rodent and carries into cover.

For a member of the cat family, the jaguarundi (*Felis yagouaroundi cacomitli*) has an unfeline appearance. It looks nothing like a jaguar; actually it looks more like an otter, hence the popular name "otter cat". The skull is elongated and flat; its legs are stubby; and its tail is long. From nose to tip of tail it averages four feet; it's 14 inches high at the shoulder; and it weighs about 16 pounds. The jaguarundi's coat ranges in color from blackish to brownish-grey and from foxy-red to chestnut. At one time this color variance was thought to represent two distinct subspecies; the red called "eyra" and the grey commonly called "jaguarundi." But that theory changed when both red and grey kittens were observed in the same litter. Young are spotted at birth but lose their spots as they mature.

The jaguarundi ranges throughout Central America and South America as far south as Argentina. In the U.S. it is generally confined to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and southern Arizona. Sightings in Arizona have been rare since 1960.

For the past several years, a few jaguarundis have turned up in Florida. These cats didn't reach here naturally; they apparently are abandoned or escaped pets.

### Sociable cat

The jaguarundi is sociable for a cat, sharing its territory with other pairs as well as its mate. Mating season runs from September to November at which time vocalizations can be heard in the underbrush - screeches, birdlike chirps and purrs. About 10 weeks later two or three kittens are born in a thicket, hollow tree or scrub-covered ditch. The mother jaguarundi never leaves her youngsters alone for long, except to bring back food. This protective instinct continues until it is time for her to teach them to hunt on their own.

Gary Harwell, curator at Tucson's Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, where six jaguarundis are maintained, characterizes the small cat's behavior: "While they are kittens jaguarundis are playful, but they become highstrung as adults. Unlike many other wild members of the cat family, these cats don't come up to you for affection."

If allowed one moment of freedom they will streak away to hunt birds and small game. In pre-Columbian times the jaguarundis were reared as house pets to keep rats and mice in check.

### Threats to survival

Jaguarundi pelts - unlike those of the spotted cats have little commercial appeal, and therefore the species does not appear to be under the same intense trapping and hunting pressure as the spotted cats. However, two garments containing 65 skins were imported into Switzerland in 1977. There may be more. The pelts were not always recognizable and may be listed under "miscellaneous" import statistics.

Trade in live jaguarundis has been limited. Only 19 are legitimately registered in zoos, but there has been an upsurge of interest from the pet trade in this country. The entire species is endangered with the *Felis yagouaroundi cacomitli* and three other subspecies listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Similarly the jaguarundi is listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered species Act, and trapping or hunting the "otter cat" in the U.S. is illegal.

According to API biologist Bruce Webb, "The principal reason for their endangered status in the United States is loss of subtropical woodland forest due to intense brush clearing operations for agricultural and grazing in the Rio Grande Valley." In order to maintain the jaguarundi's natural habitat, brush is no longer being cleared within Texas Natural Wildlife Refuge at Santa Ana and Laguna Atascosa.

For now, efforts to save the remaining jaguarundi revolve around studies on the animal's distribution, population trends and habitat requirements. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has scheduled for development a set of recovery plans. Major emphasis for saving this small endangered cat will be both preservation and reestablishment of dense cover habitats in the jaguarundi's native range.

By learning more about this unique cat (that doesn't look like a cat) we may help save a rare creature from extinction

Contributed by Ralph Ferrer



## SEARCH & FIND

The cats listed below the puzzle can be found within the diagram by reading UP, DOWN, BACKWORDS, OR DIAGONALLY. The words may overlap each other and letters may be used more than once. Though one word should never be found entirely within another. The words always run in a straight line and never skip any letters. Once you have found a word in the diagram, cross it off the list. The puzzle is complete when all the words have been found.

By Rebecca Morgan

D C L O U D E D L E O P A R D R A T D  
R T E C N L O G E O F F R E Y S C A R  
A A O E L C H E T S R E H T N A P C A  
P C P L Y A I A A I S U J A G U A R P  
O D A O N A C L C O U G A R O I N E O  
E E R T O B L A L S E R V A L Y T G E  
L L D A O A N D R A P O E L D A H I L  
K B C B P L Y N X A M U P R E G I T W  
C R A F I S H I N G C A T I N R A C O  
A A T O L E C A J U N G L E C A T A N  
L M N J A G U A R U N D I P A M P A S  
B S A N O C A T I G C H E E T A H O C

AFRICAN LION	GOLDEN CAT	ONCILLA
BLACK LEOPARD	JAGUAR	PALLAS (CAT)
BOBCAT	JAGUARUNDI	PAMPAS (CAT)
CARACAL	JUNGLE CAT	PANTHER
CAT	LEOPARD	PUMA
CHEETAH	LEOPARD CAT	SAND CAT
CLOUDED LEOPARD	LYNX	SERVAL
COUGAR	MARBLD CAT	SNOW LEOPARD
FISHING CAT	MARGAY	TIGER
GEOFFREYS (CAT)	OCELOT	TIGER CAT



# Death of a Panther

by Jeffery Kahn

*How two young men in Florida's Everglades killed an animal identified as an endangered species, and the aftermath*

Reprinted from Defenders of Wildlife

Life in the Everglades sugar belt below Lake Okeechobee can be suffocating. Fields of 10-foot tall sugarcane press around the townies of Belle Glade, Pahokee and Canal Point, isolating residents into tiny pockets of humanity. But sugar is the lifeblood of the region. Residents cut the cane, milling it into the mounds of raw sugar that are the highest hills in these Florida flatlands. They plant the new sugar crops that have replaced the native Glades vegetation.

It was early July. The subtropical sun was sucking the breath out of the folks in the Glades. Tony Hobby and Mike Thomas, both 21, had a remedy. With beers in their hands and barbecues in their bellies, they decided to get out of Dodge and head for the woods in Thomas' four-wheel-drive pickup. To kill their boredom, they would shoot empty cans and snakes with Hobby's new .44 magnum pistol. That was the plan they would describe weeks later to wildlife law enforcement officers.

The pair headed for Cricket's Crossing, a remote palmetto and pine area where the local "boys" go to chew up the mud with their 4-wheel drives. It is 10 miles north of Thomas' Pahokee home and five north of Hobby's Canal Point residence. It lies within gunshot of where General Zachary Taylor fought the last major battle to rid Florida of Seminole Indians.

Hobby and Thomas had company. A panther, another survivor of man's attempts to conquer Florida wilderness watched them as they drove by on a raised levee road.

Several hundred panthers once roamed Florida's wilds. Fewer than 30 definitely are known to survive, says Chris Belden, panther researcher with the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission. Man probably has extirpated the panther everywhere east of the Mississippi except in Florida. In the Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades-terrain being squeezed by south Florida's never-ending real estate boom-the panther is making its last stand.

The panther watched Thomas and Hobby was a female just over a year old. She was scores of miles from known panther country. She may have been attracted by the 30,000 acre White-Belt Ranch, where cattle and sheep have been moved into the northeast corner of the original Everglades. She lay prone in the bushes below the levee road as her eyes tracked the approaching pickup truck.

Thomas stopped the truck 50 yards from the animal. Hobby took the pistol, pointed out the window and fired. Before the young panther died, she registered her shock. In her death throes, the pair said later, she flipped three times into the air.

The Florida legislature has declared the panther an endangered animal and has made its killing a felony punishable by up to 5 years in jail and a \$5,000 fine. The panther is also protected by the federal Endangered Species Act, which provides up to one year in jail, a \$20,000 criminal fine and/or a \$10,000 civil penalty. But the price of killing a panther is not well known in the Glades.

When the panther was dead, Hobby and Thomas shoved the still warm body into the bed of the pickup and took it to town where they displayed it to a number of their friends. Word about the slain panther soon circulated through the small towns that dot sugar country. Eventually it got back to wildlife officers.

Game commission investigator Roy Burnsed said he first became aware of the panther killing when Okeechobee Rancher Frank Suggs called to say unknown persons had left a tail and paw near his mailbox. For months, Suggs had failed to persuade wildlife officers that a panther was preying on his ducks and geese. The officers told Suggs he was mistaken, that panthers did not even come into the area. According to agency spokesman Biff Lampton, Suggs was told that his request for a permit to trap panthers on his property was out of the question. With the tail and paw, Suggs had proof.

Suggs insisted he did not know who left the proof. Through an informant who was paid a \$1,000 state reward, Burnsed learned who had killed the panther. Officers interrogated Hobby & Thomas. Eventually they confessed. On July 14th they led officers to the sugarcane field where they had dumped the carcass. Hobby said that when he fired, all he saw was the animal's head, and he thought it was a bobcat. Killing a bobcat also is illegal in Florida except during the winter hunting season.

Because Hobby and Thomas were cooperative, the game commission did not charge them with killing a Florida Panther, which is a felony. Instead, the commission and the Balm Beach County state's attorney's office elected to charge them with possession of an endangered animal, a misdemeanor.

The case shows the extent of the protection offered the vanishing Florida panther by Florida justice. Hobby and Thomas were sentenced August 23rd in a Belle Glade courthouse isolated from the intense media coverage characteristic of events along the coast. Palm Beach County judge Don Adams, an avid hunter and Glades resident accepted the recommendations of authorities and ordered each man to pay a \$500 fine, serve six months on probation and do 100 hours of community service. Adams acknowledged that the sentence was lenient but said that the state's case was weak and therefore the sentence was justified.

No firestorm of protest has hit the Glades. Adams said he received two letters, one from a Delray Beach man who said he was "deeply disappointed" and one from two Ft. Lauderdale residents asking why the judge had spared the rod. "I agree with the letters" Adams said. "If you look at the thing in a vacuum-if you say somebody goes out and destroys a panther and then gets fined \$500-then it appears lenient. But there's just more to it than that."

"The real travesty, as I see it, is when somebody destroys an endangered animal and the system does nothing about it, it can be made to look terribly bad. That's not the situation here. The state had little to no case and the chances of a conviction were slight unless these guys told on themselves. They did that in return for a greatly reduced punishment."

Adams conceded that he could have rejected the deal cut by the game commission and prosecutors but said that "with 20-20 hindsight, I feel the thing was handled in the best manner it could be handled."

From the game commission's vantage, putting Hobby and Thomas in jail would not have resurrected the panther. "I had a panther paw 30 miles north of where the body was dumped," Burnsed said. "That and some rumors that a panther had been killed was all we had to go on. What are you going to do? Make them out like bad guys? Since the sentencing I have heard people want their blood. They want to crucify the game commission. These are young men who have made a mistake. They are not criminals."

The sentences received by Hobby and Thomas in a county court stand in marked contrast to recent sentences handed out by federal judges for other wildlife violations. Two months before the panther shooting at Cricket's Crossing, two Glades residents tried to sell 15 sets of anhinga tail feathers to federal undercover agents. The anhinga is relatively common in Florida but is protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Last October, U.S. District Judge Norman Roettger fined former Seminole Indian Tribe President Fred Smith \$25,000 and his Okeechobee girl friend Ellen Click, \$10,000 on civil charges. In January, he sentenced both to 4 years probation on criminal charges.

A month before the panther shooting, 18 fishermen were nabbed with illegal catches of kingfish taken from closed federal waters. They made their haul off Jupiter Inlet, 60 miles from where the panther was killed. The National Marine Fisheries Service fined them \$4,000-\$5,000 apiece.

The Game Commission assume almost a paternal protective posture towards Hobby & Thomas - "two boys with no criminal record" The agency put them to work mowing grass

and taking skull measurements of game killed by hunters. "The case has been very beneficial to the Glades," Burnsed said, "It makes folks realize that people get upset when a very valuable animal is killed unnecessarily."

Hobby said he does not want to talk any more about what happened. "I just want to forget it" he said. Thomas said folks still "bug me" about shooting the panther but "It's about over with now" He emphasized that he had never before been in trouble and that he was not the trigger man. "I don't see why they're raising all this hell about what we done. The people who are making a big damn out of it are those people that live over there on the coast in those condominiums. Ten years ago, Florida was nothing but a bunch of damn woods. I want to know, when they cut all those woods down, what happened to all the wildlife in those woods? Now, all we got is this one little patch of Everglades left. If all wildlife had to worry about was hunters and poachers, they'd have very little to worry about. Right over where that cat was killed, that was all woods back in July. I seen a panther out there about two months before this one got shot. Now, you go out there and you see a 40-acre open field. They've cleared it."

Thomas said killing a panther is wrong, but he also said those who contend that panthers have all but disappeared are just wrong. "The state claims there are only 20 panthers left" he said. "That man (Belden) who says there are only 20 panthers left believes there are no panthers left anywhere in the world except Big Cypress. If you come out here, I can show you 15 or 20 right out here"

Belden, who has studied the cats since 1976, says he knows of panthers living in Everglades National Park and around Raccoon Point and Fakahatchee Strand in Big Cypress Swamp. He has not authenticated report of Native Florida Panthers occurring as far north as Canal Point.

More than 3 months after Hobby and Thomas confessed, Belden concluded much to everyone's surprise that they had probably killed not a Florida panther, but a non-native subspecies. According to Belden, the Florida subspecies has a characteristic crook in the tail, flecks of white over its shoulders and a cowlick on its back, all lacking in other subspecies. But the features are not readily apparent in the field. "The normal layman can't tell the difference when he shoots one," Belden says. "Those two guys had the carcass laying out beside them and they didn't know the difference."

Belden said the tail of the animal killed by Hobby and Thomas lacked the crook. He also reported that from a computer analysis he did of the skull, he was 99.5 percent sure that the dead cougar was not the Florida subspecies. Wildlife officers now speculate that the cat was the offspring of once captive cougars that escaped or were released generations ago. Over the years, hundreds of non-Florida cougars have been brought into the state under permits obtained by people who kept the animals as pets. According to wildlife officials, many of these cougars were turned loose when owners tired of them. These cats are not protected by any law. A question remains however, as to why federal officials did nothing to enforce the Endangered Species Act when they thought they were dealing with the endangered Florida subspecies. South Florida enforcement agent Richard Endress of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service said FSW looked into the matter "There was a strong possibility we would have taken some action" he asserted, but he added: "I don't think it would have been a criminal penalty because the U.S. Attorney for South Florida, Stanley Marcus' policy is that his office doesn't criminally prosecute anyone who has been criminally prosecuted by the state. The whole matter is moot now because they have identified it as a nonprotected species"

Although a poll last year showed that Florida school children wanted the Florida panther named state mammal, a sentiment made official by the legislature, legal services attorney Don Mason said he does not think Glades residents take the panther shooting seriously. "I can imagine people laughing about it," he said.

Mason, who has lived there for years, describes the Glades as a haven for environmental outlaws. Agriculture abuses the environment, setting an example for the residents, almost all of whom work for agri-business. "The environment isn't important out here" Mason said "Just look at the stuff they dump on us during the sugar-harvest/ They burn 350,000 acres of sugarcane before they send in the cutters with machetes. You breathe ash out here for six months every year.

Hobby and Thomas plan to go back to court in February to seek to withdraw their guilty pleas and have their

fines refunded. They have left their court-assigned community service work unfinished. The state prosecutor said he probably would not oppose them.

The whole problem of misidentification could have been avoided if Florida had a look-alike law, said Captain Kyle Hill, game commission enforcement officer. Such a statute would not only make it unlawful for a hunter to shoot any cougar, thus strengthening Florida panther protection, but would also make it easier to press charges. Officials would not have to wait for analysis of skulls and hides before making an arrest Hill said.

As a result of this case, the game commission will be looking closely at the possibility of extending such protection to all cougars in Florida he said. For the endangered panther's sake, it can't happen too soon.



#### FLORIDA PANTHER - VITAL STATISTICS

- **WILD POPULATION:** Fewer than 30 most south of Lake Okeechobee. Experts are uncertain whether the population is increasing, decreasing or holding steady because there is not enough long range information available.
- **FORMER RANGE:** This subspecies once ranged from east Texas, Arkansas and Tennessee
- **SIZE:** Males-100-130 pounds; females-90 pounds.
- **REPRODUCTION:** Females give birth to two to four cubs every two years. Gestation is approximately 90 days.
- **EATING HABITS:** Prefers deer, but also eats hogs and smaller animals. An adult panther will eat 40-50 deer a year. The usually hunt alone and require a large territory in which to find enough food.
- **PROTECTION:** Public policy at statehood was to offer bounties on dead panthers. In 1950 it became a game animal and did not get complete protection until 1958. In 1978 it became a felony to kill a panther. It was named the Florida state animal in 1982.
- **HARM TO HUMANS:** There are no recorded panther attacks in recent times in Florida.

Reprinted from the Ledger, Contributed by Barb Grimes

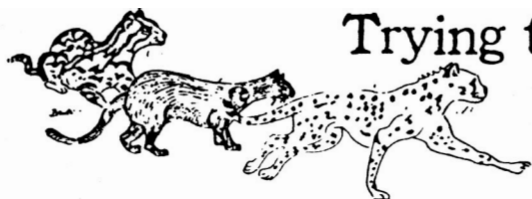


#### Zoo director jailed

According to an Associated Press Release, a former Detroit Zoo director accused of taking kick-backs on animals he purchased for the zoo has pleaded innocent to federal charges of extortion and mail fraud. Gunter Voss is being held in lieu of \$100,000. bond.

#### KNOW YOUR VET'S TELEPHONE NUMBER





## Trying to spot origin of animal markings

by Gayle Golden, Dallas Morning News

"I'll take spots, then," said the Leopard; "but don't make 'em too vulgar-big. I wouldn't look like Giraffe-not for ever so."

-Rudyard Kipling, "How the Leopard Got his Spots"

The origin of a leopard's spots made fanciful fiction for Rudyard Kipling.

For James Murray, however, that question is strictly a matter of science. As director of the Center for Mathematical Biology at Oxford University in England, Murray works on the edge of what he sees as the next logical step in biology: setting up mathematical formulas that mimic the chemistry and physics of biology.

His interest is not in the genetic blueprints of life, but rather in biology's bricks and mortar. He studies the "how" of things: how limbs form, how butterflies get their patterns, how rabies spreads and, yes, how leopards and other animals get their patterns.

"Most people say, 'Oh, it's just genetic,' when it comes to those questions," Murray said, sitting in his office at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, where he has been a visiting professor. "We all know that spots on a leopard are genetic. But the genetics don't actually say how it's done."

Murray does say; or at least his speculation on the matter comes close.

A mathematician by formal training and biologist by curiosity, Murray is used to looking for patterns. Four years ago, he noticed that a leopard's spots resemble patterns made by certain chemicals when propagated, like waves, over a surface.

That was when he got his idea: The gene responsible for spots worked by activating a similar type of wave, sending out patterns of pigment-sensitive chemicals over the surface of an embryo.

His next step was to mathematically model that hypothesis and test it by generating pictures. Once done, the mathematics produced striking hand-drawings and computer holographs resembling animal spots and stripes.

Moreover, Murray found when he juggled one part of the picture - size, for instance - that the same chemical wave produced different patterns. If the wave moved over a narrow area, for instance, it produced stripes; if it moved over a relatively wide area, it became less organized and produced spots.

Armed with that, Murray believes that the origin of stripes and spots in a range of animals may be a shared process. Giraffes, zebras, leopards and nearly all patterned animals have different coats but the same biological mechanism, he said.

Boosting strength for his theory was the fact that it predicted reality. According to his model, no two animals would be exactly the same; according to nature, no two are. And the model predicts tails will always move from spots to stripes, but never from stripes to spots.

"Sure enough, you'll never find a tail that goes from stripes to spots," he said.

In established scientific circles, however, where developmental biology is far less in vogue than cloning genes or unraveling DNA, Murray is regarded as unusual, if not an eccentric scientist.

"Murray's work is definitely no where most biology is today," said Dennis Smith, a molecular biologist and Chairman of the biology department at SMU.

Undaunted, Murray defends his method with vigor, saying mathematical modeling is the biology of the future.

"You're getting an idea of the actual process of development when you do this," he said. "It's not just playing mathematics. It's just a totally different way of thinking about things. You just come up with ideas - some of them crazy, and some of them very good."

Contributed by Jean Townes



## Books

THE WILD CATS  
By Edward Ricciuti

This is a big book, full of facts about the wild cats of the world. There are many photos in color and black and white, not only of the big cats, but of many seldom photographed smaller cats.

The book explores the origins of wild cats, their social patterns, how each species is adapted to its environment, how they hunt and teach their young.

The last chapter is of particular interest, it tells about the numerous small wild felines, many of them still little-known to man.

During the Pleistocene epoch there roamed across North America *Panthera atrox*, "the great cat". This creature resembled modern cats and was either a huge lion or an enormous jaguar.

Leopards walk with the soles of their forefeet turned in, the outer edge of the foot touching the ground before their full weight comes down. Thus, the cat can halt in mid-stride the moment its feet touch something suspicious. Leopards in Nairobi often pay a nightly visits to houses and sit on the flat roofs part of the night.

African wildcats prowl in alleys of towns, often mating with domestic cats. Cheetahs and tigers are not as solitary as once thought.

Lions, both male and female, chased out of prides, form little bands that wander and hunt cooperatively.

Of all the felines, the Northern lynx has the most specialized diet. It depends largely on horseshoe hares - fluctuations in hare populations affect lynx numbers.

Listed at the end of the book are parks and reserves where wild cats may be seen. There is also a list of recommended zoos having better than average cat collections, among the WPS in Portland.

Reviewed by Jean M. Morton



**HELPFUL HINT:** When administering eye medications, the dropper or tube of ointment should be held parallel to the eyeball. This will prevent possible eye damage should the cat lunge forward.







#### FROGLEG BOYCOTT

Safeway Foodstores in Great Britain have discontinued the sale of frogslegs in response to a campaign to stop the cruelty involved in the slaughter of these creatures. Most frogs legs are imported from India and Bangladesh according to the World Society for the Protection of Animals. Their investigations revealed that the legs are chopped off the frogs while they are living and the torsos are discarded to endure a slow, agonizing death. Please write these countries' embassies to protest this inhumane practice. And of course boycott the product, letting the sellers know why.

#### FANCY THAT

Singer/writer Barry Manilow is now the proud owner of a killer whale named Midnight that was given to him by the International Fund for Animal Welfare for all the good work he's done on behalf of animal protection. Barry Says he'll be keeping the whale at SeaWorld until he can have his pool enlarged to keep her.

Reprinted from World Pet Society Newsletter

#### FERAL HORSES EXPENSIVE

The Seante Appropriations Committee has had to increase the Bureau of Land Management's FY 1985 budget for feral horses and burros by \$20 million in order to capture and hold excess horses now on public lands in the West, the Wildlife Management Institute reports. The increase alone is far more than the \$16.1 million recommended for all fish & wildlife conservation on BLM lands.

About 60,000 feral horses and burros are on BLM lands, whereas 25,000 is the number biologists recommend. It costs about \$435. each to capture the animals. And, when they are captured, BLM can't get rid of them through its adoption campaign and federal law forbids that the stock be sold for slaughter. Therefore, the only alternative is to hold and feed the animals in corrals.

Wildlife Management Institute  
Contributed by Ethel Hauser

#### BEAVERS SAVE BUCKS

To help remedy such man-made problems as erosion and overgrazing, wildlife managers are turning to the continent's largest rodent and nature's premiere dam-builder-the North American beaver, report National Wildlife magazine. Some \$100,000 erosion repairs by human engineers can be done for less than \$5,000 by beavers under the supervision of wildlife managers.

National Wildlife Federation  
Contributed by Ethel Hauser

#### EMBRYO TRANSPLANTS ENCOURAGING FOR THE ENDANGERED

Successful births of interspecies embryo transfers have elated scientists and raised the possibility of increased reproduction among rare and endangered species without transporting the animals from the wilds to controlled mating locations.

Recently in Kentucky, a horse gave birth to a zebra; at the Bronx Zoo a dairy cow gave birth to a member of an Asian species of cattle (gaur); and two rare African bongo antelopes were born at the Cincinnati Zoo-one to an eland and one to a surrogate bongo.

Reprinted from Ecology Today

#### GIFFES COMING TO U.S.

Twenty-one articulated giraffes were airlifted Keyna to the U.S.. The trip included a stop at the Nigeria airport, the Azores and a 30 day quarantine in New York. The animals will eventually go to the Busch Gardens wildlife facility in Florida.

Officials believe that only 1,000 of these giraffes are still in existence and fear that they will become extinct within 10 years in the wild.

#### ROGUE ELEPHANTS TO BE TAUGHT NEW TRICKS

The Sumatran government plans to open vocational schools to rehabilitate rogue elephants who have been trampling farmers and terrorizing villages.

Elephants are very intelligent and can learn quickly a government official said. "But it takes time. The young ones under 3 years old are the easiest. The problem is how to catch them."

Parliament has approved a \$660,000 appropriation to establish two three-year schools for elephants under the age of 21. Trainers are to be recruited from Burma & Thailand to teach the elephants to haul logs and perform tricks for circuses. Eight foreign elephants will be imported as examples of good behavior for the unruly Sumatrans.

## **GOOD NEWS -**

Norden Laboratories has released its long-awaited Feline Leukemia Virus(FeLV) vaccine.

Called "LEUKOCELL" this is a killed virus vaccine. A preventative; not a cure, the initial series calls for three inoculations with annual boosters thereafter. Cats which have already been exposed to leukemia virus, even though they have not developed signs of the disease yet, will not be protected by this vaccine.

Needless to say the safety of this vaccine, or any possible side-effects is unknown as it applies to exotics. Consult your Veterinarian.

## **Six tigers tie the knot in city park**

The brides were shy and one of the grooms paced nervously before the triple wedding ceremony in a park that was attended by thousands of curious people, reports the New Delhi, India Associated Press Bureau.

The behavior was expected and in this case, the young couples were tigers.

The "weddings" in the western city of Pune were arranged by city officials to heighten awareness of wildlife conservation.

A Hindu holy man, Pandurang Gopal Kanade, chanted mantras during the ceremony in Pashwa Park. He said one of the tigers was restless and kept pacing inside the cage during the ceremony, while the others took it "in stride".

Park officials said the couples would have a short honeymoon. The pairs will be kept together in the same cage for only brief periods each day until they get used to each other.

Contributed by Jean Townes

*You don't know who your friends are  
until your cat has kittens.*



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Ethylene Dichloride (10%)	E	G	G
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Gasoline	E	E	E
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Hydrochloric Acid (20%)	E	E	G
Hydrofluoric Acid (10%)	E	NR	NR
Hydraulic Fluid	E	E	E
Isopropyl Alcohol	E	E	E
Lactic Acid (20%)	E	E	G*
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone	E	E	E
Methylene Chloride	E	NR	NR
Mineral Spirits	E	E	E
Motor Oil	E	E	E
Mustard	E	G*	G
Nitric Acid (10%)	E	G*	NR*
Phosphoric Acid (85%)	E	E	E
Salt Water	E	E	E
Spic and Span (30%)	E	E	E
Syrup	E	E	E
Sulfuric Acid (30%)	E	E	E
Sodium Hydroxide (30%)	E	G*	G
Silver Nitrate (10%)	E	G*	G
Tide Detergent	E	E	E
Trichloroethylene	E	G	NR
Tri-sodium-phosphate	E	E	E
Toluene	E	E	E
Urine (Synthetic-6.6% urea)	E	E	G

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