



Captive Wild Animal Report

June 2005

Human Injuries:

- Russell Lala, male, age 10. The boy was attacked by a tiger when the owner opened the animal's cage. When the owner went to the boy's aid, a lion also escaped and joined the attack. The child suffered major brain injuries and a severed spinal cord, and is expected to be quadriplegic and dependent on a respirator for life. Little Falls, MN. Private owner.
- David Jones, male, adult. A park employee was bitten on the leg while feeding the park's bobcats. He was treated and released from the hospital. Salisbury, NC. Don Nicholas Park, exhibitor.
- Unnamed male, child. The boy was bitten by a monkey belonging to his grandparent's neighbor. He was placed on medication due to the number of diseases carried by primates; the animal was euthanized (see below). Madisonville, TX. Private owner.
- Brenda Galvan-Perez, female, age 20. The woman was attacked and her face badly injured by a wolf or wolf-hybrid belonging to a man with whom she shared a home. The animal was confiscated and was expected to be euthanized. Burlington, VT. Private owner.

Animal Escapes:

- 1 alligator, Usal, male. Animal was captured and returned to its owner, an unaccredited reptile rescuer, after being loose for three days. The owner plans to keep the animal through summer, then transfer him and any other alligators to Colorado Gators. Medford, OR. Private owner.
- 1 lion, Angel, male, adult. The lion was killed (see below) after escaping from a facility with a history of human injuries. The owner claimed the lion was let out intentionally by a person wishing to cause her trouble. Underwood, MN. Arcangel Wildlife Farm, exhibitor.
- 1 zebra, Zimba, male, adult. Escaped from a travelling animal show at the Green Meadows Cultural Events show and roamed for two miles before being found and recaptured. Montville, NJ. Exhibitor.
- 1 bobcat. Following the death of its owner, the cat escaped when a relative came to pick it up. It was recaptured the following day. Johnson City, TN. Private owner.
- 2 Burmese pythons, 5 monitor lizards. Escaped from owner's home; one python was captured and returned, but escaped again. It was captured again and taken to Jacksonville Herpetological Society Reptile Rescue. Two misdemeanor charges were filed against the owner in for the original escape; one 8-foot python and 5 lizards remain missing. Jacksonville, FL. Private owner.
- 2 alligators. The animals were seen loose off the shoulder of a state highway; one was captured three weeks later while the other remained at large. The loose animal is not expected to survive past November due to cold temperatures. Southern Tier, NY. Unknown private owner.
- 1 emu, male, adult. Escaped through an open gate and remained at large for two days before being captured and returned to its owner. Newtown, CT. Private owner.

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Animals Confiscated/Displaced:

- 9 tigers. The tigers were confiscated by authorities following the escape of a lion (above) from the facility where they were housed; this facility has at least three prior incidents involving people injured by big cats. The tigers were to be quarantined at the Animal Humane Society of Golden Valley. Authorities said they would be destroyed if new homes could not be found; the owner has been charged with 12 counts of animal neglect. Underwood, MN. Arcangel Wildlife Farm, exhibitor.
- 2 tiger cubs, age 5 weeks. Confiscated from a man who was attempting to smuggle the animals from Texas into Mexico. The man was fined \$500 and released. Falcon Dam border station, TX. Unnamed private owner.
- 3 lions, 3 tigers, 4 cougars. Their owner was ordered to remove the animals within six months because she does not have a permit or the proper zoning. Punta Gorda, FL. Lions, Tigers, and Bear, unaccredited sanctuary.
- 1 lemur. Confiscated from its owner's home after a second lemur there bit a child (above). Madisonville, TX. Private owner.
- 1 wolf or wolf-hybrid. The animal was confiscated after attacking Brenda Galvan-Perez and was expected to be euthanized. Burlington, VT. Private owner.

Animal Deaths:

- 1 lion, Angel, male, adult. The lion was killed after escaping (above) from a facility with a history of human injuries. Attempts to reach the owner prior to its death, and to tranquilize the animal, were unsuccessful. Underwood, MN. Arcangel Wildlife Farm, exhibitor.
- 1 tiger, 1 lion. Euthanized following the attack on Russell Lala (above). Little Falls, MN. Private owner.
- 1 lemur. Euthanized to be tested for rabies after biting a child (above). The lemur's owner did not know if the animal had been vaccinated. Madisonville, TX. Private owner.
- 1 polar bear, Penny, female, age 19. Died of peritonitis. Penny's death was the second polar bear death at the zoo in five weeks. St. Louis, MO. St. Louis Zoo.

International Incidents

Animal Deaths:

- 3 civets. The endangered animals, born and raised in captivity, died of bird flu. Cuc Phuong, Vietnam. Owston's Palm Civet Conservation Program.