



Captive Wild Animal Report

July 2005

Human Injuries:

- Unnamed male, age 20. The man had stopped his truck to avoid hitting two escaped monkeys (below); one monkey jumped into the truck and bit the man on the leg. He was treated and given a tetanus shot. Caldwell, OH. Private owner.

Animal Escapes:

- 2 monkeys; one named Buddy, age 12. The monkeys, weighing approximated 18 pounds each, escaped from a backyard cage. One was quickly captured; the other, Buddy, bit a 20-year-old man before running away (above). Caldwell, OH. Private owner.
- 1 alligator, Ally, male. The 3-foot alligator escaped from its enclosure and was recaptured later that day. The owner shared a home with his parents, who demanded after the escape that he remove the animals he kept as part of his private animal rescue group. The displaced animals were taken in by other volunteers. Meriden, CT. Private owner.
- 1 alligator, Charlie, male, age 3. Two boys, ages 9 and 14, captured an alligator that had escaped from the home of a local schoolteacher. It had been missing for a week and a half before being caught and returned to its owner. Texarkana, AR. Private owner.
- 1 monitor lizard. Police captured the 3- to 4-foot lizard after it walked into a Computer Depot store. The animal had cuts and abscesses on its body; officers speculate that the animal was abandon when it became too large for its owner to handle. The animal was to be transferred to Rainforest Reptile, a local exhibitor. Saugus, MA. Unknown private owner.
- 1 alligator. An employee of Rainforest Reptile captured a 4 ½-foot alligator that was found loose in D.W. Field Park; a second alligator was seen but remained at large. Police were investigating whether workers from Florida-based Brockton Fair dumped the alligators; a \$500 reward was established for information about whoever abandon the animals. Brockton, MA. Unknown private owner.
- 1 Burmese python, Miss Hiss, approximately 15 feet in length. Discovered in a warehouse; was captured and taken to Sacramento Zoo. This was the snake's third escape in 15 years. The animal's owner will have to obtain a permit before he can reclaim the snake. Sacramento, CA. Private owner.
- 1 pacu, a fish related to the piranha. The animal was caught in El Dorado lake; authorities suspect the South American fish is a pet someone dumped in the lake. The boys who caught the fish hoped to find a home for it. Wichita, KS. Unknown private owner.

Animals Confiscated/Displaced:

- 1 alligator. The three-foot alligator was confiscated from an apartment where police discovered a toddler sleeping in a nearby room and marijuana paraphernalia. Officers released the animal into the wild. Keeping alligators as pets is illegal in Charleston but the owner was not charged. Charleston, SC. Private owner.
- 1 Burmese python, approximately 9 feet in length. The owners surrendered the animal because they could no longer care for it; it was transferred to Forgotten Friend Reptile Sanctuary. Lancaster, PA. Private owner.
- 9 African spurred tortoises. Confiscated by animal control; summons were issued to the owner for animal neglect. Spring Lake, NJ. Private owner.

Animal Confiscations continued on next page



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Animals Confiscated/Displaced continued:

- 2 clouded leopards, 2 tiger cubs. The animals were confiscated and their owner arrested after he attempted to sell them to an undercover U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife officer. The owner was arraigned on a federal misdemeanor charge that carries up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$100,000. Amarillo, TX. Amarillo Wildlife Refuge, exhibitor.

Animal Deaths:

- 2 turtles. Found dead at the home where 9 African tortoises were confiscated (above) . Spring Lake, NJ. Private owner.
- 1 red wolf, male, age 1 ½. Died of an apparent viral infection. Chicago, IL. Lincoln Park Zoo.
- 1 Sulawesi macaque, female, age 14. Was found dead; results of tests to determine cause of death were pending. This was the second Sulawesi macaque death in less than a year. Washington, DC. National Zoo.

International Incidents

Human Fatalities:

- Lourens van Straaten, male, adult. Owner of an animal ranch, he was fatally mauled by a lion at the ranch. Eastern Cape, South Africa. Addo Croc Ranch, exhibitor.

Human Injuries:

- Unnamed male, age 11 months. The boy was bitten by a non-venomous milk snake while sleeping in his parent's bed; the snake had escaped from a neighbor (see below). The boy was treated at the hospital and released. St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada. Unnamed private owner.
- Unnamed female, age 27. The woman suffered a broken ankle when two elephants collided during a circus performance and toppled into the stands. Ostrava, Czech Republic. Original Berousek National Circus, exhibitor.

Animal Escapes:

- 6 crocodiles. The animals broke out of their cages and escaped into a river; one was subsequently caught by local residents, who are refusing to return it without a rumored reward of Rp 3 million (\$322). Bogor, Indonesia. Unnamed private owner.
- 1 milk snake. Escaped and entered a neighbor's house, where it bit a toddler (above). St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada. Unnamed private owner.
- 1 elephant, adult. Escaped from a circus and wandered on a local street for 20 minutes before being coaxed back to its enclosure. One vehicle sustained minor damage. Gerona, Spain. Circo Americano, exhibitor.

Animal Deaths:

- 2 tiger cubs. The animals died a week after their birth; subsequently the casino where their mother was on display decided to discontinue animal displays after the end of their current contract. Queensland, Australia. Conrad Jupiter Casino, exhibitor.