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10 Indian Bengal tigers dead, cause unknown

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Ten Royal Bengal tigers died at an Indian zoo and more are struggling for life in a case that has baffled veterinarians, local media reported yesterday.

The cause of the deaths was not immediately known.

Workers at Nandankanan Zoo said the tigers had been suffering from jaundice and were given medication on empty stomachs, Star News television reported. The tigers were not fed on Monday, a regular practice because the zoo has been struggling to care for its animals since a devastating cyclone hit the poor state last year, Star News said.

Zoo officials were not available for comment.

Some tigers lay dead in their concrete enclosures. Zoo workers carried dead tigers on poles through the compound to the post mortem area. There were no doctors tending to the ill tigers, the station said.

S.C. Sharma, a wildlife expert, told Star TV that the tigers could be suffering from a bacterial infection spread by Tsetse flies. He said crowding at the zoo could have resulted in poor hygiene, which spreads the infection. Veterinarians reportedly were prescribing antibiotics to the animals.

The Nandankanan Zoo, in Bhubaneswar, capital of Orissa state, has India's largest collection of Royal Bengal tigers and the world's largest collection of white tigers, the United News of India reported.

The zoo had 55 tigers until the first one, a male named Sagar, died Tuesday night. By Wednesday morning, nine more were dead, UNI and Star News reported.

The 10 dead animals were among 17 tigers vaccinated on Monday, UNI reported. The seven others remained in critical condition Wednesday.

UNI said at least two of the dead tigers were rare, white ones.

Tiger tragedy

Preliminary autopsies indicate that 10 of 56 Royal Bengal tigers at the Nanankanan Zoo in India died of sleeping sickness, an illness spread by tsetse flies. The zoo has India's largest collection of this endangered species.

Royal Bengal tiger

Length: 8.8-10.2 feet (male)

7.8-9.4 feet (female)

Weight: 396-573 pounds (male)

287-353 pounds (female)

Population in India:

2,500 to 3,750

Population worldwide:

3,176 to 4,556

Longevity:

15 years (20 in captivity)

Range:

Bangladesh, Bhutan, China,

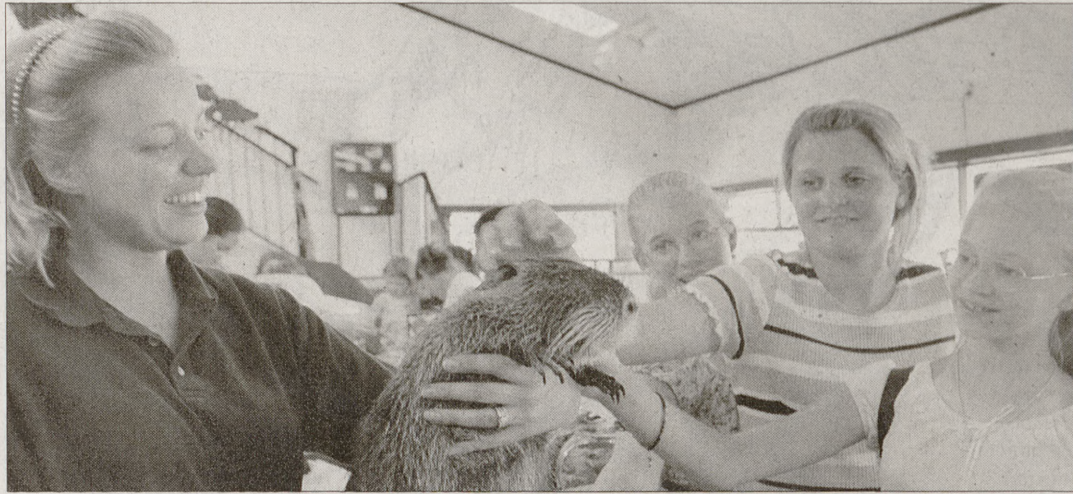
India, Myanmar and Nepal



Wm. J. Castello, S. Hoffman

Source: World Wildlife Fund

Show and tell



PATRIC SCHNEIDER/The Battalion

Pet Stop owner Jennifer Cardju shows Zoe, a two-year-old Nutria, to 11-year-old Amber Moreaux, 13-year-old Brandi Eilers and 13-year-old Sabrina Moreaux. Zoe's mother was killed when he was born.

News in Brief

Bosnian Serb denies allegations of sexual assault

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A Bosnian Serb, accused of taking four Muslim women from a sports hall and molesting them during the Bosnian war, denied yesterday he raped them and said he was "shocked" when first told of the allegations.

Dragoljub Kunarac, who reportedly headed a local paramilitary group and is also accused of forcing over women to his troops, testified at an international crimes trial on charges of sexual enslavement.

Kunarac is one of three Bosnian Serb fighters charged with crimes against humanity for the rape, torture and enslavement of women and girls in the southern Bosnian town of Foca in the summer of 1992.

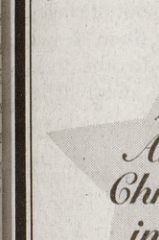
Saudi to additional

LONDON (AP) — A 100 percent Wednesday attempt to dissuade its plan to unilaterally impose a 500,000 per day. Libya appears Iraq and other OPEC nations Saudi Arabia and the Saudis. A consensus on the d

QUEEN



Plain

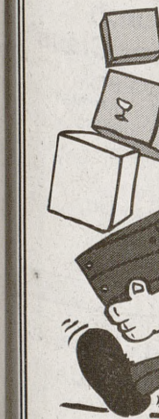


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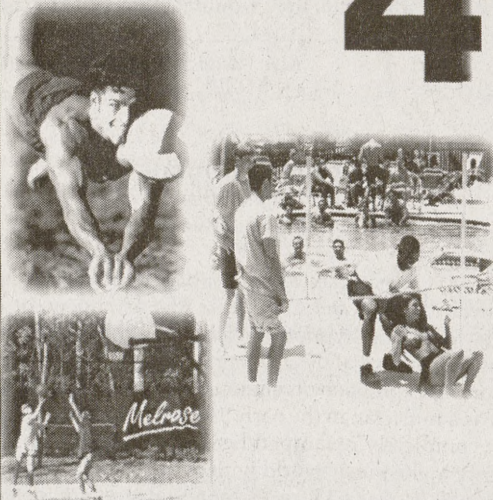
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Newspaper apologizes for advertisements

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — In a front-page admission of "complicity" in the slave trade, *The Hartford Courant* acknowledged that it profited in the 1700s and 1800s by publishing scores of ads for the sale of slaves and the recapture of runaways.

Such advertisements were commonplace in Northern newspapers until the Civil War was under way, but the newspaper said Tuesday it felt compelled to apologize for that dark chapter in its history as the nation's longest continuously published daily.

"We are not proud of that part of

our history and apologize for any involvement by our predecessors at *The Courant* in the terrible practice of buying and selling human beings that took place in previous centuries," said Ken DeLisa, a spokesperson for the newspaper.

In its story, which ran across the top of the front page, *The Courant* noted how it recently had published stories examining how insurer Aetna Inc. had apologized in March for having sold policies to slave owners.

"The stories about Connecticut's slave profiteers had a glaring omission: *The Courant* itself," the paper said in an account detailing slave

signed by Thomas Green, who founded the newspaper in 1764, said the paper ran such ads at least until 1823, and that many ads placed by the owners of runaway slaves offered cash rewards.

The paper's early editors also espoused openly racist views. Thomas Day, who bought *The Courant* in 1857, wrote in one editorial: "We believe Caucasian variety of the human species superior to the Negro variety and we would breed the best stock

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