

Who killed Bigfoot?

Careless hunter does in Sasquatch in Whitefish, Weekly World News reports

By PATIA STEPHENS

Amazingly, the Weekly World News managed to scoop the Whitefish Pilot on what some would consider the story of the century.

According to the Florida-based tabloid newspaper, the "only Bigfoot in captivity has been shot to death — the victim of a careless hunter" in Whitefish.

The incident, which allegedly occurred June 5 "at a secret compound near Flathead National Forest," is regarded as an incalculable "loss to the scientific world," according to zoologist Dr. Michael Crofeld, who is quoted

in the WWN story.

The 7-foot tall, 350-pound Sasquatch was only the second such creature ever captured, according to the article, which said the first — also captured in Montana — escaped days after its March 1991 capture. The unidentified hunter allegedly climbed over the barbed wire fence surrounding Bigfoot and killed him with two blasts to the heart.

"He was just beginning to overcome his species' fear of mankind and learning to trust us," Crofeld said in the story. Now an over-zealous gun nut has ruined everything."

There was no mention of whether

the sportsman would be prosecuted for hunting out of season.

In an interview with the Pilot, WWN Managing Editor Sal Ivone said the incident was initially reported by a telephone caller.

"That happens quite often," said Ivone.

Ivone explained that the tabloid's policy is to pursue stories many other news media would ignore.

"It will be regarded by most other newspapers as ridiculous, outlandish or ludicrous — too much of a story," he said. "If somebody in your area claimed Bigfoot ran off with his wife, how are you going to sell it to your

editor? Your editor will think it's insane. I don't have any problem selling it to my editor."

He said the paper lends legitimacy to the claims of those whom most would shun and even ridicule.

"For example, a professor in Iowa made a proposal in a scientific journal that we should blow up the moon with atomic weapons — his scientific basis was that it would turn Earth into a Garden of Eden," he said. "Our editor said, 'This is a page one story' We decided to take it seriously.

"Two weeks later it's on the front page of the Wall Street Journal ... then

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Courtesy of Weekly World News

Scientist's heartbreaking announcement stuns scientific world!

'BIGFOOT'S DEAD

Montana hunter shoots 350-lb. creature at secret laboratory



WHITEFISH, Mont. — "Bigfoot is dead!"

With those solemn words, zoologist Dr. Michael Crofeld officially informed the world that the only Bigfoot in captivity has been shot to death — the victim of a careless hunter!

"The loss to the scientific world is incalculable. We were on the verge of answering so many questions that mankind has been asking for hundreds of years: How does Bigfoot live? How does it think? Is it the 'missing link' between man and ape, as many believe?"

"Now we may never know."

Dr. Crofeld and his research team had been keeping the

heavy 350-pound man-like creature at a secret compound near Flathead National Forest since its capture nine days before the shooting.

The unidentified hunter happened upon the barbed wire enclosure and climbed through the fence late on the

night of June 5. He approached the Sasquatch before live security guards could report. Not knowing what it was, he decided to shoot first and ask questions later.

Dr. Crofeld says Bigfoot died of a massive hemorrhage resulting from two blasts to the heart.

The mysterious beast was only the second ever captured. The other specimen was found alive deep in Montana

back in March of 1981 but escaped days later. The story was widely covered in the international press, including *Weekly World News*.

"To insure that this one would not escape, we kept the 7-foot male tethered to a steel pole inside the enclosure," said Dr. Crofeld. "He had plenty of room to move around and he was well fed. We made sure he knew he was loved and cared for."

"He was just beginning to overcome his species' fear of mankind and learning to trust us. Now an over-zealous gun nut has ruined everything. It's tragic."

Dr. Crofeld and his team are currently performing a detailed autopsy on the body. They hope to learn some of the biological coding that will set some reports link.

Bigfoot is indeed the missing link between man and ape. But there's never got the date they were hoping to acquire about the Sasquatch's life.

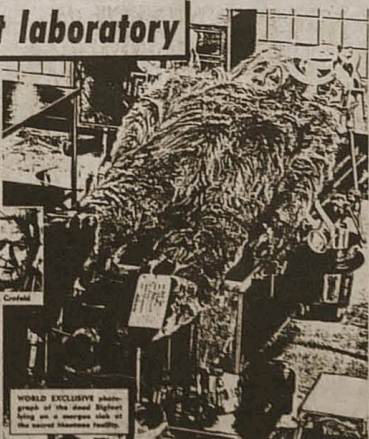
The hunter is reportedly unrepentant. "It wasn't my fault," the 40-year-old sportsman is quoted as saying.

"They had a responsibility to keep that guy thing out of sight. When a guy strangles

some somebody that he in the middle of the night, what's he supposed to do?"



By KEVIN CREED



WORLD EXCLUSIVE photograph of the dead Bigfoot lying on a corpse slab at the secret laboratory facility.

Davy Crockett's death a hoax?

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — The world may never know what happened to legendary Indian scout Davy Crockett — because the documents that "prove" his death is being challenged as a hoax.

Forty years ago, in 1953, a diary — allegedly written by a Mexican soldier just after the Battle of the Alamo — came to light. The diary identified Crockett as a coward who surrendered to save his own skin but was strangled anyway by a Mexican brig squad.

Now noted historian, William Cronon is saying the so-called diary is a fake, forged to make money off the Disney TV show in the middle which guarded the "Real" the wild frontier.

MS outbreak stuns officials

MONTREAL, Montreal — Local health officials are alarmed by an outbreak of multiple sclerosis in this beautiful little city on the banks of Lake Geneva.

Researcher Dr. Helmut Gieger says there have been 24 cases reported since 1980.

"The odds against this are completely off the graph," says Dr. Gieger. "In a town like this, with a population of 25,000, the odds are there should be less than one case."

Courtesy of Weekly World News

Bigfoot

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a week later in the New York Times and on the wire," he continued. "It was a story that was significant but was at first considered absolute insanity."

"I can't say that all the stories are legitimate, but I can say that at the very least it's a good read and at most a significant story," he said.

Ivone pointed out that WWN's formula for news selection is similar to that of many TV news and talk shows. "The responsibility is left up to the reader to decide what kind of legitimacy the story carries," he said.

"We are looking to excite, to sensationalize — a word which we are very proud of — to entertain in a way that a story about a zoning board meeting could never do." -- Sal Ivone

He describes his paper's role as providing news that is focused more on entertainment than serious information.

"We are looking to excite, to sensa-

tionalize — a word which we are very proud of — to entertain in a way that a story about a zoning board meeting could never do," he said. "You would not want to read the Weekly World

News to be an informed voter.

"Our mission is totally different from a newspaper like yours," he said. "We're talking to guys and gals who are sitting in a bar, or waiting for their clothes to dry in a laundromat, or waiting to get their hair cut ... people who might not be wanting to read about GATT but might be in the mood for an Elvis story."

Ora Bigfoot story. There's no question Whitefish residents will be talking about the "one that got away" for a long time to come.

The Whitefish Pilot, Whitefish, Mont., Th