

African 'Veldt' In Florida Unique Attraction

By SALLY REMALEY
Herald Staff Writer

Imagine more than a hundred lions not only born free and living and roaming free in 640 acres of wild African veldt which has been created in southern Florida.

It's Lion Country Safari, one of the most unique and exciting spots in the world, just three hours drive southeast from Bradenton.

Seeing so many of the huge, beautiful "cats" while driving through Lion Country Safari is a never-to-be-forgotten experience and one which most persons would never be able to know in a lifetime.

The fantastic African wildlife reserve and tourist attraction, which draws people from all over the world, might be compared to a three-dimensional movie, except that the subjects keep getting larger as they get closer and they're for real, every one of them.

This writer drove down to State Road 70 east to Okechobee, where U.S. 41 and 98 come together for a turn to the right and south to the sign (on your left) which tells you to turn left onto the access road into Lion Country. It was an exact 190 miles each way and there was little traffic.

On entering the reserve there's a sign, "Trespassers Will Be Eaten," which automatically slows you down a bit. And you're informed, upon going through the main entrance, that you must stay in your car, keep the windows up, and have the doors locked at all times.

In short, people are "caged" in their cars . . . the lions (and hundreds of other jungle animals) run free.

If you're always wanted to go on a safari but couldn't quite swing it, this is the next greatest thing, but no guns allowed, only cameras.

As you drive your car along

the jungle routes (and no convertibles are permitted), it's a real thrill to see the wild lions for the first time in their native habitat, appearing so strong and healthy, with thick shining coats of fur, rippling muscles, clear bright eyes, and holding their heads high, as kings of the jungle should.

How different from some of the disheveled and discouraged caged lions we've seen . . . listless, without heart.

What a thrill, too, to see lions, many weighing up to 500 pounds and capable of leaping 30 feet or more, only a windshield away.

Prides, or families of lions

were sunning themselves while waiting the daily feedings of various kinds of raw meat.

Meanwhile, other family groups, generally consisting of one male, two females and three or four cubs, or two or three males, four to six females and six or eight cubs, lazied in the shade of trees near the road, just feed and enjoying an afternoon siesta.

We were able to drive quite close to each of the many prides, and even stop for a few minutes near each one, taking pictures through the car windows. But guards in armored Land Rovers or Jeeps marked by unmistakable black

and white stripes, were stationed at intervals to watch for violators of the "house rules," and also to watch out for the safety of both the lions and the visitors.

Occasionally before feeding time the lions begin roaring restlessly about, and when the guards and trainers (all of whom are expert animal handlers highly - trained in their profession) came with the raw meat, the lions come running from all directions.

Occasionally a pair of males will fight furiously for a few seconds over a coveted piece of meat, raising clouds of dust, and the mighty roars and fly-

ing claws and teeth are indeed impressive.

There are tigers, too, at Lion Country Safari, and occasionally one will join a group of lions for a siesta. Tall giraffes look down on visitors and lick the top of your car, and there are elephants and hundreds of deerlike creatures.

"They're getting saul," explained a guard. "They're crazy about saul. But we don't dare put out cakes of it for them . . . they'd eat themselves to death."

"After you leave the magic of the gigantic reserve, there's more magic to enjoy: the petting zoo, where children may feed and pet exotic young ani-

mals from around the world, being introduced into their new home. They also can see various unusual species of monkeys, baby hippos, colorful tropical birds of many kinds, and view different species of reptiles.

There's the jungle boat to ride around islands - which are homes for more wild animals.

Admission for adults at Lion Country Safari, which is open every day of the year, rain or shine, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., is \$2.95. Children four through 14 are charged \$1.50; tots of four and under are free. There is no charge for parking and there's plenty of parking space.



Motorsists experience mixed reactions at Lion Country Safari as animals cross road at nonchalant pace. Friendly giraffe says hello to wary photographer who is delighted and a little scared, too.



JOURNAL OF THE FUTURE

Famous Seer Predicts New Year Happenings

By SALLY REMALEY
Herald Staff Writer

Criswell, the famous seer, says it will be Kennedy in '72, but he adds, "regrettably he will not serve out his term in office."

Most of the other forecasters see another term for Nixon, then Ted Kennedy next in office.

The mystical Criswell made his prediction as far back as the spring of 1968 when he stated in his book, "Criswell Predicts From Now to the Year 2,000" that "Kennedy will be the Democratic Presidential Candidate in 1972 and he will be elected President of the United States in 1972."

"Don't shake your head. As Criswell himself says, 'I received a big laugh on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show by predicting after Pat Brown's victory over Richard Nixon, that Ronald Reagan would defeat Brown in the next election and be California's next Governor.'"

He continues: "But even my most 'outlandish' predictions, the public scorekeepers say, are 88 per cent accurate!"

"When Droke House Publishers approached me to do this book for them, I merely released to them my 'Journal of the Future' . . . my private collection of what will happen between now and the end of our civilization . . . 1999."

In his same book, Criswell predicts "the emergence of a powerful Negro leader named Sanders, who will appear in 1972."

"He will urge migration of all American Negroes to the state of Mississippi during 1973."

Criswell sees more civil turmoil for California in 1972; rioting in Illinois, particularly in the Chicago area; a fight over control of Indiana state government; Michigan setting the pace for industry in the Midwest; and, he says, "Delaware faces troubled days ahead."

There's both good and bad news for Florida from Criswell, who predicts that "the present boom in Florida will continue until that state is the second most densely populated state in the nation."

In a sobering note, however, he points out that "the shifting of our coast line" all up and down the Eastern coast of the United States will cause problems in Florida.

Many of Criswell's predictions are long-range and un-

dated, but merely future, (before 2,000), while others carry an exact date.

Among the undated prophecies in his book are these interesting predictions: that man will discover, through eugenics, that life does exist on other planets; a new one shot serum that will cure and control almost all diseases except leprosy and cancer; John F. Kennedy, Jr. will serve the state of Massachusetts as a U.S. Senator but will not seek the presidency of the United States; it will be impossible for you to lie under a new medication (a truth serum) which will be given you before you enter court to testify.

Criswell predicts that the state of Kentucky will, in the mid-70s, produce "a genius in the field of economics. This

man will devise a system for economic development in the state of Kentucky in the field of tobacco raising and whiskey production.

"He will organize gigantic combines whose productivity will push all of the states out of competition in these areas, Kentucky will, through his guidance, become one of the most modern and richest states in the Union."

Criswell has a noteworthy record of successes, with a minority number of misses, in his record as a forecaster.

On March 10, 1963, on Jack Paar's TV Special, he predicted "that President Kennedy will not run for re-election in 1964 because of something that will happen to him in November, 1963."

On Jan. 1, 1967, in his syndi-

cated "Criswell Predicts" column, Criswell wrote: "I predict a one-week-long shooting war in the mid - East, with Egypt-Russia vs. Israel," and "I predict a blonde sex symbol will suffer a Dixie death." (Jayne Mansfield)

Criswell lives in California, a state which he predicts will become practically the arsenal of the nation as military installations and war supplies factories are moved there because of a threat of war from the Orient.

A native of Indiana, Criswell's first newspaper job was terminated when he wrote an obituary prior to the subject's death! He was not re-hired, either, when the person died on the schedule as predicted. Editors figured Criswell, even as a young teenage boy, was too hot to have around.



(Staff Photo by Les Hudson)

New College Registering For Series Of Seminars

TOALE BROTHERS FUNERAL HOMES

West Chapel
South Chapel
Colonial Chapel
Gulfgate Chapel

MRS. NINA G. WASHBURN
Visitation Sunday 2-6 p.m.
(Chapel West)
Groveville Services Monday 10 a.m.
Mansotte Memorial Park
Bradenton Chapel West
4210 Manatee Ave. West

MRS. LILLIE KNIPPENBERG
Services Wayne, New Jersey
Bradenton Chapel West
4210 Manatee Ave. West

MR. HESSEL ANDERSON
Services Linden, Michigan
Bradenton Chapel South
912-53rd Ave. West

MISS CLARA EDNA MACOMBER
Memorial Service
Egmont, New Hampshire
MRS. HELEN E. FULLER
Colonial Chapel in Charge
Monday 10 a.m.
Colonial Chapel in Charge

New College students open registration next week for the third annual series of seminars conducted especially for the community.

Griffith-Cline FUNERAL HOMES

Services

MRS. MABEL V. GOULDEN
Visitation 2-9 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday
Service Monday 10 a.m.
Bradenton Chapel

STANLEY VERN BRADFORD
Bradenton Chapel in Charge

A. DEWEY CAPO
Bradenton Chapel in Charge

810 1/2 Avenue
170 Manatee Avenue West
Phone 742-1011

Inland Chapel
6020 Manatee Drive
Phone 778-2211

Called "Colloquium '72," the series will offer 10 student-taught seminars in a variety of subjects ranging from neuro-psychology to early Christian art.

Colloquium begins the week of January 23 and will run for five consecutive weeks. Classes will be scheduled on either Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, usually for an hour, followed by discussions and a coffee hour.

First begun in 1968 by then-student and now trustee Jerry Neugarten, the annual series has been one of the most popular of campus events and is almost always over-subscribed.

Two students are directing the series this year, second-year students Anita Allen and Mike Alexy.

Student faculty have prepared their coursework during their independent study period in December.

There will be courses inves-

tigating Ayn Rand's personal philosophy of radical individualism, the psychology and sexuality of women, religions of the East, the American economic system, neuropsychology, the United States Constitution, animal behavior, U. S. educational system, and early Christian art.

All seminars will be limited to 20 members in order to ensure free discussion.

Both students volunteered to direct the Colloquium this year with the same purposes as their predecessor - to help foster better communication between students and the people in the community, to share their own knowledge with others, and also to help raise funds to meet the Ford Foundation challenge.

A \$10 tuition fee is charged for the series of seminars. Last year, the Colloquium made it possible to raise \$1,300 for the successful Challenge effort.

A full description of courses and a registration blank is available from the Public Relations Office at New College. The telephone is 355-3333.

Save Now On Tickets

Advance tickets for the 1972 Florida State Fair will go on sale Monday, Jan. 3, with a special reduced price on gate admissions for the 12-day event Feb. 1-12.

Now through Jan. 31 a 40 per cent savings can be had on gate admission tickets, which are good any day or night.

These tickets will be offered in blocks of five for \$3, a savings of \$2.

"Ticket offices will also be located at Webb's Drug Store in St. Petersburg and Sears Roebuck in Clearwater.

Grandstand attraction and events tickets will also go on sale Monday, Jan. 3, at 10 and 12 WYOU Salute to Country Music Show featuring Buck Owens and the Buckaroos and outstanding guest artists, Feb. 5 and 6, and Gasparilla Fire Parade, Feb. 7.

More information may be obtained by calling the fair ticket office at 251-9426 and 253-9811 or by writing to "Tickets", Florida State Fair, Box 1231, Tampa 33601.

Ready For The Mail

Bradenton postal workers prepare volume mailing of homestead exemption cards. Pictured getting ready for mailing on Monday are, left to right, Jaime Escobar, mail carrier, Mickey Wyatt, tax office staff member, and Chic Lyter, mail carrier.

milms west of Mayo in Lafayette County.

Alvin H. Stansell, 49, of Pierson, died Friday when his vehicle caught fire after being stuck headon by another auto just north of his hometown. Stansell was burned beyond recognition.

Ben Cook, 65, his wife Edna, 59, both of Sumner, Miss., and George Miller, 24, of Quincy, were killed Friday in a two-car crash just east of Tallahassee.

Rose Geiger, 68, of Plant City, died Friday when her auto collided with a Seaboard Coast Line train at a railroad crossing near her hometown.

Frederick Jeffries, 44, of Tampana, died Friday when he dabbled across State Road 580 just outside that city and was struck by a Raymond Duane Roder, 30, of Titusville, was killed Thursday night when his car swerved across the center line of State Road 580 in Melbourne and collided with another vehicle.

Traffic Toll Reaches 13

A grinding two-car accident east of Naples on New Years Eve killed four persons and vaulted Florida's holiday weekend traffic death toll to 13, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

Troopers said three men and one woman died and eight others were seriously injured when a car towing a boat struck another vehicle on the Tamiami Trail 40 miles east of Naples.

The dead, who were not immediately identified, were riding in the second vehicle.

The highway patrol has predicted that 30 persons will lose their lives on Florida highways during the long weekend which began at 6 p.m. Thursday and ends at midnight Sunday.

Troopers gave the following details on other fatal accidents:

Noble G. Pryor, 80, of Tallahassee, was killed early Friday in a two-car accident 12

meets Tuesday

The meeting of the Bayshore High Twelve Club on Tuesday at the Tally House in Cortez Plaza will be for the purpose of installing officers for the year of 1972. The installing officer will be Franklin W. Wagner, Pres. of the Venice High Twelve, and the Marshall will be George Lenhart, V.P. of the 3rd district.

All High Twelvians and Master Masons and their ladies are invited. Lunch is at 11 a.m. and the meeting at noon.