

# KID'S KORN ER



Wildlife biologist Rodney Jackson of the California Institute of Environmental Studies cradles one of the three rare snow leopards he has trapped in the wilds of western Nepal. The big cats, temporarily sedated, were fitted with small radio transmitters so their movements could be monitored after their release.

## Biologist Tracks Snow Leopard

WASHINGTON — The snow leopard — the rarest and least known of the world's great cats — is being studied systematically in the wild for the first time.

And wild it is. Rodney Jackson, a British wildlife biologist with the California Institute of Environmental Studies, tracks the

animals in the Himalayas of western Nepal, a snow-covered region dominated by precipitous peaks and jagged ridges.

Glimpses of free-roaming snow leopards have been rare. A luxurious smoke-gray coat sprinkled with black spots permits it to fade into rocky backgrounds

and mountain mists.

### Sought for Pelt

But the handsome fur also imperils the leopard's future. Although trade in snow leopard pelts is illegal in much of the world, a coat fashioned by a skilled furrier still can bring up to \$60,000 on the black market.

Jackson, whose work is supported by the National Geographic Society, hopes that, by accumulating information on the (Turn to Page B14)



## What Did You Say?

It must have been the holiday season that inspired everybody's guess as to what the elephant seals were saying, as we got many, many letters saying the seals were wishing each other Merry Christmas or Happy New Year.

There were some other answers, however. Janice Weaver, Lebanon R2, thought the seals were saying, "Come and join us. We're having lots of fun." Wendy Bender, Lancaster, thought the seals were telling each other a joke, and one of our young-at-heart readers from Washington Boro thought the seals were singing "Oh What a Beautiful Morning."

## COLOR THIS!

- |           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1. BLACK  | 6. ORANGE     |
| 2. RED    | 7. GREEN      |
| 3. YELLOW | 8. LT. BROWN  |
| 4. BLUE   | 9. LT. BLUE   |
| 5. BROWN  | 10. LT. GREEN |

**CAVERNS ARE BIG CAVES MADE BY GROUND WATER. THE WATER DISSOLVES THE ROCK DEEP UNDERGROUND. MOST CAVERNS ARE IN LIMESTONE. SOME OF THESE CAVERNS ARE FAIRYLANDS. AFTER THE GROUND WATER HAS MADE A CAVERN AND DRAINED OUT, BEAUTIFUL ICICLES AND CURTAINS OF STONE IN STRANGE AND BEAUTIFUL PATTERNS ARE FORMED.**

