

Sid the Cat wins a show at Host Motel pollution means rich but dead men

by Henry H. Null 4th

A cat from Factoryville won the grand champion award for short-haired cats at the Northeastern Pennsylvania Cat Club show in Wilkes-Barre last week-end.

Belvoir Sidero, a fancy name for "Sid," the silver tabby from Factoryville, won his first grand championship at less than a year old.

Sid is owned by Bushome Cattery, a cat breeding business run by Mr. and Mrs. Philip A. Bush, Highland Avenue, Factoryville. He set a record with 61 points in one show.

The cat show had only about 20 to 25 entries from northeastern Pennsylvania, most of which were from Scranton. The other 300 cat exhibitors came from New Jersey, Long Island and a surprising number from Florida and Canada.

Cat fanciers said it was one of the year-end shows and therefore drew a lot of people who were looking to the show as a last minute way to win more points that contribute to their seasonal total. The cat shows are operated on a seasonal point basis in the same way that horse shows and auto races are run.

Mrs. Bush said her silver tabby cat (Sid) had been introduced at two shows before, once as a kitten, then as a novice and at the Wilkes-Barre show as a champion. She came out from that as a grand champion, which is very good. The Bushes had other cats there (they have 40 at home) but Sid came out as the best in the show.

The cat show, which took place at the Host Motel, was an interesting thing to see. There were hundreds of wire cages containing the cats, with owners poring over the cages with steel brushes and making sure that wheat germ oil was served at the right time.

At the front of the room, next to the Host's Finnish Sauna Bath, the judging took place. One judge would take short hair cats, another long hairs, and so on. They would pick up a cat, stroke its fur, feel its belly and arm muscles, put it down on a table, then make a judgement on what they saw and felt.

Also like a horse show, there were concessions that sold Cat Magazine and there was a man who drew cat portraits (\$40 and up).

Mostly the cat fanciers are professional breeders or amateurs who have taken up the cat game as a hobby. Although there is a household cat division in the show, there are few people who deliberately bring in their house cat for all the world to see. Cats at the show usually have been bred from special mutations with genetic theories backing them up so that a typical entry was the "Sacred Cat from Burma" who is a pitman from New Jersey.

Dr. Steven Karr, a Manhattan dentist who has 25 cats roaming around his brownstone, told what it was like to be a cat fancier. "It's strictly an ego thing," he said, "you come to a show and you think 'well, my cat can do better than any of these cats.' Then you bring your cat in. If he does better, you're hooked."

He displayed "Zapata," a Siamese grand champion. He called the cat "Patz" and said that in the cat world, you really don't make much of a dent unless you have a grand champion. Just being a champion isn't very inspiring, he thought. He was asked if there was



Mrs. Thomas Martinke judges long hair cat at the Northeastern Pennsylvania Cat Club show.

money in cats in the way horse stud fees bring high prices.

"Some money," he said, "I get \$15 out of this and it cost me a hundred bucks to come here."

However, some cats had been insured on their way here at several thousand dollars.

That was the story of Mrs. Roy Heller, a slight, nervous woman who wore a blouse that had "Hell Cats" embroidered on the back.

Mrs. Heller reported that she flew from Miami to Avoca with five cats, none of which arrived at Avoca on the Friday before the show. There had been stops in Washington, D.C. and Allentown. Four cats remained in Washington, the fifth in Allentown.

Mrs. Heller reported that four were dispatched from the capital to the Host Motel by limousine Friday night and the Allentown cat came up by limousine Saturday morning.

Mrs. Heller accused Eastern Airlines of all sorts of things, one of which was a conspiracy to rule that only one cat at a time could be placed on a plane on the way back.

She finally said the cats were being flown by United Airlines out of New York on one flight, the cats had been insured for several thousand dollars, and that she was going to sue Eastern Airlines.

One of the most bizarre exhibits was a pair of hairless cats from Canada. These, as the name implies, have no hair. They have pink skin that ripples. These cats are bred from a mutation that was noticed, without any apparent reason, from two alleycats. When it was noticed, the breeders went back to the cats responsible until the hairless breed was begun.

Dick Evans Sr., the WYZZ owner, had "Spike the WYZZ

weather cat" at the show on Saturday and not on Sunday.

Mrs. Evans said that on the weekend the cat had run to a neighbor's basement in Wilkes-Barre and had come home dirty

and in no shape to make the show.

Their calico cat, one that had placed highly in previous shows, had died of a heart attack several months before, Mrs. Evans said.

ad man urges hyphen-ated ad market

"The barriers, real or imagined, that exist between Luzerne and Lackawanna counties must come down if this area is to move completely into the 20th Century," members of the Wilkes-Barre Advertising Club were told last week.

Addressing the club at a luncheon at the Sterling Hotel John L. Allen, a vice president of Northeastern Newspapers, Inc., Dallas, said that radio and television were doing this but that by and large newspapers were not.

"For example," he said, "we find that there are those in the communications media—particularly newspapers—that have carved out a territory, split it to what they think is to their mutual satisfaction, and in doing so have created a situation that is not conducive to competitiveness."

"Advertising people will be the first to admit that the free and unfettered market place is the best place to operate."

"Conversely, we must eliminate the many obstacles imposed upon us all by the diversity of municipalities, and these obstacles, real or imagined, can be eliminated if we can persuade those who hold power to look beyond their own domains."

Citing Arthur Silverblatt, former Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce president, Allen said that the sharing of police, fire, health and other publicly needed services now being studied by regional planners was one form of cooperation between area governments that would expedite the breaching down of the barriers.

"In the past it took a half day to journey from Wilkes-Barre to Scranton but today everyone is more mobile," Allen said. "Nearly everyone has money and time to travel and in the process of travel they spend it. They, the consumers, are breaking down the barriers between these two counties."

Advertising director for The Dallas Post, The Abington Journal, and The Mountaintop Eagle, Allen said radio and television were another example of reaching out across man-made boundaries.

He said in the process these communications media were getting advertisers dollars but by and large newspapers were not.

Northeastern Newspapers are, however, getting to the residents of both counties with information and advertising he said.

"But in order to do this, we must first of all sell an editorial product wanted and needed by hometown readers."

"It is here, however, that the weekly newspaper field is sometimes responsible for its image of being 'country or rural' even though the economical and sociological picture has changed immensely in the past decade.

"It is this changing pattern of life styles that the weekly field must make itself aware of if it hopes to compete."

(Editor's Note: Last in a six-part series on the environment, pollution control and suggested changes, written by C. Wayne Smyth, a Troy attorney.)

by C. WAYNE SMYTH

Environmental decay is a great deal like a flood; it is impossible to know just which drop of rain broke the dike. Let each of us try to be sure it is not our drop of water that engulfs mankind.

On a national basis, where do we stand?

First, the largest parts of our troubles, which cannot be compartmented, stem from our misuse and overuse of fossil fuels, chiefly but not entirely in the petroleum-operated internal combustion engine.

Anti-smog devices at best capture half of the contaminants in exhaust fumes; the sulfur dioxides, truly potent air pollutants, escape into the air almost completely.

The projected increase in the use of such engines precludes their continued use. We must move now to phase out the manufacture, sale, and use of the scent of flowers, and enjoy God's great gift of nature? (Senator Nelson has introduced a bill before Congress setting the deadline as 1978; it is not soon enough.)

Such a program gives us a great side benefit—Alaskan oil will become unnecessary. What do we do for power? We use electrically-operated automobiles and trucks, if possible, or if the burning of alcohol is shown to be clean enough, we use alcohol fuel (or we get a horse, if necessary, to keep us breathing).

The use of alcohol would also give us a side benefit—a boom in farming operations to keep up with the raw materials needed to produce alcohol.

Next we explore thoroughly the means of controlling the burning of coal without significant harmful emissions, and of mining it without ruination of the landscape.

The we enforce laws about proper mining and requiring filters, baffles, and other meth-

ods of achieving a relatively pure emission from coal burning factories and power plants.

If air pollution stays with us we go again to alcohol, or even, if necessary, to wind power of solar heat (a pilot plant in France, expensive to be sure, but workable, shows us how to use the sun's rays to produce electric power.)

We do not go to atomic energy. One atomic energy plant use the sun's rays to produce electric power.)

We do not go to atomic energy. One atomic energy plant emits into the air each day 10 times as much radioactive material as existed in collected form in the entire world before the Manhattan project.

We have no knowledge of its effect upon our atmosphere, let alone upon our bodies. We shut down all atomic energy plants.

We restrict the elimination of greenery and balance necessary cutting by required replacement elsewhere. We clamp down on all forms of water pollution regardless of the cost to our economy, even if we must ban the use of all synthetic detergents because of the phosphates in them.

As best we can, we clean up Lake Erie, prohibit, of course, offshore oil drilling, prohibit the entry of oil tankers into our ports, use our domestic oil production, if possible without significant air pollution, in carefully controlled plants for the making of tires; we build up our much maligned railroads and ride as much as possible on steel.

We prohibit the importing of exotic fish and animals unless their import, upon review by a board of ecologists, is found not substantially harmful here or abroad.

We examine every proposed

building and artifact of the federal government, of federally funded, with respect to its ultimate interaction with the natural environment.

We build small dams in proper places, without the help of the Army engineers, after listening to the advice of ecologists, with one purpose and only one purpose per dam.

We prevent floods by a series of small empty dams and in no way do we hurry water on its way.

We ban chemical "hard" insecticides and herbicides and even perhaps the so-called biodegradable ones until we know

special car license applications

Sen. T. Newell Wood announced recently he has received a supply of applications for reduced motor vehicle license registration fee for persons on social security or pensions, and with an income of not over \$3500 for the past year.

Under Act. 39, the new reduced fee for eligible persons is \$10. This new rate effects a four dollar saving from

the current fee of \$14 which went into effect this year.

The new ruling, Sen. Wood explained, provides that the car may be driven by someone else if the license-owner is in the car and if it is being operated for his use and non-profit.

Both persons must sign the application, the senator noted, if the vehicle is registered as a joint ownership.

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A hairless cat, a mutation, is shown on the judging stand with Adam Frecawski.

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