

PLAINTIFFS' EXHIBIT AA
To Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motion
For Summary Judgment
Civ. No. 03-2006 (EGS/JMF)

Reproductive Resources

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May 8, 2006

To: Dr. Ellen Wiedner
Director Veterinary Care
Feld Entertainment Inc.
12850 Old Grade Rd.
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Dr. Wiedner,

Artificial insemination of elephants on the traveling units demonstrates the continued commitment of Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus to Asian elephants. It also reinforces the ability and capability of Ringling Bros. to care for Asian elephants throughout their lifetime. Artificial Insemination of Juliette was performed from May 6 through May 8th. We expected Juliette to have her LH2 peak and estrus between Sunday May 7th and Tuesday May 9th (day 19-21 after LH1). A challenge to artificial insemination in an elephant on a traveling unit is the coordination of estrus and availability of the cow during estrus due to travel between cities. In fact, Juliette had her second LH peak on Sunday May 7th. Attempts to collect semen from several of the males at Ringling Bros. CEC was performed on Saturday and Sunday AM May 6th and 7th. No samples were collected that were suitable for transport and artificial insemination and arrangements were made to transport Juliette to Hartford, CT by truck for an AI on Monday morning. A sample from Osgood was obtained late Sunday May 7th that was suitable for AI and was transported overnight to Hartford, CT by Dr. Bill Lindsay. The insemination was performed about 10 AM on Monday morning. Deposition of the cooled-extended semen sample into the vagina via videoendoscopy was uneventful. All of the sample was retained in the reproductive tract. Since this was in the window of the day of ovulation, only one insemination was performed. Again, excellent pregnancy results have been obtained in elephants inseminated at least once with good quality semen either the day prior to LH2 peak, the day of LH2 peak, or the day after LH2 peak (day of ovulation). Although I can not predict her chances of becoming pregnant, I feel every opportunity was provided for her to conceive. While on the Blue unit, I also examined Kelly Ann via ultrasonography. At eight weeks post insemination, it is too early to detect pregnancy. The uterus, ovaries, vagina were within normal limits. We will continue to monitor her progesterone levels.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dennis Schmitt DVM, PhD, DACT