

Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 144

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Edited by Gene Baade



What John Napier states here (pages 91 and 92, *Bigfoot*), threw me for a bit of loop. When I talked to Frank Beebe on the telephone in about 2000, he went to get his notebook. He then read to me something he had written back in 1967— "This darn thing just might be real." When I questioned him on some of the negative things he was quoted as saying, in the newspaper he said, "PAPER DOES NOT REFUSE INK." He attended the opening ceremonies for my sasquatch exhibit at the Museum of Vancouver in 2004. I seem to recall him sitting in the front row when David Hancock and I gave our little talks. This was my first museum exhibit, so I was sort of all over the place and did not discuss anything further with Beebe. I should have at least gotten a photo of him.

Whatever the case, the reference to a "tall bony crest on its skull" (i.e., sagittal crest on the P/G film subject) is not considered a known fact. What we see may not indeed be a sagittal crest. Of course, back in the early 1970s, Napier and other professionals would have thought they saw a sagittal crest.

This led into the argument that female gorillas do not have a sagittal crest, so the P/G film subject, given it is a female gorilla of some sort (but no proof here), should not have sagittal crest. This was all found to be irrelevant, if not incorrect and dispelled.

Nevertheless, if the sasquatch does have a sagittal crest, then it is essentially a herbivore (vegetarian) and therefore must have a big fat belly or a "protuberant abdomen," such as we see on the gorilla in the adjacent photograph. The reason is that a great quantity of vegetables/fruit is required because of the limited protein value of this food. Thus a lot must be eaten and stored, resulting in a "pot belly appearance."

In the first place, the argument is void if the P/G subject does not have a sagittal crest. In the second place, we know that sasquatch eat meat (deer, duck,

Frank Beebe of the British Columbia Provincial Museum, who concluded quite independently that the bodily form of Patterson's Bigfoot was male in spite of its female appendages, also made an extremely pertinent observation. Why, he asks, does a creature with a tall bony crest on its skull, as Patterson's creature clearly had, have a non-protuberant abdomen? To understand this apparent irrelevance one must appreciate the biological meaning of the bony crest which forms such a prominent feature of male gorilla and orang-utan skull anatomy. The crest is an adaptive device to provide supplementary attachment for muscles operating the jaws. Gorillas and orangs have big massive jaws and teeth, which demand very large muscles to operate them during chewing. Heavy jaws are necessitated by a diet of large quantities of roughage, low-energy food which demands powerful mastication. This type of diet results in a heavily loaded stomach and intestine and. consequently, a pot-bellied appearance. This configuration is also seen in many leaf-eating monkeys such as Ateles, the spider monkey of South America.



rabbit, salmon in the wild, and domestic farm animals). This implies that sasquatch are not herbivores and so don't have a pot belly. Animals (including humans) that eat meat get more than the necessary protein from this food source.

Did Frank Beebe say what is quoted? It was likely scientific chit-chat—looking at different alternatives. Napier ran with it because it supports his negative conclusion on the P/G film.

Dr. Donald W. Grieve in England threw his hat in the ring and offered a standing height of 6 feet 5 inches for the hominoid in the P/G film. Dr. Napier discusses the whole subject of stature on pages 92 and 93 of his book, *Bigfoot*. He has a formula that states height or stature is 6.6 times the foot length. Stature figures are provided for a 14-inch foot (7 feet 8 inches) and a 15-inch foot (8 feet 3 inches).

We have established that the walking height for the P/G film subject was 7 feet 3.5 inches. The standing height would be 7 feet, 10.6 inches to 7 feet 10.9 inches. Given Dr. Napier's formula, this puts the foot length at 14.33 to 14.38 inches. I believe the formula is light, but it's OK for an estimation.

While Dr. Napier was working on his book, Roger Patterson was still alive. You would think a scientist would know about the formula for determining the height of an object in a photograph. He could have called Patterson and got information for using the formula. Even if Patterson could not help with everything needed, Napier could have applied various estimated figures and provided some insights.

Where Napier refers to a "step" I think he means a pace, which is the heel of, say, the right foot to the heel of the left foot. If he is in fact just talking about the space between footprints, then in my case at about 6 feet tall, the space is about 10.75 inches. My foot is 11.25 inches long, so this gives me a pace of 22 inches.

Nevertheless, as Napier states that the "step" is 41 inches, this is about one-half of the believed film subject stride at that time of 81.5 inches. One half of a stride is a pace, see the adjacent illustration.

To say that a creature 6 feet 5 inches tall should have a step (pace) of 45 inches is absurd. This is greater than double my pace. Such a creature (or person) would have a pace of about 24 inches.

Napier goes on to state that the film

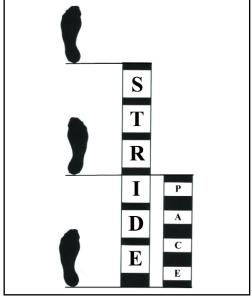
A stature of 6 ft. 5 in. is fine; there is no reason to exclude the Sasquatch on these grounds. But the footprints associated with this creature are totally at variance with its calculated height. The footprints are said to have been between 14 in. and 15 in. in length. On the basis of the coefficient given on p. 119 this should equate with a stature of 7 ft. 8 in.-8 ft. 3 in. The space (the step) between one footprint and the next is given as 41 in. A creature 6 ft. 5 in. in height should have a step of 45 in., particularly, as it is seen in the film, when striding out; in fact in view of the exaggerated nature of the walk, the step might be expected to be somewhat longer than the normal, say 50 in. The conclusion is inevitable. The footprints must be fakes or the film is. Of course, both film and footprints could be faked but one thing is certain; they cannot both be true-bill.

subject's step (pace) might increase up to about 50 inches. I don't think this would happen unless the film subject was running. As we don't see it running in the film, this is out of the question.

Below are the footprints in a series as constructed by Bill Munns. I put in the approximate measurement (rounded up) so that we can do some comparisons. We have only four footprints on film, but I believe they show a normal walk. I think they were taken before the subject turns to look at Patterson and Gimlin, now both on foot. I believe the subject got concerned at this point and may have taken larger steps ("striding out," as Napier puts it) in moving ahead.

COMPARISON		
6-FOOT MAN AND FILM SUBJECT		
	MAN S	SUBJ.
FOOT LENGTH	11.25"	14.5"
SPACE BETWEEN PRINTS	10.75"	18.0"
PACE	22.0"	33.5"
STRIDE	44.0"	67.0"

The image used below is the only image we have of the footprints in a series. There were other physical measurements taken, which will differ, but no photos.



Napier based his conclusions on an absurd assumption. Of course, everything—footprints, casts, films, testimony—support each other and are "truebill."

Unfortunately, what a scientist says in writing overrides everything—common sense, proven fact, mathematics, and so forth. Most professionals reading this will say, "What the hell does this guy know; he's not a scientist."

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Dr. Grieve's final words as to his analysis were as follows: "The possibility of fakery is ruled out if the speed of the film was 16 or 18 fps (frames per second)."

That is really quite simple and does not warrant the words "little support." Then to say that the stature alone discredits the film indicates that Napier had some other agenda. Perhaps he wanted to be very careful with what he said. I have learned that people at the Smithsonian thought he was not prudent to get involved in the sasquatch/bigfoot issue. Just what his boss thought, I don't know, but perhaps I would doubt that he was happy.

In later years, Igor Burtsev, a Russian hominologist, provided convincing evidence that the film was taken at 16 to 18 frames per second. Napier had passed away by that time.

Napier's last words that, "The creature shown in the film does not stand up well to functional analysis." is not correct. Nevertheless, it would not be until 1999 that a proper study of the film was performed by a forensic scientist and essentially given a clean bill of health. Nothing was found to indicate that the

Grieve's analysis gives little support to Patterson's claim that his creature was a real live Sasquatch; on the other hand—on the grounds of the estimated stature alone—it does much to discredit it.

There is little doubt that the scientific evidence taken collectively points to a hoax of some kind. The creature shown in the film does not stand up well to functional analysis.

film subject was a hoax. Of course, that analysis required many thousands of dollars; far beyond Napier's budget.

I need to mention that I am not trying to prove the credibility of the P/G film. I am simply looking at the credibility of the information Napier chose to provide in his book. He is certainly to be excused where the passage of time has proven him incorrect. Nevertheless, I don't think he studied the film in the way it needed to be studied. But this would have been tough in 1972. Back then you were lucky to have an electronic calculator. Indeed, the following is from the Internet:

Hewlett-Packard Corporation joined the market in early 1972 with the HP-35 scientific calculator. It could not only add, subtract, multiply, and divide but compute trigonometric functions, logarithms, and exponents. In other words, it did the work of a slide rule and more. The calculator sold for \$395.

What is called the "current value" of \$395 in 1972 is \$2,469.70. So, quite an investment back then.

Napier's book is still available on amazon, so people are still digesting quite a bit of nonsense. Unfortunately, many professional people likely look to this book as a credible scientific reference for the sasquatch and other hominoids. As I have stated before, the book is simply a book written by a scientist and in my opinion, not really a very good one.

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My own comment quoted in an article in Argosy magazine (February 1968) was that there was nothing in the film which would prove conclusively that this was a hoax. In effect,

would prove conclusively that this was a hoax. In effect, what I meant was that I could not see the zipper; and I still can't.

This statement is likely the most I ridiculous in Napier's entire book. About 20 years ago claims mainly by me regarding small details that appeared to be in P/G film frames brought about a scientific paper on the level of credible details in the frames. If we take the best image we have and enlarge the subject to 96 millimeters (3.78 inches), what you can see with your naked eyes is the only credible detail available. You would not be able to see a fastener of any sort. Now, that statistical fact is based on the subject being 102 feet from the camera. But we know it had to be much farther away. Nevertheless, I will stay with 102 feet for this material. The image on the right is about 3.78 inches high when this paper is viewed at 11 inches by 8.5 inches. It would be impossible to see a hoax indicator on this image. Keep in mind that you cannot enlarge it any more.

This image is the absolute best we have. It was not available in 1972. I believe all Napier had was screen shots (stop frames in a movie) There would not be any significant details available. To use that process, the film image would need to be reduced to 3.78 inches, and then looked at with naked eyes. Nothing could be seen



even if something like a zipper was there. I suppose current highly sophisticated equipment might indicate something, but not with equipment back in 1972. **D**r, Napier mentions the Deltox Marsh incident on page 95 of his book. This was a very good sighting, but it had a very bad ending.

To begin, John Green states in his book, *Sasquatch the Apes Among Us*, that the incident took place on November 30, 1968 (not 1966) and that there were twelve (12) "young men" (deer hunters) involved and six (6) were interviewed. Furthermore, they were interviewed by both Ivan Sanderson and Bernard Heuvelmans, who traveled together to the location of the sighting. Please note that the filming of "Roger Patterson's furry starlet of Bluff Creek" took place about one year and one month earlier (October 20, 1967).

The following is from an article entitled "Wisconsin's 'Abominable Snowman,' written by Ivan Sanderson for *Argosy* magazine, April 1969:

Finally, it came as a considerable surprise to us to learn during the interview I describe above, that this particular specimen or one just like it was seen on no less than five occasions in that immediate area last fall. Sometime in the early fall a Mr. Freeman encountered just the same thing in an area known as the Lebanon Swamp; Parry, Bleier and Mallo ran into it on the nineteenth of November; there was this drive on the thirtieth of November, and the next night, a Mr. and Mrs. Stan Penkala almost ran into it on one of the nearby roads. Then, as we were concluding our interview, four young local men came in to say that some youngsters had just led them to two long trails of tracks in the fresh but slightly crusted snow, again adjacent to the Deltox Marsh.

I am afraid that this development seemed too pat. We went to see the tracks and they displayed some very dubious features that would have been puzzling enough if they had been found on the top of the Himalayas. By this I mean they looked more than suspiciously "manmade" in that they were enormous individually but had exactly the same stride as my own, while both sets either appeared out of deep wood into which we had not the time or means at night to follow them back to their point of origin, or started from a blacktop road and cut across open One incident that took place in the Deltox Marsh, near Fremont, Wisconsin, in November 1966, was personally investigated by Ivan Sanderson.(15) Six young men were taking part in a deer drive, but instead of deer they flushed a large, powerfully built creature covered with shortish dark hair that walked on two legs. It was barrel-chested with a thick, short neck, a heavy body tapering to the hips, and exceptionally long arms. The behaviour of the creature was leisurely and unafraid; its attitude towards the hunters was inquisitive rather than aggressive. Its gait was manlike, and it walked slightly stooped, with a swinging motion of the arms. As no doubt you will have already remarked, the young men's consensus description is highly reminiscent of Roger Patterson's furry starlet of Bluff Creek.

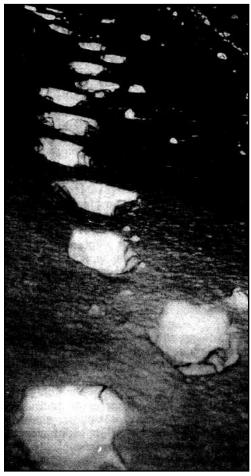
fields to another thick wood. Also, on one occasion, they stepped over a waist-high barbed wire fence without messing the snow or leaving any hairs. But perhaps we went to look at these tracks in too skeptical a mood, and our appraisal may have been prejudiced.

Bernard Heuvelmans stated (late 1970s) that he thought the tracks, as seen in the adjacent image, were fabricated. Given this is the case, then whoever made the tracks knew that sasquatch walk in a straight line (no alternating gait). I don't know when the first mention of that fact became public, but I think it was later than 1968.

The fact that the print maker apparently stepped over a "waist-high barbwire fence without messing the snow" is interesting. The first report of this sort of this sort of thing was in the Chapman case in 1941. There was no snow, but footprints were clearly seen in the soil.

One report I read stated that the subject at some point was about 100 feet away. That was about the same distance stated for the Patterson and Gimlin film hominoid. Unfortunately, none of the hunters had a camera, but I don't consider that unusual for 1968. John Green's final words on the incident are:

Everyone agreed that no man would have dared masquerade in a fur suit during hunting season, it would have been suicide. Yet no one apparently had shot at the thing.



My comment on this final point is that most hunters would not shoot at something that looked like a man. Indeed, some of the hunters thought the subject was a man in a costume, crazy as that might be.

That the tracks found were connected with the hominoid sighted is not known. There was considerable talk of the incident in the town of Fremont, so someone might have fabricated them for fun, but my comments on the prints still apply.

I am sure Sanderson and Heuvelmans had cameras. I expect one of them took the

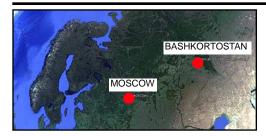
photo seen above. I am sure they would have taken photos of individual prints as well, but I don't know of any.

Remarkably, Gene Baade, who edits this newsletter, was living in Wisconsin in 1980 and read about the Deltox Marsh incident.

Gene is a Lutheran minister, with a flair for hominology, and one of his parishioners told him of a sighting near Fremont between 1965 and 1968 that involved the parishioner's brother Jeff (a past parishioner) and their father.

Gene phoned Jeff and he came to the parsonage, sat down, and provided the full story. Gene wrote a letter to John Green with the story, which is shown in an excerpt on the right. Please note that last names are known, but have not been used to respect confidentiality.

This sighting provides more credibility for the November 1968 sighting mentioned by Napier. —00—



uring 2020, Igor Burtsev and his partner, Stroganov, did research in the Republic of Bashkortostan, which is about 680 miles from Moscow. Igor sent photographs of the expedition, some of which are provided here. The footprints found are quite remarkable. The first two seen are of the same print.



I would first like to comment on an old sighting, just come to light. In the April, 1969 Argosy magazine, Ivan Sanderson wrote about the October/November sightings of a sasquatch in the Deltox Swamp area near Fremont.

About 2 months ago, I spoke with a young man who used to be a member of my congregation here in town (I am a pastor of 2 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations). He maintained that about 12-15 years ago, when he was in his early teens, he and his Father were hunting in the Fall of the year along the Rat River near Fremont. As Jeff and his Father were walking side by side, they saw, across the river and in a swamp, three creatures that he later understood to be sasquatches. The creatures were about 200 yards away and standing in the swamp looking in the direction of Jeff and his Father. At that distance he was unable to determine size. He said that whenever he would look towards them, they would crouch down, and as the men would turn away and keep walking, the creatures would straighten up.

Strangely enough, neither Father nor son said anything to each other until they got back to their vehicle, whereupon the son said, "did you see what I saw?" The Father replied, "yes, but I didn't want to say anything." The Father then instructed Jeff to speak to no one of this sighting. The people of Fremont were, apparently, treating recent footprint discoveries as a joke, and even had a cage in town as a center of attraction, for the holding of a sasquatch. Jeff told me when I phoned him, that on that day with his Father, he realized that the things were real, and not a joke. I contacted Jeff when I found out through his brother, a member of my parish, of his sighting. Jeff said that he has spoken of the incident to no one but his brother and me. His parents have long since divorced and he rarely sees his Father.









