

# News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 4, 2007

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
St. Louis Zoo 314/781-0900  
Janet Powell, ext. 233  
Christy Childs, ext. 239; Erin Meyer, ext. 320

**[Editorial note: Because of strict quarantine regulations, we cannot grant media access to the lions in quarantine. We will provide a media preview prior to their public debut.]**

## ST. LOUIS ZOO ACQUIRES TWO AFRICAN LION SIBLINGS Pair is genetically important to the lion population in North America

Two African lion siblings, a brother and sister, arrived at the St. Louis Zoo late Tuesday night, April 3, from the Basel Zoo in Switzerland. The 16-month-old lions are currently in quarantine and are not on public display at this time. The Zoo is hopeful the lions will be on view at Big Cat Country by early summer.



The young lions were born at Basel Zoo and are unrelated to any lions in North American zoos. The two represent new genes important to future breeding populations. The move was recommended by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Species Survival Program (SSP). In the future, the two may be recommended by the SSP to breed with lions that are unrelated.

The St. Louis Zoo's four elderly lions died in recent years. The Zoo's last lion died in 2006 at 19 years of age.

###