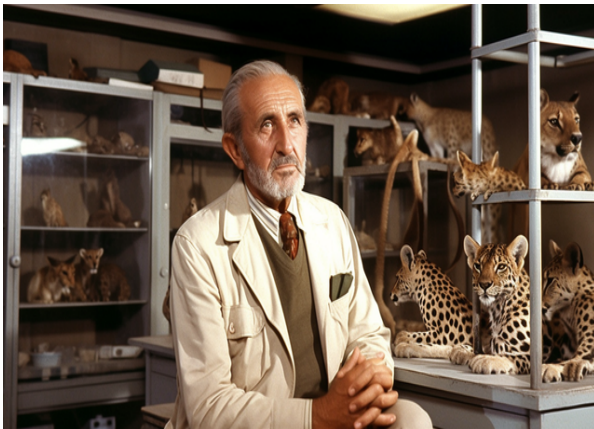

The Daily News

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Famed Cryptozoologist Found Dead in Pine Barrens

By Harold Spark



The world renowned scientist, Doctor Alistare Smythe, was found dead late Thursday morning in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Sources say his body was first discovered by a couple while on a hike, who were lost and had trouble finding their way back to the trail. Doctor Smythe recently shot to international acclaim when he asserted in an exclusive interview with the Daily News to not only have seen, but have also documented, numerous creatures known colloquially as “cryptids”, whose existence is unconfirmed and were previously believed to be fictional. Smythe told the Daily News that a journal of his findings was soon to be published, yet in the wake of his death, his publisher has pulled the book from shelves, citing an inherent safety risk in releasing that information to the public.

Preliminary police and autopsy reports suggest that Doctor Smythe was mauled to death by a still-unidentified creature. Some believe his death to be the result of the famed Jersey Devil, one such “cryptid”, and a creature that Doctor Smythe was known to be researching and had claimed to have spotted previously. This creature reportedly made its home in the same Pine Barrens that Doctor Smythe was found within. Thousands of sightings have been reported across decades, though most have been debunked as hoaxes or mistakes. Doctor Smythe leaves behind decades of research into these creatures, from the sasquatch to the yeti to the Loch Ness Monster, all the way down to the Jersey Devil that reportedly did him in, though zoologists have yet to find any merit to Doctor Smythe’s findings. Alistare is succeeded by his wife, Maricia, and two sons, Ulysses and David. His research will be continued by his apprentice of two years, Jess Palmer, who recently graduated summa cum laude from the University of California Los Angeles, with a double major in biology and biochemistry. More about the Doctor’s legacy on Page 8.

