Monday Chat was cancelled due to chatroom access problems

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

08:10:47 PM Irene: I was having a lot of problems with viewing things on webct this past week
08:10:57 PM Isaac: hello
08:11:07 PM Jane Packard(Ins): what kind of problems, Irene?
08:11:18 PM Irene: the presentations would stop after the videos
08:11:27 PM Irene: and wouldn't continue past slide 5 or 6
08:11:45 PM Jane Packard(Ins): did anyone else have this problem?
08:11:57 PM Isaac: i was having the same problem myself....everytime i got to a video, it would just freeze up
08:12:25 PM Irene: and i tried downloading the file directly but this time it's java linked. so i can't
08:13:04 PM Jane Packard(Ins): I talked with Sallie, our WebCT coach, about the Chat room problem
08:13:33 PM Jane Packard(Ins): and invited her to join chat about 8:30 so she can help us with any problem solving.
08:13:42 PM Jane Packard(Ins): Iris, are the videos working okay for you?
08:13:52 PM Irene: oh and i also get booted randomly, heh
08:13:52 PM Irene: so if i go, i'm sorry
08:14:02 PM Irene: and sorry about not being productive monday. i didn't think to discuss with others until alater when i couldn't get on, meh.
08:14:57 PM Jane Packard(Ins): Isabel, I had a icon pop up saying that the chat tool was unavailable
08:15:18 PM Jane Packard(Ins): that was the same for me.....
08:15:28 PM Irene: no, wait i have cable now
08:17:03 PM Isaac: modem
08:17:20 PM Irene: oh, i guess i just couldn't get on
08:18:18 PM Jane Packard(Ins): Isabel, I could not get onto chat on Monday, although three students could
08:18:54 PM Jane Packard(Ins): This is all very curious, and our webCT coach does not have any answers yet, so she may want to ask you a few more questions
08:19:20 PM Isabel: I had a icon pop up saying that the chat tool was unavailable
08:19:59 PM Jane Packard(Ins): that was the same for me.....
08:19:59 PM Irene: and sorry about not being productive monday. i didn't think to discuss with others until alater when i couldn't get on, meh.
08:20:11 PM Jane Packard(Ins): ....okay, lets get on with our discussion today
08:20:28 PM Irene: ok
08:20:37 PM Iris: Cool
08:20:48 PM Jane Packard(Ins): if we could discuss just one of the Unit 9 questions, which would it be?
08:21:14 PM Isabel: I guess Q9.5
08:23:10 PM Isabel: the testosterone effect on secondary sexual traits in males
08:23:20 PM Iris: Lets go with why species specific signals diverged
08:23:48 PM Iris: Sorry..i couldn't read the first statement...go with Isabel of course
08:24:36 PM Jane Packard(Ins): OK. lets start with 9.5, then move on to Q9.2
08:24:45 PM Jane Packard(Ins): Q9.5 What effect does testosterone have on secondary sexual traits in males?
08:25:22 PM Isabel: I'm kind of confused
08:25:30 PM Jane Packard(Ins): my favorite example is the tragopan pheasants (pg. 16)
08:25:50 PM Jane Packard(Ins): what is confusing, Isabel?
08:26:08 PM Ike: would it be that testosterone induces secondary sexual behavior?
08:27:06 PM Iris: I
08:27:24 PM Jane Packard(Ins): is it the term "secondary sexual trait" that is confusing?
08:27:24 PM Isabel: the effects of the testosterone are the reactions that the tragopan does
08:27:51 PM Jane Packard(Ins): not really
08:28:00 PM Isabel: yes what is it meant by secondary trait
08:28:00 PM Ike: yes, i was wondering about "secondary sexual trait"
the testosterone changes the perceptions of the males, how they receive the signals from the females or males.

a primary sexual trait would be ovaries or testicles, hemipens, prostate gland, etc.

that clears some things up

so testosterone allows them to respond to females and males differently?

secondary sexual traits include fleshy swellings, bulked up muscles, different feathers or hair patterns, etc.

I agree, how about the black coloration and horns on blackbuck?

I would disagree

I posted a link to it on the discussion Topic

I'm curious to know what is the time frame on divergence of the bowerbirds, is it more than 12 million years?
Iris: Cervids have seasonal secondary traits like antlers?

Jane Packard (Ins): Iris, the function of antlers is primarily in competition among male rivals.

Iris: Ok, but it is still a trait of male deer right?

Jane Packard (Ins): the functions of horns usually are two fold...skewering predators and intimidating rivals

Jane Packard (Ins): yes, only the male deer have horns.

Jane Packard (Ins): the physiology of it is curious.

Jane Packard (Ins): during the summer, females are mobilizing calcium in making milk.

Jane Packard (Ins): in the males, the same hormone, prolactin, mobilizes calcium in making antlers.

Jane Packard (Ins): the blackbuck are an exception, because the females do not have horns, and the males display on leks.

Jane Packard (Ins): the cost of growing new antlers each year is greater than continuous growth of horns.

Jane Packard (Ins): the benefits of growing new antlers is that if the "weapon" is broken, it is fixed the next year.

Jane Packard (Ins): the fitness cost of breaking a horn is not only in terms of fighting rivals, but also losing the major weapon against "lions".

Jane Packard (Ins): the benefits for females of growing horns is in protecting calves.

Jane Packard (Ins): there are two kinds of effects of testosterone, continuous and seasonal.

Jane Packard (Ins): the birds that have seasonal signals can deflate rapidly and hide from predators.

Irene: so different habitats.

Jane Packard (Ins): in black grouse, the males display on smaller leks at the edge of the woods, and they do not have air sacs on the neck.

Jane Packard (Ins): in the attwater's prairie chicken, they display on leks in open areas of grassland.

Jane Packard (Ins): in contrast to the capercaillie, who displays where several females are likely to find him.

Irene: or because they were in a different environment.

Jane Packard (Ins): the different signals is the divergent trait.

Jane Packard (Ins): Q9.2 For two closely related species, what is an hypothesis about why species specific signals diverged?

Jane Packard (Ins): in the attwater's prairie chicken, they display on leks in open areas of grassland.
09:00:08 PM Iris: How about drumming?
09:00:08 PM Jane Packard(Ins): the distribution of the food resources and predators influences where the females go (what we learned in Unit 7)
09:00:37 PM Jane Packard(Ins): and the distribution of the females influences where the males go
09:01:05 PM Iris: Ruffed grouse...no need to dance...just drum in the forest
09:01:21 PM Jane Packard(Ins): then the choosiness of the females influences the evolution of the "sexy signals" in the males
09:01:32 PM Jane Packard(Ins): yes, good example
09:01:48 PM Jane Packard(Ins): those ruffed grouse that danced would have attracted no more females than those that drummed
09:02:17 PM Jane Packard(Ins): drumming signals carry over a larger range than visual dance displays, in the middle of thick vegetation
09:02:44 PM Iris: Ok...I'm listening
09:03:01 PM Jane Packard(Ins): one more thing here is the predation....it is a constraint on just how showy those males evolve
09:03:22 PM Jane Packard(Ins): there is an upper limit to vanity!
09:04:02 PM Jane Packard(Ins): Analogous to getting mugged if you display too many rings and gold chains!
09:04:12 PM Iris: In this case its coyotes, foxes and bobcats!!!
09:04:12 PM Irene: bling bling
09:04:42 PM Jane Packard(Ins): LOL, we are having too much fun with this topic....look at the time!
09:05:17 PM Irene: oh right
09:05:32 PM Jane Packard(Ins): anything else before we sign off?
09:06:17 PM Isabel: no thanks, chat later, bye
09:06:21 PM Iris: Ok good night John Boy...MaryEllen...Jason...Jim Bob....
09:06:21 PM Jane Packard(Ins): I would highly encourage you to complete the first four worksheets on the Ethogram workbook and upload them this week for comment
09:06:31 PM Irene: lol