

Vacation photo nets prize

Polar bear strikes a winning pose



Trying to ignore her daughters' impatient pleas to move to another exhibit, Pat Bordman leveled her camera at one of the San Diego Zoo's polar bears.

Out of the vacation photo came a prize winner in the Kodak International Newspaper Snapshot Awards, netting Mrs. Bordman \$100 and a centennial medallion from the company.

The picture of a polar bear regally surveying his world from a rock also won Kodak's local contest.

The photo will be on display Jan. 8-25 in the Equitable Gallery, New York City.

THE POLAR bear was a natural target for her lens. It's her favorite animal. It was a summer's day and the polar bears were cavorting in the sun.

One moved away from the group, shook itself and climbed a rock.

"He was standing there so regally.

He was so totally in command of the rock," said Mrs. Bordman, who writes a column for Observer & Eccentric newspapers.

She continued taking pictures of her polar bear while her daughters, Helene, 9, and Amy, 7, continued urging her to move on.

When the color slides were developed, the polar bear pose was a stand-out, she remembered.

She told her husband, Stuart, that there was something special about the picture.

"I knew immediately it was an award-winning picture."

BUT WHEN a daily newspaper carried the announcement of the local contest, it wasn't until the fifth week of the six-week-long event that Mrs. Bordman entered the photo.

After slipping the picture of the po-

lar bear and a few other photos into an envelope, she forgot about the contest.

The following weekend, she opened the newspaper during a spare moment and saw her name among the winners.

"I almost collapsed. I was so shocked, I almost ripped the newspaper."

She discovered that she won a place in the international competition when a friend called and told her to look in the paper.

Mrs. Bordman's fascination with photography developed five years ago when her older daughter was in nursery school. She took movies of Helene's birthday party at the school and ended up producing a small movie presentation for the end of the year parent's meeting.

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