In 1991, Freddie Fu (gesturing to the above patient) operated on Pitt Med senior editor Chuck Staresinic's knee. (Sixteen years later, Staresinic is still playing sports on the repaired joint.) In June, Fu explored another limb on the tree of life and performed arthroscopic surgery on Johnny, the Pittsburgh Zoo's 12-year-old mandrill monkey.

Zoo veterinarians knew that Fu (MD '77, Res '82), chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, has an interest in knee evolution, so they gave him a call and invited him to see what was ailing Johnny, who had been grabbing and poking at his knee.

Fu discovered that Johnny had a partial anterior cruciate ligament tear. (He also found that his furry patient's ACL consists of three bundles of tissue. Human patients, such as Staresinic, have two.) Fu said a full-on fix was impractical and removed some inflamed tissue in Johnny's knee to reduce the mandrill's discomfort.