

RECENT ARTICLES

also the first in a North American zoo to successfully parent-hatch and raise chicks. Of the 22 chinstraps currently at Central Park, seven were hatched there.

D. Moore in *AZA Communiqué* (March 1999)

[For a report on chinstrap and gentoo penguin breeding at Central Park, see Celia Ackerman's article in *I.Z.N.* 44 (6), 327-333 - *Ed.*]

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Tama Zoo, Tokyo, has had Indian rhinoceroses ever since its opening in 1958, and in 1973 it recorded the only birth ever of this species in Japan. But the female died of old age in 1991, and the male in 1995, and the zoo has not exhibited this species since then. Recently Basel Zoo, Switzerland, offered to donate one, a two-year-old male called Tarrh, who had been harassing another young male in his group. Tarrh arrived at Tama in October 1998, and plans are being made to breed from him after he reaches maturity.

Takahisa Hosoda in *Animals and Zoos* Vol. 51, No. 3 (March 1999)

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John Pickard reports that Wellington Zoo's pair of sun bears (the subject of his article in *I.Z.N.* 46:3, pp. 134-140) have successfully produced twins. At the time of writing (24 May 1999) the cubs are six weeks old and doing well.

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The Bergen Aquarium in Norway is asking Boris Yeltsin for a new Russian sturgeon (*Acipenser gueldenstaedti*) to replace Nikita, a fish donated by the Kremlin in the 1960s, who has died at about 38 years old from an overdose of salt water in his tank. Nikita was one of four fish given to Norway

by Nikita Khrushchev in 1964; the aquarium named it in his honour after it outlived the others. 'We understand it's not top priority, but if Russia would be so kind as to give us a new sturgeon, we would be incredibly grateful,' says Stig Saegrov, the aquarium's director. 'We would call it Boris.'

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In May, three tigers killed a German couple at Safari El Vergel, a park in eastern Spain. Ignoring warning notices, the tourists had got out of their car and closed the doors when the animals pounced on them, inflicting fatal neck wounds.

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Three Livingstone's fruit bats were born at Bristol Zoo, U.K., in January. The species is critically endangered in its natural habitat in the Comoro Islands, north-east of Madagascar, where the population has been reduced to only 400. Bristol and Jersey are the only zoos currently holding and breeding these bats, and are also helping to fund educational and ecological work for the species in the Comoros. Bristol's original seven bats came from Jersey in April 1998.

Abridged from Bristol Zoo press release

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A zoo worker in Salt Lake City lost a finger and part of his nose when an escaped chimpanzee attacked him and another employee. Zoo officials killed the chimp and one of its companions. A former zoo employee said officials ignored warnings to keep the injured worker away from the chimps, because the animals behaved violently whenever he was around.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution (2 March 1999), contributed by Richard J. Reynolds

Anon. (Edinburgh Zoo reptile staff): The original fast food. *Ratel* Vol. 26, No. 2 (1999), pp. 73-75. [Ways of obtaining invertebrates for lizard and amphibian food.]

Baker, W.K.: Can individual personalities among staff members make a difference in a crisis situation? *Animal Keepers' Forum* Vol. 26, No. 3 (1999), pp. 96-97.

Baker, W.K.: How can staff members contact each other in an emergency? *Animal Keepers' Forum* Vol. 26, No. 4 (1999), pp. 134-135.

Banks, K.: Breeding the southern helmeted curassow at Birdworld. *Avicultural Magazine* Vol. 104, No. 4 (1998), pp. 152-156. [*Pauxi u. unicornis*; probably first British captive breeding.]

Banks, K.: The year at Birdworld. *Avicultural Magazine* Vol. 104, No. 3 (1998), pp. 131-132.

Battistini, G., and Paredes, R.: Nesting habits and nest characteristics of Humboldt penguins at Punta San Juan, Peru. *Penguin Conservation* Vol. 12, No. 1 (1999), pp. 12-19.

Böer, M., Brain, C., Cantzler, T., Hamza, H., and Venzke, K.: Reintroduction of a captive born white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) to the Etosha National Park. Part II: Behaviour in the boma, procedures before and locomotion during the first ten weeks after release and observations from June until September 1997. *Der Zoologische Garten* Vol. 69, No. 2 (1999), pp. 73-81. [After an intercontinental long-distance transfer and an adaptation period of about six months, a rhino born in a German safari park was released into an area of the natural former range of this species in northern Namibia. The rhino was able to find optimal habitat within 12 days, after travelling over a distance of more than 100 km. The results indicate one possible way of performing successful reintroductions of *ex-situ*-born rhinos in the future.]

Burckhardt, A.: Nachdenken über die Tötung von Tieren in Zoologischen Gärten. (Thoughts on the killing of animals in zoos.) *Der Zoologische Garten* Vol. 69, No. 3 (1999), pp. 137-158. [German, with brief English summary. In the light of the negative media response to the killing of two 'surplus' bears at Leipzig Zoo, the author discusses the ethical and legal questions raised by the killing of animals as part of the regulation of zoo populations.]

Carlstead, K., Fraser, J., Bennett, C., and Kleiman, D.G.: Black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) in U.S. zoos: 2. Behavior, breeding success, and mortality in relation to housing facilities. *Zoo Biology* Vol. 18, No. 1 (1999), pp. 35-52. [The authors collected data on 23 zoos with black rhinos, to compare zoo environments with reproductive success, mortality, and behavior. They found that the breeding success of a zoo since 1973 correlated positively with enclosure area, and zoos with two or more females had a lower reproductive rate than zoos with only one female. They conclude that there may be a density-dependent suppressing effect on reproductive function among females in zoos. Females residing during their pre-reproductive years at a zoo with another reproductive female gave birth for the first time on average three years later than sole females. Mortality since 1973 correlated positively with percentage of public access; scores for males on the behavior trait

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