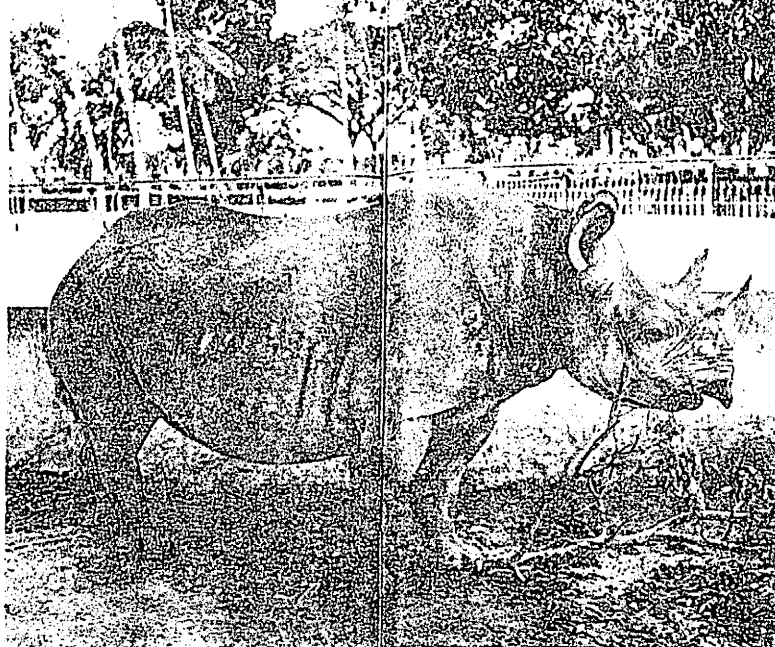
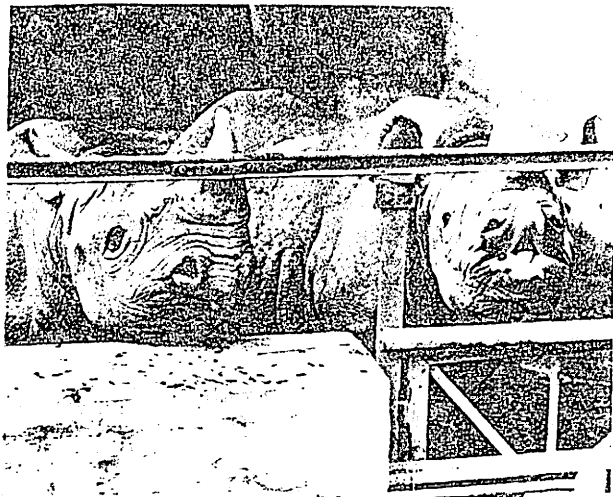


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An Indian Zoo Breeds an African Rhinoceros

By JOHN L. MILLER

MR. C. D. KRISHNE GOWDA, Curator of the Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens in the Indian city of Mysore, recently sent us a series of photographs highlighting the successful captive breeding of a pair of African Black Rhinoceroses.

Although there have now been more than 20 captive births and rearings of this species, such an event is never taken lightly by zoologists and conservationists. It is, without doubt, a noteworthy achievement whenever and wherever it happens—in Frankfort, in Cincinnati, or in Mysore.

The most numerous species of rhinoceros, *Diceros bicornis* is gone from much of its former range and is now concentrated primarily in Kenya and Tanzania. The true color of the Black Rhino is dark yellowish-brown to dark

brown, or slightly darker than the greatly endangered African White Rhino, *Cerathotherium simum*, which isn't really white at all.

The Mysore calf was born last August 26, a little over 10 and a half years after the arrival of the parents, and the birth is all the more significant because of the determined efforts of Curator Gowda and others on his staff.

These efforts were concentrated into attempting to get the male rhino interested in the female when she came into heat, every 30 to 35 days. Mr. Gowda reports that the male failed to respond until it was given doses of a special hormone called Testoviron in powdered form mixed with its regular diet. The first successful breeding took place more than two years later.

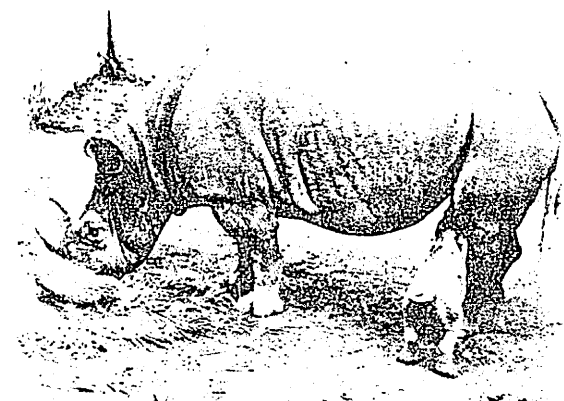
The gestation lasted 458 days. The birth

was completed about 20 minutes after the front legs first appeared. Licked immediately by the mother, the calf was about the size of a half-grown pig. Its body was without hair, except on the lining of the ears and the end of the tail. There were two white patches on the horn-growing regions of the head.

According to Mr. Gowda, the birth was completed at 2:15 p.m. Fifteen minutes later it was struggling to get to its feet, which was accomplished in another 30 minutes, at 3 o'clock. By 3:30 the calf was moving toward its mother in search of her teats, and it first began suckling at 4:35.

Varying in degree, all species of rhinoceros, two African and three Asian, are either rare or close to extinction in the wild. Largest of the five is the African White or Square-lipped Rhinoceros. Estimates of its surviving

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Clockwise—Upper left—Mysore Zoo's pair of Black Rhinoceroses peering over the wall of their enclosure. The female is on the right. Center—The female late in her pregnancy shortly before she gave birth. Upper right—The baby struggling to stand on the day of his birth. Center right—Double nourishment, mother at her wicker "plate" and calf at her teats. Bottom—Beginning course in ways of self-defense.

Since arriving early in February, she has settled down somewhat, but Mammal Curator House says that her introduction to the male will be delayed until she demonstrates observably friendly tendencies toward him in an adjoining exhibit at the Lion House.

Aquarium's Olaf Dies

Olaf, the magnificent 3,000-pound Atlantic Walrus who was the first inmate of the New York Aquarium when it opened its doors at Coney Island on June 5, 1957, was found dead last December 14 in the large pool that was his exhibit-home.

Spectacular in size and abounding in friendliness and charm, Olaf was a great favorite with the public and with the curators and keepers at the Aquarium from the time he arrived from Greenland as a youngster weighing a mere 250 pounds. Last June 15 he was the featured attraction at the garden party



Olaf, the New York Aquarium's mighty 3,000-pound Atlantic Walrus, who died unexpectedly in December. The photograph was made last June at the Zoological Society's garden party. He weighed 250 pounds when he arrived as a youngster in 1957.

for members of the Zoological Society when his prowess for eating clams was pitted against three of Coney Island's best clam shuckers.

Dr. Ross F. Nigrelli, Director of the Aquarium, said that Olaf appeared to be in good health on the day before he was found dead. He had taken his usual diet, consisting of 150 pounds of clams and fish. Dr. Nigrelli said that the cause of death was suffocation resulting from the aspiration of regurgitated food, a complication from the twisting of the intestine.

Since May 10, 1962, when the big walrus complex was dedicated, Olaf had lived with three Gray Seals in a large pool, 70 feet long, 40 feet wide and eight feet deep. This pool and a smaller one adjacent to it hold 135,000 gallons of salt water. Olaf's death ended plans to mate him with Sapiumuk, a four-year-old female.

Although walrus live much longer in the wild, Olaf's 10-year, two-month longevity at the Aquarium is the second best record in captivity. A female walrus once lived 11 years and 10 months at the Copenhagen Zoo. But Olaf did attain the greatest weight of any captive specimen on record.

Less than three weeks before he died, Olaf's tape-recorded voice was issued in a recording that was part of a published scientific paper analyzing his underwater calls. The recording was bound into the autumn issue of *Zoologica*, the scientific quarterly of the Zoological Society.

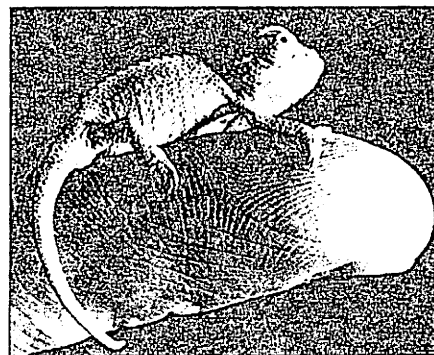
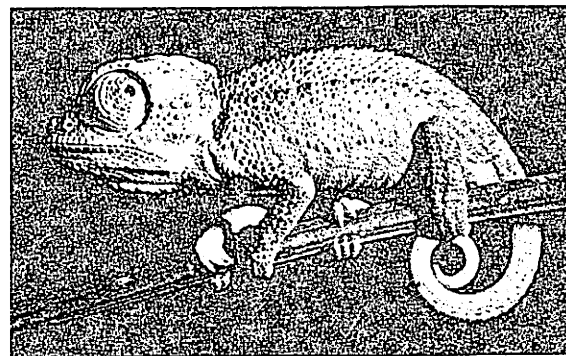
Flamingo Photo Wins Prize

In the recent competition of the New York Press Photographers Association, photographs by Neal Boenzi of the New York Times took first prize in four of the 11 special categories. One of the four was in the animal category, and it was Mr. Boenzi's photo of the first flamingo hatched at the Zoo that won. The picture was taken on the day of the hatching, last June 25.

Zoo Poster Available

An attractive three-color poster of the Bronx Zoo can be purchased on premises in a mail-

This baby African chameleon was one of 16 unexpectedly born to a female adult purchased by a man at a local pet shop. He turned the babies over to the Reptile Department, which is attempting to rear them on a diet of fruit flies and other tiny insects.



ing tube or can be ordered by mail from the Zoo's Publications Department. The poster, which was designed by B. J. Johnson of the Zoo's Department of Exhibition, costs one dollar.

An African Rhinoceros

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number vary, but Walker gives the figure of 600 for the Zululand reserve of South Africa. It has also been reintroduced into Kruger National Park and is found in small numbers in the southern Sudan, Uganda and adjacent parts of the Congo.

Smaller and considerably more aggressive is the African Black Rhino, once quite common in East Africa from Ethiopia south to the Cape and westward to Cameroon and Angola.

Since its first breeding in captivity in 1941 at the Chicago Zoological Park, it has been bred

at the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Detroit Zoos, all in the 1960s. The first Black Rhino calf bred and reared in a European zoo occurred in Frankfurt in 1956.

The Indian or One-horned Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) is the largest of the Asian species. It was once widely distributed from Kashmir southeastward into Indochina. Today, those that remain—perhaps a total of 500—are living in several government reserves in India and in the Kingdom of Nepal.

A smaller one-horned species, the Javan Rhinoceros (*R. sondaicus*) is down to an estimated 30 to 40 specimens in the Ujung Kulon reservation of western Java. It once was found from Burma, Thailand and Indochina south to Sumatra and Java.

Smallest of all living rhinoceroses is the Two-horned (*Didermoceros sumatrensis*), which is broken into two subspecies, the Sumatran Rhinoceros (*D. s. sumatrensis*) and the Hairy-eared (*D. s. lasiotis*). The Sumatran is found in Sumatra and Borneo, while the Hairy-eared with its ear fringes is found in Burma, Thailand and the Malay States.

ILLUSTRATION CREDITS

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