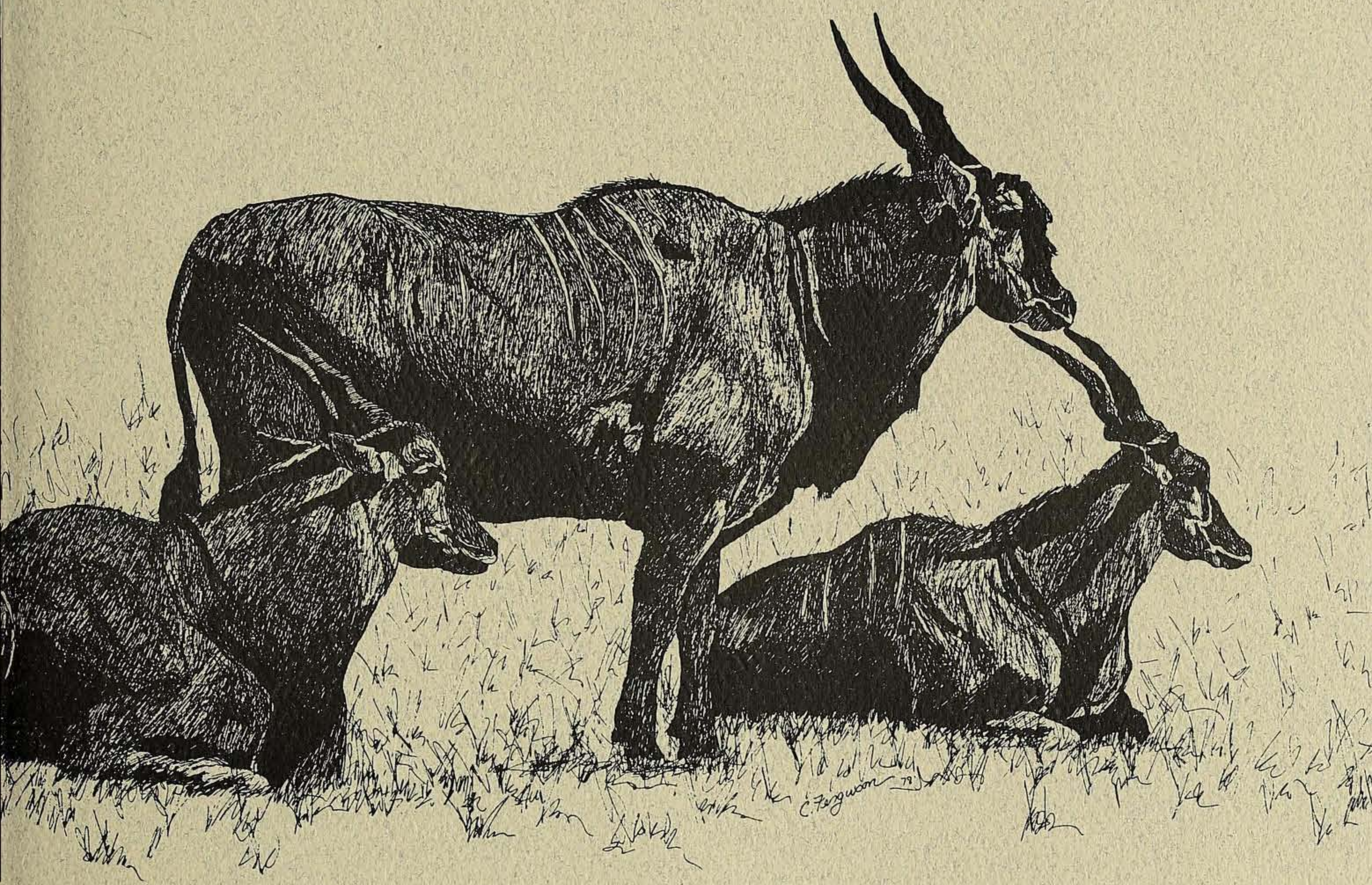


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ANIMAL KEEPERS' FORUM



**The Journal of the American
Association of Zoo Keepers, Inc.**

SEPTEMBER 1995

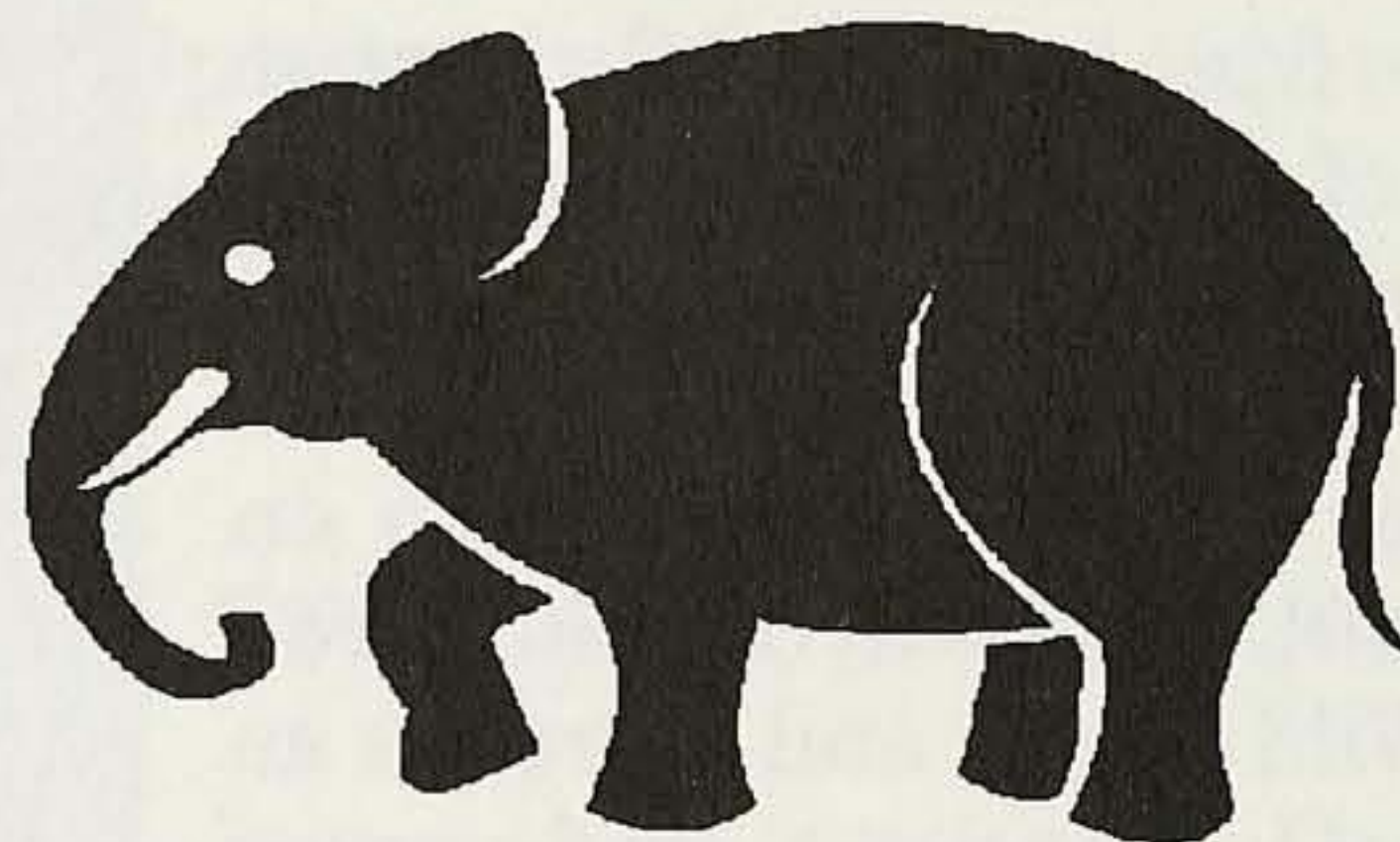
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The next morning, Kali and the pup were to be returned to their normal quarters when, to the surprise of the staff, the first pup was found to have a sibling. The second pup was a male, later named "Java". Java was smaller, had less hair, and his eyes remained closed for five days. This marks the first recorded birth of twins in captivity for this species. Twins have been documented in other species of the genus *Pteropus* such as grey-headed flying fox (*P. poliocephalus*), little-red fruit bat (*P. scapulatus*), Indian fruit bat (*P. giganteus*), and Rodrigues flying fox (*P. rodricensis*).

It was unknown at first if Kali could obtain sufficient nutrition from the diet offered to the bat collection to support two pups. Therefore, Kali was offered 1/2 Tbs. of vegetable protein powder daily, to assist her in milk production. Female flying foxes may nurse their pups over a period of six months, and the mother-pup relationship in this genus is well developed.

The twins were weighed and measured every two weeks in order to obtain a good idea if both pups were developing without problems. This is a regular research practice at the Lubee Foundation, Inc. and there has been no observed side effects associated with this practice. Java and Bali and their relationship with their dam will be studied in more detail in hopes of providing more clues into the mother-pup relationship in flying foxes.



Chapter News Notes

South Florida AAZK

New officers for 1995 are:

President.....Chris Breder

Vice Pres/Chapter Liaison.....

Patty Leon Singer

Secretary.....Von Henry

Treasurer.....Susan Kong

The South Florida AAZK Chapter has been busy with fundraisers. We began the year with a "Reptile Photo Opportunity" for zoopatrons. The Everglades Herpetological Society and SFAAZK worked together, giving zoogoers a chance to get an up close look at reptiles, while raising funds for both organizations.

Then came "Breakfast with the Keepers", successfully raising \$1,145.00 for our

Chapter. We've also been selling raffle tickets to win a behind-the-scenes tour of Metrozoo (an added attraction has been the arrival of the Komodo Dragon). In July, we held our annual "Bowling for Rhinos" event, raising over \$2,000.00 for the Ngare Sergoi Support Group.

All the hard work has paid off though; five keepers will be attending the National AAZK Conference in Denver! The following months will consist of our annual summer Bar-B-Que, and the 2nd Annual Wildlife Art & Awareness Weekend, with our final fundraiser, The 15th Annual Awards Banquet & Auction. We also said goodbye to our president, Connie Philipp. Best of luck to you at the Memphis Zoo!

—Chris Breder, President

(Continued on page 365)

A copy of the complete draft recovery plan may be obtained by writing to the State Supervisor, USFWS, Oregon State Office, 2600 S. E. 98th Ave., Suite 100, Portland, OR 97266. A four-page summary of the plan, contained in the press release, may be downloaded from the World Wide Web site www.fws.gov/news.html.

Source: USFWS Press Release, 1 August 1995

Proposed Congo Road Construction May Adversely Impact Habitat/Species

A variety of flora and fauna, including bongos, leopards, gorillas, duikers and elephants, are likely to be affected by the proposed improvement of a road which traverses a 125-mile stretch of northern Congo between the towns of Makoua and Ouesso. The Congolese government is currently considering a proposal to widen and improve the existing road, a project which would include clear-cutting up to 300 square miles of forest. Such action would effectively divide the northern forests of the Congo into two separate blocks with a two-mile swath down the center.

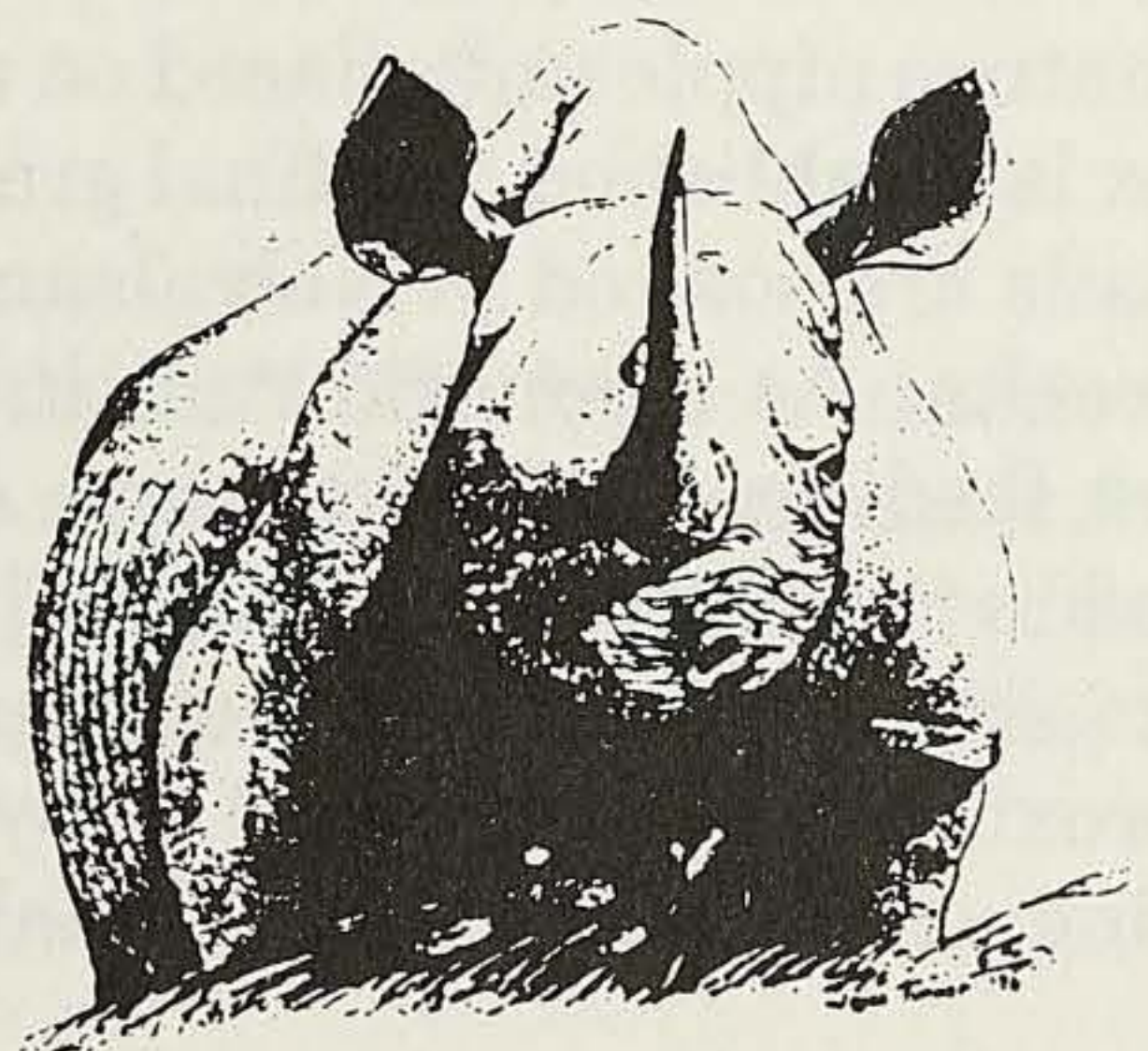
The motivation for the construction project is to open up the northern portion of the Congo for development and increase timber exports. The Director General of the Environment for Congo stated on 19 July 1995 that there was no final proposal yet, but some believe that the Ministry of Environment might waive the need for an environmental impact assessment which would otherwise be required under 1986 legislation.

Source: African Wildlife Update, July-August 1995

U.S. Sanctions Against Taiwan Regarding Rhino and Tiger Parts Lifted After Only 10 Months

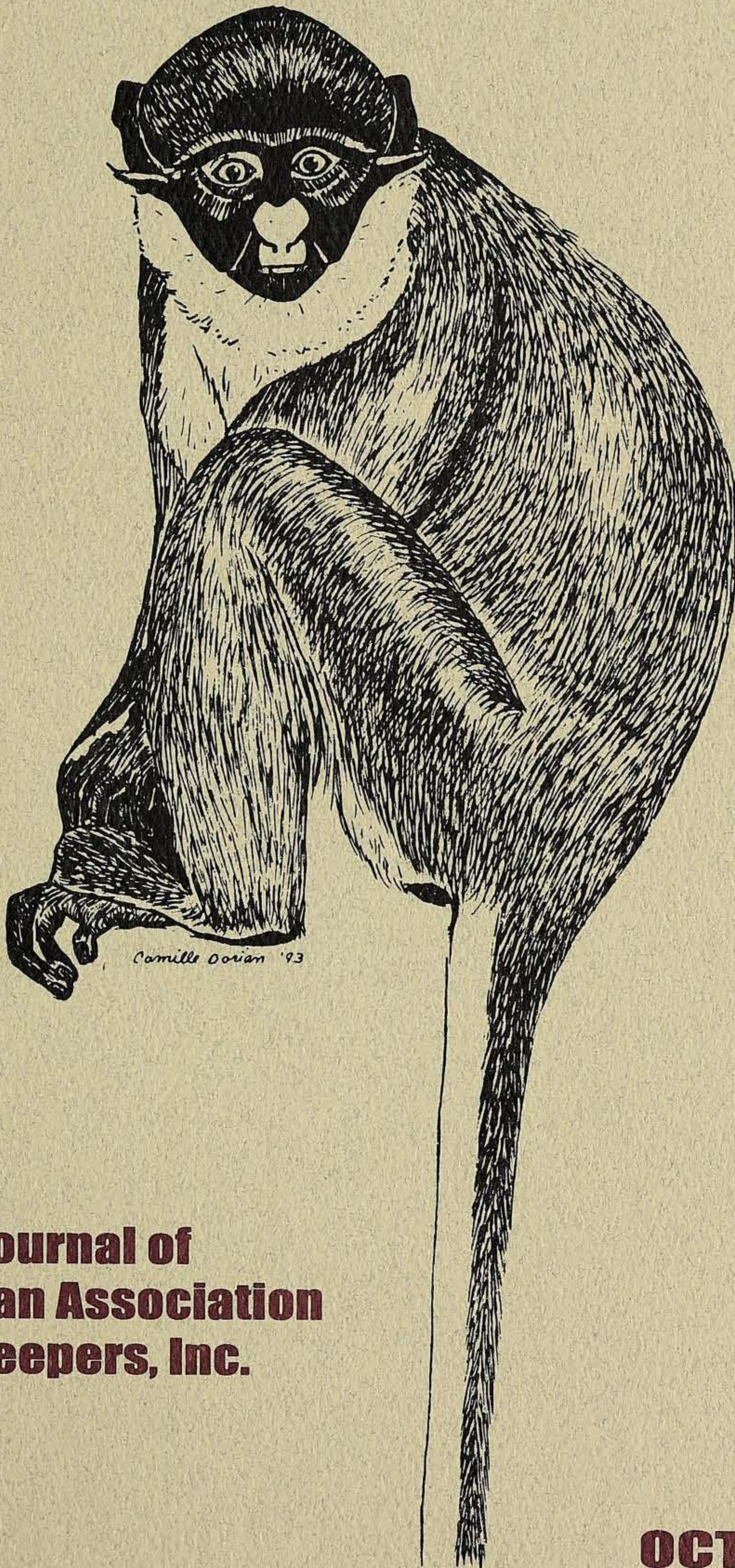
President Clinton issued an announcement on 30 June 1995 lifting the limited trade sanctions imposed on Taiwan last year, stating that he felt that country had taken "substantial steps" to stop the trade in rhinoceros and tiger parts and products. The President pointed to amendments to Taiwan's Wildlife Conservation Law enacted by that country's government which purport to strengthen enforcement activities and "enable law enforcement authorities to impose high penalties for dealing in rhino and tiger parts." The ban was limited to wildlife products from Taiwan sold in the United States and valued at approximately \$25 million per year.

Source: African Wildlife Update, July-August 1995



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support for a federal ESA in Canada. The groups include such diverse organizations as the National Farmers Union, the United Church of Canada, and the Canadian Bar Association. The Coalition's report also indicates that it expects to see preliminary ESA legislation filed soon with the Canadian Parliament. For more information, contact the Endangered Species Coalition at ((202) 547-9009.

Source: ESA Today, 27 July 1995, published by the Endangered Species Coalition

Protection Plan for Florida Keys Drafted

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary has drafted a new management plan for the area which includes coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass meadows. This sanctuary provides habitat for a variety of wildlife including a number of endangered species of birds. The plan would create zones, similar to land zoning, where only certain kinds of activities could occur. Additionally, other areas would be set aside completely to preserve the habitat and allow undisturbed scientific research.

The plan was developed in conjunction with a desire of a number of governmental agencies, both state and federal, to improve the water quality in the Florida Keys. The plan, still tentative, has yet to be formally adopted by the directors of the Sanctuary. Further information can be obtained by calling Sanctuary Manager Bill Causey (305) 743-2437.

Source: Environmental Defense Fund letter, Aug. 1995, Vol. 26, No. 4

House Protects Funding for Elephants, Rhinos and Tigers

Programs to protect the elephant, rhino and tiger got support in the House of Representatives from a seemingly unlikely source on 13 July when Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich defended the Interior Department's \$600,000 appropriation for the African Elephant Conservation Fund and the \$200,000 appropriation for the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund. Over the past few years, World Wildlife Fund has played a key role in promoting funding for both programs.

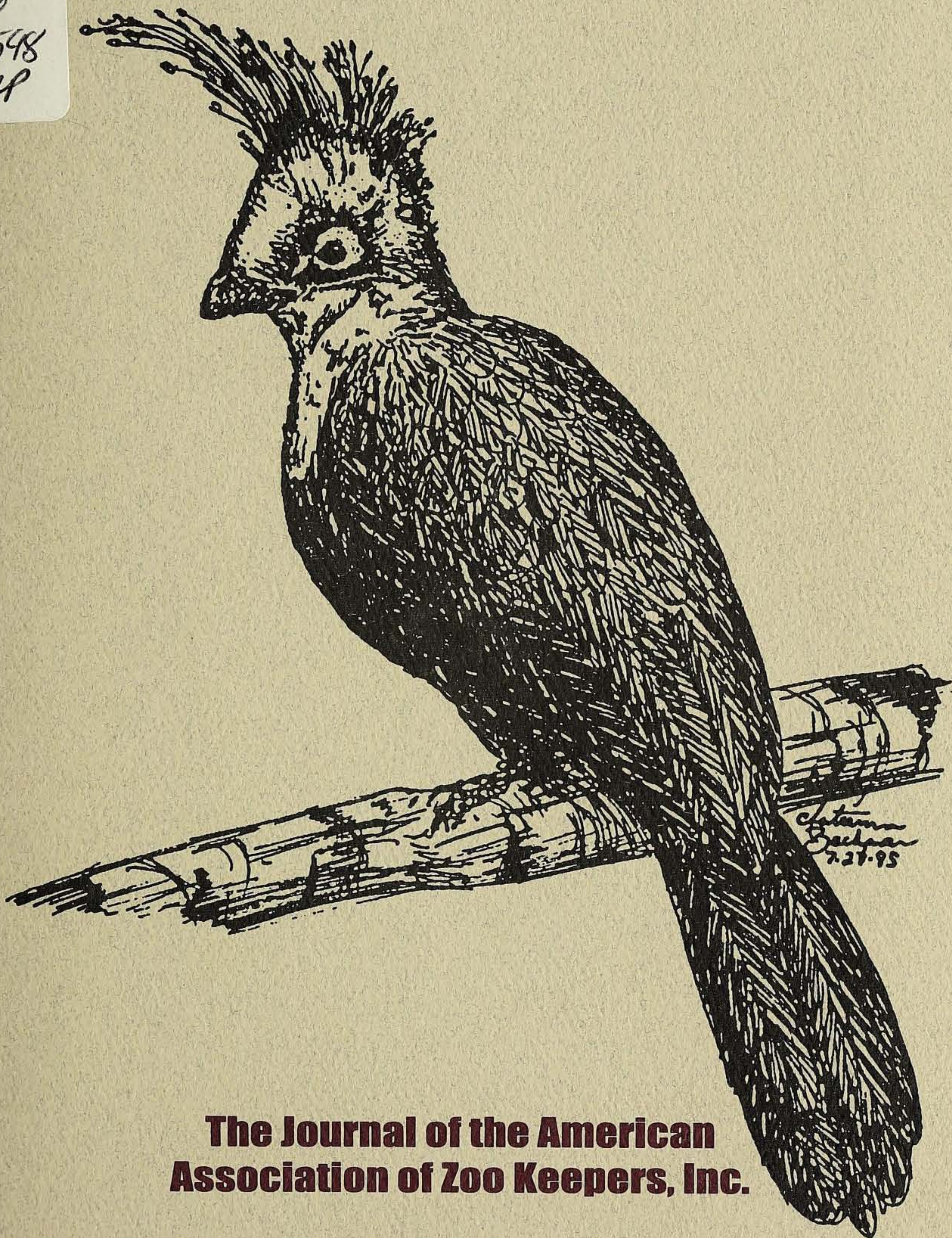
Gingrich's appeal followed an amendment that would have eliminated funding for the programs. After the Speaker's comments, the program were preserved on a 289-132 vote.

"That the Republican House overwhelmingly defeated the amendment to eliminate the programs can be considered a major political victory for U.S. species conservation programs," said WWF President Kathryn S. Fuller.

Source: World Wildlife Fund FOCUS, Sept./Oct. 1995

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Bowling for Rhinos *An Update*



*from Patty Pearthree, BFR Coordinator
Indianapolis Zoo, Indianapolis, IN*

Since 1990, BFR has raised over \$670,000.00 for Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary (now called Lewa Wildlife Conservancy or LWC) in Kenya & Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia. Over \$109,000.00 has been raised so far this year with 10 more Chapters still needing to turn in their money. The first \$100,000.00 will continue to support LWC with the remainder each year going to Ujung Kulon.

The 1995 top money raising Chapter was once again Portland which raised \$11,398.35. The top individual money raisers were Patty Pearthree with \$1,767.00 (winners can only win the trip once). Katrina Osborne from Miami Metrozoo with \$1,488.00 and Ken Smith from Jacksonville, FL with \$850.00 were the second and third place winners and received the two-week trips to Lewa in 1996.

It is very important to remember that BFR advertises that 100% of all donor money goes to the two areas of conservation. In order for this to hold true, all donations must be sent through AAZK's BFR accounts. Ngare Sergoi Support Group (NSSG) is **not** the same as BFR. If you send your money to NSSG, 100% does not go to LWC as NSSG pays the administrative costs of BFR, pays for trip winners & operating costs of NSSG. NSSG relies on donations and memberships to cover these costs and allows our "100% to conservation" to be a selling point for Bowling for Rhinos. So remember when supporting BFR, write checks to: AAZK, Inc. and mail to:

Patty Pearthree
c/o Bowling for Rhinos
P.O. Box 199026
Indianapolis, IN 46219-9026

Now is a great time to start thinking about BFR '96, so form a committee and pick a date so your event can go into next year's calendars! Some other BFR funds are raised through "Rock'n for Rhinos", "Rummage for Rhinos", "Run for Rhinos", "Recycle for Rhinos", or donations.

If your Chapter has not turned in their 1995 BFR money, please do so as soon as possible so that I may include it in the 1995 totals. If you have any questions about BFR, please feel free to contact me at (317) 322-8723.

areas. The proposed regulations will be aimed primarily at shrimp trawlers which influence sea turtle mortality due to incidental capture in the trawl nets.

NMFS is soliciting public comment on the plan, including requests for identification of certain areas in the southeastern United States that requires special management measures and what those measures should be.

The initial report entitled "Shrimp Fishery Emergency Response Plan" may be obtained from Charles A. Oravetz (813) 570-5312 or Phil Williams (301) 713-1401.

Source: Federal Register, 13 September 1995, vol. 60, No. 177

Congress Protects Funding for Elephants, Rhinos and Tigers - an update

As reported in this column last month, in July the House did vote by a 289-132 margin to fund the Interior Department's requested appropriations for the African Elephant Conservation Fund (\$600,000.00) and the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund (\$200,000.00). These amounts are about half of the amounts authorized for the prior fiscal year.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-GA) spoke against an amendment to eliminate all funding and stated: "This is an amendment which means well, but I think does wrong. This is a very small amount of money, but it is symbolically very important...in part for the signal that it sends to people, particularly in Africa and Asia, about whether or not the United States is prepared to reach out and be helpful. We do not have to cut mindlessly just because we want to get a balanced budget."

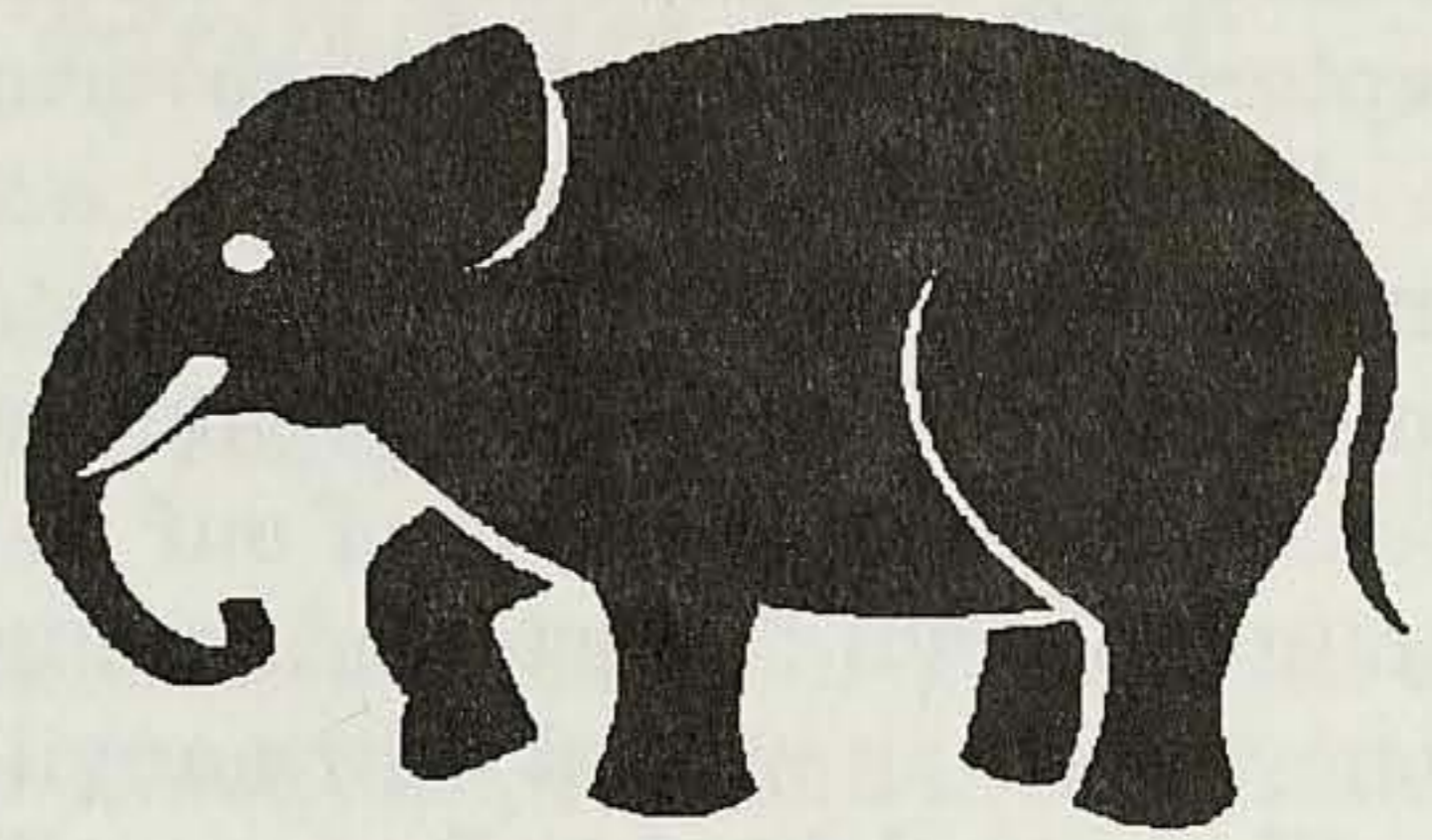
Source: FOCUS, a newsletter of the World Wildlife Fund, Sept./Oct. 1995, Vol. 17, No. 5 and African Wildlife Update, a publication of the African Wildlife News Service, Sept./Oct. 1995, Vol. 4, No. 5

Saudi Arabia Takes More Aggressive Approach to Environmental Care

Saudi Arabia's National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD) is undertaking an ambitious plan to create environmental awareness throughout the Kingdom, especially in remote areas. The NCWCD has trained rangers and scouts who have undertaken the distribution of books, informative bulletins, and other materials on conservation and environmental issues to citizens of villages and towns throughout the country. The major emphasis in this program is pollution control and improved sanitation and hygiene among the Saudi population. A separate program developed by the NCWCD is to develop precautionary measures to protect the land and marine environment from any eventuality of an oil spill in the future.

Furtherance of a previously limited plan to reintroduce rheem and Arabian oryx in the Uruq Bani Ma'arid protected area has been initiated and the proposed locations have been identified. Four ranger stations with vehicles, radio communications, and staff qualified to spread the message of environmental protection generally

Chapter News Notes



AAZK, Inc., would like to welcome two new Chapters to the Association. We wish them much success with their projects and programs. The newly chartered Chapters are:

Alexandria UTOBIA AAZK Chapter

This Chapter is located at the Alexandria Zoological Park, P.O. Box 71, Alexandria, LA 71301. Its officers are:

President.....Rhonda Napier
Vice President.....Carla Oncay
Secretary.....Laura Yerby
Treasurer.....Jeanne Frazier
Chapter Liaison.....LeeAnn Whitt
Educational Resource
Chairman...Mark Meylian

Greater Austin Chapter of AAZK

This Chapter is located at the Austin Zoo, 10807 Rawhide Trail, Austin, TX 78736. Its officers are:

President.....Carin Peterson
Vice President.....Jennifer Cassaday
Secretary.....Gavin Jarrard
Treasurer.....Sara Kirby
Chapter Liaison.....Jennifer
Cassaday

Pueblo Zoo AAZK (Colorado Springs, CO)

The Pre-Conference trip was a great success with 43 keepers coming down for the day. They were treated to

behind-the-scenes views in much of the zoo, including the lion house, savannah barn, penguins and herpetarium. All of the staff were present to help out, and we all enjoyed talking to the visiting keepers. Dinner was well-received and not much was left! We'd like to thank everyone for coming!

Our keepers were all able to attend the Conference for one day, and brought back information to all of us. It was a really wonderful experience for our new keepers, just starting their careers.

Now we have been working on our Third Annual Zoo Boo, a Halloween event for young children. It has become very popular and provides a great turnout. Costume contests, pumpkin decorating and seasonal decorations delight visitors. And all those pumpkins for enrichment!

—*Michele Smith, Chapter Liaison*

Southern Ontario Zookeepers AAZK Chapter

The Metro Toronto Zoo Chapter is now the Southern Ontario Zookeepers AAZK Chapter. The name change will accommodate keepers from other zoos in the area who wish to be part of a larger, more open Chapter, and will also, hopefully, increase the flow of information and ideas.

Earlier this year we increased our membership substantially when the Chapter subsidized dues by covering the difference between U.S. and Canadian \$35.00 for national membership. We hope to regain this expense through the sale of our new Tasmanian Devil T-Shirts and through our new wishing well at Bowmanville Zoo. We are indebted to Bowmanville Zoo for allowing us to build it there and are particularly grateful to the efforts

of Ted and Deb Strikwerda, our members there, for making it happen and maintaining it.

Bowling for Rhinos remains a popular and successful annual event for M.T. Z. Holding it in June enables seasonal staff to participate and this year it raised almost \$3000.00. Our thanks to the organization for a job well done.

—Eric Cole, Chapter Liaison

Zoos Join AZA Push for Safe Antifreeze

From veterinary trucks to double-decker buses to animal care carts, the San Diego Zoo is converting its 100-vehicle fleet to an antifreeze that is safer for animals and humans. The Zoo's anti-freeze conversion program is part of a national campaign sponsored by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) and Sierra™ antifreeze (Safe Brands Corp., Omaha, NE), which produces a propylene glycol-based antifreeze that reduces the concerns associated with the poisonous conventional antifreeze made with ethylene glycol.

According to Joan Embery, goodwill ambassador for the San Diego Zoo and well-known animal authority, this campaign is designed to raise awareness and educate the public of the potential danger of conventional antifreeze. "Antifreeze poisonings of wildlife and pets is a well-documented threat," she said. "Spills, radiator leaks, boil-overs and improper disposal are common sources of accidental poisonings of pets and wildlife. Converting to a safer and less toxic product is another way zoos can help preserve wildlife," said Embery, who also serves as spokesperson for the conversion program.

According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, approximately 700 children under the age of six are exposed to antifreeze each year. Veterinary studies show that antifreeze is a leading cause of accidental animal poisonings, while animal welfare experts believe antifreeze is the leading cause of deaths of tens of thousands of companion and wild animals each year. One teaspoon of EG antifreeze can cause a cat's death, less than two ounces is enough to kill a dog, and as little as two tablespoons can be hazardous to a small child.

In addition to the San Diego Zoo, participating zoos include: The Baltimore Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, Denver Zoo, Minnesota Zoo, Philadelphia Zoo, Pittsburgh Zoo, Metro Washington Park Zoo in Portland, OR, Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, RI, Sacramento Zoological Society, Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, WA, St. Louis Zoo, and the Toledo Zoo in Ohio.

Participating zoos will offer free or discounted children's admissions through December 1995. Call 1-800-432-9306 for information on these special admission rates.

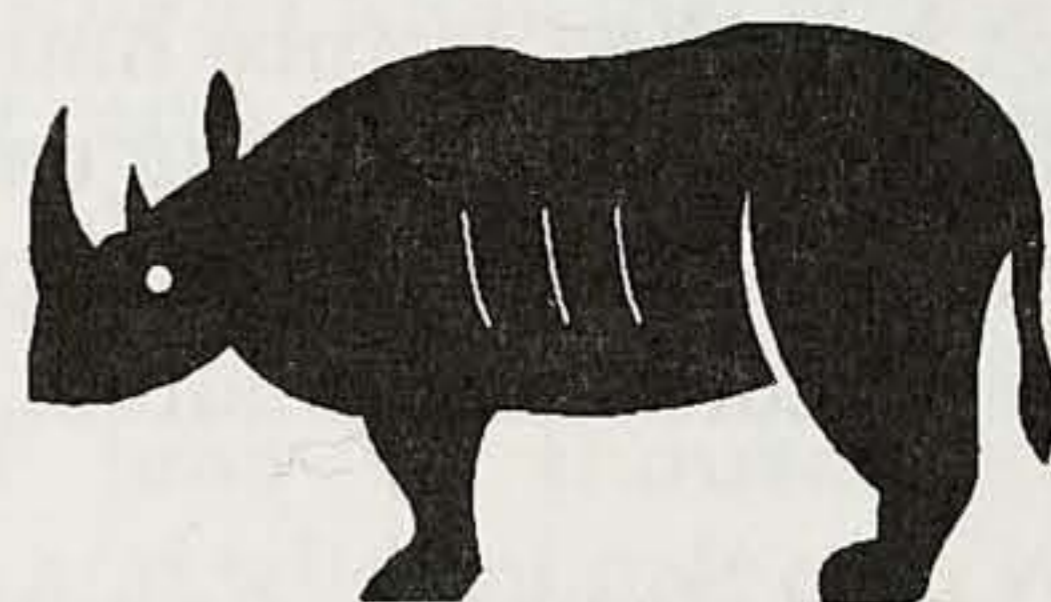
the green marshmallow fluff shamrocks that were painted on tree trunks and rock ledges. Also a hit was the sugarfree green Jello™. They seemed amazed to 'watch it wiggle as they saw it jiggle'.

The most recent event that we have done is an Easter Egg Hunt! Brightly colored hard-boiled eggs were scattered around the den in open view. This way the kids watching this event had fun spotting the eggs as the bears sniffed them out. You see, since black bears' most predominant sense is smell, each egg was dipped in nice smelly honey for them to sniff out.

At last month's AAZK National Conference I learned that some directors do not care for unnatural enrichment items on display. However, at Trailside, we deal with only native, non-releasable wildlife. Because of this we rely on enrichment to stimulate our physically injured or imprinted wildlife. Luckily our director also seems to feel the same was about our collection's welfare.

I hope this article provokes some new holiday fun at all your zoos and please write in, share your holiday fun and other ideas, too!

White Rhinos Reintroduced to Etosha National Park



Ten white rhinos (*Ceratotherium simum*) have been released in Namibia's Etosha National Park, the first free-ranging white rhinos in the park this century, according to a press release from Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

White rhinos were extirpated in Namibia before 1900. Prior to the Etosha release, which occurred on 21 July, white rhinos had been re-established in Waterberg Plateau Park and on several Namibian game farms.

The ten new arrivals were part of an exchange of wildlife between the northern Namibian park and Kruger National Park in South Africa. Kruger received 30 giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) from Etosha about four years ago, but unfavorable climatic conditions and threats from wildlife diseases delayed the conclusion of the transaction until this year.

In a separate transaction involving Etosha, eight black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) from the park were recently sold to a South African game-farming consortium for about \$25,000 each. The purchaser and exact destination were not disclosed by the Ministry for "security reasons".

Namibia has the second largest rhino population in Africa. The most recent estimates from the African Rhino Specialist Group (May 1994) are 98 white rhinos and 583 black rhinos.

Source: African Wildlife Update, Sept./Oct. 1994, Vol. 4, No. 5, a bimonthly publication of the African Wildlife News Service, P.O. Box 546, Olympia, WA 98507-0546

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Births & Hatchings



The Southern Ontario Zookeepers Association AAZK Chapter (Toronto, Ont. Canada)... announces the following significant births and hatchings through 1995:

Mammals - 1.2 Siberian tigers (*Panthera tigris altaica*) [E/SSP/1st for pair]; 1.1 red panda (*Ailurus fulgens fulgens*) [E/SSP/1st for pair]; 1.3 Tasmanian devils (*Sarcophilus harrisii*) [1st for facility]; 0.0.1 Matschie's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus matschiei*) [SSP]; 0.0.2 golden lion tamarin (*Leontopithecus rosalia*); 1.1 Prevost's squirrel (*Callosciurus prevosti*) [E].

Birds - 0.0.1 hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) [E/dam raised chick alone after sire died].

Reptiles - 0.0.4 banded rock lizard (*Petrosaurus mearnsi*) [female brought in gravid]. *submitted by Eric Cole, Chapter Liaison, Southern Ontario Zookeepers Association AAZK Chapter.*

Brookfield Zoo (Brookfield, IL)...reports the following significant births and hatchings for September 1994 - September 1995:

Mammals - 0.1 aardvark (*Orycteropus afer*) [U/mother-reared]; 1.0 black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) [E/SSP/1st offspring for dam]; 1.0 bottle-nosed dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) [dam's first successful birth]; 1.3 Goeldi's monkey (*Callimico goeldi*) [T/SSP]; 2.2 golden-headed lion tamarin (*Leontopithecus rosalia chrysomelas*) [E/SSP - parents founders/most productive pair in SSP with 18 offspring to date]; 1.0 greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*) [1st birth for pair]; 1.1 Grevy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*) [E/SSP]; 0.0.6 Kowari (*Dasyuroides byrnei*) [1st birth for pair]; 0.1 lesser slow loris (*Nycticebus pygmaeus*) [T/SSP/U/females rarely born in captivity]; 0.0.16 naked mole-rat (*Heterocephalus glaber*) [U]; 1.1 okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*) [E/SSP] [0.1 hand-reared; 1.0 mother-reared]; 5.2 Rodriguez flying fox (*Pteropus rodricensis*) [U]; 0.1 Short-eared elephant shrew (*Macroscelides proboscideus*) [U]; 0.2 western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) [E/SSP] - [0.1 was pair's first offspring - sire "Abe" was wild-caught and died at about 39 years of age in May, this is his only living offspring] - 0.1 (sire's first offspring) - sire was first gorilla to have brain surgery].

Birds - 2.1 Bali/Rothchild's mynah (*Leucopsar rothschildi*) [E/SSP/hand-reared]; 0.0.2 Inca tern (*Larosterna inca*) [1st time birth from pair/parent-reared]; 1.2 Micornesian kingfisher (*Halcyon cinnamomina cinnamomina*) [E/

Mollie Beattie, Director of the USFWS responded to critics of the Endangered Species Act who target the difficulty and cost of recovering a species: "Recovery is like emergency room medicine. It costs more than seeing your regular doctor for preventive care. And it costs more to recover endangered species than it would have cost to prevent their decline in the first place. Nevertheless, I doubt a single American would say that saving the bald eagle wasn't worth the time or money."

Beattie also pointed out that the budget for recovery programs for all 962 listed U.S. species was \$39.7 million in 1995, the cost of building just one mile of urban highway. "Americans spend 40 times more than our recovery budget on popcorn at the movies every year," Beattie said.

The report, entitled "1994 Report to Congress: Endangered and Threatened Species Recovery Program" is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

Source: USFWS News Release, 30 October 1995

Tigers and Rhinos Subject of Public Education Program

Los Angeles, CA and its diverse Asian community is the initial target of a public education program launched by the USFWS. The rhino-tiger outreach program plans to tell Americans that certain products in Asian medicine shops may contain parts of these endangered species as well as toxins potentially harmful to human health. According to Assistant Secretary George Frampton: "The effort will provide new information for consumers regarding health risks associated with certain traditional Asian products. It will also clarify United States' law enforcement responsibilities regarding endangered species."

In a statement to the press, Frampton said that products made of tiger bone and rhino horn are believed by many to have therapeutic powers. However, when products purportedly containing rhino or tiger parts were purchased covertly in the Los Angeles area, analysis by the Service's National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory found that the majority of the products sold and labeled as containing rhino or tiger parts had no measurable amounts of either species present. Additionally, the scientists found a number of foreign substances and toxic levels of poisons such as arsenic and mercury in some of the products.

The purpose of the education program includes dissemination of information that importation of products containing rhino or tiger into the U.S. is prohibited under the Endangered Species Act and CITES and that by purchasing these products, whether they actually contain any trace of these animals or not, fuels the illegal trade.

Source: USFWS News Release 19 October 1995

Zambia Earns \$2 Million from Safari Hunting

During the first nine months of 1995, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife in Zambia has earned \$2 million from safari hunting. The Ministry of that Department