

## HOUSTON ZOO REPORTS GREATER HORNBILL HATCHING

Greater hornbills (*Buceros bicornis*) at the Houston Zoological Gardens have successfully raised a chick for the second consecutive year. The female parent was acquired by the zoo before 1973 and laid infertile eggs while paired with a human-imprinted mate. The latter bird was replaced with a male loaned by Busch Gardens, Tampa, in February 1990. Their first egg was laid in a nest-barrel without keeper access, so precise laying and hatching dates were uncertain. The male chick left the nest-barrel on 25 June 1991. In 1992, a nest-box permitting keeper access replaced the barrel. Two eggs were reported on 6 March. One egg was later broken; the other hatched between 6-7 April, and the chick left the nest-box coincidentally with the female parent on 22 June.

(T. Todd and D. Garza)



(Photo by J. Caravotis)

## BLACK RHINO BORN AT THE CINCINNATI ZOO



A male black rhinoceros was born on 5 August at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. Such birth is an important addition to the SSP for the species. The calf, which weighed 83 pounds after birth, is in good health and is on display with his mother in the African Veldt area. The calf was born to a rhino on loan from Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida, after some 16 months' gestation. The father sired six offspring at the zoo.

This birth marks the 15th black rhinoceros born at the Cincinnati Zoo since 1959. The zoo holds the world record for black rhinoceros births in captivity. As many as 1,000 black rhinos were lost in the wild in the past year, mainly due to poaching, with only 2,500 black rhinos remaining in the wild--a number down from 65,000 just 20 years ago.

(B. Rish)