Dallas Zoo Reports Four Significant Births

A southern black rhinoceros, a chimpanzee, an okapi, and a klipspringer were born at the Dallas Zoo in January and February. A male rhino, born on 4 February, is the zoo's first second-generation black rhino. The mother was conceived in the wild and born at the zoo in 1990; the father is a 1989 import from Zimbabwe. The calf spent his first five days in the zoo hospital because he initially appeared lethargic, was unable to stand and nurse, and had a slightly elevated white blood cell count. Operant conditioning techniques allowed staff to milk the mother three times a day and feed the youngster in the hospital. Keepers also exchanged hay between their stalls so that each could smell the other's scent. The calf's health improved steadily and on day six, he was successfully reintroduced to the mother and began nursing on his own.



Klipspringer. Photo by R. Cody

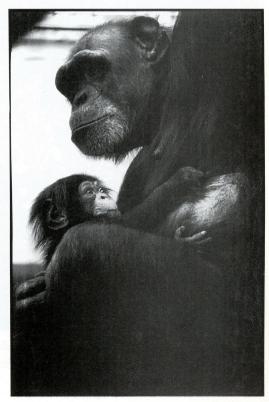


Okapi. Photo by R. Cabello

A male chimpanzee is the 20th born at the zoo and the fifth offspring of his 31-year-old mother. He is being successfully mother-raised on exhibit. The 54-pound, female okapi is the 25th born at the zoo. The male klipspringer is the 52nd to be born at the zoo since 1968. V. Winkelman



Black Rhino. Photo by R. Cabello



Chimpanzee. Photo by R. Cabello