

artists, contribute to visitor's immersion experience. Visitors can also marvel at two mosaic snakes imbedded in the floor. The experience is complete with several interactive and educational graphics in the building.

The building also features an observation deck that provides viewing for the lemur and gibbon islands in Dickerson Lake, and will overlook the route for the train ride planned for late summer. A six-foot bronze alligator sculpture is also included.

Construction of the Diversity of Life building was funded entirely by contributions to Friends of the Zoo, the non-profit support organization for Dickerson Park; Hearld and Marge Ambler gave the lead gift.

The zoo's reptile collection has been off-exhibit since June 1998.

GIBBON FOREST EXHIBIT OPENS IN SAN ANTONIO

After four months of construction, the "Gibbon Forest Exhibit" is now open at the San Antonio Zoo. Built into the side of a limestone cliff, this multi-species exhibit is over 100 feet long and 35 feet high. Drawing upon the latest in zoological architecture, the exhibit offers a highly naturalistic home for the animals and an unparalleled view for visitors. Featuring an Asian theme, the exhibit showcases aquatic Asian small-clawed otters, terrestrial Asian muntjacs and a mated pair of white-handed gibbons. These animals will co-habitat in the new space, just as they would in the wild.



"BASE CAMP: RHINO" OPENS IN BALTIMORE

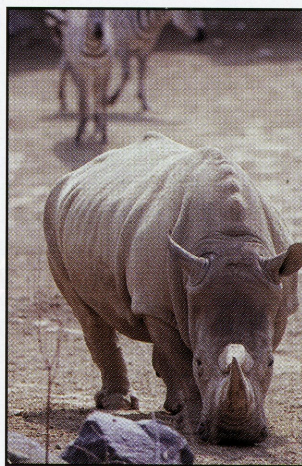
Visitors to The Baltimore Zoo will find themselves on a journey to "Base Camp: Rhino" beginning Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. "The African

Watering Hole" exhibit will be transformed into a working field camp of zookeeper study and observations of the endangered white rhinoceros, zebra and ostrich that occupy the exhibit space.

Upon arrival, guests will be given a field journal for their "Base Camp" experiences. A junior staff member of the Zoo - who needs the assistance of visitors to complete his/her daily tasks - will lead them through various activities.

The exhibit will be outfitted with mosquito netting, a desk, a video-light microscope, maps, photos, notes and more that detail the daily activities behind the scenes of the Zoo. The goal is to bring the day-to-day care and interaction that the keepers have with the animals to the guest experience.

Guests will get the scoop on poop by identifying which animal created the scat found in covered cubbies.



Several field stations will be found throughout the Africa section of the Zoo. These stations will have artifacts, photos, tools and other items that keeper uses on a daily basis while cleaning, feeding or caring for the animals in the Zoo.

The field journal is full of interesting facts, figures and more that will help bring the life of the Zoo staff closer to the public. The stations will also host the Keeper Encounters. By bringing the behind the scenes activities to the visitors, the Zoo staff hopes to impart on them just what it takes to run The Baltimore Zoo.

DETROIT SHOWCASES "DINOSIMULATOR"

On 5 May, the Detroit Zoo revealed its new motion-based simulator, called the "DinoSimulator." The simulator compliments the Zoo's *Dinosauria III* exhibit, set to run through 3 September. The 14-minute production is split into three parts: a "Welcome Centre," where visitors discover dinosaur tracks and body fossils at a fictional Palaeontological research facility; a "Story Theatre," a multi-screen video presentation of some the facilities' top researchers, and an "Adventure Theatre," in which guests take a virtual trip back in time on the 30-seat enclosed cabin DinoSimulator.

The exhibit's four-acre "Dino-Trail" presents guests with a recreation of prehistoric life, featuring 26 animatronic dinosaur species.

"MYSTERIES" TO REMAIN IN MONTEREY

The Monterey Bay Aquarium has extended the life of its 'Mysteries of the Deep' exhibit, which will now run through January 2003. The exhibit invites guests to view 7,000 square-feet of deep ocean waters and more than 40 different species. Beginning with a tour of the Monterey submarine canyon walls, visitors follow vertical rock faces as they descend to the mid-water level and finally, the canyon floor, which is representative of the deep-sea floor. As they journey past these three major habitats, Aquarium goers are also greeted with videos, hands-on displays, and live exhibits, which include mushroom corals, predatory tunicates, sea whips, spider crabs, filetail catsharks, ratfish, feather stars, eelpouts, Pacific hagfish and California king crabs among others. A fourth exhibit gallery speaks to the importance of deep-sea resources, and the impact of human activity on the health of deep ocean ecosystems. 