

# BIRTHS & HATCHINGS

## ZOO MIAMI SIGNIFICANT BIRTHS

Zoo Miami in Miami, Fla., recently celebrated three significant births. First, on 25 May, a black rhinoceros was born. This was the 13th successful birth at Zoo Miami for this highly endangered species. Weighing 122 pounds, the female calf was born after an approximately 15 month gestation period. The 14-year old mother, named Circe, was born at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, S.C., and arrived at Zoo Miami in 2006. The father, named Eddie, is also 14-years old and was born at the Cincinnati Zoo in Cincinnati, Ohio.

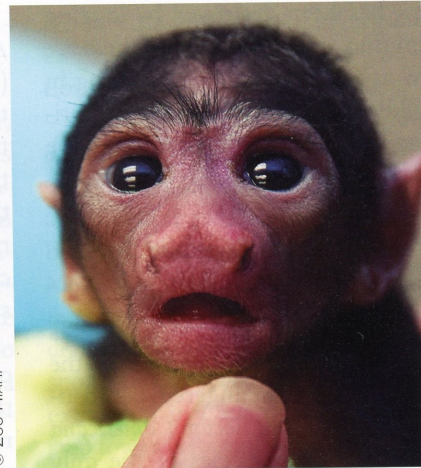
Black rhinos are highly endangered as they continue to be poached at alarming rates in Eastern and Southern Africa. Whereas there used to be over 100,000 running wild in Africa within the past century, those numbers are now down to an estimated 5,000 individuals. They are killed for their horns which are prized in some eastern cultures for medicinal purposes and as status symbols.

On 30 May, the Zoo welcomed the birth of a male white-faced saki monkey. This is the first birth of this species of tropical American monkey for Zoo Miami. Found in the rainforest trees of Brazil, Guyana, and Venezuela, these fruit eating monkeys rarely come to the ground and are considered vulnerable due to habitat destruction and hunting for food and the pet trade. Unfortunately, the first-time mother rejected the offspring so it is now being hand raised by Zoo staff.

Finally, on 16 June, Zoo Miami was extremely fortunate to experience the captive hatching of a blue-billed curassow. This is the second hatching of this highly endangered species at Zoo Miami. This turkey sized bird is originally from the humid lowlands of northern Colombia where much of its



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CONTINUED, PAGE 36



