

Special Events: Radio Disney Birthday Bash, Ball of the Wild

TOUCAN TALK



January - February 2004

Juanpur
and Suru
Zoo's Indian Rhinos

Sex and the Animal
A fun Valentine's Day evening
program for adults with Ron Magill

Toucan Talk is the Official Magazine of Miami Metrozoo and is proudly published by the Zoological Society of Florida.

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On the Cover:

The great folds in the skin of the endangered Indian rhinoceros make it look like it's wearing a shield of armour.

PHOTO: RON MAGILL



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Our mission is to encourage an appreciation for the world's wildlife and to help conserve it for future generations.

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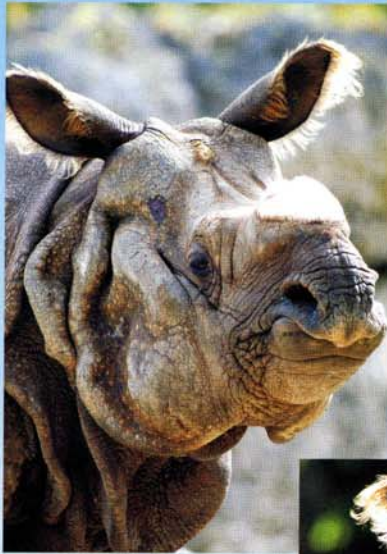
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The rhino horn is made up of modified hair and keratin, which grows from the nose, and is matted to form a continuously growing horn. If broken off, the horn will grow back.



Juanpur & Suru

Metrozoo's New Indian Rhinos

By David Jimenez, Zoological Supervisor, Asian Section

"Juanpur" affectionately called Johnny by his keepers, was born on January 27, 1990 at the San Diego Wild Animal Park, which has a very successful rhino-breeding program. Currently on loan from the Baton Rouge Zoo, Johnny arrived at Miami Metrozoo on October 1, 2003. He has fully adjusted to his new surroundings and so far is a very active rhino, choosing to spend most of his time roaming his exhibit perimeter. His large size can be very intimidating, but his keepers have reported that he is very easy to work with and is well behaved.

"Suru" named after the famed Suru Valley of India, was born on December 31, 2000 at the San Diego Wild Animal Park and came to Miami Metrozoo on October 19, 2003. He is still adjusting to his surroundings, which for now includes his barn stall and the Indian Rhino breeding paddock (which is located off exhibit). Strangers can easily spook Suru (as I found out first hand during an early morning visit). However, he has quickly learned to recognize who his keepers are and seems to have started a bonding process with each of them. Suru seems to spend most of his time resting under the large shade trees towards the back of his enclosure. Although his size is still relatively small, his appetite rivals that of Juanpur.



Juanpur