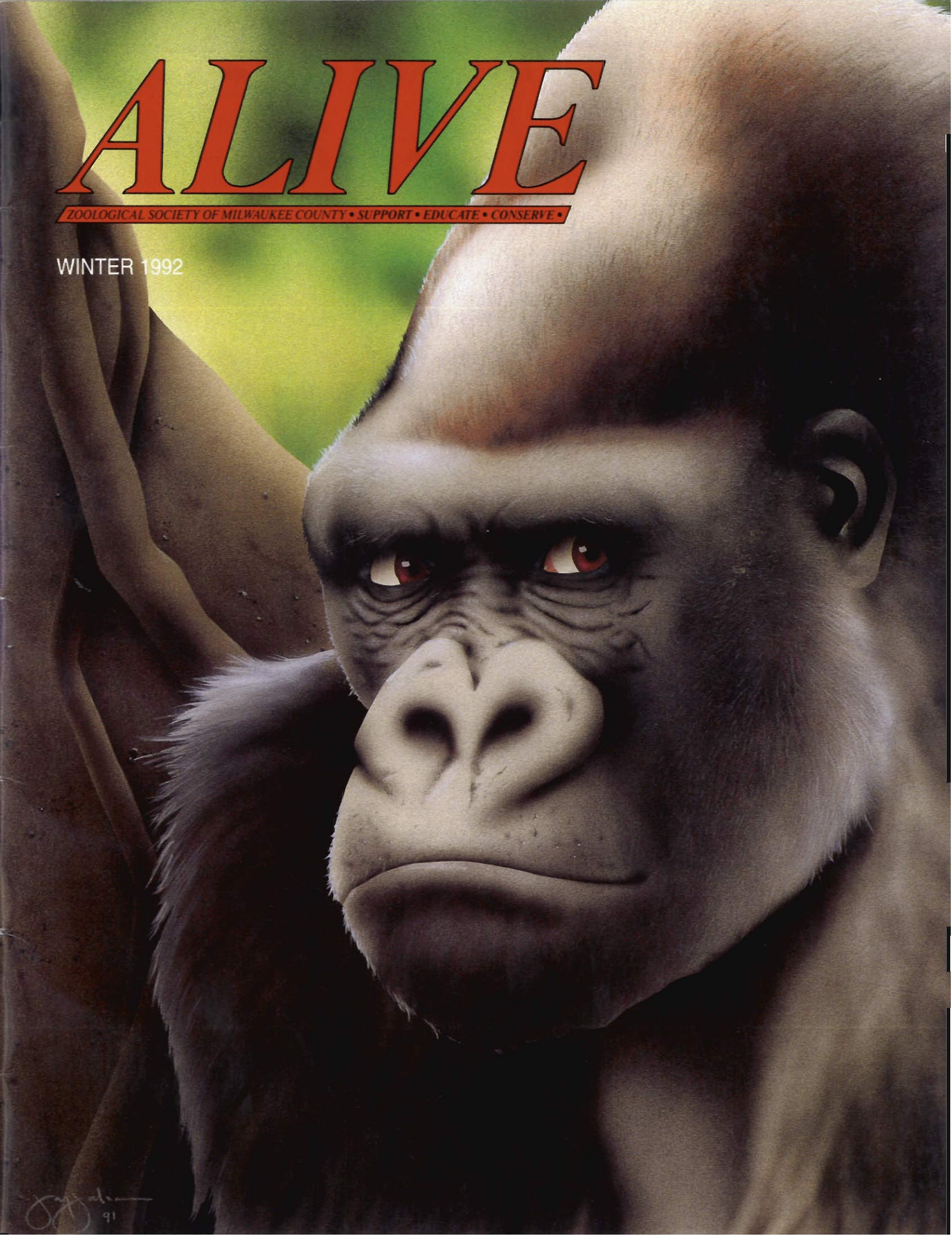


ALIVE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY • SUPPORT • EDUCATE • CONSERVE •

WINTER 1992



Johnathan
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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



The main objectives of the Zoological Society are support of the Zoo, conservation and education. Having successfully completed our Capital Campaign for the New, New Zoo, the Zoological Society is now deeply involved in conservation and education programming. For example, the Wisconsin Trumpeter Swan Program has just completed its third year. This year there were 45 cygnets released into the wild and at least 35 were observed migrating in a southeasterly direction similar to last fall. The Society was involved in raising the cygnets and funding the work of the five University of Wisconsin interns involved in the project.

The Zoological Society has joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Natural Resources to find an answer to the disappearing habitat of the Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron and Great Blue Herons living on Horicon Marsh's Four Mile Island.

The Education Department's Summer Camp program has been so successful that 40 additional camps on a wide variety of topics will be added this summer. I'm proud to share that last year over 9,000 children of Zoological Society members participated in educational workshops and camps and that 150,000 school children from the Milwaukee area participated in workshops, guided tours and other adventures. We're pleased to introduce in this magazine new monthly programs being offered for families and older youths and are looking forward to fall, when workshops for senior citizens are scheduled to debut.

As the new chairman of the Zoological Society's Board of Directors, my goals are to increase the Society's involvement in conservation and education and to enhance our quality of life by continuing the Society's commitment to helping maintain the reputation of the Milwaukee County Zoo as a world-class institution. With your continued support, I know these goals will be achieved.

Leander R. Jennings, Chairman
Zoological Society of Milwaukee County



The mission of the Zoological Society is to support the Milwaukee County Zoo, educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and to take part in conserving wildlife and endangered species.

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ON THE COVER:

This image of a Lowland Gorilla was painted by Jay Jocham, a Zoological Society artist endowed by Gretchen and Andrew Dawes.

ALIVE

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1

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A picture-book look at the Zoo's four Lowland Gorillas—Obsus, Femelle, Linda and Ngajji—from the food they eat to the company they keep.
- 8 **PENGUIN PROJECT**
One of the most delicate penguin species to maintain in captivity, the Humboldt Penguin is the focus of an ambitious nutrition study at the Zoo.
- 10 **PAVING THE WAY**
The future of our planet is in our hands, which explains the Zoological Society's increased emphasis on conservation education. We've expanded some programs, added others. You'll appreciate the change.
- 12 **WHERE DO THEY GO?**
Milwaukee's frigid winters exert a profound influence on the daily life of the Zoo. This story tells where some of the Zoo's animals go in winter.

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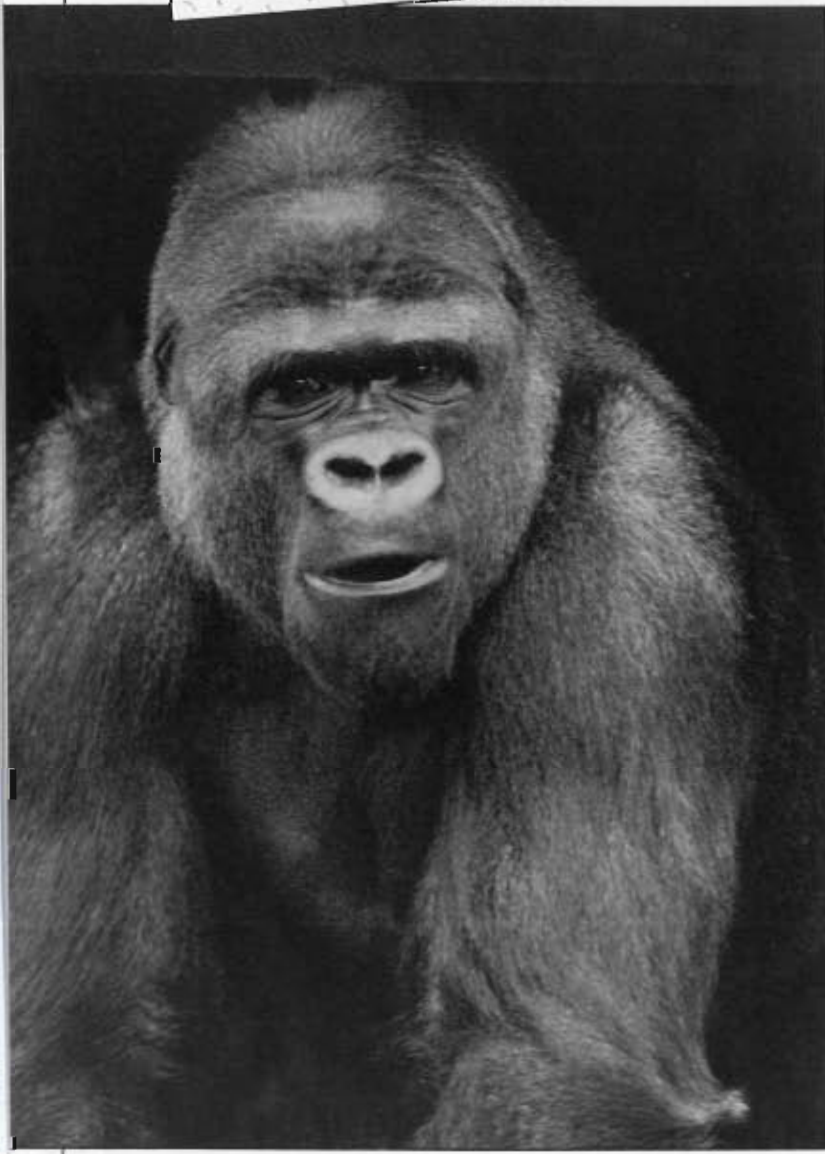


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PRIMATE PROFILES

Our Gorilla Family



The morning sky is dark, the air is chilled, the Zoo is still. We wedge the glass doors to the Primate Building just enough to quietly slip inside. And then we see them in all their magnificence—the remarkable Lowland Gorillas.

As we pause before each of the exhibit windows along the building's north wall, we see Obsus, the Zoo's demonstrative, sassy young male, opening his eyes sleepily and raising his head to look around. Nearby, Femelle, the oldest and most dominant of three female gorillas, already is awake. The two other females, Linda and Ngajji, also are stirring.

Enter: Sam LaMalfa, the Zoo's primate area supervisor, whose biggest responsibility is to care for these fascinating animals.

As dependable as the sun that's just

starting to light the building, LaMalfa greets each of his "kids." He checks to be sure the gorillas are healthy and as active as they should be. Then he separates the gorillas into "shift cages" between exhibits so he can give the gorillas their daily vitamins, some skim milk or juice to drink and breakfast—plenty of it.

The animals, moving about slowly in their shift cages, begin stuffing all sorts of food into their ready mouths, like high-fiber monkey chow pellets, sunflower seeds, grains, peanuts, lettuce, spinach, boiled sweet potatoes, carrots, onions (not a gorilla favorite), apples, oranges, bananas and grapes.

Appetites satiated, the gorillas leave their "shifts" and return to their original grouping. Linda, small and quiet, stalks from Exhibit 1 to Exhibit 2 (exhibits are numbered from left to right). Obsus, with huge handfuls of straw, Femelle and Ngajji move among all three exhibits and finally settle in.

As midday approaches, Obsus trades his straw for a healthy bunch of celery stalks LaMalfa offers, Ngajji greedily grabs a couple of carrots, Femelle reaches out to grasp her celery stalks and Linda, moving about contentedly, daintily takes her carrot from LaMalfa, studies it for a moment and pops it into her mouth.

LaMalfa breaks for lunch, only to return to a group of gorillas primed for more activity, more food.



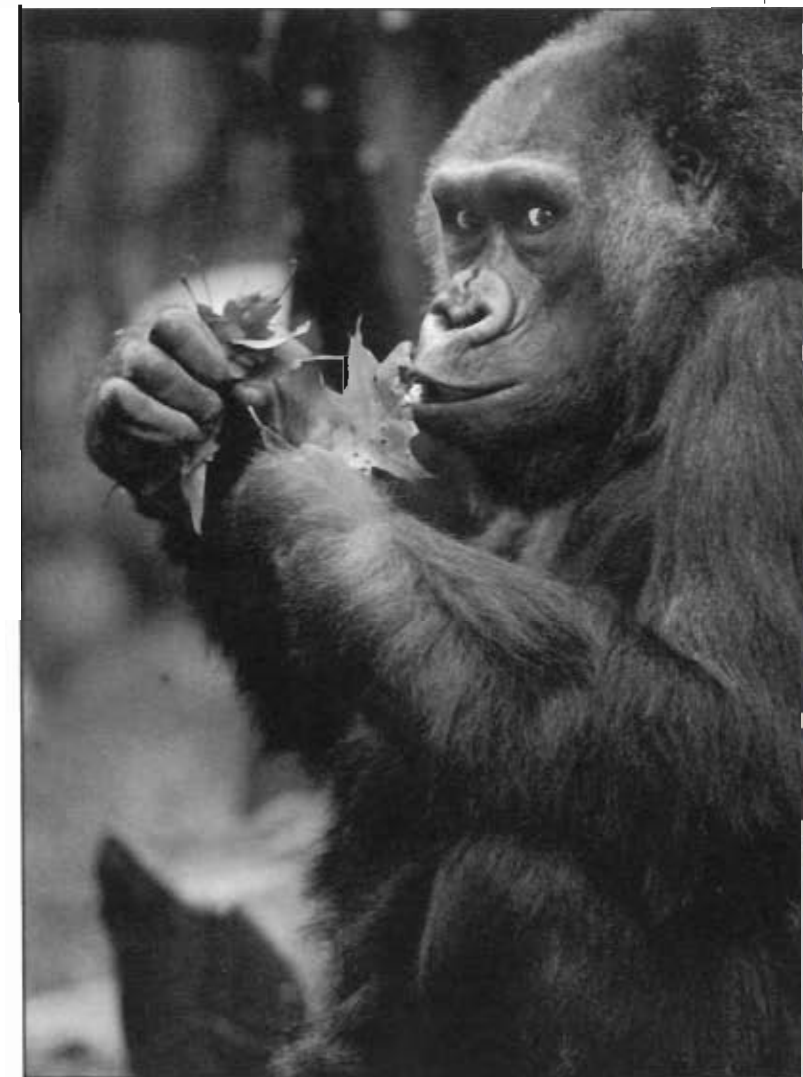
Linda, 27 years (left)

Linda is the darkest, calmest and smallest of the Zoo's female gorillas. She is petite and weighs less than 200 pounds. She's not flamboyant or pretentious. She's a mother of two sons and raised both of them herself.

Femelle, 29 years (right)



Femelle is on loan to the Milwaukee County Zoo from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. She arrived at our Zoo in 1985. Femelle is the oldest and most dominant of all the Zoo's females. She's mother to a son at the National Zoo and is expected to give birth to another baby this spring.



Popcorn, cereal, raisins and finely chopped greens are on the menu this afternoon and get shuffled into the straw. "We scatter these things around the exhibits to promote natural foraging behavior and break up the gorillas' day with something to do," LaMalfa said. Other "gorilla things," like ropes, cargo nets, rubber tires, mounted trees, and burlap sacks send Obsus and Femelle into a spirited playfulness. Linda and Ngajji use the time to socialize and mingle.

It's about 3 p.m. and the group readies for dinner, a meal with even more variety than the first. And about a half hour later, activity slows. It's siesta time and the gorillas stretch out to doze.

Impatient with the gorillas' seemingly boring existence, some Zoo visitors begin

taunting, teasing and yelling at the animals, hoping they'll wake up. "Especially when the animals aren't as animated, active or social as the public expects them to be, people don't know how to respond to them," LaMalfa said. "We feel it's

our job as animal caretakers to educate the public on the importance of respecting the animals."

Adjectives like "ugly" and "mean-looking" start dominating people's loud observations. Though only unintelligible noises to the gorillas, these observations

disturb LaMalfa and the three keepers who work with all the Zoo's primates.

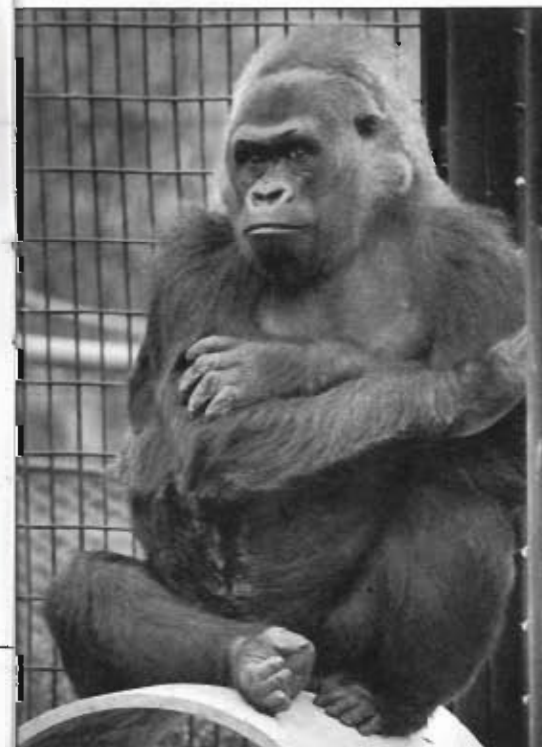
LaMalfa hopes that the new Great Ape Facility, scheduled to open in May, will help change the public's perceptions of the gorilla by destroying some of the myths

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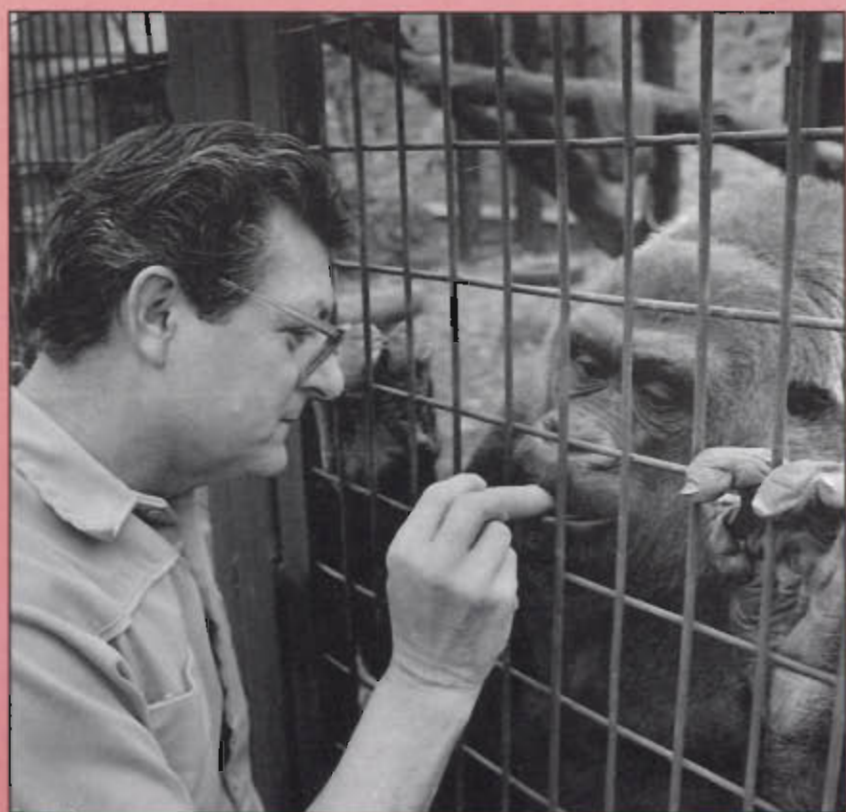
Obsus, 10 years

Obsus is the Zoo's only male Lowland Gorilla. He's the youngest and most demonstrative of all the Zoo's gorillas and occasionally enjoys antagonizing the female gorillas. He arrived at the Zoo on April 5, 1984.



Ngajji, 26 years

Ngajji is the most solid in stature of the Zoo's female gorillas, with her broad shoulders and strong, blocky build. The letters in Ngajji's name represent a combination of initials of zookeepers working with gorillas in Holland, Ngajji's original home.



Sam LaMalfa offers a carrot to Ngaiji, one of the Zoo's female gorillas.

ON THE JOB

Sam LaMalfa, Primate Area Supervisor
Milwaukee County Zoo

From the time he was just old enough to understand that people have to work to earn a living, Sam LaMalfa knew he wanted to be a zookeeper.

He'd spend his summers—"back in the '50's"—on the streetcar or bus looking forward to his twice-a-week visit to the Zoo—then in Washington Park—where he could watch the animals, especially the great apes.

"I remember watching with envy a woman named Edith Scott, behind the animal cage playing with the zoo's new little gorillas," LaMalfa reminisced. "The more I watched, the more I knew I wanted to take care of the great apes."

So, he chased that dream. After graduating from high school and serving four years in the Navy, LaMalfa joined the Zoo—at its present location—as a keeper. "When I started working here in 1964, the Zoo was only about 30 percent completed, with only a couple of bear dens, a moose in a fenced-in yard, a few large dirt yards full of holes and trenches, and the Primate House."

Twenty-eight years and one job promotion later, LaMalfa still enjoys the day-to-day, hands-on work with the gorillas and bonobos in his charge.

"I feel I have an individual rapport with each of our gorillas and bonobos," LaMalfa said. "They're used to a cleaning and feeding routine and they trust me." LaMalfa's awareness of the gorillas' and bonobos' individual personalities and intelligence has helped LaMalfa cultivate the trust and acceptance of the Zoo's great apes over the years.


"It's a wonderful feeling to know I mean something to these animals, that I have a bearing on their life and perhaps on the future of the gorilla and bonobo species," LaMalfa said.



OUR GORILLA FAMILY

Hollywood has spun. "We want to erase some of the mythical images people have of the gorilla and start instilling some sense of reality and some respect," LaMalfa said. "Unfortunately, it's difficult to expect the public to appreciate the animals when they're housed in what is essentially no more than stainless-steel, bathroom-tile exhibits."

Though there was a time when today's Primate Building was considered a state-of-the-art facility, the new Great Ape Facility will be almost everything the existing Primate Building is not. The new facility—built with both the animals' needs and zoogoers' interests in mind—will feature a waterfall with a pool, two sand areas, real and gunnite (sprayed concrete) trees, murals depicting West African rain forests, and, most important to the gorillas, more naturalistic space.

"Seeing the gorillas in an environment that more closely resembles their natural habitat will make people more aware of their importance and will reduce the visitors' tendency to raise their voices at the animals or mock them," LaMalfa said. "Hopefully, the facility will promote greater stewardship toward these remarkable animals." 

The Milwaukee County Zoo also owns five gorillas that aren't presently housed here. The following Milwaukee County Zoo gorillas are on breeding/exhibit loan to these zoos: Tino, Hogle Park, Salt Lake City; Mandava, National Zoo, Washington, D.C.; and Bobby, Bibi Sana, and Vip, Franklin Park Zoo, Boston.

Single Parents and Upgraded Members!

IS THERE A BETTER MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY FOR YOU?

Over the past year, we've listened to many suggestions from our members and have paid special attention to the needs of single parents and members wanting to give more than \$100 for increased benefits. We can now accommodate requests from both.

Single parents currently under any of the "Family" categories can now bring a guest to the Zoo, and we'll consider the guest as the second adult on the membership card.

For members who want to increase their levels of giving in return for more benefits, we've established the following new membership levels: Associate (\$200), Advocate (\$300) and Benefactor (\$400). Each lets a family plus four guests and

children or grandchildren under 18 enjoy all the regular benefits of membership plus additional benefits listed in the grid below, like certificates for education workshops, Zoo admission passes, behind-the-scenes tours and a breakfast with the Zoo's curators and keepers.

If your current level of membership is right for you, please use the grid below as a reminder of your benefits.

Critter Conversation:

BUILDING THE APES' NEW HOME
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

How would you go about re-creating a gorilla's natural rain forest habitat in Milwaukee? How would you exhibit the animals? How would you protect your plantings from destruction?

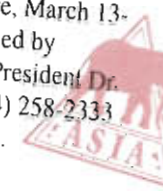
Through slides, learn how three people close to the development of the new Great Ape Facility answered these and dozens of

other questions at the next Critter Conversation, at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, February 22 in the Education Center at the Zoo. Guest presenters are Mark Schmidt, construction administrator with C.G. Schmidt; Tom Schultz, project superintendent with Schwabe Construction; and Jan Rafert, primate and small mammal curator at the Zoo. Admission and parking are free. To make a reservation, call (414) 258-2333.

Pack Your Bags For...

Indonesia.

The Zoological Society invites travelers to explore the natural history and folklore of Indonesia on a guided trip there, March 13-29. The trip will be led by Zoological Society President Dr. Gil Boese. Call (414) 258-2333 for more information.



National Geographic Specials

A season's worth of National Geographic specials, the most-watched programs on public television, will be brought into your home this season thanks, in part, to the Zoological Society's underwriting support. Tune in to Channel 10 for local broadcasts of the following:

Eternal Enemies: Lions and Hyenas
Scheduled to air: Wednesday, January 22 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, January 26 at 5 p.m.

The Mexicans: Through Their Eyes
Scheduled to air: Wednesday, February 26 at 8 p.m. [may air at 9 p.m.]

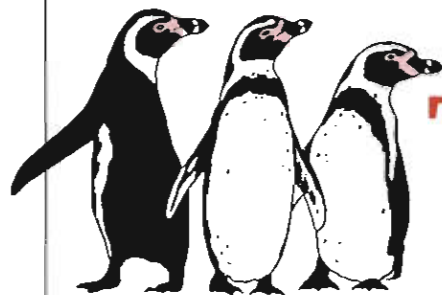
Hawaii: Strangers in Paradise
Tentatively scheduled to air: March [call 278-1415 for date and time]

Let the Orangutans Loose!

Help open the doors to a new word for Zoo orangutans Dick, Saba and their son, Thomas O. With your support, we can move this family, currently living in the Primate House, outdoors. If you want to be responsible for letting the oranges loose in Milwaukee, we want everybody to know. If you contribute \$10 or more to the Orangutan Appeal, your name will appear at the new exhibit. Call (414) 258-2333 to make a contribution.

	\$35 Individual	\$40 Indiv +1	\$45 Family	\$60 Family +1	\$100 Family +3	\$200 Associate	\$300 Advocate	\$400 Benefactor
Free Admission								
Gift Shop Discount								
Alive Magazine Subscription								
Members Only Events								
Members Only Field Trips								
Invitation to Exhibit Premieres								
Education Workshop Discounts								
Children's Birthday Party Discounts								
Admission to 130 Other Zoos								
Number of Guests included on Membership		1		1	3	4	4	4
Education Workshop Certificate								
Additional Guest Passes						2	4	6
Behind the Scenes Tour								
Breakfast with Curators/Keepers								

* Please contact the Zoological Society if you desire information on the Patron and Corporate membership programs.



The Penguin Project

The Chilean and Peruvian coastline, home to the Humboldt Penguin, is more than 6,000 miles away from Milwaukee, but conservationists from the Milwaukee County Zoo are working on a way to bring themselves closer to the wild Humboldts for a better understanding of the animals' diet and reproductive success rate in the wild. They hope their research will find an answer to help zoos save this threatened species from extinction.

For Humboldt Penguins, once the dominant penguin species along the Chilean and Peruvian coastline, life has been rough. For decades, humans have been over-fishing the birds' food source and industry has been removing the birds' nesting sites for fertilizer. Add to this grim picture the El Niño, a periodic shifting of the cold-water Humboldt Current, that is not only associated with coastal water warming but also a decline in fish populations. The El Niño, which for years had been occurring only a couple of times a decade, has been occurring once or twice a year over the past ten years and has taken much of the penguins' food source with it. All of these factors have contributed to the loss of about 70 percent of Peruvian Humboldt Penguin colonies. Today, fewer than 20,000 Humboldts are left in the wild.

This tragic history of food deprivation and penguin deaths helped zoos decide to intensify efforts to propagate the Humboldt Penguin by designating the species for captive management under a Species Survival Plan (SSP). The Humboldt was the first penguin species to be designated as such. This SSP designation meant that all participating zoos would work toward breeding and maintaining as much genetic diversity as possible among captive



Margaret Michaels (left), a veterinary technician at the Zoo, works with Becky Loehe, a bird keeper, to draw a blood sample from Dickie, one of 11 Humboldt Penguins involved in a study of the penguins' nutritional needs.

Humboldts without taking more penguins from the wild. Since 1988, when the Humboldt Penguin was designated an SSP animal, Zoo staffs across the country have found that one thing is clear: Humboldt Penguins are very difficult to raise in captivity.

"Though the Milwaukee County Zoo's Humboldt Penguins have a fairly successful reproductive rate, we've found that in captivity their overall reproductive success is poor and that the number of penguin

chicks that survive to adulthood is small," said Roberta Wallace, the Milwaukee County Zoo's staff veterinarian. "We need to know more about the normal biological parameters of these birds in order to adequately care for and manage these birds in captivity."

These observations led Wallace and a team of veterinary technicians, zookeepers, Zoo Pride volunteers and several of the Zoo's senior staff to investigate whether a defect in the penguin's diet at the Zoo is

among the factors that may explain the penguins' relatively low reproductive success and chick survivorship.

Because little is known about exactly what Humboldt Penguins eat in the wild, it seemed reasonable to feed the Humboldts at the Zoo different types of fish plus vitamin and mineral supplements each day, Wallace said. "But it all seemed so arbitrary," she admitted. "Who knows if what we're feeding them meets their reproductive needs? What about the quality of their food? Who knows how long the fish we feed them has been frozen? Who knows who handled the fish when they were caught and sent to the distributor, loaded onto the truck and emptied into our freezer?"

Answers to all of these questions may never be known, Wallace acknowledged, but analyzing the fish the penguins are eating at the Zoo right now and quantifying the penguins' food intake will help Zoo staff collect some baseline data that ultimately will lead to a better understanding of what's normal in terms of the birds' levels of vitamins and minerals in their blood.

One woman who has figured prominently in this day-to-day study of the penguins' diets is Margaret Michaels, a five-year veterinary technician at the Zoo. Michaels spends about a day per month taking blood samples from the 11 penguins that are part of this project. When analyzing the samples, she looks for blood parasites, checks total protein and hemoglobin levels, performs a white cell count, and prepares blood samples for outside vitamin, chemistry, and mineral analysis. She says she couldn't do her job, though, without funding support from the Zoological Society; project approval from Ed Diebold, the Zoo's curator of birds; and the cooperation of many other people at the

Zoo, from keepers to volunteers. "This is truly a zoo-wide project," Michaels said.

The birds' nutritional analysis really starts with a dedicated pair of bird keepers, Mary Jo Willis and Becky Loehe, and several rotating keepers. With tape recorders in their pockets, the keepers begin their days by feeding the birds and recording the band identification of each bird and the type and quantity of fish fed to each bird.


Then, a group of Zoo Pride volunteers, who are part of the organization's Animal Watch Committee led by Kaye Lynne Carpenter, visit the Zoo three times a week to transcribe the tapes and record the keepers' information onto a data sheet. Though one of Carpenter's data sheets shows one penguin eating 111 fish at one feeding, the average number eaten at a feeding is between 20 and 40 fish, depending on the size of fish, Wallace said. "From the recordings, we've found most of the penguins hate anchovies but love smelt, and that some have bigger appetites than others," Wallace said.

With this information as well as data on the average weight and nutrition content of fish eaten, Wallace collates the data into actual numbers of fish eaten at the end of every week and again at the end of every month, hoping to note long-term trends in food intake. She will rely on the Zoo's senior staff veterinarian, Dr. Andrew Teare, to develop a computer program that will help her analyze all the data, once it is compiled.

"From the data already gathered on our Humboldts, the birds look and seem normal," Wallace said, "but we'll never know unless we compare our results with the results of blood samples from wild penguins."



And a visit to Chile isn't totally out of reach. Recently, the Institute of Museum Services (IMS) approved a \$25,000 research grant that would allow two or three people to go to Chile twice to collect blood samples from the Humboldts living there. The Chilean government has issued a permit that would let Zoo staff handle the penguins in the wild and export blood samples to the United States. And the U.S. Department of Agriculture already has approved the importation of penguin blood samples into the United States. The only pending import permit is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All permits must be approved before Wallace and her team can proceed with the international portion of the study. "I'm convinced that the \$10,400 the Zoological Society committed to this project helped us win the IMS grant and the chance to study these birds' nutritional status in the wild," Wallace said. "That kind of support is looked favorably upon by grant decision-makers."

Once all the numbers are in from this study and trends are documented, Wallace hopes to share her findings with other zoos committed to saving this highly threatened species from extinction. 

Dr. Roberta Wallace, Milwaukee County Zoo staff veterinarian, and keeper Mary Jo Willis presented the preliminary results of this study at the Tenth Dr. Scholl Conference on the Nutrition of Captive Wild Animals in December at Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo.

Paving the Way



If you ever get a chance to meet teachers who work at a zoo—a real zoo—you'll get the impression that they want to share more than just facts about animals. They want to excite interest in animal conservation and motivate people to learn on their own.

To help educators at the Milwaukee County Zoo stimulate a desire to learn among children and adults, the Zoological Society's Education Department is rapidly changing the way it does business.

The Education Department, locally considered a leader in environmental and zoological education and respected by zoos across the country, is becoming nimbler, more able to respond quickly and thoughtfully to the conservation education needs of Society members and the public.

"We always want to provide more educational opportunities to more people, and that means continually updating and expanding our program offerings," said Mary Thiry, director of the department. "So, we put on a new face and decided to head in a new direction."

To help establish the department's direction, Thiry solicited several months' worth of guidance from her staff and the Society's education advisory committee, made up of university and elementary school teachers, Zoo Pride volunteers, civic leaders and Society staff.

Here's what they suggested: start offering monthly workshops for older children and families, enhance existing school programs, and expand the number and variety of summer camps.

Well, consider it done. The Society now offers something for everybody, year-round.

This winter, older kids (7-12 years) who don't know what to do on their weekends off can come to the Zoo to learn more about animal homes, endangered animals and camouflage through in-Zoo visits, classroom instruction and hands-on learning activities. They also will have a chance to meet people like the Zoo's animal keepers, local artists, photographers and other guest instructors.

If whole families can't decide what to do on the weekends, they can experience the Zoo together, once a month, and learn during their visits.

Among the animals families can learn about this winter are baby animals, predators, and animals that stay together for survival. All of these programs are designed for families with children who are six and older.

While in school, kids will benefit from the department's school program expansion. "We've started to establish some in-depth learning workshops at the Zoo on special topics like the rain forest or other animal habitats that might match

teachers' in-class curricula," Thiry said, acknowledging that this change won't happen until February. Other school programs targeted for expansion are the Dairy Council of Wisconsin's Dairy Program for first graders in Milwaukee Public Schools and workshops for young school kids like Turkey Days and Dairy Farm Delight.

Even in summer the Society won't let learning stop. The Education Department's perennially popular Summer Camp Program will feature twice the number of summer camps offered in previous years and camps



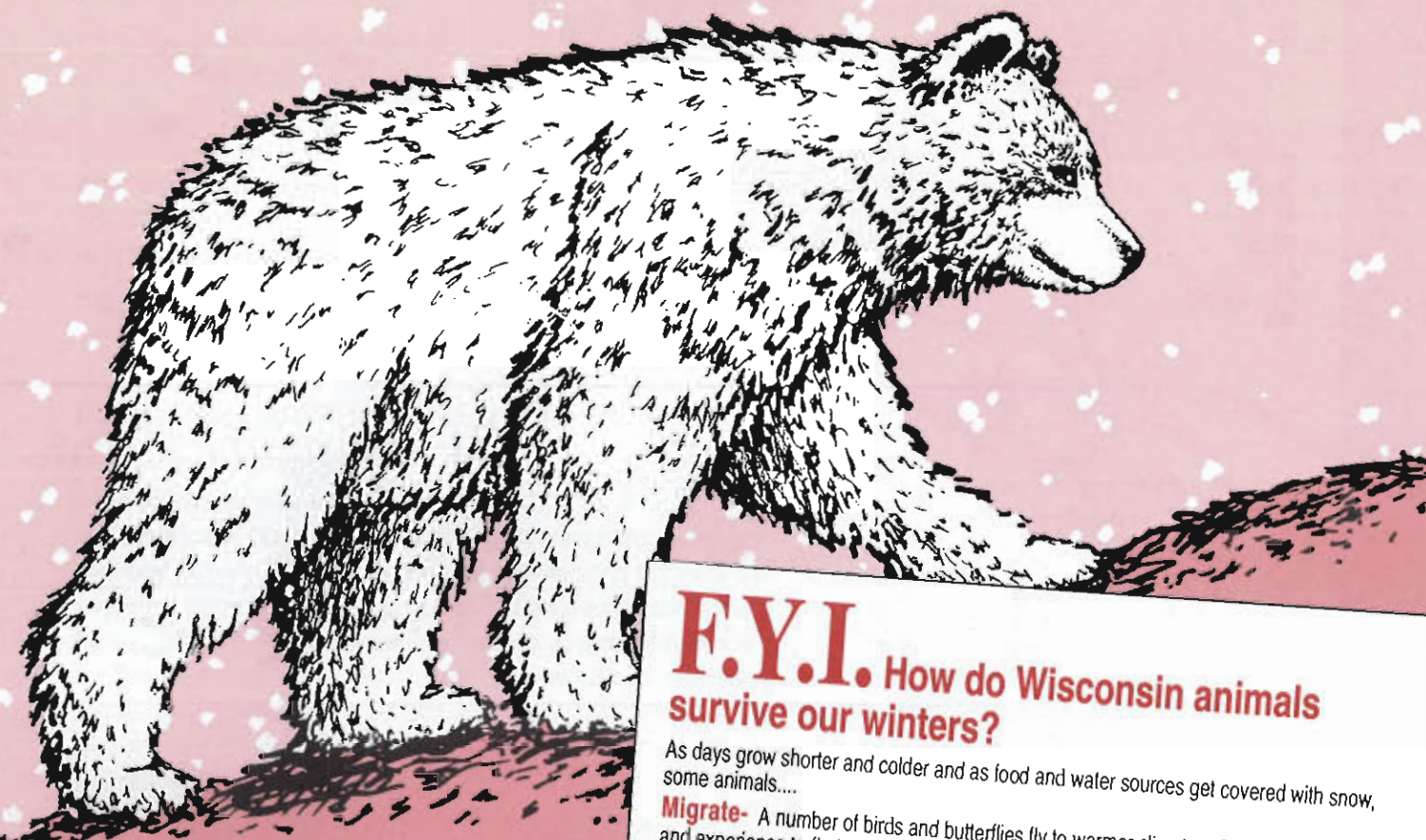
Alive 2 art by Tricia Bouse

ALIVE 2

PULL-OUT SECTION

For Kids and families

Kids! After you read this section, go back to the bold words, look them up in your dictionary, or visit your library to learn more about these words.



F.Y.I. How do Wisconsin animals survive our winters?

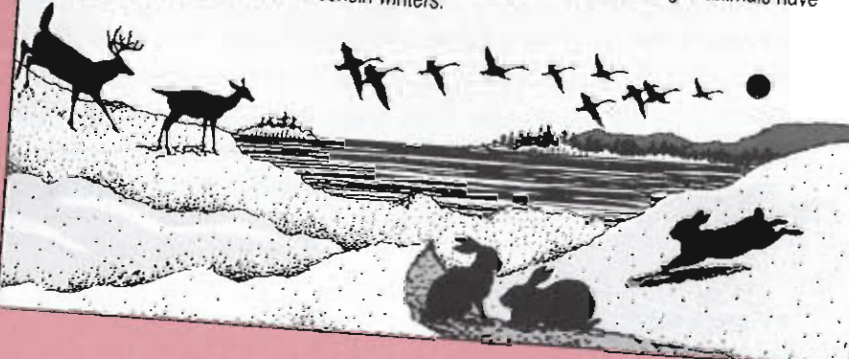
As days grow shorter and colder and as food and water sources get covered with snow, some animals...

Migrate- A number of birds and butterflies fly to warmer climates. They use the sun, stars and experience to find their way.

Hibernate- The Brown Bat, Woodchuck and 13-line Ground Squirrel hibernate. While hibernating, an animal's body temperature goes down, its heart rate slows, and the animal lives off of its stored fat.

Sleep- Animals like bears and badgers sleep through winter, but their body temperatures do not change dramatically. At times during the winter, these animals may wake up and leave their dens.

Remain Active- Those animals that remain active may change throughout the season. Some change color, some grow thicker fur or feathers, and some group together for warmth. Study the animals in your backyard and see if you can notice what changes animals have made to help them survive Wisconsin winters.



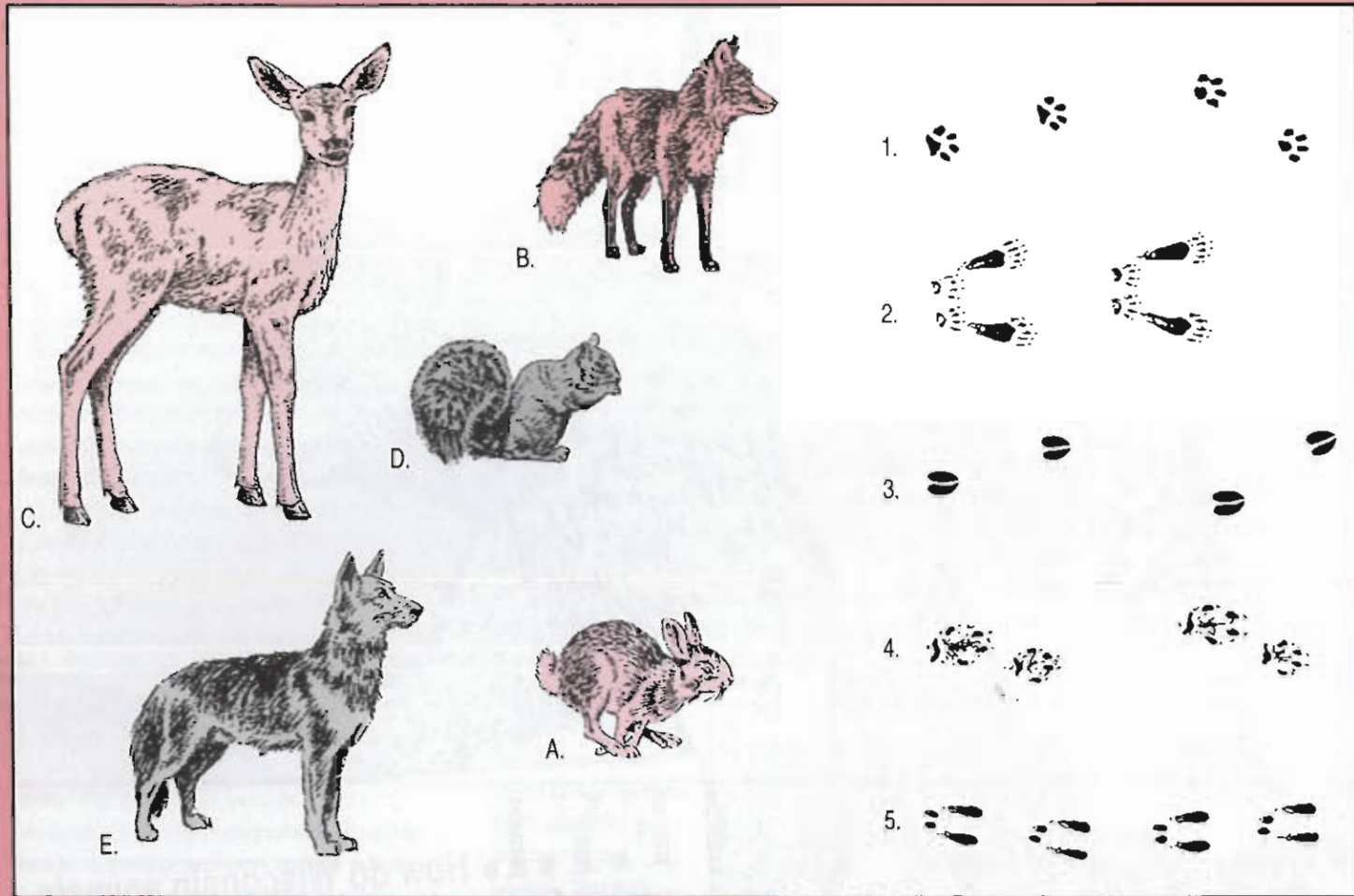
American Black Bear

The name "black bear" is a misnomer. This bear can be white, cinnamon or black. The Zoo has a variety of black bears of different colors. Black Bears are the smallest of all North American bears. The Black Bear is omnivorous, which means that it eats just about everything—fruits, nuts, fish, birds and **carrion**. It lives in dense, wooded areas of North America. In fact, there are more Black Bears in North America than any other bear. In Wisconsin, you can find Black Bears throughout the northern part of our state. During winter, bears do not **hibernate**. Instead, they just go into a heavy sleep.

—by Mary Thiry

Tracking Down the Mammal Tracks

Can you match the tracks with the animals that belong to them? Draw a line from the animal to its tracks.



ANSWERS: A-5, B-4, C-3, D-2, E-1

Fun With Backyard Tracks

MATCH A TRACK.

Take this page and your family outside and look for tracks that match those pictured above. Have one person keep score to see who can identify the most animal tracks correctly.

MAKE A TRACK TO KEEP.

When you find a good track in the mud or snow, you might want to make a copy, or cast, of the track to keep. You can do this by using plaster of Paris and a ring cut from a plastic bottle. When you find a track in the mud you want to copy, set the ring around the track, mix the plaster according to directions, pour in the plaster and let it harden. Then, gently lift the hardened plaster and let it dry some more indoors. If you find a track in the snow you want to copy, be prepared to be patient. Making a cast of a track in snow is a little more difficult, but not impossible. You need the same supplies listed above and a spray bottle of water. When you find a well-defined track in the snow, lightly spray the track several times with water. Once it looks like you have an ice impression, put the plastic ring around it and follow the same procedure used in making casts of the mud track. Whether you choose to make a cast of mud or snow tracks, you are on your way to keeping 3-D records of the animals that visit your home.

THE CURIOUS CORNER



WHY DO GORILLAS HAVE POCKETS UNDER THEIR ARMPITS?

Gorillas do not have pockets under their armpits, but they do have sweat glands. These glands can get quite large in some gorillas and may look like pockets. The purpose of the sweat gland is to help animals reduce their body temperature, but some scientists believe that the male gorilla, whose sweat gland gives off an aroma, uses its odor to announce its presence to other gorillas.

Submitted by: Alison Jacobs, 10, Wauwatosa

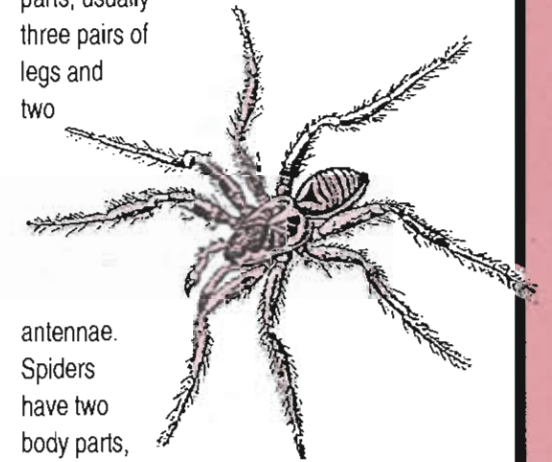
IF THEY CALL A HIPPOPOTAMUS A WATER HORSE, IS IT IN THE HORSE FAMILY?

A hippopotamus is not a member of the horse family. The word "hippopotamus" is Greek for "river horse." Hippos are members of the even-toed ungulate (hoofed) order and horses are members of the odd-toed ungulates. Hippos have four toes. Here are some more interesting facts on hippos. There are two species of hippos, the pygmy hippo and the one at our Zoo, the common hippo. The male hippo, an **herbivore** (plant-eating animal), can get as large as 15 feet and can weigh up to 6,000 pounds. It lives in groups throughout Africa and can live up to 50 years in captivity. For short distances, the hippo can reach speeds of up to 18 m.p.h.

Submitted by: Matt Blasinski, 8, Wind Lake

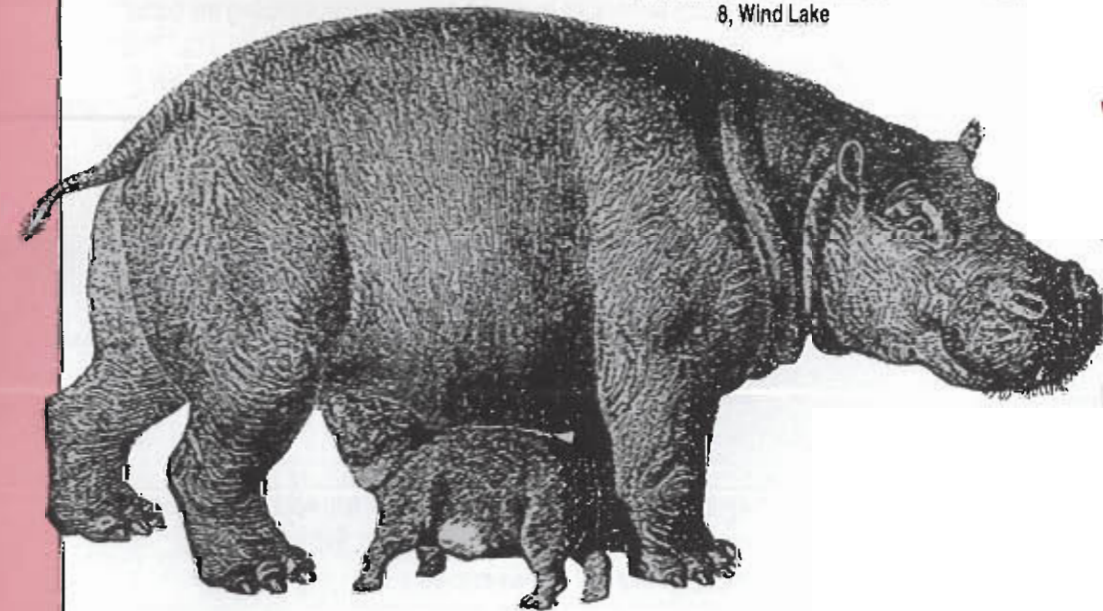
IS A SPIDER AN INSECT?

Spiders and insects are **invertebrates** (animals without a backbone) and both are members of the phylum **Arthropoda** (animals with segmented bodies and jointed limbs); however, spiders are not insects nor are insects spiders. Insects have three body parts, usually three pairs of legs and two



antennae. Spiders have two body parts, four pairs of legs and no antennae. There are about 20,000 different kinds of spiders and more than 700,000 different kinds of insects.

Submitted by: Joe Hable, 7, Fort Atkinson



We want to hear from you!

If you'd like us to answer your animal questions and you're 12 years old or younger, then write to us:

Curious Corner—Alive,
Zoological Society,
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.,
Milwaukee, WI 53226.

If we answer your question here, you will receive an inflatable Jungle Giraffe. The 3-foot-tall giraffe comes with fun facts.

Education Programs

Families and older children can now learn more about animals and our environment, thanks to a series of new workshops the Zoological Society has added to its list of program offerings. The Society also has enhanced programs offered to very young children and preschoolers. With these new and enhanced programs comes a **new registration procedure**. Instead of filling out the form you're used to seeing on this page, please request a Winter Program/Registration Booklet or Tiny Tots/Preschool program flyers by sending **one** business-sized, stamped, self-addressed envelope per child to: Society Education, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226. **To register for any January programs, call (414) 256-5421.** All education programs are coordinated by the Zoological Society and the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension.

NEW

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Here's a chance for the whole family to get involved in a morning or afternoon of fun and learning. Each workshop below features an informational session, in-Zoo learning, and hands-on activities. The workshops are designed for families with children six years and older; however, younger children in the family may also attend. \$15/workshop per family for Zoological Society members and \$25/workshop per family for non-members (includes parking). Workshops offered:

Predators: It's a Hard Way to Make a Living

January 19, 1-3 p.m.

Family Life—Animals That Work Together Stay Together

February 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

Zoo Babies

March 28, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

Experimenting With Nature

April 11, 1-3 p.m.

NEW

OLDER YOUTH WORKSHOPS

These new Saturday workshops are for individual children enrolled in first through sixth grade. \$10 for Society members and \$15 for non-members. Workshops offered:

Animal Homes (first and second grade)

January 18, 9:30-11:30 a.m. or 1-3 p.m.

Endangered Animals (fourth through sixth grade)

February 8, 1-3 p.m.

The How's and Why's of Camouflage (first and second grade)

March 14, 1-3 p.m.

TINY TOTS WORKSHOPS

These 1-1/2-hour workshops are designed to let three-year-old children and their parents learn about animals together. In January, participants will learn about farm animals; in February, ocean animals; in March, animal coverings; in April, elephants; and in May, baby animals. \$12 for Society members and \$14 for non-members (parking included). Call (414) 256-5421 for a listing of program dates and times.

PRESCHOOL WORKSHOPS

Children ages four and five and six-year-olds in kindergarten can learn about enormous animals like the elephant, rhino and hippo in January, huggable and un-huggable animals in February, bears in March, penguins in April, and animals' spring homes in May. \$10 for Society members and \$12 for non-members. Call (414) 256-5421 for a listing of program dates and times.

SUMMER CAMPS

Mark Saturday, May 2 on your calendar. This is the date for Summer Camp in-person registration. Watch the spring issue of *Alive* for more information.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

NEW

DRAWING WORKSHOP

If you think you have budding artists at home who love animals, then they belong in this workshop. Children will learn and practice techniques for drawing live animals, including the gorilla, tiger and penguin, from Milwaukee-area artist Bob Gingras. This six-week workshop, for children ages 7-12, will be held March 7, 14, 21 and 28, and April 4 and 11. \$30 for Society members and \$45 for non-members (includes supplies). Enrollment is limited.


AMAZING ANIMALS - SPRING BREAK

Consider dropping your kids off at the Zoo over spring break for Amazing Animals, a workshop for children ages 4-12. Kids will be introduced to some amazing animals—champion runners, flyers, and heavyweights—and their animal teats. Sessions offered: April 20-24, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (ages 6 [in first grade] to 8 and ages 9-12). \$15 for Society members and \$20 for non-members. April 22 or 23, 9:30-noon or 1-3:30 p.m. and April 24, 9:30 a.m.-noon (ages 4, 5 and 6 [in kindergarten]). \$10 for Society members and \$12 for non-members.

designed for a wider range of age groups.

They described three major issues that led to the advisory committee's decision to expand: people of all ages—not just children—look to the Society's Education Department as an educational resource; teachers and students would appreciate an increase in outside instruction on animals that can be used as supplements to teachers' established in-class curricula; and the community-at-large would benefit from an organization that provides up-to-date, factual information on animals and the environment.

Though this winter and summer bring most of the changes recommended by the advisory committee, two frequently discussed possibilities for fall are conservation-oriented travel programs for kids and regular educational programs for senior citizens.

You heard it here first. 

For more information on educational programs at the Zoo, see page D of Alive 2 (pull-out section) or call the Society's Education Department at (414) 256-5421.

ON THE JOB

Lee Anne Norris, Educator
Individual and Family Workshops, Zoological Society

From the time she was a young girl, the life of Lee Anne Norris has revolved around animals—even the tiny potato bugs and hermit crabs she collected as a kid. Today, Norris is using her position as educator to ignite the same spark in children and adults here that kindled her passion for animals on the prairie several years ago.

Norris, an Ohio native, spent a lot of time on the prairie, absorbing the sights of birds and butterflies, consuming the smells of wildflowers and fresh air, and learning. She knew she wanted to learn more about the wildlife she saw, and she knew she wanted to share the wonders of her experiences with just about anybody who would listen.

So she took an internship with the Education Department of the Portland, Oregon Zoo. There she learned the importance of zoos and how their animal residents can be useful educational tools. And ever since, Lee Anne knew she'd never teach in a traditional classroom. She needed hands-on interaction with her students, and in her heart, she knew teaching at a zoo was perfect for her.

"Teaching here gives me the best chance to give people the will and desire to look further into what we're teaching here at the Zoo," Lee Anne said. "My goal is to stimulate learning, to get that spark going in people."

Lee Anne Norris uses Fartel, the Zoo's Screech Owl, as an educational tool to teach members of the Comaris family about predators in one of the Zoological Society's new family workshops.

EDZOOICATION

Ambassador Accolades

More than 400 students learned how to turn the Zoo into a classroom last year through the Zoological Society's Ambassador Program, an educational program involving several Milwaukee-area low-income schools, students and their families, and program sponsors.

The program, in its third year this year, teaches children—through in-class activities and two Zoo visits—about animal preservation and adaptation, ecology, and careers in zoology-related fields.

This is what Robin Squier, a fifth-grade teacher at 27th Street School, wrote of the Ambassador Program:

"As a teacher, I think the Ambassador Program is one of the most beneficial long-term programs I have found. The program gives the children information about wildlife and the environment that they otherwise might not receive. Also, the program gives the children a real sense of identity with the Zoo and a sense of a mission to promote the Zoo. Too often the children I teach find little that recognizes them. The Ambassador Program gives the children this feeling of belonging. The children the program reaches need the Ambassador Program."

If you would like to give 60 school children and their families a chance to benefit from the Ambassador Program, call Judi Bessette, (414) 258-2333.

Quilting a Rain Forest

Seniors from 18 Milwaukee-area senior centers and nursing homes haven't been playing bingo this season. They've been sewing together rain forest quilts as part of the Zoological Society's Quilt Project, sponsored by UniCare Health Facilities.

Beginning last November, children from 18 Milwaukee-area schools drew rain forest animals onto hundreds of fabric squares while learning about the importance of animal conservation. When completed, the squares were delivered to the schools' partner senior centers/nursing homes for completion.

Where Do They Go?

Ask the casual Zoo visitor to tell you where many of the Zoo's hoofed animals go in winter and he'll probably say they get shipped to zoos in warmer climates. This misconception alone makes the

Zoo's Winter Quarters—where the animals really go in winter—an intriguing topic worth exploring.

To the general public, climate seems to wield little influence on the daily life of the Zoo. People walk through the park, admire the changing autumn leaves and generally don't think about falling temperatures and how they might affect the way animals are going to deal with the long winter ahead. But Zoo staff do.

The rigors of Wisconsin's severe winters and deep snows forced Zoo administrators decades ago to find a way to house the Zoo's ungulates, or hoofed animals, in inclement weather.

Hence, the advent of the Zoo's Winter Quarters

complex, an architecturally unique area under the Feline Building of 40 animal stalls connected to spacious outdoor enclosures—the African Savannah, African

Waterhole, South American Yard, and the Bactrian Camel Yard.

Winter Quarters is a part of the Zoo not open to the public. It's a temperature-controlled area that allows keepers to easily feed and care for the animals, handle them for treatment, or confine them for routine veterinary care. Among the animals housed in this area during the winter are impalas, South American Tapirs, Thomson Gazelles, waterbucks, Greater Kudu and the Capybara. Keepers in Winter Quarters play radio music to condition these overly-wary animals to noise and will always whistle before approaching any animal to announce their presence.

Zebras, alpacas and camels, however, don't need to spend winter days inside because their body structure is more sturdy, their disposition is less cautious, and their heavy coats are adapted to harsher, colder climates. These animals are on exhibit during the day and are brought inside every evening, with access to the outside.

So, when is "cold" too cold for Winter Quarter's animals to go outdoors during the day? Bob Hoffmann, Winter Quarters area supervisor, is the man who decides.

Hoffmann, a longtime Zoo employee, keeps track of the ground conditions and temperature each autumn. "When the ground gets too slippery and the temperature dips below 40 degrees, we start preparing to bring the animals in for the winter," he said.

This is an involved ritual that happens every day.

Before bringing the animals in, keepers make sure all the animals' exercise yards are clear. Then, they begin a

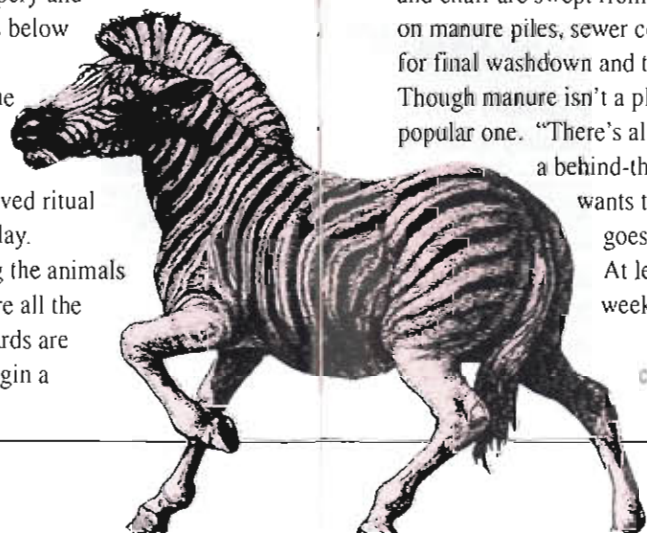
complicated, yet systematic, course of opening, closing and locking Cyclone fences, gates and stall doors.

"Once the animals are in for the season, there is no such thing as a typical day," Hoffmann said. "Any number of things can interrupt our daily routine—behind-the-scenes tours, meetings, medical procedures, shipping animals out or getting in new animals, and hay loads..."

Assuming no such interruptions, Hoffmann and his keepers generally begin their days by checking all animal and bird stalls for anything abnormal, reading daily animal reports, and checking for any medical treatments needed.

Then, keepers prepare to clean the animals' stalls by "shifting" the animals into adjoining stalls. "We're always careful not to crowd too many animals into one stall," Hoffmann said.

After stripping stalls of soiled and wet bedding, keepers hose down the stall and sweep excess water away. Then, water bowls are disinfected and filled, and aisles are washed down. After all excess straw and chaff are swept from gutters and placed on manure piles, sewer covers are opened for final washdown and then replaced. Though manure isn't a pleasant topic, it is a popular one. "There's always somebody on a behind-the-scenes tour who wants to know where it all goes," Hoffmann said. At least three times a week, a manure removal



Bob Hoffmann holds Christen, an alpaca, during a routine check-up.

ON THE JOB

Bob Hoffmann, Area Supervisor
Winter Quarters, Milwaukee County Zoo

Not only has Bob Hoffmann become an integral part of the landscape for animals in Winter Quarters. He's become an integral part of the landscape at the Zoo. After all, he's got more than a quarter century of Zoo service under his belt. "And even after all these years, I still look forward to getting up in the morning to go to work," Hoffmann said.

Though the one-sheet, single-spaced typed job description lists dozens of Hoffmann's responsibilities as a manager, there is only one non-management duty on the list, and it's the one Hoffmann likes most: being a keeper.

This part of the job description lets Hoffmann work closely with his keepers to ensure the health of the animals in his charge—a job that requires a lot of work, attention, intuition and constant dedication.

To become the exceptional animal caretaker he is, Hoffmann established relationships with each one of his animals—relationships so personal that he can detect almost any deviation in their behavior.

Equally committed to building relationships with Zoo visitors, Hoffmann said, "I want people to feel like they've seen beautiful animals here, learned something about them, and want to bring back their friends."

continued on next page

truck visits Winter Quarters and vacuums manure piles on both ends of the complex. "It's a unique system and it makes the keepers' jobs a lot easier," Hoffmann said.

A couple of other features, including track-mounted stall partitions and built-in showers for the tapirs, Capybara and birds, make the keepers' daily animal care and cleaning routines go quickly.

Hoffmann said the partitions are especially helpful when pregnant animals need to be separated into maternity stalls for birthing; when Zoo vets need to check newborn animals; when an animal needs to be immobilized; and when animals need to be tagged or tattooed for identification purposes. Keepers also acknowledge that the moveable partitions help them when they simply need more room to work with a group of animals.

After cleaning stalls, keepers go to opposite ends of Winter Quarters, open the hay rooms' massive doors and gather food for the animals—alfalfa, timothy hay and grain. "We order hay and food supplies twice a week from the Zoo Commissary," Hoffmann said. "The regularity of our

Winter Quarters, Dec 9, 1991

1. Births, Birthings or transfers INTO the zoo
 2. Deaths or transfers OUT of the zoo
 3. Transfers within the zoo
 4. Introduction - Births, mating, pregnancy, hatching eggs, etc.
 5. Daily changes - cage changes, etc.
 6. Behavioral changes - with groups, aggression, etc.
 7. Medical - Blood, fecal, urinalysis, etc.
 8. Special care - Treatments, food items, etc.
 9. Special projects - Cage changes, building modifications, etc.
 10. Additional requests, remarks, suggestions, observations, etc.
 11. Messages for next visitors (through telephone)

NUMBER REMARKS

1. Thomson's Gazelle, Alpa
 F2350 gave birth to a female.
 Sired by Omar F2325
 Dr. Wallace will do a new
 born work up on 10 Dec 21. R.O.H.

2. Nightman; Watch for nesting
 in Stall 33. R.O.H.

3. A hard wood leg was placed
 in Stall 33 for Capybara
 Susy. C.F. 4598. R.O.H.

4. Next impending birth is
 Cal Tapala Canga F 2692. R.O.H.

5. 1.0 Tapala M 3426 born Nov 16,
 1991 has been named Jay
 after George H. R. R. Jay Stokham.
 www.zoo.edu Hoffmann

Welcome to
Winter Quarters

These animals
are indoors all winter:


- Impalas
- Thomson Gazelles
- Waterbucks
- Greater Kudus
- South American Tapirs
- Patagonian Cavy
- Ostrich
- Rheas
- Capybara
- Hornbills

These animals may go outside
during the day in winter:

- Zebras
- Alpacas
- Camels

orders helps ensure the quality of the food."

Keepers fill food bunkers with the animals' daily feed and then return to the hay room for healthy helpings of straw for the animals' beds, made according to the animals' size. "In the winter, especially, we try to make the animals as comfortable as possible by making bigger straw beds that provide insulation for the animals," Hoffmann said.

At the end of the day, all keepers fill out a Daily Report (see graphic, this page), fill the animals' water bowls for the night, close the hay room doors, check all locks on the animal stalls, check animals that have access to the outside yards at night, open the doors in the Camel Barn so that camels can come in at night, and turn off all radios and other electrical appliances. Finally, after his staff file out of Winter Quarters, Hoffmann turns off the lights and leaves his animals with a warm adieu, "Good night, you lucky animals." 

If you want to go on a behind-the-scenes tour of Winter Quarters, call the Zoo Pride Office at (414) 258-5667.

ZOO PRIDE VOLUNTEERS

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

This winter, get a behind-the-scenes look at Winter Quarters and other areas of the Zoo during tours led by Zoo Pride volunteers. Volunteers introduce guests to the keepers who care for the animals, share information about the animals, and give groups a behind-the-scenes peek at what a typical day is like for Zoo staff. Tours are offered daily and cost \$7.50 per person and \$5 per student or senior citizen (Zoo admission and parking not included). To arrange a tour, call (414) 258-5667.

Hippo Birthday!

Celebrate your birthday with more than 2,500 exotic animals at the Zoo. As guest of honor, you'll receive a birthday present and personalized cake, and each of your guests will get to take a mini-tour of the Zoo, participate in birthday activities and take home a special gift, courtesy of Zoo Pride. To party with the animals at the Zoo on your next birthday, call (414) 258-5667 at least three weeks in advance of your requested date.

Need a Speaker?

If your civic group, club or association wants to hear about Zoo animals, the role our Zoo plays in animal conservation, and recent renovations and new exhibits at the Zoo, then get a Zoo Pride volunteer on your organization's next agenda. Presentations include a slide show and dialogue with the audience. Call (414) 258-5667.

Entertainment Book Sale

Help the Zoo hospital purchase what it needs to keep the animals healthy by buying an Entertainment '92 Book from Zoo Pride. The books include 50%-off coupons to restaurants, movies, sports events and tourist spots in Southeastern Wisconsin. To order, call (414) 258-5667. Books cost \$33 via mail, and \$6 from each purchase goes toward meeting hospital needs.

SUPPORT SNAPSHOTS

Our Way to Say "Thanks"

No doubt about it. The future is in our hands. We are the ones who will or will not stop habitat destruction and so many other threats to the plant and animal species that share our world. Through its wide-ranging education programs, the Zoological Society teaches respect for our environment, thanks to the support of a key group of individual, corporate and foundation sponsors. These sponsors have helped the Society stimulate people's desire to learn about wildlife and the environment by supporting education programs like the Ambassador Program and the Quilt Project. If you want to join these sponsors in securing our future, call Judi Bessette at (414) 258-2333.

Susan and Christopher Carter (left) and Debbie and Christopher Spooner place sponsor recognition plaques onto a donor board called "Paving Our Way to the Future." The board acknowledges sponsor support for the Zoological Society's education programs.



**Bon APE-tite
February 29**

When was the last time a Lowland Gorilla or Bonobo invited you to dinner? Here's your chance to experience the Great Ape Facility in a way no one has or ever will. On February 29 at 6 p.m., you can take a trip through the gorillas' and bonobos' new home, enjoy dinner and listen to West African music. You can also learn about the facility's design and construction during a brief presentation by Dr. Gil Boese, Zoological Society president; Jan Rafert, the Zoo's curator of primates and small mammals; and Sandy Vojik, 1992 International Gorilla Workshop chair. Please call Judi Bessette to make a reservation. \$125 per person (valet parking included).

Jill and Jim Bauer (left) and Janet and Bill Schmus, co-chairs of the February fund-raiser, Bon APE-tite, take culinary lessons from a plush Lowland Gorilla inside the new Great Ape Facility.



Zoo Ball Brass

If it seems like you just slipped out of the toga you wore to last summer's Zoo Ball, it's time to start getting ready for Zoo Ball IX, to be held Saturday, June 27. Leading this year's ball are longtime friends of the Zoological Society, Paul and Patty Cadorin and Bill and Sandi Moomey. If you want to help the Cadorins and the Moomeys plan the Society's biggest fund-raising event of the year, call Judi Bessette at (414) 258-2333.

Do the Zoo in Winter, Too

Warm up to the cold by stepping inside the Zoo's animal buildings this winter. Every weekend from January through March, 1-3 p.m., you can learn more about the Zoo's animals—their habits, habitats, and adaptations—by attending Animals in Action presentations (call 414-771-3040 for a presentation schedule) or by talking with volunteer guides in each animal building on weekends from 1-3 p.m. In the Peck Welcome Center visitors can watch educational nature films, learn about and touch animal artifacts on Remains to Be Seen carts, and pet live animals exhibited at the Discovery Farm petting ring. All of these programs except Discovery Farm are supported and/or staffed by Zoo Pride volunteers. Zoo Pride is the volunteer auxiliary of the Zoological Society.

Winter Wonderland

Come to the Zoo's Winter Wonderland Weekend, January 11-12, and watch huge mounds of snow take shape as families take coal shovels, chisels and scoops to their 4' x 4' x 6' blocks of snow. This is the first year families will sculpt snow as part of Winter Wonderland Weekend. The weekend also will include cross-country skiing, dog sled rides, a dog sled pull and winter sports demonstrations.

Your Guide to the Zoo

Enjoy a 'round-the-world adventure as you explore the wilds of Africa, Asia, South and North America, and Australia with the Zoo's new guidebook. The 40-page book features animal photos and species information and reinforces the Zoo's mission to inspire public understanding, support and participation in global conservation of animal species and their natural environment. Guidebooks cost \$4 and are available at Zoo gift shops and entrance gates.

Samson Stomp and Romp

Calling all athletes and non-athletes for a run through the Zoo! The Zoo's Twelfth Annual Samson Stomp/Second Annual Samson Romp will be held Sunday, January 19. Adults can participate in a 10K Run and 2-mile Fun Run (corporate teams may only compete in the 10K run). Children two to six years old can participate in a 1/4-Mile Mini Romp and kids seven to 12 years old can run in the One-Mile Romp. Awards will be given to top finishers in the 10K Run and 2-Mile Fun Run, and ribbons will be awarded to all children participating in both Romps. All racers can enjoy a light brunch in the Peck Welcome Center after the race. Costs to run in adult Stomps are \$10 per runner (pre-registered) and \$12 per runner (race-day registration). Costs to run in children's Romps are \$9 per runner (pre-registered) and \$12 per runner (race-day registration). Cost to register a corporate team is \$75 per team. To pre-register for the Stomp/Romp, visit the Zoo from January 11-16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or register on race day from 7-9 a.m.

Egg Days

Eggstraordinary family fun will be happening at the Zoo over the Easter weekend, April 18-19. At no other place in Milwaukee can kids make bonnets and ties with the primates, decorate eggs with the snakes and create bunny ears with the felines. Children will have a chance to show off their Easter creations during an Easter parade, scheduled for 2 p.m. each day. An Easter egg hunt also is scheduled for 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. each day in the Stackner Heritage Farm.

For more information on any of the above, call the Zoo's Public Affairs and Services Department, (414) 256-5412.



Indian Rhinoceros

Between Asian Elephants and Tapir

Arrived: October 22, 1991

Though it definitely isn't an armadillo, this Indian Rhino's skin of armor-like plates makes you wonder if it isn't a distant relative. Besides its skin, the Indian Rhino's horn also makes this animal unique. Unlike the Black and White Rhino, this rhino has only one horn. Once widespread, the Indian Rhino population has been reduced to fewer than 2,000 in the wild. The species is the largest of all Asian rhinos. The Indian Rhino pictured here, Assam—also called Sam—weighs about 4,500 pounds and enjoys having keepers scratch him on the back and belly. Two Black Rhinos also are exhibited at our Zoo.

Source:

Dave Sorensen, Area Supervisor,
Pachyderms

Puerto Rican Crested Toad

Aquarium/Reptile Building (off exhibit)

Born: August 29, 1991 at Cincinnati Zoo

These tiny critters have had a tough life, and they're only a few months old. Consider that they've already had to hatch out of eggs, lose their tails, grow legs, shed their digestive systems, lose their gills, develop lungs, and all the while, eat and avoid getting eaten. The toad pictured here was one of 61 toads living in five aquariums at our Zoo. In December, all the toads were sent to Puerto Rico and released into the wild. This species is endangered and its captive populations are managed according to a Species Survival Plan (SSP).

Source: Rich Sajdak, Curator, Aquarium/Reptile



Belted Galloway

Stackner Heritage Farm

Born: September 25, 1991

It's no wonder why this cow was named Cookie. The white-colored belt encircling this black Beltie's midriff makes the cow look like an Oreos. Though originally from Scotland, this unique and modern breed of beef cattle arrived in Canada in 1853. The breed was developed to inexpensively produce quality beef in harsh climates with little human help. Though Galloways never have been pampered, Cookie has managed to attract more than a few pats on the head from hundreds of Zoo visitors. The Milwaukee County Zoo is one of few zoos in the country to exhibit this breed.

Source: Randy Deer, Area Supervisor,
Stackner Heritage Farm



Capybara

Winter Quarters (winter), South American Yard (summer)

Arrived: July 24, 1991

Though Zoo visitors haven't seen one here for 20 years, this new Capybara, Suzie Q., has already commanded quite a following. As the world's largest rodent, a Capybara can weigh more than 125 pounds. Suzie Q., a South American native, spent the end of last summer in and around the waterhole in the Zoo's South American Yard. In the winter, Suzie Q. spends her time in Winter Quarters (see story, page 12). When you get an up-close look at Suzie Q., you'll notice her partly webbed toes, which help her walk in mud and swim.

Source: Bob Hoffmann, Area Supervisor, Winter Quarters



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