



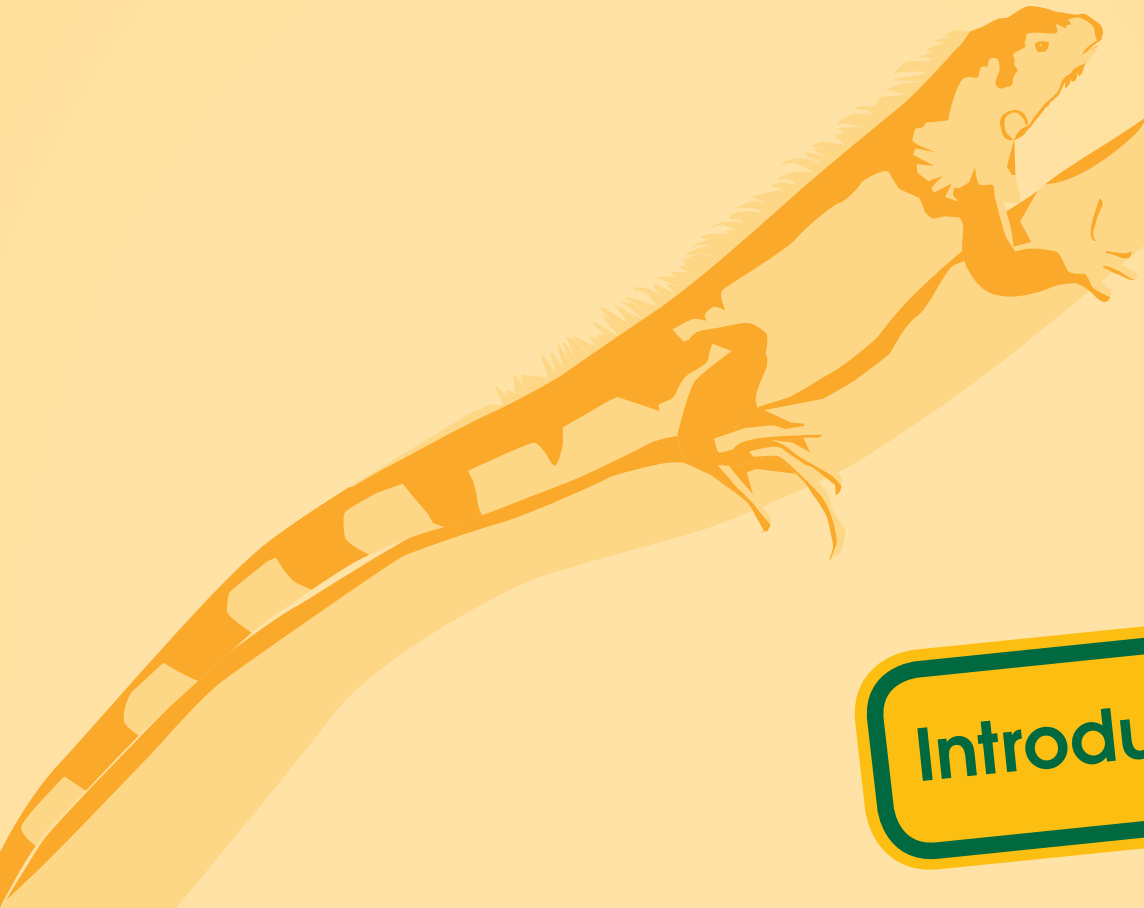
# Annual Report 2007



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**Introduction**



# Introduction



## **Dear Friends of Ústí nad Labem Zoo,**

It is my pleasure in duty, as the Director of Ústí nad Labem Zoo, to make some introductory notes to this Annual Report and give a short summary of the major events that took place at our zoo in the last year.

In our day-to-day business, my colleagues and me always put a question concerning the expectations of our customers - which means our visitors - concerning their visit of the zoo. The answer will not be so easy as it may seem. The range of the zoo visitors is heterogeneous and varied as well as their expectations. One may come to the zoo to take a rest and clean up his or her head after an exhausting working week; another one may actively quest for knowledge, while some people feel curious to learn which species arrived in the collection from their last visit. Some may not be attracted by the most valuable animal species; the others may enjoy even a rather common animal in a well-designed exhibit. In my opinion, anticipation of a friendly environment, comfort, and general quality of services can serve as a common factor for the range of visitor notions. I can recall how I was envious to see the comfortable catering services, the friendly children playgrounds and the state-of-the-art premises for education programmes developed by the colleagues besides the most diverse 'zoo rarities' when walking around on my business journey. Without question, all of these things belong to a modern zoo. That was why our forces and funding was streamed especially to this sector in the year 2007. The aim of our efforts was to move Ústí Zoo another few steps beyond; now, let me claim that we made it, which may sound somehow immodestly, but there is a great pleasure in it.

On 1 July, a new restaurant operated all the year round was opened at Ústí nad Labem Zoo. The fashionable gastronomy facility with its outdoor sheltered terrace was developed based on an extensive and technically difficult re-design of former administration premises of the Operation and Technology Department. Currently, it provides all-season quality services to our visitors. Yet other capital investment actions in 2007 were implemented for the benefit of our visitors and their comfort. Thanks to a major financial support of the Ministry for Regional Development, the outworn building of the upper zoo entrance was reconstructed, a major part of the roads up the hill was repaired, a fresh new children playground from natural materials was developed, and former premises of the staff dining room were rebuilt to the Dr. Heinrich Lumpe Zoo School.

You may feel that we omitted the needs and well-being of the animals in 2007 when reading these lines; well, contrary is the case. I can assure you that our animals are no less important for us than the visitors. In 2007, we commenced the work on our new South American tapir exhibit involving the construction of a new housing facility, and we systematically developed the design of our future projects. You will surely read about the implementation of the plans the next year when browsing our Annual Report 2008.

As every year, I must not forget to express our thanks to all of those who share the everyday operations of Ústí nad Labem Zoo as well as its development. Therefore, I thank to all of my co-workers, who do not get discouraged by some particular failures, and who together believe in our future. A zoological park is a never-ending story; a story which tells about our respect to nature, and love for all living creatures. To conclude, I also thank the management of the Statutory Town of Ústí nad Labem for counting with us, and joining us in writing the story of Ústí nad Labem Zoo.

Tomáš Kraus  
Director of Ústí nad Labem Zoo



**The Animal  
Husbandry  
Department**



# ACTIVITIES OF THE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

Ing. Petra Padalíková

Unfortunately, the year 2007 did not bring completion of any new animal exhibit. The capital development was aimed at improvement of the visitor services sector (the new restaurant operated all the year round, the children playgrounds, or the Zoo Train). Nevertheless, the animal breeding did not stop, which resulted in breeding of several rare species in 2007.

The number of held species did not change compared to the previous year; as per 31-12-2007, our zoo held total 218

most significant event of the year. The male Budi was born after six long consequent years of waiting, which once again brought a lot of excitement into our orangutan family. Nuninka the female is already an experienced mother; that was why we did not observe any major problems in course of the breeding. Conversely, it was the six-year male Ámos, who just entered the age of adolescence and became a problematic member of the group. It was shown through rejecting the submission, especially when the animals were

In the previous year, a one-year old female from Antwerp called Geena was imported to join our male Sole, who was older than she was. Despite starting problems with pairing of the animals, when the female successfully tried to escape from the enclosure several times, both animals began cooperate, and Geena delivered two males in July 2007.

There was the first birth of the **Asian small-clawed otter** we experienced in the zoo history (**Pict. 1**). In spite of the fact that there are usually no problems with



animal taxons. The numbers of specimens reduced a little bit; 1,040 specimens were held by the end of the year. In frame of international cooperation, our zoo participated on 34 EEPs (European Endangered Species Breeding Programmes); in addition, 16 ESB (European Studbook) species were held.

Without question, the birth of the **Bornean orangutan** was the

closed into their bedrooms, as well as through offending of the rest of the family including little Budi. That is why we started discussion with the Coordinator, as the time of Ámos's departure to one of the male groups in frame of the pan-European breeding programme was here.

The second most important breeding event of the year 2007 was the **red panda** offspring.

breeding of the species in captivity, the attempts to set up a breeding pair were still not successful at our zoo. In August, a single male cub was found in the box and toughly defended by the parents against every intruder. The otter enclosure underwent small rearrangements in the year 2007 to meet the needs of the animals better. A male **Prevost squirrel** was also bred in the Bornean House in 2007; the

exhibit of these attractive squirrels was supplemented with a pair of crested wood partridge.

We were forced to reduce the number of the species held in the Old World Primate House in order to provide sufficient space to the rest of the animals. The issue of insufficient space for the animals was to have been resolved by the construction of a so-called Asian House in the upper part of the zoo. However, the implementation of the project remains in clouds. Thus, we stopped the holding of **mona monkey** and **lion-tailed macaque** in the existing house. Thanks to this measure, more space could be offered to the Hanuman langur group, which is more perspective. During the last months there were many hassles in the group, which many times resulted to even bloody injuries of the animals. The available space for the animals was doubled by penetrating the dividing wall between two outdoor enclosures, which stabilized the situation in the group. In the Primate House, one male **bonnet macaque** was bred successfully in 2007. The macaques breed on a regular basis at our zoo, and belong to the most attractive inhabitants for the visitors. Despite it is a common member of South Indian fauna, we keep the species as the only zoo in Europe (**Pict. 2**). De Brazza's monkey was another breeding species. The second



young one in the row was finally successfully bred by the young primate pair in 2007, following the last year's infanticide. In addition, **silver leaf monkeys** bred a young one. However, the breeding male of the group unfortunately died due to colitis in course of the year. Veterinary treatment had to be applied in case of **blue monkey** – the old breeding female suffered chronic inflammatory disease of her sexual apparatus; in the last weeks of her life, her status was so critical that we had to select euthanasia. In addition, the young

one born in 2006 suddenly died in the end of the year. The post-mortem examination showed a tumour of its spleen. The breeding male in the **black-and-white colobus** group also died, which was due to his high age. Lukáš the male lived up to respectable 20 years; he belonged to the founders of our collection.

Several events occurred in the **white-cheeked gibbons**. The aggressiveness of the breeding male against his oldest son was so unsustainable that we had to proceed to the separation of the animals. The young male was separated to the facility located the next door together with his sister. The female had been reserved for Ostrava Zoo a long time ago, but placing the male was a big problem as there is a high surplus of males in frame of EEP. Eventually, transfer into the famed gibbon sanctuary in California was recommended by the Coordinator. Negotiations with the sympathetic director of the centre were trouble-free, and we started the necessary paperwork and transport planning, with the date scheduled to autumn 2007. However, the health situation of the gibbon did not develop well following his separation from



the group. The animal seemed to be stressed very much, and stopped receiving any food subsequently. Even separating him outside the house to avoid any sound contact with his father, as the stressor did not help. When all the transport paperwork was done, the young gibbon died. The post-mortem examination shown unspecific inflammatory disease of pericardium. The young female was then moved to Ostrava Zoo immediately.

Unsatisfactory breeding facilities affect our small cat breeding strategy as well. The so-called pheasantry remained our key premises. As its name indicates, the facility had been designed to hold pheasants. The structure as such is in very bad technical situation. Thus, the small cat species kept here are largely represented by old animals that are not perspective breeders. As soon as the most residents of this miniature house end their lives in dignity, we are going to take the whole facility down and build new enclosures for 1 to 2 small cat species. There were major changes in three taxons. In the spring, our old pair of **fishing cat** that was on loan to Děčín Zoo returned. All breeding efforts performed by our keepers as well as Děčín colleagues failed.

We transferred both animals to a screened private breeder upon agreement with the Coordinator. At the same time, setting up of a new pair was recommended. A young male was imported from Tierpark Berlin (**Pict. 3**). He will be paired with a female from Port Lympne, U.K. The transport of the female was postponed for the beginning of 2008. In frame of cooperation among the UCSZ membership, a young male **Geoffroy cat** was located at Jihlava Zoo. The **caracal** breeding was terminated in an unplanned manner, when the sole representative (a male) died due to acute renal failure. Although we still plan the holding of caracal in future, it will not be recovered for the time being with regard to the circumstances above.

In the Carnivore House even multiple events occurred. The first one was an unscheduled birth delivered in the **Southwest African lion** siblings. Both animals reached their sexual maturity already in summer 2006; however, propagation of the animals was not desired, as they were close relatives. Accordingly, the recommended hormonal contraception was immediately applied to the female. However, in February 2007, the female

entered a massive oestrus even despite the measure above, and mating was observed. Our only hope was that the female would not become pregnant. However, it became obvious in April that our concerns were real, and the first marks of the coming birth were recorded on 31 May 2007 in the morning. Leon the male was immediately separated to the box the next door. However, both animals became nervous, and the birth was paused. Therefore, we decided to re-couple the animals and let the process go on without restraints. We made sure that Ronja would stay in quiet and the house was closed. In the evening, the last (third) cub was forced out. Ronja performed like a typical first-time mother. Even when she was interested in the cubs, licking them, there were no signs of milking. The male stayed calm over the whole period of the birth, ignoring the young ones. The next day the interest of the female decreased. Considering the kinship breeding, which was the base for the cubs, we did not want to make any hand-raising attempts. In addition, the hand-raised offspring of non-domesticated animals lack natural behaviour patterns, which make any subsequent locating and breeding of such





unviable individuals more than problematic. Therefore, we let the female continue in expressing her maternity behaviour. However, the cubs were found dead third day in the morning. Immediately after the birth, the contraception (this time a different type) was applied to Ronja, which has still worked until now.

Gara suddenly died in February; the post-mortem exam shown a bacterial pulmonary infection. We established co-operation with Prague Zoo, and brought a seven-year old female Zoe in June; her origin was Hilvarenbeek Zoo. The female had not delivered any offspring so far, and rejected every male in Prague. Zoe was

decided to adapt the enclosure just for these small carnivores attractive for visitors (**Pict. 5**). The fencing was supplemented by an electric fence overhang, and we could only hope that this barrier would be sufficient. The breeding trio was set up from a male from Jihlava Zoo, and two females from Olomouc Zoo. The animals got used to the new exhibit as well as the enclosure, and they fully respected the electric fencing. The young **ruffed lemurs**, who lived in this enclosure formerly, reached the sexual maturity; consequently, frequent hassles began in the group located behind the scenes. In course of the year, we managed shipping of all three females from the group to Novosibirsk and Kyriat Motzkin (Israel) zoos. The remaining individuals that formed a single-sex group will be sent to Prague Zoo the year after. Breeding of both parent pairs of the ruffed lemur had been stopped due to the surplus of animals within EEP. A breeding measure was also taken in the group of another diurnal prosimian species, **the ring-tailed lemur**. Since 2003, there was no reproduction in the group, which was probably due to the high age of the breeding male. Upon agreement with the colleagues from Prague, the breeding male and his son were placed in the Prague Zoo's bachelor group. Then we brought a new male, who joined the females in the rest of group.



A positive development was recorded in our **irbis** collection. In the autumn 2007, the female became show her first intense oestrus (**Pict. 4**). However, the male Makan still did not reach his maturity due to his early separation from his mother. The next heavy oestrus occurred at the end of the year, and even first indications of breeding were observed. Therefore, we wait with expectance, what will be brought by the next year.

The situation in **Amur leopards** remained the same. Breeding was stopped, and we still wait for the results of genetic analyses to see if our breeding female Kiara is a carrier of the short-tail genus or not. This also the reason why her yearling female, Kaila, was phased out from the breeding, and remained at our zoo.

In May, we had to take leave of our old male **Sumatran tiger**, Kampar. The Brno Zoo's breeding male had died, thus Kampar was returned there to produce offspring for the last time with their young female.

Other major changes occurred in the **cheetah** house. The female

paired with Inong in the end of July; however, she was very shy in the contact with the male, and no mating occurred. We tried to pair the animals once again several times, but without any result. In October, we decided to make a full examination of the female's health status. The sonograph examination shown polycystic ovaries, and the results of blood tests clearly indicated high thyroid gland hormones levels. Everything indicated that her infertility had been caused by the thyroid gland disease. Following consultations with Prague colleagues, the female was returned in December 2007. Unfortunately, we have to conclude that neither the events of the year 2007 resulted in setting up a new breeding pair. We contacted the EEP Coordinator once again, and wait for his opinion.

Concerning the Exotic House, we launched the summer season by ceremonial opening of the South American Coati Exhibit. Following the last year's failure concerning the open enclosure for the ruffed lemurs on the solitary oak tree close to the Exotic House, we

Another successful capital breeding occurred in **two-toed sloth**. The female delivered her fifth young one in the row. The young female born in 2005 left for Olomouc Zoo. Another breeding species in the Exotic House was the **variable flying fox**. Unfortunately, there is only a single breeding female in the group; the rest are males.

Three callitrichid species out of the four that we hold reproduced in 2007. We bred two **pygmy marmosets** and two **golden-handed tamarins** (a pair). One of the tamarin breeding females delivered by means of



Caesarean operation; despite of this, she managed to raise one of the young ones. However, we considered the repeated inclusion of the female into the reproduction as potential failure, thus we sent the mother and the young one on loan to a private breeder. In the end of the year, we obtained two young females from Prague Zoo based on exchange, and a new breeding pair was set up. Currently two sound pairs are held: the first is placed in their exhibit, while the other in the background of the Carnivore House. The first birth was experienced in **cotton-top tamarins**. The female delivered triples, which were however found dead in the substrate of the exhibit. This is common in the first-time mothers, while pairs will learn how to raise the young ones only in the subsequent litters. This year the **golden lion tamarin** pair was moved from the exhibit that was shared with the pygmy marmoset into the sloth facility. From this room, the animals could access the outdoor enclosure, which apparently made them good. We were waiting with anticipation, if such change of settings would evoke any reproducing activity. Unfortunately, the female stopped accepting food before anything could happen. A strange formation in her abdominal cavity was identified by palpation. The subsequent operation revealed an almost 40g tumour of ovary

and oviduct. The tumour was successfully removed by our veterinary doctors, however, the convalescence failed due to such a big intervention into the organism.

The terrarium section was expanded by a beautifully coloured male **panther chameleon (Pict. 6)** in 2007. The bird spider collection was enlarged by the female **goliath bird-eating spider**. The **red-bellied short-necked turtle** offspring from Jihlava Zoo was another new species. These attractively coloured short-necked turtles are expected to inhabit the small lake in the red-footed tortoise exhibit. The **Chinese water dragon** terrarium underwent a generation exchange – the old breeding pair was relocated to Děčín Zoo, and nine young animals born in 2006 were released into the exhibit. Out of the six king snake taxons that we hold, two subspecies of

the **milk snake** reproduced: the Honduran milk snake (6 young animals), and the Sinaloan milk snake (19 young ones). In frame of international cooperation, a young pair of the **Cuban iguana was** sent to Wrocław, Poland.

In the hoofed animals section in the upper part of the zoo, almost every held species reproduced. In January, a young **Rothschild's giraffe** was born. The young male was named Vladimír after his godfather. The female Jenny is already an experienced mother, so that the raising was trouble-free. However, the last week of the year 2007 delivered sadness. Vladimír was found dead in his indoor facility; the post-mortem exam shown an inherent defect of heart, i.e. incomplete opening between the chambers (persistent foramen ovale). Obviously, the defect did not cause any major complications; however, it had fatal consequences in the one-



year-old animal. In 2007, the youngest of the breeding females called Syrenka reached her sexual maturity, and her mating was observed.

**Nilgai** antelopes bred two young ones. However, moving of these antelopes into their winter facilities was problematic as well as every year. Nilgai belong to the species, which can be immobilized only with great difficulties; unfortunately, one of the breeding females did not survive the narcotisation. We are going to construct a simple stable right in their summer enclosure in the following year to avoid any further moving of these animals.

The breeding herd of the **defassa waterbuck**, which shares the exhibit with the giraffes in the summer, was completed. Two unrelative females were imported from Dvůr Králové Zoo. Unfortunately, we lost one of them very soon, as it ran over the fencing of the enclosure, hurt herself and died.

Offspring from each of the three **Kafue lechwe** females (**Pict. 7**) was delivered; two females were bred in the **blackbucks**.

The breeding herd of the **Bactrian camel** was enlarged by another breeding female of Kazakhstan origin. The previous year, both of the imported females gave births to young ones, and delivered excellent maternity qualities during the raising, which



are lacked by our native female camels. This way we already managed to set up a breeding herd after a long time, which consisted of sound and tough animals with uninhibited maternal instincts. In the section of camels

Concerning cervids, five young **Vietnamese sika deer** and two nice females **white-lipped deer** were born. The third doe out of the four breeding does joined the reproduction process; however, it produced a stillborn. Another



and **llamas**, young **llamas** (1.2.) and **alpacas** (3.2) were bred.

Concerning equids, the year 2007 was especially successful in the **African wild ass** breeding. Two foals were born (1.1), both of them were descendants of the genetically valuable stud Achmed. The number of the females in the primary herd was increased to three by means of exchange with Liberec Zoo. Our female born the previous year was exchanged for a mare from Liberec of the same age.

The situation in our **Hartmann's mountain zebra** collection is not very pleasant. Our new stallion imported from Austrian Herberstein in 2006 did not proved a good stud. He rejected each of the mares in our herd, showing an increased aggressiveness towards the keeper. The perspective of obtaining a new stallion is recently in the clouds, as there is a big lack of adult studs in frame of EEP. In addition, we had to say goodbye to one of our mares due to the Coordinator's recommendation. The animal was relocated to Nordhorn, Germany. Two one-year-old stallions left for Landau Zoo where they joined a bachelor group.

sad event was the dead of one of the breeding bucks. The male aggressiveness in this species is so much distinctive that one of the bucks penetrated the fencing of the side exhibit, and wounded the other buck to death. The first birth in the zoo history was recorded in the **Reeves muntjak**, the small deer species (**Pict. 8**).

In frame of international cooperation we managed to pair several animal species. For example, the female **wolverine** Xala lived to see her partner. A male older than the female arrived from Bern, Switzerland. From Amsterdam, a female **maned wolf** named Consuela arrived. Immediately upon pairing with the male both animals got along well and we lived to see their descendant by the end of the year.

The blue tongue disease expanding as an avalanche complicated transports in the end of the year. Thus, the importation of the female **lowland tapir** from de la Flèche Zoo became an issue. The male Pepa got the new female after three year of waiting (**Pict. 9**). In the end of the year we also started development of a new tapir facility. The history of this

species at Ústí Zoo dates back to 1999, however, the tapirs used to be outsiders among the animals, travelling around the animal houses without any concept. The new house should finally meet all requirements for keeping of these remarkable creatures. The date of completion had been scheduled to the spring months of the following year.

We made several modifications inside the Elephant House. In the beginning of the year, we performed a total reconstruction of one of two aviaries fenced by strings. The main reason was an invasive outbreak of Norwegian rat. All of the residents of the aviary had to be caught and removed to alternative premises. Subsequently, we proceeded to an intensive deratization action. New trunks and plants were installed into the aviary. Following completion of the treatment, the Victoria crowned pigeons were returned to the aviary, joined by the pair of yellow-bibbed lory, who had been kept behind the scenes. An exhibit of several tortoises was installed in the dry moat that separates the visitors from the elephants, which was not used before. We divided the existing moat into segments by means of trunks and stones; at the same time, the risk of escape of the tortoises, either into the elephant stall or into the technology floor with vents open into the moat, was eliminated. Ten **Horsfield's tortoises**, which were obtained from Wrocław Zoo, became the first inhabitants of the moat. The moat also became home to several seized specimens of other tortoises: **Herman's tortoise**, and **spur-thighed tortoise**. These tortoises are wintered right in the visitors hall of the house. To enable this, a cooling counter display was purchased; visitors can watch the hibernating tortoises through the glazed doors of the box.

A very pleasant change occurred concerning the health status of Delhi the female. Delhi underwent total four sonograph examinations. However, the first two of them were not very

favourable; a liquid was detected in the uterus, and her oestrus did not occurred periodically. After having undergone a hormonal treatment, Delhi's status improved very well. Her oestrus became periodical again, and we began consider the possibility of another artificial fertilization.

The year 2007 in our parrot breeding centre was also successful. We managed to breed 0.1 **Goffin's cockatoo**; 0.0.1 **Jardin parrot**; from the large macaw species it was 0.1 **military macaw**, and 2.1 **blue-and-yellow macaw**. The birds nest behind the scenes, and the offspring of the large parrots are placed in the large aviary by the Exotic House (**Pict. 10**). In addition, our collection was enlarged by a pair of **green-winged macaws**, which were obtained by purchase from a private breeder. A breeding male **salmon-crested cockatoo** arrived from Děčín Zoo. Pairing of

Concerning other bird species, we achieved the success especially with owls. **Ural owls** hatched two young ones, and **snowy owls** raised four young birds. In 2007, the **common barn owls** hatched two yields of eggs for the first time; all six hatched birds were transported into the AVES Sanctuary by Kladno, which performs reintroductions of the species. The **saker falcon** (0.1) was also successfully hatched after four years.

In frame of expert activities, the animal husbandry staff members participated on the following meetings of UCSZ specialist groups in 2007: primates and felids (Prague Zoo), ungulates (Dvůr Králové Zoo), cervids (Ostrava Zoo), elephants (Prague Zoo, Liberec Zoo), and animal record keeping (Kostelec nad Černými lesy). In addition, our zoo hosted a practical part of workshop of elephant keepers from East



the birds, which is always awaited with apprehension, was performed in the end of the year. Like in the most of cockatoo species, the male may suddenly kill the female during the pairing; however, this was fortunately not the case, and both birds were harmonized.

European zoos in September 2007. The theoretical part that took place at Dvůr Králové Zoo was joined by our two elephant keepers. The Head of the Animal Husbandry Department attended the EAZA Annual Conference that was held at Warsaw Zoo in 2007.

# VETERINARY CARE

MVDr. Václav Poživil



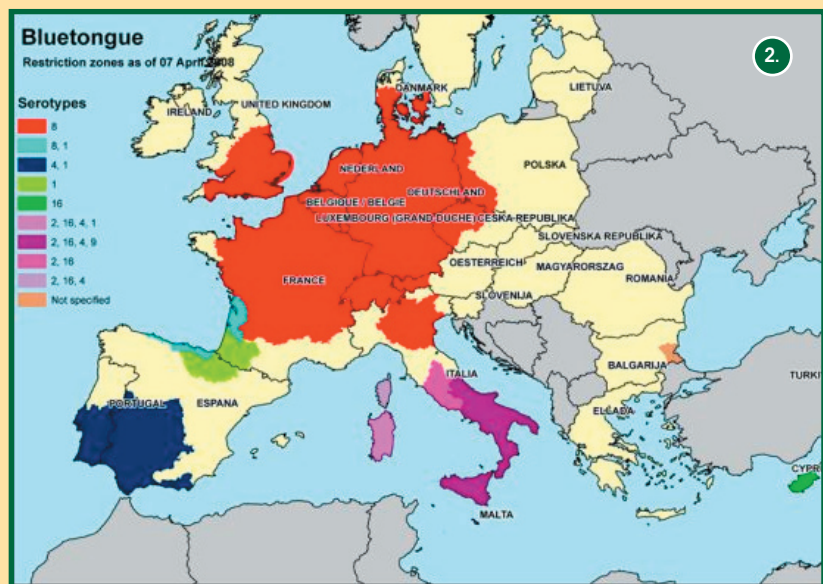
The precautionary veterinary and treatment services for the Zoo Ústí nad Labem, p. o. were ensured based on a contract, and guaranteed by MVDr. Václav Poživil. In addition, the following doctors were involved in the veterinary care: MVDr. Renata Poživilová (**Pict. 1**), MVDr. Jana Matoušková, and MVDr. Barbora Brázdová. Cooperating laboratories included *Státní veterinární ústav Praha* (post-mortem examinations, serology, histology, microbiology, parasitology), *Diagnostika, s. r. o.* (biochemistry and haematology), *Genservice, s. r. o.* (analyses based on DNA), *Výzkumný ústav veterinárního lékařství Brno* (TBC

laboratory), *Soukromá mikrobiologická laboratoř RNDr. A. Veselkové* (microbiology), and *IZW Berlin* (hormonal analyses).

The veterinary sanitation services for the zoo were performed by *VAPO Podbořany*. The zoo owns and operates a rendering facility with a detached section serving exclusively for the purposes of the zoo, and a detached section serving for third parties (police, fire services, animal sanctuary, veterinary surgery) as well as for the public.

Rodent and insect control services were performed based on a contract with *3D, s. r. o.*, which delivered the services as scheduled by the DDD plan (disinfection, disinsection and deratization), ensuring them depending on actual status at the zoo.

The Ústí nad Labem Zoo is operated under the standing veterinary supervision by the *Státní veterinární správa ČR – Inspektorát Ústí nad Labem* (State Veterinary Administration of the Czech Republic - Ústí nad Labem Agency), which supervises the epizootology situation of the zoo husbandry as well as the compliance with all



veterinary acts and regulations in force concerning zoos.

Throughout the year 2007, Ústí Zoo did not register any infection, which would fall under diseases to be reported, compared to the preceding years. However, the zoo was affected by the constr-

ints in frame of the blue tongue protective zone, which occurred in Germany (**Pict. 2**). All this time the zoo had to follow the extraordinary veterinary measures ordered by the *Státní veterinární správa*, which meant several complications in frame of the scheduled

animal transfers. None of the ordered examinations confirmed the infection, either serologically or virologically, in any of the animal at the zoo. No vaccination as currently discussed in frame of EU will be considered by the zoo unless upon order of the state veterinary care authority or agreement on EAZA's level (of which our zoo is the member) is concluded concerning a full-area vaccination in the framework of European zoological parks.

The precautionary veterinary care was performed based on the guidelines concerning the check of health status in zoos determined by *Státní veterinární správa* (**Pict. 3**). More than 260 laboratory examinations were performed, and 78 post-mortem examinations were carried out in *Státní veterinární ústav Praha* (State Veterinary Institute) and/or at the zoo. 256 animals left the zoo, which also involved minor sales to animal shops; 20 animals left in frame of reintroduction programmes, or they were native animal species released in the wild after rehabilitation at the zoo. 41 new animals arrived in the zoo. 78 animals including aquarium fish died.

From surgery treatments, let us mention the removal of an ovary tumour and adnex in the golden lion tamarin. The tumour was most probably caused by surplus of hormones from the previously applied contraception implant. Contraception agents are a frequently discussed issue in the field of zoo breeding. In my opinion, application of contraceptive preparations and/or treatments should be considered more thoroughly than it used to be; it should be used solely in case of health or short-term breeding indications, or to avoid propagation of relative individuals. Such surgery treatments should be restricted to minimum due to the non-return status of the solution, and other alternatives should be used unless there are health indications.



# DIET AND FEEDING

Anna Hrudková



The Ústí Zoo's 2007 budget for animal feeding and diets amounted to 3 million crowns. However, we exceeded this amount by about a half million despite every saving effort, without even reducing the food quality. The main reason was increase in numbers of kept animals, which was due to the breeding success as well as due to obtaining of new specimens.

As for the suppliers of food for our animal residents, there were several major changes from either financial or especially quality reasons. In May 2007, we replaced the existing supplier of feeding meat by *Váša – Mimoň Company*, which delivers desired quantity of beef meat and beef hearts in the human consumption quality weekly (**Pict. 1**). Although it is true that the price level of the delivered meat is higher than before, which makes the meat one of the biggest items of the feeding budget, the quality of the meat apparently reflected on the health status of the nursed animals. Another change occurred in the field of supplies of fruit and vegetables. Since April 2007, we picked this assortment from *Hoka Company*, Teplice, which delivered the goods periodically twice a week. We have a new supplier

of live rabbits for the feeding from Nymburk, who delivered about 80–100 animals per month. The rest of suppliers remained. Of course, we would like to thank all of the suppliers for their cooperation.

The consumption per commodity throughout the year always changes depending on the supply and prices, considering the requirements on diversity of animal diets. Some of the raw materials can be replaced by similar food, while some not. The latter includes rice, of which 5 tonnes is boiled yearly for CZK 52,500. The main consumers involve the female elephants Kala and Delhi or also tapirs and primates; minor quantities of rice as well as boiled meat and vegetables are also consumed by the sun bears. Bananas are another unique commodity; taking the species structure of our animals into account, over 9 tonnes of bananas are fed every year, which represents a considerably high amount with the average price of CZK 22 per kilo.

The diets mainly consist of carrots, apples and turnips. Every year about 42 tonnes of turnips are purchased, stored in two pits at the zoo, and systematically fed throughout the winter and spring-time, when no green forage is available. In 2007, our animals consumed 21.6 tonnes of apples, and 16.8 tonnes of carrots. Luckily, these commodities were supplied by our standing suppliers for prices that were principally lower than in wholesale stores. The average consumption of other fruits (**Pict. 2**) and vegetables reached the same level. Concerning the structure of diets, we strived to keep the diversity and quality; however, the price was also a key decision-making factor. Considerable savings were also possible thanks to *Tesco Všebořice* and *Hypernova Severní Terasa* hypermarkets, from which we collected write-offs twice or three times a week; another thanks go to *Inpeko Company*, the bakery in Ústí, from which we took pastries that were dried and used for feeding of hoofed animals.



Recently, the most expensive commodity is the beef meat, of which 12.36 tonnes were fed in course of the year 2007. 4.8 tonnes of poultry meat (an increase by 3 tonnes compared to 2005), and 1,923 rabbits (an increase by 1,156 animals compared to 2005) were consumed. 5.4 tonnes of fish were consumed by our pinnipeds, which is roughly our annual average (**Pict. 3**). Another protein components of the diets included eggs (24,870 pieces fed), curd cheese (255 kg), hard curd (144 kg), and yoghurt (31.25 kg).

Considerable amounts were also paid for feeding rodents and feeding insects compared to the previous year. Due to the reconstruction of the existing rodent breeding facility, the breeding had to be stopped for two months; subsequently, the newly purchased rodents needed some time to begin reproduction; that was why we had to purchase the rodents from outsourcers throughout this four-month period. We quitted the breeding of the feeding insects for the time being due to the inconvenient premises; recently only mealworms



was possible. The last year, 842.5 q of hay for CZK 93 thousand were purchased.

Feeding mixtures and pellet foods are of course the integral part of diets (**Pict. 4**). Its consumption depends on the number of consumers. We currently take all of the feeding mixtures for hoofed stock from *Sehnoutek a synové, v. o. s.*; the company cooperates very well, and has not even any problems concerning our requests to modify the composition of the feeding mixtures. The largest part of the feeding mixtures involved the ZOO – *směs* (ZOO - Mixture), of which 180.2 q for CZK 117,180 were fed the last year; another mixtures included the ZOO – *žirafa* (ZOO - Giraffe) mixture with the consumption of 71.5 q for CZK 82,582, the ZOO – *daněk* (ZOO - Fallow Deer) mixture, of which 62 q for CZK 53,382 were consumed, and the ZOO – *koně* (ZOO - Horses) mixture, of which 60.75 q purchased for CZK 40,824 were fed. A major part of pellets consumed at our zoo included pellets for omnivorous and herbivorous (leaf-eating) primates from *Ráció Company*. The omnivorous primates consumed 1.6 q of pellets, while leaf-eating primates consumed 1.4 q of pellets; however, it should be noted that this does not form the major part of their diets. Other major items included the Lundi pellets for flamingo, of which 3.6 q for CZK 15,687 was consumed.

It is understood that our animals must also receive vitamin supplements outside the standard foods and pellets, unless there is a sufficient level of supplements already included in the mixtures and pellets. In total, 5.03 q of various vitamins were consumed the last year.

There is also a parrot breeding centre based in the zoo premises, which, however, is closed for the public to provide the birds a quiet nesting place. The visitor concerns must be satisfied by the exotic bird exhibits in the lower part of the zoo. Nevertheless, even the feather creatures hidden out of sight of the public have their specific feeding requirements as well as a certain level of grains consumption. The largest item was the large striped sunflower seed, of which almost 4.3 q for about CZK 9,000 were cracked by our parrots the last year; the birds also consumed 3.7 q of small sunflower seed (for CZK 5,439), 1.7 q of buckwheat (CZK 3,213), and 1.12 q of hemp seed (for CZK 4,483). It is just a list of basic items for the parrots. Of course, there are much more types of grains fed at our zoo, with primates, hoofed animals, and other small birds being the major consumers. All kinds of work concerning handling the food, preparation and distribution to different sections of the zoo were ensured by two permanent staff members.



are bred. Locusts and crickets were purchased from outsourcers as well. The same was done concerning hay. It partially came from our own production; the rest was purchased. Of course, the quantity of the hay purchased and the hay from our own production depended on the weather as well as on the length of the period, when feeding green forage



# REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE ELEPHANT HOUSE SECTION

Jan Javůrek, Petr Kiebel



The year 2007 brought many changes to the Elephant House.

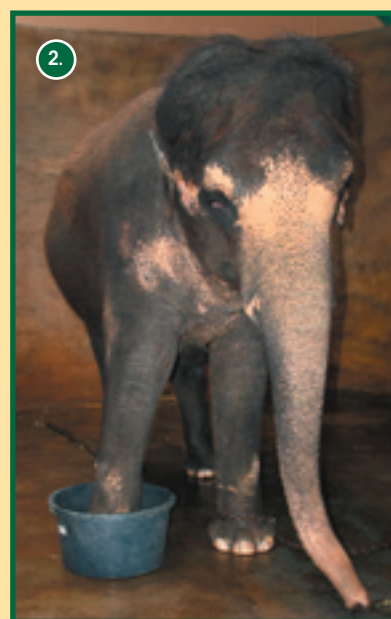
In the beginning of the year, all birds living in two aviaries fenced by strings had to be caught and removed, and the aviaries completely cleaned up due to an invasive outbreak of Norwegian rat. Subsequently, deratization and disinfection was performed, which lasted about 14 days. In parallel with this action, the unsuitable concrete sculpture in the Victoria crowned pigeon aviary was destroyed, which brought more light into the area. This also provided a new space for trunks. We brought new soil and the aviary was replanted in cooperation with zoo gardeners. At the same time, both aviaries were flood-lighted with halogen lights. The crested wood partridges that had been removed to the Bornean

House were replaced by yellow-bibbed lorries, who usefully occupied the upper floor of the aviary. A female Bali mynah from Děčín Zoo arrived in the second string-fenced exhibit with the rainfall to complete the pair following the death of the former female. We waited to see the lorries and crowned pigeons laying eggs, unfortunately, none of them was successful.

An exhibit of several tortoises was set up in the dry moat that separates the visitors from the elephants, which was not used before (**Pict. 1**). We divided the existing moat into segments by means of trunks and stones; at the same time, the risk of escape of the tortoises, either into the elephant stall or into the technology floor, vents of which are open into the moat, was eliminated. Several heated

sites were prepared in cooperation with the Technical Department. Lighting units containing heating lamps and one special unit containing UV spectrum were placed in selected trunks. A cooling counter display was supplied and visitors could watch the hibernating tortoises through its glazed door.

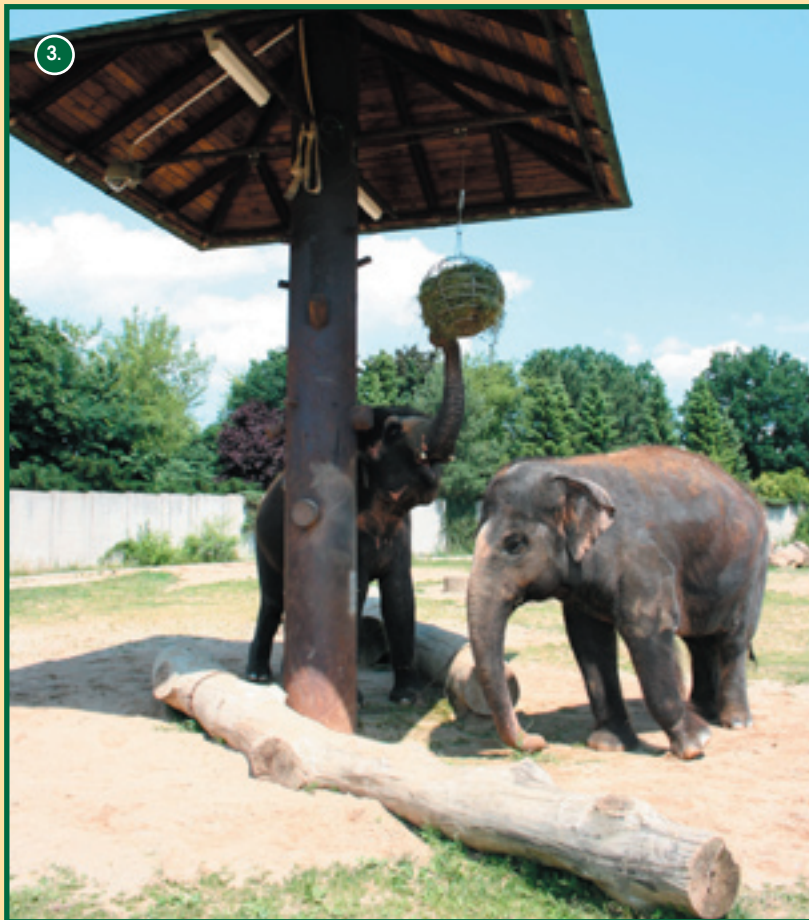
Elephants – Due to the repeating problems with nails in both of the elephant females, we proceeded to bathing of their feet. We asked for construction plastic buckets, in which we always prepared a solution of formaldehyde, Betadine salve and agrimony tea. Only the front feet were subject to bath (**Pict. 2**); the whole procedure lasted about 30 minutes. The



females endured the treatment very well.

In Delhi, some problems appeared with a liquid in her uterus, which is discussed in another article of this annual report.

Enrichment – In the beginning of the year, we utilized a hollow post of the shade structure in the



enclosure, and had a winder installed in it, thanks to which enrichment items can now be hung in different heights. At the same time, a ball was produced by the same company from stainless round steel with a diameter of 1 metre, which we can fill with hay, grass or small twigs **(Pict. 3)**. Another new item was a modified bowling ball that we obtained, which can be used for hiding of food. Unfortunately, our highest efforts to enforce development of a new pool or at least a drinker in the enclosure failed.

Other – In the middle of September, Dvůr Králové nad Labem Zoo organized an international workshop focused on artificial insemination in elephants, where we presented as well. In frame of the hands-on part, the workshop participants visited our zoo. During the meeting, we presented a daily schedule of the elephants, birth, and examination using a thermal imager; accordingly, we presented practical demonstra-

tion of enrichment in the Elephant House **(Pict. 4)**.

In 2007, we joined two routine meetings of the UCSZ Elephant Committee, where we informed our colleagues on the news in our collection.

On 1 June 2007, the second *Noc snů* (Dreamnight At The Zoo) event in the row was held. Our zoo

was visited by disabled children after closing time. A plentiful programme was prepared for them, which included a visit behind the scenes in our Elephant House as well as a contact with the elephants.

In the week from 18 to 24 June, the Elephant Week was held in frame of celebration of the 20th anniversary of Delhi the female stay at Ústí Zoo.

A display of children paintings of elephants was developed for visitors, who could enjoy visiting the house including keeper's narration that took place every day following the routine training. The females were given a cake and the visitors could bring gifts for them in form of fruits, vegetables, and hard bread or pastry.

It was for the first time that a formal wedding took place in the house (this was the first wedding at the zoo in the history). The wedding pair and guests as well as the registrar were standing right in the Elephant House, in the area of the females, who were also watching under the surveillance of their keepers. Of course, all happened under the attention of media.

In addition, several birthday parties were held in the elephant enclosure. The funding obtained through such events was utilized for various purposes such as purchase of a fruit sapper to enrich the lory diet.



# DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH STATUS OF FEMALE DELHI

Jan Javůrek, Petr Kiebel

In Delhi, some 3 litres of clear liquid were found following UV examination already in 2006. Unfortunately, we failed to perform additional checking due to overloading of the IZW team despite our efforts. In 2007, several phases of the development of the health status in Delhi occurred. Blood samples from Delhi were taken weekly; afterwards, hormonal levels were determined. As the negative status of her ovulation had persisted, we proceeded to launch a radical treatment following consultations with IZW experts.

**15 February 2007** – The first check of Delhi in the year was carried out. By means of sonograph examination, the liquid in the uterine horn was found again, as well as a minor cyst. The status of the ovaries was good as well as the corpus luteum.

After a long search for proper medicaments and determining the right quantities, it was decided to continue in the following way. We performed rinsing of rectum twice a day in three consequent days (12, 13 and 14 June 2007). Then we mixed crushed Cytotec pills in a sonograph gel and embrocated everything into the rectum's mucosa. Although a part washing of the medication by the rinsing water that is discharged may be an issue in its application via rectum, on the other side, absorption of the medication via rectum's mucosa is relatively a fast procedure. As



Cytotec may cause certain undesired effects, Dr. Poživil decided to progressively increase the medication doses (**see the figure**), where any behaviour deviation would mean an immediate interruption of the treatment.

**19 June 2007** – The IZW staff performed a sonograph examination (**Pict. 1**). Unfortunately, new water was found even in the second uterine horn, as well as another cyst in the uterine tube, and, in addition, a closed uterine neck. We all hoped that the medicaments might not have started to operate so the next date of examination in about one month was set. The following actions concerning the female elephant were planned: narcotisation, hanging, and rinsing of her uterus by a serum obtained from

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON
12. 6. 2007	8 pills	8 pills
13. 6. 2007	12 pills	12 pills
14. 6. 2007	16 pills	16 pills

her blood, which was accompanied with the need to sample several litres of blood.

**31 July 2007** – The next ultrasound check (**Pict. 2**), which was performed by the IZW experts again, ended much better. Some of the cysts disappeared, some had been reduced substantially (mainly in the uterus), the liquid in the left uterine horn was gone, while in the right horn only a minimum persisted. The general status of the uterus was much better, the uterine wall was strong, and the uterus itself could reject the liquid. It was recommended that Oxytocine be given to assist a complete evacuation of the uterus. To our highest

contentment, any narcotisation and hanging was cancelled.

**1 August 2007** – Oxytocine injection was given.

**29 November 2007** – The last visitation of IZW Berlin staff. Following performance of the UV check, we could relatively relax. It was found that the uterus was calm, without any liquid, the ovaries worked well, and the cycle was normal. However, the hormonal levels were getting low, which was not very standard. Due to this fact, also duplicate samples were taken during the periodical blood sampling, and then shipped to Berlin to perform check analyses. They recommended us to let

two cycles running, and then take another examination; however, it was obvious that the status was getting better, coming to the standard status.

The IZW team confirmed the analyses of the duplicate blood samples, which was supplemented by examining of other hormones. On 3 October 2007, the first luteal phase occurred in Delhi, and on 29 November 2007, the second luteal phase occurred. This means that everything is in perfect order with Delhi having an adequate oestrous cycle. The reason for all of the discrepancies was based on the fact that only progesterone level had been analysed by our lab.



# BACTRIAN CAMEL HUSBANDRY

Ing. Pavel Král



The beginning of the recent history of the husbandry dates back into the start of 80's, when the camels Abdul, Fatima and Fatma arrived. Some years later, Abdul and Fatima were sent to Hanoi, Vietnam, in frame of animal exchange, while Fatma became a founder of the collection. In 1987, Fatma delivered a female called Fay, who established the core (1.3) of the new breeding herd together with the male called Kraken imported from Olomouc Zoo, female Lenka from Ostrava Zoo, and female Fatima 2, who was born later at our zoo. Until the year 2006, 16 young ones were born in

the group (8.8). After the death of the female Fay (2002) and the male Kraken (2006), and long-term infertility of the female Lenka, the collection was recovered. The male Chorchoj (Matěj) and three females Kara, Kuma (**Pict. 1**), and Salma originating from the Russian Astrachaň Region were imported in the period 2006–2007. This means that the total status of adult animals by the end of 2007 was 1.5 (**see the table**).

The period of 2006/2007 was the breaking point not only concerning the imports of the new animals, but also the new keeping methods. In former years, the

animals used to be closed for five months (the whole winter and a part of spring) in the night; they stayed in their house, where food was served and bedding maintained. The fact that such way of keeping is not natural for camels was shown by decrease in animal fitness and frequent diarrheas. In 2006, we shifted to an outdoor keeping all the year round, where the animals can only hide under a shelter (**Pict. 2**). Even births take place and young camels are raised outdoor. The fitness of all animals has been excellent and free of any intestinal or other problems.

The camels are held in a grass enclosure with an area of about 3,500 m<sup>2</sup> for the major part of the year. The enclosure is 42 m wide and 81 m long; it is fenced by a wire mesh 1.1 m high, eye size 15 x 15 cm, and by electric fencing. In the lower part, there is a shelter with an area of 49 m<sup>2</sup>, three wood trays, and a drinker. Under the shelter, there is also a portable feeding ring for hay, diameter 160 cm, height 120 cm, which is made of pipes, diameter 4 cm. An UNC-060 loader is used for bringing rounded bales of hay and placing them in the feeding ring. The animals draw hay from the unwrapped bale placed in the feeding ring. This prevents the animals damaging of the hay

Status of Bactrian camel collection at Ústí nad Labem Zoo as per 31-12-2007

Name	Sex	Born	Place of birth	Arrival	Number of young ones at UL ZOO
Chorchoj (Matěj)	1,0	1997	unknown	30. 5. 2006	0
Fatima 2	0,1	9. 8. 1993	Ústí n. L.		6
Lenka	0,1	20. 3. 1989	Ostrava	15. 2. 1991	3
Kara	0,1	2003	Russia	28. 4. 2006	1
Kuma	0,1	2003	Russia	28. 4. 2006	1
Salma	0,1	2001	Russia	4. 9. 2007	0



and makes the work connected with handling the forage easier. In addition, a place compacted by grounded panels designed for serving the green forage in the enclosure is available. The camels are moved to a partially roofed concrete yard for 2 or 3 months (from the middle of January to March) mainly because of saving the enclosure and recovery of the growth.

The diet per a single animal and day consists of a pellets (1.4 kg) and pastries (0.4 kg); in the winter, we include fodder beet (3 kg) and hay (6 kg), while in the summer they get green forage (24 kg). A mineral and vitamin mixture Vitamix is served daily and the mineral lick is available (LIZ-N in the winter, LIZ-MG MIKRO in the summer). Browse is ensured by means of trunks brought in the enclosure; they also get twigs from time to time.

Until the end of 2007, 18 camels were born with balanced ratio of sexes (9.9). The main birthing period involves March and April, total number of births: 12 (i.e. 67 %). Other births occurred in January (1), February (3), May (1), and August (1). In case of former females (Fay, Fatima 2, Lenka), the birth always used to be accompanied with problems in the first days after the birth, and keeper's assistance was always

necessary. The females used to repel the offspring; some young ones could not even stand up. Therefore, the female had to be given a halter and had to be tied up; accordingly, the young one had to be pushed to the female's udder and its mouth had to be guided directly to the nipples. The feeding was performed every 1.5 hours on the first day after the birth (including the night); and every 2 up to 2.5 hours on the day 2 or 3. The young one got stronger, stood up by itself, but still was not accepted by the female. On the day 4, the feeding was performed every 3 hours, with about 5-hour break in the night. This was already enough so that the female could accept the young one and the young one started sucking with-

out any help. With the new female camels (Kara and Kuma), both of the young ones born in 2007 were vital, the females showed an excellent care of them, and any keeper's assistance became unnecessary (**Pict. 3**).

In the recent years, there were two deaths. The female Fay died due to the liver and kidney failure in 2002, while the male Kraken died due to the chronic kidney failure with subsequent infection in 2006. From the veterinary aspect, all animals are dewormed twice a year (spring – autumn) using Panakur, Sulfacox, and Ivo-mec, checks of faeces are performed from time to time outside this schedule. Streptonamid is served in case of persistent diarrheas. The animals are vaccinated against clostridia (including tetanus) with Miloksan and Covexin 8. Once a year, blood is sampled to examine the herd concerning infection diseases. Concerning accidents, there was a case of fracture of a lower jaw on the level of canine teeth in a young male. Osteosynthesis of the jaw was carried out and the male was healed without any durable effects.

The young camels were not trained; concerning the adults, only the female Fatma and later on Lenka were able to manage any basic commands (lie, up), and carry a rider. We took Lenka to several promotion operations outside the zoo area; she even played a part in the *Akumulátor* (Accumulator) movie.



# REARING OF BORNEAN ORANGUTANS

Mgr. Eva Mikolášková

The orangutan house at Ústí Zoo is inhabited by a family of the Bornean orangutan, and by a hybrid of the Bornean and Sumatran orangutan named Ferda. Due to his high age (38 years) as well as long isolation, Ferda is a typical solitary. He is the least active dweller in the house. Compared with him, the four-member orangutan family represents a highly dynamical element of our zoo. It was founded by a pair of Bornean orangutans that arrived in Ústí

sed, which caused apprehension if they would be able to form a functional pair, and if they would reproduce in a natural way. Such concerns became baseless as the orangutans began periodical mating after they reached their sexual maturity, delivering their first descendant in the end of 1998. The female Nuninka proved to be a very good and caring mother, who did not need any assistance by humans when raising her young one. The male Nuňák is

ins in close contacts (unity) with the mother. Nevertheless, he usually begins to play with the young one later on. He also behaves very kindly so that he makes no harm to the young animal.

The female Raja born on 20 December 1998 was the first descendant of our orangutans. The animal was very active, and showed a very promising development, but, unfortunately, it suddenly died three days after its first birthday due to a virus disease. Never-



nad Labem in 1989 after having been confiscated to smugglers when they were one-year old.

After their arrival to the zoo, the young animals required a special and standing care of keepers and instant contact with humans, who compensated them for their lost mother. This means that although both primates came from the wild, they have been hand-rai-

completely trouble-free and kind concerning his offspring, making the situation much easier, as there is no need for any separation from the female after the birth. This behaviour, which is unusual for a male orangutan, may be a result of human care in the early stage of his life. The father keeps his neutrality and does not care about the young one until it rema-

theless, very soon after this, Nuninka became pregnant again, and the second orangutan baby (the male Ámos) was born exactly two years after Raja (and nearly one year after Raja's death) on 20 December 2000. To our big pleasure, he has been enjoying good health and remains a member of our group, although he is already fully independent (**Pict. 1**). He is



currently seven years old, which means that he goes through his adolescent age. This not only brings changes in his appearance, but also forms his personality and produces efforts concerning establishment of his own position in the group.

After a long break (the orangutan's non-breeding period between two births is the longest in primates), third young one in the row was born to our orangutans on 20 January 2007 (**Pict. 2**). According to the fact that the male Ľuňák was daily separated from the female in the night (each of them has its own bedroom), we did not need to solve the issue of separating the male prior the expected birth. The young one was a male and was born early in the morning. When the keeper arrived, he still had a remnant of the chord. The female allowed the keeper to cut the chord so that it could be shortened, as we were afraid of breaking. The young Ámos was present during the birth as he still shared the bedroom with his mother at that time. He was interested in the newborn very much and had to be driven off by the mother. Therefore, he was expelled right in the morning; from this time on, he used to go into his father's bedroom. In the

first three days, the mother rested with the baby in her bedroom and remained separated from both male members of the group. They were held in the playroom during the day, spending the night in the father's bedroom; however, as we did not know how they would re-

act to such change, we enabled them to enter the playroom from the bedroom and vice versa in the night as well, which is otherwise not allowed in the night. The day four, Ľuninka with the baby was allowed to enter the playroom where Ľuňák and Ámos stayed. The group was reunited without any problems. Only Ámos paid attention to the young. Ľuňák was attracted by the female, trying to examine the status of her genitals despite her displeasure. However, he did not repeat this in the following days. No intervention by the keepers was necessary as Ľuninka enforced the respect towards the young one using threatening mimics of her face, while ensuring a peace at the same time. From this moment on, a daily routine was re-established in the house; the members of the group spent the day together, while separated into their two bedrooms in the night (**Pict. 3**). This schedule persisted until the end of June, when a separated bedroom was reserved for Ámos.





Although the mother paid the highest attention to the young one since its birth, protecting him all the time, Ámos tried to cater his sexual appetite on the small orangutan since the beginning, using him to show a copulation; subsequently, he started to mate the four-month baby into its rectum. In the first months, the mother reacted very negatively; later on, she posed more and more flegmatically to Ámos's behaviour. Fortunately, the young one's skills have improved, as he gets older so that he can escape better and handling him becomes impossible.

In April, the young orangutan began catching items in his closest surrounding, moving close to the female, and trying climbing the bars and ropes. In his fourth month of age, he already climbed the nets without any support of his mother. The little male showed us his teeth (lower incisors) in the middle of May; the upper incisors

were found three weeks after. Since June, the young one began to ask pre-chewed food from his mother.

On 6 October 2007, the young was given a name Budi (**Pict. 4**). Recently, the young one moves far from the mother, climbing with a bigger confidence and playing with his older sibling Ámos, who is relatively regardful to him in play. The young can grip the food by his upper limbs and put it to his mouth. After getting the food, he escapes from the mother trying not to allow her to take anything from him. Even despite the ability of the young one to enforce certain quantity of food, he still must be given some extra food.

As for the relationships of the mother to both of the descendants, it is interesting that Nuninka did not reject Ámos, who is older and nearly adult, with the arrival of Budi. She is still protecting Ámos when in danger, and he is allowed to do almost anything to her.



### Comparison of the after-birth situations and developments of the three descendants of Ňuňák and Nuninka

	Raja	Ámos	Budi
<b>Birth – Time – Location</b>	20. 12. 1998 (Afternoon) Playroom	20. 12. 2000 (Early morning) Bedroom	20. 1. 2007 (Early morning) Bedroom
<b>Chord</b>	Bitten by mother	Cut	The rest cut
<b>Placenta</b>	Eaten		
<b>Group re-united for the first time after the birth</b>	11. 3. 1999	29. 12. 2000	23. 1. 2007
<b>First mating of the parents after the birth</b>	19. 3. 1999	1. 1. 2001	23. 1. 2007 (Trial)
<b>YOUNG ONE:</b>			
<b>First lower incisors</b>	6. 4. 1999	26. 2. 2001	14. 5. 2007
<b>Climbing assisted by mother (Instant contacts with mother)</b>	14. 4.	9. 4. - gripping the bars 29. 4. - climbing the net	5. 4. - gripping the bars
<b>Upper incisors</b>	16. 4.	10. 6.	5. 6.
<b>Climbing alone with no assistance by mother</b>	26. 4.	7. 5.	26. 4. - hanging alone on the net 4. 5. - climbing the net
<b>Tasting the mother's food (taking food from her mouth)</b>	3. 5.	17. 4.	7. 6.
<b>Another types of teeth</b>	31. 5. - third lower incisor 14. 6. - first molars	?	15. 6. - four lower incisors
<b>Other activities</b>	13. 12. - active, inquiring	7. 12. - running alone around the playroom 10. 12. - father is playing with Ámos 14. 12. - Ámos serving food by himself	6. 7. - taking food alone, nibbling it

# REARING OF RED PANDA

Ing. Petra Padalíková



The red panda belongs to the rare species kept in zoos. Currently, the collections in the European zoos are under a central management; an international studbook is published every year, which also registers animals in other zoos in other parts of the world. In frame of Europe, the western red panda sub-species *Ailurus fulgens fulgens* is kept almost exclusively. This taxon ranges in the Himalayan foothills in Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan and North Eastern India. The homeland of the other sub-species, the much larger *Ailurus fulgens styani*, involves North Eastern Burma, and the Chinese Yunnan and Sichuan provinces. Only a sole individual of the sub-species has been held in Europe, at Touroparc Zoo, Fran-

ce. On the other hand, the European population of the nominal sub-species counts total 231 specimens found in 96 institutions, according to the 2006 studbook. Even despite such relatively favourable numbers, reproduction has not been so successful so that the captive red panda population could be labelled as stable on a long-term basis; there is a long waiting list of institutions willing to hold the species. According to the studbook data, red panda was bred in mere 17 institutions in Europe in 2006, out of which only 8 reared the offspring successfully. This means that the pan-European collection increased by only 12 young animals in 2006, while 26 adults died in the

same year. The 2007 numbers (source: [www.isis.org](http://www.isis.org)) are more positive; 16 zoos raised the young ones successfully, and recently 24 surviving young animals are registered. It is obvious based on the data above that the red panda belongs to the species that are very difficult to breed.

The beginnings of the red panda collection at Ústí Zoo dates back to 1996, when two females from Barcelona Zoo arrived. In 1999, one of the females died; we managed to get a male to the remaining female in the end of 2000; it was three-year old Sole from Bussolengo Zoo. The pairing was effective, and a single cub was born to the newly established pair in June 2001. The rearing of the descendant was successful, thus it became the first rearing of the species in frame of UCSZ (*Unie českých a slovenských zoologických zahrad*/Union of Czech and Slovak Zoos) in its history. Unfortunately, a tragedy affected the Ústí's collection one year later. The breeding female suddenly died, followed by the cub in course of a single month. The post-mortem examination found a bacterial infection in both animals.

The male Sole did not get a new partner sooner than after four years (**Pict. 1**). In May 2006, the young female Geena was brought in from Antwerp, Belgium. At the very start, Geena had big problems to adapt to her new enclosure as well as to her new partner. During the first month, she tried to escape several times, out of which two actions were successful. We hold the red pandas in a naturalistic enclosure, where grown acacia trees pre-dominate. The fencing of the enclosure consists of a wood palisade, which is complemented by glass in the front part. Animals are prevented to climb the palisade by two electric fence lines in its lower and upper

parts. A standard strand wire with strings of electric wire was used as a conductor. We could watch one of the Geena's escapes by ourselves; the animal climbed the palisade without any problem,

to the infertility limit, so nobody could warranted if Geena would be mated successfully even despite the activities observed in the spring. The pregnancy period in the red panda persists 90 to 140

a timing of the birth so that the offspring can enter an ideal season of the year or enabling the female to reach an ideal nourishing condition before the coming birth. The red panda delivery



but no visible stroke by the power was observed even despite its direct contact with the electric fence. Thus, we suspected that the thick hair on the contact surface of the panda paw was a perfect insulator. That was why the panda enclosure was enforced with one more row, which was the central row of electric fencing made of steel wire, which conducts the electric pulses much more effectively. This measure was found sufficient, and Geena did not overcome the enclosure fencing since that time.

In the beginning of the spring 2007, an increased moving activity in both pandas as well as frequent territorial marking by the male was observed. However, no mating was registered. The male Sole completed his tenth year at that time. The literature states that the red panda may be at most fertile until twelve years. This means that Sole was coming near

days. Such large interval is associated with the fact that the development of the fertilised egg may be withheld over the period of 20 to 70 days. This phenomenon is called latent pregnancy, and the main purpose thereof is either

period falls into June and July. In total, six dens were developed to provide shelters for possible birth and raising of cubs. They involved a stone den, a shelter formed from concrete rings, and four wood boxes of different shapes.



A feeding bowl was put in one of the wood boxes.

On 8 July 2007, the keepers found two cubs in one of the wood boxes. An interesting fact was that Geena had chosen the same box to give birth as the female in 2001 did. The cubs had a coffee colour. As it was the first birth of this female, we implemented strict measures; only the keepers were allowed to enter the enclosure. In the first weeks, the enclosure was not cleaned, only food was brought in to avoid any disturbance of the female as much as possible. With regard to the tropical temperatures, a sprinkler was installed in the enclosure, which was really enjoyed by the red pandas. Geena proved to be a good example of mother. She used to carry the young ones among the boxes throughout the enclosure. Having reached their first month, the cubs had their eyes open, they moved around their box, and their fur got dark step-by-step (**Pict. 2**). At the age of about two months, their colour-

ation resembled the adults; the facemask of one of the animals was much lighter.

On 26 September 2007, the first material check of the offspring was performed, as well as deworming and application of chips (**Pict. 3**). The animals showed a good nutrition status; their external sexual marks indicated that they could be two males. Subsequently, the cubs began leaving their shelters in the evening by themselves, and we could observe them playing in the enclosure. From the end of November, the cubs were active even in the day. Their movements got much more skilful. In the month 4, we saw the small pandas eating bamboo for the first time.

On 16 November 2007 in the morning hours, we noticed Geena's reduced coordination of movements. The check catching revealed she was in a bad nutrition status. The first raising had exhausted the female too much despite every possible effort and care from our side. Geena was

removed to the background immediately, and we proceeded to intense supporting treatment. In the wild, the cubs will normally stay with the female until the next mating season or possibly until the next litter occurs. Nevertheless, we had to separate our cubs at the age of four months. Therefore, various types of milk mash and Calopet (a vitamin cream) were included in their diet. The small red panda cubs went through this pre-mature weaning without problems. Their father took over the role of active parent (**Pict. 4**), spending the night with both of the cubs in a single box, or playing with them in the enclosure.

Both young ones enjoyed a great attention at the zoo. Their future was determined by the pan-European collection coordinator: one of the males would aim for Kronberg Zoo (Germany), while the other for Prague. Let us hope that the breeding pair will repeat the successful raising in the subsequent years.



# NUMBERS OF ANIMALS TO 31. 12. 2007

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Mammals (Mammalia)</b>						
Addax <i>Addax nasomaculatus</i>	3.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR,CITES=I			1.0	0.1	2.0
Alpaca <i>Vicugna pacos</i>	3.8	3.2	1.0	2.0	3.1	2.9
Amur Leopard <i>Panthera pardus orientalis</i>	1.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR,CITES=I					1.2
Amur Leopard Cat <i>Prionailurus bengalensis euptilura</i>	1.0 RDB=LC					1.0
Angola Lion <i>Panthera leo bleyenberghi</i>	1.1 RDB=VU					1.1
Babyrusa <i>Babyrousa babyrussa</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=VU,CITES=I					1.1
Banded Mongoose <i>Mungos mungo</i>	1.3 RDB=LR					1.3
Baringo Giraffe <i>Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi</i>	1.3 EEP,RDB=LR					1.3
Bengal Elephant <i>Elephas maximus bengalensis</i>	0.2 EEP,RDB=EN,CITES=I					0.2
Black and White Ruffed Lemur <i>Varecia variegata</i>	5.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I				0.1	5.1
Blackbuck <i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	7.3 RDB=NT	1.2		1.0		7.5
Blue Monkey <i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>	2.2 RDB=LR			1.1		1.1
Bonnet Macaque <i>Macaca radiata</i>	2.3 RDB=LR	1.0				3.3
Bornean Orangutan <i>Pongo pygmaeus pygmaeus</i>	2.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I	1.0				3.1
Brazilian Tapir <i>Tapirus terrestris</i>	1.0 EEP,RDB=VU		0.1			1.1
Californian Sea Lion <i>Zalophus californianus</i>	1.0 ESB,RDB=LR					1.0
Capybara <i>Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris</i>	0.1 RDB=LR					0.1
Caracal <i>Caracal caracal</i>	1.0 ISB,RDB=LC,CITES=I			1.0		
Central American Agouti <i>Dasyprocta punctata</i>	1.1.1 RDB=LR				0.0.1	1.1
Collared Peccary <i>Pecari tajacu</i>	1.2 RDB=LR					1.2

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Mammals (Mammalia)</b>						
Common Squirrel Monkey <i>Saimiri sciureus</i>	1.1 EEP,RDB=LC					1.1
Cotton-top Tamarin <i>Saguinus oedipus</i>	2.3 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I			1.0		1.3
Crab-eating Raccoon <i>Procyon cancrivorus</i>	2.1 RDB=LR			1.0		1.1
De Brazza ´s Monkey <i>Cercopithecus neglectus</i>	1.2 ESB,RDB=LR	1.0				2.2
Defassa Waterbuck <i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>	1.2 RDB=LR		0.2	0.1		1.3
Diana Monkey <i>Cercopithecus diana diana</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I					1.1
Domestic Bactrian Camel <i>Camelus bactrianus</i>	1.4 RDB=CR	1.1	0.1		1.1	1.5
Domestic Dog <i>Canis familiaris</i>	1.0				1.0	
Domestic Goat <i>Capra hircus</i>	1.2	2.1		1.0	2.1	0.2
Domestic Goat <i>Capra hircus</i>	3.11	8.6			7.10	4.7
Domestic Sheep <i>Ovis aries aries</i>	5.6	0.2		1.0	3.0	1.8
Eastern Grey Kangaroo <i>Macropus giganteus</i>	1.0 ESB,RDB=LR			1.0		
Fishing Cat <i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	EEP,ISB,RDB=VU		2.1		1.1	1.0
Fosa <i>Cryptoprocta ferox</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN		1.0			2.1
Geoffroy ´s Cat <i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i>	2.1 EEP,RDB=NT,CITES=I				1.0	1.1
Golden Lion Tamarin <i>Leontopithecus rosalia</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I			0.1		1.0
Guanaco <i>Lama guanicoe</i>	0.2 RDB=LR					0.2
Harbour Seal <i>Phoca vitulina</i>	1.1 RDB=LR					1.1
Hartmann ´s Mountain Zebra <i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	3.9 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN	2.0			2.1	3.8
Cheetah <i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=VU,CITES=I		0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1
Japanese Serow <i>Naemorhedus crispus</i>	0.1 ESB,ISB,RDB=LR					0.1
Javan Langur <i>Trachypithecus auratus</i>	1.3 RDB=EN	0.1		1.0		0.4

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Mammals (Mammalia)</b>						
Jungle Cat <i>Felis chaus</i>	1.0 RDB=LC					1.0
Kafue Lechwe <i>Kobus leche kafuensis</i>	1.3 ISB,RDB=VU	2.1				3.4
Kilimanjaro Colobus <i>Colobus guereza caudatus</i>	1.4 ESB,RDB=LR			1.0		0.4
Larger Hairy Armadillo <i>Chaetophractus villosus</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Lion-tailed Macaque <i>Macaca silenus</i>	3.0 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I				3.0	
Llama <i>Lama glama</i>	2.3	1.2			1.0	2.5
Lowland Anoa <i>Bubalus depressicornis</i>	3.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I					3.2
Mandrill <i>Mandrillus sphinx</i>	1.4 EEP,RDB=VU					1.4
Maned Wolf <i>Chrysocyon brachyurus</i>	1.0 EEP,ISB,RDB=NT	0.1	0.1			1.2
Meerkat <i>Suricata suricatta</i>	3.1 RDB=LR					3.1
Mona Monkey <i>Cercopithecus mona</i>	1.0 RDB=LR				1.0	
Nilgai <i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	2.6 RDB=LC	2.0		0.1	1.4	3.1
Northern Plains Grey Langur <i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>	1.4 ESB,RDB=LR,CITES=I					1.4
Northern White-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus leucogenys leucogenys</i>	2.2.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I			1.0	0.1	1.1.2
Ocelot <i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	1.1 RDB=LC,CITES=I			0.1		1.0
Orangutan <i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	1.0 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I					1.0
Oriental Small-clawed Otter <i>Amblyonyx cinerea</i>	1.1 ISB,RDB=NT	1.0				2.1
Patagonian Mara <i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	2.1.1 RDB=LR	0.0.1				2.1.2
Persian Leopard <i>Panthera pardus saxicolor</i>	1.0 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I					1.0
Pony <i>Equus caballus</i>	1.4	1.1			0.2	2.3
Prevost's Squirrel <i>Callosciurus prevostii</i>	1.1 RDB=LR	0.0.1				1.1.1
Pygmy Marmoset <i>Callithrix pygmaea</i>	1.1 RDB=LC	0.0.2				1.1.2

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Mammals (Mammalia)</b>						
Red Panda <i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I	2.0				3.1
Red Ruffed Lemur <i>Varecia rubra</i>	2.3 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR,CITES=I				0.2	2.1
Red-handed Tamarin <i>Saguinus midas midas</i>	2.2 ESB,RDB=LC	1.1	0.2		1.2	2.3
Reeves' Muntjac <i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	1.1 RDB=LR	0.0.1				1.1.1
Ring-tailed Lemur <i>Lemur catta</i>	2.2 ESB,RDB=VU,CITES=I		1.0		2.0	1.2
Silvered Leaf Monkey <i>Trachypithecus cristatus</i>	0.2					0.2
Snow Leopard <i>Uncia uncia</i>	1.1 EEP,ISB,RDB=EN,CITES=I					1.1
Somali Wild Ass <i>Equus africanus somalicus</i>	3.3 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR,CITES=I	1.1	0.1		0.1	4.4
South American Coati <i>Nasua nasua</i>	RDB=LR		1.2			1.2
Southern Two-toed Sloth <i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	1.2 ESB,RDB=LC	0.0.1			0.1	1.1.1
Southern White Rhinoceros <i>Ceratotherium simum simum</i>	1.2 EEP,ISB,RDB=NT					1.2
Sumatran Tiger <i>Panthera tigris sumatrae</i>	1.0 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR,CITES=I				1.0	
Sun Bear <i>Helarctos malayanus</i>	2.5 ESB,RDB=DD,CITES=I					2.5
Thorold's Deer <i>Cervus albirostris</i>	2.4 RDB=VU	0.2		1.0		1.6
Variable Flying Fox <i>Pteropus hypomelanus</i>	5.2 RDB=LR	0.0.1				5.2.1
Vietnamese Sika Deer <i>Cervus nippon pseudaxis</i>	2.6 EEP,ISB,RDB=CR	1.4			2.4	1.6
Wolverine <i>Gulo gulo sibirica</i>	0.1 EEP,RDB=VU		1.0			1.1
<b>Birds (Aves)</b>						
Alexandrine Parakeet <i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	1.1 RDB=LC	0.0.3			0.0.3	1.1
Australian King-Parrot <i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	2.2 RDB=LC				2.2	
Black-necked Aracari <i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>	1.1 RDB=LC			1.1		
Blue-and-yellow Macaw <i>Ara ararauna</i>	3.5 RDB=LC	2.1			1.2	4.4



	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Birds (Aves)</b>						
Blue-fronted Amazon <i>Amazona aestiva</i>	RDB=LC		0.01			0.01
Budgerigar <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	0.0.63 RDB=LC	0.0.42			0.0.80	0.0.25
California Quail <i>Lophortyx californica</i>	3.1 RDB=LC					3.1
Cockatiel <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	3.1 RDB=LC	0.0.4			0.0.4	3.1
Common Barn-owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	1.1 CROH=SOH,RDB=LC	0.0.6			0.0.6	1.1
Crested Pigeon <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Crested Wood-partridge <i>Rollulus rouloul</i>	1.1 RDB=NT					1.1
Egyptian Goose <i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus percnopterus</i>	0.1 ESB,RDB=LC					0.1
Emu <i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Eurasian Eagle-Owl <i>Bubo bubo</i>	1.1 CROH=OH,RDB=LC					1.1
Flamingos <i>Phoenicopterus sp.</i>	0.1					0.1
Great Currassow <i>Crax rubra</i>	1.2 RDB=NT				0.1	1.1
Great Kiskadee <i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	1.0 RDB=LC					1.0
Greater Rhea <i>Rhea americana</i>	0.1.5 RDB=NT					0.1.5
Grey Parrot <i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Himalayan Griffon <i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1
Indian Peafowl <i>Pavo cristatus</i>	3.6 RDB=LC					3.6
Java Sparrow <i>Padda oryzivora</i>	0.0.2 RDB=VU					0.0.2
Mandarin Duck <i>Aix galericulata</i>	1.0 RDB=LC					1.0
Marabou <i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	1.1 ESB,RDB=LC			0.1		1.0
Mealy Amazon <i>Amazona farinosa</i>	2.1 RDB=LC					2.1

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Birds (Aves)</b>						
Military Macaw <i>Ara militaris</i>	3.3 ISB,RDB=VU,CITES=I	0.1			1.1	2.3
Raven <i>Corvus corax</i>	1.1.1 CROH=OH,RDB=LC				0.0.1	1.1
Red-and-green Macaw <i>Ara chloroptera</i>	1.1 RDB=LC		1.1			2.2
Red-fronted Parrot <i>Poicephalus gullelmi</i>	1.1 RDB=LC	0.0.1			0.0.1	1.1
Red-lored Amazon <i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	2.2 RDB=LC					2.2
Rose-ringed Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	1.1 RDB=LC	0.0.2			0.0.2	1.1
Rosy Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus ruber roseus</i>	0.0.10 RDB=LC					0.0.10
Rothschild´s Mynah <i>Leucopsar rothschildi</i>	1.0 EEP,RDB=CR,CITES=I		0.2	0.1		1.1
Saker Falcon <i>Falco cherrug</i>	2.2 CROH=KOH,RDB=EN	0.1				2.3
Salmon-crested Cockatoo <i>Cacatua moluccensis</i>	1.1 EEP,RDB=VU,CITES=I		1.0			2.1
Scarlet Macaw <i>Ara macao</i>	1.0 RDB=LC,CITES=I					1.0
Snowy Owl <i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>	1.1 RDB=LC	2.2			2.2	1.1
Spot-sided Finch <i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	13.7.3 RDB=LC				1.0.3	12.7
Tanimbar Corella <i>Cacatua goffini</i>	1.2 RDB=NT,CITES=I	0.1	0.1		0.2	1.2
Tawny Eagle <i>Aquila rapax</i>	1.2 RDB=LC					1.2
Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i>	1.1 RDB=LC			1.0		0.1
Ural Owl <i>Strix uralensis liturata</i>	1.1 CROH=KOH,RDB=LC	1.1			1.1	1.1
Victoria Crowned-Pigeon <i>Goura victoria</i>	1.1 ESB,ISB,RDB=VU					1.1
Violet Turaco <i>Musophaga violacea</i>	1.2 ESB,RDB=LC					1.2
Wrinkled Hornbill <i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	3.2 EEP,RDB=NT				2.1	1.1
Yellow-bibbed Lory <i>Lorius chlorocercus</i>	1.1 RDB=LC					1.1

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Reptiles (Reptilia)</b>						
African Rock Python <i>Python sebae</i>	0.1					0.1
American Alligator <i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	1.1					1.1
Asian Leaf Turtle <i>Cycllemys dentata</i>	0.0.7 RDB=LR					0.0.7
Ball Python <i>Python regius</i>	1.1					1.1
Boa Constrictor <i>Boa constrictor</i>	0.1					0.1
Central Asian tortoise <i>Testudo horsfieldii</i>	RDB=VU		0.0.10	0.0.1		0.0.9
Common Snake-necked Turtle <i>Chelodina longicollis</i>	1.2					1.2
Corn Snake <i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>	0.0.1				0.0.1	
Cuban Boa <i>Epicrates angulifer</i>	2.2.5 EEP,RDB=LR				0.0.5	2.2
Cuban Iguana <i>Cyclura nubila nubila</i>	1.2 ISB,RDB=VU,CITES=I					1.2
Dwarf Crocodile <i>Osteolaemus tetraspis</i>	1.0 ESB,RDB=VU,CITES=I					1.0
Eastern Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis getula getula</i>	1.0					1.0
False Water Cobra <i>Hydrodynastes gigas</i>	1.0					1.0
Florida Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis getula floridana</i>	1.0					1.0
Green Tree Python <i>Morelia viridis</i>	0.2					0.2
Greer's Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis mexicana greeri</i>	0.0.2					0.0.2
Hermann's Tortoise <i>Testudo hermanni</i>	RDB=LR		2.0	1.0		1.0
Honduran Milk Snake <i>Lampropeltis triangulum hondurensis</i>	1.2	0.0.6				1.2.6
Horn's Monitor <i>Varanus panoptes horni</i>	1.1			1.0		0.1
Chinese Softshell Turtle <i>Pelodiscus sinensis</i>	1.0 RDB=VU					1.0
Inland Bearded Dragon <i>Pogona vitticeps</i>	1.2.4			0.0.1		1.2.3
Oriental Water Dragon <i>Physignathus cocincinus</i>	1.1.9				1.1	0.0.9

	Status to 1. 1. 2007	Birth	Arrival	Death	Departure	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Reptiles (Reptilia)</b>						
Panther Chameleon <i>Furcifer pardalis</i>			1.0			1.0
Pueblan Milk Snake <i>Lampropeltis triangulum campbelli</i>	1.1					1.1
Red-bellied short-necked turtle <i>Emydura subglobosa</i>	RDB=LR		0.0.3			0.0.3
Red-eared Slider <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	5.8.21 RDB=LR			0.0.3	0.0.17	5.8.1
Reticulated Python <i>Python reticulatus</i>	1.1					1.1
Schneider´s Skink <i>Eumeces schneideri</i>	1.0.3					1.0.3
Sinaloa Milk Snake <i>Lampropeltis triangulum sinaloae</i>	2.2	0.0.19	0.0.1		0.0.18	2.2.2
Smooth-fronted Caiman <i>Paleosuchus trigonatus</i>	1.2					1.2
South American Red-footed Tortoise <i>Chelonoidis carbonaria</i>	6.1.8		0.1		0.0.4	6.2.4
Southeast Asian Box Turtle <i>Cuora amboinensis</i>	0.0.3 ESB,RDB=VU					0.0.3
Spur-thighed Tortoise <i>Testudo graeca</i>	RDB=VU		1.0			1.0
Travancore Tortoise <i>Indotestudo travancorica</i>	1.0 RDB=EN					1.0

	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Amphibians (Amphibia)</b>	
Aplash-backed Poison-arrow Frog <i>Dendrobates galactonotus</i>	0.0.2 RDB=LC
Asian Common Toad <i>Bufo melanosticus</i>	0.0.5 RDB=LC
Blue Poison-arrow Frog <i>Dendrobates azureus</i>	0.0.4 ESB,RDB=VU
Dyeing Poison-arrow Frog <i>Dendrobates tinctorius</i>	0.0.5 RDB=LC
Golden Poison Frog <i>Phyllobates terribilis</i>	0.0.12 RDB=EN
Golfodulcean Poison-arrow Frog <i>Phyllobates vittatus</i>	0.0.7 RDB=EN
Green And Golden Poison-arrow Frog <i>Dendrobates auratus</i>	0.0.26 RDB=LC
Ground Toads <i>Bufo sp.</i>	0.0.4
Malayan Bullfrog <i>Kaloula pulchra</i>	0.0.2 RDB=LC
Mission Golden-eyed Trefrog <i>Phrynohyas resinificatrix</i>	0.0.11 RDB=LC
Orange-legged Leaf Frog <i>Phyllomedusa hypochondrialis</i>	0.0.7 RDB=LC
Oriental Fire-bellied Toad <i>Bombina orientalis</i>	2.4.1 RDB=LC
Ribbed Newt <i>Pleurodeles waltl</i>	0.0.10 RDB=NT
Smooth Clawed Frog <i>Xenopus laevis laevis</i>	1.1.9 RDB=LC
Sri Lanka Whipping Frog <i>Polypedates cruciger</i>	0.0.8 RDB=LC
Three-striped Poison-arrow Frog <i>Epipedobates trivittatus</i>	0.0.3 RDB=LC
Tschudi´s African Bullfrog <i>Pyxicephalus adspersus</i>	1.2 RDB=LC
White´s Treefrog <i>Pelodryas caerulea</i>	0.0.18 RDB=LC
Yellow-banded Poison-arrow Frog <i>Dendrobates leucomelas</i>	0.0.8 RDB=LC
Yucatecan Shovel-headed Treefrog <i>Tripion petasatus</i>	0.0.6 RDB=LC

	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Fish (Pisces)</b>	
African Butter Catfish <i>Schilbe mystus</i>	0.0.1 RDB=VU
Angelfish <i>Pterophyllum scalare</i>	0.0.2
Bala Shark <i>Balantiocheilus melanopterus</i>	0.0.8 RDB=EN
Black Ruby Barb <i>Puntius nigrofasciatus</i>	0.0.6 RDB=LR
Blind cave tetra <i>Astyanax jordani</i>	0.0.10 RDB=VU
Bristlenose catfish <i>Ancistrus cirrhosus</i>	0.0.22
Bronze Cory <i>Corydoras aeneus</i>	0.0.14
Carptooth catfish <i>Clarias gariepinus</i>	0.0.3
Cichlid <i>Aulonocara sp.</i>	0.0.8
Clown Loach <i>Botia macracantha</i>	0.0.2
Featherfin Squeaker <i>Synodontis eupterus</i>	0.0.14
Giant Gourami <i>Osphronemus goramy</i>	0.0.3
Golden mbuna <i>Melanochromis auratus</i>	0.0.6 RDB=LC
Goldfish <i>Carassius auratus</i>	0.0.40
Iridescent Shark <i>Pangasius hypophthalmus</i>	0.0.8
Iridscent Mystus Cat <i>Mystus vittatus</i>	0.0.3
Kennyi mbuna <i>Metriaclima lombardoi</i>	0.0.10
Kingsley´s Ctenopoma <i>Ctenopoma kingsleyae</i>	0.0.5
Knifefish <i>Xenomystus sp.</i>	0.0.10
Lemon Tetra <i>Hyphessobrycon pulchripinnis</i>	0.0.15
Lyretail cichlid <i>Neolamprologus brichardi</i>	0.0.10 RDB=LC
Maylandia <i>Pseudotropheus zebra</i>	0.0.16

	Status to 31. 12. 2007
<b>Fish (Pisces)</b>	
Odessa Barb <i>Puntius sp.</i>	0.0.3
Penguin Tetra <i>Thayeria boehlkei</i>	0.0.6
Red Bellied Piranha <i>Pygocentrus nattereri</i>	0.0.8
Red Hook Myleus <i>Myloplus rubripinnis</i>	0.0.5
Red Pacu <i>Piaractus brachypomus</i>	0.0.4
Redfin Shark <i>Epalzeorhynchus frenatum</i>	0.0.4
Serpae Tetra <i>Hyphessobrycon eques</i>	0.0.9
Siberian Sturgeon <i>Acipenser baerii</i>	0.0.2 RDB=VU
Spotted Hoplo <i>Megalechis thoracata</i>	0.0.13
Spotted talking catfish <i>Agamyxis pectinifrons</i>	0.0.6
Spotted Tilapia <i>Tilapia mariae</i>	0.0.1
Sterlet <i>Acipenser ruthenus</i>	0.0.3 RDB=VU
Stinging Catfish <i>Heteropneustes fossilis</i>	0.0.3
Tiger Botia Loach <i>Botia hymenophysa</i>	0.0.1
Tinfoil Barb <i>Barbodes schwanenfeldii</i>	0.0.7
White Skirt Tetra <i>Gymnocorymbus ternetzi</i>	0.0.10
Zebrafish <i>Danio rerio</i>	0.0.2
<b>Invertebrates (Evertebrata)</b>	
Curly hair tarantula <i>Brachypelma albopilosum</i>	0.0.1
Mexican flame knee <i>Brachypelma auratum</i>	0.0.1
Emperor scorpion <i>Pandinus imperator</i>	0.0.5
Goliath tarantula <i>Theraphosa blondi</i>	0.1

# Rearings

	Birth
Mammals (Mammalia)	
Alpaca <i>Vicugna pacos</i>	3.2
Blackbuck <i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	1.2
Bonnet Macaque <i>Macaca radiata</i>	1.0
Bornean Orangutan <i>Pongo pygmaeus pygmaeus</i>	1.0
De Brazza's Monkey <i>Cercopithecus neglectus</i>	1.0
Domestic Bactrian Camel <i>Camelus bactrianus</i>	1.1
Domestic Goat <i>Capra hircus</i>	2.1
Domestic Goat <i>Capra hircus</i>	8.6
Domestic Sheep <i>Ovis aries aries</i>	0.2
Hartmann's Mountain Zebra <i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	2.0
Javan Langur <i>Trachypithecus auratus</i>	0.1
Kafue Lechwe <i>Kobus leche kafuensis</i>	2.1
Llama <i>Lama glama</i>	1.2
Maned Wolf <i>Chrysocyon brachyurus</i>	0.1
Nilgai <i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	2.0
Oriental Small-clawed Otter <i>Amblonyx cinerea</i>	1.0
Patagonian Mara <i>Dolichotis patagonum</i>	0.0.1
Pony <i>Equus caballus</i>	1.1
Prevost's Squirrel <i>Callosciurus prevostii</i>	0.0.1
Pygmy Marmoset <i>Callithrix pygmaea</i>	0.0.2
Red Panda <i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i>	2.0

	Birth
Mammals (Mammalia)	
Red-handed Tamarin <i>Saguinus midas midas</i>	1.1
Reeves' Muntjac <i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	0.0.1
Somali Wild Ass <i>Equus africanus somalicus</i>	1.1
Southern Two-toed Sloth <i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	0.0.1
Thorold's Deer <i>Cervus albirostris</i>	0.2
Variable Flying Fox <i>Pteropus hypomelanus</i>	0.0.1
Vietnamese Sika Deer <i>Cervus nippon pseudaxis</i>	1.4



	Birth
<b>Birds (Aves)</b>	
Alexandrine Parakeet <i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	0.0.3
Blue-and-yellow Macaw <i>Ara ararauna</i>	2.1
Budgerigar <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	0.0.42
Cockatiel <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	0.0.4
Common Barn-owl <i>Tyto alba</i>	0.0.6
Military Macaw <i>Ara militaris</i>	0.1
Red-fronted Parrot <i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	0.0.1
Rose-ringed Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	0.0.2
Saker Falcon <i>Falco cherrug</i>	0.1
Snowy Owl <i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>	2.2
Tanimbar Corella <i>Cacatua goffini</i>	0.1
Ural Owl <i>Strix uralensis liturata</i>	1.1
<b>Reptiles (Reptilia)</b>	
Honduran Milk Snake <i>Lampropeltis triangulum hondurensis</i>	0.0.6
Sinaloan Milk Snake <i>Lampropeltis triangulum sinaloae</i>	0.0.19
<b>Amphibians (Amphibia)</b>	
Golfodulcean Poison-arrow Frog <i>Phyllobates vittatus</i>	0.0.1





**The Economic  
Department**



# ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT

Jana Černá

In 2007, our zoo employed 57.83 employees (FTE).

## Assessment of economic situation

ITEM	THOUSAND CZK
Material purchased	2.290,48
Food purchased	3.046,79
Fuel consumption	404,09
Electric power	2.615,07
Water consumption, incl. sewerage charge	1.332,69
Repairs of long-term assets	911,57
Wages	12.450,63
Transfers from wages	4.351,80
Depreciation of long-term assets	2.000,00
Other costs	7.044,18
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>36.447,30</b>
Revenues from entrance fees	7.790,21
Other returns (donations...)	617,22
Profit from the additional activities (sales, advertising, rental...)	1.837,06
Inclusion of funds	0,00
Contribution of founder	23.563,97
Contribution of MoE for operations	2.644,27
<b>Total returns</b>	<b>36.452,73</b>
<b>Profit/Loss (profit)</b>	<b>5,43</b>



Wages and transfers were the major cost items of the organization. The average salary amounted to CZK 18,186 per employee in 2007.

The food was another big item (**Pict. 1**). Compared to the preceding year, these costs increased because of arrival of new animals into the zoo and increase in prices. For your information, in 2007 our animals consumed over 9 tonnes of bananas, 4.8 tonnes of poultry meat, 12.36 tonnes of beef meat, 5.4 tonnes of fish, and 36,584 mice.

The electric power costs in 2007 have been separated, involving the electric power costs for the common consumption (CZK 1,366.29 thousand), and the electric power costs for the heat pumps used for heating of the zoo (CZK 1,248.75 thousand).

Considering the volume, the water consumption has been the same in five recent years. However, the costs for water con-

sumption and sewerage charge have increased because of price growth. The sea lions and seals were the largest animal consumers of water (**Pict. 2**). In total, roughly 24,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water were consumed.

The zoo operation budget means for the repairs of the long-term assets were spent on the following purposes: repairs of motor vehicles, the repair of the Carnivore House, the repair of the administration building, cooling, minor repairs in the orangutan house and repairs of apartments in the zoo.

The assets from Founder's budget for investment and repairs formed a significant item as well. The former technical department's building was rebuilt to a restaurant; the train was purchased to transport visitors from the lower



tickets, etc.), while the average costs per ticket amounted to CZK **220.58**. The balance was covered from the profit from the additional activities of the zoo (rental, advertisements, donations, etc.) amounting to CZK **11.12**, from the Founder's contribution (CZK **146.36**), and from the contribution of the Czech Ministry of Environment (CZK **16.12**). MoE partially supports the costs on the keeping of the endangered animal species and handicapped animals located at the zoo. The MoE funding was used to partially cover the costs on food, energy, and veterinary care of the animals; the zoo membership in the world zoo unions and associations; and on the education and

part of the zoo to the top point of the park (**Pict. 3**), and reconstruction of the babirusa indoor and outdoor exhibit to tapir indoor and outdoor facility was started.

Organization's returns from own activities consisted of income from entrance fees, rental, advertisements and gifts from donors.

In 2007, there was a further increase in the visitor numbers (**Pict. 4**), with the attendance reached 165,235; which is by 25,879 visitors more compared to the year 2006.

The average price of a ticket into the zoo, which has been paid by a visitor in 2007 amounted to CZK **46.98** (adults, children, children up to 3 years, disabled, permanent



world fauna biodiversity conservation projects that were developed and endorsed by UCSZ.

Concerning the additional activities in 2007, the revenues consisted of revenues from rental of apartments and non-residential premises amounting to CZK 708.04 thousand; revenues from advertisements amounting to CZK 1,606.08 thousand; revenues from sales of goods amounting to CZK 332.24 thousand; and other revenues amounting to CZK 681.16 thousand (revenues from operation of a jumping tower, sales of animal food in the children playground, commission from supplier of goods, etc.).



**The Technology  
Department**



# ACTIVITIES OF THE OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Jiří Hanzlík



As every year, the Operations and Technology Department had a significant impact on the operation of Ústí Zoo through its maintenance, transport, and horticulture centres; be it a constant removing of common defects, disorders or even major accidents and breakdowns, which occur daily in such vast area of 26 hectares; or cooperating when ensuring major outsourcing capital investments and repairs. Last but not least, the transport and mechanization centre served for cooperation with outsourcers as well in case of temporary aid (replacement and transfer of soil and other materials, see **(Pict. 1)**, including washing by our street flusher).

The minor maintenance included namely workshop services (carpentry, joinery, masonry, wiring, locksmith and plumbing work). For instance, our in-house staff performed the following work and tasks:

- Minor masonry and joinery work when maintaining the exhibits and houses;
- Installation of automatic filling system in frame of the potable water reservoir in the lower part of the zoo;

- Full maintenance of electric installations;
- Repair of the metal fencing and round timber around the white-lipped deer enclosure;
- Reconstruction of the guest room in the office building;
- Mounting of information and interpretation panels by the exhibits in cooperation with the Promotion and Education Department;
- Final gardening and landscaping work in three new children

playgrounds, which were developed by an outsourcer, Tomovy parky, s. r. o.;

- Completion of the second part of the Dinosaur Trail in the lower part of the zoo **(Pict. 2)**;
- Completion of reconstruction of the former upper part of the Operations and Technology Department to an African restaurant;
- Repair of a part of the zebra facility roof;
- Mowing and delivery of green food right to each animal house and enclosure;
- Servicing machines and vehicles of the car park with regard to the needs of the zoo operations;
- Repairs of fallen, weather-worn and damaged parts of facade of the buildings that mostly serve as a technical background for animal houses or as stores;
- Separating, storing, and removal of communal and animal waste produced based on operation of the zoo and the lessees;
- Periodical inspection of electric tools and low-voltage distribution systems in accordance with



the schedule of inspection for each zoo facility;

- In cooperation with VaMa Agency, a 24-hours guarding of the zoo and cleaning was ensured, with two public toilets and rendering box operated for the purposes of both the City of Ústí nad Labem and the zoo;
- In cooperation with the outsourcing manager of housing resources (Městské služby Ústí nad Labem, s. r. o.), all neces-

of the Technical Section building was reconstructed to the Trappola ZOO restaurant; a small motor train (Zoo Train) was purchased to ensure visitor transport, and put into service in the end of April.

The major funding resources included capital grants of the Magistrate of Ústí nad Labem, and the Zoo Property Reproduction Fund (referred to PRF), which was filled up with property depreciations and non-capital grants provi-

outdoor wood terrace. In terms of building, the most essential operations included pulling down the existing partition walls, statical securing of the panel ceiling above the 1<sup>st</sup> overground floor, and building inner bricked partition walls according to the inner layout of the planned premises as designed.

New self-levelling concrete floors were cast, and were tiled with ceramic tiling including the



sary repairs on the residential buildings and facilities were performed (seven active sub-lease contracts);

- In November, the former zoo quarantine facility in Strádov was transferred based on a one-year lease contract to a lessee intending to keep horses in the premises.

### OVERVIEW OF MAJOR REPAIRS AND CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

In course of the year 2007, a major work named *Expansion of Visitor Tourist Infrastructure in the Area of Ústí nad Labem Zoo – Revitalization of a Part of Facilities and Premises* was completed in the zoo premises, the upper part

ded by OMOS MmÚ in course of the year.

### CONSTRUCTION WORK - THE RESTAURANT

In the lower part of the zoo, the Trappola ZOO restaurant was developed by reconstructing the first floor of the former Technical Section's administration building. The reconstruction was performed by JAPIS Building Company following the project documentation produced by IDP, s. r. o. The scope of the reconstruction enabled launching of the operation for the visitors as of 1 July 2007. The capacity of the restaurant was designed for 70 visitors, with 40 persons sitting inside and 30 persons using the

necessary finish. Furthermore, a new water-proofing of the roof was made, and all inner and outer surfaces like stuccos, white earthenware facing, antiskid paving, etc. were treated according to required parameters. During the reconstruction, all fillings of the openings were replaced (plastic windows and new doors including the new entrance into the 2<sup>nd</sup> overground floor of the existing building via the wood terrace). The wood terrace for visitors was performed separately, and constructed largely from beech wood. It is a self-supporting wood structure built on new single footings; it is carried by wood columns made from treated oak logs

**(Pict. 3)**, the floor is made from oak floor planks. The wooden rail and roofing underline the resulting effect of this airy and state-of-the-art roofed wooden structure for the visitors. In frame of connection of civil engineering systems, the main sewer was equipped with an oil separator to collect fat and grease. In course of completion of the reconstruction, a new entrance from Drážďanská Street to serve for the guests of the restaurant was developed, and the communication linking with the zoo area solved by means of two turnstiles and a small gate. The entrance also includes a non-barrier access for disabled visitors. A self-contained elevator was made for these persons close to the western gable of the reconstructed building to overcome the wood stairway.

lessee plans to purchase an oven for pizza. The reconstructed facility was successfully approved on 22 June 2007.

Total costs: CZK 9,504,862 (ex. VAT).

### **EXPANSION OF VISITOR TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE AREA OF ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM ZOO – REVITALIZATION OF A PART OF FACILITIES AND PREMISES**

This was the largest operation of the year 2007, without any doubts, which by its scope affected the entire area of the zoo. It was structured into five building sections as listed below in accordance with the project documentation produced by STAVEX MM Company. It was implemented by an outsourcer building company,

in the northern part of the area were totally reconstructed. Even the steel welded framed structure filled with plexi-glass lenses underwent the reconstruction, being replaced with a modern material (polycarbonate). The bearing steel structure as such was cleaned up, blasted and coated **(Pict. 4)**. In frame of the general modification of the upper entrance, the corrupted outdoor stairway was removed, and all ceramic tiling on the entrance terrace, ticket office, and in the in-going section of the upper entrance was cut off. Based on a detailed analysis of technical and statical situation of the part of this building, the glazed structure on the entrance terrace, which was considered to have been used as a sales kiosk for drinks, was removed. All



The lessee of the new premises, Trappola Ústí nad Labem Company, ensured all gastronomy and technology equipment considering the planned operation of the restaurant, as well as the final graphic application of coatings and paintings using the African motifs. In the following year, the

JAPIS, s. r. o., and financed directly from the budget of the City of Ústí nad Labem.

#### **Part 01: Revitalization of the Upper Entrance – Expansion of Visitor Services**

In frame of this section, the premises of the upper zoo entrance

horizontal and vertical surfaces in the entrance area were repaired and heat-insulated. New facings and pavements were performed including improving the drainage of all areas. During the reconstruction, a new railing combining steel and wood was installed. The surfaces of the main in-going pa-



vement as well as two access paths into the inner premises of the buildings were paved with granite cubes laid into concrete. The upper ticket office was also reconstructed and modified within the context of the material modification of the entire entrance building. This time, the construction work was focused only on the outer part of the upper entrance building, but the reconstruction of the whole building can only be completed if also the inner part is rebuilt, including the former main exchanger room and all inner premises except the fifth heat station, which was developed during the switch-over of the zoo to the new heating system in recent years. The new area below the upper entrance was adapted to a resting terrace by installing five benches with tables. The terrace also serves as an exit station of the Zoo Train; it will mainly serve to visitors in summer months as it provides a view of the upper part of the zoo as well as of the Elbe River valley in the direction of Děčín.

### **Part 02: Větruše, a Playground for the Smallest Visitors of the Zoo**

The revitalization also affected the part known as the Children Contact Zoo for the smallest visitors. Partly disrupted and unsatisfactory in terms of safety, the

wood climbing structures, swings, and roundabouts were removed. In addition, the implementation of the replica of *Větruše* demanded some groundwork. In the close neighbourhood of the existing Children's Zoo, prefabricated elements of the children apparatuses and toys, benches, the replica of *Větruše*, and Zoo Train stations were installed. The newly developed furnishings and toy units followed the unified architectural and aesthetic expression of the three formerly produced children playgrounds, which included the technical construction from acacia wood.

### **Part 03: Conservation Education Centre – Dr. Heinrich Lumpe's Zoo School**

Transforming the staff dining room into state-of-the-art premises, which would be used for presenting of environmental programmes, photographs and movies, for lectures, conferences, and education for school classes, was the main intention concerning this part. Considering the bad statics of the existing access to the 2<sup>nd</sup> overground floor in form of a stairway, the structural engineer decided to remove the two-armed advanced outer stairway with a pace from reinforced concrete in course of reconstruction of the dining room. The part of the

building close to the western gable was used to form a new entrance. The building can now be accessed via a wood bridge. The social facility was reconstructed, the kitchen part was left in the original scope and equipment. The attic premises were exposed, and a beam ceiling established from the view of the visitors of the zoo school. Walls and ceilings were lined with plasterboard, and the entire area of the class heat-insulated by inserting the insulation behind the lining and above the ceilings. The entrance was constructed by carpentry modification of the truss of the saddle roof (Pict. 5), and partly insulated. Significant attention was paid to the technology of the centre, inner lighting, and structured cabling for communications installations. Launch of the education programmes and periodical activities in the field of conservation education are scheduled for the spring months of the year 2008.

### **Part 04: Three Zoo Train Stations and Parking Place for Bikers**

This part affected several locations at the zoo. A roofed departure station of the Zoo Train made from acacia wood was constructed by the main entrance from Drážďanská Street, under the plane trees, close to the concrete fencing of the zoo. The entrance area was equipped with four wood stands for visitor bikes. A wood model of a railway traffic light completed the design of the departure station.

The second station was developed in front of *Cukrárna U geparda* (Cheetah Confectionery); at the same time, it created a sitting place for the visitors consuming the confectionery's products. This location was equipped with a new fence, stylish sitting sets, and a grid for climbing plants towards the zebra enclosure. It was covered with a pergola from acacia wood.

The third station was developed by the Children's Zoo, and conceptually, it is a part of the wood model of *Větruše*. The station was designed as a wood station with





track requisites (switch, locomotive funnel for water, gates, etc.). This set was developed separately in front of the Větruše facility **(Pict. 6)**.

**Part 05: Revitalization – Modification of the Backbone Communication at the Zoo**

In time of reparation of the backbone communication, we determined the most damaged sections, which were then completely repaired, new curbs were installed, shaft tops and gulleys redesigned and a new bituminous surface of the road laid in the end. The same procedure was applied to the entrance part of the area serving as a car park below the planned zoo school. In frame of this part, another selected slip roads from the backbone communication, pavements and local communications were reconstructed as well.

**CONSTRUCTION WORK CONCERNING THE OUTDOOR ENCLOSURES OF THE CARNIVORE HOUSE**

In accordance with the plan of completion of the total reconstruction of the Carnivore House, which had been performed for several years phase by phase, the outdoor felid enclosures in the

southern face between the sun bear and South African lion exhibits will be enlarged. A project documentation was produced in 2007, which plans to move the existing base wall, which is cranked following the top view, to the level of the existing pavement. At the same time, a new full-area glazing of the front walls separating the visitors from the animals will be performed as well as a new configuration of level of the ground surrounding the visitor path and existing exhibits, with the enclosures divided in new three large outdoor enclosures. This complex will be covered by a net as well as in the case of the irbis exhibit. The roofing will be carried by two main posts made from closed hollow profiles accompanied with fourteen supporting posts around the perimeter of all three outdoor exhibits.

Total planned costs: CZK 3,000,000 (ex. VAT).

**TAPIR HOUSE**

In the second half of the year, works on the new tapir house in the lower part of the zoo (the former babirusa exhibit) were launched. The single-storey bricked building will be integrated into the existing ground configuration of

the visitor path **(Pict. 7)**. Following the completion of the building, the visitors will be enabled to enter the flat roof of the new animal house. The new house will also include a reconstructed enclosure containing a pool with a new shape and fencing; the existing wood palisades will be removed, and gardening as well as visitor premises will be completed. The ceremonial opening of the exhibit will be associated with the launch of the summer season in 2008. The work is funded from the Property Reproduction Fund of the zoo. The operation is ensured by the Operations and Technology Department's own staff members.

**PURCHASE OF THE ZOO TRAIN**

To make the moving of the visitors around the steep ground of the zoo with the elevation of nearly 100 metres easier, the management of the zoo decided that a transport means is ensured to carry the highest number of visitors as possible from the entrance ticket office up to the top point, which is the upper entrance into the zoo. Based on a tender, a sightseeing train from the producer Peterka & synové, Batřovice v Podkrkonoší, was considered as the most competitive, and subsequently purchased. The train con-



sists of a special towing vehicle (the machine), and three special trailers (wagons) to carry 36 persons. The operation testing shown that the machine was capable of safe and trouble-free towing of all three wagons including passengers in the steep area of the zoo. The approval of the set had been ensured by the manufacturer; it was assigned a registration plate and the zoo was certified to operate it on every road inside the City of Ústí nad Labem. The Transport and Road Management Department of the Regional Municipality of Ústí nad Labem issued its approval concerning the operating of occasional inland personal transport in light of the Road Act; subsequently, the Trades Licensing Office of the Magistrate of Ústí nad Labem Town issued a concession to operate a „personal road motor transport – occasional, inland, operated by bus or by other road vehicle designed for personal transport“. The Zoo Train became very popular in the visitors; it was even utilized in the Christmas Market Fair organized by the Magistrate in the Mírové Square in Decem-

ber 2007, based on the request of Ústí nad Labem Town.

Total costs: CZK 1,299,000 (ex. VAT).

#### OTHER

The Operations and Technology Department organized a session of the UCSZ Development Committee from 14 to 16 Novem-

ber 2007 (**Pict. 8**). This meeting of colleagues, engineers from other Czech and Slovak zoos was well-integrated into the preparation of the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginnings of active preservation of animals in the area of our zoo; according to the response of each of the participants, it was extremely successful.





**The Education  
and Promotion  
Department**



# ACTIVITIES OF THE EDUCATION AND PROMOTION DEPARTMENT

Ing. Věra Vrabcová

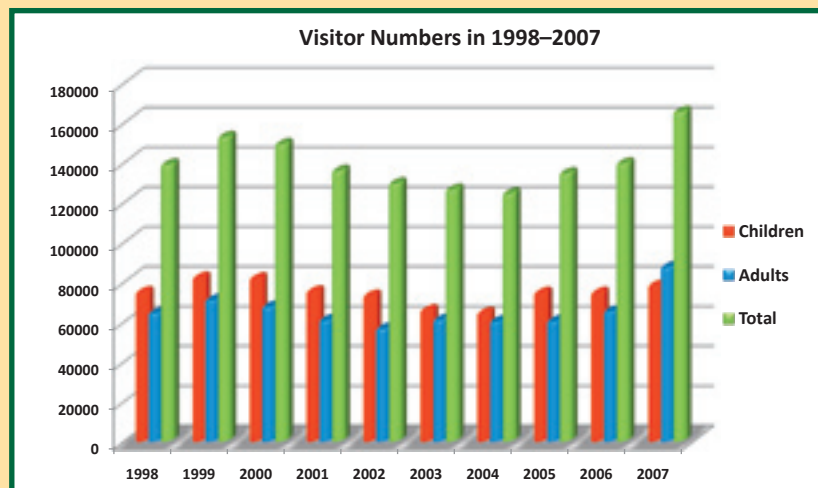
## VISITOR NUMBERS

The year 2007 has confirmed the tendency of ever-growing popularity of the zoo as a tourist destination, which has been evident in several recent years. The Ústí nad Labem Zoo was visited by total 165,235 visitors including 87,240 adults and 77,995 children. It is 25,879 persons more when compared to 2006, which represents a record increase of the visitors number in the history of the zoo. At the same time, it is historically



third highest annual attendance since 1955, when the monitoring and recording of the numbers began. There have been two thresholds, which have not been overcome yet: 1988 (178,143 persons) and 1986 (173,693 persons). The 150,000<sup>th</sup> visitor was welcomed by the zoo at the end of September (**Pict. 1**). The increase in the adult visitors numbers is particularly interesting, as it exceeded the numbers of the children's visitors after 14 years. Compared to the year 2006, we have recorded an increase of 22,168 adult persons, i.e. about 80 % out of the total increase of the attendance; while the increase in the children's visitors totalled 3,711 persons „only”. For better illustration and overview, we give beside a table containing development of the visitor numbers since 1955 (**Table 1**) as well as a chart concerning the development of the visitor number per recent 10 years (**Chart 1**).

A special software was deployed in each ticket office that can monitor incoming visitors not only by category, but also by many other criteria after entering the input data; for example, how each discount is utilised, how many persons participate on each event,



## Visitor Numbers in 1955–2007

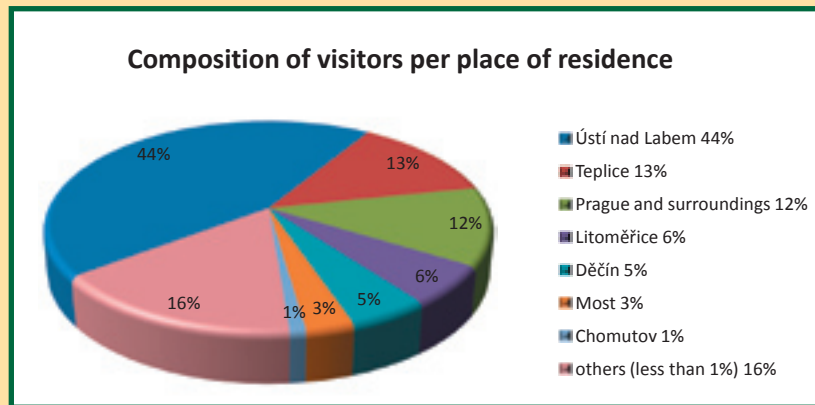
Year	Children	Adults	Total
1955	-	-	56 443
1956	-	-	40 307
1957	-	-	57 151
1958	-	-	70 977
1959	34 940	40 696	75 636
1960	36 525	39 110	75 635
1961	46 495	36 521	83 016
1962	42 883	47 139	90 022
1963	40 483	44 027	84 510
1964	45 265	44 734	89 999
1965	39 888	48 349	88 237
1966	39 635	46 716	86 351
1967	38 912	44 252	83 164
1968	30 110	42 039	72 149
1969	35 523	38 174	73 697
1970	29 352	33 248	62 600
1971	22 550	45 931	68 481
1972	21 600	51 303	72 903
1973	32 942	42 255	75 197
1974	42 947	37 356	80 303
1975	45 433	43 277	88 710
1976	70 044	30 303	100 347
1977	79 909	30 425	110 334
1978	59 298	51 756	111 054
1979	56 544	53 680	110 224
1980	60 865	54 047	114 912
1981	70 129	73 978	144 107
1982	74 300	66 911	141 211
1983	70 755	71 547	142 302
1984	73 686	76 964	150 650
1985	79 585	77 778	157 363
1986	89 148	84 545	173 693
1987	83 662	80 987	164 649
1988	85 759	92 384	178 143
1989	76 072	83 415	159 487
1990	61 999	65 302	127 301
1991	54 183	58 410	112 593
1992	63 777	63 691	127 468
1993	62 688	63 297	125 985
1994	61 645	53 938	115 583
1995	65 824	57 668	123 492
1996	74 511	62 220	136 731
1997	73 959	64 451	138 410
1998	74 555	64 258	138 813
1999	81 911	70 794	152 705
2000	81 532	67 456	148 988
2001	74 995	60 615	135 610
2002	72 938	56 365	129 303
2003	65 484	60 725	126 209
2004	64 233	60 053	124 286
2005	74 275	60 153	134 428
2006	74 284	65 072	139 356
2007	77 995	87 240	165 235

differentiation as per place of residence, etc. 71 % visitors were willing to disclose their ZIP codes; 29 % remain unknown. We used this type of data in order to keep track of most frequent locations from which the visitors come to us; for results, please see the table and chart listing the key locations by percent **(Chart 2)**.

Beside the favourable weather, the increasing popularity of the zoo also reflected the long term philosophy of improvement of comprehensive visitor services at the zoo (such as transporting the visitors by the Zoo Train to the upper part of the zoo, construction of the new children playgrounds and opening of the new restaurant). We should not omit the developing of new state-of-the-art exhibits and keeping of species that are attractive for the visitors so that the incomers may reasonably feel that there is always something new at the zoo and they can be surprised during every new visit.

### EVENTS FOR THE PUBLIC

Total of 27 events and shows for children and adults took place.



Out of this number, there were 18 events organized by ourselves and focused especially on children, 4 similar events co-organized with other persons in the zoo area, and four events included long-term displays organized in the zoo premises. In addition, a traveller's lecture for the public, a ceremonial launch of a photographic publication, and a children's day organized for a closed party upon order was held. We used mainly posters in the city mass transport means, media e-mailing and information at the zoo's website to promote the events. Concerning our own events, we also made use of partnerships with

different media, and posted the information on varied information servers.

### OVERVIEW OF OUR OWN EVENTS AND SHOWS

**January 1 to February 4:** *Free Entry For Full Marks!* – All children graded with full marks could enter the zoo free and watch a special show of Moritz, the California sea lion.

**March 10 to 18:** *Spring Holiday At The Zoo* – A full-week programme for families with children that took place in the Exotic House with focus on topical EAZA campaign on conservation of Madagascar fauna and flora (Arovako i Madagasikara). In the house, various competitions were prepared using moving skills as well as knowledge; all was connected to the given subject as well as the Madagascar species on show **(Pict. 2)**. 328 family groups participated on this event.

**April 1:** *Ceremonial Launch Of The Summer Season* – Results of the first year of the Animal Of The Year poll were announced and awards handed to the winners. The new South American coati group that was introduced to their outdoor enclosure for the first time was presented to the visitors. Furthermore, an introduction of zoo-bred macaws into their summer aviary and opening Sun Bear Honey Tree Show in the newly reconstructed enclosure took place. The programme also included ceremonial name-giving party with a young Rothschild's giraffe and the Zoological Quiz, on which 123 families participated.



**April 5 to 9: Easter At The Zoo** – The established Win Nandu Egg Easter Quiz with Easter and zoological themes. The participation at the quiz was included in the entrance fee, which was used by 146 family groups.

the final point of the programme was taken by the African rhythms performed by the group of drummers.

**May 26: The Cat Day** – A day that was focused on breeding of felid carnivores at Ústí nad Labem



**April 22: The Earth's Day At The Zoo** – The programme, participation on which was offered to all of the visitors, focused on the World Earth's Day and the pan-European AROVAKO I MADAGASIKARA (SAVE MADAGASCAR) campaign. Children from several primary schools developed their own activities and projects, which were presented at selected sites around the zoo. Every visitor could buy a product or actively participate on production and contribute by a financial gift, where the return was fully donated to the Tomato Frog Conservation Project. In the meadow near the Koliba Restaurant, competitions ran for children with prizes for everyone present, while the terrace of the restaurant hosted *Divadlo V pytli* (In the Bag Theatre) with its original show, in which even volunteers from the audience were involved. Afterwards, a competition for secondary schools concerning the best MS PowerPoint presentation was evaluated and awarded (all works were projected in the Carnivore House all day long), and

Zoo. The programme included a ceremonial name-giving party with Geoffroy cats in the presence of their adoptive parent, cat face painting (Pict. 3), a joint visit to the large cat exhibits, and a concert of a children singing choir in the Carnivore House. The programme was completed by celebration of the fifth birthday of Jane, the cheetah.

**June 1: Dreamnight At The Zoo** – The event was organized for chronically ill and disabled children. It was launched by Rotterdam Zoo eleven years ago; the number of participating zoos have grown to over 100 zoos around the world. Ústí Zoo joined the event already for the second time. The event took place after the visiting hours from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.; a rich programme was waiting for the children and accompanying persons. Each of the participants received gifts and an honorary certificate. The guides took the participants by groups to the Elephant House, where they could meet and pet our elephant females; than they went to the

Children's Zoo, where they could touch ponies, llama, sheep and goats. Subsequently, a programme located near the Koliba Restaurant followed, including a fairy tale of *Divadýlko Uličník* (Urchin Theatre), children's discotheque, face painting and buffet. Then the participants divided in groups joined the train and left into the central part of the zoo, where a tour of the Exotic House and the Carnivore House followed. Here, several competitions and quizzes employing the human senses prepared in cooperation with Y.M.C.A. were waiting; another site offered a chance of a close viewing and touching different skins, skulls and other specimens (Pict. 4). In the Exotic House, the children could closely view and even touch various terrarium animals. The evening was closed by a ceremonial show of Moritz, the California sea lion.

**June 18 to 24: The Elephant Week** – The week was dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Delhi, the popular elephant female, coming into Ústí Zoo, and was launched with a small celebration at the occasion of the anniversary. In addition, a display of children paintings created by pupils from Ústí's schools and kindergartens was installed in the Elephant House. A new poster for sale presenting our elephants was launched, and an





elephant quiz took place. There was an attractive offer of visiting the Elephant House behind the scenes, which took place every day following the routine training at 2:30. Furthermore, the event Gift For Gift was launched, where everybody bringing a courtesy for Delhi in form of any allowed food (such as fruits, vegetables, sponge biscuits, hard bread/pastry, rice, etc.) could get an original souvenir at the ticket office: a card with an elephant hair 'for good luck'. The top of the week came on Saturday, June 23, with Tomáš Matonoha, the popular actor and moderator, presenting himself as an elephant keeper.

**June 29 to July 1: Free Entry For Full Marks!** – All children graded with full marks could enter the zoo free of charge.

**July 22: The Bear's Day** – The event was organized at the occasion of the 20th anniversary of keeping the sun bears at Ústí-nad-Labem Zoo. Lucie Vondráčková, the singer and actress, presented herself as a bear keeper,

and held her autograph show in the Carnivore House later on. A bear's quiz took place all day long, and bear face painting for the children. The programme was closed by the concert of the Medvěď 009 (Bear 009) rock band, members of which formally adopted Bibi, the female bear, before the show; Bibi was chosen out of another five bears of Ústí Zoo by the band's fans through an online poll. The programme included original inflatable attractions of Coca-Cola.

**September 1: The Monkey Day At The Zoo** – The event at the occasion of the 20th anniversary of keeping gibbons. The gibbons got a cake, goodies, and gifts. An original sketch was performed by Divadlo V pytli, and face painting was organized for the participants concerned. The programme included a name-giving party concerning four young primates. Stanislav Hložek, the popular singer, became their godfather and the guest of the day. He also sang several songs and organized

his autograph show. In addition, Coca-Cola participated with its attractions and a lottery, where everybody could win. On this very day, the children accompanied with an adult received 50% off the ticket price as a gift of the zoo on the start of the school year.

**September 9: Let's Shake Our Hands** – Third year of a festival for disabled fellow citizens; this time it took place under the sponsorship of Mgr. Petr Gandalovič, the Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Gandalovič launched the event by himself, and gave the name to the young Vietnamese sika deer quintuple. Sheltered workshop client products were on sale through the sale stalls around the zoo (**Pict. 5**); shows of hobby groups based in social care institutions or other specialized facilities as well as theatre show took place in the premises of the Koliba Restaurant. All day long, there was a presentation of health diet and competitions organized by the Partner of the event. In the very end, all participants together gave names to

the offspring of the white-lipped deer. Every disabled person presenting his/her ZTP or ZTP-P card could enter the zoo free.

**September 28:** *The Wenceslas Day At the Zoo* – An afternoon held on the St. Wenceslas National Holiday, where every man or woman with this name could enter the zoo free of charge. The programme consisted of a ceremonial name-giving party concerning the young two-toed sloth in the presence of popular imitator, face-painting, and accordionist's show.

**October 6:** *The Day Of the Animals and Their Adoptive Parents* – The established event designed as saying thanks to the donors supporting our animals in form of joint ride in the train around the zoo, focusing on the news of the

including a refreshment in the new Trappola ZOO restaurant.

**October 19 to 20:** *The Wild Hearts* – A ceremonial launch of an exclusive photo publication *Divoká srdce* (The Wild Hearts) that was published on the occasion of upcoming 100th anniversary of foundation of Lumpepark. The author of the book, photographer Petr Slavík recorded the animals of Ústí Zoo in a unusual way. In the first evening, a launch for invited guests took place in the presence of Mgr. Jan Kubata, the Mayor of Ústí nad Labem Town; Petra Voláková, moderator; and other honorary guests (**Pict. 6**). The programme included the display of Petr Slavík's photographs in the Carnivore House, *Divadlo V pytlí's* performance, and shows of historic swordsmen and African drum-

carve monsters from a pumpkin or create a mask in form of an animal. 192 persons participated.

**December 4:** *Hiking Around Tanzania* – The traveller's lecture and projection accompanied with sales of traditional folk products from this African country took place in the premises of the Trappola ZOO restaurant.

**December 27:** *Christmas Singing At The Zoo* – The established programme in the Christmas mood that took place in the Carnivore House. It contained a musical show of a children's ensemble and a theatre show that preceded a ceremonial name-giving party concerning young red pandas in the presence of popular actresses. The young ones were named Pat and Mat.



ending season. It included a name-giving party concerning the young Bornean orangutan with attendance of Tomáš Janků and Kateřina Baďurová, the famous athletes; a historical swordsmen show, a music band show, opening of a Tanzanian art exhibit including a lecture, awarding of golden certificates to our long-year adoptive parents, and a party

mers. The next day an event for the public took place, which was accompanied with Petr Slavík's autograph show.

**October 25 to 28:** *Walk On The Zoo Trails* – 14th year of traditional knowledge quiz concerning the animals in our zoo. On 28th October, the event was concluded by the Fairytale Sunday event, in course of which children could

## OVERVIEW OF EVENTS CO-ORGANIZED WITH OTHER PERSONS

**May 1:** *The May Day At The Zoo with Český rozhlas Sever* (Czech Radio North) – The main part of the programme took place on the terrace of the Koliba restaurant, and contained many competitions for children and children's discotheque. The highlight was the concert of Maxim Turbulenc, the popular band. In the end, the members of the band named the young two-humped camels together with Český rozhlas Sever and Ústecký deník representatives, the names of the camels were selected based on listener competition of ČRo Sever. In addition, the established quiz under the name *Láska v přírodě* (Love In The Wild) ran from 29 April.

**June 3:** *The Children's Day With Hitrádio FM Labe* – A rich programme on the terrace of the Koliba restaurant. Under the guidance of experienced moderators, competitions for prizes alternated with children's discotheque and theatre. At the same time, the Day With The Czech Police event was taking place in the meadow near the upper ticket office, which involved presenting training of service dogs and showing modern technology. Everyone had the



opportunity to test the technology. The programme was closed with a name-giving party concerning two young Hartmann's zebras. There was a jumping tower placed near the Children's Zoo free of charge, which was a special gift for the smallest ones.

**May 12: Tracking The Fox** – Third year of a show organized by Junák – the union of Czech scouts. Sites were placed around the zoo, which contained different tasks that the children's visitors could perform; a *Zažiháme světýlko* (We Dim Up The Light) display was developed in the Carnivore House showing the handwork of 'světlušky' (The Fireflies; which titles small girl scouts) and 'vlčata' (The Small Wolves; which titles small boy scouts).

**September 29: Mummy, Daddy, Please Don't Smoke** – A composed programme of the Axias agency focused on 'how to stop smoking' education.

Zoo, which was then under development.

**May 5 to 28: The Lidé a Země (People and Earth) Magazine's Photographs Exhibit** – A travelling display of prestigious Czech photographs, partners of the *Lidé a Země* traveller's magazine, which had its premiere in the Carnivore House of Ústí Zoo. Subsequently, it continued in another 12 locations throughout the Czech Republic.

**June 20 to 22: The Cacti Display** – The established display organized by Český svaz kaktusářů (The Czech Union of Cacti Growers) with a long tradition, which took place in the lower part of the zoo. The items on show could be also purchased (**Pict. 7**).

**October 6 – December 4: Graphic Art of Tanzania** – A sales display of Tanzanian artists' pictures, which was run inside the Trappola ZOO restaurant. The part of the return was donated for the bree-

premises of the Koliba Restaurant (children's discotheque, and *Pimpula a Bimbula* theatre show). The programme was closed by visiting Kala and Delhi, the elephant females, including a joint photograph.

## CONSERVATION EDUCATION

All types of schools can select from our menu of conservation education programmes using the zoo premises. During 2007, the menu of our Promotion and Education Department consisted of 15 different education programmes, out of which some were available in multiple options depending on the age of the participants. Guided tours focused on rare animal species conservation issues are another activity of this kind. This offer was used in May, June, and September. The activities described above were performed 81 times, including 68 education programmes and 13 guided tours. In total 2,224 children and students participated.

Another activity in the field of conservation education included participating and tutor work on project days organized by school institutions and other persons engaged in the environmental education. Our participation on the environmental conference organized by the Primary School Most, which involved our active presentation focused on cooperation of the zoo and school institutions was also very important. By the end of the year, an environmental workshop for teachers organized by *Středisko ekologické výchovy Sever, Litoměřice* ('Sever' Environmental Education Centre) took place in the Carnivore House. The programme also included presentation of our zoo concentrated on international conservation programmes.

A lecture for seniors, which took place in the *Domov pro seniory* (Senior's Home) in May, may also be assigned to this field.

*Letní univerzita juniorů, LUJ* (The Summer University of Juniors) organized by the *Středoevropská asociace přátel zoo* (Central Euro-



## OVERVIEW OF DISPLAYS

**May 1 to 13: Display Of Petr Slavík's Photographs** – The display took place in the Elephant House, and presented the profile of author's work. It was accompanied with projection of a *Jak vzniká kniha* (How A Book Develops) document, which introduced the author's publication titled *Divoká srdce* (The Wild Hearts) containing photos of the animals of Ústí

ding of rare and endangered animal species at Ústí Zoo.

## COMMERCIAL EVENTS

**June 20: The Day For Children From Krupka** – An event upon order for children from Krupka Town. A joint guided tour including showing feeding of seals, enrichment for orangutan and training of the sea lion. A ride in the Zoo Train, a programme in the



pean Association of Zoo Friends, CEAF) that took place at our zoo already for the third time between 4 and 12 July was another significant activity of that type. This summer holiday event was joined by total 18 children from around the Czech Republic (**Pict. 08**).

A really outstanding activity was the creation of a computer game for children named *Jonáš a zvířátka* (Jonah And The Animals), which is designed for pre-school children. The main role is played here by Jonah the Dwarf who guides the children around the zoo in twelve single games. Under his guidance, the children can adopt basic knowledge and skills of future first grades. The illustrations were created by Lucie Dvořáková, and the entire project was developed especially thanks to financial support of Severočeská

plynárenská (the gas distribution company).

In the beginning of the year, an art competition titled *Naše zoo* (Our Zoo) was organized by *Dům dětí a mládeže Ústí nad Labem* (The House for Children and Youth) under the active assistance of our department. The winning works were on show in the Elephant House during the Elephant Week.

For the third consecutive year, one of our department members has been acting as a co-chair of *Poradní sbor EVVO pro Ústecký kraj* (the Advisory Panel for Environmental Education of the Regional Municipality of Ústí nad Labem).

### ANIMAL SHOWS

The animal shows that make use of natural features and cha-

racteristics of animals and/or close contacts with them have become an established way of our work. The major popular events of this type include the training of Moritz, the male sea lion, which is accompanied with comments by our keepers. The training takes place three times a day (the summer season), and it is much sought-after by the visitors; in winter, the number of sessions is limited.

The Elephant Walk takes place once a day at a fixed time, when the keepers lead the elephants from their house to their enclosure, and make use of the attractive way of presentation of the animals. For the visitors, meeting the elephant is an unforgettable experience.

The elephant training in their enclosure takes place once a day as well, being essentially a

demonstration of keepers working with the animals in frame of a so-called contact keeping system. The training is always accompanied with a pre-prepared narrating underlined with music; it is closed by the keeper answering visitor questions.

The seal feeding takes place twice a day in the summer; it is also accompanied with keeper comments (**Pict. 9**).

Bornean orangutan feeding and enrichment takes place once a day; an interesting feeding method is presented. The aim is to make searching for food more difficult for the orangutans using various hides, thus encouraging their activity. This develops their intellectual and moving abilities and skills. The feeding is accompanied with a pre-prepared narrating; a movie about an orangutan family is projected in the Bornean House all day long, which is just focused on the environmental enrichment.

The Sun Bear Honey Tree makes use of natural skills of the animals; bears climb the large trunks or

roam around the enclosure, searching for the hidden food. Actually, the honey is presented them only from time to time; mostly they get varied kinds of fruits or pastries. The attraction is accompanied with a spoken narration.

Piranha feeding in the Exotic House takes place only once a week, while the more often the fish were fed in the past, the less interest in the food they had.

In the summer season, pony rides are highly attractive for the smaller children. They usually take place once a day during the summer holidays; in the beginning or end of the season, they take place at weekends only. For the urban children, meeting with a small horse always means a strong experience.

#### **ADOPTION, FINANCIAL DONATIONS, ADVERTISEMENT**

The adopt-an-animal system, which has been practising by the zoo since 1990, is a very important way of financial support. In addition, there are also other consider-

able forms of help and cooperation – sponsorship, financial and material donations, advertising in the zoo premises and barter contracts. This way we obtained total CZK 2,832,690 in 2007, which is CZK 972,389.50 more compared to 2006. The biggest sub-amount relates to advertising, totalling CZK 1,676,779; the financial gifts including the yield from the money-boxes in the zoo premises make CZK 433,821; and adoptions make total of CZK 722,090. Concerning the adoptions, the online adoption system that was developed on the website becomes more and more useful. The numbers of the adoptive parents grown by 43 contracts compared to the previous year, thus increasing the numbers from 142 up to 185 adoptive parents. In financial terms, the growth means CZK 310,240, which is even more than one third. This confirmed the welcome tendency of the increase in the interest in adopting the more 'expensive' animals.



## COOPERATION WITH MEDIA

The cooperation with the media has been stabilized for several years; each of the editors are very well informed on every news and event that takes place at the zoo by means of e-mail; in case of major events, they get printed invitations. The cooperation covers not only the whole region, but also even the whole country.

**Television** Several reports (**Pict. 10**) were broadcasted in the nation-wide news of TV Nova, TV Prima, ČT 1 and ČT 24; in frame of regional news, the reports from the zoo have been mostly broadcasted by TV Lyra. The intensive cooperation with TV Lyra continued; an agreement concerning elaborating of captions and invitations to major events as well as subsequent shooting of reports was concluded. In the start of February, the zoo staff became guests of the periodical talk show of TV Lyra *Zptejte se* (Ask), where the new website competition, *Zvíře roku 2006* (The Animal Of The Year 2006), was the main topic.

**Radio** The news from the zoo were presented in various radio stations, such as *Český rozhlas Sever*, *Hitrádio FM Labe*, *Rádio Blaník*, *Český rozhlas 1 – Radiožurnál*, *Český rozhlas Leonardo*, *Frekvence 1*, and *North Music*. The main media partner that has periodically been publishing the caption spots concerning any zoo's cultural events is *Hitrádio FM Labe*; in some specific events, the media partner became *Český rozhlas Sever*; the more extensive cooperation has been established with the *North Music* radio station.

**Press** The residents of the Ústí region have been informed especially by means of *Ústecký deník*, or by the regional pages of other daily newspapers; concerning the rest of the regions, the news have been delivered by means of ČTK (Czech Press Agency). A lot of attention regarding Ústí Zoo has also been paid by the magazines (monthly/bi-monthly, regional, or nation-wide magazines).

**Internet** Besides the two websites (i.e. [www.zoousti.cz](http://www.zoousti.cz) and [www.choboti.cz](http://www.choboti.cz)) that were upda-

ted periodically, the information on the zoo have appeared on various information websites and servers (Magistrát města Ústí nad Labem/The Magistrate of Ústí nad Labem, Deliteus, etc.).

In addition to those common types of communication, the media were informed on special events on briefings. There were three briefings in 2007. In April, the media were presented a new train to serve for transport of visitors from the lower entrance to the upper part of the zoo (the elevation of 96 metres). The briefing also included the first trial ride for the pressmen.

In May, a briefing aimed at the Pesisir Balikpapan project (**Pict. 11**) took place in the premises of *Magistrát města Ústí nad Labem*. The project concerns foundation of a reserve in the Indonesian part of the Borneo Island, and *in-situ* conservation of animals species (directly in their native habitats).

In the end of May, a briefing accompanied with congratulation of the President of the Region of Ústí





nad Labem to the hockey players of the *HC Slovan Ústečtí Ivi* hockey club on the occasion of their advance into the *Extraliga* (Extra League) took place by the Carnivore House. *Kancelář hejtmana Ústeckého kraje* (The Region of Ústí nad Labem President's Office) organized the briefing.

### ZOOLOGICKÝ KLUB (THE ZOOLOGICAL CLUB)

The *Zoologický klub* to Ústí Zoo was formed in 1973; since 1992, its activities are performed under the auspices of Děčín Zoo and *Podkráňohorský zoopark Chomutov* (Chomutov Zoological Park). As of 1976, a journal of special papers titled *Fauna bohemiae septentrionalis* has been published yearly. In 2007, *Tomus 31* was released. Thanks to our donor, P-EKO, s. r. o., a supplement dedicated to the representatives of three little known beetle species in the territory of the Region of Ústí nad Labem could be published as well. It was written by Mr. Václav Vysoký, the long time member of the club. The journal as such has been funded by the Ministry of Environment since 2001.

Every three months, the members meet at the club's general

meetings, where firstly organizational matters are discussed, and secondly a special lecture containing a projection of colour slides or digital presentations is produced (the titles of this year's events: *Faces Of The Sea, Through Madagascar's Forests And Caves, To The Table Mountain With A Geologist, and Across Winter Victoria*).

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

#### UCSZ (Union of Czech and Slovak Zoos)

In the start of November, our department's staff participated at the meeting of *Asociace vzdělávacích a propagačních pracovníků Unie českých a slovenských zoologických zahrad* (Association of Education and Promotion Staff of the Union of Czech and Slovak Zoological Gardens) in Dvůr Králové nad Labem (Pict. 12). The main focus of the meeting was EAZA/WAZA campaigns, the UCSZ's annual reports, and other issues, especially the zoo marke-



ting. In the framework of the meeting, presentations concerning the *Zvíře roku* and *Divoká srdce* events was given by one of our department's staff members.

In the middle of November, a meeting of staff members of the Czech and Slovak zoo technology and operations departments associated in the UCSZ Technical Committee was organized by our zoo.

Ústí Zoo periodically contributes to the Yearbook and Annual Report of the *Unie českých a slovenských zoologických zahrad* by detailed inputs surveying the whole preceding year (animal numbers, breeding and exhibit news, public events, etc.). The zoo has also actively participated on the joint UCSZ's activities (*Magazín Českých drah/Czech Railroad Magazine*, joint promotion materials, news on the UCSZ's website, etc.).

#### **Trade fairs, exhibits, and other presentation events**

The Promotion and Education Department's staff members participated on the *Go Regiontour Brno, Sachsen Reisen Dresden (Germany)*, and *Euroregion Tour Jablonec nad Nisou* trade fairs. In addition, the zoo presented itself by its promotion materials at the *Člověk v přírodě (Man In The Nature)* exhibit in Louny, at every exhibit, which was organized by Výstaviště Litoměřice, as well as at the exhibits/trade fairs, where *Magistrát města Ústí nad Labem* and/or the *Deliteus* association were presented.

In August, the department's staff members actively participated on the *Labské léto* musical festival, which took place in the premises of *Letní kino (Open Air Cinema)* in Ústí nad Labem. An information stand presenting the zoo was established for the visitors of the festival, and a poll closed with drawing of winners was organized. The organizer of the festival, which was North Music, s. r. o. (radio station), handed a part of the returns amounting to CZK 30,000 to the zoo as a financial donation.

In addition to the events above, a ceremonial launch of a book titled *Tiger Shark, hyena moří (Tiger Shark: The Hyena of the Sea)* by a photograph and diver Richard Jaroněk took place in November in the presence of the world-known film-maker, producer, director and diver Steve L. Lichtag. The closed programme that ran in the premises of the Trappola ZOO restaurant also included projecting of the *Tiger Shark - Relax Don't Do It* and *Stopaři (The Hitchhikers)* movies.

Another activity included participating on the *Ústecké vánoce* event (The Christmas in Ústí nad Labem), which was organized by *Magistrát města Ústí nad Labem*. In course of the rush days, every Ústí's inhabitant could take a ride in the Zoo Train (which is otherwise ran in the zoo premises only) through the city streets. The event also included presenting of live animals - a temporary pen with Cameroon sheep was placed in the square close to the 'Bethlehem' exhibit.

#### **Other**

There was an interesting attraction: the first wedding at the zoo in its history. A young pair from Tábor said their 'yes' to each other right in the Elephant House under

the 'assistance' of both elephant females (**Pict. 13**). The wedding event also included a ceremonial ride in the specially decorated Zoo Train, and a wedding feast in the Trappola ZOO restaurant.

In May, the staff of Ústí nad Labem joined a thematic trip to Halle Zoo; the participating was also offered to the zoos in Prague, Plzeň, and Chomutov, to the members of the *Zoologický klub* as well as other potential persons interested.

In the half of June, the team of Ústí nad Labem Zoo participated on the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the *Zoologické hry bez hranic (Zoological Games Without Frontiers)* competition that was organized by Brno Zoo. Our seven-member team placed seventh in the competition of 15 zoological parks.

In the autumn, the *Divoká srdce* book was released. It is an exclusive photograph publication of photograph Petr Slavík, which captures Ústí Zoo's animals in an unusual way.

In the middle of December, a meeting of directors of budgetary organizations founded by the Town of Ústí nad Labem took place in the Carnivore House with about 60 directors and Ústí nad Labem Town representatives participating.



# VISITOR SERVICES

Ing. Věra Vrabcová

In the recent years, there was a systematic improvement of the visitor services sector, which had been our long-term debt. In 2006, three children playgrounds were erected at the zoo premises; this development has continued also in 2007. In the course of construction, the zoo cooperated with Tomovy parky, s. r. o. again that printed its specific style to its products. The lower station and the upper station of the Zoo Train used as the assembly and resting points for those wishing to use the service were constructed. The stations also include different items for children such as structures for swinging that may fill up the waiting time of the small visitors. The same design was used to complete the terrace of the *Cukrárna U geparda* (The Cheetah Confectionery), which is utilised for resting and eating by the visitors **(Pict. 1)**. The site had been selected with regard to the proximity of the existing children playground, which ideally combines the area for the adult visitors and their children. The playground designed as the famous Ústí's scenic restaurant, the *Větruše*, is the largest



structure that we developed. The playground replaced the set of children adventure playground structures upon the so-called Children's Zoo that already were in bad conditions and did not comply with the safety regulations. Instead of the structures, a system consisting of small towers, a tiny castle and miniature houses grown. Children can climb here and play at their pleasure. In addition, the playground as such was interconnected with the petting Children's Zoo containing sheep and goats, which can be

petted and fed by the children. All the resting points including the play elements met a high popularity among the visitors; the same has been achieved by the new Zoo Train that was ceremonially launched in April 2007 **(Pict. 2)**. The reason for the purchase of the train was the hilly landscape of our zoo, which had caused problems especially to the elderly visitors, mothers with their children and the disabled. The super elevation between the lower and upper entrances makes 96 metres, which is the highest rate of all zoos in the Czech Republic. The majority of the travellers can have the Zoo Train drive them to the upper part of the zoo, and then go down the hill, which is much more comfortable. The set contains a locomotive and three open-sided wagons that may altogether take 36 persons. In the start and at the end of the summer season, the train was operated at weekends only, while during the holidays it was ran daily. The only limitation was the break about half an hour from the safety reasons - our elephant females used to go for walk around the zoo, and they might not have stood well a meeting with such unusual traffic means. This convenient way of transport using the Zoo Train was



appreciated not only by children, but also by adults; 19, 444 adults and 20,978 children visitors used the service in 2007.

At the end of June, thanks to the opening of the new Trappola ZOO restaurant, the catering services for our visitors were expanded and improved as well. The restaurant has the capacity of about 100 seats, and is open all the year round. When sitting there in the warmer periods of the year, the visitors can also enjoy the wood terrace (**Pict. 3**), from which there is a good viewpoint over the South American tapir enclosure (under development); the sea lion training can be also watched from here in a very convenient way. A smart interior in an African style is completed by photos of Petr Slavík, who is the 'photographer of

ge. The visit to the restaurant including the sitting at the terrace was made available even to disabled on their carts thanks to the self-service elevator. In 2007, the restaurant area was also used for special events, such as a ceremonial launch of Petr Slavík's book named *Divoká srdce* (The Wild Hearts) or the Day of the Adoptive Parents.

The visitors were offered many benefits in 2007. These included the established permanent tickets of various types (adult, children, and family) with the validity for one year, which gives the advantage to the visitors that come to the zoo more often. Their prices were calculated to provide all of the zoo visits following the sixth visit free of charge, where family tickets were advantaged even more. This offer

102 visitors (236 visits). Furthermore, the zoo cooperated with other organizations, such as Děčín Zoo, Teplice Aquapark etc. (the visitors could enjoy attractive entrance fee discounts, e.g. 50 % discount and/or a free ticket to each ticket purchased etc., if they presented a ticket from other partner organization). In the time with bad weather, such as November and December, the schools were offered 50% discount, while even a free entrance fee was granted to social care institutions, children's homes and retirements homes.

The City of Ústí nad Labem attempted to contribute to the tourism by a very attractive offer: from June to August, a special city bus line was operated, connecting the zoo and *Větruše*, the dominating point of the town. The bus line



the court' of our zoo. The menu will satisfy everyone, be it a fast-food lover or a real gourmand. The restaurant can be accessed via a separate entrance from Drážďanská Street, and its opening times can be extended up to the evening hours when the zoo already closes, which is a great advanta-

was used by 187 adults (6,593 visits), 78 children (381 visits), and 93 families (629 visits). The '2+1' ticket was a brand new product. The holders can use it for the three visits whenever throughout the year: once again, the third visit of the zoo is free of charge. This type of ticket was bought by mere

ran on Friday afternoon and during weekends; it could be used by the visitors wishing to see both tourist attractions comfortably within one day. Maybe the people may have required some time to get used to it, as the line was not utilised very frequently.



In the second half of the year, the former dining room was reconstructed to a new learning and education facility, Dr. Heinrich Lumpe's Zoo School. It will be especially reserved for schools and different hobby groups that make use of our offer of programmes, lectures and talk shows. The specialized learning room has the capacity of some 40 seats; it has been equipped by audiovisual technology, and it may even host all-day-long workshops thanks to its background (i.e. kitchen, social facility, and catering at the restaurant). The Zoo School got its name after the founder of the bird wildlife reserve, PhDr. Heinrich Lumpe, who in 1908 bought out the land of the former brickworks

to furnish every new exhibit with education panels and interactive items. In 2007, we successfully developed and carried out the following three projects: the resting place close to the Exotic House, dedicated to the new South American coati exhibit; interpretation panels and observation point by the South American tapir exhibit **(Pict. 4)**; and last but not least, a 'promenade' around the outside enclosures of big cats.

In addition, the upper zoo entrance underwent a comprehensive reconstruction. Even that it was closed one month earlier than usually due to the construction work, the visitors have been offered a much more aesthetic background than before. Further,

sources; the above actions could be carried thanks to them. A big thank you must go to the supervising body of the zoo, the Statutory Town of Ústí nad Labem, which granted a major financial support in many fields. Based on the outstanding financial contribution, the Zoo Train could be purchased; another help involved a capital grant, thanks to which the new resting points and children playgrounds could be developed, the upper ticket office reconstructed, and the Zoo School rebuilt. Significant amounts that are earmarked to specific purposes, mostly for education items by the exhibits, are obtained by the zoo from the Ministry of Environment based on applications submitted eve-



from the town. A park designed for small birds was established on that land. Heinrich Lumpe was a highly enlightened person considering his time: tirelessly devoted to awareness raising and learning of not only school youth, but of the coming visitors.

To make transfer of information to visitors more attractive, we try

a reconstruction of the Dinosaur Trail continued throughout the year, when the whole trail was replaced and concentrated in the lower part of the zoo already one year before.

When improving the visitor services, funding is always an essential criterion. In 2007, we managed to obtain funding from several

ry year. The rate of success was relatively high in 2007; thanks to this, the Dr. Heinrich Lumpe's Zoo School could be partly equipped with audio and video technology, in addition to the 'exhibit-interpretation' linking described above.

# ANIMAL OF THE YEAR 2006

Roman Nešetřil

An online poll named *Zvíře roku 2006* (Animal Of The Year 2006) became our new effort in 2007. The idea of organizing this event was based on the fact that a great attention to such polls is always paid by the public, which could raise an interest in Ústí Zoo, thus establishing a new means of increasing the visitor numbers. To achieve the highest possible attractivity of the poll, we managed to get partners, who together with our zoo provided interesting prizes for the final draw of votes (**Pict. 1**).

Our first step involved was no-

animals as candidates for the „Animal Of The Year 2006“:

- *Xala, the female wolverine*, as a representative of a new species in the zoo; Xala became the first animal in the history that was adopted even before its arrival at the zoo;
- *Geena, the female red panda*, who joined the breeding male after four years of waiting, so that we could set up a breeding pair again; in addition, Geena became famous for its escaping soon after she had

with successfully applied artificial joint in the world;

- *Ámos, the male Bornean orangutan*, who just reached 6th year; this member of an extremely popular animal species, which belongs to the closest relatives of man, reached the age, when the „human young ones“ enter the school;
- *Dan, the male white rhino*, who was the oldest animal in Ústí Zoo; in 2006, Dan achieved 'rounded' 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, thus the nominating team could not miss him either;



minating six of our animals. These included individuals, who somehow attracted the public in course of the year 2006. In the end, a committee consisting of the Promotion and Education and Animal Husbandry departments staff members selected the following

been released into the panda enclosure;

- *Jane, the female cheetah*, who underwent her third difficult operation in the year 2006, where an inherent defect of her hip joint was removed once for all; Jane became the first cheetah

- *Kaila, the female of the rare Amur leopard*, who was born on 18 April 2006, and was appointed as a representative of newly born animals.

The poll was launched on 15 January and persisted exactly

two months. It could be accessed from the official website of the zoo only ([www.zoousti.cz](http://www.zoousti.cz)). In cooperation with our web designer, a sub-page was developed

to the competition was designed via a distinctive banner placed on our home page. Ten winners were drawn every week, and obtained two free tickets and our

large format photograph of the animal winner from photograph Petr Slavík, a voucher for consumption at the Trappola ZOO restaurant, and a travel bag from Olympia Teplice Shopping Centre.

Since its very beginning, the poll was in the centre of attention of not only website visitors, but also of the media that provided additional free publicity of the zoo. To ensure regularity, every participant could forward just one vote to its favourite animal per week. The pages were secured against any abuse, and all received votes including complete contact details were stored. This created a unique database of our zoo friends. In the start, Jane the cheetah occupied the first place, but later was replaced by Ámos the orangutan. Ámos and the young Kaila leopard exchanged the lead several times (**Pict. 2**). In the second half of the poll, Kaila established a sufficient edge over the others, and became the 'Animal Of The Year 2006' with relatively large odds against the rest. This confirmed that the 'lovely young animals' constitute the greatest attraction for the public. The results of the poll were announced during the programme of the ceremonial opening of the summer season 2007, which took place in early April. At the same time, prizes were handed to the five main winners of the draw in the presence of representatives of our partners (Olympia Teplice, Trappola ZOO Restaurant, Petr Slavík). Kamil Střihavka, the singer, who is a godfather and adoptive parent of the winner Kaila as well as her mother Kiara, was our honorary guest.

1,191 respondents participated at the poll; such interest surpassed our expectations, as well as the interest of the media. Therefore, it was decided to hold this poll every year.



with profiles of the nominated animals, where one could constantly monitor the chart, and forward a vote by means of a voting ticket. To adhere to the rules, a rate of success was published instead of the number of votes. The access

printed zoo guide. As soon as the poll was closed, the above mentioned draw took place, with 50 prizes prepared. The ultimate female winner carried off a „Day Of Met Wishes At The Zoo“, annual permanent ticket for 2 persons, a



**Personal  
Staff**

# STAFF MEMBERS

## Executive Management

Mgr. Tomáš KRAUS – Director

Jana ČERNÁ – Deputy Director and Head of Economic Department

Ing. Petra PADALÍKOVÁ – Head of Animal Husbandry Department

Jiří HANZLÍK – Head of Operations and Technology Department

Ing. Věra VRABCOVÁ – Head of Promotion and Education Department

## Specialist staff

MVDr. Václav POŽIVIL – Veterinary Doctor

Pavel PALIČKA – Curator

Ing. Pavel KRÁL – Curator

Bc. Tereza LIMBURSKÁ – Marketing Specialist

Mgr. Stanislav LHOTA – Researcher

## Other senior staff

František TRIEBL – Head of Transport Services

Hana ROHÁČKOVÁ – Head of Horticulture Section

**Executive Management – 5 persons**

**Animal Husbandry Dept. – 32 persons**

**Economic Dept. – 6 persons**

**Operations and Technology Dept. – 12 persons**

**Promotion and Education Dept. - 2 persons**

**TOTAL as per 31-12- 2007 – 57 persons**



**Provider  
Information**



# INFORMATION ON THE ZOO

## Zoologická zahrada Ústí nad Labem

Drážďanská 23  
400 07 Ústí nad Labem  
Czech Republic

Legal form:	Budgetary organization with lump sum budget contribution
ID:	00081582
VAT ID:	CZ-00081582
Tel.:	+420 475 503 354
Tel./Fax:	+420 475 503 421
E-mail:	zoo@zoousti.cz
Internet:	www.zoousti.cz, www.choboti.cz
Formal name:	Zoologická zahrada Ústí nad Labem, příspě. org.
Seat:	Drážďanská 23, 400 07 Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic

Founder:	Statutární město Ústí nad Labem (The Statutory City of Ústí nad Labem)
Seat:	Velká hradební 8, 400 01 Ústí nad Labem
ID:	00081531
Mayor:	Mgr. Jan Kubata

Chief Executive Officer:	Mgr. Tomáš Kraus
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The ZOO is a member of:

