



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release
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Zoo Celebrates Giraffe Birth

It's A Girl!!

JACKSON, MS 5/3/11- When zoo staff arrived to work on Monday morning, they were delighted to find a new addition to the Reticulated Giraffe family. Born Sunday night, the new female offspring was standing and nursing in the barn with her mother, father and sister, Ruby.

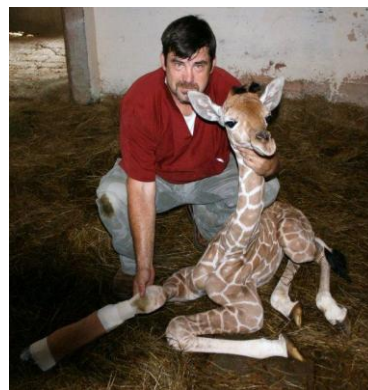
After closer inspection it was found that 'The giraffe was born with tendon issues involving the right front hoof and we are taking corrective measures to stabilize the area until it strengthens. Otherwise, the baby appears bright and alert and has been seen nursing.' said zoo veterinarian Dr. Holifield.

Dr. Holifield placed a special 'sock' on the afflicted leg which assisted her immediately in standing and walking.

The calf stands approximately 5'8" and was born with a weight greater than 120 pounds. This is the 2nd calf for parents, Diamond (mom) and Casper (dad) but 7th calf for Diamond.



Baby 1 day old nursing



staff veterinarian shows special 'sock' which is helping with tendon issue

Zoo admission is \$9.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children ages 2-12, and \$8.20 for senior citizens (65 and over). Children under the age of 2 and Friends of the Zoo members are admitted free of charge.

The Jackson Zoo is located at 2918 West Capitol Street in Jackson and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.jacksonzoo.org to check out exciting special events, animal updates, one-of-a-kind education programs, membership and adoption packages, and so much more. The Jackson Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife.

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