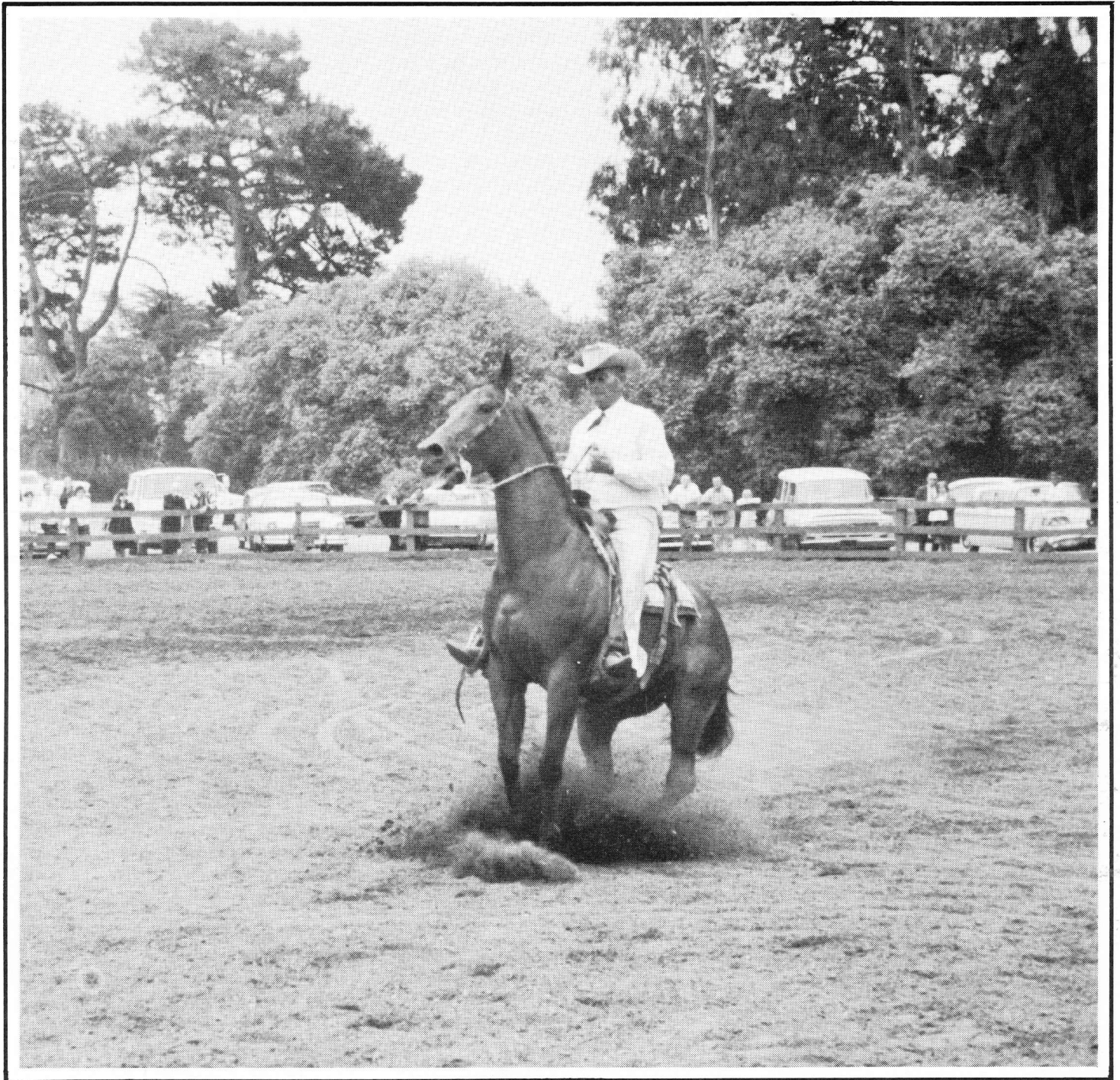


The San Mateo HORSEMAN

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Television viewers will recall the "Mister Ed" series in which a talking horse was featured. The show's success was in large part dependent on this gimmick. There was supposed to be something unusual about a horse who could talk. The fact of the matter is that our horses are talking to us constantly. But we are seldom listening. Most of us would think it incredible that a horse has something to say.

Last spring I brought a new colt to the ranch to break. He was a three-year-old—a big, rank-green colt just off his home range. He'd never seen the outside world. I cranked him into my program for green colts and gave him nothing but orientation for the first day or so. This consists of leading him around the ranch and giving him a chance to get acquainted. We walk past the barns, look over the strange machinery and the other horses, allow people to pet him and admire him and then take him down to the creek.

This being a dry spring there was very little water in the creek bed. But there are usually succulent little clumps of greenery along the banks on which a colt can nibble and gradually relax. It's very important that a young animal is relaxed and in a cooperative mood before the serious work begins. However, when I led this colt down to the creek he would have no part of it. He planted all four feet squarely on the edge of the bank and would go no further.

The creek bank was sandy and not very steep and the footing was

good. It was only a couple of steps down into the bed of the creek where the water was shallow and clear. The colt could see where he was going and he could see that the water was not deep. There was no earthly reason why he should not step right down into that creek bottom—especially when the man who was leading him was already down there showing him there was absolutely no danger. It made no sense for him to balk at this point. I want my horses to go into the water because it's good for their feet and legs. I have always made it a habit to allow a horse to stand in water whenever possible after a workout. It helps him cool out and gives his hoofs the moisture they need in the way nature intended them to get it. If the water is running mountain cold with swirl and eddies it will give him the kind of therapy a whole case of hoof ointment or veterinary liniment could not provide.

But of course my colt did not understand all this; he did not realize my good intentions. I tugged on the halter shank. But it is ridiculous for man to pit his insignificant strength against a half-ton of equine inexorability. I went back to the colt's head and tried to cajole him down the bank. We walked back a few steps, turned around and started all over again. We tried maneuvering down the bank at another location, one that perhaps did not seem quite so ominous. All efforts were futile. The young gelding had drawn an imaginary line beyond which he would not go.

Now there is a belief, fairly strong among horsemen, that any battle begun should be completed and won by the trainer if the entire training war is not to be lost. This doctrine has been pointed up to more than once by persons who should know. But it is also true that an animal should not be put to something unless he is psychologically and physically ready for it. And a trainer's instinct and background should give him the truth of time and circumstance for the attempt at another hurdle in the

Cover

Executing a stop is clinic instructor Ross Meredith aboard "FAME BEAUMONT." See article beginning on page 9.

training process. Just short of whipping the colt and losing my temper something told me that perhaps I had asked too much. I gave up the battle, hoping it would not affect the outcome of the war, and decided to try it again another day.

Thinking about it that night, I realized that maybe the youngster had been trying to tell me something. I imagined what his message would be if it could have been translated into people language. Perhaps it would have gone something like this: "Hey, now wait a minute, boss. All that stuff about you lead and I'll follow goes just so far. You've got to remember I'm just an old country boy, fresh out of the hills, and still kind of bewildered by all these new sights and sounds. We've got to slow down. You know what they say about us horses and our timid nature and our one-track minds. And you've given me quite a bit to think on already. Just remember, we don't move quite as fast as you folks do."

The next day I attached a long lead to the colt's halter and led him around the ranch some more. Before long we had again found our way to the creek. And again the young gelding saw the same imaginary line and planted his feet firmly.

Holding the end of the lead, I walked down into the nearly dry creek bed and squatted on my heels next to the shallow water. I tossed a

few pebbles downstream, swirled the water with my fingers, looked up at the sky and generally ignored the colt. I had all day.

Within five minutes the young gelding had inched down the bank, found a clump of green and was tentatively nibbling on it. In another minute or two he had spotted more of that same good stuff on the other side of the creek and was casually walking through the water to get to it. I never had any trouble after that convincing him that getting his feet wet was a harmless occupation.

I could hear the colt talking to me again: "Now you see, boss, I just needed a little more time to look things over. Letting me spot that green grass on my own didn't hurt any either. You know us horses are always thinking of our stomachs. A little feed usually helps take our mind off things that frighten us. But mostly it's just a case of going slow and easy."

My horses have taught me many things—quite possibly more than I've taught them. There is a basic difference in our natures which man must learn to recognize. Man is an impetuous creature. He forces his animal servants to make many adjustments in order to meet his own needs. His horses will submit to most of his demands willingly. But if men can learn to listen to their horses during the process they may learn something about the virtues which are supposed to be exclusively human. My horses are constantly reminding me of one of those virtues. It is called patience.

— Phil

Letter to the Editor

Dear Lynda-

8-1-7

Just a brief note. I read the Jul-Aug issue which you kindly gave me at the Tevis Cup banquet — quite a magazine! Enjoyed articles very much.

However, one error caught my eye! P. 19 *Fitting the Bit*, 2nd column reads "be sure the bit clears his tushes or wolf teeth". The tushes (tusks, canine teeth) are **not** wolf teeth. Tushes are in the interdental space (bars) between the first premolar and the last incisor. The wolf teeth are a vestigial **pre-molar**, lying just in front of the first premolar on the **upper arcade only!**

Thought you'd like to correct this oft-repeated error in nomenclature. Enjoyed seeing you and Hugh at the TEVIS CUP ride — it was another great one, wasn't it? Regards—

Richard B. Barsaleau, D.V.M.
Equine Consultant
Loomis, California

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JULY 30, 1977

The Tevis The Greatest Challenge of All

So many friends have asked what it's like to ride 100 miles in one day, and having just returned home from the 1977 Tevis Cup 100 miles in one day Race (Squaw Valley to Auburn), I thought I'd share the experience with you.

This year's ride was perhaps the most unusual of all—the greatest number of entries, the smallest percentage of finishers, 13 incredible men who attempted the 100 mile race on foot, official temperature of 125 degrees in the bottom of the canyons, and the slowest winning time ever on record. There were 283 horse and rider team entries of which 201 actually started and 83 finished. That's about 41 percent. Of the 13 men who challenged the trail on foot, 3 ran all 100 miles, but only one, Allen Gonzalez of Colfax, Calif. completed it in the allotted 24 hours. Allen's time was 22 hours—can you believe that??? (and I thought I was nuts to attempt it on horseback). The race was won by Hal Hall of Auburn who rode a "Rushcreek" strain of Arabian known as "El Karbaj", a full brother to "Witezarif" the Arabian owned by Donna Fitzgerald who has won this race 7 times. Hal also won the Tevis in 1974.

There were some 15 riders from the Woodside, Redwood City, & Los Altos area. Finishing the ride were Danica Bacciocco's Arab ridden by Dan Scribner, Floyd Kingsley, Liz Mooz, Carmella Laws, and Sue Carson. Other riders included Hugh

Bryson, Jesper Petersen, Kris Ruben, Dick Threlfalt, Bill Davis, John Seiling, Allison Aeillo, Victoria Fay, Nick Mein, and myself. I travelled 55 miles this year before "Rajab" became lame at "Devil's Thumb", but there has to be some glory in being "pulled" with famous Donna Fitzgerald. "Rajab" even got to rub fetlocks with "Witezarif" for a brief hour. Every single mile is even more exciting that I remembered from last year when "Rajab" and I completed the 100 miles.

The ride really starts Friday in Squaw Valley where the Veterinarian teams inspect the horses for soundness and conditioning. Riders are weighed in, then draw starting positions, horses are numbered with grease sticks on their rumps, and everyone settles down for a restless, nervous night of little to no sleep. Morning comes 4 AM with the painstaking procedure of dressing for the ride. It's very difficult to dress for extremes of temperatures from 35 degrees to well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Creases and folds can rub, causing blisters, and an uncomfortable rider is a hinderance to a horse. Most non-horsemen sympathize with you for your sore derriere, but it's generally ones knees that suffer most. Equally painstaking is saddling your horse. Every little irregularity in equipment is certain to cause a "raspberry" after only a few miles at the fast trotting pace.

The first group of 10 riders leave at 5 AM Saturday, and then every 2 minutes thereafter till the last group has gone. What a sight! Over 200 horses climbing up to Squaw Peak following the old pony express route past the Emigrant Trail monument on the crest of the Sierra Nevada. I paused briefly looking back over my shoulder to see the dawn of morning displayed in every direction over Lake Tahoe, an unforgettable scene of grandeur and color; a sapphire setting under towering peaks and rugged mountains. The Western States Trail continues under the Sierra Nevada—as primitive as when it

was the route of the fleet footed Washoe Indians. Great granite stones 12 inches in diameter and larger were everywhere, and if a horse was to go lame, he surely would on this section of the ride. The notorious "Cougar Rock" came next, about 20 miles out, and we all waited our turn to gather momentum, pausing, see-sawing, scrambling for a foothold and finally passing over the top to see Charlie Barrieau photographing each rider's struggle over the rock. Looking at the sheer drop I questioned my sanity in ever having embarked on such a venture. The next part named "Elephant's Trunk" was even more terrifying for me—a ridge of granular material sloping off at an angle of 60 degrees dropping off to hundreds of feet below. Walking on a crumbling sand dune wouldn't have been more precarious. More rocks, more dust, and finally a creek of precious water 4 miles before "Robinson's Flat", the first 2 hour stop. 32 unbelievable miles of rocks, dust, rocks, steep climbs, and more rocks. I don't know how the horses do it!!!!

Somewhere around 50 horses were "pulled" by the Vets at this stop, mostly for lameness, a few for colic, tie-ups, thumps, etc. The Vets watch for every possible problem here, because there's little chance of getting a horse out of the canyons if he's down. The Crews have about 25 to 30 minutes to get the horse cooled, sponged, and ready to be rechecked by the Vets for pulse, respiration, and general condition for the OK to go on. Now the re-saddling so the rider can leave in one hour of the arrival time.

The next 12 miles were fairly



easy. Only small rocks and mostly on a jeep trail to "Last Chance" a Vet check before the beginning of the dreaded canyons. Temperatures now ranged in the high 90's.

The trail dropped 3500 feet in three miles, down, down American Canyon, switching back and forth along the tree studded bends, slipping and sliding at a great rate to Swinging Bridge' and the American River below. They say to take the bridge solo, because vibration causes differential movement and may scare the horses, but it was so hot we dropped into the river crossing waist deep, soaking up the glorious cool. Next, the 3500 foot climb in 3½ miles to "Devil's Thumb", 45 miles from the finish, where the Vets again greet you with a pulse and respiration check and a mandatory 30 minute rest; then down into Eldorado Canyon...longer and equally difficult, with a 4 mile climb into "Michigan Bluff", the 2nd 1 hour stop.

It was about 5 PM when I arrived there last year, very glad to see my crew, both "Rajab" and I puffing and blowing like steam engines. I knew once we made it through this point we'd go all the way to Auburn and the thought of actually finishing this ride sent chills up my spine.

The third canyon, Volcano, was much cooler and shorter, and we passed Forrest Hill and Todd Valley at a good clip and got into "White Oak Flat" a few minutes after 8 PM, the 3rd 1 hour stop.

Exhaustion set in on me here and I actually hallucinated for a while, but "Rajab" must have gotten his second wind because he started spooking at every shadow in the moonlite. The Tevis is always held at the full of the "Riding Moon" so moonlite is abundant, but the trees and shadows were thrown into darkest relief. I kept checking the trail with my flashlight, but "Rajab's" judgment was always right. For several hours we had been travelling alone and finally we approached another rider as we slid steeply down the hill to the river

THE FINISH



again. It was so steep I dismounted and could hardly remain erect let alone see anything. Another gulp of water then up the trail, through the quarry, across Highway 49 and into "Pointed Rock", the final Vet check with 7 miles to go. It was now past midnight and they had hot coffee for the riders—I don't remember ever enjoying coffee more.

The excitement never stops!!! Ahead was "No-Hands Bridge". This is the only railway bridge remaining after the floods of 1964 and there are no side rails. It's about 12 ft. wide and the river foams over rocks some 150 feet below. I was so fatigued it was the first time I actually rode over the 300 spanning feet (of many pre-ride crossings). The bridge safely behind, we faced the last hazard, "The Ladder". Suddenly the trail dropped into sheer darkness from the edge of what had been a viaduct; another stream could be

heard rushing below. My flashlight found a white arrow on the cut side of the embankment. I saw a cleft between the embankment and the hillside—a 10 foot drop into heaven knew what! I nudged "Rajab" forward and he gathered speed at an alarming rate and finally came to a sliding stop at the edge of the small stream. He drank while I reswallowed my heart and wiped the sweat from my brow.

Lifting the reins, we could see the lights—yes, the lights!!!—2 miles ahead at "Robie Point" the finish line, a most welcomed sight!!! We raced with tears of joy up the hill to be cheered by our crew, and would you believe they had a "Victory Martini" for me????

Joy, sorrow, smiles, tears, surges of energy, complete exhaustion, ... more emotion in 100 miles than in a lifetime is what the Tevis is like. An infection...and I must have a terminal case because I've signed up for the 1978 Cup Race.

—LYNDA—

NOTE: Sketches for this article were done for me by my good friend Bill Richardson of Watsonville who observed the ride. Bill has been a long time equine and canine artist and has painted many famous horses including Serafix.

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—President's Ride—

Saturday, September 24, 1977

For a complete change of pace, this year's President's Ride will be in Portola Valley to honor Phil Ray. Also, it will be on a **SATURDAY**, so that you can enter or be a spectator at the SMCHA/MP All Amateur Horse Show on Sunday the 25th. So, mark both days on your calendar for an enjoyable weekend! The ride will assemble at Webb Ranch and you can either ride or trailer over.

For the benefit of riders without the special Stanford Accelerator key, we will open up the Woodside Trail Gate at Sandhill and Whiskey Hill Roads and the Accelerator Gate between 9.50 and 10.10 **ONLY**. Those who arrive at 10.10, should be prepared to trot for 20 minutes.

Note: We will be opening the WTC gate on the Woodside side of Sandhill and go in via the creek.

We will assemble at Webb Ranch at 10.30 and leave at 10.45 for a 2 hour ride around Felt Lake and we thank Manuel Piers sincerely, for allowing us to ride over his property.

A map showing the locations of Webb Ranch and Felt Lake is published in this magazine. Webb Ranch is located at 2720 Alpine Road off No. 280. It is the first driveway on the right hand side after leaving No. 280 and where the divided road becomes a 2 way road.

The ride around Felt Lake will be followed by a Social Hour and lunch. We plan to provide lunch plus one drink for an inclusive price of \$3.00 with additional drinks available for the more thirsty at normal prices.

Your genial Hosts will be Pat Grady and his Wife. Woodside riders will then return in one group via the Accelerator Field, leaving about 3 p.m., so we should be home about 4 p.m.

Les Beale will be Trail Boss for exit and entrance at Searsville and Chris Hunner (851-2334) will be Trail Boss at Webb Ranch. Lunch blanket to sit on. Don't forget to bring a tie rope for your horse. We

extend a cordial invitation to members of the SFHA, The Portola Valley Trails Association and Bob Hopper's stalwart riders from the coast to join us on this ride.

We originally hoped that horse drawn buggy owners might be able to participate, but we are sorry it will not be possible on this ride. The trail along Alpine Road is too narrow to accommodate the buggies and the terrain on Manuel Piers property is not suitable. Hopefully - if the Water Dept. is opened in 1978, we can arrange a

ride for you to the Horsemen's Retreat.

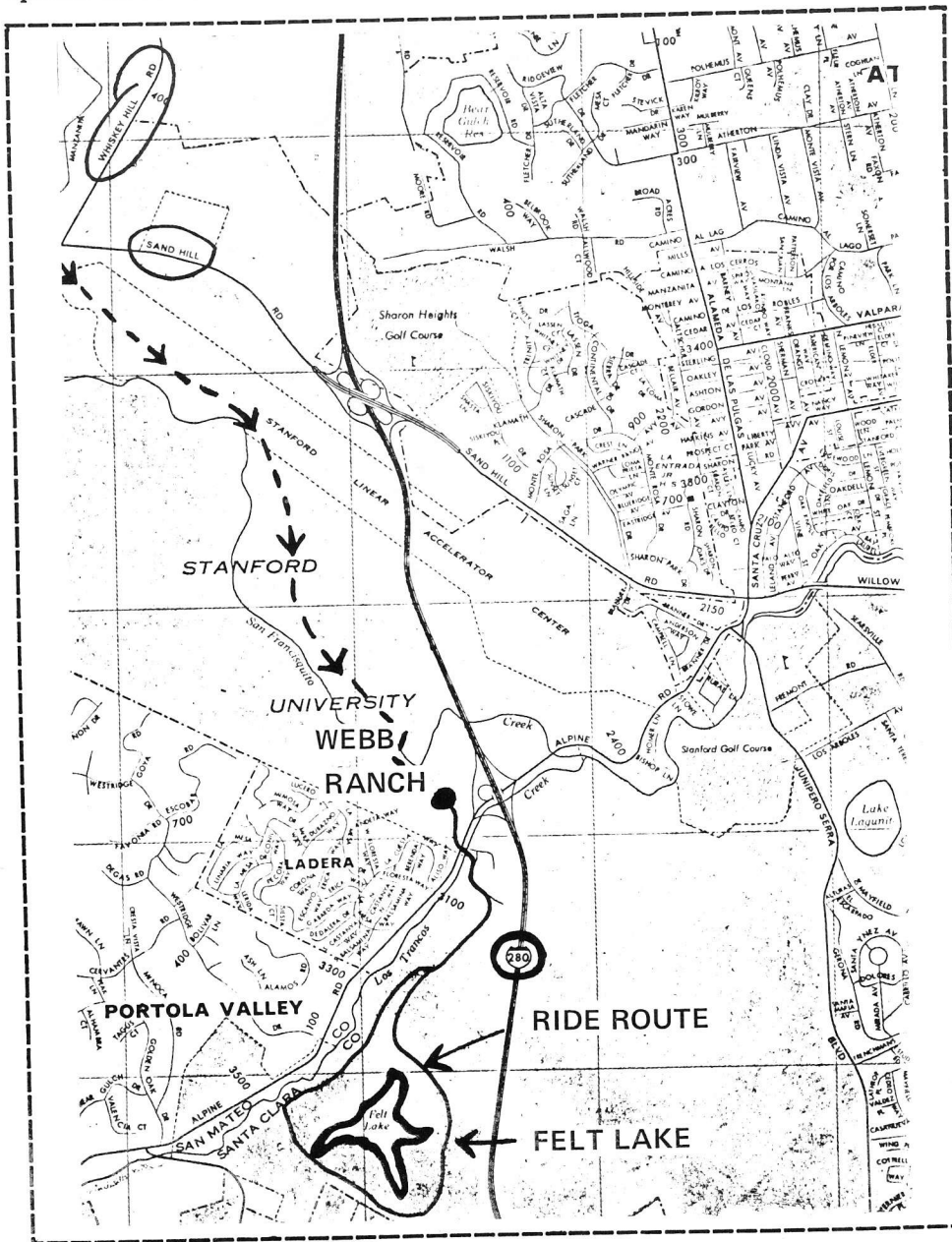
ALSO - at the request of many SMCHA members - **PLEASE ! NO STALLIONS ON THIS RIDE.**

Lunch reservations are a **MUST**. Phone **NOW** or by Wednesday Sept. 21st at the latest.

Les Beale. Chris Hunner.
344-2480 851-2334

Hugh Bryson. Bob Hopper.
851-8266 355-2281

See you on the ride and at the Horse Show!



To Geld - or Not to Geld

By ROGER M. MILLER, D.V.M. REPRINTED FROM WESTERN HORSEMAN MAGAZINE

Castration is the most common equine surgical operation. In horsemen's language this operation, which consists of removing the testicles, is known as "gelding" and the castrated stallion is henceforth called a gelding.

Inexperienced horsemen sometimes do not understand the reason for gelding, and there is a tendency for novices to delay gelding and keep a horse a stallion when, in fact, he should be gelded. As a result, we have a great surplus of stallions in all breeds today. Many of these inferior stallions are bred, and this practice is detrimental to the improvement of any breed.

Only the best stallions should be preserved for breeding. Any stallion that is deficient in temperament, conformation, size, stamina, or performance should be culled. Breeds are improved only by breeding the best to the best.

If a stallion is unsuitable for breeding, he should be gelded for several reasons. First of all, a gelding is more tractable and easier to manage than a stallion. Oddly enough, this is the very reason many inexperienced owners do not geld their horses. They feel that there is more status to owning a stallion rather than a gelding. Many men feel that they have more machismo riding or handling a stallion. They should realize that real horsemen, the top hands, prefer a gelding unless the horse has breeding potential.

The reason seasoned horsemen prefer a gelding is because, other things being equal, the gelding usually makes a superior using horse than does a stallion, or even a mare.

By superior we mean more dependable, more consistent, and more tractable. Observe that most of the records for performing horses are held by geldings. Kelso, that great running Thoroughbred, was a gelding. The immortal roping

horse Baldy was a gelding. Nearly all the truly great jumping horses and three-day event horses are geldings. The majority of the greats in endurance riding, rodeo, and speed events are geldings. All of the old-time cow outfits used nothing but geldings, and so do modern ranches that maintain large remudas. Good geldings served the mounted police in the past, and still do. The cavalry units of the world were largely mounted on geldings.

It is probable that many of the performance records that are held by stallions would have been even more impressive if they had been geldings. But, of course, geldings have lost their value for breeding purposes.



The knowledgeable horseman does not hesitate to geld a colt. Some horses, especially of chunky or thick-set conformation, tend to get a crested neck if they are not gelded. While a massive neck is desirable in a draft horse, it is a detriment in a saddle horse. Heavy-necked horses are always heavy on the forehand, difficult to collect, and less agile than slender, graceful-necked horses.

A common misconception concerns the age at which a stallion should be gelded. Many horsemen are under the erroneous impression that a horse's testicles do not descend until he's near maturity, and that he cannot be gelded until around two years of age. A majority of American horsemen think that delaying castration will mean a larger colt, and a more muscular development. In fact, it doesn't make a bit of difference at what age a colt is gelded. In many parts of the world it is the custom to geld soon after foaling. Many of Britain's great steeplechase horses, competing in what might be the most

severe athletic test in the horse world, are gelded early in life.

There are many techniques used for castrating horses. Some veterinarians do the operation with the horse standing, using a local anesthesia. But most surgeons prefer general anesthesia. A wide variety of anesthetic agents are now available for use, and some of the new short-acting anesthetics are very safe, very smooth, and free of the excitement and struggling that characterized the older anesthetic drugs. Regardless of the technique used, the object is the complete removal of all testicular and hormone-forming tissue.

If any hormone-forming tissue whatsoever is left behind, the horse will—although sterile—show masculine (stallion-like) behavior. Such a horse is said to be "proud-cut."

A proud-cut horse is a nuisance, although in some cases he is useful for chasing and gathering wild horses, or for use as a teaser on breeding farms to detect mares in heat. Theoretically, a proud-cut horse can be operated on again, although that can actually present a very difficult surgical challenge.

Most proud-cut horses are the result of an amateur's efforts at surgery. A trained and competent veterinarian won't make this mistake because of the rather elementary anatomy involved. The do-it-yourselfer will often leave the epididymis, a hormone-producing structure above the testicle. Such a horse will definitely act "proud."

Many properly castrated geldings will continue to show some degree of masculine behavior following surgery. This may include excitement and even attempts to mount a mare in heat. Such behavior does not necessarily mean that the horse is cut proud. Male hormone is secreted by other glands in the body so that even after

cont'd pg. 11

Reflections on the July Ride

A ride which started on a sunny summer day with approximately 45 riders was marred by an accident. Our first concern is with the horse and rider and we trust they are both now fully recovered.

The accident however, gives cause for reflection....How did it happen? Why? Could it have been avoided? Our information is that instead of keeping to the trail, one rider successfully climbed an embankment to meet the trail in a zig-zag situation. The second rider followed but slipped, injuring himself and the horse. The incident resulted in un-nerving 10 or so other riders who also decided to return home!

..Whatever the circumstances, riders are cautioned to observe some basic rules:

a) Be alert

b) Stay on the trail

c) Maintain full control of your horse at all times

d) Stay at least one horse length away from the rider in front — preferably two lengths.

e) However, do not drag so far behind that you lose sight of the rider in front of you and then perhaps take the wrong trail thus leading the remainder astray!

For those of you who are not accustomed to trail riding, we suggest that Huddart Park is an excellent training ground....starting with the Archery Trail, the Pole Trail and progressing to the Redondo and Raymundo Trail. When you feel confident on these trails, then tackle the Jackie — which has been used in NATRC rides.

If there are members who can

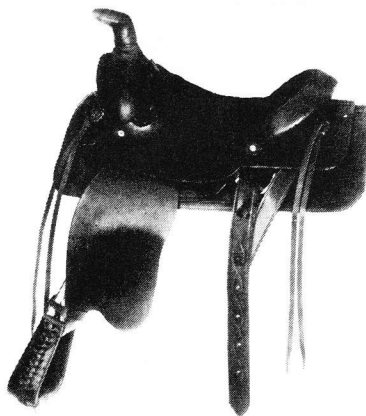
handle their horses competently but do not know the trails, please call me and I will be happy to help you find your way any Sunday.

Though delayed, I feel the majority had a very enjoyable July ride. We proceeded to the meadow in Wunderlich park where we had lunch under a blue sky and warm sunshine. On return, we split up into 2 groups, most riders returning with Bobbie Petrov, Bob Hopper and me, and a smaller group taking the longer ride home with Bob Krensky via the State Trail at the top of Bear Gulch Road northwards into Huddart Park.

By the way, two of us re-rode the complete route again on July 31st. The three zig-zag portions of the trail are approximately 7 paces long....only a couple of yards on each segment! Les Beale 344-2480

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Fall Ride

SUNDAY OCT. 23

We plan our Final Ride of the Year through Wunderlich Park with lunch being served at Bob Hopper's property on the North side of Bear Gulch Road.

At that time of the year we hope we can guarantee a perfect ride in perfect Fall weather.

Plan to ride with us. Details will be announced by flyer. However, at the request of many riders...

...Persons wishing to ride stallions must have S.M.C.H.A. approval.

—Les Beale

Trail Rustlers

That is exactly what is happening...some horsemen are stealing our trails!

Have you noticed that the lock has been taken off the WTC gate leading into Huddart Park from the Flood Estate and replaced twice? The property owners are worried. Have you also noticed that the wire has been cut near the entrance to the Phleger property? The owner is concerned. Did you know fences had been cut between Webb Ranch and the Stanford property?

These are only examples...unfortunately, there are more and the Woodside Trail Club and SMCHA are worried.

Furthermore, we cannot place the blame on hikers—horsemen have been observed cutting fences but, unfortunately, not identified. It is up to all of us to stop these people. What will inevitably happen is that we will lose these trails. It is necessary to identify these people and tell them the facts of life. We enjoy an excellent trail system which exists because of the generosity and co-operation of property owners and the hard work of the Woodside Trail Club.

Should we allow a few irresponsible individuals to ruin the pleasure of riding our trails and to abuse this very much appreciated privilege so far, enjoyed by the majority???

If you find Fences cut, locks missing or any type of vandalism, please contact the Trail Captain of the Woodside Trail Club.

HARRY WILLIAMS 851-7828

And do not loan your trail key to a friend.

-Ross Meredith - Clinic Personality

The man with the pipe — that's Ross Meredith! You'll find him at the lower ring during the clinic handling all the beginners from age 3 to forever 39. He's been there for the past eight years taking only one session off to celebrate Ruth's and his 42nd anniversary.

"Old time west" is what characterizes Ross the best. Born in Oklahoma, he began riding matched races at the age of 12. He learned the nature of training and riding from his dad, Paul Meredith, who is one of the outstanding trainers of thoroughbreds (still at it at 83). For the past 26 years Ross has trained and boarded horses at Woodside Stables on Canada Road.

"Here you meet all types in the horse game," drawled Ross. "I mean folks that want a champion in a week and others who want old Dobbin schooled in a week." Asked what type of horse he likes best Ross replied, "A good doing one. I mean a horse that's broke. One that can handle himself, has got some balance, and some intelligence to make the whole thing work." Ross feels there are good and bad in every breed.

"The toughest part of the horse game is the people, not the horses. It's pretty hard to tell a person it will take several months, not weeks, to start a colt right. It's not that folks are mean or ornery, but rather they just don't know. So I've found the best solution is to tell them the truth and usually things work out for the best."

Ross's aim at the clinic is to get his students capable enough to be able to handle their horses safely and competently out on the trail. He gets a kick out of seeing his former students on SMCHA rides (even if you can't tell — his pipe puffs extra). He feels if his students want to get into showing, they can go on from what they learn at the clinic. His aim is to be of some purposeful help not just putting in time.

SMCHA feels strongly Ross has achieved his goal.

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Bits, Bridles and Bones

By Carleton L. Lohse, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Department of Anatomy
School of Veterinary Medicine,
University of California, Davis

This article was first delivered, in lecture form, at the Bank of America's Livestock Symposium, Horse Section.

For centuries, an incredible variety of bridles and bits have been used on horses. Bit types are so numerous and varied that the topic is beyond the scope of this article. A more basic anatomical approach will be taken to look at areas of the horse head affected by most bridles and bits. These areas are listed as follows:

1. Tongue
2. The bars (mandible or lower jaw)
3. Lips
4. Poll (occipital region)
5. Nose (nasal bones)
6. Roof of mouth (hard palate)
7. Curb chain groove

Judging from what I have been able to read, the effects of bridles and bits on the horse head are ill-defined. This is excluding the obviously tight or poorly fitting bridle and the outlandish bit. The longterm effects on soft tissue and bones of the head are subtle and depend on where pressure is applied, how often, and with how much leverage.

Take a look at the soft tissues that cover the nose, lips, and jaws. (See figure one.) In general the skin of

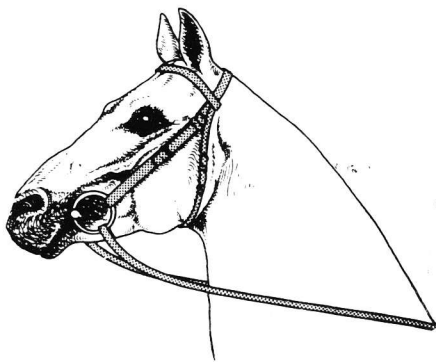


Figure one, soft tissues.

these areas is thin and delicate. The soft nose tissues are a far cry from the callous snout of a pig. It is logical that areas covered with hair are more protected than skin alone. Other structures such as tongue and angles of the lips are vulnerable to a severe bit in the hands of a strong person. Any laceration or cut to these areas needs attention. Beneath the chin, within the curb chain groove, is another site of possible irritation.

Deep to the skin are connecting tissues that absorb part of the pressures and shield the bones. A rubber covering for a snaffle bit is

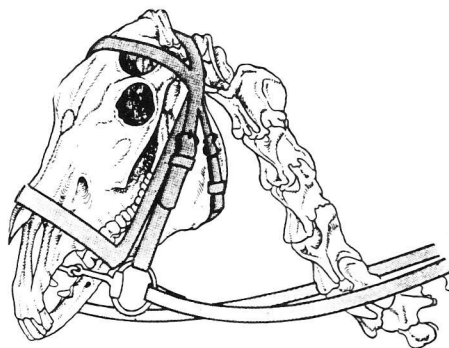


Figure two, head and neck skeleton.

an example of how pressures may be reduced. Warming a metal bit with the hand before placing it between the lips is an example of how to protect other soft tissues from stress.

A major objective of this article is to describe the bones affected by bits and tell something about each. The drawing of the skeleton (figure two) shows how parts of the bridle and bit affect the bones of the head.

A close look at the lower jaw (mandible) is in order. (See figure three.) It has been said that the first bit developed from a jaw rope. Examine the bars (intervaleolar space) which are particularly af-

Premolar (wolf) tooth.

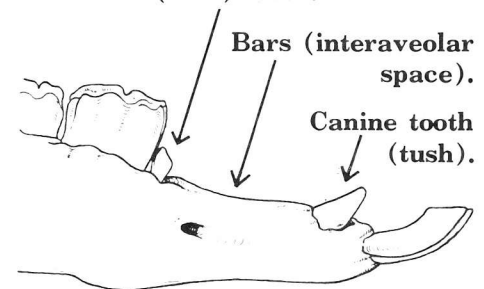


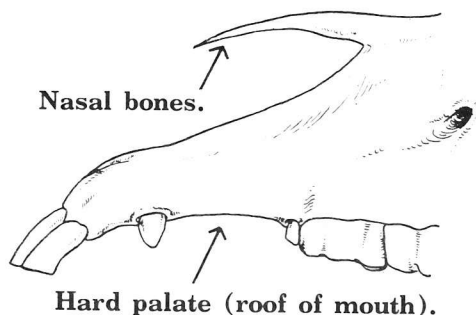
Figure three, lower jaw (mandible).

ected. It is the region of the mandible between the lower incisors or canine teeth and the cheek teeth. Depending on the type of bit, this region receives the brunt of pressure on the bit. Complicating the picture in this area are the canine (tush) and premolar (wolf) teeth. In the case of the wolf teeth, the horse is usually better off having them extracted rather than to crack or irritate them. Close examination of the top (dorsal) border of the bars reveals that a muscle attaches there to a ridge of bone and localizes pressure to the ridge and to the soft tissue that overlies it. A leveling of the bone of the bars may result due to heavy pressure from a metal bit.

The upper jaw (maxilla) (figure four) also exhibits an interalveolar space between the teeth which are related to the hard palate (roof of the mouth). Ridges of soft tissue cover the hard palate but this region is especially vulnerable to a rowel or exceptionally high port in a bit.

The nasal bones and poll are also affected by the bridle. On young horses the nasal bones may be bent or even broken by a panic stricken lunge or an overtight bridle. Tension placed on a pair of reins is transmitted to the horse's head. It is immediately detected by the sen-

Figure four, upper jaw (maxilla).



sory nerve endings of the skin, soft tissue and bone coverings. The horse's head is extremely well innervated. Most of the sensation of pressure is then carried to the brain by way of the several cranial nerves. Pressure sensors are numerous in all seven areas of the head described, and so use as little pressure as possible to achieve the objective your horse is being trained for.



GELDING cont'd

castration, some degree of masculinity will persist. This activity will vary from one individual to another.

The testicle develops, before birth, within the abdomen. Later, it descends through the inguinal canal to its normal location within the scrotum. If one testicle fails to descend, the horse is called, in medical terminology, a unilateral cryptorchid. If both testicles fail to descend, the horse is a bilateral cryptorchid.

Horsemen often call a cryptorchid horse a ridgeling or, sometimes, an original horse.

If the testicle is retained within the inguinal canal, rather than in the belly proper, the term flanker or high flanker may be used.

In many horses, descent of the testicle might be delayed. A horse that is a cryptorchid at six months of age might be normal as a yearling or two-year-old. Hormone injections are often used to en-

courage descent of a retained testicle. Such treatment may be of value in a flanker, but is very unlikely to benefit a true abdominal cryptorchid.

Only rarely does a retained testicle descend after two years of age. Once in a while, a testicle will descend through the inguinal canal, but then, instead of progressing into the scrotum, will instead migrate out under the skin of the groin to become an ectopic testicle.

If a two-year-old horse has any of the above mentioned forms of cryptorchidism, the following is always true.

1. The horse should be castrated. Cryptorchidism is inheritable, and cryptorchid horses often have a bad temperament until gelded. There is also a tendency for retained testicles to develop cancer after maturity. Therefore, a mature cryptorchid must be completely gelded. If one or both testicles are retained within the belly, major abdominal surgery will be required.

2. Testicles not within the scrotum will be sterile. The testicle cannot produce live sperm unless it is below body temperature. That is the reason the testicle is located outside the body, within the scrotum. If only one testicle is cryptorchid, however, the horse can still sire foals with the normal testicle. Such horses spread this defect within their progeny.

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In very rare instances, horses are born with only one testicle. Such horses, known as monorchids, can only be differentiated from unilateral cryptorchids by surgical exploration. Of course, such a defective stallion should be gelded.

In summary, colts normally have two testicles within the scrotum. If one or both glands seem to be retained, wait until the colt is two years of age before resorting to the operation (abdominal cryptorchid ectomy). Retained testicles might descend within that time.

In normal colts, decide whether or not the colt has potential as a breeding stallion. If the answer is no, make plans to geld him early, at least as a yearling. If the answer is maybe, delay surgery until you see how the colt turns out. If the answer is yes, then be sure you have suitable facilities for confining a stallion, and be sure you know how to properly handle him.



A farmer from Missouri had quite a problem with bird's building nests in his favorite mule's mane. He finally called out a vet who told him to put yeast in the mule's mane saying the birds would disappear shortly. They did. All this proves is that yeast is yeast, nest is nest, and never the mane shall tweet.

Lew Silva Talks About "Lightening the Heavy Mouthed Horse"

by Lynda Bloom

Novice riders often have a rough time keeping their horses light in the bridle. California trainer Lew Silva says, "Before you correct a horse that's heavy on the bit, you should take a look at the reasons why he became that way. Then, when you accomplish lightening him up, he won't fall back into heaviness again, because you're unaware of what you're causing.

"A lot of horses are never taught to properly give their heads in the first place," continues Lew. "You also see many riders that balance themselves on a horse's mouth. Kids rail horses are the worst victims, especially when they're used in equitation classes and the kids freeze up on the reins." Lew also feels that much of the schooling that novices do with the reins can be done, concentrating on other methods and thereby saving the mouth.

Owners of hot, nervous horses can expect problems if they don't find a way out in schooling a horse like this so they are not on his head all the time. "With a hot horse," explains Lew, "you've got to do something to keep him light, because you're always trying to pull him to slow him down. I think working in a small, confined area with a biting rig helps a horse such as this. I have one two-year-old filly in the barn that I longed in circles for a month. She had a biting rig and snaffle on, and through the circles on the longe line, she learned to relax and drop off of the bridle herself, without someone pulling on her." Lew says that some riders go right to the saddle with a horse like this, rather than trying to solve the potential problem on the ground.

How about the older horse? What makes him heavy? "Stopping is often a problem with novice riders." Lew explained further. "I like to say 'whoa' when I stop a horse, so he has a chance to think about stopping before you take hold

of him. Then you don't have to take hold of him so much." If you don't warn him, you do all the stopping with his mouth, and the horse gets his head yanked on so much that he becomes heavy in the bridle.

There is a definite emphasis on collection in today's show ring, whether it be a rail horse or a stock horse. The problem arises, Lew feels, when novices teach a horse strictly on "straight back pulling" which slows the horse down, but doesn't collect him. All this does is toughen a mouth.



Lew just began working this heavy horse and will be lightening him up. Notice the resistance in trying to back.

If you've made any of these mistakes and want to rectify them, how do you go about it? Where do you start, when you want to lighten him up? Says Lew, "When I get a horse like this in for training, I start him all over, just as I would a colt. I tie his head around and do a lot of work on the ground. I leave his head tied to the side for about a half hour each way. I don't bit a horse up straight back and leave him standing, because he'll learn too easily to lean into the bit, especially with a snaffle." Lew says that leaning into the bit was one of the reasons the horse was heavy, so avoid giving him the chance to do it.

"If a horse is super heavy, I ground drive him. I use a big ring,

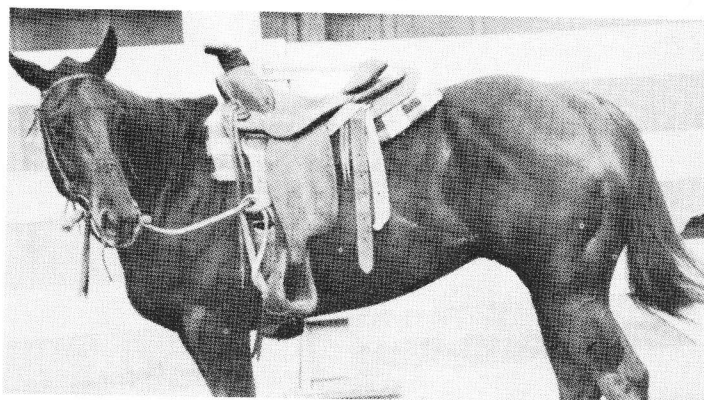
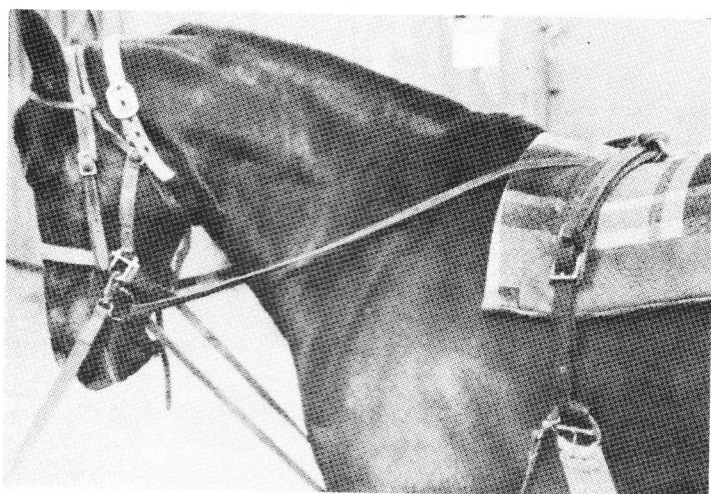
single twisted wire snaffle. The big ring has an advantage because of the extra weight."

When Lew drives a horse, he backs him quite a bit, to teach the horse to come back off the bridle readily without resistance. This is a tremendous help to the heavy horse. During this driving, Lew ties in the work done in getting the horse to give his head to the side. "I ask a horse to back, in the driving lines, with his head cocked to one side. He won't turn around and face me or turn and walk to the side, because the other line is around the hip to hold the body straight. Just his head and neck are bent. I have the horse back with his head to one side, then the other. Working with a horse to the side like this teaches him to drop off the pressure and it becomes easy, later on, to get him to give straight back."

Longeing is another part of lightening up a heavy horse. Lew uses the biting rig with basically two bridle setups. The first is a draw rein setup with a snaffle bit. If you study the photos, you can see how the reins are looped under the horse's elbows and brought back to the cinch ring on this homemade biting rig. (Lew calls it a "poor man's rig".) When the elbows move, the reins irritate the elbow area slightly, and the horse learns to give head position to **himself**; if he lowers his head and breaks at the poll and the withers, he relieves the pressure. The advantage is that he's teaching it to **himself** and you are not pulling at him, trying to teach him something.

When the horse is in this rig, Lew attaches a longe line to the halter (which is put on under the snaffle bridle), and works the horse in a circle. "A horse will go more collected in a small circle. A round pen would also be ideal to work in this situation."

The second type of biting rig work Lew does with a horse is accomplished when the horse has



Tying the head around teaches a horse to give to the side, which later makes him give his head easier, straight back to your hands. Lew also ground drives the horses, backing them, straight back but with the head to the side in this position.

Notice the way the reins are brought under the elbows, in this biting rig setup. Read why in the text.

been fairly well lightened up in the snaffle and is ready to go back into the bridle. As you can see in the photos, the horse is bitted up in his regular bit and again worked in circles on the longe line.

Once you lighten your horse up with these methods, things may seem rosy **unless** you climb aboard and find you're still having collection problems, or lead problems. Lew cautions to get right back to basics, and avoid using the horse's head as the sole means of correcting the problems. "Lope lots of circles," Lew says, working on the theory that getting the horse to give his head to the side will help you get him to give it back later, and at the same time, he's learning how to handle and collect his body.

"You must be sure to get a horse moving correctly, on the right arc," he cautions. "You see so many people loping a horse in a circle and the horse has his hindquarters swing out, or he's fading and the head's cocked out. If a horse is moving with his nose to the inside of a circle, as it should be, his hind end should also be arced to the inside of that circle. Bend him around the pressure of your inside leg. With a green horse, especially, you'll often get a switch to the wrong lead, because this horse isn't in the right arc to be loping that circle. He'll be bent to the outside of it."


Lew continued to explain lead problems, saying, "You'll see many horses loping a circle that will have them on the right front lead, but off behind. This, again, is because they're not arcing correctly." Don't use the head to try and pull a horse into position! Lew recommends extensive work in a round pen, or

longe line work in a circle, with a saddle on, so the horse learns to pack the weight properly. Many horses can arc correctly without a rider, but have trouble when any weight is put on their backs. Work with the saddle, in circles, keeps you OFF the horse's mouth while he is learning to use his body. This keeps him **light**!

Head position is important on a horse, and if he's to become light in the bridle, he has to learn to give his head readily, and you get his head with a slight pull, not constant pressure. Anything you can teach him, such as this work in circles, **without** pulling him straight back, will teach him how to use his body. This will keep you from hardening his mouth, and will keep both of you happy! A horse that gives to the bridle has a better chance of winning, whether he's on the rail, in trail classes, or "ridin' and sliding'."



Arthur MacDonald




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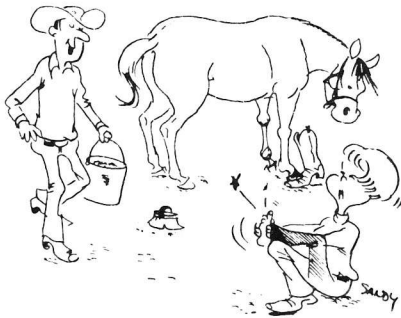
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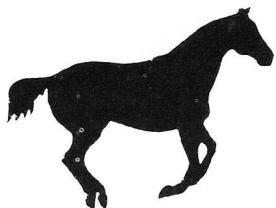
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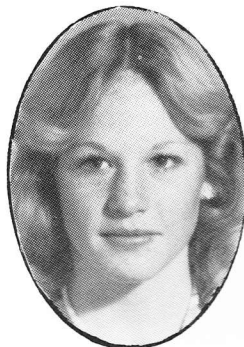


• "That's why we call him Bootjack."

THE San Mateo Jr. Horseman



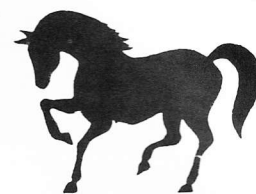
Terri



Colleen



Yvonne



Junior President's Message

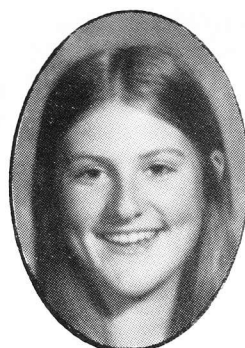
How about an overnight ride? I'd like to get an idea on how many people would be interested in getting together for an overnight ride. Will all of you that are interested please call me as soon as possible, so that I can get an idea on how many to plan for. If you Juniors have an idea on a place you'd like to go give me a call at 851-2422.

Terri

Saddle Scoop

Junior Horsemen. A lot of people just got back from Santa Rosa championship Horse Show and it was a real experience. Congratulations to the people who placed up there and there is always another year for those who did not get anything. A few years ago people who showed would wear dull colors so they would not stand out but now all the colors are getting brighter and brighter and equitation suits are in style. All the juniors should call Terri as soon as possible so she can get this overnight ride planned.

Anna



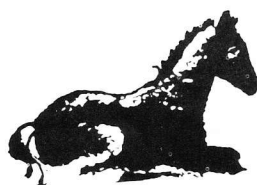
Laura



Anna

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Dear S.M.C.H.A.

I'd like to thank you for the private riding lessons I was able to take with my scholarship.

I took my lessons from Carmela Laws last fall, and really learned a lot.

I enjoyed the 1976 clinics and I look forward to this years clinics too.

Thanks a lot.
Deidre Prater

Nine Classes Over \$2,000 in Grand National Show

Nine horse show classes of \$2,000 or more—including a new \$10,000 class—are scheduled for the 33rd annual Grand National Horse Show at the San Francisco Cow Palace, October 28-November 6.

The Grand National is a "Full Classification" horse show, including Arabian, Appaloosa and Quarter Horse divisions. It is being held in conjunction with the rodeo and livestock exposition. Deadline for entries is September 23.

The horse show is highlighted by a new \$10,000 event—the Golden State Amateur-Owner Hunter Grand Prix Classic. It is open to all amateur-owners, 18 years of age and over. With the addition of entry fees, the prize money for this event could reach nearly \$20,000. The new class is sponsored by Four Winds Farm in Atherton, Calif., and Mrs. Pat Chandler and Montgomery Fisher.

The Amateur-Owner event joins three other \$10,000 classes on the Grand National schedule: the World's Championship Jumper Sweepstakes, the Hunter Grand Prix Classic and the World's Championship Stock Horse Classic.

Next in value are the \$5,000 World's Championship Hackamore

cont'd pg. 16

Woodside Jr. Cavalry

By Al Lucas

On Sat. July 23rd a ceremony was held at Town Hall at 10 a.m. to present members of B Troop 76 Cavalry Brigade with certificates and medals for their service in 1975-76-77. Commissions were given to Officers and enlistment papers to the troopers.

Commissions Issued: "Maj." John Buchner, Staff; "Maj." Fred Beidatsch, Staff; "Maj." Sherry Santogussi, Staff; "1st Lt." Scott Geanotti, "B" Troop Commander; "2ndLt." Rebecca Donovan, promoted from 1st Sgt.

A medal for Participation in the Bicentennial 1975-76 was issued to Cavalry members. Those who took part in the Moraga Treck received a medal for that.

A special achievement medal for leather work and fund raising was also awarded "Maj." John Buchner, - Bicentennial and Moraga Medals; "Maj." Fred Beidatsch, - special achievement medal; "Maj." Sherry Santoguisse, - Bicentennial medal; "1st Lt." Scott Geanotti, - Bicentennial medal, Moraga, Special achievement; "2nd Lt." Rebecca Donovan, - Bicentennial Medal, Moraga, Special achievement.

Enlistment papers and certificates and medals were given to the following enlisted men: "1st Sgt." Kent Putnam was promoted to 1st Sgt. and received Bicentennial medal and Special achievement; "CLP" Jim Beidatsch, Bicentennial medal; "Pfc." Jason Geanotti, Bicentennial Medal; "Pfc." John Jenson, Special achievement medal; "Pfc." Tom Beidatsch was promoted to Pfc. and received a Bicentennial medal; "Pvt." Scott Burgess, Bicentennial and Moraga medals; "Pvt." Dave Beefley, Bicentennial and Moraga medals; "Pvt." John Buchner, Bicentennial and Moraga



"pvt" Dave Beezley receiving bicentennial medal from "MAJ" John Buchner with "CLP" Jim Beidatsch looking on. (Photo by Doris Beezley)

medals; "Pvt." Richard Wong, Bicentennial and Moraga medals; "Pvt." Aaron Zeff, Special achievement medal; "Pvt." Steve Oliva, Special achievement medal; "Pvt." Greg Garrett was promoted to acting mess Sgt. "Pvt." Steve Brown received his enlistment papers. Honorary Awards were given to parents who have worked with the cavalry. John Donovan, "Capt." of Scouts; JoAnne Geanotti, "Capt." of Scouts. They received certificates and "Capt." Shoulder straps mounted on a plaque.

Mayor Bob Burgess father of "Pvt." Scott Burgess received certificates and helped officiate at the ceremonies.

The ceremonies were filmed by Bernie Rausch instructor at San Mateo College who has been working on several films with the Cavalry. With this filming the first Cavalry film is now finished and after editing will be shown at various horse functions. The second film is now being shot and will be completed this Fall. Plans are now completed for a series of TV commercials using the Cavalry and the Stage Coach that they are helping to restore. There is quite a lot of film that has been shot that will not be used in the pictures so

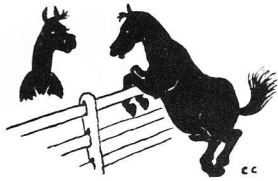
these are being made into short strips and given to the TV stations as news fillers.

Having completed the leather tack for their Cavalry Equipment they are now making show tack in tooled leather and silver. Because standards are very high this show quality tack is winning admiration from all those who see it.

It has been decided to have their color guard in the opening night ceremonies at the Grand National. Friday afternoons are now being spent practicing their formations. Col. Lawrence Nolte (Ret. USA Cavalry) who has 38 years in US Cavalry is technical advisor and has been helping with the military training. It has been found that the Cavalry units "A" in Pacifica and especially "B" in Woodside are attracting boys who do not do organized group activities. It has been said that girls want horses and boys want wheels, however unfortunately, the girls dominate horse shows, pony clubs, etc. and boys through pride will very often hesitate to complete and be beaten by a girl, so the Cavalry seems to be their answer to organized activities.

Parades, swimming parties, overnight rides, milk shake making and drinking, weapons training to

cont'd pg. 16



HORSECROWD HAPPENINGS

There may be movie stars at the Filoli Estate, but we have our own "TV STARS"....In the past few months, perhaps you have seen JOE GREER, FAY HUMPHRIES, AND HAP HARPER on Channel 5 EVENING SHOW. Goes to prove that you can have horses and shovel manure and still be newsworthy!!!

Congratulations to ZANDIE MONTEITH for winning her ONONDARKA MEDAL at the Baywood Canyon Horse Show. Guess that means she'll be having Thanksgiving Dinner at Santa Barbara this year while attending the finals.

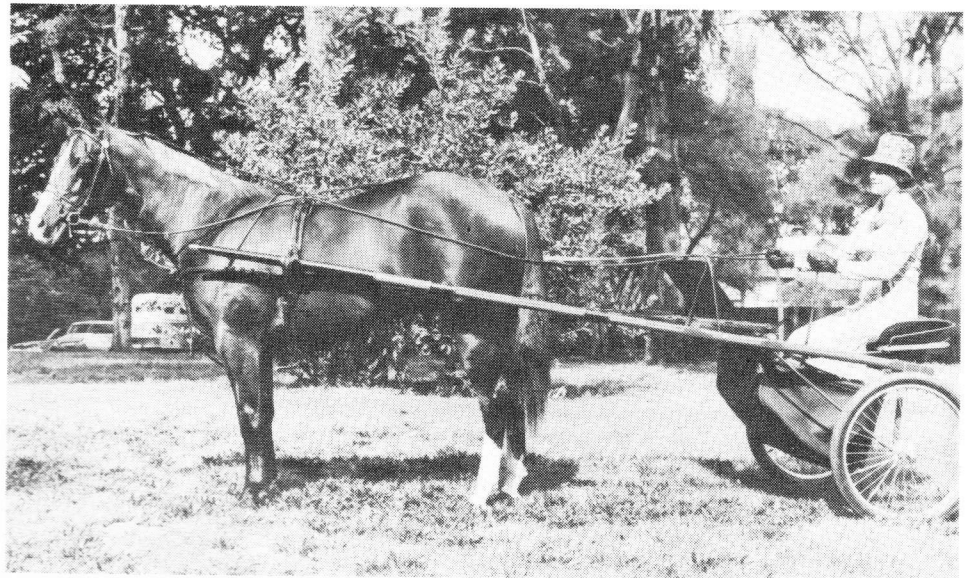
Our own very busy CHERYL KRUEZER took a few weeks off and went to Redding to visit her parents. I'm sure that after a couple of days, CHERYL will find some horses to work with or something to do because she can't be idle too long.

Im sure that the nurses at Peninsula Hospital should get a commendation or medal for their time spent taking care of loveable SAM KRIEGER. SAM had surgery — opening and removal of clotting material in an artery in his neck. I think they had to call in the ROTO-ROTOR man as a consultant. He's home now and doing fine. Anyone care to send BOOTS a Sympathy card, I think she'll need it.

STUART McPHERSON has been spending the summer in Hawaii, going to school and playing. What a way to go!!

If you have noticed MARY MAAS walking around with a big grin on her face, you will be happy to know that she was recently married and is extremely happy. She and her husband will continue to live in Woodside and enjoy their horses. Best wishes to the "NORBICKS".

It is with great sadness that we



Trainer Tory George with "Spring Rain Sevetti" in hand.

note the passing of JANE ANN CONLEY. She was a very active lady, supportive and considerate of all she knew. A long-time member of SMCHA, she will be remembered with kind thoughts and for her gentle manner.

MIMI SULLIVAN has recently started campaigning her 3 year old A.Q.H.A. Gelding "KAHLUA LARK" under the direction of TORY GEORGE. They have gone to 4 A.Q.H.A., shows winning 3 times and placing 3rd once. This qualifies them for the World Championship show to be held in Oklahoma this November. They also are leading the Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Assoc. in Pleasure Driving. Last year, "KAHLUA LARK" was a high point halter horse and hopefully he will finish this year as well in performance. In July they plan to do the Silver Dollar Circuit in Nevada then go on to Oregon. Maybe by the end of the summer with a little luck they could be High Point Horse of the Nation in the Quarter Horse Association.

In June KATHY CROMWELL took her trail horse mare, OPIE'S MISTY, to the Fresno Horse Trails, where she won two classes and placed high in the Sweepstakes, to be named Amateur-Owner Show Champion Trail Horse. Then it was off to the Quarter Horse circuit at Stockton and Oakdale where she placed high the first day and came

back to win the next two days; each day was under a different judge and MISTY came home with 6 AQHA points. Then it was down to the Santa Barbara County Fair at Santa Maria, where MISTY won all five of her trail classes in a clean sweep and earned both titles of Amateur-Owner Show Champion Trail Horse and Open Trail Horse Show Champion. It's been quite a month and KATHY'S very grateful for the successes now coming her way. She trains with LEW SILVA.

We have always heard that past president PAT GRADY was an extremely generous man. But would he literally give you the shirt off his back? According to one report, the answer is "yes." On a recent hot summer day one of Fay Humphries' boarders wanted to take her very large teenage son to the Lemon Tree for lunch, but the lad was in need of a shirt to properly attire himself for that occasion. A short time later he was seen with his mother at a table in the popular Portola Valley restaurant, biceps bulging inside the Grady shirt. Certain anti-Grady forces are claiming, however, that it was not the Irish farrier's generosity which inspired his offer, but merely the fact that he was scared shirtless.

Long time residents and supporters of SMCHA have left our "fair" or "unfair" (depending on

cont'd pg. 23

"From the Horse's Mouth"

by Noel Ruhberg

Interested in trail horse class? This month's questions were answered by Leonard Young, Woodside trainer of the well known trail horses Tyree Gofir Joe, and others.

Question: How do you teach a horse to back through poles?
Leonard: You walk the horse forward through the poles first. The poles should be far apart at the beginning. Then you walk them forward to the end of the poles, stop, and back. When the horse can do this well, then turn the horse around in front of the poles and then back. Take time to teach him to turn around. Line up the hindquarters with the legs and the front and with the reins. Go slow and easy.

Question: How do you teach a horse to do tires? Leonard: Get a large tire-like tractor tire and put it between two barrels, then lead the horse over the tire. If the horse is spooky of the barrels just lead him through the barrels and then put the tire down. If the tire is too little the

horse will step over it. The barrels force the horse to keep straight and head into the tire. When you can lead the horse through the tire, ride him through it. When it becomes comfortable to step in the tire rather than on it, the horse will get the idea. Do one tire, then two, then three, etc. The horse should be taught to put his head down and look where he is going.

Question: What obstacles should a horse know before he is ready to show in a beginning trail class?
Leonard: A horse should know about five basic obstacles. These are: 1. step over a series of logs; 2. work a gate towards you and away from you either right or left handed; 3. back through two poles; 4. step in one tire; 5. and go over a bridge without spooking. You'll find these type of obstacles in every trail class. Smoothness comes with experience. The main thing necessary to make a good trail horse is to have a horse with a good calm disposition that is not high strung which won't come undone in

a tight situation.

Question: How does a backyard rider get his horse to set his head?
Leonard: The horse should be moving so biting the horse up in a stall doesn't do much good. Use a corral where he can walk around. When you are on him, get him subtle by bending his head around to each side. Keep your hands low and use a give and take with your hands. If your hands are too steady without any give, the horse goes against you. Work him in a ring snaffle. Then graduate to a loose-jaw snaffle and then to a regular bit. Go back to a snaffle if necessary. Keep the horse light.

Question: How can a person learn to keep his heels down in an equitation class? Leonard: Ride with your feet out of the stirrups. Also ride bareback so the rider is forced to keep his feet in position.

Thank you, Leonard.

See you all at the SMCHA show Sept. 3 and at Senior Playday Sept. 11.



GRAND NATIONAL cont'd

Horse Classic, the \$3,000 World's Championship Trail Horse Classic, and the \$3,000 World's Championship Western Pleasure Horse Classic.

Completing the list of \$2,000 or over" events are \$2,000 Championship Stakes for the American Saddle Bred Horses, both the three-gaited and five-gaited.

"This is probably the finest program we have ever had at the Grand National," said horse show manager Allen Ross. "Premium and plate money is a record \$150,000."

Entry information can be obtained by writing the Horse Show Manager, Grand National Horse Show, P.O. Box 34206, San Francisco, Calif. 941355.



CAVALRY cont'd

teach the safe handling of firearms under expert adult instruction, horsemanship, military training and of course our leather craft are proving to be popular and whenever we find a new program it is incorporated into our activities.

Enlistments are open and new members are joining regularly. By using techniques learned during the Bicentennial, uniforms are of high quality and inexpensive. Since tack is made in leather-craft class the expense involved is minimal on this also. Age limit has been waived. For further information call:

Al Lucas
133 Marva Oaks Dr.
Woodside
851-7848



Western Schooling Show July 27, 1977

The July schooling show was well attended with 248 entries. It was a smooth running show which ended at 6:00 p.m. A new class was added this year which proved to be very popular with both contestants and spectators. This is the Western Ranch Class. The purpose of this class is to show which horses would make a working ranch horse, and each entry must execute various routines typical of those done on a ranch. The highlight of this class (and the show) was our pack horse—the marvelous Mr. Ed. There are not many horses which would accept that pack (which, by the way, is a huge bag of shredded paper). A picture accompanies this report showing Mr. Ed being led by Anne Dickey riding Bucko. Rosemary Allen can be seen in the background keeping a watchful eye on this phase of the event.

A heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful people who came and worked all day on this and also the June schooling show. It's these unselfish people who help ascertain the success of our various activities.

Cheryl Kreuzer
Manager

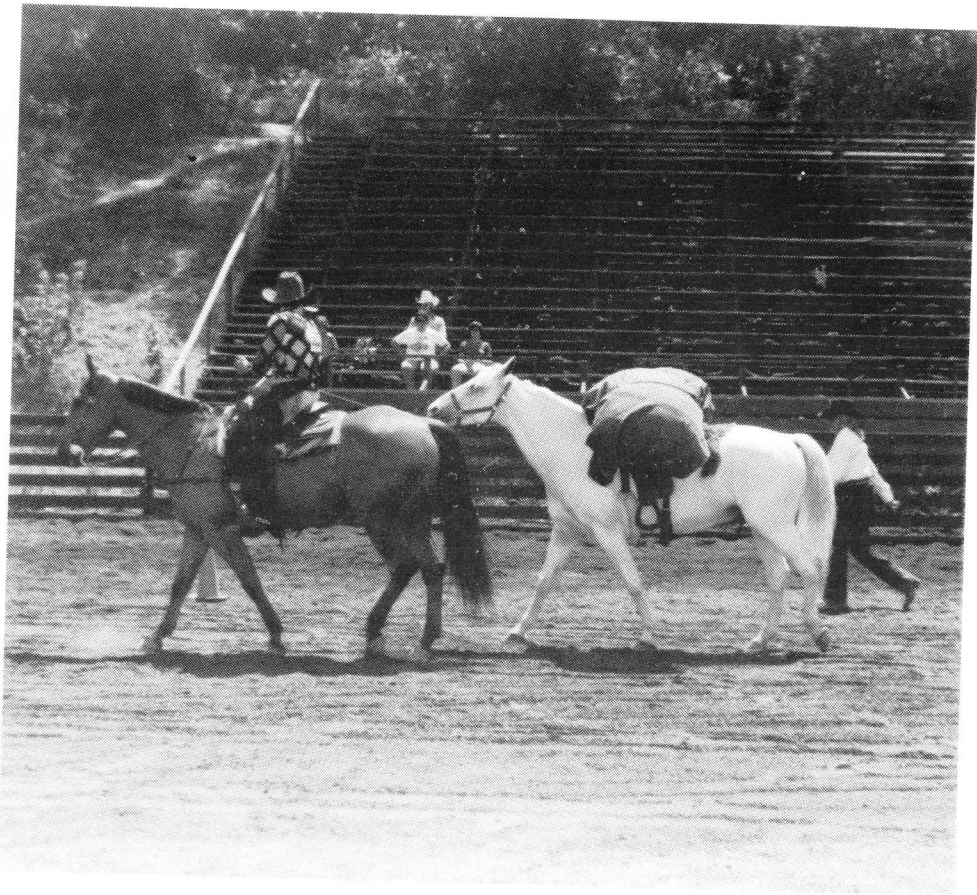


Photo by Tom Lux

- 1—4-H Showmanship (7)**
 1. Nunes Rob—Michelle Conner
 2. Little Jam—DeAnn Watson
 3. Montana—Denis Enea
- 2—4-H Hands & Seat Horsemanship (7)**
 1. Dandy Blue—Kirsten Olstead
 2. Nunes Rob—Michelle Conner
 3. Little Jam—DeAnn Watson
- 3—Beginning Equitation (13)**
 1. Dandy Blue—Kirsten Olstead
 2. Jive Talkin—Cheryl Pfefer
 3. Never Say Die—Kim Carsten
- 4—Maiden Equitation (14)**
 1. Miss Tip Bars—Stacie Huebschwerlen
 2. Doc Bars Luck—Karen Davis
 3. Cardinal—Brenda Conner
- 5—Beginning Pleasure (25)**
 1. Kit Fox—Freda Lopez
 2. Moonlit Bars—Julie O'Grady
 3. Sassy Jim Bar—Debbie Nelson
- 6—Green Pleasure (19)**
 1. Wanna Be Me—Debbie Bugge
 2. Final Appeal—Laura Perin
 3. Sassy Jim Bar—Debbie Nelson
- 7—Novice Equitation (14)**
 1. Doc Bars Luck—Karen Davis
 2. Shane—Kim Barbaria
 3. Prince Lightfoot—Elizabeth Pohle
- 8—Maiden Pleasure (17)**
 1. Wanna Be Me—Debbi Bugge
 2. Reverend Opie—Anne Mathiesen
 3. Doc Bars Luck—Karen Davis
- 9—Novice Pleasure (20)**
 1. Prince Lightfoot—Elizabeth Pohle
 2. Reverend Opie—Anne Mathiesen
 3. Wanna Be Me—Debbie Bugge
- 10—Non-Quarter Horse Pleasure (8)**
 1. Prince Lightfoot—Elizabeth Pohle
 2. Rainy's Whirl—Lisa Phole
 3. Ranger—Vera Otto
- 11—Showmanship (5)**
 1. Nunes Rob—Michelle Conner
 2. Kit Fox—Freda Lopez
 3. Wendi—Jeanne Harris
- 12—Halter—Novice Horse (11)**
 1. Hot Dilemma—Sandra Hunter
 2. Whispering Skip—Roy Markegard
 3. Skip One Smoke—Heather Markegard

cont'd pg. 23

SMCHA English Schooling Show Results

By SHERRY GRANTZ

Wednesday, June 22 dawned bright and almost too hot as 89 horses and riders competed in 21 classes at the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association first 1977 English Schooling Show. Val Tohill of Pleasanton picked the winners and answered all contestant's questions.

Yesterday's Future, a 14.2 hand bay pony owned and ridden by Terri Triuett won all three pony classes and thus became the Most Versatile Pony or Horse. For this honor, Terri was presented with a unique sculptured horse head. The quantity

of ponies was not large, but quality was high, as another 14.2 hand bay pony, Jus-Gus owned and ridden by Tani Bell was runner-up for the versatility award.

Earlier, Jus-Gus had been named Champion Hunter. Making a contrast in size, was the Reserve Champion Hunter, a large white horse, Guenevere, ridden by Jamie Molakides.

A third pony, 11 hand Scooter, ridden by Carrie McCleery was the undoubted favorite of the crowd. The tiny chestnut's stylish leaps over fences as tall as himself

brought thunderous applause, whistles and war whoops.

At the end of the day a very large horse, 17.1 hand Barou ridden by Jill Cornell, won the Championship Pleasure ribbon and crystal bowl. Finally one of the small horses got into the championship line-up when Silent Spring owned and ridden by Wendy Wiebenson took the Reserve Champion Pleasure honors.

Thanks to all the patient contestants who turned out for what was a long, and I hope, a fun day. Following are the results of each class.

Green Jumpers (30)

1. Sheer Energy—Angela Pietro
2. Mr. Eugenio Esquire—Audrey Goldsmith
3. Sir Coyote—Linda Warell

Pony Working Hunters (12)

1. Yesterday's Future—Terri Triuett
2. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell
3. Wanbi Duce—Jan Tedesco

Novice Working Hunters (32)

1. Krypton—Laury Plain
2. Sir Coyote—Linda Warell
3. Yesterday's Future—Terri Triuett

NovicJumpers (29)

1. Magyor Jackie—Michael Ewing
2. Pray for Rain—Jan Pearce
3. The Devil Made Me Do It—Carol Goodstein

Junior Working Hunters (32)

1. Krypton—Laury Plain
2. Full Dress—Cynthia Hunter
3. Little Squire—Kathy Robertson

Small Working Hunters (6)

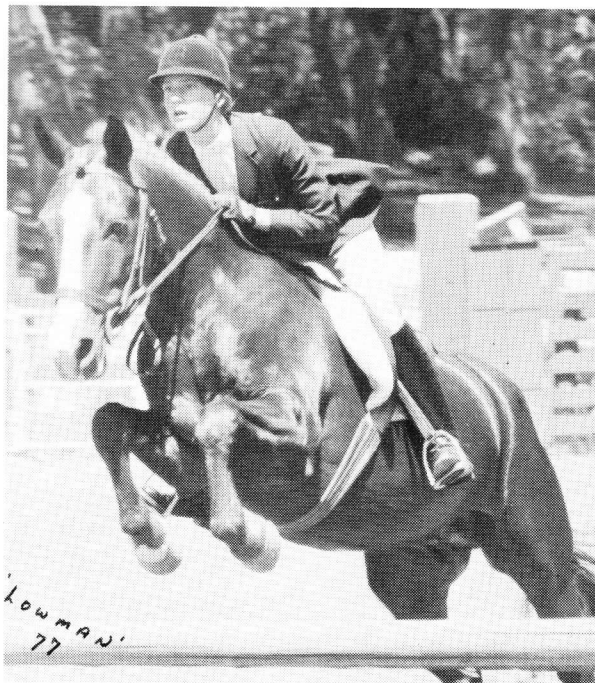
1. Full Dress — Cynthia Hunter
2. Silent Spring—Lucie Wharton
3. Little Squire—Kathy Robertson

Large Working Hunters (22)

1. Pray for Rain—Jan Pearce
2. Guenevere—Jamie Molakides
3. Bold Conejo—Sara Denzler

Open Jumpers (17)

1. Little Squire—Kathy Robertson
2. Magyor Jackie—Michael Ewing
3. Pray for Rain—Jan Pearce



Most Versatile Horse or Pony, Yesterday's Future, ridden by Terri Triuett clearing a winning fence in Pony Working Hunters.

(Photo by Brad Lowman)

Green Hunter Hacks (18)

1. Shogun—Yvonne Mock
2. Matter O'Fact—Natasha Cline
3. Potpourri Proto—Claudia Eitner

Pony Hunter Hacks (9)

1. Yesterday's Future—Terri Triuett
2. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell
3. Mary's Moth—Molly Kretchmar

Small & Large Hunter Hacks (8)

1. Barou—Jill Cornell
2. Sieg—Elizabeth Lukes
3. Soverign's HEart—Kit Merwin

Beginning English Equitation (19)

1. Fair Lady Bug—Jennifer Grey
2. Barou—Sophie Andreopolis
3. Singmore—Lisa Piercy

Novice English Equitation (20)

1. Second Chance — Lisa Hall
2. Silent Spring—Wendy Wiebenson
3. Barou—Sophie Andreopolis

Novice English Pleasure (21)

1. Sieg—Elizabeth Lukes
2. Singmore—Linda Piercy
3. Nolo Contendre—Charlie Vicas

Pony English Pleasure (10)

1. Yesterday's Future—Terri Triuett
2. Vanilla Wafer—Monica Quie
3. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell

Beginning English Pleasure (19)

1. Dainty Image — Mary Ryan
2. Tryst—Jo Egenes
3. Barou—Sophie Andreopolis

Open English Equitation

1. Silent Spring—Wendy Wiebenson
2. Second Chance—Lisa Hall
3. Rambler—Mary Ryan

Small Horse English Pleasure (8)

1. Dainty Image—Mary Ryan
2. Silent Spring—Wendy Wiebenson
3. Whirling Ride—Paige Lucero

Large Horse English Pleasure (14)

1. Nolo Contendre—Charlie Vicas
2. Barou—Jill Cornell
3. Singmore—Lisa Piercy

Adult Driving

1. Farnley Nero—Terry Konkle (Light Star Ponies)
2. Midas Touch—Dawne Engelsen (Thor Engelsen)
3. Sgt. Pepper—Lisa Gillett

Driving—16 years & under

1. Sgt. Pepper—Sue Gillett
2. Welmore Little Love—Lorna Konkle (Little Star Ponies)
3. Mooney—Tracy Corner

Adult Obstacle Driving

1. Sgt. Pepper—Lisa Gillett
2. Mary's Fandango—Pat Holmes (Mrs. W.A. Swinerton)
3. Farnley Nero—Terry Konkle (Little Star Ponies)

Model Pony—Eng. & West.**English Pony**

1. Welmore Little Love—Lorna Konkle
2. Lisenten Bright Reward—Ruth Verkuyll
3. Sgt Pepper — Lisa Gillett

Western Pony

1. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton
2. Reeds Poco May—Tracy Corner
3. Sinbad—Antonette Sampino

Trail Class—Over 12

1. Corky—Janice Hare
2. Dun Dee—Beverly Bell
3. Jolly Rodger—Adele Carlson

Trail Class—9-12 yrs.

1. Bambi—Sydney Stang
2. Yankee Banner—Kerry La Salle
3. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton

Tail Class—8 yrs & under

1. Harvey Wallbanger—Lainey Rawitser
2. Trophy—Heather Fogarty
3. Coco—Kim Del Carlo

Western Pleasure

1. Dun Dee—Beverly Bell
2. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton
3. Bambi—Sydney Stang

Western Equitation—12 yrs. & older

1. Dun Dee—Beverly Bell
2. Shadrack—Karan Ball
3. Bambi—Sydney Stang

Western Equitation—11 yrs & under

1. Bayo Banjo—Susan Lettween
2. Honey Patch—Amy Archibald
3. Billy—Staci Dearduff

Bareback Equitation

1. Shadrack—Karen Ball
2. Bayo Banjo—Susan Lettween
3. Popcorn—Dawn Lawson

Leadline—5 yrs and under

1. Howard—Colby Coggins
2. Mary's Cotillion—Sean Robinson
3. Misty—Clayne Felix

Matched Pairs—Eng. & West.

1. Bambi—Sidney Stang
1. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton
2. Longviews Running Chief—Mgt Hampe
2. Jolly Rodger—Adele Carlson
3. Indian Blackfoot—Debbie Cohen
3. Corky—Janice Hare

Games—Gretna Green Pairs

1. Binoca Blast—Lee Anne Aiello
1. Pogo—Kirsten Bailley
2. Yankee Banner—Kerry La Salle
2. Rebel — Michelle Cote
3. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton
3. Bambi—Sydney Stang

Egg and Spoon

1. Jim Dandy—Melanie Brooks
2. Bianca Blast—Lee Anne Aiello
3. Lisenten Bright Reward—Ruth Verkuyll

Walk Trot & Lead—7 yrs and under

1. Trophy—Heather Fogarty
2. Thunderhead Jr.—Sarah Rubin
3. Sinbad—Antonette Sampino

Dollar Bill

1. Rebel—Michael Cote
2. Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton
3. Bambi—Sidney Stang

High Point—English Pony

Joker B's Papoose—Tosh Heinrich

High Point—Western Pony

Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton

Overall High Point

Finnegans Folly—Jan Sutton



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Amateur & Junior Hunter-Jumper Show

MOUNTED PATROL GROUNDS, WOODSIDE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1977

Starting Time: 8:30 a.m.

Judge: Donna Smith, Newark

Entry Fee:

\$3.50 / class

\$8.50 / stake class

50 penalty after Sept. 20

Photographer: Jack Parsons, Los Gatos

Refreshments available

Silver to 1st; Ribbons 1st thru 6th. Pair of Spurs to Novice Equitation Winner

Silver Trays to High Point Amateur and Junior

Classes include: Hunters, Jumpers, Hunter Hacks, Pleasure, Equitation, Under Saddle, Model Hunter. Three Add-back Stake Classes.

For Information:

Sherry Grantz

1664 Pomeroy Ave.

Santa Clara, CA 95051

(408) 243-9568

SMCHA 9th Annual Pony Show Results

Halter Class—English

1. Oak Mesa Cat Ballou—Stacey Ruschin
2. Sgt. Pepper—Lisa Gillet
3. Magic Spell—Elaine Jennings

Halter Class—Western

1. Finnigans Folly—Jan Sutton
2. Bambi—Sidney Stang
3. Dun Dee—Beverley Bell

Jumpers—Small Ponies

1. Bonfire—Loretta Kelley
2. Scooter—Carrie McCleary
3. Jokers Bs Papoose—Tosh Heinrich

Jumpers—Large Ponies 3'0"

1. Vanilla Wafer—Monica Ouie
2. Corky—Janice Haro
3. Tinker—Tracy Corner

Hunters—Small Ponies

1. Joker Bs Purpose—Tosh Heinrich
 2. Fly By Night—Molly Kretchmar
- Finnigans Folly—Jan Sutton

Hunters—Large Pony

1. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell
2. Leprechaun—Maile Whitcomb
3. Christopher Robin—Alison Cook

Handy Hunter

1. Sandy—Michelle Melville
2. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell
3. Corky—Janice Hare

Hunter Pairs

1. Leprechaun—Lisa Whitcomb
1. Christopher Robin—Allison Cook
2. Jokers Bs Papoose—Tosh Heinrich
2. Miss Patrice—Tricia Ervin
3. Juniper Hill Sage—Melanie Brooks
3. Liseten Bright Reward—Ruth Verkuyl

Costume Class

1. Thunderhead Joe—Cindy Fritz
2. Woodstock—Stephanie Trewhitt
3. Black Jack—Jennifer Walsh

Hunter Hack — Small Ponies

1. Little Prince—Charlotte Rubin

2. Joker Bs Papoose—Tosh Heinrich

3. Bonfire—Loretta Kelly

Hunter Hack — Large Ponies

1. Miss Patrice—Tricia Erwin
2. Sandy—Michelle Melvin
3. Jus-Gus—Tanni Bell

English Pleasure—Small Ponies

1. Joker Bs Papoose—Tosh Heinrich

2. Jim Dandy—Melanie Brooks

3. Bonfire—Loretta Kelly

English Pleasure—Large Ponies

1. Sandy—Michelle Melvin
2. Christopher Robin—Alison Cook
3. Galisha—Lisa Glavish

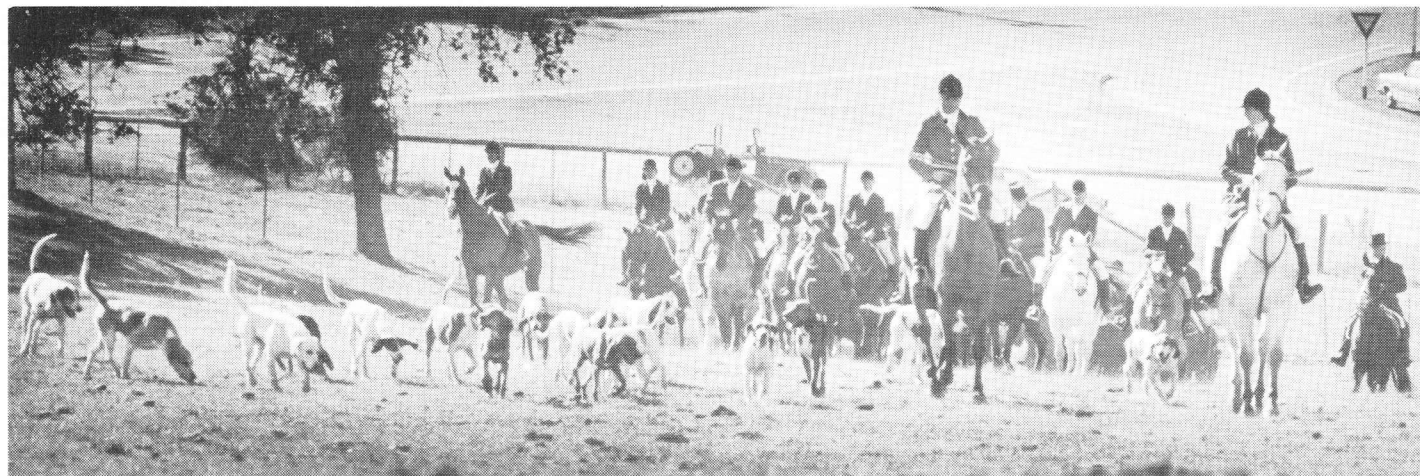


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Los Alto Hunt



Opening hound practice in Woodside—1976-77 season.

Patrick Ellis, huntsman, and Janet Ellis, professional whipper-in out front.

By Mrs. Jay Foss

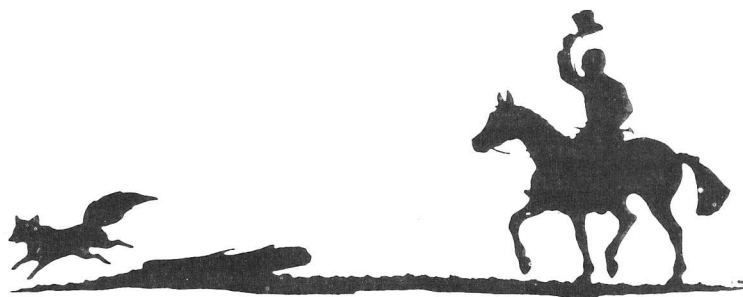
Like swallows returning to Capistrano in the Spring, the pink coats come back to Woodside in the Fall. The weekend of October 22-23 marks opening of Los Altos' annual hunt season. The Hunter Trials take place Saturday, 9 a.m., Somers Field, 5001 Woodside Rd., Woodside. Opening Hunt moves off at 10 a.m., Sunday, in the Gurnsey Field.

Mrs. Lloyd Egenes of Woodside is Chairman of the Hunter Trials, which is open to the public and offers the traditional twelve "outside course" classes. Events range from Class 1, "Green and Evergreen — very green horses or evergreen riders (inexperienced or undevoted).." to Open Hunters and Hunt Teams.

Mrs. Egenes points out that, while judges Dr. and Mrs. William Nissen

will "...pin them as they see them", show and eventing horses, as well as field hunters will have equal opportunity over the unusual courses.

Hunt member and A.H.S.A. judge and steward, Sidney Christian, will design the courses. Vera Vacek (851-7190) is Show Secretary. Prize lists will be distributed at local tack stores, or may be obtained by phoning the Secretary.



WESTERN SCHOOLING SHOW cont'd

13—Western Ranch Class (11)

1. Highland Bars—Niki Maxfield
2. Nunes Rob—Michelle Conner
3. Blue Frost B—Barbara Davison

14—Western Riding (7)

1. Possum's Dandy—Betty Harker
2. Highland Bars—Niki Maxfield
3. Patrick—Natalie Eldred

15-17 & Under Pleasure (12)

1. Kona Gold—Brenda Harlan
2. Silver Manolito—Carol Dunn
3. Prince Lightfoot—Elizabeth Pohle

16 — Advanced Pleasure (12)

1. Roper Rio—Karen Antle
2. Silver Manolito—Debbie Bugge
3. Highland Bars—Niki Maxfield

17—Odd-Color Pleasure (10)

1. Highland Bars—Niki Maxfield
2. Prince Lightfoot—Elizabeth Pohle
3. Kona Gold—Brenda Harlan

18—Non-Color Pleasure (10)

1. El Wimpy Chex—Carol Dunn
2. Roper Rio—Debbi Bugge
3. Possum's Dandy—Betty Harker

19—Trail—Green (12)

1. Patrick—Natalie Eldred
2. Misty—Dana Larsen
3. Miss Star Lark—Niki Maxfield

20 — Basic Trail (12)

1. Patrick—Natalie Eldred
2. Bucko—Anne Dickey
3. Highland Bars—Niki Maxfield

MOST VERSATILE HORSE

Highland Bars
ridden by Niki Maxfield

HORSECROWD cont'd

where in Woodside you live) city, the LARRY STEINHARDTS have moved to Montecito. We will miss their pintos grazing in the pasture and LARRY's big smile. We wish them much happiness in their new home.

Best wishes to a newly married couple from Woodside, RICK DEBENETTI and KERRY (PARKER) DEBENETTI. RICK is a graduate of Kansas State University, Manhattan majoring in Animal Science — actually "REPRODUCTIVE PHYSIOLOGY" but that sounds "X-rated" so, we'll say Animal Science. KERRY is the daughter of the NORMAN PARKERS of Woodside, and, of course, RICK is the son of the CLYDE DEBENEDETTIS. Both well known and active families in the area.

Off to CHICO STATE are MARY ZELENCIK, JENNIFER ESTEP, and KELLIE HARPER. I don't think the school is ready for that trio.

If you have any news or happenings, please let me know and you will see your name in BIG, BOLD, PRINT. How about it? Give me a call 851-8620.

— GARRULOUS GERTIE

There is not a single object, inanimate or alive, that symbolizes our country's past more than does the horse. He is a flesh-and-blood antique, a living and breathing tradition, and an incarnate monument to the American Heritage.

Courtesy
S.F. Horsemen's Assn.



The use of this column is free to all members of SMCHA for ads of a non-commercial nature. Submit copy to Editor, 155 Prospect St. Woodside, CA. 94062. Make ads as brief possible.

GREEN GRASS MACHINE. Hydroponic grass machine. 150-180 lbs per day output. Cost \$4100.00 July '76. Will sell for 1/2 price, best offer, or trade for endurance horse or horses. Call Out-Laws Ranch 365-2080.

WINDSOR HUNT BOOTS, black w/ patent leather tops; Size 5 1/2; Hardly used; \$45.00. Green hunt coat, size 10; \$30. Western equitation suit, green, size 10, \$25. Chaps for 8-10 year old, w/ silver, \$45. Call Sherry 243-9568.

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MRS ()
MISS () _____
please print name and address

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APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

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