

Free
each month

August 2008

Where there are rivers,
There are valleys,
There are horses,
And the ...



Newspaper Valley Equestrian

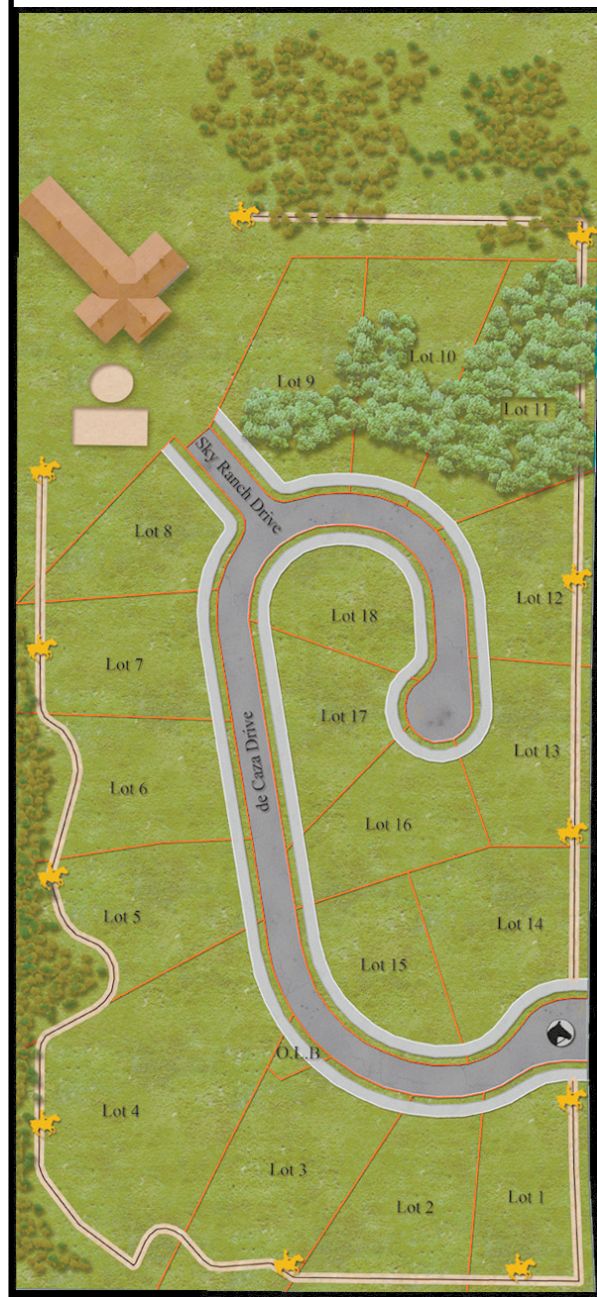
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BARREL BUSTIN'



Dakota de Caza Equestrian Estates



Enjoy life at Dakota de Caza Equestrian Estates, where your home becomes your vacation destination, a community where convergence of lifestyle, location and amenities becomes the reality of your home.

Dakota de Caza was built with families in mind. Families who love the beauty and landscape of the Midwest and want to live in the stunning setting of the cedar covered rolling hills of Yankton, South Dakota.

At Dakota de Caza 18 homeowners will enjoy beautiful riding trails, a million dollar barn, indoor and outdoor riding arenas, a gorgeous lounge where families will meet, share common interests and develop friendships that will last a lifetime.

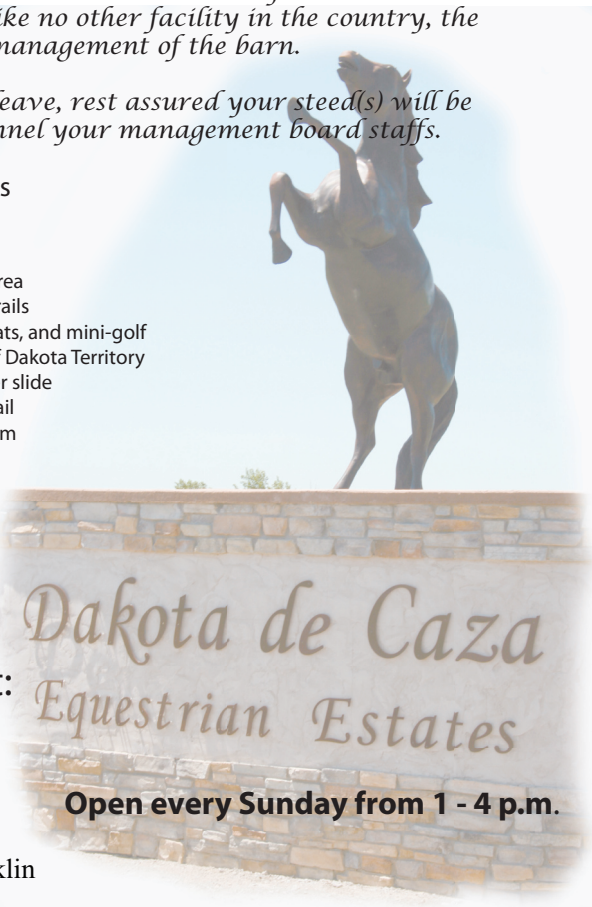
Dakota de Caza is an 80-acre living experience where you may purchase two-to-six acre lots laid out in harmony with the contour of the rolling cedar hills. All owners have access to the riding trails, barn, arenas, tack and lockers, lounge and wash bay. Your horses enjoy a 20-acre turn out pasture reserved for horses to graze and roam; a 40-stall barn with a viewing bridge and loft that rests above the indoor riding arena. There are many more amenities included, but most important and like no other facility in the country, the homeowners share ownership and management of the barn.

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Recreational Opportunities in the Surrounding Area:

- Lewis & Clark Lake and Recreation Area
- Chalk Bluff Horse Camp and Riding Trails
- Karttrax Family Fun Park with go-karts, bumper boats, and mini-golf
- Historic Downtown Yankton, SD, the first capitol of Dakota Territory
- Summit Activities Center with 134' water slide
- Tom Brokrow Riding and Walking Trail
- National Fish Hatchery and Aquarium
- Dakota Archery & Outdoor Sports
- Yankton Mall
- State Campgrounds
- Kayaking and Canoeing
- Garritys' Prairie Gardens
- Golfing
- Disc Golf

Contact Cynthia Farley at:
cdfarley@iw.net or
605-310-0866



"A long life may not be good enough, but a good life is long enough." Benjamin Franklin

HRND STARTING GATE

Off and Running for Summer Racing!

By HRND Staff

The call to post has sounded and the North Dakota Horse Park is ready for action! After a whirlwind summer that saw the new Cover-All Pavilion go from conception to construction in just 60 days, saw the arrival of our new "Equine Ambassador,"

which sponsored and constructed the building.

Race horses of all types are showing up in the barn area of the North Dakota Horse Park, not the least of which is the Horse Park's new "Equine Ambassador" for retired



Barracuda Boy, a Thoroughbred, former racehorse and "Equine Ambassador" for Horse Race North Dakota, will help promote the Retired Racehorse Placement Program at the North Dakota Horse Park.

Barracuda Boy, and the creation of a brand new Retired Racehorse Placement program, we're ready to spend the rest of the summer relaxing and watching some great racing action!

The Cover-All Pavilion, a new structure built by Horse Race North Dakota to house the race meet's betting and concessions as well as special events year-round, has been completed and will play host to a Fargo-Moorhead Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting on Wednesday, July 30th at 4:30 p.m. A social and the July Horse Race North Dakota board meeting are to follow (both are open to the public). "Everyone is just so happy to finally have a permanent place to call "home" at the North Dakota Horse Park" said General Manager Heather Benson. "It's been five long years of putting a tent up each summer and taking it down again and we are looking forward to expanding the year-round opportunities we can provide with our new building." The Cover-All Pavilion was made possible by a special partnership with the Northstar Cover-All Company of Minnesota,

racehorses, Barracuda Boy! A track record setting Thoroughbred standing over 17 hands tall, Barracuda Boy will host his "Barracuda Buddies" children's program all summer long with Saturday racing educational sessions as well Bar-

racuda Buddies stick pony races and coloring contests on Sunday Family Day. Barracuda Boy will also be on-hand during the week when 4-H groups, Boy Scouts and other organizations will be at the Horse Park for morning workouts and a hands-on session with Barracuda Boy himself. If your group is interested in this fun and educational opportunity, please call Laura Farrell at 701-277-8027.

Tying into having their own Equine Ambassador for retired racehorses is the North Dakota Horse Park's new Retired Racehorse Placement Program. Similar to the CANTER trainer placement program found in other states, the Horse Park assists in matching retired racehorses from the region with prospective purchasers through both their website as well as an "adoption" book at the track in the Barracuda Boy booth. "There is a need for racetracks around the nation to take more responsibility for our horses which are the real 'stars of the show' and the North Dakota Horse Park is stepping up to the plate by offering this placement service"

said Benson. Available horses may be viewed at www.hrnd.org and horse-men may inquire about listing their retired racehorse by contacting Ms. Benson at 701-277-8027.

Thoroughbreds won't be the only spotlighted horses during the 2008 race meet. Racing Quarter Horses from around the nation will take center stage at the Horse Park's first ever "Quarter Horse Extravaganza" weekend August 22-24. With three major stakes races and over \$100,000 being given out in purses in just three days, the weekend promises to be action-packed! Daily giveaways, a membership drive for the North Dakota Quarter Horse Racing Association and special children's events will highlight the weekend for the fans as

well.

The North Dakota Horse Park will round out the summer festivities with several programs that are sure to attract racing fans of all ages. Friday nights will remain "Dollar Dog and Beer Night" with a 5:30 post time. Saturdays will have the "Better Bettors Club" meet 2:30 each afternoon before the races for racing tips and some "insider information" and Sundays will now feature a "Champaigne Brunch" starting at 11:30 with a brunch buffet running until the start of the first race at 1 p.m.

The starting gate has opened and the North Dakota Horse Park is ready for a fun race to the wire on September 7! See you at the races!

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Errors:
The Valley Equestrian newspaper shall be responsible for errors or omissions in connection with an advertisement only to the extent of the space covered by the error.

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About the Cover

Kaitlyn Timian of Hunter, North Dakota on her buckskin, Jazz, riding barrels for her 4-H Club, Country Kids.
Photograph by Jessica Sell of All Event Photography.



News from the American Horse Council

The Unwanted Horse Issue: What Now?



The issue of unwanted horses was the center of attention on June 18, 2008 as the American Horse Council and the United States Department of Agriculture sponsored a day-long forum on "The Unwanted Horse Issue: What Now?"

AHC President Jay Hickey framed the purpose of the forum, stating that it was to "collectively identify the current situation regarding the well-being of these horses and to discuss solutions and alternatives to deal with them before they slip into the 'unwanted' category."

The forum brought together speakers from Congress, USDA, equine industry groups, welfare groups, equine rescue centers and more. There were discussions on historical and ethical perspectives of the issue, what is fact and fiction, the Federal role in creating viable solutions, transportation issues and potential solutions and options for unwanted horses.

Various Perspectives

Dr. Nat Messer from the University of Missouri and the American Veterinary Medical Association brought a historical perspective to the forum, reviewing current equine-related legislation and asking what the consequences have been and whether they were successful in protecting horses. He also introduced basic questions that would be discussed throughout the day, such as what is an "unwanted horse" and what makes it "unwanted."

Switching gears, an ethical perspective was presented by Dr. Camie Heleski from Michigan State University. She discussed the social contract theory and whether it is ethical for one person to impart their values onto others.

Unwanted Horse Issues

A panel titled "Unwanted Horse Issues" consisted of four speakers: Mr. David Meeker from the National Renderers' Association, Ms. Holly Hazard from



the Humane Society of the United States, Dr. Tom Lenz from the Unwanted Horse Coalition and American Association of Equine Practitioners, and Ms. Karin Bump from Cazenovia College.

Mr. Meeker discussed the various carcass disposal options, from rendering to composting, burial, landfills, incineration, and alkaline digestion. Each of the various choices has certain limitations, he noted, such as regulated use in certain states, potential environmental impacts, or high costs. A general survey done by the association found that there are about 25 rendering plants that take horses and the current charges range from \$40 to \$250, depending on distance, market, and value.

The next three speakers discussed the topic of "Unwanted Horses: Fact or Fiction?" Ms. Hazard pointed out the HSUS position against slaughter, stating that the organization considers it an inhumane solution. She suggested that the general mindset in the horse community is to "trade, not train" and called for more education throughout the industry on caring for horses, the responsibilities of owning and breeding, alternatives, training, etc.

Dr. Tom Lenz introduced the Unwanted Horse Coalition's definition of unwanted horses, which reads "Horses which are no longer wanted by their current owner because they are old, injured, sick, unmanageable, or fail to meet their owner's expectations." He discussed the statistics and demographics of unwanted horses, which for the most part correlate with the demographics of the general equine population.

Dr. Lenz explained the Unwanted Horse Coalition was formed to educate the equine industry and public about the issue and how to "own responsibly." "We need to focus our efforts on the front end of the problem rather than the rear end of the problem," he said. "We need to provide for these horses before they become 'unwanted'." Dr. Lenz closed his talk by focusing on the need to minimize the problem, offering the options "buy rather than breed, adopt rather than buy, find alternative careers, euthanize rather than discard."

The final speaker was Ms. Karin Bump, who spoke about what is fact and fiction, and how the answer may not be that clear cut, concluding that in this area there may be a lot of "faction." She asked whether unwanted horses are actually unwanted, how many unwanted horses there are, whether all the unwanted horses can be absorbed into the industry through rescues and other facilities, how much it costs to care for the unwanted horse population and finally, whether things were getting better or worse for unwanted horses.

Transportation
Transportation issues were discussed by Dr. Timothy Cordes of USDA. Dr. Cordes described the Slaughter Horse Transport Program and the regulations in

place to protect the welfare of horses while in transit to processing plants. He mentioned how some are now getting around the regulations when bringing horses to slaughter in Mexico and Canada by classifying them as "riders," which need a Coggins or EIA test.

Ms. Jennifer Woods from Alberta, Canada spoke of the importance of horses being fit to travel, and the problems that lie with the transportation of horses to slaughter. She also reviewed the Alberta Horse Welfare Report which presents facts on the humane treatment of slaughter horses in Canada, and identifies areas that need improvement.

Both Dr. Cordes and Ms. Woods noted that USDA has been working with Canadian authorities to monitor the environment and traveling conditions of U.S. horses sent to processing plants in Canada. Ms. Woods pointed out that Canada has banned the transport of horses into Canada on double-decker trucks.

Potential Solutions and Options
The final portion of the forum focused on potential solutions and options for unwanted horses. Lynn Cross, owner of Little Brook Farm, described her facility, a rescue and sanctuary that rehabilitates and trains horses. Most horses at the facility, once in better health and trained, are used in educational programs with schools and various groups. The uses vary from teaching general horsemanship and ground handling, to riding programs, vaulting, lessons and shows, and therapeutic riding.

Mr. Tom Persechino from the American Quarter Horse Association and member of the Unwanted Horse Coalition discussed the various options available to owners with an unwanted horse. These options include rescue and retirement facilities, friends with land that may retire a horse to pasture, colleges and universities that take horses for their education and research programs, retraining and new careers, and the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association.

Dr. Al Kane closed the presentations by reiterating the need for more information and data on unwanted horses and rescue and retirement facilities.

Moving Forward

There were great discussions and points made throughout the day on what the unwanted horse issue is, and what can be done to better the situation for these horses. It was clear that all speakers and attendees agreed that there is a critical need for more substantive information and solutions.

Proceedings from the forum will be available shortly through Mr. Richard Reynells of USDA. He can be contacted by email at reynells@csrees.usda.gov.

AHC Publishes Horse Industry Guide to Getting Involved in the 2008 Elections

Washington, DC - The American Horse Council has released "Getting Involved in the 2008 Elections," a federal election guide for the horse industry. The guide stemmed from the program at the AHC's National Issues Forum in Washington explaining how the horse industry could take advantage of the 2008 federal elections to get more involved with their elected representatives.

"The 2008 elections are a great opportunity for horse associations, businesses and individuals to step up and be heard by the candidates, incumbents and those running for the first time," said AHC Chairman Nick Nicholson. "Remember, they want to hear from you, they want your help and most of all they want your votes. This is an opportunity to educate them about the issues important to the horse community and show them your votes are important." The AHC 2008 election guide explains how to do this.

The guide discusses why the horse industry should get involved in the upcoming elections and ways individuals and organizations can go about doing so. It includes sections on why candidates care about the horse community, being able to communicate issues of importance to the horse industry, getting to know the candidates, volunteering and fundraising, as well as knowing the laws governing political activities.

"I believe this guide will be an important resource for all members of the horse community who wish to play a greater role in the democratic process," said AHC President Jay Hickey.

Copies of "Getting Involved in the 2008 Elections" can be obtained by contacting the AHC at (202) 296-4031 or by email at ahc@horsecouncil.org



AUGUST EVENTS AND MORE

Call before you haul -- The Valley Equestrian is not responsible for changes to scheduled events

July 28-August 1: Canadian National Appaloosa Show, Brandon, Manitoba, aphcc@appaloosa.ca 403-625-3326

August 1: NCMB Limited Breeders Sweepstakes at 6:30 p.m. at Simons Arena in Cannon Falls, MN

August 2: New Hay, Tack and Horse Sale in St. Croix Falls, WI at the Polk County Fairgrounds indoors. Sale starts at 11 a.m. with used and new tack; horses start about 2 p.m. A Negative Coggins is required in Wisconsin. Contact Randy Isham to consign now. Cell #320-237-3831 Office #320-629-7575 Ext. 16

August 1-3: Win a Horse in the NCMA Summer Raffle at the Minnesota All Morgan Horse Show at the Simon Arena in Cannon Falls, MN; contact Nan Wille at 651-222-3297 or nmwchs@comcast.net for a \$5. raffle ticket. Eight foals will compete for \$15,000 in the first NCMB Limited Breeder;s Sweepstakes.

August 2 - Hettinger Chamber & Jaycee's NDRA Rodeo - Hettinger, ND

August 2-3: MPHA Sizzler at MN Equestrian Center, Winona, MN. See www.MPHASIZZLER.com or call the show manager, Melissa Baus at 507-202-1994 for more information.

August 2 & 3: Governors' Cup All Breed Show; 5145 Lake Helena Drive, Helena Montana; Judge Jacqui Dodd, Athol ID; Manager Cheryl Bryant-(406)458-6165 govcup@copper.net; Secretary Jeanne Wohlfrom;

August 3 - PRCA Home on the Range Rodeo - Sentinel Butte, ND www.governorscuphorseshow.org

August 3: FM Mounted Posse Show at 9 a.m. at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in West Fargo, ND; for more information see www.fmmount-edposse.com

August 3-4 - Morton County Fair & NDRA Rodeo - New Salem, ND
August 4-5 - Wild Horse Stampede NDRA Rodeo - Fort Yates, ND

2008 Aberdeen Area Horsemen's Association Open Horse Show; 10 a.m. at the Brown County Fairgrounds; all breeds welcome; Pearl Holt 605-229-2111

August 7: Sioux Empire Fair Morgan Horse Show at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls, SD; more info at www.siouxempirefair.com
August 8-10 - Pembina Red River Roughrider Rodeo - Pembina, ND

August 8-10: Great Falls All Breed Expo Horse Show; Montana Expo Park, Great Falls Montana; Judge William Ford & Janelle Axtell; Manager Sharon Pulfrey-(406) 453-3030; Secretary Kathy Krebs-(406) 736-5266; www.gfab.org

August 9-10: North Country Appaloosa Shows, Verndale, MN, Contact: Darin Meyers 218-639-2346

August 9-10: NWSCA Minot Trail Riders at the Arena in Minot, ND; for more information contact duhay@hotmail.com

August 9-10 - NPRA Rodeo - Ashley, ND

August 10: NCHA Open Horse Show at 10 a.m. in St. John, ND. Contact 701-278-0888 for more information.
August 10: Sheyenne Valley Team Penning at the Edgeley, ND arena with registration at 10:30 and penning at 11 a.m. Contact Mel at 701.281.2508 for more information.

August 15 - 17: ND Morgan Horse Assoc. Trail Ride Maah Daah Hey ride in the ND Badlands; for information call (701)225-9404

August 16: FM Mounted Posse Show at 9 a.m. at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds in West Fargo, ND; for more information see www.fmmount-edposse.com

August 16: NWSCA M-T Saddle Club at the Fair Grounds in Williston, ND; for more information contact duhay@hotmail.com

August 16 - Grant County Fair Rodeo - Carson, ND

August 16-17: 4th Annual Cowboy Up Ride Against Cancer at McLeod, ND. Contact Ken Kensingler at (701) 439-0057 or Clayton Johnson at (701) 439-2516.

August 16-17: Appaloosa Horse Show at the ND Winter Show Building in Valley City; Contact Kevin McCullough at (701) 945-2410

August 17: NWSCA, Mondak, at the Fair Grounds in Williston, ND; for more information contact duhay@hotmail.com

August 17: Judged Trail Rides on a 4-6 mile marked trail, ride at your own pace, with Mary Eaton at 7E Riding Instruction in Towner, ND. Call 701.537.5928 for more information.

August 16-17: ND/Red River Appaloosa Shows, Winter Show Building, Valley City, North Dakota town90@myclearwave.net, 507-527-2142

August 23 -24: Wild Rice PeaceMakers: Northern Prairie Shootout I Double Points, Twin Valley Riders Club; Twin Valley, MN...Contact Gregory Lund (218) 584-8685 or Wayne Gwin (218) 584-5577

August 24: Sheyenne Valley Team Penning at the Lisbon, ND Fairgrounds with registration at 10:30 and penning at 11 a.m. Contact Mel at 701.281.2508 for more information.
August 24 - Slope County Fair Rodeo - Amidon, ND

August 28-31: NDQHA Show, Valley City ND, contact Jean Fredich at 701-725-4420

August 29-30 - Killdeer Mtn. Memorial Rodeo - Killdeer, ND

August 31 - Buffalo Gap Cowboy Days - Buffalo Gap, ND

September 5-7: Red River Horse Breeders Shows, Sundby Arena, Verndale, Minnesota, Contact: Mary Glass, 701-281-1051

September 2008
5 - 7 Colorado Fall Charity Show - Denver, CO
Contact: Anne Burton (303) 665-3307

September 6-7: Colorado Fall Charity Show - Denver, CO
Contact: Anne Burton (303) 665-3307

SEPTEMBER 6: WJ Ranch Presents RED STEAGALL & The Boys In The Bunkhouse. Concert location 7 miles south of Yankton, SD. (402) 357-2102 or www.schiferlswjranch.com for info.

Sept. 6-7: UMECRA: Charity Cup Ride. (Pillager, MN) Sat. 50 End., 25 LD, 50/25 Comp., Sun. 25 LD, 25 Comp. Lise Lundé, 15313 Basswood

Dr., Brainerd, MN, 56401. 218-828-401. r196ta@aol.com.

September 6 & 7: Gallatin County Fairgrounds, Bozeman MT; Judge TBD; Manager Jerry VanLandingham; Secretary Cheri Clark-(406) 388-3364 showringcc@aol.com
September 6-7: Harvest Classic ACS Open Show - Bozeman, MT. Contact: Cheri Clark (406) 388-3364; showringcc@aol.com
September 6-7: Harvest Classic ACS Open Show - Bozeman, MT; Contact: Cheri Clark (406) 388-3364 E-mail: showringcc@aol.com

September 12-13 - NDRA Rodeo Finals - Watford City, ND

September 26-28 - Roughrider Rodeo Finals - Devils Lake, ND

September 20: BRCA Horseshow signup at 10 a.m., start at noon at Montpelier, ND; contact Brian/Holly Bertsch (701) 489-3668

Sept. 20-21: UMECRA: Run for the Ridge. (Fairfax, MN) Sat., 100/60 End., 25 LD, 25 Comp., Sun. 35 LD, 35 Comp., 15 Novice. Sara Maass, 60693 State Hwy 4, Fairfax, MN 55332. 507-426-8385. sarahmaas@hotmail.com.

September 13-14: Fall Celebration & Futurity at the MN Equestrian Center in Winona, MN sponsored by the MN Paint Horse Assoc. Contact Monica Anderson, show manager, at 507-753-3173 for more information.

September 13 - 14: Pioneer Cabin Endurance Ride (25, 50 & 75 miles) - Helena, MT; Contact: Juli Muscutt (406) 449-8639; rangeknights@outdrs.net; http://www.triarabian.org

September 14: Judged Trail Rides on a 4-6 mile marked trail, ride at your own pace, with Mary Eaton at 7E Riding Instruction in Towner, ND. Call 701.537.5928 for more information.

September 19 - 21: ND Morgan Horse Assoc.: at Strawberry Lake NE Ride, Bottineau, ND; for information call (701)263-4492

September 19-21 - Sioux Falls, SD - Spirit of the West Festival; www.spiritofthewestfestival.com; 605-334-9202

September 19-21: SD Rodeo Assoc. Finals in Sioux Falls, SD; contact Don Pirrung at 605-366-2652

Equine Eventing Competition with Cross Country Jumping Course at North Dakota Horse Park

FARGO, ND Equine Eventing also called Combined Training is new to the North Dakota Horse Park. Eventing is an equestrian triathlon sport which consists of three phases' dressage, cross-country jumping, and stadium jumping. The challenge for horses and riders is to demonstrate that a supremely fit horse, capable of completing the cross country phase on time also has the training to perform in a relaxed and precise manner. The event has its roots as a comprehensive cavalry test requiring mastery of several types of riding.

"The jumping course and event is expected to attract horses and riders from around the region," said Michelle Przemieniecki, President of the Alpha Equus English Riders Club. "We are extremely excited to have a course of this magnitude available for equestrians in this area." It is truly exciting to watch the horses and riders jump a variety of obstacles made such as logs, tires, old whiskey barrels, and telephone poles." Course designer Terra VanHorn together with the volunteers from the Alpha Equus English Rider's Club and the ND Horse Park put many hours into the building of this course which is located on the infield of the racetrack at the North Dakota Horse Park. VanHorn mentioned "there is even a replica of a railroad car filled with coal that the horses are asked to jump and a mini log cabin."

The event will take place on Sunday, July 13, 2008 starting at 8 am at the North Dakota Horse Park which is located in Fargo west on 19th Avenue North. It is free and open to the public. If people are interested in information or would like to register to compete they can contact Michelle Przemieniecki at 701-261-9949 or Terra VanHorn at 218-770-7700. Or they can log onto the Alpha Equus English Riders Club Website at: aeer-fargo.org.

About Eventing Combined Training

There are three phases to the event. The dressage phase which is held first comprises an exact sequence of movements ridden in an enclosed

arena. The dressage judge is looking for balance, rhythm, and suppleness and most importantly, obedience of the horse and its harmony with the rider.

The second phase of the competition is cross country jumping, it requires both horse and rider to be in excellent physical shape and to be brave and trusting of each other. This phase consists of approximately 12-20 fences placed on a long outdoor circuit. These fences consist of very solidly built natural objects (telephone poles, stone walls, etc...) as well as various obstacles such as ponds and streams objects that would normally occur in the countryside.

The third and final phase is Stadium Jumping, Stadium Jumping tests the Technical jumping skills of the horse and rider, including suppleness, obedience, fitness and athleticism. In this phase eight fences are set up in the ring. These fences are typically brightly colored and consist of elements that can be knocked down, unlike cross country obstacles. This phase is also timed with penalties being given for every second over the required time.

About Alpha Equus English Riding Club

The Alpha Equus English Riding Club is a non-profit organization created to promote English riding in the Fargo and surrounding areas. The mission is to promote English horseback riding disciplines which include dressage, jumping, hunt seat, and eventing. Membership in the club is \$15 per individual or \$20/year for a family membership. For more information go to the Website at aeerfargo.org.

Time Where Slows & Life Starts

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WEANING ADVICE FROM THE BREEDER

By Dan Drevlow

Q) I have my first foal this year and I am wondering how do I wean him?

A) There are two primary opinions when it comes to weaning the foal from its dam: Abrupt Separation and Gradual Separation.

Abrupt separation is where the foal or dam is taken as far away from each other as possible, preferably where they are out of eyesight and earshot of each other. It's always better to move the dam instead of the foal to lessen the amount of stress on the foal about being in a new environment.

Gradual separation is where the foal or dam is kept in a next door paddock/stall and they are permitted to visit each other daily for increasingly shorter periods of time until they are eventually permanently separated.

The method that I prefer to use is a mixture of gradual and abrupt. I like the abrupt method as I feel strongly that once the mare and foal are separated that they should stay that way. I like the gradual method to lessen the stress on the foal and the dam as they can still see, hear, and touch each other. The method that I like to use and believe provides the best results, in most cases, is to move the dam to a stall next to the foal. That way the foal and dam have less stress as they can see, hear, and

touch each other. The abrupt part is that once they are separated they stay that way so that the foal can not nurse off the mare. In most cases I have found this to be the least stressful and most successful way to wean.

The other important part of any weaning is your facilities and the amount of foals to be weaned. Without sufficient acreage the abrupt method doesn't work well. The dam and foal will continue to stress as long as they can hear each other without being able to see each other. Also if you are weaning a large group of foals and don't have stalls or paddocks for gradual separation but you have the acreage then the abrupt method may be best.

It doesn't matter what type of weaning process that you use; I always remind people to thoroughly inspect the area that the foal is going to be during the weaning process. You need to make sure your facilities are safe. There should be no loose boards or sharp items in the paddock or stall. The fences and gates should be safe and at the proper height in the pastures. Whether the foal is weaned in a stall or out in a pasture you need to make sure everything is safe. Since the foal will be fretting over the new situation, it's a susceptible time for an injury to occur.

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THE MEDORA COWBOY AND HIS HORSE

By Amber Voigt

While vacationing this year in Medora, North Dakota with my future husband, we ran into a familiar face of the west. The world knows him as Cowboy Lyle, Medora's famous cowboy. It all started when I wanted to attend Cowboy Lyle's daily presentation at 11 a.m. by the Chuck Wagon Café. My significant other tried his best to convince me it was too early to do something at 11 a.m. when you are on vacation. Being a horse rancher all my life, 11 a.m. is not early by any means. And although he tried his best to refuse, at 11 a.m. we were there in the third row.

The presentation was on the proper way to catch, saddle, bridle, mount, and dismount a horse. Although the presentation was very knowledgeable and enjoyable, the real kicker was the life stories that went with it. Every cowboy has a story for every step in life, and Cowboy Lyle is no exception.

Cowboy Lyle told of his work on an Arabian breeding ranch before his days in Medora, and of how he came to be in Medora. But what really got me was the things most don't expect about a person. I have been around cowboys all my life and what you see is what you get most of the time. There is always an exception and Cowboy Lyle is one of them. Cowboy Lyle started his life in Minnesota, and got his first horse as a child. His parents bought the yearling mare for their children hoping they could all grow up together. When the mare turned three and it was time to start riding her, Lyle was the only one to take interest in doing the job. Although there were many spills, after a few years Lyle and the mare became great partners.

Growing up, Lyle was a true cowboy at heart, and attended college at Crookston, Minn. taking classes in horsemanship. After college, Lyle had a hard time finding a job in this field, until an old boss and friend told him to apply for the stable manager's position in Medora, No. Dak. To Lyle's satisfaction he was offered the job, and began his life in Medora.

When the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation wanted to bring the old west back into their town, Lyle once more was given a great opportunity. As part of this new position, he was to ride around town on horseback and talk to people, drive the team and wagon, and give instructional presentations on horsemanship. Thus, Lyle became the famous Cowboy Lyle.

As Cowboy Lyle became more involved in Medora and with the Foundation his daily schedule grew.

He soon was in the Medora Musical, riding horse and driving the buggy. He was asked to act in the musical, and through the years he has been thrown through bar room windows, in gun shoot-outs, and as been extras in various other scenes. This year Cowboy Lyle is one of the Canadian Mounties, the BBQ cook, and the wagon driver. He is in photo shoots and commercials for Medora and the Foundation.

And where would a cowboy be without his horse? Cowboy Lyle and his boss went to Billings, Mont. to the sale barn looking for some good trail horses when Lyle saw the three-year-old black and white paint being unloaded. Cowboy Lyle took a

great liking to the horse and told his boss to take a look. The Foundation was looking for a flashy horse for Cowboy Lyle to ride around town and give presentations on. So with some haggling, Cowboy Lyle had himself a horse. And you can see Cowboy Lyle and Chocolate all summer in Medora. The now seven-year-old horse loves attention from the children on the street and in turn the kids get a kick out of a horse named after candy.

So next time you visit Medora, and take in the musical, National Park, golf, shops, and its marvelous beauty -- don't miss Cowboy Lyle and Chocolate. Even in the Medora commercials they are the horse and rider walking off into the colorful sunset of the Medora buttes.



Medora's Cowboy Lyle with Chocolate thrills visitors to the Theodore Roosevelt National Park in Medora. Photo by Amber Voigt

2008 COWBOY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES NAMED

The 200 Trustees of the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame (NDCHF) have selected six individuals, one historic ranch and one rodeo bucking horse for their Hall of Honorees in Medora. The actual induction of the eight new honorees will take place in Medora on Saturday, August 2, beginning at 12:00 p.m. MDT.

NDCHF Executive Director Darrell Dorgan says the 2008 inductees will join the more than 100 others who have been inducted since 1998. He notes this year's inductees come from: Grant, Morton, Dunn, McLean counties and the Fort Berthold Reservation.

The 2008 nominees include:

Pre-1940 Rodeo:
George Charging, of McLean and Dunn counties and the Fort Berthold Reservation, was born in 1893. At age 17, he was hired to ride the range on the Fort Berthold Reservation Big Lease. He competed in rodeos across North Dakota in calf roping and, in later years, provided stock for the Minot State Fair Rodeo. Charging's ranching endeavors did not permit him to travel very far to participate in rodeo competitions. Always the cowboy, Charging rode many miles to assist other ranchers during round ups and brandings where his roping skills were invaluable. He was active in his local church council, and the Fort Berthold Tribal Council. He and his wife raised a family of six children, and he died in 1952.

Modern-era Rodeo
Mervel Raymond Hall, of Elbowoods, Mandaree and Fort Berthold, was born on the family ranch near Elbowoods in 1928 and grew up on horseback. Hall has ranched and farmed near Mandaree since 1948. The NDRA named him Champion Bareback Rider in 1958 and 1964, Champion Saddle Bronc Rider in 1958 and All-around Cowboy in 1964. Hall participated in three events (saddle bronc, bareback and bull riding) in rodeos from Fort Worth to Denver to Tucson. He liked to win saddles at rodeos around home and found time for the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association events, too. He was a major competitor in events from Amidon to Wing and from Fort Worth to Tucson from 1951 to 1967.

Pre-1940 Ranching
William Connolly of Dunn County was born in 1861 on his family's homestead in Minnesota. His ranching operations in North Dakota began in the 1880s near the Killdeer Mountains. In 1886, he bought the ranch his grandson now lives on in Dunn County. In 1890, Connolly registered the first cattle brand with the new state of North Dakota. In the 1890s, he brought the first registered Hereford bulls from Chicago, and they became the foundation of his cattle empire. Connolly bred English thoroughbred studs with Percheron mares and sold the draft crosses in the Red River Valley and Iowa. He was a charter member of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association and the fifth person from North Dakota to be inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. He died in 1946.

Cowboy Hall of Fame Inductees continued on page 19

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MORGAN SHOWCASE AT MEDORA HIGHLIGHTS BREED'S VERSATILITY

By Michelle Hoyt

The North Dakota Morgan Horse Association had a great event planned this summer. Even though I'm temporarily grounded from riding due to shoulder surgery, Thursday, June 12, I left for New Salem, No. Dak. to join up with my friends Marty and Karen Theil of Black Heart Morgans on our way to Medora, ND.

We got to the Medora Rodeo grounds, got the horses settled into the nice barn facility and set up our camp. We used that day to relax a bit and look around. If you are thinking of staying there, primitive camping is free at the rodeo grounds; the fee for stabling your horse on site during your stay is only \$10. per night. If you need to buy hay, they charge \$5.00 a bale.

People from our group were coming in that evening and the next day. It was fun meeting the folks



Odell Krohn riding Freedom with the NDMHA at the All Horse Parade in Medora, ND.

I didn't know, seeing their horses and saying hi to the folks I did know. The next day, most of our group attended the Pitchfork Fondue; it was pouring rain so hard before the supper we wondered if the musical would be canceled. Rain poured off the edges of the roof as we dined. The steak was as good as I remembered it being from my only other visit several years ago, and they've added extra treats; we were all fighting over the brownies.

At the time folks started to give up hope of the musical taking place, the sky cleared, the sun burst out and we were told to 'head on over' to get our seats.

I really enjoyed the musical; the cast of "The Burning Hills Singers" put on a great show. "The Coal Diggers" provided instrumental and vocal accompaniment. The comedy act "Brothers from Different Mothers" had us in stitches with their combined juggling and joke routine.

Since the rain had been so heavy the day before, Saturday morning's Morgan Showcase events were cancelled. Instead Karen Thiel hooked up Black Heart's King, their senior herdsire and harrowed the entire arena to help it dry up for the afternoon's performance. He showed everyone he is not just a pretty face!

Everyone saddled up or hitched up for the All Horse Parade through Medora streets and had a great time. I couldn't ride, but took photos of everyone. They all looked so good!

During the expo, members of the American Morgan Horse Association gave demonstrations of their Morgan's driving; Don and Susan Mayers team showed off a double hitch. A pretty little black gelding looked fancy hitched single on a cart; Karen and King showed off his muscle again in heavy harness. We had Erika Kenner showing her Morgan in English Tack, and several riders in Western attire. Marty Theil entertained everyone on his mare "Lady" in full cavalry gear. Karen Theil brought out her Mare "Magic" and foal and let them run at liberty and that baby really entertained the crowd! Odell Krohn brought his 5-year-old black Morgan "Freedom" right up on the sidewalk by the bleachers to show off how gentle and affectionate the breed can be. One girl came down out of the stands and begged for a ride; it wasn't a problem, she climbed up and rode around a while, she said she had a great time.

After the Showcase events were over everyone saddled up and went for a nice trail ride. Ending at the Buffalo Gap Guest Ranch for a steak supper, I jumped in the car and rode out with Odell's wife Marge. We had fun visiting and listening to the band until our group arrived on horseback. They said it was a marvelous area to ride and beautiful scenery.

Sunday morning the group went for a ride starting from the rodeo grounds. They had a nice ride; I was really getting a case of saddle envy by then! I wish I could report on how fun the trail rides were, but maybe next year! This year I stayed at the barn and watered horses and played with my gelding Payton and Karen's filly. So time passed pretty fast.

Most of us hit the buffet in Medora for breakfasts in the morning and that is something you don't want to miss! Plenty of food and it was all good. Then it was kind of hit or miss as groups split up for most of the other meals. One thing

is sure, none of us starved and the folks in Medora were great.

The group put on another Morgan Showcase with a repeat of the previous day's events. It was all smooth sailing and the entire group had a great time. I left for home that afternoon, but some of the group loaded up their horses and went to a different area for another ride. I can't tell about that part of the trip since I was heading for Valley City with Payton happily munching hay in the trailer. I had a great time even though it was pouring rain the first night and me in a tent. It was calm and clear the last two nights, but I noticed I could see my breathe. Only in North Dakota!



Marty Thiel on Black Heart's Magic Lady, carrying a 36-star Cavalry Guidon flag; Karen Thiel on Black Heart's Zara, carrying the flag of No. Dak. and Odell Krohn on OMC Majestic Freedom who is a 6-year-old Morgan.

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TALKING HORSES: Ted & Jake

By Kathleen Grimes

Over the last few years, I have noticed that more people are freely referring to their animals as their friends. Unlike dogs, horses do not necessarily miss humans when they are gone for awhile. However, horses can form friendship bonds that can cause problems when one is removed from the herd.

This was the case with Jake and Ted. Jake was a 4-year-old horse that was not only intelligent, but also strong minded. Bill had gotten Jake at the age of three but because of a car accident was not able to work with him until recently. Ted was a pony who had been on the horse farm for the last eight years. When Jake came to the farm, he and Ted shared the same pasture. They soon became friends. Ted's job was to be very calm when someone was riding him, especially during a lesson. Jake was never given a job. Nor did he want one. He thought that staying in the pasture all day playing with the rest of the herd was the entire job he needed. However, Bill his human, wanted Jake to learn to do trail rides.

Bill had been working with Jake for months but was running out of patience. Bill did not consider himself a good trainer and Jake was proving him right. When Jake got bored with his training, which was often, he would just stop. Bill called me to see what I could learn. I went out to see both Jake and Ted.

I saw Ted first and asked him how he was doing and getting along with Bill. Ted said he was good but Bill was not good. The picture he showed me was Bill running back and forth out of focus. I asked Ted if he knew what was wrong. Again, he showed me Bill running from the barn to the house to the arena. Then Ted showed me Bill coming to him suddenly I felt anxious energy. Ted and I took a little walk around the round pen and talked about the children that he was helping out.

Later I went to talk to Jake. Jake said that Bill did not know what he was doing. According to Jake, Bill was saying one thing and focusing on other things. Jake did not know what Bill wanted. So I asked Jake what he wanted to tell Bill about training. He had 5 suggestions: 1) focus on what you are doing, don't think about those papers on your table; 2) be clear in telling me what you want; 3) don't slap me hard; 4) be calm and patient; 5) bring carrots.

After my talk with Jake, I went to find Bill. We had a nice little talk. Seems like Bill has been really busy at work and he has not been focusing or patient with himself, his wife or anyone else. He thinks that he needs to send Jake to a good trainer so that he is trained correctly.

Bill made arrangements for this training. Unfortunately, Bill did not tell Jake that he was going to training until it was time to get into the trailer and go. This meant he did not have time to say good bye to his friends, especially Ted. Ted was in the inside area being groomed by a young girl named Lilly. She was getting him ready for a riding lesson. He heard noises outside the area but could not see what was going on. Lilly started talking to him and he knew he had to pay attention to her. At the end of all the day's lessons, he went back to his pasture. He noticed immediately that Jake was not there. He checked everywhere. Jake was not to be found. He was confused. One of the other horses told him that Jake had gotten in the trailer and left with Bill.

The next day, Ted was used for riding lessons. As Ted was going back to his pasture, he was looking all over for Jake. A week later, Bill noticed that Ted was not playing in the pasture like he normally did. Jim, the barn

helper, noticed that Ted was not eating as much as he normally did and told Bill. Bill became concerned. When the vet came out, he had him also look at Ted. The vet said that he could be missing Jake.

Bill decided to call me to talk to Ted. Since telepathic communication does not require the animal to be physically present, I was able to talk to Ted from my home. I found out that he really missed Jake and thought something bad had happened to him. I told him about the training and that Jake would be returning to the farm. I did energy work to calm him and balance his energy. I told Ted how important it was for him to keep eating. I reminded him of how many children depended on him to be his best.

As usual, I gave Bill an account of what I had found out. During our conversation, Bill realized that Ted had been working really hard lately. Both of them needed time to

just do nothing. Later that night, Bill took Ted for a walk around the farm. They stopped at a place that had some really nice green grass. Ted ate and Bill just rested. Bill was reminded of how nice it is just to be with Ted, his old friend.

In our busy world, we sometimes forget just to be with our animals. Many see this as a waste of time, but in reality, it is often is one of those special moments in friendship where you hear and feel their love.

Kathleen Grimes has been doing both animal communication and energy work since 1990. She studied animal communication with Carol Gurney and Morning Star. As an energy worker, she uses various techniques; among them are Quantum Touch and Healing Touch for Animals. Learn more about her work on her web site: www.brotherwolfandfriends.com. Direction questions to Kathy Grimes, anonymously if you wish, to (952) 270-4306 or email her to have your questions answered in the Valley Equestrian at: kgrimes@brotherwolfandfriends.com

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National High School Rodeo Finals Conclude July 26

The Wrangler Jr. High Division is an extension of the NHSRA. Created back in 2005, Minnesota became a member in 2006. We currently have 35, 6th - 8th grade members in the Minnesota Jr. High division.

This past year 13 contestants traveled to Gallup, NM to compete in the National Finals Rodeo. Over 800 contestants from 41 US states, five



Reid Oftedahl bullriding for the Minnesota High School Rodeo Association.

roping locking in the 13th place.

Minnesota starts their 2008-09 season August 3 & 4 at the Dakota County Fair in Farmington, MN with performances nightly at 7 p.m. Labor Day weekend we travel to Fergus Falls for a three day rodeo and wrapping up our fall schedule in Grand Rapids on September 6 & 7. If you are interested to learn more about rodeo and youth in Minnesota please contact Jodi Oftedahl 507-869-3840.

Canadian provinces and Australia competed. Minnesota had three contestants make it to the short round one in boys breakaway ending up 12th; the other two in ribbon

Do you want your equestrian group featured on these pages? Call or email the Valley Equestrian at (701) 361.8648 or leybou@gmail.com

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Joni Flint on Sparky and Ken Groves on Cowboy get 'er done in the desert heat at the Red Desert Classic in the Sweetwater Arena in Rock Springs, Wyo on June 28.



Chad Evans of Plain City, UT and Cashe Burnside, 9, of Mosquite, NV, both won saddles for their team roping June 28 at the Sweetwater Arena in Rock Springs, WY



Team ropers Jim Seppie and Phil Moffit at the Sweetwater Arena June 28



The Sweetwater Event Center in Rock Springs, Wyo. hosted the USTRC Red Desert Classic on June 27-29 with a total payout of \$116,348. Complete results and standing can be found on their website: <http://www.ustrc.com>

Photography by Ley Bouchard

Check out the new web site including new features at www.theveonline.com

THE 4-H EQUESTRIAN

BY JESSICA SELL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALL EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Have you ever wondered if 4-H is right for your young equestrian? According to the University of Minnesota Extension Educator Becky Harrington, the goal of 4-H is to teach youth life skills through project based learning using the child's own passions. Through long-term participation, 4-H hopes



Ariel Gray from the Red River Riders 4-H Club riding Buddy.

to teach young people knowledge that they will use in all facets of their life, including horses. Using knowledge they learn from 4-H, these kids work very hard with their horses to achieve personal goals as well as compete in shows. Many of the 4-H youth come from families with multiple horses and work with them almost every day. I had a chance to interview two very passionate 4-H youth, Ashley Wood and Ariel Gray. Ashley, 14, belongs to the Oakmound 4-H Club of Clay County and Ariel, 16, belongs to the Red River Riders 4-H Club of Cass County. Ashley, with nine horses, and Ariel, with eight, spend up to three hours per day working and training them. This does not include the two or three hours spent each day doing chores in order to care for their horses. Both youth work with their horses six or seven days per week, weather and school permitting.

When asked what they have learned from being involved in 4-H, they both had similar answers. Both youth feel that they have learned skills such as leadership, communication and responsibility. Ashley added that she has also learned many horsemanship skills and feels that 4-H has helped her to become a better rider. Ariel feels that she has learned self confidence, communication and organization skills; both girls would recommend 4-H to other youth.

Other goals that 4-H strives to teach youth include, but are not limited to, decision making abilities, leadership, daily health habits, evaluation of career and job opportunities, uses of leisure time, and of course respect and acceptance of all people. Ashley feels 4-H "has been a great experience" and Ariel added that "you learn new things, meet new people and achieve things you never thought you could!" It is clear that both of these young ladies have learned life skills that will be beneficial to them beyond their 4-H participation years.

Part of their experience is competition. Using the skills they have learned in 4-H both girls, in addition to 60 other youth, participated in the 40 classes available to them in June at the Red River Valley Fair 4-H Horse show. 4-H clubs from both Cass and Clay Counties were present at the show with their horses to show what they have learned. If you have gone to other shows, you might notice the 4-H shows are a little different. For instance, exhibitors have the opportunity to enter a wide range of classes, which vary in level of difficulty. Not only do they offer in-hand classes, they offer bareback equitation, western horsemanship, trail, reining, hunt seat equitation and fast paced gaming classes. Many of the youth enter in all of the classes available to their age group.

Another difference is that everyone looked uniform on show day. According to the NDSU Extension Services website, exhibitors are required to wear a long sleeved white shirt with a 4-H logo on the front, blue or black jeans with a belt, western boots, and an approved helmet. These shows are designed to be fun and fair for the exhibitors. Uniformity takes away a possible unfair disadvantage of not being able to own the newest line of, often

expensive, show clothing.

In addition to the clothing differences, you will notice they give out awards differently as well. While it varies by show and state, one thing remains the same, all 4-H groups judge and award on the "Danish System." Instead of awarding places, such as first through sixth place as many shows do, the 4-H awards Blue, Red, and White ribbons to their exhibitors. Instead of comparing one person's work to another, they evaluate the exhibitors against a standard. The blue ribbon is for excellence, red is for average and white means below average. There is no limit on how many exhibitors can receive a blue, red or white ribbon. And when it's all said and done, all exhibitors receive a ribbon. In addition to the blue, red and white ribbons, Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion awards may be awarded if an exhibitor has met or exceeded the judging standard.

If you are thinking of involving your young equestrian in 4-H, you should have no problems finding a club to join. Most counties have clubs that offer several horse related projects including hippology, which according to the Minnesota 4-H website, is the activity of learning and understanding equine science and husbandry. Minnesota even offers the Horseless Horse Project for those who don't have horses available to them. Clay County, Minn. has 13 different 4-H clubs with approximately 400 members and Cass County, No. Dak. has 34 clubs with 487 members; children as young as five years old can participate in the 4-H club known as Clover Buds. 4-H does not support competition in children so young, but does offer a wide variety of activities to begin teaching them the same things that Ariel, Ashley and many other youth have learned from 4-H. If you are older than 18, and still would like to be involved in 4-H, clubs are always looking for volunteers to help teach today's youth life skills using horses.



Ashley Wood of the Oakmound 4-H Club riding Angel

CLAY COUNTY 4H-ers Ride in Fun Show at Fair



Carissa Amundson, 9, daughter of Suzanna and Paul Baker of Moorhead, Minn., runs the barrels on her 12-year-old mini paint, Puddin' at the Clay County Fair 4-H Fun Show on Sunday, July 13.



Above: Horses, lined up, wait patiently for the conclusion of Cowboy Church.



Members of the community and 4-Hers came out for Cowboy Church, held outside the arena and horse barn at the Clay County Fairgrounds at 8:30 p.m. in Barnesville July 13.

Photos by
Ley
Bouchard



Right: Julia Labrenz riding her AQHA mare, Ti-Ash, demonstrates how to run the pattern for this barrel event at the Clay County Fair in Barnesville, Minn. July 13th..

beth lee
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Jacklynn



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5 years old

Jacklynn has been used on several trail rides, but is green broke and still needs an experienced rider. She does have a ways to go with training, lunges great in both directions, stands for farrier and vet, ties, leads, loads and is good with ground work. I am selling her cause I am unable to put the time into her that she deserves to be a great trail horse. She does pavement, bridges, and mud very well. Vehicles do not spook her. I have not yet taken her through water. I got her when she was three and she had not been touched until I got her. She has a nice disposition, a beautiful body and refined head, pretty face. Asking \$900. Email or call Amber for more info and pictures. (701) 870-0680 or kicken_high@hotmail.com

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COWBOY POETRY

By Orv Alveshere

GOT WIND OF WINDBROKE HORSE

TIP: BET ON WINDBROKE HORSE

Immigrants raised crops and tilled the soil on the mid-Dakota prairie. Arriving with the few household needs oxen and covered wagon could carry. As a blacksmith he made a walking plow, we learned from ancestral reports. They used oxen to turn the sod. They bought a buggy and a horse. Homesteading was arduous work with limited protection from winter's fury. A new life, a new opportunity at the turn of the century. Great Grandpa was a European copper mine engineer. He spoke Norse As his first language. They sailed the ocean from the land of the Fjord horse.

HOUSE AND BARN RAISING

They planned, designed and built a large house with wraparound porch in '09. The upstairs cistern could be pumped full for running water by design. They designed a barn with gravity fed chutes to ease their feeding chores. Stalls were arranged for cattle, young stock, three draft horse teams and riding horse. Grandpa considered moving to a sunny climate, healthy and warm. In that process they rented out the implements and livestock and the farm. Their move would take them to the west coast and California seaports; Leaving behind their rural acreage; their teams including the windbroke horse.

PACKING A HUGE TRAVEL TRUNK TO TRAVEL

The family loaded a large travel trunk, traveled west on the train. A lad of 4 was late, Gramps pulled the cord. The train crew yelled, "You're insane!" He arrived late, jostled by the crowd buying food. They settled by seaports; Worked at a refinery, bought a Model T, but missed his buggy and horse. The warmth improved his health. My Mother, the oldest, attended first grade. They learned English and were happy with the number of friends they'd made. They missed their colts, calves, lambs, and chicks. They had a pet goat, impudent of course!

Ticketed for parking by a hydrant, he wished he still drove a horse.

SETTLED AND UNSETTLED/A GIGANTIC STEAM ENGINE HORSE

Would they become permanent residents, or would they again ride the train? They were homesick for Dakota, fields of amber waving grain. Their former neighbor mailed an auction sale bill with some startling reports! As their renters would sell his implements, livestock and a windbroke horse. The travel trunk was packed. That felonious plan could not be accepted. They rode trains back to the prairie. The devious scheme was intercepted! Renters booted, they hit the trail like road apples...they had no recourse. Grandpa and his family were tipped off by the listing of the windbroke horse.

ANCESTRAL 'FOLK'LORE AND STEAMSHIP PARISIAN

We reminisce that they rode a steamship from their crowded native land, Seeking opportunities and a language they didn't understand. He braved the elements, turned the sod, took a college engineer course, Returned to plant a crop walking behind oxen or a draft horse. Trained at his uncle's blacksmith shop, he invented a windmill on-off switch. He walked many a mile behind oxen and/or a draft horse hitch. Gramps passed on early, leaving us blacksmith tools and talk of conspirators, A travel trunk, train stopping tales and the intrigue of the windbroke horse!



The Outhouse: Life on the Farm with Emily Equine IQ

Last Saturday a friend called saying she was having a terrible time with

her horse and wondered if I would come over and help her out. Asking what the problem was, I immediately knew how to "fix it" but no matter how I flailed my arms and moved my feet over the phone she just couldn't grasp the concept. Saying so long to my afternoon nap and hello to equine problem number five-hundred-thousand-twenty-eight, I was off to the rescue. When asked how I knew to fix the simple predicament, I told her it was simple math -- been there, done that!

Thinking back to the "beens and dones" it truly is a miracle that I survived the Equine learning years, but shudder at the thought of the "there's and that's" yet to come.

One huge lesson that came along by accident, -- well, I guess most of the problems were accidents, but some were of the lower human IQ version -- was to never ever tie a horse to a picnic table, no matter how bad you had to pee. You see, horses have this little fleeing instinct that's bred into them. It says, "When I pull back and the picnic table moves towards me, to gobble me up, I'm going to run away from the big brown wooden monster, and when it follows, I'll kick the crap out of it."

The high IQ of a horse in that situation is very understandable; while the human scratching her head has to figure out a way to reconstruct the table before her Dad comes home.

They say, "Don't look a gift horse in the mouth." Who listens to "them" anyways? I did, after about the tenth gift of a horse. Remembering the first free equine, I was so thrilled to keep the dollar bills in my pocket that the tidbits of information for little miss freebee went in one ear and out the other. A few allergies, a little lame but well broke and free! I could have paid for Secretariat twice over after all the Vet calls and medications. By the time that mare was sound enough to ride, she was too darn old.

On the other side of "free" there's been a few situations about which I've questioned my IQ over and over again.

The gelding was a bit spendy, but jet black had a pedigree of champions a mile long. OK, I will admit the purchase was a bit, "My horse is better than your horse," but so what, he was

well-trained to drive and that was my hobby of the year. IQ Emily, IQ as this gorgeous gelding's nick name was Satan. Oh, we looked so dang fancy jogging down the road with my shiny new red cart I could hardly stand it! Drive on Satan, drive on ... until the quiet country road narrowed and we were face to face with a combine with no room to turn around and the only option was a tight pass. Somewhere in the back of my mind the words from the previous owners whizzed through "We haven't had him out on the road much," as my easy entry, easy exit cart turned into The Towering Inferno. Watching old Satan's shiny black rear galloping off into the sunset from the inside of my smashed to smithereens cart in the ditch I could have sworn I caught the shadow of a brand on his side (666).

Raising colts is a fine extra curricular activity. However, when deciphering the ratio of profit and loss after a few hundred bales of hay and a truckload of grain, we horse enthusiasts sometimes drop off the high IQ end in a hurry. Naming him Deno, I caught all kinds of flack but the ugly little brown colt looked just like a baby dinosaur. One thing this colt took a liking to right off was a beverage of the malted variety. Deno would take the can in his teeth, tip it up and slurp down every last drop! We had great times in the barn after chores some nights, one for you and one for me. At a year old, Deno had matured into a fine colt with a coat as slick as glass. When the neighbors complemented his glow, I hinted at the secret family recipe of mixed grains.

Off to our first horse show Deno and I were extremely nervous so we both "tipped a few" before entering the ring. Being a prestigious regional event, the judges were dressed in tuxedos and formals while we paraded around the arena to show our best. When it came our turn to take center stage for conformation we had to be reminded as both of us were in a world of our own. Long story short, and wisdom words of "been there, done that," I ended up in a sprawling heap in the dirt next to tuxedo shoes and Deno calmly munched at the hem of a green velvet formal. Infuriated that we were excused from the arena, I announced in a very high IQ voice to the judges that in no uncertain terms they were missing out on the best looking dinosaur of the whole class.... Emilysouthouse@aol.com

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2008 COWBOY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES NAMED

Modern-era Ranching Alick Dvirnak of Dunn County was raised on his parent's historic Diamond C Ranch near Killdeer. As a youngster, he was one of a crew that trailed the Diamond C herd to summer grazing on the Fort Berthold Big Lease. In 1940, eight sections around the Killdeer Mountains were leased and added to the Diamond C and subsequently fenced. Chopping their own posts, Dvirnak and two others tried to string one mile of fence per week. Dvirnak and his wife raised a family of six at the Diamond C. He and his brother bought the ranch from their dad in 1965, splitting the operation in 1985. Dvirnak then ran about 200 cows and fed their offspring. In 1988, the North Dakota Natural Science Society recognized the Dvirnaks for contributions to helping preserve the state's natural heritage in. He hosted many Native American ceremonies at the ranch, which is located where the Battle of Killdeer Mountain took place in 1864.

Ranches The Anchor Ranch, west of the Cannonball River in Grant County, near the community of Shields, was established by William V. Wade in 1889 on open range. After Grant County was officially opened for homesteading, he gained legal title to the acreage. Later, the Wades operated the "Wade" post office and small store on their property. Wade died on the ranch in 1927 and his daughter, Mamie Weedun, handled operations until 1951 and increased the land holdings. The ranch was purchased by John Voigt after he was forced from his spread near Elbowoods by the Garrison Reservoir. The Voigts trailed their herd of Herefords cross country to their new holdings. Duaine Voigt took over operations for his father in 1961. Over the years, he raised Red Angus and Simmentals and cross bred them with Solares. He also raised registered Quarter horses. Voigt uses three brands: the Lazy V Hanging J, the Bar Diamond Bar and the X Lazy J. Upon his retirement, his daughter and her husband now lease the ranching operation and have segued from cattle to buffalo. Two thousand head of buffalo roam the same 23 quarters of land that Wade first laid eyes on 120 years ago.

Leaders of Ranching and Rodeo Jim Weekes of Almont and Slope and Sioux counties, was born

in 1917 on the family ranch near Almont. His grandfather, S.P. Weekes, and his uncles produced rodeos, and Weekes entered his first pony race when he was a seven-year-old tenderfoot. His folks moved to the HT Ranch near Amidon in Slope County just a few years later. As a cowboy, Weekes competed in saddle and bareback riding, as well as steers and relay races. After his discharge from the Army in 1945, Weekes and his dad bought a ranch in Grant County. He married a girl who was reared on the O Bar O on the Cannonball. After his father died, Weekes partnered with J. C. Stevenson and Jack Chesrown in an amateur rodeo stock business, which worked well until 1960. Weekes then put together a band of Quarter horse mares and decided to go PRCA as a pick-up man, with Duane Howard as his pick-up partner. The Lazy J W Ranch on the Cedar River was Jim and Janet's base of operation for 25 years, a working ranch with irrigated alfalfa meadows that made for happy cattle and horses. His children followed in his footsteps and participated in rodeo events. Weekes died in 2002.

Rodeo Livestock Red Pepper, from the Killdeer-based Fettig Brothers Rodeo Company, was a red sorrel gelding whose age and breeding were unknown. The Fettig Brothers Rodeo Company purchased him in Miles City in the late 1950s and branded him with their rodeo brand Y. Red Pepper was a consistent saddle bronc who performed well in any and all conditions: day or night, indoor or outdoor, hard ground or soft muck. He was selected for the NFR for 11 years and appeared in 20 performances with cowboys placing in the top 4 on him 15 times. Red Pepper was also chosen as the top saddle bronc horse at the Deadwood Days of '76 Rodeo and made appearances at the Match of Champions at Sentinel Butte, North Dakota, too. Red Pepper died in Texas.

Rodeo Arena Steve Tomac, of St. Anthony was born in Hettinger, in 1953. The second oldest in a family of 18 kids he had to be tough just to get a shot at the dinner table. He accidentally got a start clowning at Raleigh on July 4, 1971, when the contracted clown cancelled his appearance. Within five years, Tomac had worked every NDRA rodeo.

SOIL TESTING IS FIRST STEP TO REDUCE FERTILIZER EXPENSES

By Russ Severson, University of Minnesota Extension

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Fall fertilizer prices are very high, and will be even higher next spring. We've heard quoted prices for fall purchased nitrogen (N) ranging from 53 to 72 cents per pound. Fertilizer purchased next spring will cost even more—one quoted price was 94 cents per pound of N.

Soil testing is the first and best step you can take to reduce fertilizer costs this fall. Producers who are concerned about high fertilizer costs and who are not soil sampling are not really serious about saving money. Soil sampling and testing is quick and inexpensive.

Other ways to save money on fertilizer without hurting yields:

- Take nitrogen credits. Plant legumes (they fix their own N). Inoculate the seed of legumes with the proper bacteria. Mine deep N—N left over from corn, wheat and other crops will move deeper into the soil with rain. Also, take advantage of N credits

from previous crops. Some legumes are worth 40 pounds of N.

- Reduce potential nutrient losses. Don't let urea volatilize, don't apply urea to frozen soils, and time N applications (planting or later is often the best choice).

- Use manure. If possible, apply manure on fields with lower phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) levels.

- Think through application methods. With strip till, you can reduce P and K rates since the P and K are placed in a band directly beneath the seed. Use inhibitors carefully—only in special cases will they show an advantage over standard materials.

- Get the biggest bang for your buck. Set realistic yield goals. Average five years of yield data after omitting yield values that look abnormally high or low.

Then set a goal that exceeds the average by 10 to 15 percent. Also, backing off the N rate may give you the biggest bang for the buck with your first few pounds of N.

The more you apply, the less each unit increases yield.

You'll find more details in an article in Minnesota Crop eNews, published by University of Minnesota Extension.

Russ Severson is a crops educator with University of Minnesota Extension



He worked as a bullfighter from 1971-1980 and a barrel man and contract specialty act from 1975-2004. Between 1983 and 2001, he worked 40-50 PRCA performances each year, covering a range of 7 states. In 2005, Tomac was invited to make a "farewell appearance" and be a special feature at the Mandan Rodeo Days celebration in July. His barrel is on display at the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Medora. Elected in 1986, Tomac served stints in both houses of the state legislature until 2003. At present, Tomac ranches a 1,100-acre spread near St. Anthony with his brother and works as the senior legislative representative at Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

Induction activities for the latest inductees begin with a barbeque and dance at the Hall of Fame on Saturday, August 2.

Activities continue with the induction program that begins at 12:00 p.m. MDT on Saturday, August 2, and concludes when the new inductees are introduced at the Home on the Range Champions Ride in Sentinel Butte on Sunday, August 3.

Reservations for the barbeque can be made by calling the Hall of Fame in Medora at 701-623-2000.

The Valley Equestrian is proud to sponsor the 4th Annual 'Cowboy Up' Ride Against Cancer, August 16-17 in McLeod, ND. Come out to show your support!

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STORIES FROM THE SADDLEBAG

American Cowgirl Mildred Douglas Chrisman

At a time when women were supposed to be prim and proper and ride side saddle if they rode horseback at all, Mildred Douglas Chrisman was one of a kind.

Born in 1895 in Pennsylvania, she attended a proper boarding school in Connecticut; which meant during those times, hers was a family of means. In spite of her social status, Mildred developed a love of horses and left the east coast to work at Miller Brothers 101 Ranch.

Mildred Douglas Chrisman's biography leaves many gaps to be filled but many facts are documented: she rode the first bucking horse at the Royal Stock Show in Kansas City, Missouri and tried first hand trick riding coached by legendary Lucille Mellhall, the Wild West Show legend. She kept the company of many people in the rodeo and Wild West circuit. She won Cheyenne and Pendleton bronc riding titles.

Mildred married Tommie Douglas and traveled with the circuit doing trick riding, shooting and animal training.

In addition to performing with trained horses," says Mildred, "I also worked with a lion act, fooled around with elephants and had a leopard for a pet."

A friend from the 101 Ranch brought the Douglasses to Hollywood where Mildred got parts in cowboy films and met Pat Chrisman, a cowpuncher, horse breaker, and silent screen actor who owned and trained celebrated movie horses.

Mildred married Chrisman 12 years later (divorced or widowed?)

Mildred and Pat toured the country with "Aristocratic Goats" an act of performing Angora goats, one of which walked a tightrope. Pat trained a dog for Mildred to use to entertain soldiers during World War II.

The couple settled and lived in Lawton, Okla. where together they trained animals for Vaudeville until Pat died in 1953.

At age 59 Mildred returned to school to fulfill a childhood dream to become a nurse which she practiced for 20 years. At 79, she joined the staff of a Lawton doctor.

Mildred was inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame in 1988.



ELDON REYER HONORED WITH 2008 VAN NESS AWARD

The American Horse Council's 2008 Van Ness Award, named for the late Marjorie Van Ness, and sponsored by Middlesex Horse Show, New Jersey Horse Council, and Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association of New Jersey was presented to Mr. Eldon Reyer of New Mexico at the AHC's National Issues Forum on Tuesday June 17 in Washington, D.C.

A retired Park Ranger, Mr. Reyer has worked in some of the country's most remarkable parks, including: Yellowstone National Park, Big Bend National Park, Mount McKinley National Park, and Custer Battlefield National Monument. He went on to be Supervisory Legislative Affairs Specialist of the SW Region with the National Park Service, and later retired as the Associate Regional Director for the SW region of the country.

His long time involvement in planning and management of park units led him to become active as a trail advocate. In accepting the award, Mr. Reyer said, "I have built my life around the Park Service and horses. I advocate for the horse. I want to see and preserve more trails so horses can enjoy the trails that I enjoy." After retiring from the Park Service, he was instrumental in passing the legislation that created the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. While preserving our equine heritage, this year's winner was also organizing The Santa Fe Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen, and the Santa Fe County Happy Horse Coalition. Mr. Reyer and his wife Karen have also been of great service to the New Mexico Boys and Girls Ranch, having recently retired from helping there for 14 years. He became the president of the Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association in 1992, where he continues to do great things for the horse industry.

Photograph courtesy of the Museum of Northwest Colorado in Craig, CO

Read the VE online at: www.theveonline.com

JOIN US FOR A RIDE TO THE CURE

All proceeds go to: Merit Care Roger Maris Cancer Center

4th Annual "Cowboy Up" Ride Against Cancer August 16-17

Saturday, August 16, 2008
Pre-registration 7:30-9:00 a.m.
Ride begins at 10 a.m.
Silent Auction
Evening Meal 4:30-7:30 p.m.
Entertainment 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 17, 2008
Cowboy Breakfast 8:30-11:00 a.m. at McLeod School



COWBOY UP '08 • MCLEOD, ND • AUG. 16-17

A weekend full of fun events is planned for the 2008 Cowboy Up for Cancer Ride in McLeod, No. Dak. August 15 - 17. The ride starts at 10 a.m. Saturday August 16 at the McLeod VFW. Rider registration is from 6 - 8 p.m. Friday and 7:30 - 9 a.m. Saturday at the McLeod VFW.

2008 marks the 4th Annual Cowboy Up for Cancer. The organizers hope to raise \$36,000 this year to make the total donated to the Roger Maris Center over \$100,000 in the years of Cowboy Up for Cancer.

Fargo celebrities Shawna Olson from Valley News Live will be riding her horse Gunner again this year; Hoppy Gilmore from Froggy radio will be kicking off the ride; and "The Truck" radio sta-

tion out of Casselton will be broadcasting live Saturday from 8 - 10 a.m. Pre-registration qualifies riders for a chance at a FREE Medora package. The 14-mile ride begins

in McLeod at no charge, on a first come basis. Silent auction items will be bid upon Saturday until 8 p.m. and presented at 9 p.m. Vendors are welcome and should contact Ken Kensing-

inger at (701) 439-0057 or Clayton Johnson at (710) 439-2516.

Lone Wolf plays under the stars from 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. weather permitting, and inside the VFW in case of rain.

The town of McLeod will serve a free will offering Cowboy Breakfast at the school from 8 - 11 a.m. with proceeds going to the McLeod Museum.

Organizer and McLeod resident Kenny Kensing says, "Cowboy Up should mean a great deal to all of us, because most families are affected in some way by

cancer. Hats off to the cancer survivors who make this organization what it is today. I, too, have had to deal with cancer, losing my first wife in 1983, after a two-year battle with breast cancer. Success

300 horses being ridden through town is an awesome sight I will never forget." Bruce Van Den Einde had a dream to do a ride for cancer. In 2005 Bruce put his dream into action with the help of

family and friends. Over \$79,000 has been raised since the start of the ride.

Registration is \$25, per individual; \$75 per family. Riders are encouraged to get sponsors with a prize for the rider who collects the most



in treatment has improved immensely since that time as my daughter-in-law is showing progress in her two-year battle with cancer. That is a big reason why I want to support COWBOY UP.

"In my early years of living in McLeod, I saw cattle and horses driven through the streets. But seeing over

funds. McLeod gentlemen have made people movers from items on their farms. One is made from a trailer and pulled by a tractor, the other is a converted school bus. Come ride or watch the fun while supporting "Cowboy Up!"

HALSTAD, MINN. CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY JULY 18-20



Connie Strand and her husband, Larry drive their horse and cart in the parade representing the Halstad Living Center with Lillian Aanenson and Lorraine Taylor enjoying a summer's ride. All are dressed in period clothing.

Members of the Red River Saddle Club came out in numbers to help Halstad, Minnesota celebrate their 125th Anniversary during the parade held June 19. The parade was one of many events organized to commemorate the founding of the small town in the Red River Valley in northwest central Minnesota.

A 240-foot tent was set up on a main street to accommodate reunions and people who wanted to visit. Other events included a horse show, variety show, exhibits, antique display, classic cars, a craft show, flea market, wood carving demonstrations, concessions, a beer garden, style show, beard judging, a threshing demo, and more. People from all across the nation came to pay tribute to Halstad, one of many communities in the region celebrating their 125th anniversary.

Many historical units graced the parade including many horses pulling carts, wagons, people on horseback, old tractors, and fire engines.



Cayley Steen, in front, Allyson Steen (middle, waving), and Lindsey Abentroth far back, ride in Halstad, Minn. 125th anniversary parade.



From left to right: Sam Eken, son of Kent Eken (DFL-MN), long time Halstad resident and WWII vet, Gladys Forseth, and the Eken mini mule, Floyd, who has walked in many parades.



Katie Brommenschenkel and Jacob Leibl, members of the Red River Saddle Club ride in the parade celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Halstad, Minn.

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Little Falls, Minnesota --The 2nd Annual Lakes Region Horse Fest at the Morrison County Fairground in Little Falls, Minnesota, will again feature the Dodge PRCA Rodeo sponsored by Brandt Motors, HorseSense Radio Network and Little Falls Radio. The 2008 Lakes Region Horse Fest is set for September 20 and 21 and opens at 10:00AM each day with the Dodge PRCA Rodeo at 2:00PM each day.



The Joe Simon Rodeo Company will be the stock contractor and is well-known for its flashy Opening Ceremonies featuring beautiful paint horses and a patriotic theme. If bulls and broncs are your favorite events, the Joe Simon Rodeo Company will not disappoint. Their bulls and broncs have been featured in the World's Toughest Bulls & Broncs national events as well as making their presence known at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas and various Circuit Finals around the country. The 2008 Lakes Region Horse Fest DODGE PRCA Rodeo will include all seven of the professional rodeo events - Bareback

riding, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, calf roping, team roping, barrel racing and bull riding.

Rodeo Clown Brian Potter from Newville, Alabama will keep fans laughing and provide plenty of opportunity for the crowd participation. Some of Brian's acts include Moto Cross Mike, Fanny Oakley, Alabama Fire Water, Wildest Rodeo Fan and more. Brian, and his 6-year-old daughter Cassidy perform with Hershie, Cassidy's 31" trick horse. Cassidy is one of the youngest trick horse performers in rodeo.

Rodeo Announcer Davey Kimm is well known in the Badlands Circuit and the PRCA. Davey Kimm is home-based in Rosemount, Minnesota and will provide his colorful play by play and expertise for the audience's education and pleasure.

The Lakes Region Horse Fest is sponsored by Brandt Motors, Custom Printing, Famous Dave's of Baxter, HorseSense Radio Network and Little Falls Radio. The Lakes Region Horse Fest also includes entertainment, trade show, seminars, demonstrations and a parade of horses. For more information, please review the LRHF website: www.lakesregionhorsefest.com.

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Sept. 20-21, 2008

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Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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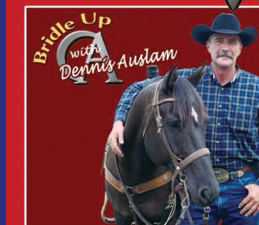


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North Dakota Horse Park

5180 19th Ave N., Fargo, ND - 2 Miles West of i-29 at Exit 67

Gates Open:

4:00 pm Fridays, 2:00 pm Saturdays and 12:00 Noon Sundays and Labor Day

Daily Admission:

Passes purchased in advance: \$3.00
Passes purchased on race day: \$4.00
Book of 25 passes: \$50.00
Season Pass: \$40.00
Ages 12 and under: **FREE**

Track Ticket Office:

5180 19th Avenue North, Fargo, ND
Tues, Weds, Thurs: 10 AM-3PM
Fri, Sat, Sun: 1 hour before gates open

Parking: FREE

Programs: Available at the track

Concessions: Food, beverage and merchandise stands located throughout the grounds. Alcoholic beverages available—must be 21 or older with ID.

Accepted Items: Folding Chairs, Umbrellas, Cameras

Prohibited Items: Coolers and Outside Food and Beverages

Pari-Mutuel Wagering: Mutuel windows open for every race! Must be 18 years or older to wager!

2008 Schedule

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays
(and Labor Day Monday!)
August 1 through September 7

Post Times:

Fridays: 5:30 p.m.
(Dollar Beer and Hotdogs!)

Saturdays: 3:30 p.m.
(Concerts after last race!)

Sundays: 1:00 p.m.
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