

RIDE & TIE NEWS

PUBLISHED BY
THE RIDE AND TIE
ASSOCIATION

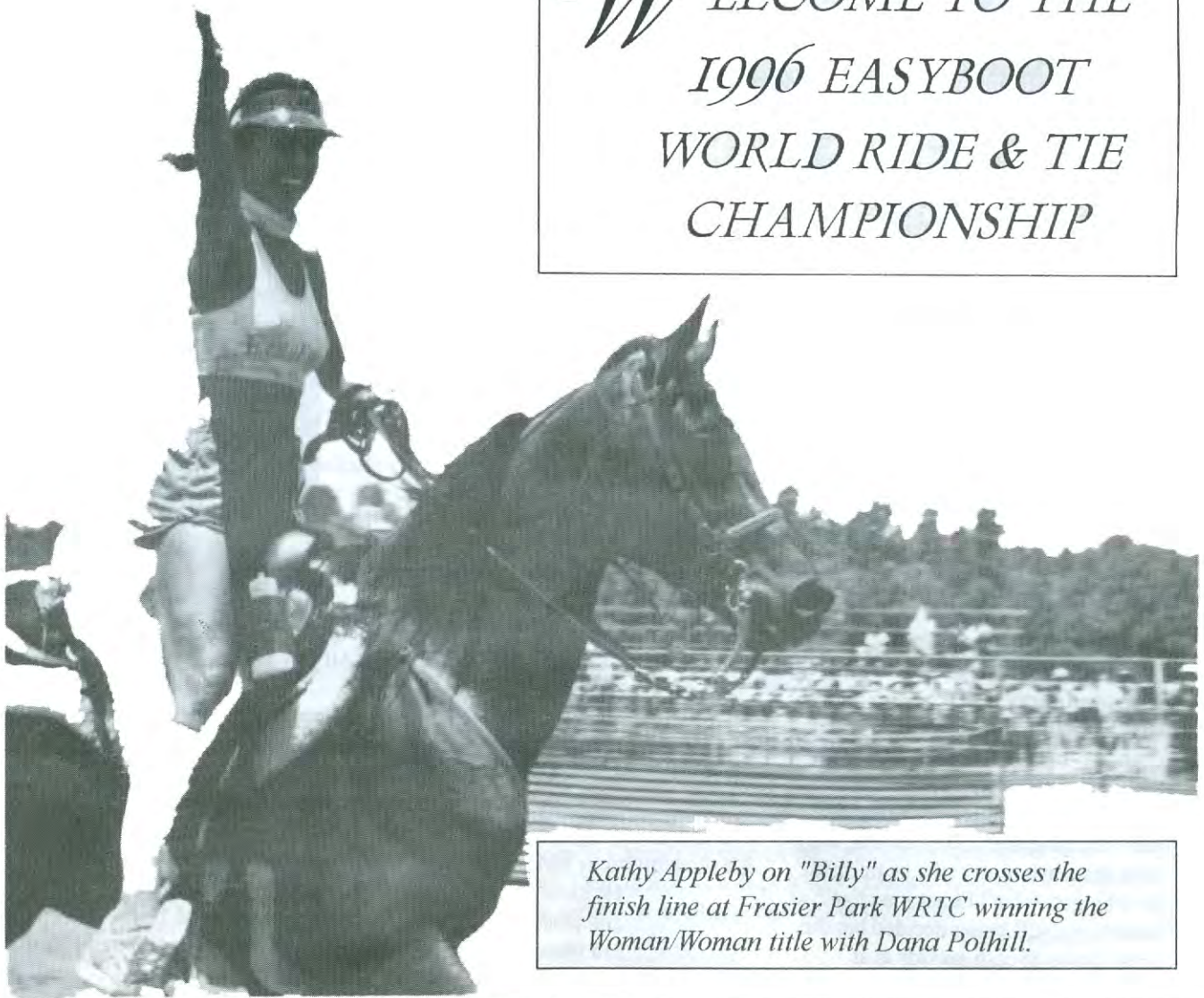
JULY - AUGUST
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LAURA CHRISTOFK, EDITOR

*W*ELCOME TO THE
1996 EASYBOOT
WORLD RIDE & TIE
CHAMPIONSHIP



Kathy Appleby on "Billy" as she crosses the finish line at Frasier Park WRTC winning the Woman/Woman title with Dana Polhill.

MY FIRST RIDE & TIE

By Steve Anderson

I have done allot of running in preparation for this race since April when Curt Riffle held a practice session at Quicksilver park. Up to a week before I still did not have a partner who had a horse. I sent in my application stating I am in search of someone to team up with. I didn't care if I did the 22 mile or the 11 mile, I just wanted to compete. Finally one week before the race I found a team member with a horse. Lisa Cody was out running one day and met someone who told her about the sport of R & T. She agreed to give it a try.

After our first meeting and training session we felt comfortable enough with each other to say yes let's put a team together. The Friday drive up was just us getting to know each other. After only one meeting and her agreeing to spend 3 1/2 hours driving up to Cool in my car shows me she is a remarkable lady.

Well, the Friday afternoon was spent getting settled with camp and the horses. All the people I met are terrific in welcoming us as newcomers. Lisa and I took to the hills to do a little practicing. And here is where I found my biggest challenge of the race was how to tie "Busters" rope to a tree. We spent several minutes as I practiced over and over again and with a mental block, I just could not get it. I knew I needed to practice more when we got back to camp. The good part was that Buster is such a patience horse that even when I just wrapped the lead rope around a tree or branch, he just stood there.

At Friday night's dinner we were talking with Curt Riffle and two other great people whom gave us valuable information on how to run this race. Lisa and I decided to keep her in the front and this way we could eliminate one tie (mine).

Upon returning to camp after dinner, we found Buster had gotten loose and had completely emptied his oats bucket, and did he look bloated! It seemed like this horse was making noises eating all night long and I was having a difficult time getting use to this.

Saturday morning and up at 6:30 to get things put together. Excitement and anticipation fills the air as we all get together at the pre-race meeting. As competitive as I am, I'm scanning the crowd and sizing up the competition. Who can I keep up with? What is their race strategy? I had no doubt in my mind that I will finish this race but in which position?

After the 22 milers take off, we 11 mile racers positions ourselves at the starting line. On go, I start off running and keep up with the leader. I quickly loose sight of my team member on her horse and I start thinking of the identifying marks on the horse (green saddle blanket, green shin guards). After about six minutes of running, there is Buster, a sight to behold! A quick hop up and we're off and running.

I come up to my partner's right side for a flying tie and announce "Lisa, on your right!" I take my right foot out of the strupt, then my left foot out and slide off on the right side as Lisa climbs on the left. Off and running!

After about 5 miles into the race we come to a gradual down hill, with Lisa riding and me running. At this point I caught up with Lisa and passed her. I felt a little confused here because I was never told I should run pass my partner who is on the horse.

After a few more tie's, we come into a stretch of very narrow trail. I am on Buster, trotting slowly and Lisa is taking off on foot. After about a mile of this, I came to the realization that there was no way I would catch Lisa unless she stopped. I was in for the riding lesson of my life! Being all alone out there and thinking to myself "is this the right trail"

RIDE & TIE ENDOWMENT FUND

Thanks to the generosity of Steve Shaw, The Ride and Tie Association has launched an Endowment Fund. Steve made the initial contribution to the Fund in memory of Eileen Johnson, and now several others have indicated their willingness to contribute also. We expect to raise a total of \$15,000 - \$25,000 by the end of 1996.

The Endowment Fund is a permanent pool of capital, separate from the association's operating funds. It is invested for the long term in order to provide both on-going financial support for the association and some growth in principle. Similar organizations typically spend about 5% of their endowments to support current operations and reinvest any returns in excess of that to grow their funds. Once we have built our endowment to a reasonable level, such a policy would be appropriate for us too.

We encourage those who can afford to contribute to the Fund as this is an excellent way of assuring the long-term financial survival of The Ride and Tie Association and the sport of Ride & Tie. Anyone with questions about the Endowment Fund can call:

John Osterweis
(514) 434-4441 or

Leah Mirsch (R&T Assoc. treasurer)
(310) 541-8641

I leaned over to the horses ear and said "Toto - I don't think we are in Kansas anymore", to which Buster just snorted.

At times I felt Buster was getting tired of this trail and decided to get my 160 pounds off his back for a while and run in front of him. I was so happy to see this small trail finally open up to a wide fire-road where we can pick up some speed. At the nine mile mark (two to go!) Buster is getting tired and I'm getting saddle sore. Finally coming around the last turn and seeing the finish line and my partner (who has patiently waited for me for five minutes to bring her horse in). A great jubilation for completing a dream of mine I have had for 20 years.

Mule Power

Cahuilla Heights was to be the first ride & tie ever for my new blond draft mule "Mula", and I wanted her to enjoy it. "Mules are real smart," I'd been warned by various mule skinnners, and if her memory matched her body type, then elephants come to mind. Bought at the 1994 Bishop Mule Days auction, she came complete with nine inch ears and a helluva big heart to go with them. "She's an honest mule" they said. Big and gentle, a Belgian cross, exp-low mule who packs, rides, and drives. And eats.

In the countdown of the race, at T minus 14 hours, 16.2 hands, 1400 pounds of Kentucky bred mule flesh passed the pre-ride vet check. Bystanders watched in humorous skepticism as the vet kidded my partner, Anita Parra and I about needing a step ladder to get on.

At T minus 10 hours pre-ride, the honorary night-before campfire, carboloading and other impertinent BS and strategy formation was held, directed by Carl Hill. For me ride & tie is just an excuse to be able to attend this particular event, which is by invitation only. Laughter truly is the best medicine. I invite anyone who dares to attend.

T minus 0 - 7am - We're first to start with one other team according to the handicap, and I zigzag up the trail away from camp. "Yaahh mule, yaahh! Giddap mule, GO!"

T plus 10 minutes - "YeeHaw!" I hear as Anita watches me fly effortlessly on Mula across the moon-scaped, burned chaparral mountain. This here mule can really move out when she wants to; I've never felt any animal so sure-footed, smooth and secure.

T plus 15 minutes - "Click-click", KAPOW! Anita has been kicked by the *!#?+#!= mule as she tries to get her to move out from behind her on the ground. Luckily, the blow went to the thigh, nothing was broken, just bruised, and we moved on, our first strike being a close call.

T plus 40 minutes - In tears I tell Anita I'm going to get rid of the mule for what she's done, and "Why do I keep doing these Ride & Tie's?"

"Have a GU" she says. "Why? Because you've got a big heart and your as *!#+?*6+ crazy as I am!", she continues, "We can do it!"

She's right. As my GU absorbed I thought 'Yeah, this really is a great sport.' I thanked God for Anita - my partner, my friend, my co-worker.

There goes Dave, There goes Carl, there goes what's her name, there goes what's his face. There goes a pair of really nice legs. There I go again. I must be delirious, but we're havin' fun now!

WE'VE BEEN GETTIN' SOME PRESS

Articles about the sport of Ride & Tie have been included in other publications recently. Inquiries are still pouring in and it seems our goal to increase awareness about Ride & Tie is on a roll. We have had several freelance journalists as well as one from Detroit News, wanting information to write editorials as well as other publications asking to use articles from our past newsletters; **The Pulse** (Ontario Competitive Trail Riders newsletter), **Trailblazer** and **AERC Endurance News**. There are even rumors of Ride & Tie being added to an "extreme" sports video. Gotta love it!

Jennifer Oltmann at Horse Illustrated has spearheaded our press release efforts in her free time and the response has been tremendous.

Thanks Jen!

INSPIRATIONAL MOVES

Joan Ruprecht of Trinidad, CA, a 62 year old competitor in the World Championship Ride & Tie, was named a DuPont Lycra® "Inspirational Moves" honorable mention award winner.

Because of Joan's passion for and commitment to fitness, she was nominated by her friend Annette Parsons of Somerset, CA for the first time award.

The DuPont Lycra® "Inspirational Moves" award was established to celebrate an inspirational individual who has contributed significantly to women's athletic achievement.

We encountered no problems or surprises at the 12 mile mid-point vet check, and we quickly move on. I lost track of where the team was that started with us. I had not seen them or anybody for that matter for a while as we entered the last third of the race. But Mula was still giving it her all and really flying down the hills. She's not bad going uphill either.

In the final few miles we gave it all we had just to get the team across the finish line, but we all finished. Tired but happy and two out of three were sound. Anita had made it through despite her earlier injury.

I'm so happy to finish that not only am I going to keep this mule, I think I'll breed her! *Shared by Ruthann Conklin, DVM.*

1996 SANCTIONED RIDE & TIE EVENTS - 4/10/ 96 EDITION

The Ride and Tie Association - 916-268-8474
(Race locations are larger towns for area reference only)

June 8 - Steamboat, CO
HALLELUJAH TRAILS
10/25 miles
Dorothy Lyons 970-824-6363
PO Box 1101
Craig, CO 81626

June 22 - Cincinnati, OH
ROCK AND ROLL - 20 miles
Marcia Bacon 513-574-4898
7284 Bridgetown Road
Cincinnati, OH 45248

July 13 - Santa Cruz, CA
**EASYBOOT WORLD RIDE & TIE
CHAMPIONSHIP - 38 miles**
The Ride and Tie Association
11734 Wolf Road
Grass Valley, CA 95949
916-268-8474

July 27 - Ashland, OR
PACIFIC CREST 100 Mile
Ann Swartz 541-779-0951
805 E. Vilas
Central Point, OR 97502
(Not Sanctioned)

August 17 - Santa Cruz, CA
SWANTON PACIFIC - 100 miles
Ellen McCrary 408-423-6089
318 Swanton Road
Davenport, CA 95017

August 24 - Ashland, OR
HEADWATERS OF THE ROGUE
10/30 miles
Ann Swartz, DVM 541-779-0951
805 E. Vilas
Central Point, OR 97502

August 24 - Santa Cruz, CA
CHAMPAGNE - 30 miles
Steve Shaw 408-685-3436
155 Baltrusol Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

September 9 - Grass Valley, CA
BLOOMFIELD BOOGIE
13/26 miles
Jon Root 916-268-2298
P.O. Box 461
Grass Valley, CA 95945

October 5 - Auburn, CA (PRO-AM)
COOL - 11/22 miles
Bill McKean 916-885-8610
1670 Crockett Road
Auburn, CA 95603

October 26 - San Diego, CA
CUYAMACA - 15/30 miles
Arlene Foster 909-767-1237
38230 Lorenzo Lane
Hemet, CA 92544

November 3 - Herndon, VA
**CLIFTON HORSE SOCIETY 5/12/
20 miles**
Jean Lichtenberger 540-933-6991
PO Box 1727
Herndon, VA 22070

November 30 - near Tuscon, AZ
MT. WRIGHTSON - 25 miles
Garrett Ford 520-886-1226
1670 N. Kolb Rd. Suite 244
Tuscon, AZ 85715

RAT PACK NEWS

Very COOL RAT's - Quickly becoming legends in their own back yard, the Very COOL RAT's have had better than impressive participation at their practices recently. Their last practice had 10 teams total, three of which were newcomers, not to mention a few "just riders" joining in on a great time. Judy Haulman, flagged an eight mile loop that teams could do as many times as they wanted. Some did one, some did two and some did ... none. Laura Christofk, who was "helping" the newcomers missed an early turn and had half the group that day lost. Not really lost, just not on the right trail. The common theme that day was "I think we've been here before." Hot shoes Jon Root, Jim Howard, Tom Christofk and newcomer Roger Dike flew through the course twice with Robert Ribley and Frank Smith in hot pursuit. Why hot? Because Frank is a cowboy and is determined to

YOU'RE INVITED! An opportunity to make history

1996 will be the year that Ride & Tie makes its mark on the legendary Western States Trail. The Tevis Cup 100 Mile Ride aka "The Big One" of endurance rides will experience what a *real* vet check oughtta be like, and we, my fellow RAT's are the sponsors. 1996 is not only the "Year of The RAT" it is also the year we claim the "Dusty Corners" vet check as OURS. Yes, this will be the first "RAT check" in Tevis history and you are invited to help make it memorable.

Those timid endurance riders in their matching outfits and foo foo helmets thought we were a "motley crew"? Ha! They have no idea how wild we can get and neither do we. So on July 26th (Friday evening) bring your wine, cheese, party hat, dancing sneakers, friends and aspirin for the morning to Dusty Corners. This will be *THE MOTHER OF ALL SLUMBER PARTIES!*

For more info call Laura Christofk
(916) 268-8647

Rat Packers,

Just a short note to give you an update on the first of the league (RAT Pack) competition. The Very COOL RAT's narrowly beat the BAG RAT's at the Quicksilver Ride & Tie. The awards, provided by our SLORATS hosts were bottles of Wild Horse wine, compliments of Jon Priest and a ditty bag of RAT size sunscreens and lotions from R&T's very own RAT dermatologist, Dr. Jeff Herten. Although the Very COOL RAT's won the competition, mostly due to over all high placing, I feel that a change in the scoring system is called for. And since I am in charge... I can do that. The intent and purpose of our RAT Packs are to bring new people into the sport and have a good time with us ol' timers. So with that in mind I am making these changes to the original plan. Amateurs, originally worth 2 bonus points, will now be worth 4 bonus points, and an amateur need not have an affiliation with any local RAT Pack. An amateur can be from anywhere and can compete for any RAT Pack. Remember, Pro's can only compete for their local area RAT Pack.

Next RAT Races: Champagne Ride & Tie, hosted by the BAG RAT's
Cool Ride & Tie, hosted by the Very COOL RAT's
Cuyamaca Ride & Tie, hosted by the Desert RAT's
The awards for these "league" competitions are provided by the hosting RAT Packs, so be sure to help donate to the cause.

Happy Trails!
The Very COOL Big RAT Daddy O
(Jon Root)

THE VELVEETA CUP IT'S REAL

Some thought we were kidding, some thought it was fictitious, well some thought wrong. The coveted, the elusive Velveeta Cup is not just a brainchild that Jeff Herten thought up while slipping into low blood sugar during training, no, it is a real (cross-my-heart-hope-to-die) trophy, that will be the bragging rights of the winning RAT Pack at the end of this year, and the envy of all the others. Few have seen the actual beauty but the rumors are... its huge and it's delicious!

wear his levi's. He'll learn, real men wear tights. Seems everyone, both runners and riders, in their area is talking about the "RAT thing". This Pack is chomping at the bit waiting for the Cool Ride & Tie Pro/Am where they will unleash their new RAT teams and go for an all out assault for the Velveeta Cup.

AZ RAT's - There are not many RAT's in Arizona as it is, so Steve Becker is excited that the very first AZ RAT practice had four teams! Steve's enthusiasm will no doubt lure others to try this wild sport and we expect to see this number increase quickly.

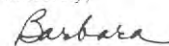
While we here in Swanton (near Davenport) are honored to be considered members of the BAG RATS, somehow we feel our relative isolation in this near-heaven area of the Santa Cruz County North Coast entitles us to our very own identity. Not only entitles us, almost demands it. Therefore, upon consultation with a few select members of our group of R & T enthusiasts, we have chosen our very own name.

First, let me introduce our current membership: Ellen McCrary, currently the most dedicated RAT; Janet (McCrary) Webb, the first member to enter R & T (finished the 1975 Levi's at Paso Robles as a teenager, Big Creek in 1982, Levi's in Eureka in 1983, et al); her husband Steve Webb, (ran his first R & T at Quicksilver this year with his brother Gary); Lud & Barbara McCrary (finished Levi's at Almaden in 1982 and Eureka in 1983; also ran a R & T in Switzerland in 1985); Butch Huff (finished Levi's at Davenport in 1978, Sun River in 1979, Big Bear in 1980, Dog Valley in 1981, Almaden in 1982, Taylorsville in 1994, Sun Valley in 1995, plus many at Big Creek); Susan McCrary-Huff (Butch's partner in all but 1978); Jeanine McCrary (Big Creek, Quicksilver, Sun Valley in 1995); Sanji Rosenberg (Big Creek, Champagne R & Ts); and newcomer Amanda Shuey, age 11, who would have done her first R & T at Big Creek this year had it not been canceled due to rain. Ten members should be sufficient to form our own RAT pack with our very own name. Therefore, we announce ourselves to the R & T world as

THE (SWANTON) WOOD RATS!

Keep up the good work on the News, Laura.

Sincerely,



Barbara McCrary



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please mail to:

11734 Wolf Rd. Grass Valley, CA 95949

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

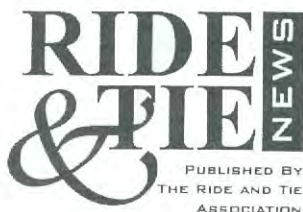
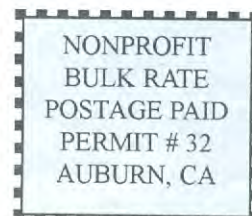
- I am a Rider
- I am a Runner
- I need a teammate and a horse
- I have a horse, but need a teammate
- I have a horse to loan or lease

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

(check your choice of membership)

- Lifetime member** (\$500)
Receive lifetime memberships for themselves and family as well as annual recognition for their contribution.
- Competitor Member** (\$50)
Provides access to the membership database which can link up teammates with horse, riders and runners.
- Competitor Family Membership** (\$75)
- New Member-1st Year** (\$20)
Offered at a reduced rate for those checking the sport out.
- Supporter** (\$100-\$400)
Receives a one year membership and special recognition for their donation to further the sport of ride & tie.
- Friend of the Ride & Tie** (\$20)
Not an actual competitor but would like to show their support for ride & tie.

All categories of membership will receive Ride & Tie News bi-monthly, The Ride & Tie Journal annually, information and applications for the annual World Championship Ride & Tie, advocacy for growth and competition in all aspects of the sport, inclusion and eligibility for the national point system and assurance of the continuance of the sport of Ride & Tie. As a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, these membership contributions are tax deductible.



11734 WOLF RD.
GRASS VALLEY, CA
95949

(916) 268-8474

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

WELCOME

TO THE 1996 EASYBOOT WORLD RIDE & TIE CHAMPIONSHIP

For those of you at our 26th annual Championship, we are so happy to see you! For those who are not, start making plans to attend next year! We have an outstanding event planned again this year with many important improvements.

We welcome the sponsorship of Garrett Ford's EasyCare, Inc. and the new name of our Championship event, the Easyboot WRTC. Thanks to EasyCare's support, membership donations and our loyal merchandise sponsors, we will be awarding close to \$20,000 in cash and merchandise. Not bad for doing something we all love to do! And for the first time in the last five years we are expecting over 100 teams. Ride & Tie is back!

We have added a Pro-Am category to the Easyboot WRTC and designated almost half of the cash awards to this important category. Our objective is to continue growing the number of new participants and of "renewed" participants so we can continue our role of educating in and advancing our understanding of the care and well being of our equine athletes. We are expanding the number of pre-race education seminars and continuing to spread the awards to more finishers, regardless of their completion time.

The growth and success of our sport is due to an incredibly supportive group of members and sponsors. This is true during practice, competition and any other time someone needs some help. During Championship Week, be sure to introduce yourselves to racers, crews and spectators. Let all the volunteers know how much you appreciate them. And let our sponsors know how much you appreciate their support with letters and purchases of their products. Finally, let's set a goal that EVERYONE completes this year's course. In our sport, to finish is to share in the thrill of victory. Good Luck to you and your team!

Curt Riffle

President of The Ride and Tie Association

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY - JULY 4th

Camp opens - 12 noon

FRIDAY - JULY 5th

Course opens for pre-riding -9am

THURSDAY - JULY 11th

Crew Competition and Kid's Games - 9am-12 noon

Membership Meeting - 1pm

Workshops - 3pm

Race Registration - 4-6pm

Pot Luck Dinner - 6pm

FRIDAY - JULY 12th

Race Registration - 10am-5pm

Pre-race Vet-In - 12-5pm

Calcutta - 5pm

Pre-race Meeting (Mandatory) - 6:30pm

SATURDAY - JULY 13th

The 1996 Easyboot World Ride & Tie Championship

Team Check-in - 7:30am

Race Start - 8am

Awards banquet - 5:30 pm

SUNDAY - JULY 14th

Breakfast - 8am

Camp Closes - 12 noon

ALL THOSE AWARDS !

This year we are very lucky to have the support of many generous sponsors. As well as the usual mountains of merchandise awards, with the generous financial sponsorship of Easyboot (EasyCare, Inc.) this will be the first year since the old "Levi" Ride & Tie days that cash prizes will be awarded. So who gets what? Exact merchandise awards are still being decided but the break down of cash awards is as follows:

Overall	1st place	\$1000
	2nd place	\$750
	3rd place	\$500
Open Category	All three divisions - M/M, M/W, W/W	
	1st place	\$300
Pro-Am Category	All three divisions - M/M, M/W, W/W	
	1st place	\$250
	2nd place	\$200
	3rd place	\$100
	Other (drawing)	\$200

Masters Category

All three divisions - M/M, M/W, W/W
1st place \$250

Century Category

All three divisions - M/M, M/W, W/W
1st place \$250

Century + 10 Category

Overall 1st place \$250

Century + 20 Category

Overall 1st place \$250

Best Conditioned Horse \$650

Reserve Best Conditioned Horse \$350

First with Easyboots \$750

ALL THOSE RACE CATEGORIES!

The Championship is a celebration of the sport of ride & tie.
We like as many participants to win an award as possible.

There are over 54 award categories not to mention the finish awards. Here is an explanation of some of the team categories:

Open- If none of the other categories apply to a team

Master- Both humans must be 40 years of age on July 13, 1996

Century- The sum of the ages of both humans must equal 100 years or more on July 13, 1996

Century + 10- The sum of the ages of both humans must equal 110 years or more on July 13, 1996

Century + 20- The sum of the ages of both humans must equal 120 years or more on July 13, 1996

Pro-Am- One human must never have completed a Championship Ride & Tie or not completed more than two sanctioned Ride & tie races

Novice- Neither human has ever completed a sanctioned Ride & Tie races

Junior- Both humans must be under the age of 18 years (parent or guardian approval required)

Participants must choose **ONE** of the previous categories during pre-race registration. There are also several special categories for which a participant may qualify in addition to a category above:

Overall Winners (1st - 3rd place)

Best Condition and Reserve Best

Condition Horse (must finish in top ten to be eligible)

Top Ten Horses

Last Ten Horses

First Husband/Wife team

Youngest Human

Oldest Human

Oldest Horse

First Team wearing Easyboots (must be worn throughout the race)

5/10/15/20/25 Year Championship

Completion Awards

Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch?

We'll prove them wrong if you're a volunteer at the 1996 EasyBoot World Ride & Tie Championship. We need volunteers for timers, gate keepers, crews, drag riders, etc. If you're interested in being involved and getting an inside look at this exciting event, we'd be happy to have you join us - and we'll include a free lunch!

Please contact Ellen McCrary
Race Site Manager

Dear Fellow Ride & Tie Fanatics,

I was very disappointed that we had to cancel the 1996 Big Creek Ride & Tie. A record 46 teams were entered, including many new names as well as some tough competition. Very stormy weather and heavy rains on Wednesday and Thursday before the ride made the conditions extremely difficult. Wednesday we figured we could use an alternate but unattractive campsite and reroute the trail. By Thursday morning, we'd had 3-5 inches of rainfall, the electricity was out for 11 hours, and a tree was down across Swanton Road. There didn't appear to be any sensible way to salvage the event, so we called it off. It is ironic that in the 30 year history of the Castle Rock / Big Creek rides, always on the third weekend in May, that we've only been rained out twice - in 1996 and 1996.

Cancellation appears to have been a good choice. Dennis Rinde and I spent all our workouts over the weekend pulling down trail markings. Even on Sunday, both running shoes and horseshoes were sliding all over the trails. There were several downed trees on the course. We were able to get by them all but it took getting off Scotty and leading him through the brush, along the edges of cliffs and other antics which wouldn't have been to appropriate for a race.

Let's put in an order for better weather for the 1996 Easyboot World Ride & Tie Championships. Our normal summer weather - either fog or a cool northwest wind blowing in off the ocean - would be just fine. The day after the Quicksilver Ride & Tie, Jon Root brought his map and mountain bike over and he and Dennis Rinde, Steve Webb and I rode the course. Although advertised as 38 miles, Jon measured the course at 37 miles. I could have added an extra mile but Dennis and Jon decided it's plenty hard enough as is; any extra distance probably wouldn't effect the outcome of the race except to widen the spread between the faster teams and slower teams.

Come prepared for lots of hills. There will be several long climbs and some downhill that will require good riding ability - not quite as steep as Chuck's Revine on the Taylorsville course but still challenging. Dennis feels it will be a very technical course. For slower people like me it'll be another tough day of ride & tie!

Warm regards,
Ellen McCrary

PRO- FILES

THE "SCOOP" ON SOME OF THE TOP RANKED CONTENDERS FOR THE 1996 EASYBOOT WORLD RIDE & TIE CHAMPIONSHIP

CELEBRITIES IN OUR MIDST

Mark Richtman, Tom Johnson and Eli. What else needs to be said? This (so far) unbeatable trio will once again be THE team to beat. Already claiming the past two consecutive WRTC wins and BC, there credentials keep getting more impressive every year.

Tom Johnson, three time WRTC winner and three time winner and record holder of the grueling Western States 100 mile run has added another notch to his gun belt. The Comrades, in South Africa. A tunnel of close to one million cheering spectators, 55 miles long, with 13,000 competitors charging down the middle. Considered internationally to be the "Super Bowl" of ultras, Tom placed 7th overall and was the first American to finish this "impromptu world championship." In May of this year, Mark was asked to run a 100K for the U.S. team in Moscow, Russia. Not being a particularly fond of "hot weather" running, Mark was the 4th American and placed 32nd overall in spite of the 80 degrees, no shade and no ice.

ROOT AND PRIEST ARE TWO JONS BETTER THAN ONE?

By Jeff Herten

One of the teams toeing the line at the World Championship in Big Creek will be a study in opposites: A wily veteran and a relative newcomer. The not so "Old Pro" is Jon Root whose history in the race dates back two decades. There are few competitors in the sport with a record to match his: seventeen World Championship finishes in eighteen starts, all but one in the top ten. Jon has teamed up with some of the best women partners in the sport: Chris Mellick, Robyn Dubach, and Michelle Roush. For this year's race Jon has had a sex change but not a change of heart. Jon's partner, chosen because Jon could spell his first name, is Jon Priest. Priest has done one previous championship, with Tyler Ford last year at Sun Valley. Mounted on the "Dragon", the Ford-Priest combo had a respectable eighteenth place showing. Not bad for a rookie, eh? So what will make this Jon-Jon duo a team to watch at Big Creek? Strength, speed and Savvy.

Jon Root is a very strong trail runner. A surveyor by vocation, Jon is able to condition as part of his work. He surveyed our ranch near Pozo and I can still remember trying to keep up with him as he streaked up the near vertical hills through chemise, manzanita and orchards of poison oak. At 41, he has one the Man/Woman Championship nine times: five with Robyn, three with Chris, and one with Michelle. He has placed second overall at "the Big One" four times. A college All-America in the half-mile at 1:51, Root has shown he can go the distance with a 31:15 10K, a 2:29 marathon, and sixteen Championship top tens. He is always a competitor to be reckoned with. Two decades of Ride & Tie have taught him the tricks of the trail. Besides, he's sold his book rights to his life story to Emmett Ross.

New on the Ride & Tie scene, Jon Priest, 34, brings pretty impressive credentials of his own to the partnership. hardly fitting the image of "the little old winemaker", Priest has been making award winning wines at the appropriately named Wild Horse Winery in out north county grape region for seven years. As refreshment chairman for the SLORATS (San Luis Obispo Ride and Tie Society), Jon's aid stations for our monthly practices are legendary. A track and cross-country runner of local upbringing, Jon has a 32 minute 10K and a 2:36 marathon to his credit. Graduating to Ride & Ties and Ultras, Jon has his sights on the 100 mile Western States Run next year. And what of the horses? The steed Balou, as in Cat, but this horse is Bay and has been on the wagon since Sun Valley. The Idaho trail in the high country made Balou take the pledge, sniffing a little fermented alfalfa only occasionally after a hard work out. Balou is Jon Root's horse, competing in five races to date and a veteran of one World Championship, finishing a strong fourth last year.

So, you're asking, are they SLORATS or COOL RATS? As the "head cheese" of the San Luis contingency, I claim them for the SLORATS. Root, living in Grass Valley now, was born in SLORATS country and both Root and Priest were raised here in SLORAT country. If any controversy arises over citizenship, I will lodge a protest. I have retained Lon Clearwaters as our counsel and the matter will be decided by the rules committee headed by Cliff Lewis, with whom I already have an understanding.

Watch for Jon squared on Balou in the winner's circle at Big Creek. It may be time for the bridesmaid to grab the golden ring.

REBUTTAL FROM THE EDITOR (a Very COOL RAT)- Birthplace is not one of the eligibility requirements for RAT Pack membership. Beings Jon Root is "The Big Daddy O RAT" for the Very COOL RATS I find your argument overruled - nmneeeext.

STEVE TREK THE PREVIOUS GENERATION

At this years Quicksilver Ride & Tie, teamed up with Maryben Stover, who is a... sturdy built, 5'3" endurance rider and a 16+ hd mule named "Scarlet O'Hara", Steve Shaw has proven that he *will boldly go where no man has gone before.*

Constantly in search of new and strange adventures he will once again add an element of intrigue to this years World Championship with his 59 year old, novice partner Elmo Shropshire. The name, Elmo Shropshire, alone is interesting and brings a grin to your face. Kinda like Rumpelstilkskin, or Ickabod

Crane. But don't let the name fool ya, Steve says this ol' guy is tough and is a natural rider. Steve has no doubts that they will be "mixing it up" with the best of em' on race day with his sights focused on winning the Century division.

Steve has been in seventh heaven during their practice ride & ties and running workouts, being constantly entertained with Elmos colorful life stories. No doubt Steves' laptop computer is getting pouded more than usual to capture all the interesting details. One of Elmos claim to fame is a very well known Christmas song that he wrote many many years ago.

Maybe you've heard it - Grandma Got Ran Over By A Reindeer.

FAMILY FUED

This year the championship will be a stepping stone for Arleene (Mom) and Cindy (daughter) Foster, age 24. They are competing for the National High Point Woman/Woman division award and the Championship gives them double points if they complete. They are planning to do every race together this year except Pro-Am's. They are using Cindy's horse, Allegra, a small nine year old gray arab.

This will be Cindy's fourth championship and Arleene's sixth.

Cindy's strong point is her running and her creativity on the trail. She will coyly tell people to wait for her (and they do!) or tell them, "this is not a passing zone". She has been known to "tail" other competitors. No, not horses, people. She was caught being pulled uphill by holding on to Chris Turney's shirt.

Arleen's strong point is usually her partner or her horse and her knack of sabotaging her competition by feeding them homemade pancakes the morning of a race. Her week point is that she has a tendency to run past her horse. Combined with Cindy's habit of tying to poison oak Ride & Tie's can be quite grueling for these two, or anyone that may team up with them.

The fallout from this dynamic mother-daughter partnership is that David (Dad and husband) has had to recruit a partner for every race this year. "I'm lucky. I picked up a very gentle bay Arab that I can put novice riders on." His recruit for the World Championship this year is his 19 year old son David Jr. Yep, first Jon-Jon, then Lewis-Lewis, now David-David. David Jr. has completed two short courses but has yet to try a long course, so this will be a race within a race pitting mother and daughter against father and son.

LIKE FATHER LIKE SON FROM OREGON

Ride & Tie is a disease that really gets under your skin. In fact it is even hereditary. So this year again, father, Lewis (Lew) Hollander Jr., (Dad) 66, and son Lewis Hollander III (Lewis) 24, are teaming up to take on the big boys at Davenport. Lewis may be best remembered, when he ran with his partner Jonathan Nance in Eureka, CA in 1983. They were and still are the youngest team ever, combined age, (10 and 11) to complete a Championship ride & Tie and not only complete but they were 99th out of over 200 teams. Lewis has now completed three Championships including last year at Sun Valley running with Dad. Last weekend the dynamic Duo came down from their home in Bend, OR to do the Escape from Alcatraz Triathlon, with Lewis finishing an hour ahead of Dad for reasons that we are not discussing. Dad is returning from Japan after competing in the Japan Ironman race just in time to load their horse, "Miss P" in the trailer and get to Big Creek in time for the EasyBoot World Championship

Ride & Tie. "Miss P" is a 12 year old half Arab out of MisFit. Who is training "Miss P"? Hanne of course, the wife and mother, in between training her own horse for the Endurance Riding World Championship 100 miler in September to be held in Kansas. Hanne and Heather will share the crewing duties and they are very experienced. "Miss P" is the real star, winning eight out of her last nine endurance races with only one second with BC. Dad has had fun this year having the privilege of running three ride & ties with Dennis Rinde. If Lewis and Dad finish this year it will be 18 completions for the old man along with 7 Hawaii Ironman Triathlons and the Western States 100 Mile Run. All the Hollander's have Tevis buckles. Lew (Dad) is the author of what he calls a handbook for endurance riding and Ride & Tie, "Endurance Riding from Beginning to Winning" available from Green Mansions inc., P.O. Box 100 Redmond, OR 97756 \$17.45 includes shipping.

Ride & Tie is the most fun you can have with your shoes on. The whole family is looking forward returning to Big Creek because Lew and Hanne were married on the trail at the top of Last Chance Road. Even though they are being profiled as out-of-towners, actually the race is very close to HOME for this family.

THREE OLD HAS BEENS

By Steve Shaw

Mark Richtman, Tom Johnson and Marl's horse "Eli" have all been top Ride & Tie champions who have rode & toed into the winner's circle many of times before, but maybe not this year. This year a couple of "has beens" making up a different team are taking a serious strike at the title. Of course, many of you may take argument with my definition of "has beens."

Dennis Rinde and Jim Howard have been pretty serious contenders in many events. These two quiet guys never talk about themselves so I will. Dennis (37 and an economist with the Franchise Tax Board in Sacramento) has been a pretty serious runner and he has been top ten in many competitive marathons. He ran Boston in 81', 82', and 83' finishing 7th, 6th, and 17th (through the 83' race... 2:13 was a minute faster than the 82' race). He was 6th overall in the 1985 Houston marathon. Dennis has flirted with ultra running with two 50 milers one of which he has won and the other he was 2nd. This year he was accepted into the Western states 100 run and has been training for that with wins at three tough trail marathons in Big Basin, Big Sur, and Muir Beach. Dennis started ride & tie with Mike Callen in 91' though not doing his first championship with him until 92' when they finished 4th overall. Dennis

has been a pretty amazing horse rider at times. I still have a vivid memory of

Dennis atop (not necessarily astride) one of Dave Andreotti's grey geldings literally flying up the chalk ridge at the start of the Big Creek Ride & Tie one year. The horse and Dennis both had the same look in their eyes -- wide. He raced past the entire field of horses to first place. Too bad the horse couldn't be stopped at the turn! Of course many of us know Dennis's ride & tie races with Pat Browning. They have had how many wins in local races and top tens in the championships? Now I'm not taking anything away from Pat who has been the toughest ride & tier around to my knowledge, but Dennis has been doing some pretty incredible running over the years to get them there.

Jim Howard (41 and a manager for the California Conservation Corps) has been a venerable ride & tier for more years than I can remember. He has four wins at the Ride & Tie Championships, as does Mark Richtman, and one of these two has a very good chance of getting the fifth which would put him with the only other person to have five WRTC wins, Jim Larimer. Less we forget, Jim also has been second twice and has been in third three times in the WRTC. The latest was just last year in Sun Valley. The first time I ever met Jim was on the race trail when the "Levi" Ride & Tie was in New

Almaden, CA. As I ran past a curve in the trail-- there was a pile of we towels with a beard sticking out? Under it was Jim who was suffering from heat exhaustion while trying for his second win. Jim Howard has a number of Western States 100 run top tens over the years. He was sixth in 78', and had firsts in 81' and 83'. Many do not know of his two best marathon times of 2:18 and 2:19. He has been a serious contender at the WS 100 in recent years, having to pull at mile 97 while in top ten just last year. He has been training for that event most of this year too.

And Cimmaron, he is a 13 year old arab gelding that has been groomed as a top ride & tie horse for the nine years that Jim has been training him. Cimarron has been Jim's mount in many of his top finishes in many years. Just recently they finished 13th overall at the fast Camp Far West 50 mile endurance ride where over 160 horses competed in the event.

Both Dennis and Jim have decided to withdraw from the WS 100 run this year so as not jeopardize any chances at the WRTC. Ellen McCrary says "These two have been having such fun planning and training for the ride & tie race this year. You can tell that they have increased their level of focus, expectations, need and desires." It seems they are a team. With the Wadsworth group from Utah probably not materializing for 1996 it looks as if these "has beens" will be knocking on the first place door.

CAREER MILAGE

As of 1-24-96

1 Pat Browning	1574	13 Gary Webb	996	26 Terry Pintane	705	39 Bill Barboni	587
2 Chris Turney	1491	14 Warren Hellman	987	27 Robert Eichstaedt	694	40 Greg Brown	580
3 Wayne Hinrichs	1375	15 John Osterweis	963	28 Mary Tiscornia	685	41 Annette Parsons	580
4 Ellen McCrary	1358	16 Paul Rink	912	29 Dennis Tracy	665	42 Rick Appleton	576
5 Mark Richtman	1294	17 Skip Lightfoot	901	30 Russ Kiernan	646	43 Dennis Fesler	571
6 Tim Hinrichs	1288	18 Steve Shaw	874	31 Jim Clover	632	44 Jim Arquilla	559
7 Dave Andreotti	1164	19 Curt Riffle	843	32 Dan Barger	629	45 Marcia Smith	558
8 Chris Knoch	1091	20 Paul Robinson	810	33 Gino Pomilia	625	46 Linda Mornell	555
9 Jon Root	1063	21 Gary Ceragioli	788	34 Chet Relyea	623	47 Sus. Andreotti	539
10 Lon Clearwaters	1036	22 Dennis Rinde	786	35 Judy Teichman	623	48 Arleene Foster	532
11 Tom Johnson	1035	23 Don Betts	747	36 Jane Margulis	619	49 Bill Johnson	531
12 Robin Hinrichs	997	24 Gayle Snow	782	37 Cheryl Knoch	613	50 Kathy Ceragioli	530
		25 Jim Howard	719	38 Tom Christofk	605		

NATIONAL POINT STANDINGS

Includes Pueblo Nuevo, Mustang Classic, Cahuills Heights, Mountainside, Quicksilver & Prineville

INDIVIDUAL POINTS

1	Dennis Rinde	411
2	Jon Root	325
3	Steve Becker	299
4	Susanne Andreotti	291
5	Dan Barger	288
6	Kathy Appleby	238
7	Marci Keller	223
8	Dave Andreotti	218
9	Lew Hollander	211
10	Allison Mulhollen	204
11	Jim Howard	200
12	Cindy Foster	199
13	Laurie Riebeling	197
14	Arleene Foster	196
15	Jon Priest	180
16	David Foster	177
17	Tom Johnson	170
18	Steve Shaw	166
19	Gary Polhill	157
20	Gayle Snow	156
21	Lorrie Snow	156

INDIVIDUAL MILAGE

1	Arleene Foster	131
	Cindy Foster	131
	David Foster	131
4	Dennis Rinde	130
5	Jon Root	106
6	Susanne Andreotti	105
	Pat Browning	105
	Ellen McCrary	105
9	Dan barger	101
	Steve Becker	101
	Gayle Snow	101
	Lorrie Snow	101

HORSE POINTS

1	Grab (Andreotti)	291
2	Scooter (Andreotti)	218
3	Allegra (Foster)	199
4	Maverick (Snow)	169
5	Basche (Meehan)	164
6	Freedom (Howard)	160
7	Cougar's Clown (Shaw)	155
8	Dollar (Foster)	150
9	Smidgeon (Browning)	146

TEAM POINTS

MAN/MAN Division

1	Lew Hollander	Dennis Rinde	125
2	Pat Browning	Mike Jepsen	62
3	Dave Andreotti	Tom Johnson	56
4	Dan Barger	Mike Lynch	54
5	Steve Anderson	Pat Browning	51

MAN/WOMAN Division

1	Steve Shaw	Laurie Riebeling	91
2	Steve Becker	Marcee Keller	84
3	Diane Danitz	Jonathan Jordan	66
4	Tom Gey	Elaine Ruprecht	64
5 tie	Ellen McCrary	Gary Webb	54
5 tie	Cynthia Stroud	Ramey Stroud	54

WOMAN/WOMAN Division

1	Gayle Snow	Lorrie Snow	146
2	Arleene Foster	Cindy Foster	136
3	Susanne Andreotti	Allison Milhollen	83
4	Laura Christofk	Melissa Ribley	55
5	Kathy Appleby	Rufus Schneider	50

RACE RESULTS

VIRGINIA RIDE & TIE

Long Course - 20 Miles

1	Beth Rogers	Karen Clark	One More Rock	2:28
2	Diane Lathom	Sally Markell	Jason	2:31
3	Jean Lightenberger	Janice Haug	Timber	2:42
4	Kathy Broaddus	Lani Newcomb	H.C.Fleet	2:48
5	Zoe Sollenberger	Ann Crandell	Magic	2:52

Short Course - 10 Miles

1	Liff Voell	Greg Voell	Diddley	1:09
2	Mark Lovecky	Bahe Rock	Cloud	1:14
3	Bret VanVranken	Alex Laughlin	Bronson	1:15
4	Mike Krens	Rick Krens	Rainbow	1:19
5	Laura Kulick	Tyanna Castleman	Sammy	1:30

Very Short Course - 5 Miles

1	Pat Brescia	Chris Holt	Blue Ridge Tiger	:57
2	Jennifer Bonometti	Jessica Bonometti	Lil Rascal	:58
3	Sue Booth	Lachlan Leach	Bruno	:59
4	Wilma Kime	Steve Kime	Epinikion	1:08
5	Brandon Davies	Bernadette Clark	Nansea	1:09 tie
6	Ian davies	Lauren Chu	Evenrude	1:09 tie
7	Barbara Chu	Carol Davies	Kharisma	1:10

PRINEVILLE RIDE & TIE

25 Miles

1	Lew Hollander	Dennis Rinde	Mis P	2:22
2	Chris Springer	Chris Krichko	Consultant	2:31
3	Sid Sullivan	Gwyneth Southwick	Amber	2:52
4	Calvin Paulette	Cherrie LaPort	Juel	3:09
5	Gayle Snow	Laurie Snow	Struttin	3:22
6	Pat Browning	Mike Jepsen	Mikes horse	3:27
7	Lewis Hollander III	Jonathan Nance	Bull	3:34
8	Laura Vaughn	Liz Scott	Bold Vagabond	3:40
9	Ellen McCrary	Connie Whitting	Nick	3:47
10	Dan Barger	Mike Lynch	Shasta	4:16
11	Cynthia Stroud	Ramey Stroud	Pending	4:37
12	Debbie Hanson-Bernard	Elizabeth Schaefer	Sunny	4:54
13	Scott Lusk	Cynthia Lusk	Scrub	5:16

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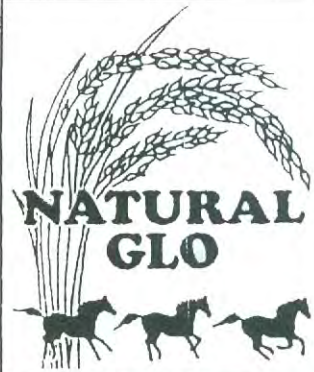
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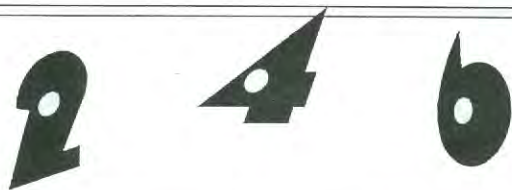


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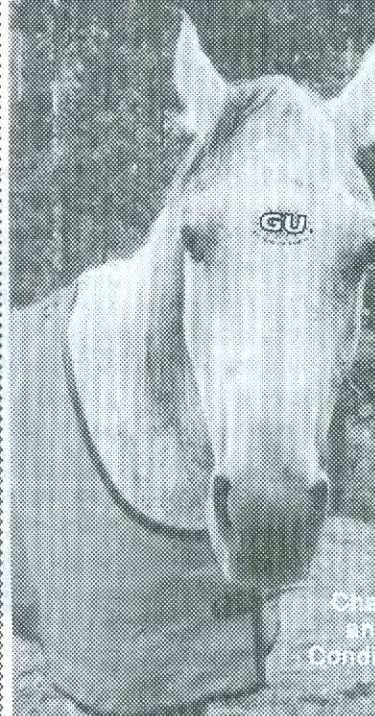


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