

HORSE TIMES

Egypt's Official
Equestrian Magazine

Free Copy Issue No. 21 - December 2006

The 2006 World Equestrian Games

Aachen & Top Riders in the Mix!

The Body of Excellence:

International Arabian Horse Judge
Dr. Nasr Marei & the Beauty in
a Horse's Movement

Legendary Horse Stories:

Magical Sways of Human Imagination

 Yellow Pages
Call 19345

Equicare Company opens your gate to the future



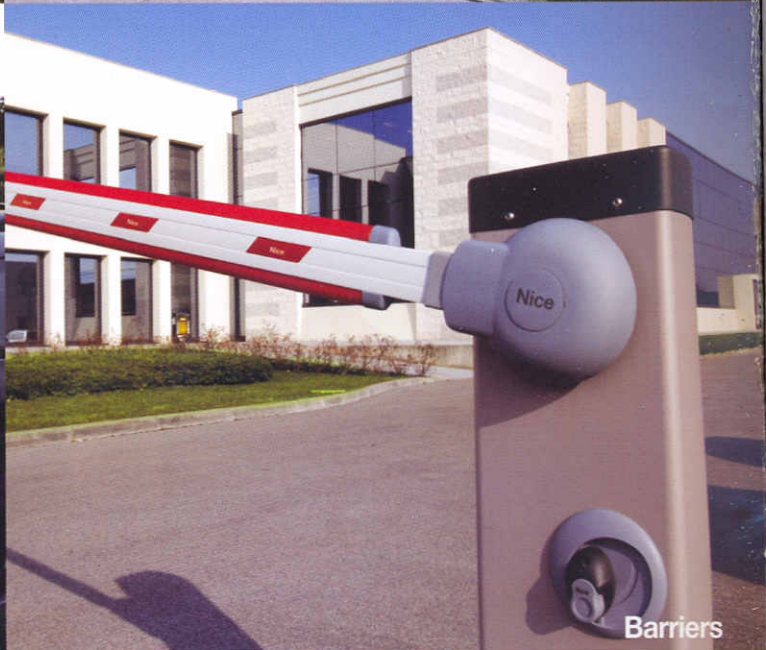
Swinging



Sliding



Garage doors



Barriers

Expert in automation for doors and gates

Choosing the best possible option of automation for our clients is a challenge. With a team of qualified engineers and technicians who handle installation, warranties, after sale services and yearly maintenance. We guarantee your satisfaction!



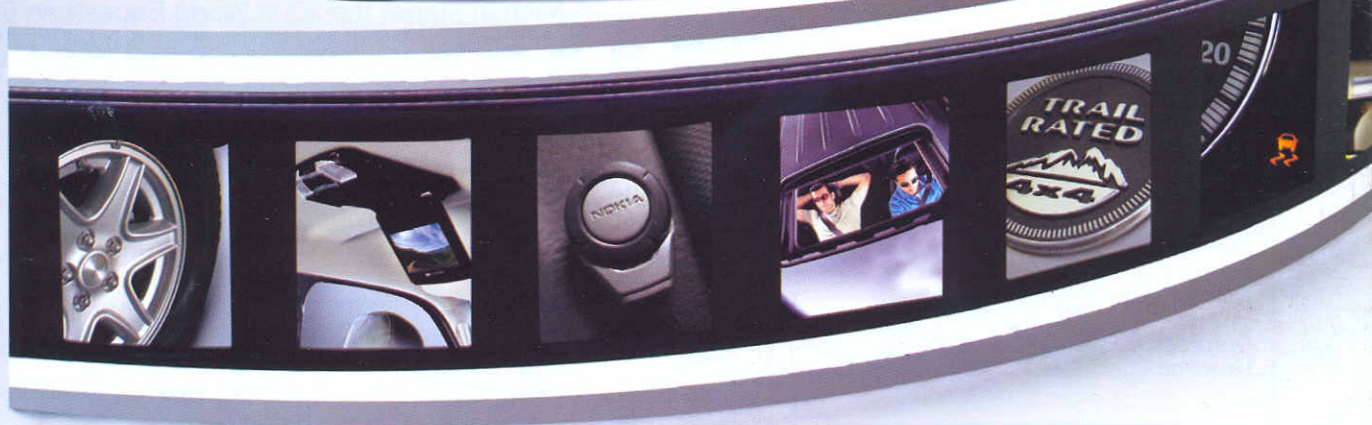
Equicare Company
2, Bahgat Aly St. Zamalek
Cairo, Egypt
Tel & Fax +202.735.6939
+202.735.4348
equicare@mist.com.eg
www.equicarecompany.com



A wide range of control systems and accessories to create a coordinated home automation system

Jeep®

PRESENTS



THE ALL NEW JEEP CHEROKEE

**Featuring: DVD | GoodYear Tires | ESP | Engine V6 3.7L | Sunroof
| Tire Pressure Warning System | Bluetooth System | ABS**

- EL Tarek for Trade (Eng Tarek Ismail): 19850
- Abou Ghaly Motors: Roxy 4555000 - Obour 6300000
- Ezz El-Arab Automotive: Desert Road 5390601 - Agouza 7497100 - Nasr City 4015055 - Alexandria 03 5003001
- Jeep pre-owned company vehicles: +20 12 331 0645 / +20 10 258 5618 / +20 12 330 7411

HORSE TIMES

Egypt's Official Equestrian Magazine

Issue No. 21
December 2006

Chairman

Khaled Assem
khaledassem@horsetimesegypt.com

Managing Editor

Nada H. Abdelmoniem
nada-hussein@horsetimesegypt.com

Marketing & Distribution Manager

Mohamed Hassan Hozayin
mohamedhassan@horsetimesegypt.com

Executive Manager

Azza El Sharkawy

Writers & Contributors

Emmad Eldin Zaghloul
Ina El Kobbia
Khaled Assem
Dr. Mohamed Elsherbini
Nada H. Abdelmoniem
Rafael Gonzalez
Sandra Adams
Sinan Nashashibi

Design & Layout

A. Bassel
Headline Printing & Design

Photography

Atef Murgan
Dirk Caremans
Eva-Kristina Schubert
Juergen Beck
Kit Houghton

Financial Consultants

Ismail El Sily
Mohamed A. Mawgoud

Distribution Officer

Maged Hassan

Publisher

Permanent press Ltd.
Nicosia, Cyprus

Prepress & Printing

Headline Printing & Design

Cover Photo:

Eva-Kristina Schubert



Head Office:

Equicare
2, Bahgat Ali Street,
Zamalek, Cairo-Egypt
Tel & Fax: +2-02-7256939 / 7354348

Enquiries:

horsetimes@horsetimesegypt.com



Dear readers,

Over 30 years spent with horses in sports & in other fields, i still remain fascinated with how their beauty & grace capture the hearts of people. It's really an everlasting wonder.

In this issue of Horse Times, I continue my interview with Dr. Nasr Marei on the Arabian horse's movement; you will feel Dr. Marei's captivating passion for Arabians as he explains the techniques of judging.

Top riders in Aachen star at the 2006 World Equestrian Games covered by our correspondent in Germany Ms. Ina El Kobbia. The Arab League at Kings Ranch in Egypt is also covered in this issue; a photo gallery for both events shall take you to the buzz of the events.

The heritage & legacy of horses as well as their roles during the Islamic empire is covered through 3 different compelling articles each contributed by a specialised researcher in the field.

Finally, indulge your passion for glamour with horses & celebrities, and learn more about Polo & Dressage by experts.

I hope you enjoy this final issue for 2006, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Khaled Assem

Chairman

HorseTimes is a quarterly magazine founded in 1998 by Khaled Assem. HorseTimes is a pioneer in its field; it is issued for riders, breeders and horse lovers, nationally and internationally. The views expressed by contributors are their own and not necessarily those of the editors. Issues are complimentary and not for sale by any means. Please notify us if change of address occurs. All rights reserved to HorseTimes: reproduction is prohibited without the permission of the Chairman Khaled Assem.

In this issue...

Aachen:

If you can't make it here, you can't make it anywhere!



4

Impressions from the

5th World Equestrian Games



8

Dressage

The 2006 Arab League Hosted by



10

The Classic Arabian: Movement



12

The Horse of Pure Heritage

The Middle East Arabian Horse Championship

16

18

Vibrant Polo



22

Horses in Islam



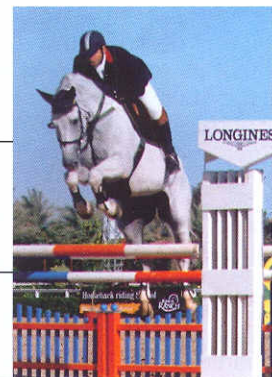
24

Horses & Celebrities

28

Legendary

Horse Stories



30

How To Be A Trainer

32

Kings Ranch

34



FEI World Equestrian Games
www.Aachen 2006.de

Aachen 2006



If You Can Make it here... You can Make it Anywhere!

By Ina El Kobbia - *Germany*

The 5th World Equestrian Games got off to a spectacular start with a stunning opening ceremony on the 20th of August 2006; the perfect beginning for two action-packed weeks of elite equestrian sport covering seven disciplines.

Aachener Soers, the world's most esteemed equestrian ground, in the German city of Aachen regularly hosts the CHIO Aachen, which riders deem the most challenging tournament in the world. This time it surmounted another hurdle to host the 2006 World Equestrian Games. With an allocated budget of 39.3 million Euros, a dramatic reconstruction has been carried out to accommodate the event. The show ground has three stadiums; the main stadium allows for an incomparable capacity of 40,000 spectators, who are treated to a breathtaking view over the arena. Additionally, amazing ground preparation was undertaken to include a new specially designed grass mix to ensure the best possible footing for the horses.

Moreover, a radiant and devoting new F.E.I. President took the masses in Aachen by storm; H.R.H. Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein proved herself admirably well not only as the new President of the International Equestrian Federation, but also as a wonderful representative and beautiful image of the Arab World on the international circuit!



H.R.H. Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein,
the new President of the International
Equestrian Federation.

Photo by Kit Houghton, F.E.I.



Gold and Bronze medallists German Isabell Werth & Satchmo greeting their crowd.

Photo by Eva K.-Schubert

In an enthusiastic and unifying opening speech H.R.H. Princess Haya declared the 5th World Equestrian Games open. The Princess, who was overwhelmingly well received at her first World Games as President of the F.E.I. is truly her father's daughter, the unforgettable late King Hussein of Jordan. She shares much of his outstanding charisma and perfect sense of diplomacy and sensitivity for the needs of people. Having myself attended a special press conference given by the Princess at the World Equestrian Games in Aachen; one cannot but express admiration for a beautiful young woman who quickly captured the hearts and minds of the international media and the horse world in a pleasant and skilful way. The Princess has prepared herself well for change in

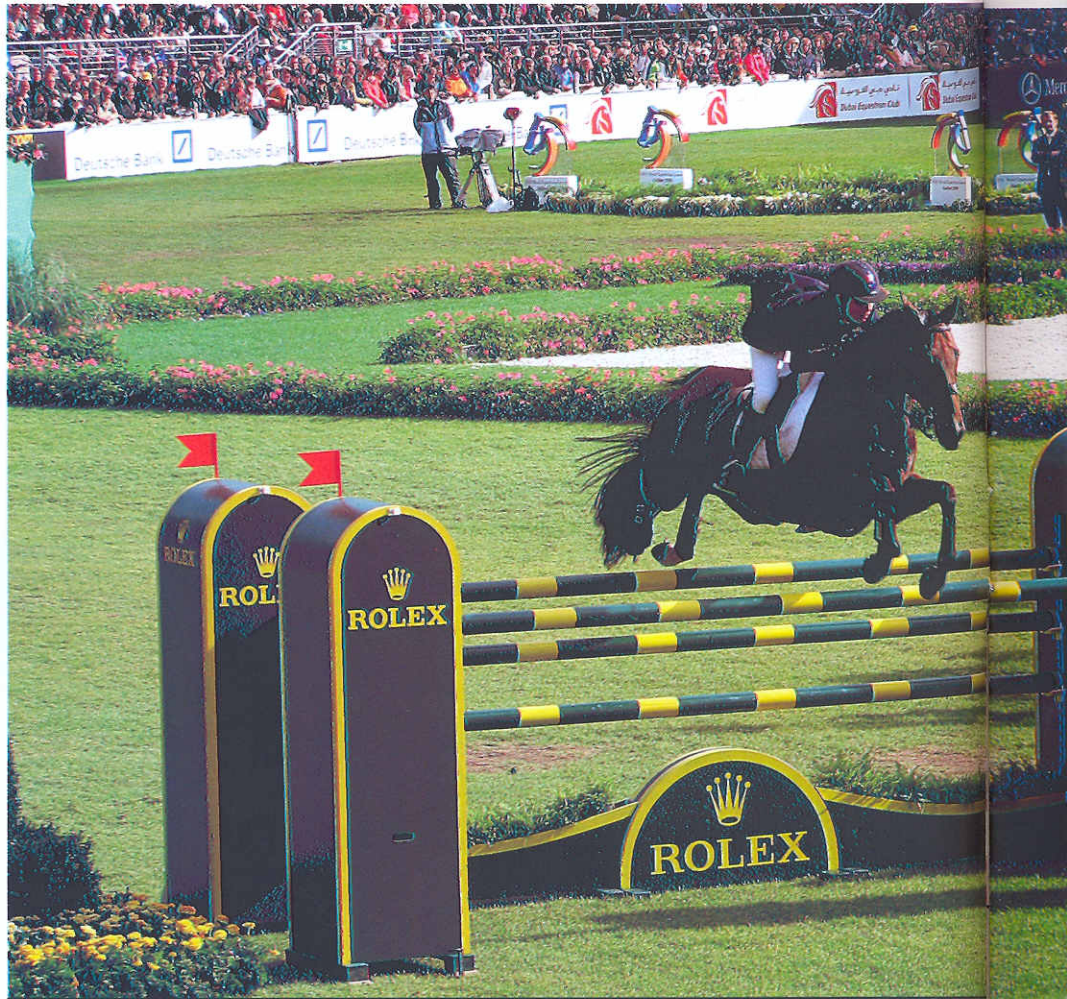
the work and policy of the F.E.I., which has long been called for. In her presentation to the press she left no doubts about her goals and her determination to fulfil her promises. It is obvious that as an athlete herself for many years now, she knows very well about the needs of horses & riders and is well prepared to take up their points of concern. Additionally, the strengthening of the National Federations, especially the weaker National Equestrian Federations as well as the increase of popularity, transparency and competitiveness of the horse sport as against other sports are definite priorities that she has set for her presidential term. To those present at the press conference something else became apparent, the Princess is very much considered a

representative of the Arab world, especially of the female Arab World. As such she was confronted with several questions concerning the role of Arab women. Princess Haya made clear that there are many modern and dynamic Arab women other than herself and members of her family, however it was not for her alone but for the international media to take pride in determining and reporting about them as well.

Getting back to the prestigious horse competitions of the world's best, the first medals of the Games were granted to the competitors of endurance racing. Horses and riders had to overcome a difficult course of 160km passing parts of Germany, Netherlands and Belgium. Next to very good quality horses the right



*Favourites of the crowd: Danish dressage champions Andreas Helgstrand & young mare Matine!
Photo by Eva K.-Schubert*



At the finals, Australia's best female rider Edwina Alexander. Photo by J. Beck

strategy is vital to manage such a tour. It was again the talented French team that proved its strength well and took the team gold medal followed by the team silver medal for the Swiss. The Portuguese team surprised many and took the bronze medal. The vet checks at these World Games were tightened up to safeguard the horses given the tragic fact that two horses passed away due to exhaustion at the last World Games 2002 in Jerez.

Spanish rider Miguel Vila Ubach couldn't believe his success: aboard his grey Arabian gelding he entered the arena first after 160km, 9 hours, 12 minutes and 27 seconds. The new World Champion in endurance racing was in tears and declared later on that he had dreamt of winning this title ever since he had become European champion back in 1999. The second and third place went to the two French female riders Virginie Atger and Elodie Le Labourier. The best individual Arab rider at this discipline was Sheikh Duaj Bin Salman Al Khalifa from Bahrain. He took ninth place and thereby placed himself well amongst the top ten in the world. In total, 159 riders from 41 nations started this competition whereby seven Arab countries were represented (Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Emirates).

Dressage was a highlight for Germany; unbeaten until today Germany took its tenth team gold medal. The German team consisting of Heike Kemmer on her horse 'Bonaparte', Isabell Werth on her horse 'Satchmo', Nadine Capellmann aboard 'Elvis' and finally Hubertus Schmidt on his mare 'Wansuela Suerte' achieved a total score of 223.625. It was noted that all horses of the German team carry the

famous Hanoverian brand. The Team Netherlands took second place with 217.917 scores followed by the team from the USA with a total number of 213.917.

For the first time individual medals were granted for the dressage discipline of 'Grand Prix Special'. The best couple was German Isabell Werth and her horse 'Satchmo'. "It was my best ride ever", Isabell Werth commented as she was still overwhelmed by her horse. World famous Dutch Anky van Grunsven took second on her Hanoverian 'Salinero' followed by a strong Danish couple Andreas Helgstrand on his just nine years old Danish brad mare 'Matine'. Dressage came to a conclusion with breathtaking freestyle to music. More than 40.000 spectators in the arena watched the fifteen best riders presenting their 'Kur'. It was Dutch Anky van Grunsven and the Hanoverian 'Salinero' who received the highest scores. The presentation of the couple was smooth and energetic, whereby there was no end halt, still the charismatic duo danced its way to the gold medal. The favourite of the crowd was Danish Andreas Helgstrand aboard his young Danish brad mare 'Matine'. Helgstrand presented a difficult new kur. His young mare impressed everybody by phenomenal piaffe and passage. The couple was granted the silver medal. German Isabell Werth and 'Satchmo'



*Gold for the best in jumping: Jos Lansink & Cavalor Cumano.
Photo by J. Beck*

presented a very nice kur, yet did not perform spectacular enough for another gold medal, but still managed an honourable third place.

Another exciting discipline at the World Games is eventing. At the Olympics in Athens Germany most tragically lost all its gold medals, this time the team around Bettina Hoy took revenge and made it to the gold medal. Zara Philipps, granddaughter of Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth II, took the individual gold medal in eventing for Great Britain. In a moving statement she devoted her medal to her



Princess Haya & German Chancellor Angela Merkel supporting therapeutic riding.

Photo by J.Beck



Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum riding towards the Mercedes Benz Fence.

Photo by J.Beck

late friend Sherelle Duke, who died aged 28 only a week ago on the 20th of August when her horse toppled on top of her while competing in England.

Show jumping truly captured the masses. Team Jumping ended with the gold medal for the Netherlands who achieved an unreachable lead. The United States and its best rider Bezie Madden took the silver medal. At the beginning of these Games the German jumping team was considered to be the strongest team and a gold medal seemed to be likely, however the facts came out differently. The team didn't prove it was at its best. Foremost, the world's no. 1 Marcus Ehning and his mare 'Kuechengirl' couldn't gel with each other. After two riding mistakes the grand stylist wasn't able to gain back the confidence of his horse and had to give up at the end, leaving Germany with a number of mistakes. Therefore the German team was very lucky to take the bronze medal. Essentially Ludger Beerbaum and Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum were the strongest riders in the German team.

The last day of the World Equestrian Games in Aachen was granted to the individual finals in reining and show jumping. In a dramatic tie break Canadian Duane Latimer took the gold medal in reining ahead of Tim McQuay from the USA. The last gold medals of the 2006

Endurance Racing: seven Arab countries were represented (Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Arab Emirates).



Farewell Aachen 2006, welcome Kentucky 2010.

Photo by J.Beck

Games were to the sympathetic Belgium show jumper Jos Lansink and his wonderful Holstein stallion 'Cavalor Cumano', each coming in at first place as best rider and best horse! There were only four riders left for the individual finals

in jumping with change of horses: 3 female riders and one male rider. At the end it was Jos Lansink who remained clear in all rounds. Equally his stallion stood clear though with different riders on board. Second was the talented rider Bezie Madden from the USA. American born Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum, wife of the younger brother of Ludger Beerbaum, achieved a well deserved third place for Germany along with her Hanoverian 'Shutterfly'. Edwina Alexander and her Westphalian horse 'Pialotta' (a wonderful horse with a height of just 1.60) made Australia's flags fly high in the arena by taking an excellent fourth place amongst the worlds best.

At the very end, in an emotional speech the F.E.I. President H.R.H. Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein brought the 5th World Equestrian Games 2006 Aachen to a close and compelled her audience to look ahead to welcome the 6th World Equestrian Games 2010 in Kentucky! **HT**

Eva-Kristina started her studies of applied cultural science in 1999 at the University of Luneburg with a specialisation in art and communication. Her particular interests have been photography and film. Eva organised several photo and theatre presentations in Germany and France. She regularly displays her photos which are frequently discussed by experts from the photo community. Moreover, Eva obtained work experience at some of Germany's most renowned newspapers, such as 'Handelsblatt, Wirtschafts- und Finanzzeitung' in Dusseldorf. Throughout, her true passion has been black & white photography. She joined the World Equestrian Games in Aachen for Horse Times and presents herein a little series of her own particular impressions from all around the show ground!





Dressage

By Emmadeldin Zaghloul



© Arnd Bronkhorst

Anky Van Grunsven & Salinero.

The **FEI** instituted an International Dressage Event in 1929 in order to preserve the Equestrian Art from the abuses to which it can be exposed as well as to reserve it in the purity of its principles, consequently be passed on together to generations of riders to come.

The position and aids of the rider:

- All the movements should be obtained without any apparent effort from the rider. He should be well balanced, with the loins and hips supple, thighs and legs steady and well stretched downwards. The upper part of the body should feel relaxed, free and erect, with the hands low and close together, however without touching either each other, or the horse. Adding that the thumb be as the highest point, the elbows and arms close to the body, enabling the rider to follow the movements of the horse smoothly and freely, on top of applying his aids imperceptibly. This is the only position making it possible for the rider to school his horse progressively and correctly.
- Not only the aids of the hand and legs are of great importance in dressage, but also of the seat. Only the rider who understands how to contract and relax his loin muscles at the right moment is able to influence his horse correctly.
- When executing both national tests that might be inserted in the programme of the same event and International Dressage Events, riding with both hands is obligatory when executing any of the Official Dressage Tests published by the FEI. However, when leaving the arena at a walk-on a long rein, after having finished his performance, the rider may, at his own discretion, ride with only one hand. Riding with reins in one hand is though permitted in the Free-Style tests.
- The use of the voice in any way whatsoever, or the clicking of the tongue once or repeatedly, is a serious fault, involving the deduction of at least 2 marks from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred. **HT**



© Dirk Garmans

Swede Jan Brink & Bjorsells Briar.



© Dirk Garmans

Swiss Daniel Ramseier & Rali Baba.

WELCOME TO THE KASSELMANN STABLES

HAGEN A.T.W. · GERMANY

Skilled horses for young riders
Reliable horses for amateurs
Top-class horses up to Olympic champions
School horses for all demands
Skilled show jumping horses and hunter
Trainings and clinics
Sightseeing available

3 Indoor Riding Arenas
2 Lungeing Arenas
3 Outdoor Dressage Arenas
1 Jumping Arena
1 Jumping Ring
1 Race Track (1000 m)
Apartments for Customers

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:

www.hof-kasselmann.de · www.psi-sporthorses.de

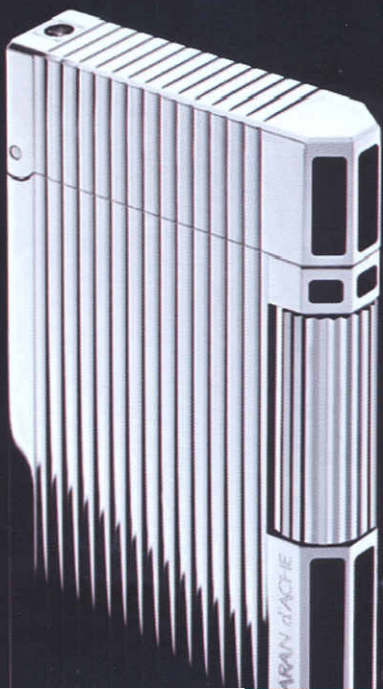
CONTACT:

Kasselmann Stables

Am Borgberg 3 · 49170 Hagen a.T.W. · Germany

Tel. +49 54 01.8 92 00 · Fax: +49 54 01.94 17







Arabian

By Khaled Assaf

Once again, international judge Dr. Nasr M. Al-Tajer, only about the beauty in an A



The TYPE of horse was the kick-off article discussed in our previous issue of a series of interviews with internationally accredited judge Dr. Nasr Marei who continues his remarkable transmittance of information on the Arabian horse. In this issue he discusses MOVEMENT and LEGS.

What is movement, and how do you as an international judge and breeder assess it in your judging scheme?

Defining "movement" is easy. Assessing it is more complicated.

By movement we actually mean how a horse moves. When assessing movement you should take these elements into consideration: Balance, Coordination, Animation, Elegance, and Correctness.

When a horse moves at any gate (walk, trot or canter) it must show coordination in limbs and balance where the weight should be shifted and distributed on all four legs. It should be a powerful but elegant and animated movement generated from the hindquarters and the shoulders. Finally, it should not be sloppy, but correct movement.

As a breeder and a judge, the criteria mentioned above happens to be my preferable guidelines that I would like to see in my horse or in the show ring. A good movement exemplifies the above mentioned elements. Horses are not just pretty creatures that you look upon, they are surely performing creatures. They have their own events and sport disciplines. They were used in farming, pulling and lets not to forget, they were also war machines!

Hence, in order to sum movement, as a breeder I personally look into the structure and correctness of the horse and how much he confirms his trait as an Arabian horse. However, movement is one of the basic points that I would really go for in breeding, and as I said before it's an important trait of the Arabian to have agile animated movement that is characterised by high kicking when the movement comes naturally from the shoulder, and



when the power comes from the hindquarters. If the movement is initiated from the shoulders then it is flat, and the hindquarters wouldn't be working sufficiently; the power comes from the back.

Shifting from our main topic; why are there shows to judge the Arabian? As to see which is prettier? For the owners to be happy or are you trying to reserve the better and best breeds and improve upon them? As a rider, I would think that some horses are naturally built and apt to be athletic. In reality you could add to a horse that is not talented as a mover; it could be exercised well, as such not make him a great mover, but definitely improve him.

This brings me back to a point about human intervention: are we scaling a natural ability so that we judge horses according to how they were bred or according to the human intervention where they can be improved upon?

(Smiling) I think presenting a horse in a show is part of the education of the owners, to see how well their horses are doing and progressing. Frankly, many breeders will sit at home and think that his/her horses are the best. It's an emotional issue to the breeder. But if one really looks into the quality of the horses and decides to assess them, one way of doing this is to present them in a show and have them judged by different eyes, and not the owner's eyes. If the horse wins or fairs well, then the breeder is on

the right track. Otherwise, the owner should study and learn where the shortcomings are. The intelligent and good breeder would do that and will get reassurance about the quality of his horses when they win or get a red flashing light insinuating that he should do better with his breeding. This is the main purpose of going into shows in my opinion. In addition there is a little bit of ego and promotion for the breeding programme.

On the same note, breeding BETTER horses is a GOOD step for the breed itself whether it is an Arabian, a warm blood or otherwise. It is the human selection when done correctly that improves the quality of the breed. I believe that a show is an avenue that helps in improving the breed.

As for improving movement or performance through human intervention, I believe that a natural excellent vs. poor or good movement is a natural thing that

All these factors are paramount. They complete the whole and same picture. The legs have to be proper and sound. In Arabians, "type" as explained in our previous interview is an essential hallmark of the breed.

Each of these factors is an individual CHALLENGE to the breeder. Combining them altogether is even a bigger one as you can imagine.

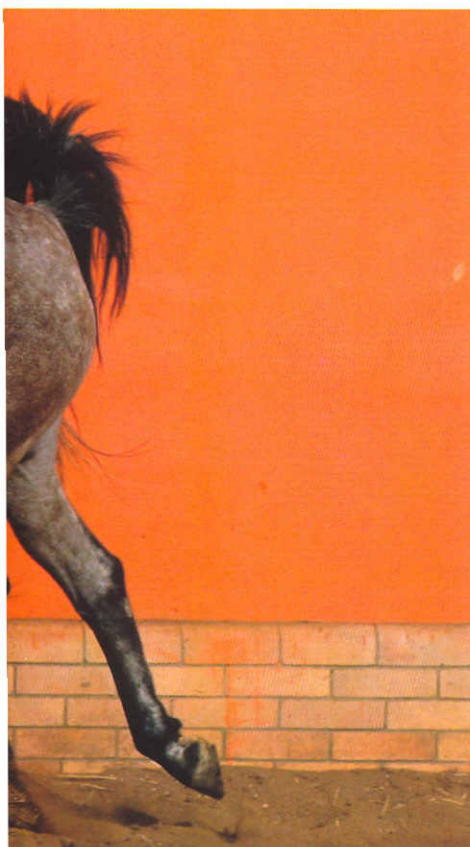
In regards to LEGS and blemishes, what can you tell the readers?

The legs are the support for the body and means of moving, running and jumping. Legs have to be correct, proper, strong, and with no congenital blemishes. One has to see each of the leg as a whole and then go into a more detailed assessment. There are different parts in the leg; one should start from the shoulder down or from the hip down. Each of these parts

defect that the horse was born with potentially congenital and of hereditary consequences like for example deformed legs, deviation, offset legs, etc. then the horse gets low scores. In any case you do not want to have a horse that is suffering in the show. If you think that a blemish causes a problem for the horse, it should not be entered in the competition, otherwise the horse stands a chance of being disqualified.

Hooves; are any correctional techniques allowed as to adjust the hooves in order to get the correct angle?

Yes, it's allowed. This is already being done whilst the horse is growing up. Allowing that has nothing to do with cheating and it's not against the welfare of the horse. We have to differentiate between correcting the weakness in hooves structure, appearance and cosmetic surgery. In the



horses are born with. As a breeder, I know for sure that the quality of the movement is inherited. Some stallions or mares just consistently pass it on to their foals. Horses that are not born with "excellent" movement can be improved by training to some extent. Human intervention, as mentioned by you can be important in a different way; breeders can concentrate in their own breeding on individual horses that already have excellent movement.

Back to movement, is it difficult to correct movement in a breeding programme in order to come up with better movement, or is it more difficult to come up with better legs, or improve the type? What is it that is extremely challenging? Or are all those factors homogeneous?

has its respective measure of correctness to be evaluated. For example, from the shape to the size, shape and uniformity of the hoof, the legs from the front side whether they are parallel or their lines are broken, any deviation from chest level or from knee level, the direction where the hooves are pointing (toe-in, toe-out), as well as the back legs whether they have the hocks inside or outside, and whether they are parallel or not, or have any deviation at any joint point. All the above are being examined while the horse is standing.

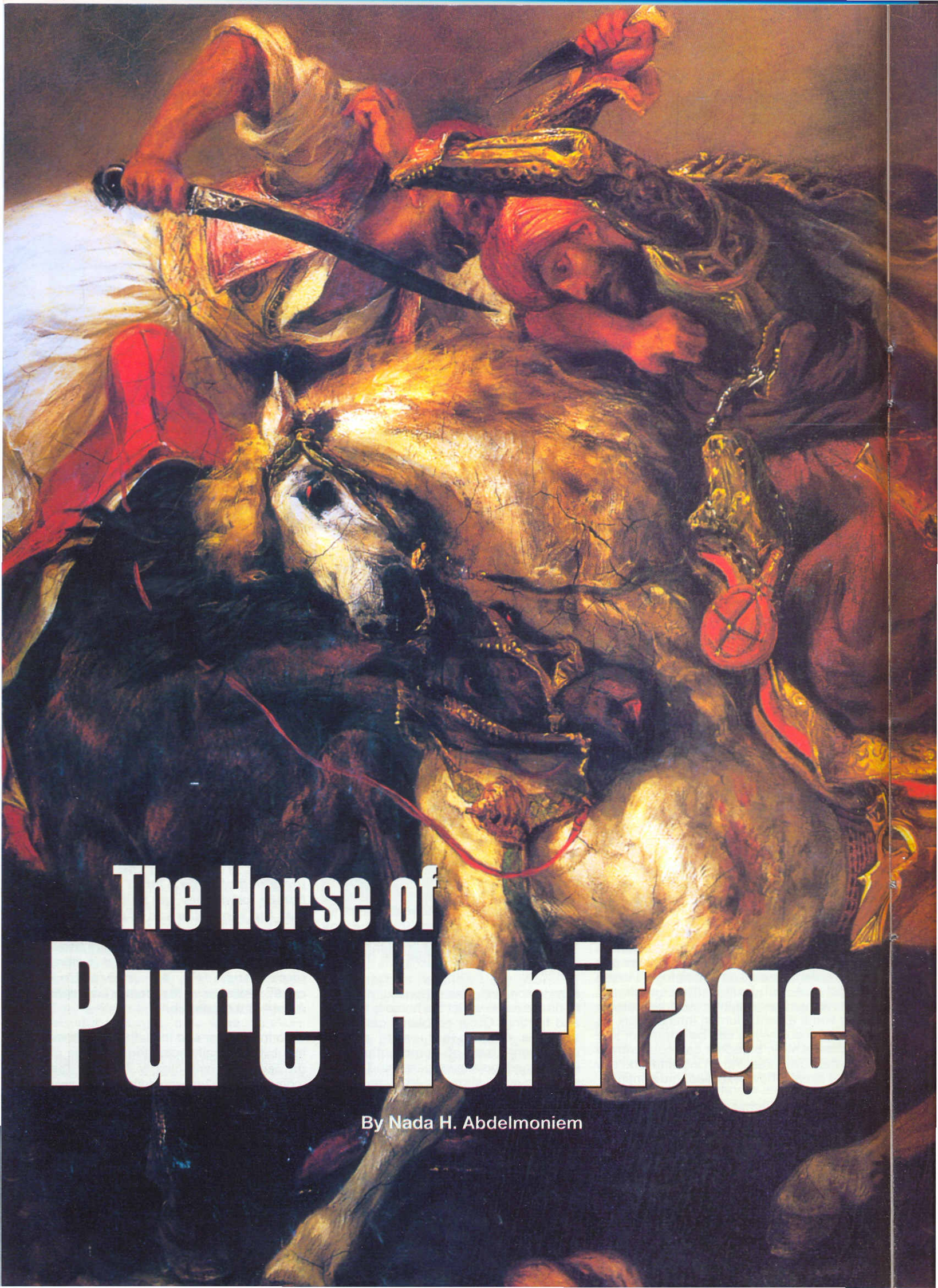
Now to complete your evaluation, you have to do the same whilst the horse is walking and trotting. Other problems can arise, such as dishing out or in, sloppy movement, lack of coordination and imbalanced movement patterns. The fact is that in every show the legs are always the lowest score in the total evaluation of the horse and that's because there are so many details in each of the legs. The horse has four legs and you are bound to find incorrectness somewhere.

As for blemishes, if it's an acquired blemish it doesn't count in the evaluation in the show ring. However, if it is a blemish or a

past there were reports indicating that surgery was done in many areas in the body of the horse for correcting defects. These procedures are banned worldwide.

Your experience in the influence of a mare vs. a stallion in the breeding programme; when a lot of people sell horses today, they say that this horse was the son of the stallion that won that specific Olympic Games for example. But the true breeders know that it's the mother's side that is more important. It's an interesting controversial issue that comes only with a pool of experience.

Both the mother and the father have their input. Genetically speaking, in some of the lines you will clearly see that the mother's genes are very dominant. A mare that was bred to different stallions will produce a foal that one would immediately recognise its close resemblance to the mother; likewise for a stallion. Basically, each of the parents contribute. In some cases the dominance comes from the mother, and some cases from the sire. There is no fixed equation. **HT**



The Horse of Pure Heritage

By Nada H. Abdelmoniem



Arabians are one of the oldest human-developed breeds in the world. 'Proto-Arabian' horses with oriental characteristics similar to the modern Arabian horse appeared in rock paintings and inscriptions in the Arabian Peninsula as far back as 2,500 B.C. Likewise, horses with refined heads and high-carried tails were depicted in artwork throughout the Ancient Near East.

History Of The Origins Of The Arabian Horse

Although natural selection was an important factor in the development of the Arab breed, man's influence was the major contribution. The Arab horse's lineage and the purity of its blood were the result of a process of selections, the development of other characteristics and the result of further selection. Each of the early breeders in the desert tribes had his own particular idea of what constituted equine perfection towards which he would strive. An outstanding mare would be procured, and with good fortune would prove fertile and pass on her merits to offspring. In this way, different strains were to develop. Even today, every breeder has his own idea of equine perfection, and it may be argued that all successful programmes in the Arabian horse breeding have depended on exceptional foundation mares.

There are different theories about where the wild ancestor of the Arabian originally lived. Some suggest the horse came from the area along the northern edge of the Fertile Crescent. Others argue for the south-western corner of the Arabian Peninsula, in modern-day Yemen, where three now-dry riverbeds suggest good natural pastures existed long ago. Yemen is one of the oldest continuous civilisations in the world that has some of the most diverse landscape in the region. For this reason, horses were used from the earliest times to work in the often rugged terrain.

The Arabian prototype was originally tamed by the people of the Arabian Peninsula known today as the Bedouin, probably domesticated shortly after the Bedouin learned to use the camel.

Gladys Brown Edwards, a noted scholar of the Arabian horse theorised that the Arabian came from a separate subspecies of horse, *Equus agillius*. However, other scholars believe that the 'dry' oriental horse of the desert from which the modern Arabian developed was one of four basic subtypes of *Equus Caballus* that had specific characteristics based on the environments in which they lived. Other horses with similar physical characteristics include the Barb of North Africa and the Akhal-Teke of western Asia.

The desert environment produced a horse that had to cooperate with humans to survive. Weak individuals were weeded out of the breeding pool, and the animals that remained were honed by centuries of human warfare. Likewise, humans needed horses: Arabians were bred by the Nomadic Bedouin as a warhorse with speed, endurance, soundness, and intelligence. The desert horse needed to thrive on very little food, and possess anatomical traits to compensate for life in a dry climate with temperature extremes from day to night. A good disposition was critical; prized war mares were often brought inside family tents to prevent theft and for protection from predators. Though appearance was not necessarily a survival factor, the Bedouin bred for refinement and beauty in their horses as well as for more practical features.

For centuries, the Bedouin tracked the ancestry of each horse through an oral history tradition. The first written pedigrees in the Middle East that specifically used the term "Arabian" date to 1330 A.D. Horses of the purest blood were known as Aseel and crossbreeding with non-Aseel horses was forbidden. Mares were the most valued, both for riding and breeding, and pedigree families were traced through the female line. The Bedouin did not believe in gelding male horses, thus most stallions were sold to city-dwellers.

Over time, the Bedouin developed several sub-types or strains of Arabian horses, each with unique characteristics. According to the Arabian Horse Association, the five primary strains were known as the Keheilan, Seqlawi, Abeyan, Hamdani and Hadban. There were also lesser strains, sub-strains, and regional variations in strain names. Thus, many Arabian horses were not only Aseel, that of pure blood, but also bred to be pure in strain as well, with crossbreeding between strains discouraged, though not forbidden, by some tribes.

This complex web of bloodline and strain was an integral part of Bedouin culture. Tribes people knew the pedigrees and history of the best war mares as well as their own family or tribal history. **HT**



The Middle East

Amman - Jordan

17-19 Sep. 2006

Arabian Horse Championship

By Sinan Nashashibi

Under the patronage of their Majesties King Abdullah and Queen Rania of Jordan, the Middle East Championship took place from the 17th of September until the 19th at the Royal Stables in the breath taking Al Hu'mar area which stands just 10 KM from Amman.

With the participation of over 200 horses representing more than 30 stables from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Jordan, the show witnessed a very exciting competition of top Arabian horses bred in the Arab region and in western countries, registered in the Middle East Stud book.

The Middle East championship is the brain child of Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al-Hussein, the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation President and the Royal Jordanian Arabian Horse Association President. This annual event started in the early 90's witnessing yearly improvement and is getting more international recognition world-wide.

The championship was co-organised by the Royal Stables and the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Federation. Judges and disciplinary committee members were from the UK, Italy, France, Germany, New Zealand, Switzerland and Spain.

Major classes of the championship were equally won by The Royal Stables, Royal Jaffar Stables (Jordan), King Abdul Aziz Arabian Horse Centre and AL-Khaldia Stud (Saudi Arabia) which is a regular participant in the yearly show.

The crowd included International Arabian Horses experts from Syria, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iran, France, Spain, Germany and Switzerland, as well as Jordanian Equestrian horse Experts, breeders and lovers who enjoyed the three day show. **HT**

Sinan Nashashibi: GSM: +962 79 5593009, Fax: +962 6 5923134
Email: sinan.nashashibi@wanadoo.jo



Mr. Bassam Anzarouti from Syria with Hakim Jaffar owned by the Royal Jaffar stud.



HRH Princess Alia with guests at the prize ceremony.



GoGa owned by the Jordan Royal stables.



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
Cairo at The First Residence

Creating Legendary Events



OUR TEAM OF CATERING PROFESSIONALS MAKES SURE YOUR PRIVATE OR CORPORATE OCCASIONS ARE UNFORGETTABLE,
AT YOUR VENUE OF CHOICE. WHETHER YOU PREFER A SMALL INTIMATE GATHERING OR EXTRAVAGANT RECEPTION,
WE ENSURE YOUR EXCLUSIVE EVENT IS EXCEPTIONAL.

TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF OUR EXPERIENCED CATERING COUNSELORS ON (02) 573 1212



35 Giza Street, GIZA, Cairo, Egypt 12311
www.fourseasons.com

Semiramis Intercontinental

19th - 21st February, 2007

Ma



Semi-Conference & Fair



Organized by SH GROUP Egypt:
www.sh-group.org
For more info & Registration, Please Contact:
E-mail: info@sh-group.org
Hotline: +2010 523 616 - (+202) 3379814

Wist El Balad
Concert
Free Entrance



Media Sponser

Ma Villa Fair 2007

Super Luxury Way Of Life

Do you like the idea of owning your dream villa in a relaxing and healthy environment? Ma Villa Fair is an outstanding chance with its various prospects to make this dream come true.

Local and international participating commercial chambers and associations offer in Ma Villa Fair brands of beauty, privacy, and luxury through contemporary visions of architectural designs.

Satisfaction in Ma Villa Fair is a guarantee; it is the perfect opportunity for people seeking to live in privacy and comfort overlooking spacious landscape of greenery.

Ma Villa Fair structural plans and designs aim to implement social and economical development to Egypt today

The three day Fair will include various sessions and lectures covering many related topics to the environment, decoration and its history by expert speakers and lecturers.

Ma Villa Fair taking place from February 19th. until the 21st. 2007 will be an outstanding fair at the Intercontinental Semiramis.

Ma Villa Fair is organised by SH GROUP, an expert in organising fairs, conferences, and professional events in Egypt.

SH GROUP

"customer satisfaction is our aim"

Vibrant

POLO



By Rafael Gonzalez

It's the sport of kings, horses, elephants and Ralph Lauren! For nearly two thousand years it has been played in Asia for leisure and training for cavalry. Six hundred years ago, Tamerlane (Timur), the Mongol conqueror, had his own polo field, still visible today in his capital city of Samarkand in present day Uzbekistan.

Polo is certainly one of the most demanding horse sports, because each of the four humans on a team has charge of a one thousand pound horse trained to charge at thirty five miles an hour, then stop on a dime.

*"Let other people play at other things
The King of Games is still the
Game of Kings"*

This verse is inscribed on a stone tablet next to a polo ground in Skardu, north of Kashmir, near the fabled silk route from China to the West. In one ancient sentence it epitomises the feelings of many polo players today.

The word POLO is Originated from Balti language spoken in the Northern areas of Pakistan, Ladakh, Kargil area of India and in a few places of Tibet and Nepal where the word polo means Ball. The evidence of polo is found in a 4000-4500 years old Balti story named 'Hilafoo Kaisaar', So the original place of polo is Skardu (Baltistan) northern area of Pakistan, where till now it is played in its original form (Free-Style). Polo and Chogan are not similar, they are two different games. In Chogan a team consists of four players whereas in polo a team consists of seven players. The precise origin of polo is obscure and undocumented and there is more than enough evidence of the game's place in the history of Asia. No one knows where or when "stick first met ball" after the

Notable International Polo Players

Lucas Monteverde
Adolfo Cambiaso
Alberto Pedro Heguy, Sr.
Horacio A. Heguy
Bautista Heguy
Ignacio "Nachi" Heguy
Tommy Hitchcock
Porfirio Rubirosa
Victor-Mansour Semeika
Harry Payne Whitney
Henry Brett
Luke Tomlinson
Paul Clarkin
John-Paul Clarkin

horse was domesticated by the ancient Iranian (Aryan) tribes of Central Asia before their migration to Iranian plateau; but it seems likely that as the use of light cavalry spread throughout Iranian plateau, Asia Minor, China and the Indian subcontinent, so did this rugged game on horseback.

However, many scholars believe that polo originated among the Iranian tribes sometime before Darius I (521-485 BC) and his cavalry that extended the Achaemenid (dynasty that ruled the Persian gulf) rule to far greater Persian empire than its Median predecessor. Certainly it is literature and art that give us the richest accounts of polo in antiquity. For more than 20 centuries polo remained a favourite of the rulers of Asia, who played the game or were its patrons. Queens played, as did the nobility and the mounted warriors.

Polo for non-Iranians was the nearest equivalent to a national sport in those times, from Japan to Egypt, and from India to the Byzantine empire. However as the great Eastern empires collapsed, so did the glittering court life of which polo was so important, and the game itself was preserved only in remote villages.

Polo is now an active sport in 77 countries, and although its tenure as an



The oldest royal polo square is the 16th century Maidan-Shah in Isfahan, Iran (Post revolutionary name is: Naghsh-i Jahan Square).

The oldest polo club in the world still in existence is the Calcutta Polo Club (1862).

The highest polo ground in the world is on the deosai Plateau Baltistan at 4307 meters (14,000 feet).

sport was limited to 1900-1939, in 1998 the International Olympic Committee recognised it as a sport with a bonafide international governing body. Polo is still played professionally in only a few countries, notably Argentina, England, Pakistan, India, and the United States. It is so unique among team sports to an extent that amateur players are often the team patrons routinely hired to play alongside the sport's top professionals. The modern sport has had difficulty tackling with the traditional social and economic exclusivity associated with a game that is inevitably expensive when played at a serious level. On one hand, many polo athletes genuinely desire to broaden public participation in the sport, both as an end in itself and to increase the standard of play. On the other hand, many members of polo clubs, particularly social or non-playing members, are attracted to the sport precisely because of its aura of wealth and exclusivity. Nevertheless, the popularity of polo has grown steadily since the 1980's, and its future appears to have been greatly strengthened by its return as a varsity

sport at universities across the world.

Arena (or Indoor) polo is an affordable option for many who wish to play the sport with the rules being similar. The sport is played in a 300 feet x 150 feet enclosed arena, much like those used for other equestrian sports; the minimum size is 150 feet x 75 feet. The major differences between the outdoor and indoor games are speed (outdoor being faster), physicality/roughness (indoor/arena is more physical), ball size (indoor is larger), goal size (because the arena is smaller the goal is smaller), and some penalties. In the United States and Canada, collegiate polo is arena polo; in the UK collegiate polo is both.

Basic Rules

Polo is played by two teams of players mounted on horseback. When playing outdoors each team has four players, while arena polo is restricted to three players per team. The field is 300 yards long, and either 160 yards or 200 yards wide. There is a goal on both ends of the field. The object of the game is to score the most goals by hitting the ball through the goal.

A game is divided into periods, called *chukkers* (a Hindi word meaning circle or turn) for 7 minutes, and depending on the rules of the particular tournament or league, a game may have 4, 6 or 8 chukkers, with 6 chukkers being most common. A chukker is so exhausting for the horses that they cannot play two in a row. In championship polo, each human will have a different mount for each chukker. Games are often played with a handicap in which the sums of the individual players' handicaps are compared to each other, and the team with the worst handicap is given a few goals before the start of the game. **HT**



Horses in Islam

By Nada H. Abdelmoniem
Illustrations by Marie Oussedik

The story about horses is never ending. It's more than a story, it's an education. The history of horses may take eons to research, and even when implemented controversy will arise, adding a bit of zing to the reader, or maybe to an uncompromising Arabian horse breeder! Stories about horses in Islam in specific go back to the mystic times of King Solomon, the Sultans, and the Caliphs of Baghdad.

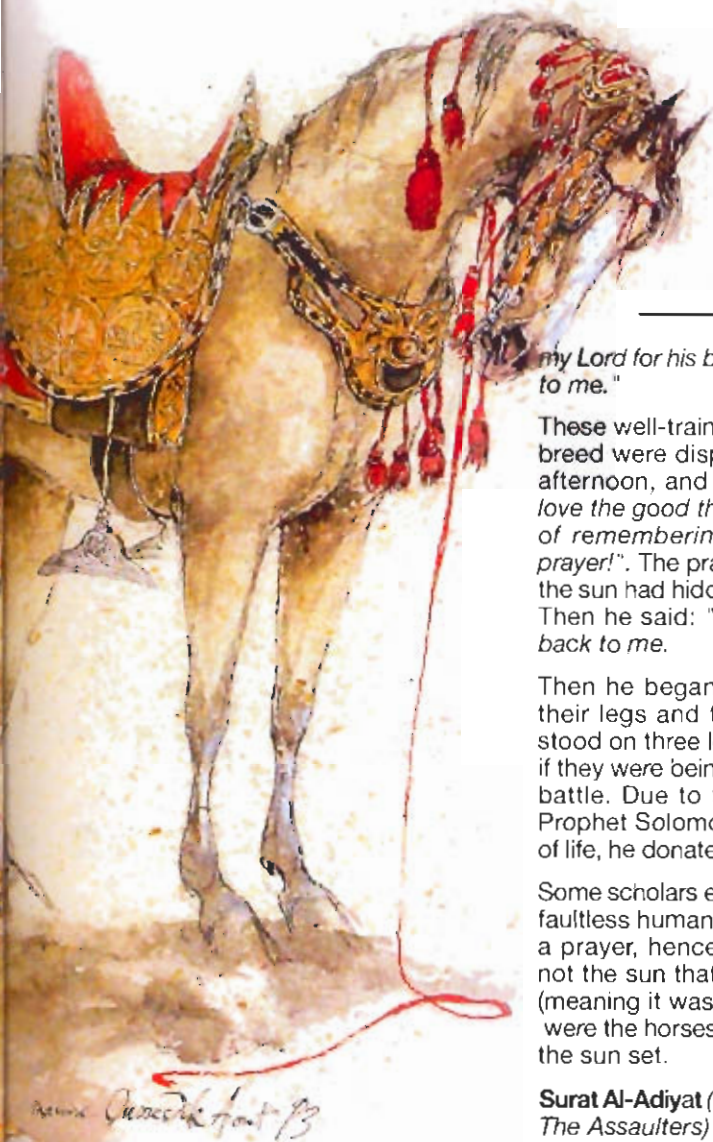
In the stories of Islam, there are many features about sports. In actual fact, many Islamic obligations include physical and spiritual activities as well as ways of straightening behaviour. To name a few, patience, and concentration. Prayer, for example, is not only about spiritual purification but it involves the physical movement of the body. While the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage, also involves physical effort in its various rituals. Some of the physical activities early Muslims were involved in were running, archery, fencing, wrestling, weight lifting, high jumping, stone tossing, and swimming. In addition to those activities, horsemanship and horse racing were two

major sports during that time. Horses were a huge passion and are linked in many ways to prophets and the Quran. Details about horse chronicles in Islam are remarkable, with a lot of them not being known to many.

Stories from the Holy Quran

Prophet/King Solomon was a great ruler who was given wisdom, favour and special powers by God (he had under his rule not only people, but also hosts of





my Lord for his blessings! Bring the horses to me."

These well-trained horses of the highest breed were displayed before him in the afternoon, and he said: *'Alas! I did love the good things (the horses) instead of remembering my Lord in my Dusk prayer!'*. The prayer's time was over, and the sun had hidden in the veil of the night. Then he said: *'Bring them (the horses) back to me.*

Then he began to pass his hand over their legs and their necks. The horses stood on three legs, lifting their fourth as if they were being prepared to march into battle. Due to the prayer passing and Prophet Solomon loving the finer things of life, he donated those horses for battle.

Some scholars explain that prophets were faultless human beings and cannot miss a prayer, hence they clarify that it was not the sun that was veiled by the night (meaning it was not prayer's time), but it were the horses who galloped away until the sun set.

Surat Al-Adiyat (The Courser, The Chargers, The Assaulters) is the 100th surah of the Quran with 11 ayat (verses). This surah refers to how God SWORE by Horses, how they run fast, panting immensely, and how they behave to their masters, yet us, mankind, continue to disobey God. Therefore horses are better than man. If horses were not blessed creatures, then God wouldn't have SWORN by them.

Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) and his treatment for animals

"If anyone wrongfully kills even a sparrow, let alone anything greater, he will face God's interrogation".

These words reflect the great reverence, respect and love that the Prophet always showed towards animals. He believed that as part of God's creation, animals

should be treated with dignity, and the hadeeth contains a large collection of traditions, admonitions and stories about his relationship with animals. It shows that he had particular consideration for horses and camels: to him they were valiant companions during journey and battle, and he found great solace and wisdom in their presence as the following hadeeth reveals:

In the forehead of horses are tied up welfare and bliss until the Day of Resurrection .

God also recommended Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) to care for horses in this Quran verse:

"And make ready against the enemy all you can of power, including steeds of war. (Surat Al-Anfal 8: 60)

Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) was also reported to have held races for horses that were specially prepared. They took place from Al-Hafya' to Thaniyyat Al-Wada' (about 6 or 7 miles from Al-Madinah, present day in Saudi Arabia), and for those that had not been trained, from Thaniyyat Al-Wada' to the mosque of Banu Zurayq (about 1 mile).

In Sahih Muslim it is reported that Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) said: *'Ride horses, for they are the legacy of your father Ismaeel.*

From Sahih Bukhari

Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) said, *"Good will remain in the foreheads of horses for jihad for they bring about a reward in Paradise or booty."*

He (pbuh) also said: *"If somebody keeps a horse in God's Cause motivated by His promise, then he will be rewarded for what the horse has eaten or drunk and for its dung and urine."* (Rewards will be measured by every single drink, dung, and urine from the horse).

The Prophet (pbuh) said: *'The best horses are black with white foreheads having a white upper lip.'*

It has also been recorded that the horses

Jinn. He was also able to understand the language of ants and birds). His passion for horses was so majestic to an extent the main chronicles about horses are primarily related to him. Various scholars disagree upon the narrations regarding his stories with horses.

During his time, horses were the common mode of transportation. They were very essential for defence: to carry soldiers, cart provisions and weapons of war. The animals were well cared for and well-trained.

One day he was reviewing a horse parade of his stable. The fitness, beauty and posture of the horses fascinated him so much that he kept on stroking and admiring them. The sun was nearly setting, and the time for the middle dusk prayer was passing by. When he realised this, he exclaimed: *"I surely love the finer things of life as a result of always thanking*

to be raced were given adequate training under certain conditions. According to 'Encyclopedia of Islam' (2:953), Training lasted from 40 to 60 days which had the effect of bringing the horse into good conditions by a suitable system of feeding, while excessive weight was sweated off under blankets. On the other hand, in the book of 'Dar-Qutni' (2:552-4) he provides a system and manner of Arabian horse racing as follows:

Hazrat Ali, a follower, used to look after the arrangement for horse-races. He assigned this duty to Suraaqa Bin Malik as his deputy and formed certain rules of proceeding which are as follows:

- The horses should be made to stand in a row.
- It should be thrice announced that, if one has to set the rein in order, or get the colt to accompany the mare, or part with the saddle, he should look to it at once.
- If anybody makes an answer, the takbeer (the phrase, God is Great) should be cried out three times, and on the third takbeer, the horses should start off.
- The animal's ears should be considered a decisive measure for determining a winner.

Hazrat Ali would place himself at the farthest end of the plain, would draw a line, and post two men at each of the line. The racing horses had to cross the line between these two.

Stories about Caliphs of Islam

Omar Ibn Al-Khattab was from Bani Udaie, a clan of the Quraysh tribe. He was a companion of Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) and became the second Caliph (634 - 644) following the death of Abu Bakr, the first Caliph. Omar was born in Mecca and he is said to have belonged

to a middle class family. He was literate, which by some accounts is considered to be uncommon in those times, and he was also well known for his physical strength, being a champion wrestler. Al-Jahiz also reported in his book 'Al-Bayan wa Al-Tabyeen' that Omar Ibn Al-Khattab wrote to his governors saying: "Teach your children swimming, archery, and horsemanship."

In another narration, Omar was reported to have added: "Tell them to jump on the horses' backs, and narrate the stories of famous proverbs and good poetry to them."

The conquest of Arabs under caliph Omar brought them into contact with foreign equestrian traditions and led them to organise new tactics for warfare on horseback. These foreign traditions were that of Iran, Turkey, and Greece.

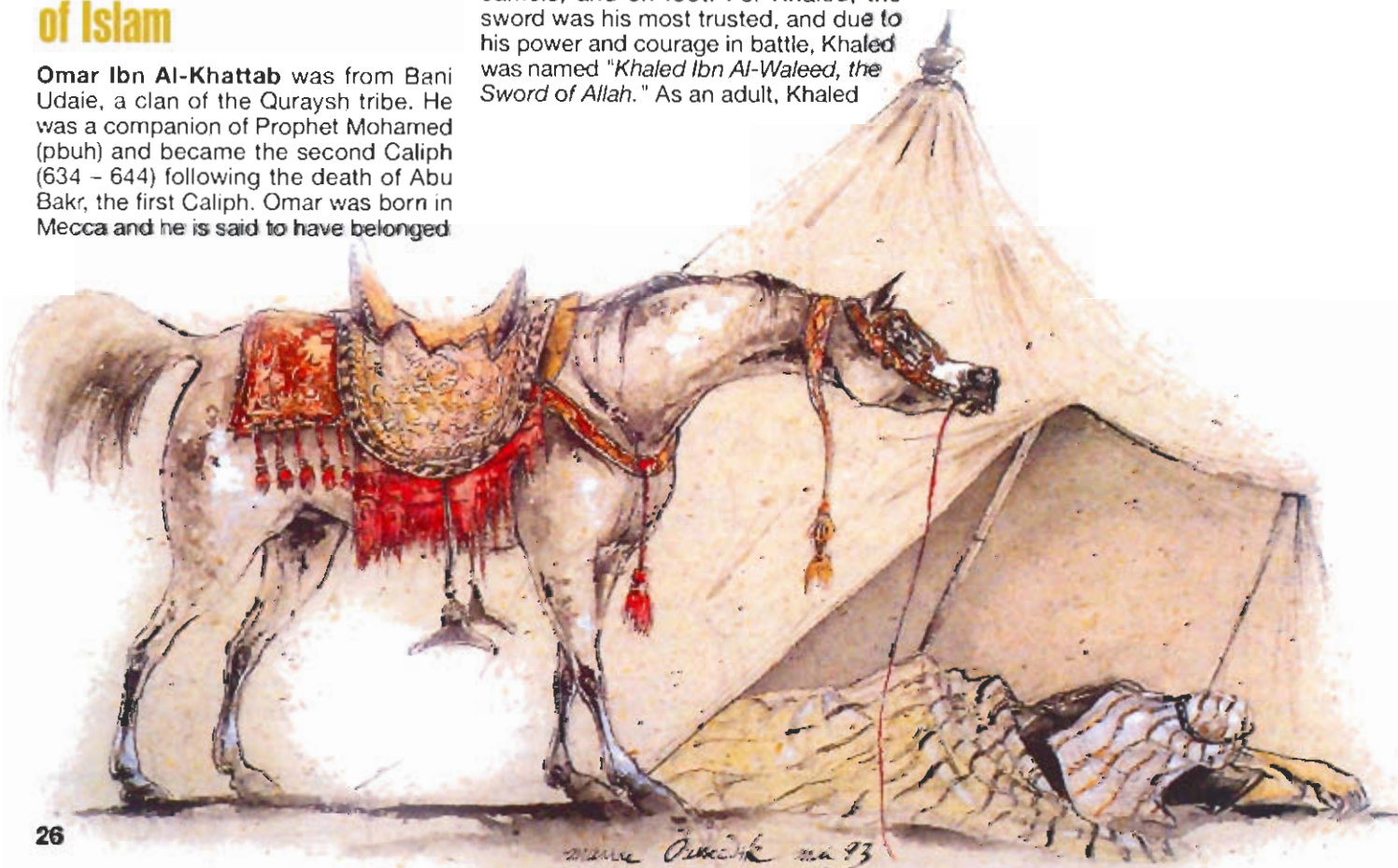
Khaled Ibn Al-Waleed was born around 584 in Mecca to Waleed Ibn Mughirah, the chief of the Bani Makhzum clan of the Quraysh tribe, a clan which specialised in warfare. (The three leading clans of Quraysh at that time were, Bani Hashim, Bani Abd ad-Dar, and Bani Makhzum). Bani Makhzum was responsible for matters of war.

As a child, Khaled learned to ride due to the fact that riding was a matter of pride in his clan. Bani Makhzum were among the best horsemen in Arabia, and Khaled soon became one of the best in his clan. Along with riding, he learned the skills of combat. He learned how to use various weapons, including the spear, the lance, the bow and arrow, and the sword. He also learned to use them on horses, camels, and on foot. For Khaled, the sword was his most trusted, and due to his power and courage in battle, Khaled was named "Khaled Ibn Al-Waleed, the Sword of Allah." As an adult, Khaled

was well known among Quraysh for his fighting abilities. Following the establishment of the new faith of Islam, Prophet Mohamed's (pbuh) followers engaged in a number of conflicts and battles with pagan Meccan forces opposed to the new faith. Khaled's military genius is thought to be responsible for turning the Battle of Uhud into a victory for the Qurayshi forces after what had looked like a sure defeat. **HT**

Sources:

- *Stories of the Quran* by Dr. Mohamed Bakr Ismail
- *Islamonline.net*
- *English Quran* by M.H. Shakir
- **PBUH:** Peace Be Upon Him
- **Surah:** Chapter
- **Hadeeth:** Oral traditions/reports recounting events in the lives of Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) and his followers
- **Jinn:** Spirits (In Islam, the existence of good and evil spirits is acknowledged)
- **Jihad:** Battle
- **Bukhari and Muslim:** Sahih Bukhari and Sahih Muslim are two of the Sunni six major Hadeeth collections. Sunni view this as their most trusted collections, calling them "The most authentic book after the Holy Quran." Sahih is an Arabic word one of whose meanings is "authentic." The hadeeths were collected by Persian Sunni scholar Mohamed Ibn Ismaeel Al-Bukhari (810-870) and published during his life. Sahih Muslim is collected by Imam Muslim. It is the second most famous hadeeth collection among Muslims.



- **Europe-wide operation**
- **Developing Business Applications from small businesses to big enterprises**
- **For more than a decade, covering scores of sectors**
- **CRM, ERP, Collaboration Software ... to name but a few**

ComBECK IT

Services & Business Solutions

Microsoft | Partner

Geschäftsführer//General Manager
Dipl. Kaufm. Jürgen Beck
MVP, MCSD, MCDBA, MCSE, MCT, MCITP
Europe's first certified Microsoft CRM Developer
Europe's first Most Valuable Professional (MVP) in Microsoft
Dynamics Customer Relationship Management (CRM)

Hof Frye-Otterkamp 6
D-49565 Bramsche
Germany
Tel.: +49-178-899-1962
Fax: +49-5461-62998
E-Mail: email@combeck.de
www.combeck.de

Horses & Celebrities

By Nada H. Abdelmoniem

Doesn't Hollywood have many trends? Yesterday it was Clark Gable owning a state-of-the-art automobile, today the trend is a fascination with horses, and tomorrow it will be trying to own an Alien (smile). Today, celebrities are demonstrating a love for horses and many own and ride these magnificent animals.



Patrick Swayze

As rich, and powerful as these people are in their own right, it's the animals that make them who they are... it's this connection to nature, and the true respect for the power and grace a horse represents, that can bring any person to his knees. These are a few celebrities you probably never knew had such an interest in these graceful beasts.

Patrick Swayze is a huge Egyptian-Arabian horse lover. At his ranch in California he and his wife Lisa keep several mares and foals. His first straight Egyptian horse was the mare Aleenah (Ruminaja Majed x Talgana). Others followed. Patrick Swayze chose Egyptian Arabians in particular because he grew up with horses. His father was a cowboy in Texas and they lived in Houston. At the age of eight, he visited the Gleannloch Farm and from then on he was lost in the beauty of the horses! He dreamt of nothing but Arabians, and when he imagined Arabians, they were Egyptians.

"I like the form of the head, the proud trot, and the harmonious physique of the Egyptian Arabian. Everything fits together and is in accord. There is a natural balance in everything. I am a dancer, and I can tell when a body is made with function in mind. A healthy Arabian is built for function! And that fascinates me."

Shania Twain the striking pop/country

singer is a proud owner of five horses. She featured one of her show horses in the video that was considered to have launched her career, 'Any Man of Mine'. She also featured a man dressed in the traditional Arabian costume riding an Arabian horse in her famous video 'That don't impress me much.' The video impressed many fans.

Christy Brinkley; one may also be surprised to find out that the sexy star is a champion cutting horse rider. Cutting horses are generally quarter horses, but they can also be paints, Morgans, Appaloosas and even Arabians. Cutting horses are generally smaller horses, with the top height of a good cutter being 15.1 hands. Cutting horses have also been used to herd cattle. Brinkley became interested in the sport in the early '90s and has even put together her own cutting horse show.

Richard Gere the heart throb is passionate about the Appaloosas horses that are bred by the Nez Perce tribes of the Northwest. The Appaloosas is probably the first selectively bred horse in America. Gere and his wife who own four Appaloosas are also actively involved in horse cultural preservation



Legendary Horse Stories

By Sandra Adams

"The Hips of a Gazelle, the Legs of an Ostrich, the Trot of a Wolf, the Spring of a Young Fox, the Wings of an Eagle, and the Head of a Man"

Throughout the ages, amazing collections of myths about horses have had an honoured place in human history. There has been a mystique surrounding them in cultures around the globe. The lore of horses has always held a magical sway over the human imagination; no other creature has inspired the same reverence or cross-cultural fascination. Legends say:

Queen Nefertiti, renowned for the gorgeous portrait sculpture with elegant neck and classic features, the wife of the Pharaoh Akhenaton, was accorded the high status of driving her team of Egyptian horses in her own chariot during ceremonial parades. She drove her chariot, drawn by a team of chestnut horses, whip in hand, and without the usual driver.



Poseidon, the Greek God of horses, often adopted the shape of a steed. It is not certain that he was in this form when he wooed Medusa. Poseidon sometimes granted the shape-shifting power to others. One of the most notorious love affairs of Poseidon involves his sister, Demeter. Poseidon pursued Demeter and to avoid him she turned herself into a mare. In his lust for her, Poseidon transformed himself into a stallion and captured her. Their procreation resulted in a horse, Arion.

Pegasus is a mighty winged horse according to Greek myth. He was fathered by Poseidon (The Greek God of horses) and Medusa (A monstrous female character whose gaze could turn people into stone). When Medusa's head was cut off in the sea by a Greek hero Peruses, Pegasus the horse sprang forth from her drops of blood. The horse master



Bellerophon tamed Pegasus with a golden bridle provided by the goddess Athena. Together horse and rider slew the fire-breathing monster Chimera. (Legends vary, but some say Pegasus and Bellerophon performed other heroic deeds together.) Finally, Bellerophon tried to fly to heaven to join the gods, but Pegasus threw him off and the two were separated forever, with Pegasus living on as a constellation of stars. The Winged Horse, in astronomy is an autumnal constellation. Pegasus became the thundering horse of Zeus which is why he appears among the stars.

Epona was the goddess of horses, donkeys, and mules in Roman and Gallo-Roman mythology. Unusually for a Celtic divinity, most of whom were associated with specific localities, the worship of Epona was widespread between the first and third centuries CE.

Lady Godiva was an Anglo-Saxon noblewoman who, according to legend,

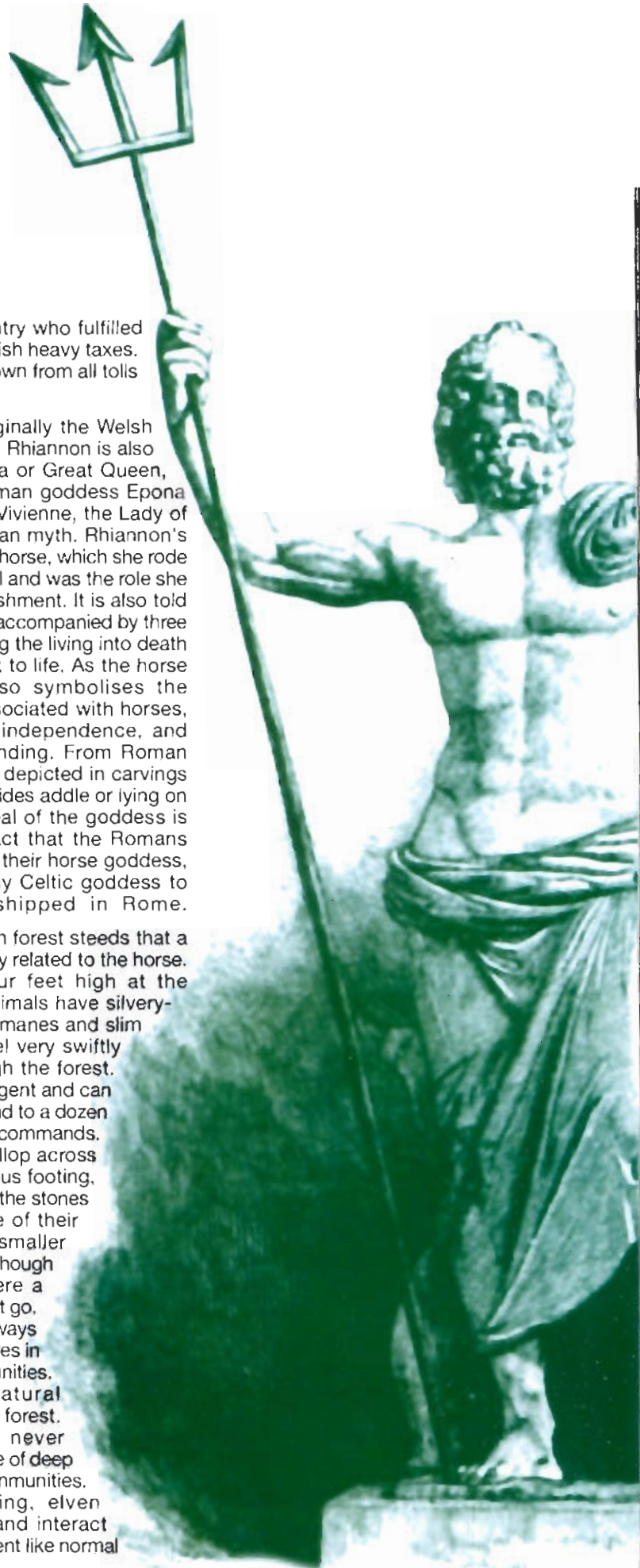


rode naked through the streets of Coventry in England in order to gain a remission of the oppressive toll imposed by her husband on his tenants. Only one man, called Tom, was unable to resist the temptation to peep at the Countess (hence the term 'Peeping Tom'). He unbarred his window, but before he could satisfy his gaze he was struck blind. Her ordeal completed, Godiva returned to her husband Leofric, the 'grim' Earl of Mercer

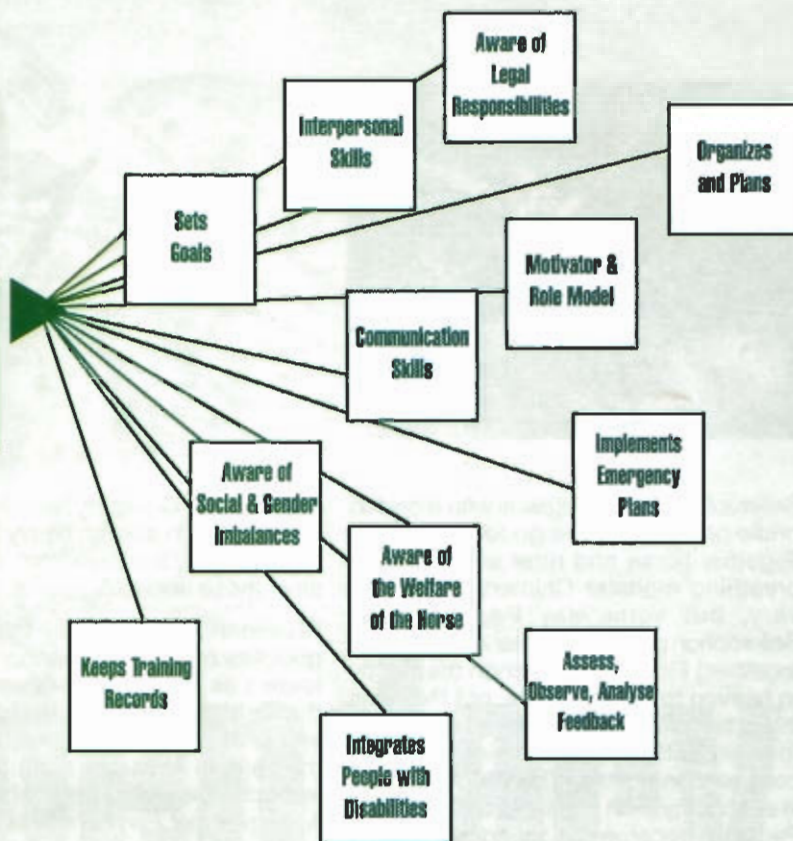
and Lord of Coventry who fulfilled his promise to abolish heavy taxes. He also freed the town from all tolls save those horses.

Rhiannon was originally the Welsh goddess of horses. Rhiannon is also known as Rigatona or Great Queen, the Celtic and Roman goddess Epona and later became Vivienne, the Lady of the Lake in Arthurian myth. Rhiannon's symbol is the white horse, which she rode when she met Pwyll and was the role she had to play in punishment. It is also told that Rhiannon was accompanied by three birds that could sing the living into death and the dead back to life. As the horse goddess, she also symbolises the characteristics associated with horses, including vitality, independence, and intuitive understanding. From Roman times, Rhiannon is depicted in carvings sitting on a horse sidesaddle or lying on a horse. The appeal of the goddess is reflected in the fact that the Romans adopted Epona as their horse goddess, and she is the only Celtic goddess to have been worshipped in Rome.

Elf horses are elven forest steeds that a rare animals, closely related to the horse. Typically only four feet high at the shoulder, these animals have silvery-white coats, silver manes and slim bodies. They travel very swiftly and silently through the forest. They are very intelligent and can be trained to respond to a dozen spoken or gestural commands. They can easily gallop across the most treacherous footing, be it a fallen tree or the stones in a river. Because of their slim bodies and smaller stature, they can fit through small spaces where a regular horse cannot go. Elven horses are always found living with elves in elven forest communities. The animal's natural habitat is the deep forest. They are almost never encountered outside of deep forests or elven communities. Generally speaking, elven steeds look, act and interact with their environment like normal horses. **HT**



The Role of a Coach



By Dr. Mohamed Elsherbini

Trainers and instructors have a special responsible and varied role in the equestrian sport. Riders and horses with their different aptitudes have to be trained and improved upon in accordance to the principles of classical horsemanship. The riders must be taught at the same time to handle horses safely and appropriately. This task requires the following:

High levels of practical riding skills and training experience: this should result from riding as many different horses as possible and taking part in different equestrian disciplines. The instructor should be willing and able to put himself in the student's shoes so that he can then use the expert knowledge and emphasising skills to correct faults and allow the rider to progress.

An aptitude for teaching: certain character traits are necessary for this job. For example generous, helpful, mature self controlled correct enthusiasm and natural love for horses.

The coach sets an example and that is not only through his riding and horse handling, but also personally through his behaviour. Until the basic principles are established, the students need to have an instructor they can relate to. If the instructor is changed suddenly or too soon, confusion can result. Advanced riders and even top-level competition riders also need to be corrected constantly by experienced professionals in order to combat the faults which can develop very easily



when working unsupervised.

Always remember that a good lesson should be well planned, simple, and fun for both rider and horse; communicating well with students will result in some improvement and making the rider hope for more, whilst a bad lesson is one with no plan, boring, and aimless, leaving bad memories to both rider and horse.

More than 350 years ago, 'Pluvinel' gave us great words of advice:

"We shall take great care not to annoy the horse and spoil his friendly charm,

for it is like a scent of blossom - once lost, it will never return."

Basic training is a novice outline that aims to make the horse supple and sensitive to the rider's aids. The horse moves in a horizontal balance within its natural strides, the rider adapting to the horse's movement. The aim of advanced training is to bring the horse into a state of maximum suppleness and obedience. By making the horse totally obedient to the rider's aids, one achieves the best muscle and joint response of the horse leading to extreme propulsive power. **HT**



LONGINES®



Elegance is an attitude



TIME TRADE

KORBA - FIRST MALL - CITYSTARS
418 3057 570 1530 480 2111
Alexandria: SAN STEFANO 03/4690079
Opening Soon: Maadi - 3 EL Nasr St.

The 2006
Arab League
Championships

Hosted by

LONGINES®

Kings Ranch

*Abdallah Alsharbatly
with Eng. Abdelfatah
Ragab President
of the E.E.F. & the
Longines Team.*



HRH. Abd Allah Bin Mitib - KSA.



Mohamed El-Boraei.

Sameh Hatab.



The 6 fence event.



Medhat Attia, Longines Sole Agent checking the 190 cm fence.



Islam Eid.



Hany Bisharet - Jordan.



Karim Habashi.



Adham Hamaad.

LONGINES


What's in STORE

Whips Spurs Bits Pads Boots Whips Spurs Bits Pads Boots
Chaps Bridles Gloves le Chevalier Chaps Bridles Gloves le Chevalier



Norton belly protector girth
Price: 798
Fully padded on each side
with trip thickness elastic support



**Blue steel jointed
eggbutt bit**
Price: LE 151

Norton Bridle
Price: 580
With Flash roseband
Chestnut full size,
ruber arrip reirs.



**Blue steel jointed ring
snaffle**
Price: LE 88

Le Chevalier Pants
Price: 199-220
Slim cut, 2 zipped
pockets belt with ocp
A high comfort breech
even in hot wearher
Available in black, olive,
beige & white.
All sizes available.



Blue steel jointed full cheek bit
Price: LE 193



Blue steel jointed gag bit
Price: LE 172



EricThomas Saddle size 17"
Price: 7000
Jumping Saddle in full grain cow
leather. Half deep seat with square
cantle, covered with special grip
greasy leather.



EQUICARE CO.

www.equicarecompany.com
email: post@equicarecompany.com

What's in STORE

Whips Spurs Bits parts Boots Whips Spurs Bits parts Boots
Chaps Bridles Gloves le Chevalier Chaps Bridles Gloves le Chevalier



Whip & GO racing type whip
Price: LE 338



Whip & GO racing type whip
Price: LE 333



Blue steel jointed Pelham
Price: LE 220



Whip & GO racing type whip
Price: LE 423



Gloves
Price: LE 240

Le Caire

Adults Price: LE 275

Kids Price: LE 240

95% cotton & 5% lycra knitted fabric. Slim cut, grippy waistband with 2 side pockets & zippers. Pants that provide comfort. Available in white, grey & beige.



C.S.O Half Boot

Price: LE 840

Cow leather with front zipper. Available in black & brown.

Half chaps

Price: LE 350

Available in black & brown.



EQUICARE CO.

2, Bahgat Ali St. Zamalek

Tel&Fax: +202 735 6939 / +202 735 4348

Seasons Brunch



Friday Brunch



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL *Cairo at The First Residence*

BETWEEN 12 NOON TILL 4 PM SAVOUR AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF BUFFET ITEMS AT OUR SEASONS RESTAURANT FRIDAY BRUNCH. ENJOY LIGHT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND EXCITING CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES.

FOR RESERVATION, CONTACT THE HOTEL DIRECTLY AT (02) 573 1212



35 Giza Street, GIZA, Cairo, Egypt 12311

Yellow Pages delivers over a
QUARTER MILLION
directories **FREE** every year.



METRO

DHL



MERIDIEN

MÖVENPICK

INTERCONTINENTAL



Marriott

Thank you
to our partners in distribution.



YellowPages.com.eg

Michaelides & Zavallis

Law Office
Nicosia – Cyprus

Long-established legal firm, reputed for its reliability and quality of service.
Specializing in:

- Registration of publishing companies
- Issuing of publication permits for newspapers and magazines
- Securing of permanent residence permits in Cyprus
- Registration of International Companies i.e. Investment, Trading and Holding Companies.

Michaelides & Zavallis Law Office: 6 Themistoclis Dervis str., P.O.Box 24185, 1702 Nicosia

Tel.: 0035722 677804 / Fax 00357 22 677071 E-mail mzlaw@cytanet.com.cy

100 years
of Real Estate Experience !!



BUY .. SELL .. RENT

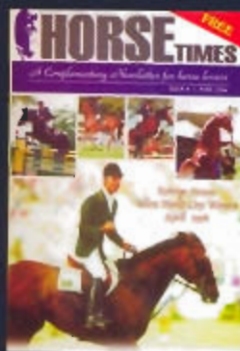


☎ 02-5222255
www.coldwellbanker-eg.com





Winning Together!



BRIDGESTONE

PASSION for EXCELLENCE

POTENZA RE050

CHOSEN FOR THE BEST

Enhance the Luxury, Release the Performance

Showrooms:

Cairo :

- Abass El Akad Ave.(Caltex Station), Nasr City Tel.: (02)2609115
- 16 El Mesaha Square, Doki Tel.: (02)3377282
- 55 El Manial Ave., El Manial Tel.: (02)5324063

Opening Soon : El Obour Buildings Salah Salem Ave. Heliopolis

Sharm El Sheikh:

Peace Ave. Next to Roman Theater, Neama Bay Tel.: (069) 3662273

Alexandria:

- 440 El Gish Ave., Loran (El Kornish) Tel.: (03)5834977
- 65 Victor Emanuel Ave., Opposite to Zahran Mall, Smouha Tel.: (03)4249473
- 608 El-Horia Ave., Zezenia Tel.: (03)5841252

Hurghada:

- Intersection of El Higaz Ave. & El Salam Ave. Tel.: (065) 3556640