

GALLOPING GAZETTE



Photo: Oktober Revolution Photography

EQUINE HEALTH RESEARCH FUND FEATURE

RUN FOR HORSE HEALTH: *Delineator's Dream*, a 10-year-old dark bay gelding, was the winner of the Equine Health Research Fund Feature on Saturday, Aug. 30, at Saskatoon's Marquis Downs racetrack (above).

Owned by Rivers North and trained by Sam Neubuhr, the horse finished the six-furlong race in 1:14.3 with Marquis Downs' top jockey Tim Moccasin astride.

As part of the race feature, WCVM's Equine Health Research Fund awarded an embroidered cooler to the winning racehorse. The Fund presented the cooler in recognition of the Saskatchewan racing industry's longtime support of equine health and veterinary training programs at the veterinary college.

WCVM representatives who came out to cheer on the horses included Drs. Steve Manning, Sheryl Gow, Sue Ashburner, Nathalie Tokatelloff, Kristin Poirier and Nora Chavarria. Second-year veterinary students Dayne Tatariuk and Danyse Lewis were also on hand to host the EHRF booth along with WCVM development officer Patti Tweed.

Earlier in the evening, a 10-horse field competed in the \$25,000 Prairie Lily Stakes — one of Marquis Downs' main stakes races of its racing season. The winner was *J.C.'s Action*, ridden by Moccasin and owned by Jack Harasyn. The annual race is open to two-year-old horses that participated in the previous year's Prairie Lily Yearling Sale.

As part of the day's event, the Fund's booth was also on display at the 2008 Prairie Lily Sale that was held at Prairieland Centre. Nearly 30 two-year-olds participated at this year's sale that's organized by the Saskatchewan division of the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society.

THE COACH OF CHAMPIONS: First-year WCVM veterinary student **Erin Borrow** from Maple Ridge, B.C., was the proud coach of two award-winning Canadian Pony Club (CPC) teams in the Prince Philip Games' National Masters and National 'A' Division Championships this summer.

The teams, whose members are part of the East Maple Ridge Pony Club, trained with Borrow from February to August in preparation for the national team competitions. The first triumph came in late August when the five female members of Borrow's Masters team won the CPC's National Finals after competing against top teams from Alberta and Ontario. The CPC Masters division consists of riders ranging in age from 15 to 21 years old.

"My team had to go to Edmonton, Alta., for their Nationals without me as the competition was held on Wednesday, August 27 — the third day of classes for me at WCVM," explains Borrow. "However, I did practice with them up until the week before their competition, and evidently, the practice paid off!"

Ten days later, Borrow flew to Elora, Ont., to help the five members of her 'A' team compete at the National 'A' Division Championships. The three boys and two girls ranged in age from 10 to 14 years.

On September 6, the East Maple Ridge team competed against the top teams from Ontario, Alberta and Nova Scotia. "After 20 races, they ended up in a tie breaker for second place, and they just lost by the skin of their teeth to come third," says Borrow.

"They were much younger than the other competitors and this was their first National Final so I was really proud of them." She adds that when

Champions (cont'd)

the teams ride out of province, team members ride on pooled ponies (supplied mounts) — another challenge in the national competition.

The Prince Philip Games, named after His Royal Highness Prince Philip, consist of team gymkhanas in which four out of five team members participate in each race.

"The races involve a lot of technical skill," explains Borrow, adding that almost all of the skills are done at a gallop. "Some races see riders picking tennis balls off cones, shooting balls through a goal with a hockey stick, or putting mugs on poles. Some races also involve the riders getting off and vaulting back on — also at a gallop!"

With a full year of veterinary courses ahead of her, Borrow has appointed an assistant to coach her national teams until she completes exams next spring: "We're looking forward to doing even better next year."

ALBERTA HORSE CONFERENCE:

Looking for high-quality information about horse health, management, nutrition and training? Mark January 9 to 11 on your 2009 calendar. Those are the dates for the Horse Industry Association of Alberta's 27th annual Horse Breeders and Owners Conference at the Capri Centre in Red Deer, Alta.

This year's line up of topics includes equine dentistry with **Dr. Roxy Bell** (WCVM '75), new concepts in parasite control with Dr. Ray Kaplan of the University of Georgia and a presentation on developing strength and flexibility with the University of Michigan's **Dr. Hilary Clayton**, an internationally-known expert in equine locomotion and a former WCVM faculty member.

A team representing WCVM's Equine Health Research Fund will be part of the conference's trade show. Make sure to stop in at the EHRF booth and find out what's new in horse health at the College! For more conference details, visit www.albertahorseindustry.ca.

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