FAST LOOK with the JOURNAL

Trial Run

By Christine Hamilton

As an editor of the *Journal*, it's fun to put together training stories and hear insights from top American Quarter Horsemen and -women, across the disciplines.

Since I bought my mare in July, it's been even more fun to try stuff out on her, like AQHA Professional Horseman Nancy Cahill's cones exercise that was part of a Borrow a Trainer lesson last year.

When a three-DVD set of seven lessons with Buck Brannaman appeared on my desk last week from Trafalgar Square Press, using "never-beforeseen instructional footage from the award-winning feature film 'Buck,' " I thought, "Hmmm, bet there's stuff in here to try on 'Pixie.' "

My mare, Whiskeys Pixie Stik, is 5, soft-mouthed, with a master's degree in whoa and just needs miles. Her rider is her weakest link, trying to work in riding time around airplane and show schedules.

Skimming through the DVDs, I found something intriguing in one of the early lessons, and it's for me – stretching.

Buck hitched his leg up on a stock panel as high as shoulder level to stretch out his hamstring and groin, saying, "These things don't bend. If



a horse takes a jump with you, something's going to tear." He advises that the stretching is something to do for your riding "with your morning coffee." Right up my alley.

I'm eager to dive into more. A while back, AQHA Professional Horseman Michelle Just Williams pointed out to me that I tend to collapse to the left, so Buck's lessons on form look interesting. Another lesson on backing straight is also on my horizon. The set is going with me to the SmartPak AQHA West Novice Championship for plane viewing. Pixie and I went to our first show — an open charity schooling show — in September and did well enough for me to want to do better!

Want a chance to own a set of these DVDs? Make sure you become a "fan" of AQHA on Facebook (www. facebook.com/aqha1) between now and December 1 because we're giving away two sets of the Buck Brannaman DVDs in December.

Back In the Day ...

... Get-of-Sire classes at stock shows offered a great showcase to display a stallion's mark as a sire. Now, AQHA is teaming up with the World Conformation Horse Association to turn back the clock and spotlight great sires in the WCHA Get-of-Sire Class at the 2012 AQHA World Championship Show.

The Get-of-Sire class is November 16 after the aged geldings class. Judging criteria for the Get-of-Sire class is based on the consistency and uniformity of an entire three-horse entry with regard to balance, eye appeal, structural correctness, breed and gender characteristics, manners and quality of muscling. Three judges will preside over the class, but a fourth judge – the audience – will have its say in the placings. Each entry's low score of the three judges in the arena will be thrown out. Audience members can text in their selections, which will be used in the final tabulation.

Go to www.aqha.com/getofsire for more details and be sure to watch the Pfizer Webcam on November 16 at www.aqha.com/worldshow to find out the winner of the first Get-of-Sire class!



Showing off our own Ribbons

Recently, AQHA Publications secured multiple awards presented by the Livestock Publications Council. Winners in editorial and design categories were honored at an awards banquet during the LPC annual meeting and Agricultural Media Summit in August. While you can read about all of the awards the Publications team won on www. aqha.com, some of those awards included first-and second-place honors in the magazine cover division for The American Quarter Horse Journal, first place and honorable mention for America's Horse in the instructional article category, as well as second place in overall general excellence.

Sun After Tears

Breeders Mark and Deb Iserman of Waverly, Iowa, (profiled in the July 2011 *Journal*) recently lost their beloved stallion Poise N Tuff, a 1985 stallion by Impressive Poise and out of Im A Tuff Cheri by I'm A Tuff Too. Then, a few weeks ago, they had to euthanize one of their best mares, Izys Smooth Move,

an Iserman homebred daughter of Charlies Out Of Oil and out of Strickly Tabu by Top Vantage.

The last foal the Isermans had by "Poise" and out of "Nina," Built Poisen Tuff, aka "Dixon," showed at the Iowa Quarter Horse Breeder's Futurity in September ... and won the late-weanling stallions class, a great tribute to the do-it-yourself breeding, fitting and showing halter horse family.

"I think everyone had a tear in their eyes during the placings for that class," said the Isermans' niece, Aimee Greene, wrote the *Journal*.



More Notable Achievements

At the 2012 Built Ford Tough AQHYA World Championship Show this summer, Hannah Bedwell of Ball Ground, Georgia, placed in the top five in three classes, all with the same horse, Regal To A Te (Regal Rhapsody-Sierress by Sierras Showtime). The pair won equitation over fences for the second year in a row, were third in working hunter and fifth in hunter hack.

Pinterest

What a Pinteresting Idea!

Pin us, please! From videos to magazines to more about the Western lifestyle, AQHA is on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/aqha1.

What Color Is He?

Robert Denton of Temecula, California, won reining at the Adequan Select World Championship Show on Dun Its Legacy.

To our eyes, "Phoenix" looks like a palomino. But the 2005 gelding by Hollywood Dun It is registered as a red dun in the AQHA database. Is that a mistake?

To find out, we asked AQHA Color Specialist Debbie Black. Here's what she said:

"This horse is a palomino, but he is a palomino dun or 'dunalino.' (These days), we would most likely register the gelding as palomino and describe the dun factor - carries dun dilution - on the horse's papers, but several



Dun Its Legacy and Robert Denton of Temecula, California

years ago we were doing the opposite. In the case of Dun Its Legacy, we do know the horse is a palomino dun and have a flag on the AQHA database explaining the color.

"This horse was changed from palomino to red dun in 2006 because at that time we were registering all dunalinos as red dun. We now allow the owner to register the horse either way."

So there you have it: He's both.

YOUR DEADLINES

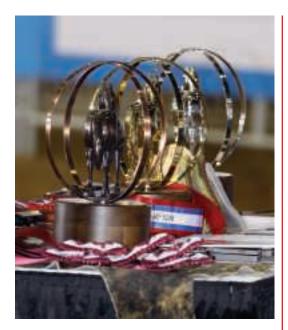
November

- 1 AQHA's equipment rules go into effect. Go to *bit.ly/AQHAwelfare* for details. Also, go back to the October issue of the *Journal* to read more about the rules, as well as AQHA's animal welfare efforts.
- 30 Stallion Breeding Reports and stallion nominations to the AQHA Incentive Fund are due

December

- 1 Nominations are due for the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame Class of 2014
- 1 American Quarter Horse Foundation scholarship applications for 2013 scholarships are due
- 31 Forms are due for proposed rule changes to be considered at the 2013 AQHA Convention in Houston

Go to www.aqha.com for details on all of these programs, their deadlines, as well as the necessary forms.



Championship-Show NUMBERS

2,407

Total number of entries at the 2012 Built Ford Tough AQHYA World Championship Show in August

1,270

Total number of entries at the 2012 Adequan Select World Championship Show in August

\$5,600

The Ride the Rail/Ride the Pattern clinics at the 2012 Built Ford Tough AQHYA and Adequan Select world championship shows raised more than \$2,600. AQHA Corporate Partner Nutrena matched the donation for a total of \$5,600, which will be donated to the AQHA Professional Horsemen's Crisis Fund, the Guy Stoops Professional Horseman's Family Scholarship and the Professional Horseman Development Fund. It's hoped that the amount raised at these two shows will be doubled at the 2012 AQHA World Championship Show this month in Oklahoma City.

1,900 & 2,900

The number of entries at the 2012 SmartPak West Novice Championship and Nutrena East Novice Championship, respectively, in October. The shows were October 4-7 in Las Vegas and Murfreesboro, Tennessee. You can read Journal coverage of both shows at www.aqha.com/novicechampionships. The Journal will also feature the shows in its December issue.

Get Social!

We polled our Facebook fans to find out their favorite moment from the 2011 AQHA World Championship Show. Here's how the fans voted:

1. Harley D Zip's bridleless performance: The legendary show horse retired from open competition and went out with another world championship in western riding - senior, to be exact - and performed a bridleless western riding pattern with AQHA Professional Horseman Jason Martin of Pilot Point, Texas, at the 2011 AQHA World Show.



2. Kathryn Olson and Shes

Bens Mercedes ride-off for the amateur trail world championship -Kathryn Olson of Bennett, Colorado, and Sarah Maggert of Paris, Illinois, battled to the end during the amateur trail finals November 9 at the 2011 AQHA World Show. After a grueling ride-off, one point separated Kathryn and Sarah. But in the end, Kathryn and her little bay mare, Shes Bens Mercedes, were crowned the new amateur trail world champions.

- 3. The will to ride helped Madison Dehaes learn to walk again, and compete at the 2011 AQHA World Show - Would you call it a miracle if someone went from comatose and paralyzed to riding again in a little over a year? Anyone who knows longtime AQHA exhibitor Madison Dehaes of Pensacola, Florida, would. Following a devastating car wreck, Madison was in a coma for two months. When she woke up, the first thing she whispered was to ask her sister, Mallory, whether she could throw a couple of flakes of hay to her horses. Sixteen months later, Madison was competing in amateur barrel racing on Sum Kinda Playgirl at the 2011 AQHA World Show.
- 4. Chex This Dually is crowned the Farnam Superhorse AQHA Professional Horseman J.D. Yates took one last spin on Chex This Dually. The Farnam Superhorse award goes to the horse that earns the points in open competition. "Dually" was reserve world champion in senior tie-down roping, reserve world champion in senior heading and was third in senior heeling, earning 49 points. He was entered in performance halter geldings as well.
- 5. A Shiner Named Sioux makes grandsire Genuine Doc proud It was an emotional week for owner Carol Rose with the high from A Shiner Named Sioux's win in junior working cow horse to the low of Genuine Doc's death on November 14, 2011. Of A Shiner Named Sioux's win with trainer Jay McLaughlin, Carol said, "I'm just so proud of Sioux and so proud of Jay, and I guess this probably means as much or more to me as any world championship that we've ever won, and we've won several."
- 6. Lauren Eichstadt and Its My Lucky Detail win the Farnam All-Around Amateur award - In the span of one afternoon, Lauren Eichstadt and It My Lucky Detail came out of the shadows to win the 2011 Farnam All-Around Amateur award. The duo also placed third in amateur working hunter and amateur hunter hack and also won the reserve champion title in amateur equitation over fences.

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A Change of Heart

Former AQHYA exhibitor Laney Hixson made some last-minute game changes this last summer. In the July issue of the *Journal*, we interviewed Laney on the thought process she put into choosing a college where she could continue competing on horses, while she furthered her education.

At the time the *Journal* spoke with Laney, she had decided to attend Berry College, a private college with a competitive IHSA western program in Mount Berry, Georgia. But shortly after our story went to the printer, Laney switched gears and decided to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Q: When did the scholarship offer come?

L: The scholarship offer came in the first week of June. My dream always was to be an NCAA athlete and to ride in the "big leagues," so to say. A lot of my AQHA friends that I've met at shows are also on NCAA Division 1 teams, so I'd get to see them then.

Q: Are you showing on just the NCAA team?

L: "Yes"

Q: How difficult of a decision was it to make between Berry College and UTM?

L: "It was difficult because I was torn between which one to choose because I

wanted to go to Berry because I had family that graduated from there, but my dad and his side of the family is from Tennessee and they wanted me to go to a University of Tennessee school. That made the decision a little bit easier, as well."

And that's just another example of how selecting just the right college with the right equestrian opportunities is a tough decision for any coed.



AQHA Convention Dates

March 8-11, 2013
Hyatt Regency, Houston
March 7-10, 2014
Hyatt Regency, New Orleans
March 6-9, 2015
Omni Hotel, Fort Worth
March 4-7, 2016
South Point Casino & Spa, Las
Vegas

March 17-20, 2017 Grand Hyatt, San Antonio March 2-5, 2018 Hyatt Regency Riverfront,

Jacksonville, Florida

Dates and locations subject to change.



San Juan Ranch's CD Diamond, ridden by Corey Cushing, captured the open title at the National Reined Cow Horse Association's premiere event for 3-year-olds. CD Diamond is by CD Olena and out of Shiners Diamond Girl by Shining Spark.

