

THE *work* HORSE

OCTOBER 2005 VOLUME II

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKY EQUINE  EDUCATION PROJECT

**Horses
work
for Kentucky.**

JEFFERSON COUNTY TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION BACKS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FOR EXPANDED GAMING

The 10,000 member Jefferson County Teacher's Association (JCTA) representing active and retired teachers, has endorsed the Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) plan for a constitutional amendment to expand gaming at race tracks only in the state.

JCTA's president Brent McKim said that "this proposed constitutional amendment will provide the citizens of our Commonwealth the opportunity to vastly improve our state's economy, stop the siphoning of Kentucky dollars to Indiana, and pump new tax dollars into our public schools."

McKim went on to add that JCTA has a longstanding friendship with Governor Brereton Jones, KEEP's Chairman, and because of their faith and

trust in Governor Jones, they will endorse a voter referendum to amend the state constitution to allow for full casino gaming for those holding licenses to operate racetracks in our Commonwealth, which mirrors the KEEP Plan that was announced this September.

"They know first hand the dire situation our state budget is in and the monies that are needed to improve our public schools..."

- Gov. Brereton Jones

"We are pleased to have the support of the JCTA. They know first hand the dire situation our state budget is in and the monies that are needed to improve our public schools in Kentucky," said Jones. "Like the KEEP Plan they want the people to have the opportunity to choose-and at the same time-stop proliferation. We look forward to working alongside JCTA during the upcoming session."

OUR POSITION

"In the interest of preserving Kentucky's equine heritage and strengthening the state's economy, the Kentucky Equine Education Project supports a voter referendum to amend the state constitution to allow for full casino gaming for those holding licenses to operate racetracks in Kentucky. KEEP supports earmarking significant and quantified gaming tax revenues for education, healthcare, local development funding, and preserving the environment."



THE KEEP PLAN: THE RIGHT APPROACH AT THE RIGHT TIME

Our 8-point Rationale

1. Kentucky must have a significant influx of revenue to meet growing challenges in funding basic services. Revenue derived from casino gaming, which could exceed \$400 million, is preferable to a widespread tax increase-the only other viable option.

2. By limiting gaming expansion to those who currently hold racetrack licenses, a proliferation of gaming-as was done with the lottery-is avoided. Confined to a few locations, it is also possible to package the sites as tourist destinations, which enhances our competitiveness with neighboring states.

3. Expanding the available gaming options for tracks also enhances our competitive position with other states to protect our signature-the equine industry, which annually pumps \$4 billion into Kentucky's economy and supports some 100,000 jobs.

4. By allowing for a constitutional amendment, the General Assembly is letting the people decide their own fate and future. Since the revenue would be shared on a statewide basis, it is only fitting that a statewide vote of the people serves to address the issue of expanded gaming.

5. We fully acknowledge that gambling has inherent risks for people prone to addictive behaviors. But those behaviors exist today and are, in some cases, manifested at neighboring river boats. Sufficient resources don't exist today to provide the necessary help these people need and deserve. But under this proposal, those resources would be available.

6. This is an approach that can and should receive bipartisan support in the legislature for a number of reasons. It represents a new revenue source without a broad-based tax increase. It shares revenue with communities that will not have casinos. And it prevents the threat of the proliferation of gaming throughout the state. For those reasons and more, it should not be a campaign issue in the 2006 election cycle.

7. One of the critical components of the plan advocates sharing resources with local government bodies, who also find themselves strapped for revenue to maintain basic services for constituents. Residents in all 120 Kentucky counties will derive some direct benefit from casino operations in the state.

8. Finally, it is a far-reaching initiative that impacts a number of constituencies. As such, KEEP will work with other organizations to forge a greater push for passage of the legislation.

A BREED APART - THE STANDARDBRED

The origins of the Standardbred trace back to Messenger, an English Thoroughbred foaled in 1780, and later exported to the United States. Messenger was the great-grand sire of Hambletonian 10, to whom every Standardbred can trace its heritage. Thus, Standardbreds are a relatively new breed, dating back just over 200 years.

The name "Standardbred" originated because the early trotters (pacers would not come into favor until much later) were required to reach a certain standard for the mile distance in order to be registered as part of the new breed. The mile is still the standard distance covered in nearly every harness race.

Over the years, sportsmen came to recite the names of certain champions with awe: Flora Temple, the "Bob-Tailed Nag" of Stephen Foster's Camptown Races; Goldsmith Maid, who won 350 heats in her storied career; world champions Maud S. and Nancy Hanks.

They were all trotters but pacers soon began to gain acceptance with the sport's first two-minute mile, recorded in 1897 by the pacer Star Pointer.

The horse who popularized pacing was Dan Patch, one of the fastest (1:55 for the mile) and most popular Standardbreds ever. The past few years have seen major improvements in racetrack construction and maintenance; in sulky and harness design; and in the breed itself. The legendary Niatross heralded a new era with a 1:49-1/5 time-trial, the first harness horse to break 1:50.

Harness Racing Today

Harness racing is primarily centered in the Northeast and Midwest. Virtually every major population center in these areas boasts one or more major tracks. Several smaller communities also support harness tracks. The sport is also popular in Florida, California, and throughout Canada.

Today, county fairs are very supportive of harness racing with well over 300 fairs featuring the sport in their programs, with horsemen racing for the love of the sport more than purse money or glory. The sport's premier event for pacers, the Little Brown Jug, is held at the Delaware, Ohio County Fairgrounds.

Classic Races

Both three-year-old trotters and pacers vie for their own Triple Crown. Pacers race in the Cane Pace (Yonkers Raceway), The Messenger Stakes (Ladbrooke at the Meadows), and the Little Brown Jug (Delaware, Ohio).

The trotters square off in the Hambletonian (the Meadowlands), the Yonkers Trot (Yonkers Raceway), and the Kentucky Futurity (Lexington's Red Mile).

Breed Characteristics

In many respects, the Standardbred resembles its ancestor the Thoroughbred. It does not stand as tall, averaging 15.2 hands, although it has a longer body. The head is refined, set on a medium-sized neck. The quarters are muscular yet sleek. The clean hind legs are set well back. Individual Standardbreds tend to either trot or pace. This breed appears in varying colors, although bay, brown and black are predominant. It weighs between 800 and 1000 pounds.

Gaits

Standardbred racing is contested on two gaits, the trot and the pace. Trotters move with a diagonal gait; the left front and right rear legs move in unison, as to the right front and left rear. It requires much skill by the trainer to get a trotter to move perfectly at high speeds, even though the trotting gait is a natural one in the animal world. But horseman and fans agree that there are few things more beautiful than a trotting horse in full stride.

Pacers, on the other hand, move the legs on one side of their body in tandem: left front and rear, and right front and rear. This action shows why pacers are often called "sidewheelers." Pacers, which account for about 80 percent of the performers in harness racing, are aided in maintaining their gait by plastic loops called hobbles, which keep their legs moving in synchronization. Due to the sureness of their action, pacers are usually several seconds faster than trotters.

Actually, a third gait often manifests itself in harness racing running. But a horse who runs, or goes "off-stride" in the parlance of the sport, must return to his natural gait or face disqualification.



World Famous, Kentucky Born, Niatross.



Little Brown Jug

THE KENTUCKY F.A.C.E. PROGRAM MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE FARM SAFETY

The following is an excerpt from an article by the Kentucky Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program (FACE). This program is funded from the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institute of Safety and Health. The Purpose of FACE is to aid in the research and prevention of occupational fatalities by evaluating events leading to, during and after a work related fatality. Recommendations are made to help employers and employees to have a safer work environment. For more information about FACE, or to read the article in its entirety visit www.kiprc.uky.edu.

On January 31, 2004, a 45-year old female horse farm owner died when she was pinned under a golf cart. The woman had driven a gas-powered golf cart from her house on the farm to the horse barn to muck stalls and put horses in the barn. After driving the golf cart into the barn, the farm owner placed two square bales of hay on the golf cart; one on the back and one on the passenger side of the front seat. Leaving the ignition key of the golf cart in the "on" position, she left the golf cart in the aisle at the end of the barn. She then walked the length of the barn, entered a stall, mucked it out, exited the stall into the barn aisle, and leaned the pitch fork against the wall next to the stall door. Unbeknownst to the farm owner, the bale of hay on the passenger seat had slipped off the seat and fallen onto the gas pedal of the golf cart. With the pedal depressed by the hay bale and the key in the "on" position, the golf cart proceeded down the barn aisle, striking the victim and pinning her underneath. Several hours later, the farm owner's daughter went to

the barn and found her mother pinned underneath the golf cart. Upon finding her mother, she called a friend then went to the farm manager's house located nearby on the



farm. The daughter informed the farm manager that her mother was in the barn pinned underneath the golf cart. The farm owner's daughter returned to the barn with the farm manager to find the daughter's friend and her friend's mother on the phone with emergency services. Emergency services arrived and contacted the coroner who arrived and declared the horse farm owner dead at the scene due to "compression asphyxia with hypothermia".

To prevent future occurrences of similar incidents, the following recommendations have been made:

Recommendation No. 1: When exiting a golf cart, the operator should always turn the ignition switch to the "off" position and remove the key.

Recommendation No. 2: Golf cart seats should only be used for human occupancy.

Recommendation No. 3: A golf cart should be equipped with appropriate accessory equipment specific for the task.

KEEP ADDS FIELD REPRESENTATIVE TO ITS GROWING STAFF



Recently KEEP added another Field Representative to its growing staff. Rachel Fowler, a twenty-four year old Louisville native.

Rachel grew up with her parents Nancy and Greg, and older brother Chris. She began taking riding lessons at Zubrod Stables based in Prospect, Kentucky when she was nine years old. Instantly she fell in love with the American Saddlebred and horses in general.

During her juvenile show career she had a successful career in pleasure equitation. In her last two years as a juvenile she showed her horse Worth Waiting On in show pleasure and park pleasure.

After graduating high school from Sacred Heart Academy in 1999, she went on to Murray State University to major in equine science. Taking a short break from college she did a stint at Cardinal Farms, in Bonneville, Kentucky working as an assistant trainer and riding instructor.

Rachel is currently a student at the University of Louisville majoring in Equine Business and a minor in business marketing. After graduating college Rachel is looking forward to begin her career in the Kentucky horse industry.

KEEP is very excited to welcome Rachel to its staff.

TEAM LEADER SPOTLIGHT- NATE SHOLAR

Nathan (Nate) Sholar was born in Mayfield Kentucky. He left home at the age of 17 and went to work in Oklahoma for a construction company. It was there that he bought his first horse. Nate started working with horses in 1962, and at that time he was 6 feet and 200 lbs; too tall to be a jockey or even an exerciser. "But I could get in that cart" Nate says and so began his passion for harness racing.

His love of harness racing and commitment to keep it thriving earned Nate the privilege of being the first inductee to the Kentucky Harness Horseman's Hall of Fame just this year. The ceremony was held on September 28th at the newly renovated "Round Barn" located at the Red Mile.

Tom White, Publicity Director for the Red Mile, said Nate was the obvious choice for this honor. "He's set the standard for everyone else to follow." White stated.

Nate was instrumental in starting the Kentucky Colt Association, which is responsible for racing at eight county fairs throughout Kentucky.

Mr. Sholar raced and trained horses for some time, but has spent most of his 40 + years behind the scenes in the sport of Harness Racing. He is best known for the nearly 20 years he spent on the Kentucky Harness Racing Commission where he served for four governors.

On the racing commission he was always the guy that worked out the agreements between the four tracks.

Bill Napier, president of the Kentucky Harness

Horseman's Association, said "There are talkers and doers and Nate is definitely a doer. He has always been a representative of the "horseman" on the racing commission and he's always represented them very well."

When asked about KEEP Nate said, "I became a part of KEEP when approached by Jim Navolio, now the Executive Director and Joe Costa, president of the Red Mile. they asked if I would be the Graves County Team Leader for KEEP; I gladly accepted. I believe the membership of KEEP will double or even triple in the next five to ten years."



Nathan Sholar at the Red Mile.



HIDDEN TOUCH

June 8, 2005
2 year old filly pace
:33 1:06.2 1:37.1 2:06.3
Owner: Caroline Sparks
Driver: Bobby Brower
Trainer: Bobby Brower
Ky. Colt Racing Assoc.
Purchase District Fair
Mayfield, Kentucky



Hidden Touch won the Purchase District Fair on June 8th. This is one of the Eight County Fair Races Nate has helped maintain.

BENEFITS OF A KEEP MEMBERSHIP

- Receive all KEEP newsletters, press releases and updates
- Free admission to Kentucky Pari-mutuel Race Tracks (excluding the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Oaks and the Breeders' Cup) through December 2006
- Free admission to the Kentucky Horse Park/ American Saddlebred Museum through December 2006 and 15% discount at the Horse Park Gift Shop

THE KEEP MISSION

The Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) was formed to build broad-based education and grassroots initiatives to increase awareness of the benefits of Kentucky's horse economy, including all breeds, and to promote and preserve jobs and economic opportunities within the equine industry for Kentuckians throughout the Commonwealth.

OCTOBER 2005

October 1st	Kentucky Girls/Mens Barrel Racing Association
October 1st	Study Club of Danville, Riverside Farm 3:00 pm eastern.
October 1st	Cave Run Clean-up
October 1st	Eastern Kentucky Walking and Racking Horse Association, Prestonsburg
October 1st	Draft Horse and Mule Show, Sponsored by Meade County Saddle Club, JC's Arena, Irvington.
October 4th	Calloway County Public Meeting, Murray State University
October 6th	McCreary County Public Meeting, 7:00 pm eastern (Public Library)
October 6th	Hancock County Public Meeting
October 11th - 15th	Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse Association International Grand Championships, The Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington.
October 12th	Metcalfe County Public Meeting, 7:00 pm central.
October 13th	Green County 4-H Horse Club Horse Camp
October 18th	Harlan County Saddle Club, Rex Restaurant 6:00 pm eastern.
October 22nd	Lake Cumberland Fall Horse Festival
October 22nd	Hart County Posse 4-H Horse Show, Hart County Fairgrounds, Rowletts.
October 22nd	Drakes Creek Saddle Club Haunted Hoofananny, Western Kentucky Ag Expo Center.
October 23rd	TrailBlazers 4-H Horse Club Fun Show
October 27th	Northern Kentucky Public Meeting (Kenton, Boone and Campbell Counties) - Turfway Park, 7:00 p.m. eastern.

NOVEMBER 2005

November 3rd	Owen County Chamber of Commerce
November 9th	Kentucky Quarter Horse Association Meeting, North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, KY 8:00 pm
November 11th	KEEP Day at the Races (Churchill Downs)
November 14th	Owen County Public Meeting, Owen County Extension Office, 7:00 pm
November 15th	Grant County Public Meeting, Grant County Farm Bureau Office
November 17th	H.O.S.S. Southern States - The Thoroughbred Center, Lexington
November 17th	Muli-County Public Meeting (Adair, Casey, Green, Taylor & Russell Counties) Lindsey Wilson College, 6:00 central / 7:00 eastern time.

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HAVE A STORY IDEA?

If you have an idea for a story in The Work Horse, contact Cara Stewart at cstewart@horseswork.com.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

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