

THE *work* HORSE

AUGUST 2006 VOLUME III

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE KENTUCKY EQUINE  EDUCATION PROJECT

**Horses
work**
for Kentucky.

HORSES COUNT IN KENTUCKY:

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT UNDERWAY TO COUNT THE NUMBER OF HORSES IN KENTUCKY

In a state that determines an important part of its identity from the world-class horses that reside behind its picturesque fences and along its miles of emerald green pastures, it might come as a surprise to find out that the exact number of horses that reside here is unknown.

In a collaborative effort, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, the University of Kentucky Equine Initiative, the Kentucky Horse Council (KHC) and the Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) plan to change that beginning this fall with a statewide count of Kentucky's horse population.

A count of this type has never been done in Kentucky. While there are some good estimates based on formulas and other studies, there is no current information. Nor is there information based on breed and primary type of use.

That horses are the number one agricultural crop is known, as is the fact that some of the best breeding stallions call Kentucky home. Most of the world readily recognizes Kentucky as the "Horse Capital of the World" and its top notch horse events and cutting edge equine medical facilities and research back up that claim. But, when asked for an actual number of horses, there simply isn't an accurate figure.

"This is one of the most important undertakings for the entire horse industry that these organizations can do," says Gene Clabes, KEEP's Equine Director. "It is so important to Kentucky's horse industry and to Kentucky for a number of reasons."

"First, getting an accurate count helps Kentucky maintain its status as the 'Horse Capital of the World.' Equally important, knowing how many horses there are in Kentucky helps us convince policy makers, businesses and non-horse residents in this state just how important horses are for Kentucky's economy," he adds.

The "Horses Count" project is set to launch this fall with a campaign through horse associations' membership, county extension offices, local equine businesses and the general public to get the word out. The count itself will consist of an anonymous survey of all horse owners and facilities in the state, as well as a several county physical count by project participants. Results will be used for marketing efforts for the equine industry as well as a source of much needed information for policy decisions.

"Do you ever wonder how many horses of what breeds are in Kentucky? Do you ever wonder about the ways people use their horses? We have too and that is why we are working on the project. It will help us answer these questions," says Lori Garkovich, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture sociology professor who is helping to coordinate the project.

"We plan to use these numbers as a basis for what we hope is an ongoing program with these organizations," says University of Kentucky's Equine Specialist and associate professor Bob Coleman. "These numbers are vital to every aspect of Kentucky's horse industry, from animal health issues to economic impact numbers for each county. This is something that has been needed for some time."

More information and details will be posted at www.ca.uky.edu/equine as they become available.

"This is one of the most important undertakings for the entire horse industry that these organizations can do..."

*- Gene Clabes,
Equine Director,
Kentucky Equine
Education Project*

UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture

**Horses
work**
for Kentucky.

KENTUCKY EQUINE  EDUCATION PROJECT



University of Kentucky
Equine Initiative



DATES SET FOR THE 2010 GAMES!



Jack Kelly, CEO of the World Games 2010 Foundation, Inc.

The Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games at the Kentucky Horse Park are now officially scheduled for September 25 to October 10, 2010. The official name of the games has also been finalized: "Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games." Jack Kelly, CEO of the World Games 2010

Foundation, Inc., observed, "We want to do what's best for the horses and be a good neighbor at the same time,

so we factored a number of considerations into the equation and arrived at the end of September. European horses are not as accustomed to our hot summer temperatures, so we pushed the dates back a bit in the hope of hitting ideal temperatures for the horses to compete. We also looked at some long-established events in the area such as the September yearling sales and the Keeneland Fall race meet and set our dates to cause as little disruption to their events as possible." For more information visit www.feigames2010.com.

KEEP ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) selected the winners of its new academic scholarships during a recent board meeting. Each winner will be awarded \$1,000 towards their academic studies. The winners are:

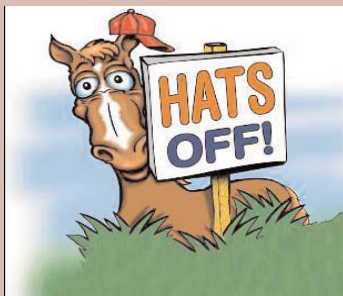
- * Chirstina Campbell, Midway College
- * Ashlee Frisby, Midway College
- * Rebecca Lloyd, University of Kentucky
- * Kim French, University of Louisville
- * David Hayden, Murray State University

The purpose of the KEEP Scholarship Program is to provide scholarships to students pursuing a career in the horse industry, who demonstrate financial need, academic success, show a commitment to Kentucky's

"One of our areas of focus is to ensure that we are strengthening the equine education opportunities in our state."
- Jim Navolio, KEEP Executive Director.

Horse Industry, hard work, and determination. To be eligible for one of the scholarships the students have to be working toward a career in the equine industry and attend a college or university in the state. They must be a current, full-time junior or senior and have declared their major in an equine bachelors program. Also, the student must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

"One of our areas of focus is to ensure that we are strengthening the equine education opportunities in our state," said Jim Navolio, KEEP Executive Director. "We created this annual scholarship program to do just that. This is the place to be involved in the horse industry and we want to make sure that we are helping train the next generation of successful business leaders for our industry."



HATS OFF! TO KENTUCKY'S HORSE INDUSTRY

The people of Kentucky are invited to the Kentucky Horse Park free of charge for Hats Off! Day, Saturday, August 19, to become better acquainted with the importance of the horse industry and learn about the many benefits the state receives as the Horse Capital of the World. For instance, the horse industry provides more than 100,000 jobs and contributes \$4-billion in total economic benefits annually to Kentucky's gross domestic product. Nearly \$9-billion is generated by the tourism industry, which hails horses as its signature attraction. The free admission on Hats Off! day will include entrance into all

of the park's regular attractions, including the museums, Parade of Breeds, Hall of Champions, Best of the West and a limited number of horse drawn tours, trail rides and pony rides. The day will also include special activities for children as well as free admission to the Bluegrass Festival Hunter Jumper show, featuring the \$30,000-Rood and Riddle Grand Prix, which will raise funds for the Hope Center and the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation. Hats Off! is presented by the Kentucky Horse Park Foundation in support of the Kentucky Horse Park and the equine industry, and sponsored in part by many of the horse farms and equine-related businesses of Central Kentucky, including Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, Stonewall Farm, Kentucky Equine Education Project and the Keeneland Association. For information, call 859-255-5727.

IT'S NOT JUST NAVICULAR DISEASE ANYMORE

Duncan Peters DVM, MS
Hagyard Equine Medical Institute

One of the most exciting aspects of Sport Horse Medicine recently is the work being done with diagnosing lameness that involves the back half of the foot in equine athletes. This means deciphering all the anatomical structures in the region that may be potentially injured, identifying the injury to the structure and then applying an appropriate treatment that is most likely to return the horse to competition.

Historically, the area of the back part of the foot has been dominated by the navicular bone, and yes, this is a vital structure in that area. Horses that had intermittent lameness; pointing a foot; soreness to hoof testers over the frog; shifting leg lameness; contracted, upright feet; and stabbing toes, shortened stride movement were candidates for Navicular Disease. If the veterinarian could improve or alleviate the lameness by "blocking the heels" of the foot, this gave added confidence to the idea that the navicular bone was the cause of the problem. Usually, radiographs may or may not further incriminate the navicular bone. Then treatment was instituted to relieve stresses on the bone, or other structures in the region, often with varied success.

Recently, with the advent of improved and innovative diagnostic modalities for the horse, veterinarians are better able to truly define the structure(s) injured, the type of injury, severity of the injury and thus, have a better idea of the prognosis to return to the previous level of activity. This means injury to the back part of the foot can be better categorized and hopefully treated more effectively. Some of these diagnostic tools are improvement in existing technology, better understanding by veterinarians of the findings or new technology adapted for use in the equine athlete.

Radiographs (X-rays) have long been the standard to evaluate the bones of the foot, and especially the navicular bone region. The new digital and computed radiographic equipment has provided greater detail which allows more precise evaluation of structural changes in the bones of the foot. This new technology can pick up bone remodeling in response to stress, small changes along bone edges that were not as easily visible previously, recent bone lay down or proliferation, early calcification of soft tissues (ligaments, tendons) and a better visualization of bone lysis or reabsorption. In addition, because it gives sharper margins to bones, interfaces of bony surfaces and joints can be better evaluated for problems.



Dr. Duncan Peters

HAGYARD
Equine Medical Institute

Diagnostic ultrasound has improved dramatically for equine practitioners in recent years, which allows better visualization of the soft tissue structures in the back of the foot. The flexor tendons, navicular bursa, impar ligament and even the contours of bones can be evaluated with greater certainty due to the technological advances of newer machines. Advanced training and continuing education has provided veterinarians the skills to detect and appreciate subtle changes that cause lameness issues. Ultrasound is being used as a guide to better place treatments in a specific structure of the back of the foot, also.

The use of nuclear scintigraphy ("bone scan") has upped our understanding of the physiologic activity of structures in the back half of the foot. By using injected radioactive material, a big geiger counter and a computer program, we can determine what structures are inflamed or damaged. Injured tissues are more metabolically active. By finding these "hot spots" and knowing the anatomy of the area, we can get a good idea which structure is involved as well as the possible nature of that injury. This undoubtedly allows for more precise treatment of that structure.

The latest tool to help decipher "pain in the back half of the foot" in horses is magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). This has opened new doors for veterinarians involved in diagnosing and treating lameness. Both "low-power" standing horse and "high-power" recumbent horse machines are available. This technology develops images of structures based on magnetic properties of tissues and sophisticated computer analysis. These images can reveal subtle changes in tissue structure, swelling of tissue, changes in density, edema and other indications of tissue injury or abnormalities. Injury that may not show up with x-rays or ultrasound may be highly visible with MRI.

What all this means is that veterinarians are better able to fully define the structure and type of injury to that structure in the back half of the foot of that horse. This will allow a more appropriate treatment plan to be developed for that specific injury. Injury to a developing bone cyst in that region may be treated differently than injury of a tendon fiber tear which may be treated differently than desmitis of the impar ligament. The specific treatment for the known problem will allow the horse a better chance to return to regular competition.

So, "pain in the back of the foot" is not just navicular disease anymore.

A BREED APART - American Bashkir Curly

History and Origin of the Breed

The American Bashkir Curly dates to 1898 when Peter Damele and his father were riding horseback in the remote high country of central Nevada, near Austin. There they discovered three horses with tight, curly ringlets covering their entire bodies. Since then, curly horses have been found on the Damele range and many Curlies in the United States can be traced to that herd.

The Bashkir Curly gets its name from the ancient Russian breed, the Bashkir, from which the modern Curly was believed to have descended. However, the American horses may have been incorrectly named. Research done by Shan Thomas for the CS Fund and resulting in the report, *Myth and Mystery: The Curly Horse in America*, indicates that the Russian breed most often found with the curly coat is the Lokai breed. Thomas suggests that the name Bashkir was the result of a "Strange As It Seems" cartoon published in the 1930s or 40s which identifies a "horse with a permanent wave" as a Bashkir. The Damele Family found and kept the cartoon, passing along the information to others.

The name isn't the only mystery surrounding this breed. Various theories have been proposed to explain the presence of the Curly horse in North America. Some have suggested that they came across the Bering Strait land bridge during the last ice age, but no fossil evidence has been found to support that. Stock breeding was not very successful in the early 1800s, with most settlements only able to keep a small number of cattle, sheep, pigs and perhaps chickens. In 1817 there were only sixteen horses in Russian America and they were more than likely the hardy Yakut and not the Bashkir or Lokai breeds. It is very unlikely that even this breed of horse could have made the treacherous journey from Alaska to Nevada.

Another theory is that a man by the name of Tom Dixon imported curly horses from northern India to Nevada around 1880. Although this theory cannot be fully proved or disproved the Curly horse was already present in America by that time. Evidence shows that Sioux Indians had Curly horses as early as 1801-02 and in his 1848 autobiography circus master, P. T. Barnum, writes of obtaining and exhibiting a curly horse.

As early as the late 1700s, sightings of curly horses were reported in South America. It seems possible, but cannot be concluded, that the Spanish conquistadors may have brought curly horses, or the curly gene, to South America, as there are several European breeds with curly hair. With all of these possibilities as to the origin of this unique breed no definitive answers have yet to be agreed upon.

In separate research, the CS Fund has done blood typing of 200 curly horses in the Serology Lab at UC-Davis. Although one can not definitively identify a horse's breed by its blood type characteristics there are characteristics common to an individual breed. This testing was seen as a method to

determine if the Bashkir Curly did in fact display the blood characteristics of a distinct breed. The findings, however, were that the modern curly horse is not a genetically distinct breed, but has been crossed with many other breeds, particularly Quarter Horses and Morgans. The rare and unusual variants that did emerge from this testing are found only in feral horses or those breed based on feral herds. No single blood marker was found to be common in all curly horse.

Today, the American Bashkir Curly has excelled in many events, including barrel racing, pole bending, Western riding, gymkhana, hunter, jumper, roping, cutting, English equitation, English pleasure, Western equitation, Western pleasure, gaited pleasure and competitive and endurance trail riding.

Breed Characteristics

American Bashkir Curly horses appear in all common horse colors including Appaloosa and Pinto. A typical Curly is of medium size, resembling the early-day Morgan in conformation. The wide set eyes (characteristic of Oriental horses) are said to give the breed a wider range of vision to the rear. They are alert, have a proud carriage and most move at a running walk or foxtrot. The hooves are black and hard, almost perfectly round in shape. Curly horses have an exceptionally high concentration of red blood cells, stout, round cannon bones and straight legs. The knees are flat. They have strong hocks short, strong backs; the rump is round without a crease; shoulders are powerful and rounded; and the chest is wide and deep. Foals arrive with thick, curly coats, curls inside their ears and curly eyelashes.

One odd feature of Curlies is that they often completely shed out the mane hair and sometimes the tail in the summer, growing it back in the winter. The hair of the mane and tail is fine and silky but often quite kinky. The summer coat is often wavy or rather straight with the curls returning in the winter coat. The American Bashkir Curly transmits the curly characteristics to offspring approximately half of the time even when mated to horses without the curly coat.

The American Bashkir Curly has a gentle nature and is easy to train. They are hardy and able to survive extreme winter conditions.

Breed Organization

The American Bashkir Curly Registry was established in 1971 in order to protect these unique animals from extinction in the United States. For more information on the breed visit their website www.ABCRegistry.org.



Don & Blair Campbell - A Father-Daughter Team

-Story & Photos by Cara Stewart

Don and Kim Campbell raised their children, Blair and Kyle, to love and respect horses. Both children have taken that with them into adulthood. Kyle, however, says his is love of horsepower. Blair stayed a little truer to her roots and now teaches others the love of horses at 'Blair's Riding Academy'.



Blair with her Riding Academy Students

Blair Campbell, age 24, is one of KEEP's youngest County Team Leaders, but don't let that fool you. She is also one of the most hardworking. In Todd County, where the Campbell Family live on their 20 acre farm, Blair shares in the passion for Tennessee Walking Horses.

A 2004 Graduate of Murray State University, Blair knew she would go back into the horse business, not as a trainer but as a teacher. Her 20 youth and 6 adult students are glad she did. She has been giving lessons for over two years. Blair's Riding Academy has had its share of victories,



The Campbell's: Blair, Don and Kim with some of their horses.

recently, two of her students were crowned World Champions at the Riding Academy Show.

Along with all her other duties and responsibilities, Blair is the Director for the Kentucky Walking Horse

Association's Breeder Incentive Program. "It has been challenging, but I am very excited about the possibilities this new program will bring to Kentucky's Walking Horse Industry," said Blair.

When asked why Blair loved the Walking Horse so much she shared, "I was born into the breed, I love their grace, temperament and the people that own and show them."

"I was born into the breed, I love their grace, temperament and the people that own and show them."

- Blair Campbell, Todd County KEEP Team Leader.



View of the daily activities at Don Campbell Stables

Along with being a KEEP Team Leader, running her Riding Academy and working with the Breeder's Incentive Program, Blair finds time to help out around the farm. With 60 head of horses, including broodmares and babies, lesson horses and those in training, her help is appreciated on the farm.

Don Campbell Stables is a productive part of the community, in the Walking Horse World; it is a vital part of the Association. Don Campbell has been training Tennessee Walking Horses in the ways of Plantation and Performance for almost 30 years. He holds a seat on the Board of Directors for the Kentucky Walking Horse Association, as well as being a licensed judge. In his 30 years he and his family have had numerous accomplishments, such as, the 1981 World Grand Champion, Ebony's Collector, who recently passed away at age 33 on the Campbell Farm. Ebony's Collector was shown by wife Kim. Don has also started more than 20 World Champion Colts in his time.

Don has customers in more than four states as well as some from New Zealand. Don recently expanded his operation to include breaking and training of Thoroughbred Colts. So he keeps pretty busy.

To find out more about Don Campbell Stables or to contact Blair, email her at kblaircampbell@hotmail.com.

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.

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 2007
- Free admission to the Kentucky Horse Park through December 2007 and 15% discount at the Horse Park Gift Shop

HOW TO BETTER UNDERSTAND YOUR EQUINE MORTALITY INSURANCE POLICY

By: Tom Dixon, KEEP Member &
Retired Equine Insurance Adjuster

There are a number of insurance companies writing mortality insurance policies, and while most all have the same basic policy, there can be important differences. This is where your Agent is important as the person who can explain these differences for you. All policies contain certain terms and conditions, along with exclusions and definitions.

When you purchase the insurance, it is vital you have an "insurable interest" in the horse. That is, you should own the animal free and clear, or any mortgages should be known to the insurance company. It is also very important that the names on the policy match the names on the reverse side of Jockey Club papers. If the policy is issued to John Doe and the back side has the name of Mary Doe, the claims adjuster may question your "insurable interest" in the horse. If you sell any part of the horse, this should also be made known to your insurance company. The policy Declaration page will contain a number of things, including the name, age, and sex of the animal. Some policies may call for the tattoo number. Every horse that races has the last five digits of the Jockey Club registration papers, preceded by a letter to indicate the date of birth, tattooed on its upper lip. If the animal has not raced, leg and face markings are the best means of identification.

Before accepting your horse for coverage, the insurance company will ask for a Veterinary examination. It is vital that the Veterinary form include the date and local time the exam was made. Claim complications may develop if an animal is examined in the morning but then has a serious injury in the afternoon, and a question might arise as to whether the insurance exam was made before or after the injury. The exam form should also include a complete description of the horse, including the mentioned tattoo number and/or markings.

If your horse is under board care or with a trainer, it is also vital that they know who to notify in case of injury, illness, or death of the animal. Your Agent or Claims Adjuster can provide you with a small index card with the Adjuster's name and a 24-hour telephone number. This should be posted on or near the animal's stall or in the farm office. Horses have a way of having their biggest difficulties on weekends or late at night when the office might be closed. Thus, it is a good idea to have the card posted where the caretakers will see it. It is also wise to print the card in English and Spanish.

When to report a problem? If it is necessary to call the vet, you also need to call the insurance company. Failure to do so or waiting until the animal has died could result in problems receiving your claim payment. If you reach the Adjuster's answering service, make note of the time, date, and, if possible, the name of the person receiving your call. Don't be bashful about calling the Adjuster late at night or on a long holiday weekend.

Many horses are under the care of others and are not often seen by the owner. For that owner's peace of mind, he should ask the person in charge of the horse if they have Care, Custody and Control insurance. This type of coverage will protect that person from accidents or other events caused by one of their employees. A good example would be if a gate is left open, allowing the animal to enter a highway, or if a rake or pitchfork is carelessly left in the barn aisle by an employee anxious to get home.

Equine Mortality Insurance is often referred to as Life Insurance for horses. There are a number of differences between the two, as follows:

1. Equine Insurance is written for one year only, subject to renewal at the end of that time.
2. The animal is required to have a physical exam at the end of each year.
3. The Equine Insurance Company has the right to call in a "Consulting Veterinarian" for a second opinion on the animal's condition or possible euthanasia.
4. The mortality policy provides for euthanasia if:
 - A. the condition is chronic and incurable.
 - B. the immediate condition has a hopeless prognosis for life.
 - C. the horse is a hazard to itself or its handlers.
 - D. the horse will require continuous medicine for the relief of pain for the remainder of its life.

The American Association of Equine Practitioners has accepted these guidelines with the provision that the decision be based on medical grounds, not economic considerations.

If death of the animal occurs, the owner must submit a "Proof of Loss" form within 60 days. If there is some sort of delay in the adjustment of the claim, the Claims Adjuster must keep the horse owner advised on a timely basis and explain why there is a delay. The value of the horse, for claim purposes, is usually based on the animal's "Fair Market Value" or its "Agreed Value." The latter is a price agreed upon when the insurance is written. Fair Market Value is basically what a willing buyer and a willing seller, with no compulsion to buy or sell, with a reasonable knowledge of relevant facts, would pay. If the horse has run in a claiming race, the amount of insurance is reduced to the lowest amount for which the horse could have been claimed. If the horse goes unsold at public auction, the amount of insurance is reduced to the highest bid made for the animal. If the horse is castrated or spayed, the insurance ceases to cover the animal at midnight, local time, immediately prior to the day of the operation. Notifying your Agent in advance can avoid this problem. Claim problems will also develop if you move the horse to another country without notice to the Agent. Animals are normally covered that remain in the U.S. or Canada.

Some of the important exclusions are losses caused by treatment by someone other than a licensed Veterinarian, intentional injury, improper care by others, late reporting, or the lack of a post-mortem examination. There are other exclusions. Most policies cover theft of the animal but not losses caused by mysterious disappearance, escape, or loss by fraud or some other form of false pretense.

At a lower rate of premium, horse owners can purchase a "Limited" or "Restricted Perils" policy. These generally cover fire, lightning, explosion, or injuries sustained while being trailered.

There are other forms of insurance, such as Prospective Foal, Stallion Fertility, and Loss of Use that might be covered in future articles. Circumstances may differ with your claim or with certain other policies. The information offered in this article is for general information only and is not meant to be the last and final word on your mortality claim.

ELLIS PARK OPENS WITH NEW OUTLOOK FOR FUTURE

by Tom LaMarra
copyright, the Bloodhorse, July 2006

Kentucky racing in the summer months hasn't gotten much attention over the years, but that could change if Ron Geary has his way.

Geary, who on July 17 announced he has a definitive agreement to purchase Ellis Park from Churchill Downs Inc., was on hand at the western Kentucky racetrack July 19 for an opening day that may have exceeded expectations. It was sunny and humid, with a temperature in the mid-90s and a heat index of 101, but more than 5,200 patrons were in attendance for a Wednesday afternoon of racing in a festive atmosphere.

CDI has owned Ellis Park since 1998. Now, the Louisville, Ky., businessman will get his chance to build business at a racetrack with strong ties to the local community.

"We want to take Ellis Park to the next level," Geary said after opening ceremonies at the track that actually sits on the Indiana side of the Ohio River. "We want it to be one of the best small racetracks in the country. We want to make this the Del Mar or Saratoga of the Midwest."

Ellis Park has grown somewhat in stature nationally because it's part of the Churchill Downs Simulcast Network. But some locals believe the corporate culture wasn't a good fit for a track like Ellis Park, located in a largely rural market. In addition, CDI owns Arlington Park, an Illinois track whose racing season competes directly with that of Ellis Park.

"We've backed the new ownership 110%," said Mike Bruder, a racehorse owner who serves as the Ellis Park representative on the Kentucky Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association board of directors. "We'll do our part to fill races. The whole community is behind this place."

There appears to be a cordial relationship between Geary and CDI, and already the two have agreed to work together on racing dates beginning next year. Before CDI bought Ellis, there were fights over the July 4 racing schedule; next year, Churchill and Ellis Park will seek Kentucky Horse Racing Authority approval for a holiday weekend overlap.

Such a schedule would add about two more weeks to the Ellis Park meet.

"I think the sale is a win-win situation," said Brian Elmore, the vice president and general manager at Ellis Park who worked for CDI for about 10 years in Indiana. "It hasn't been a secret Churchill has been trying to sell Ellis Park. Ron (Geary) is a good businessman. There are a lot of advantages to being a smaller operation."

Opening day began with a ceremony that included a moment of silence for the 25 people killed when a tornado struck the Evansville, Ind., area last fall. The storm heavily damaged Ellis Park, parts of which were rebuilt by CDI. Even before the first race, crews were working in areas of the sprawling property.

Elmore credited CDI for carrying out the reconstruction process. "In five months, we got done what generally would take a year," he said.

One of the dignitaries in attendance was Jonathan Weinzapfel, the mayor of Evansville. He issued a proclamation calling July 19 "Ellis Park Day" in the city, and called the track a "first-class neighbor" to Evansville.

"I think everybody realizes this is a new day for Ellis Park," Weinzapfel said.

Opening-day attendance was up 14% from 4,604 last year and the highest figure since CDI has owned the property. On-track handle on the live product was \$302,542, up 5% from \$287,880 last year. It appeared grandstand concessions selling beer and food did excellent business.

Two track records were set on a fast track in the hot conditions. Suzy and Charles Machamer's Hoho Tow won a five-furlong starter allowance test in :56.46, which topped the previous record of :57 3/5 set in 1988 and tied in 1992. In the following race for \$4,000 claimers, Aaron Shorter's Flank Drive won in 1:03.36 for 5 1/2 furlongs to break the record set in 2002 by 0.01 seconds.

The Ellis Park meet runs through Labor Day, Sept. 4, on a Wednesday-through-Sunday schedule. Post time is 12:40 p.m. CDT.

PILOT EQUINE PROGRAM LAUNCHED AT STATE 4-H CAMP

On July 11th a pilot equine program during State 4-H Camp was launched. The program was made possible by a \$5000 Grassroots donation from KEEP. We are proud to say it was a huge success. 15 kids were in the first session along with two more to occur that day. The pilot program was at the Dawson Springs 4-H Camp in Western Kentucky. The program is a collaborative effort between the University of Kentucky's 4-H Program and Murray State University. Murray's Equine Program provided the horses and the instructor, Ms. Kelley Murphy. Ms. Murphy will be a senior this fall in Equine Science. She did an excellent job at coaching these youngsters on how to be safe around horses. The program is intended to introduce horses to youth that have had little or no contact with equine. The State 4-H program has plans to incorporate the equine sessions into all four state 4-H Camps within the next few years. KEEP is very proud to have been a supporter of this project.



AUGUST 2006**KEEP CALENDAR OF EVENTS-** *For a complete listing visit WWW.HORSESWORK.COM*

August 1 - 4th	Grant County Fair, Grant County Fairgrounds, Williamstown
August 2nd- 5th	Shelbyville Horse Show, Shelby County Fair Grounds, Shelbyville
August 4th	Larue County Fair Horse Show, Larue County Fair Grounds, Hodgenville
August 4th - 5th	El Hasa Shrine Temple Annual Horse Show, Carter County
August 4th - 6th	Kentucky Flag Racers Horse Show, Muhlenberg County Agriculture and Convention Center.
August 5th	Western Kentucky Saddlebred Association, Madisonville
August 5th	Livingston County Fair Horse Show, Livingston County Fair Grounds
August 11th	Building the Equestrian Story; An Open House for Media at the Kentucky Horse Park
August 12th	Graves County Riding Club Summer Horse Show, Mayfield
August 12th	Mt. Eden Riding Club Horse Show, behind Mt. Eden Ruritan Club
August 16th-18th	United Mountain Horse World Grand Championship Horse Show, Mercer County Fair Grounds, Harrodsburg
August 19th	United Mountain Horse Youth Association Fun Show, Mercer County Fair Grounds, Harrodsburg
August 19th	Mountain Horse Celebration and Pleasure Horse Show, Morgan County
August 19th	Hat's Off to the Horse Industry, Kentucky Horse Park
August 20th- 26th	ASHA World's Championship Horse Show, Freedom Hall, Louisville
August 26th	Southern Horse Owners and Exhibitors Horse Show, Luther Carson Park
August 26th	Bluegrass Spotted Saddle Horse Association, Mercer County Fair Grounds, Harrodsburg
August 26th	KEEP Family Day at the Kentucky Horse Park in conjunction with the Kentucky Hunter Jumper Association

SEPTEMBER

September 2nd	Pole Benders of Kentucky Horse Show, Logan County
September 2nd	Union County Quarter Horse Club Ranch Horse Show, Union County Fair Grounds
September 2nd	Hart County 4-H Horse Club Horse Show, Cave Country Saddle Club, Rowletts
September 2nd	South Central Hackney Association Horse Show, Alexandria Fair and Horse Show.
September 2nd-3rd	Kentucky Quarter Horse Breeders Association Futurity, Western Kentucky Ag Expo Center, Bowling Green
September 3rd	Grayson County Saddle Club Labor Day Show, Leitchfield, 3:00 pm
September 9th	Grave County Riding Club Summer Horse Show, Mayfield
September 9th	Mt. Eden Riding Club Horse Show, behind Mt. Eden Ruritan Club
September 9th	Kentucky Paint Horse Club, Lakeside Arena, Frankfort
September 9th & 10th	Nan Tippin Classic Appaloosa Show, Western Kentucky Ag Expo Center, Bowling Green.
September 14th	UPRHBTA World Champion Show, Prestonsburg
September 23rd	Wilderness Trace Pony Club Horse Show, Boyle County Fair Grounds
September 23rd	Cowboys for Kids Horse Show, Breckenridge County Fair Grounds, Hardinsburg
September 23rd	Lee County Saddle Club, Beattyville
September 23rd	Carlisle County Riding Club Horse Show
September 24th	Festival of the Horse Annual Horse Show, Scott County Fair Grounds
September 25th	Spencer County Trailblazers 4-H Horse Show, Taylorsville
September 30th	Kentucky Mule and Donkey Association State Championship Horse Show, Central Ky Expo Center, Liberty
September 30th	Kentucky Appaloosa Owners Association Horse Show, Bardstown
September 30th	Eastern Kentucky Walking and Racking Horse Association Horse Show, Prestonsburg

Kentucky Equine Education Project

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HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

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HAVE A CHANGE OF INFORMATION?

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