

Wildcat Canter

UK Ag
EQUINE

May 2013

Welcome!

This time of year always makes me think of when I graduated from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture. It was a very exciting time for me as I celebrated with my family and friends, but it was the first time since I was 5 that I was not a student. I knew what was required to be a good student, but I had no idea how to be a good alumnus. An alumni and development professional explained to me the three qualities that all great alumni possess.



The first step is to be an advocate for UK and the College of Agriculture. Be proud of the accomplishments of our researchers, extension agents and students/alumni and share those accomplishments with others. Help recruit students so that they may have the same experiences as you did. This is something that can start while you are a student.

The second step is to be an active member of the Ag & HES Alumni Association. Members are welcomed back to campus for reunions such as Roundup and Winter Event and the chance to buy football and basketball tickets to select games throughout the year. There are also opportunities to network with fellow alumni who may be able to help you achieve your career goals.

The third step is to be a donor. Because those before us gave back to the College of Agriculture through professorships and scholarships, we have been given great opportunities over the years. Please give back so that future generations can have the same resources for success that you have been given.

When your time as a student comes to an end, please remember these three qualities of a great alumnus. Being a Wildcat does not end at graduation; it is just the beginning.

*Billy Toombs, Alumni Relations and
Annual Giving Coordinator*
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Does this blanket make me look fat? One student's internship logging horse weights and body condition scores

By Alexandra Harper

Elizabeth Goldsmith, a native of Lisle, Ill. and University of Kentucky Equine Science and Management major, came to UK because of its great academics and because UK is in the heart of horse country.

Goldsmith first became involved with the horse industry through volunteering at a local equestrian center and started riding when she was 10 years old.

This past semester Goldsmith was matched with an internship at Hallway Feeds. Goldsmith rode with Steve Caddel, Equine and Technical Services Specialist for Hallway Feeds, to local farms to weigh and body score foals, broodmares, yearlings and stallions. Some of Goldsmith's responsibilities included logging all of the weights and scores in Micro-Steed and Gro-trac. This information was used to create a report for each horse at the farms. The reports would show owners and managers how the horses were progressing from the last weigh date and their overall comparison to the average horse at their age. Goldsmith also helped the racing and sport horse consultants by preparing email lists, feed samples and competitor bags for their hunter derby when she was not at the farms.



“Seeing the foals’ reactions when they start to realize walking across a scale isn’t hard nor is the height stick going to hurt them, was my favorite part of the internship,” Goldsmith said.

When asked what Goldsmith learned the most during her internship at Hallway Feeds, she said, “I learned a lot about body condition scoring, like what makes a 5.5 different from a 5 or a 6 and so on.”

“I hope that she has a better understanding of the real world and how it relates to the horse industry,” said Caddel. “Elizabeth was well-organized, skilled with computers and expanded her knowledge of horses while she was here.”

“This was an excellent opportunity that just required finding the right student,” said Elizabeth LaBonty, Lecturer and Internship Coordinator. “Elizabeth’s career goals were a perfect fit and Steve invested a lot of time teaching her valuable skills.”

After graduation Goldsmith said she plans to go to graduate school for animal nutrition and exercise physiology, with the hopes of one day going into equine nutrition or equine rehabilitation.

Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital scholarship spotlight

By Alexandra Harper

Lindsay Good, a recent graduate of the equine science program was a recipient of the Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital scholarship from 2009-2010.



Good is originally from Louisville, Ky., and is a current master's student in the animal and food sciences department. She is still uncertain as to whether she will look for a job after graduation or continue with her education and obtain her doctorate. Good is interested in both research and sales as a possible career.

“The scholarship allowed me to have my horse with me at college during my undergraduate career. It allowed me to focus on my studies and get the grades I needed to get the fellowship I have now to complete graduate school,” said Good.

Since graduate school requires a lot of time, Good said she found that her hobbies now also include feeding and weighing birds for her degree.

Madison Scott's passion for horses leads her to UK

By Carl Nathe, Sarah Geegan

Madison Scott's track to the University of Kentucky began when she was 10 years old.

From Austin, Texas, she grew up far away from Lexington horse farms and equestrian events; but in 2004, she watched Thoroughbred race horse Smarty Jones become the first undefeated Kentucky Derby winner since Seattle Slew in 1977, and she was hooked.

Scott developed an unharnessed fascination with Smarty Jones, so strong that she began sending letters to Three Chimneys Farm in Midway, Ky., where the horse lived. Three Chimneys employees Ann Hayes and Jen Rotyz responded to her writing, recognizing that Scott was no ordinary fan. This correspondence continued for years.

In 2009, Roytz invited Madison and her mother to fly from Austin to Midway to meet the horse in person. However, Scott didn't know until she arrived in Kentucky that Chapman intended to have her name on one of Smarty Jones' colts. The name "Mad for Smarty" honored the colt's legendary bloodline as well as its most dedicated fan.

"Mad for Smarty was two years old at that point," Scott said. "He was already in training at the track, but I followed him closely through his racing career, which concluded in September of 2011."

After a two-year career, Mad for Smarty sustained an injury, and Three Chimneys Farm offered the horse to Madison.

"He had just been taken off the track and was ready to start a new career, not racing," Scott said. "I definitely said yes, we wanted him! And we got him. It's been amazing ever since then — having my own horse, finally, after so many years of riding lessons and wanting one, but never being able to have one. It's just been incredible."

When it was time to start looking at colleges, Scott knew exactly what field she wanted to pursue; and though she considered several institutions with strong equine programs, she said the minute she arrived in Lexington, she knew the University of Kentucky was where she and her horse belonged.

"For me, there is no other place in the country that can offer what Lexington and the University of Kentucky offer," Scott said. "UK not only has the equine classes, which are awesome — not many schools offer an equine program at all — but they're offered in Lexington, the horse capital of the world. It's been incredible, and that is really why I came to UK."

An Equine Science and Management major in the UK College of Agriculture, Scott now interns at Three Chimneys Farm and is continuing to pursue a career in the equine industry.

"I help to keep track of two-year-olds, our new stallions," Scott said. "I keep a book record of the mares that we have booked to our stallions with details like pedigrees, race records, who owns them, etc. I also just do various other things that Three Chimneys needs. I'm working on a market report right now, and that has been a great learning experience. I go three times a week in the morning."

Scott said that her internship has provided invaluable experience so far.

"I knew a lot about the racing and breeding industry before I got here, of course, because I've been very invested in the industry," Scott said. "But being able to actually go into an office every day and see the real inter-workings of how a breeding farm operates has been so enlightening. I'm learning so much about every aspect of what Three Chimneys does in their sales department, which has just been incredible. It's what I want to go into in my career, so it's definitely beneficial. I'm learning along the way."

Mad for Smarty, still a central part of her life, is boarded at Bryan Station Farm. Scott said that having her horse nearby has made an already great college experience even better.

"I can't have imagined a better year than I've had so far," Scott said. "The college decision was a really tough choice for me. I looked at a lot of schools, but within two weeks of being at UK, I couldn't even believe I considered other schools. This is just the right place for me, and I love it."

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in the College of Ag

UK Professor part of team restoring AfricanAmerican Cemetery No. 2, an important historical site for Lexington's horse racing past

By Alexandra Harper

For the past 30 years, the African Cemetery No. 2 Inc., a Lexington, Ky.-based nonprofit group has not only saved the African Cemetery No. 2, the oldest black cemetery in Lexington and one of the oldest in the state, but it has delved into its history, making the lives of the more than 5,000 people interred in its ground known once again.



Mark Coyne, PhD, professor in soil biology in the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, has participated in the project since its inception 1995.



The cemetery on East Seventh Street wasn't always as pristine as it is now. Weeds and overgrown foliage once took over most of the headstones and gravestones were crumbling due to weather and vandalism.

If it wasn't for the African Cemetery No. 2 Inc., the cemetery would likely no longer exist.

According to news reports about the cemetery, it played an important role in the history of horse racing in Lexington. Many of those buried there were once involved in the industry and tied to the Kentucky Association Race Track.

According to Coyne, the board that oversees the cemetery has a 10-year plan for improving the cemetery. That plan involves physically defining the cemetery boundaries, cataloging graves to enable a database to be developed, resetting larger stones, and replacing headstones that are needed, along with maintenance and landscaping. Currently, the board is about half way through its plan. A fence has been set in place around the cemetery, landscaping has been started, and the process of resetting the stones has begun. Funds are still needed to finish resetting the stones and to replace some of the current stones.



The board's goal for the cemetery is to acquire property around the cemetery and have an African American center built, host numerous activities and events, and allow middle school and high school children to use for educational purposes.

More information about the project can be found at www.africancemeteryno2.org. If interested in donating to the Cemetery, please contact Mark Coyne at mcoyn00@email.uky.edu or mcoyn00@gmail.com.

Check out the May issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest at www2.ca.uky.edu/equine/bed

Stories this month include:

- Researchers recommend three-tiered EIA testing
- Methods for controlling equine parasites in the environment
- Commentary: biosecurity for infectious disease control
- New test helps vets diagnose placentitis in pregnant mares
- New tool detects effects of endophytic alkaloid consumption



Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games 2014™ in Normandy Volunteers Don't Delay!

Source: edited news release

On Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014, Normandy will echo to the rhythm of the 7th edition of the largest equestrian sports event of all time. On that evening, the opening ceremony will take place in front of 20,000 spectators, gathered together in the Ornano stadium in Caen. It's quite a programme.

The event may still seem a long way off, but the recruitment of volunteers for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games 2014 in Normandy, hosted from Aug. 23 to Sept. 7, began a few weeks ago. And it has proven to be such a successful recruitment campaign that latecomers may well rue the day they waited too long before applying.

Officially launched on April 10, the "Volunteer Programme" for the Games has got off to a sprint with no fewer than 400 applications via the website on the very first day! After the first two weeks, there were over 3,000 requests made, and some 1,800 have already been confirmed. No deadline for receiving forms has been set by the Normandy Organising Committee (Comité d'organisation Normandie) 2014, but the number of applications cannot exceed 5,000.

Suffice to say then that time is short for applicants. Detailed statistics reveal that the majority of applicants belong to the equestrian sports' family. Indeed, around a third have a French Equestrian Federation license. However, over half the candidates admit to practising equestrian sports. Evidence then that the next global meeting will attract not only enthusiasts, but more broadly, all those who love horses. It should also be noted that nearly 600 requests have come in from overseas. In the hit parade of the most highly motivated French departments, Calvados is topping the leaderboard, with some 591 files registered, ahead of the Manche region (around Cherbourg) (201) and Orne (107). Surprisingly though, around one in two candidates don't live in Normandy. Such a figure shows that the interest in the Games and their appeal extend beyond the competition region itself.

It's worth pointing out that the "Volunteer Programme" is open to all, provided that candidates are at least 18 on May 31, 2014. It aims to recruit some 3,000 volunteers, a limited number of whom will be invited to lend a helping hand to the organisers from the summer of 2013, during the various preliminary events. The missions of these future volunteers will be many and various: logistics (transport, catering, accommodation, services to the public), sport, services to the media, safety, ticket office, hospitalities, entertainment and communication.

Information and registration for candidates at: www.jemfeialltech2014normandie.fr/benevoles
www.alltechfeiweg2014normandy.com

Team of 'betologists' Helps Novices Place Bets at Keeneland

By Greg Kocher-gkocher1@herald-leader.com

Heidemarie Gentryswift has worked around horses for years, and she has a farm in Cartersville, Ga., that owns Thoroughbreds and trains show-ring hunter-jumpers.

But when it comes to betting on Thoroughbred racing, Gentryswift said there's a lot she doesn't know. She faced that fact Saturday when she spoke to Jake Memolo, one of a dozen "betologists" that Keeneland has deployed into its crowds this weekend for the first time to answer questions and assist patrons.



"I'm learning from him how to bet smarter," Gentryswift said. "He's giving me tons of ideas — how to look at the horses in the paddock, how to watch them as they exercise. I'm realizing how little I know.

To read the entire story, visit <http://www.kentucky.com/2013/04/06/2589572/team-of-betologists-helps-novices.html>.

Travers Manley '11 AG: Out in front at Churchill Downs

By *Linday Perry*

Source: edited story from the *UK Alumni newsletter*, UK Alumni Association

Travers Manley says that the most important “life lesson” he learned while an Equine Science and Management major in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture was relatively simple. “To be successful in the horse industry, it takes a whole lot of hard work and a whole lot of luck,” he said.

It suffices to say that during the weeks leading up to the Kentucky Derby, he is in a position to know about the hard work part. Manley is a media coordinator and staff writer at Churchill Downs. In addition to writing for the Churchill Downs and Kentucky Derby websites, some of his responsibilities include compiling statistics on Derby and Oaks horses and assisting the more than 2,300 members of the media who get credentials to cover the greatest weekend in American racing in Louisville.



Manley, of Louisville, graduated from Male High School. In addition to living in the same city as Churchill Downs, he had another connection to horses while growing up: his father. In fact, he received his first name, Travers, because his dad, a lifelong horse racing fanatic, named his son after his favorite race, The Travers Stakes.

In 2004, Manley visited Saratoga Race Course, the site of the Travers Stakes, for the first time and had a light bulb moment — horse racing would be where he would eventually build his career.

“I came to UK to pursue my dream of working in the Thoroughbred racing industry. I was impressed with the work the College of Agriculture faculty had put into the Equine Science and Management program. I also knew the Lexington area would be the best place to

network with members of the industry,” he said.

At UK, Manley was an active member in Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the UK Horse Racing Club.

“I was also a dancer at DanceBlue all four years I was at UK. I always say that DanceBlue is the best thing that happens at UK and that includes basketball,” he said. “Thankfully, I was able to be involved in DanceBlue 2012 as an alumnus and represented Churchill Downs for the Kentucky Derby hour of the marathon.”

Manley says there were two individuals who strongly assisted him in the pursuit of a career in the horse industry. “Dr. Bob Coleman and Dr. Mary Rossano are two very special professors who believed in me and my dreams from the moment I met them,” he said. “They worked to help me in every way they could from my freshman year all the way through graduation and continuing on into my career.”

Before a position at Churchill Downs materialized for him, Manley worked as an intern in the communications department at Keeneland during his sophomore, junior and senior years at UK. “One of the contacts I made while at Keeneland was Alicia Wincze Hughes, the turf writer at the Lexington Herald-Leader. When the communications job at Churchill Downs opened, she recommended me for the job to Darren Rogers, senior director of communications,” he said. “I met with Darren a couple of weeks later and it was just a perfect fit.”

His Churchill Downs job as a media coordinator and staff writer has already given him valuable career insight. “Work becomes a major part of your life. So, I learned just how important it is to do something that makes you happy,” Manley said. “I get to work at one of the greatest racetracks in the world, and I get to be around the world’s best horses, horsemen and racetrack executives. I am genuinely happy to come to work every day, and I learned how important it is to feel that way. Work is too big a part of your life to dread it.”

An example of a day that made Manley happy, occurred during last year’s Kentucky Derby. He was told to wait by the stairs because someone he would certainly want to meet would be coming down. “No one would tell me who it was,” Manley said. “I waited for five minutes and then finally Anthony Davis came down the stairs. As a huge UK fan, it was great to meet him and get my picture with him.”

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Outside of work, Manley's world revolves around horses, but in a slightly different way. He has started his own Thoroughbred breeding operation.

"I bought a mare in February 2010 and, at the time, she had a week-old foal by her side. The mare's name was Sky and I nicknamed the foal Skype," he said. "I sold Skype at the 2011 Keeneland September Yearling Sale and she was taken to Puerto Rico. She is one of the top horses in Puerto Rico and last year was one of just seven 2-year-olds in North America to win at least five races." Shortly after buying Sky and Skype, he bred Sky to a stallion named Parading and nicknamed the resulting foal Faith. "I sold Faith at the 2012 Fasig-Tipton October sale. She, too, was purchased by Puerto Rican connections. She has not raced yet, but hopefully will make her first start this summer. And Sky just had another foal a couple of weeks ago, and she will be bred back to 2010 Kentucky Derby winner Super Saver," he said.

Manley, who is 24 years old, already has his eye on the future. "My ultimate goal is to be the president of Churchill Downs," he said. "That's been the dream since I was 15. I hope in five years I'll still be owning and breeding Thoroughbreds, and that I'm on the right road to achieving my ultimate goal. It's already been an incredible ride, and I can't wait to see what the future holds."

But for the present, his first Saturday in May 2013 will be another memorable one. "I'll be working in the Media Center on Kentucky Derby Day, and I'll watch the race from there. It is a hectic day, but I'll find time to enjoy the 'Greatest Two Minutes in Sports.'"

UK Farm and Facilities Expo To Be Held June 19

By Holly Wiemers

University of Kentucky Ag Equine Programs will host an Equine Farm and Facilities Expo from 4 to 8 p.m. EDT Wednesday, June 19 at Tollgate Farm in Georgetown.

Horse owners and horse farm managers will be able to see a range of equipment and supplies for horse farms of all sizes. UK specialists will provide hands-on instruction about practical aspects of management for equine operations.

"The expo provides horse owners the chance to attend an informative event on the grounds of a working horse farm. We appreciate Troy Rankin and Tollgate Farm for hosting this event and for opening the farm's gates to the public," said Ray Smith, professor and forage extension specialist for the UK College of Agriculture.

Nick Carter, Fayette County agriculture and natural resources extension agent, said the expo is a unique opportunity for horse owners on farms of all sizes to learn about a wide range of topics, from weed and grass identification to footing for exercise areas.

"There are not many other venues around that allow horse owners this kind of opportunity," he said.

UK experts will lead demonstrations on subjects including drainage and footing options for exercise areas, temporary fence and water system establishment, rotational grazing benefits, hay production testing and integrating cattle into equine operations. Other topics include weed and grass identification, parasitology, multivalent vaccines and improving farm safety. There will also be a number of informational booths staffed by UK specialists.

Tollgate Farm owner Troy Rankin breeds, trains and races Thoroughbred horses and recently had two run in the Breeder's Cup. Tollgate Farm is a diverse operation in that it also produces hay for both on-farm use and sale, grows tobacco and row crops and raises beef cattle.

According to Michelle Simon, Scott County agriculture and natural resources extension agent, this farm is a great example of how other farming operations can complement an equine operation while still competing at the highest levels.

The farm is located at 301 Stone Road in Georgetown.

Admission to the Equine Farm and Facilities Expo is free, and a meal will be provided. Reservations are appreciated. Contact the Fayette County Extension office at 859-257-5582 to reserve a spot. For more information about this and other UK Ag Equine Programs events, visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/equine> or e-mail equine@uky.edu.

Clubs and Teams

Dressage and Eventing Team

The following riders on the Dressage and Eventing Team graduated this month from UK.

Jen Brogie, Megan Cassidy, Lauren Hansen, Kelly Kramer, Elizabeth McCorvey, Kelsey Peterson and Anna Taylor.

Equestrian Team

In its first ever trip as a team to national competition (kudos!), the Western Team was 7th overall at IHSA nationals in early May. Congratulations to the team and its coach, Bennie Sargent, who trains the team from his Georgetown, Ky. operation.

Riders and classes they competed in:

- Allison Board, Open Western Horsemanship
- Allison Board, Open Reining
- Jaclyn Dinnebeil, Beginner Western Horsemanship
- Fallon Jackson, Novice Western Horsemanship
- Emory Thomas, Intermediate Western Horsemanship
- Lydia Uhlyarik, Advanced Western Horsemanship

From the Western Team riding in the individual classes

- Lindsey Scherer, Beginner Western Horsemanship

Allison Board Represented UK in the AQHA High Point Rider competition and Kennedy Ellingston represented UK in the prestigious Cacchione Cup on the Hunt Seat side.

From the Hunt Seat Team, the following riders competed:

- Kennedy Ellingston, Open Equitation over Fences
- Taylor Hayden, Walk Trot Canter

In the Alumni Competition, Megan Carter was 4th in Western Horsemanship and 6th in Reining.

Congratulations to UK Ag Equine Programs' May Graduates!

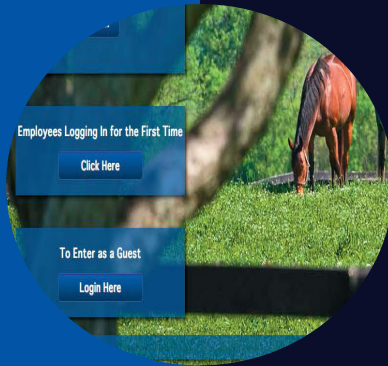
- * Jen Brogie
- * Cassandra Carrithers
- * Jill Carter
- * Jillian Gordon
- * Lauren Hansen
- * Nicole Holownia
- * Mathilde Jenkins
- * Austin Killebrew
- * Kelly Kramer
- * Devan Kundmueller
- * Cynthia Lefebvre
- * Elizabeth Obrecht
- * Kelly Parks
- * Elizabeth Rigby
- * Kelly Ruhl
- * Susanna Shepherd
- * Samantha Strouss
- * Emily Sward
- * John Cody Switzer
- * Anna Taylor
- * Claire Willis





AG EQUINE PROGRAMS Equine Store

Want some new UK
Equine gear? Find
jackets, scarves,
bags, and more!



In response to requests for merchandise featuring UK equine logos, UK Ag Equine Programs has launched an online store. Find UK Ag Equine or Gluck Equine Research Center logoed items from t-shirts to coats to tailgating gear all in one spot. Visit www.ukagequinstore.com and login as a guest.

Visit www.ukagequinstore.com

Upcoming Events

May 28-June 1

Coaches and trainers symposium, KY Horse Park
<http://internationalsocietyofriderbiomechanics.wordpress.com/2013/04/08/international-society-of-rider-biomechanics-2013-teacher-training-congress/>

June 10-12

State 4-H Contest

June 18

Advanced Kentucky Grazing School, 8:30 a.m., UK Research and Education Center, Princeton
<http://news.ca.uky.edu/article/advanced-kentucky-grazing-school-coming-western-kentucky>

June 19

Farm and Facilities Expo, 4 p.m., Toll Gate Farm, Georgetown

June 27

Department of Veterinary Science Equine Diagnostic Research Seminar, 4 p.m., Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Field Anesthesia, Nora Matthews



Equine Club Directory

Dressage & Eventing Team

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, jill.stowe@uky.edu
President: Aileen O'Brien, aileen.obrien216@gmail.com

Equestrian Team

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman, rcoleman@uky.edu
Hunt Seat President: Hayley Dowty,
uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com
Western President: Allie Board,
allison.board@uky.edu

Horse Racing Club

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence,
laurie.lawrence@uky.edu
President: Audrey Boslego, audrey.boslego@uky.edu

Polo Club

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, rogerbrown@uky.edu
President: Posey Obrecht, poseyobrecht@aol.com

Research in Equine and Agricultural Disciplines (READ) Club

Advisor: Dr. Kristine Urschel, klur222@uky.edu
President: Virginia Stilwell, virginia.stilwell5@uky.edu

Saddle Seat Team

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, mary.rossano@uky.edu
President: Nicole Laroussa, nlaroussa@gmail.com

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Dr. Jill Stowe

Associate Director for Undergraduate Education in
Equine Science & Management: Dr. Bob
Coleman

UK Ag Equine Programs Communications
Director: Holly Wiemers

Equine Lecturer and Internship Coordinator:
Elizabeth LaBonty

Equine Academic Program Coordinator:
Kristen Wilson

UK Ag Equine Programs Operations and
Communications Coordinator: Alexandra Harper

UK Ag Equine Programs Communication Intern:
Erin Morgan

