

Wildcat Canter



September 2009

UK Equine Initiative
Student Newsletter

A chat with Dr. Bob Coleman

By Alexandra Harper

I had the privilege of sitting down with Dr. Bob Coleman recently for some advice for students and to learn a little more about him.

Question: Who is Dr. Bob Coleman?

Answer: Dr. Coleman teaches the capstone class within the Equine Science and Management degree program at UK, as well as an equine science class in conjunction with the University of Louisville. He is also a student advisor, the associate director for undergraduate education and faculty advisor for the UK Equestrian Team.

Along with his responsibilities at UK, Dr. Coleman is also on the research board for the American Quarter Horse Association and is an equine extension specialist for UK. Dr. Coleman likes that his dual roles as professor and extension specialist allow him to bring real world material into the classroom.

Question: What is your advice to students?

Answer: Dr. Coleman had a few pieces of advice for students. Students need to like horses, but be ready to study horses and work hard.

In this Issue:

- Equine Initiative welcomes new student interns
- FEI World Games update
- Student Spotlight: Ashton Martino
- Gluck Center names Hall of Fame inductees

They need to be excited about the different breeds of horses, regardless of their own equine background.

Students should also know how to differentiate between the events that go on in the horse industry and know the breeds that compete in them.

There are a lot of clubs and organizations to be involved in at UK, but be careful of your time. Being a student is your full-time job and it is important that you do that job well. This is also the time in your life that you will make friends that you will have for the rest of your life. So get out there and meet people!

And, importantly, make sure you meet your teachers; it will help you in the long run.

Question: What are some of the undergraduate program's goals?

Answer: Some of the program goals for the year include continuing to refine what the program looks like

and how the classes fit together. Another important aspect will be to speak with students who have graduated or are close to graduating to see what they liked or didn't like about the program and get some good insight from them.



Equine Initiative News

New to the Initiative: Alexandra Harper and Natalie Voss

The Equine Initiative recently hired two student interns to assist with public relations for the Initiative through the 2010 Alltech World Equestrian Games. One of their responsibilities will be producing the Wildcat Canter each month, so it seemed appropriate that they use this issue to introduce themselves to the College and the Equine Initiative.

Alexandra Harper

Hi, I'm Alexandra Harper and I am a senior at the University of Kentucky, where I am on the Dean's List as a communications major and a vocal performance minor. In addition to classes, I am also a soprano in the UK Chorale, UK Woman's Choir and play the viola with the UK Symphony Orchestra.

Along with my studies and music, I still find time for my horses. I have been riding American Saddlebreds for



the past 14 years. And for the past three years I have been training

my five-gaited horse Stylin' so I can compete while in college. I also continue to look after my first horse, Intrepid GSM, who is a 27-year-old American Saddlebred.

Some of my past experiences include interning at several Saddlebred farms. Additionally, I worked at a veterinary clinic for close to a year and a half.

Along with music and horses, I love being involved in anything that has to do with UK. I enjoy going to UK football and basketball games. I also enjoy working with young children who are just starting out in orchestra.

Spending time with my family and friends and being involved with my church are also very im-

portant to me. I am looking forward to becoming totally immersed in the Equine Initiative and learning, as well as marketing and promoting the horse industry.

I am also very excited about making the industry and the public aware of all of the amazing and defining equine research, teaching and outreach that happens at UK.

After my anticipated graduation in May 2010, I plan to obtain a master's of business administration and stay in the Lexington area to be involved with the horse industry.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at aharper147@uky.edu.



Above: Harper with Stylin. Upper right: Harper and Intrepid GSM before his retirement ceremony



Natalie Voss

I'm Natalie Voss, and I'm excited to be one of the new communications interns with the Equine Initiative. I came from Powhatan, Va., for the academic and internship opportunities in Lexington and am now a senior in equine science and management. I have previously worked for the Virginia Thoroughbred Association, Rose Retreat Farm, Palmyra Farm and UK at Maine Chance Farm, but the bulk of my experience comes from my time at the Maker's Mark Secretariat Center. My

internship there turned into a job developing and managing their internship program through two semesters and across eight universities in addition to doing a lot of promotional writing, which was a great experience. I'm really looking forward to developing my writing and pursuing my interest in photography in my new internship here at the Initiative.

I suppose I'm what is referred to as a "Thoroughbred person"—I've watched the Triple Crown races since I was 5, and several of my role models are racehorses. Their athleticism and spirit is just amazing to me. I would like to combine my passion for writing and racing into a career after graduation, and to that end I am also interning with the Paulick Report this semester. I've also been active in the UK Horse Racing Club since my freshman year and continue my involvement by becoming secretary this year.

Another of my interests is riding; I have been riding hunter/jumpers since I was 8 and found that I particularly enjoyed working with 'problem horses.' During my senior year of high school I rehabbed Phoebe, a Thoroughbred/Belgian mare and took her over her first course and to her first horse show. This fall I'm looking forward to working with Jitterbug, a Percheron/Thoroughbred cross. Jitter was abandoned in a field for the first three years of a life and now at age 5, is just beginning to trust people again. I'd like to have her under saddle by wintertime and from there I think she'll make a great dressage prospect, as soon as she's ready to learn.

You can reach me with questions, comments or submissions to the *Wildcat Canter* by calling (859)-257-2226 or e-mailing me at nvoss72@gmail.com.



Upper left: Voss with Just A Jitterbug; Above: Goofing off at a Kentucky Derby Museum display



UK Gluck Equine Research Foundation names four inductees to Equine Research Hall of Fame

By Jenny Blandford

LEXINGTON, Ky. (Sept. 2, 2009) – Four scientists will be inducted into the University of Kentucky Equine Research Hall of Fame Oct. 25 at Keeneland Race Course by the Gluck Equine Research Foundation.

Douglas F. Antczak of Cornell University, I.G. Joe Mayhew of Massey University, Alan J. Nixon of Cornell University and Peter J. Timoney of UK's Gluck Equine Research Center were selected for their contributions to equine science and research. Nominated by their peers and colleagues, the four individuals were selected by past Hall of Fame inductees.

"On behalf of the Gluck Equine Research Foundation board, I would like to congratulate this year's inductees," said Walter Zent, chairman of the foundation's board of directors. "We were fortunate to have many excellent nominees who have dedicated their lives to equine research."

"I am pleased to congratulate this year's Equine Research Hall of Fame inductees, who have each in their own way contributed to equine health and well-being through their distinguished research in equine veterinary science," said Dr. Mats Troedsson, director of the Gluck Equine Research Center and chair of the department of veterinary science at UK. "I am of course particularly proud of having Dr. Peter Timoney, a long-standing faculty member and leader of the Gluck Center, receiving this prestigious award." For more about the 2009 Hall of Fame inductees, please visit www.ca.uky.edu/news/?c=n&d=433.



2009 Friend of the UK Equine Initiative

Nominations are open for the 2009 Friend of UK Equine Initiative.

The award recognizes stakeholders who have made outstanding contributions to the Equine Initiative. The award will be presented on or around the 2009 UK College of Agriculture Ag Roundup in October.

The award will be given to an individual of the public who has provided advocacy, funding or other extraordinary support for the UK College of Agriculture's Equine Initiative or a College or University employee who has generated an exceptional relationship with stakeholders that has been manifested in a new program, new advocacy success or new resources for the initiative.

Nominations are due by Sept. 30, 2009, to Kevin Hagan at khagan@uky.edu. When nominating an individual, please include your name, address, email and phone contact information, as well as the name, address, email and phone contact information of the person you are nominating. A short biographical sketch of the nominee, a summary of the nominee's activities and contributions which have positively affected the Equine Initiative are also important. Letters from other individuals in support of the nominee are optional.

This award is given to a new individual every year. The first recipient in 2005 was David Switzer, Executive director of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association/Kentucky Owners and Breeders Association. After a two-year hiatus, the award returned in 2007. Recipients were agents Don Sorrell, Dan Allen and Jerry Brown from the Northern Kentucky Horse Network.

Student Internship Spotlight: Ashton Martino

UK student adapts play into work with Kenton County Cooperative Extension

By Natalie Voss

Ashton Martino of Morningview has been a life-long participant in her local 4-H program; in fact, 4-H involvement runs in her family. Martino's mother and grandmother were both leaders of their local chapters. It seemed only fitting, then, when the equine science and management senior needed to complete an internship as part of her graduation requirement at the University of Kentucky, that she ended up working in the Kenton County Cooperative Extension office.

Martino met extension agent Diane Kelley at UK's equine job fair last spring and completed her internship this summer. Her job was to create an equine version of the Reality Store, a cooperative extension program that teaches high school students about financial planning and goal setting. The program is designed to demonstrate the importance of education in relation to a student's financial future. The horsey version of the program taught participants in the summer 4-H camps that "horses are a luxury" and require not only time and care, but money to maintain.

Kelley, who was Martino's supervisor, believes that Martino's experience taught her "the things she's learning [in college] are applicable in the real world" and that she has the capacity to complete an important project without a lot of direction.

Kelley said Martino's research, communications and artistic skills, as well as her adaptability and overall knowledge of the horse industry, were key elements in her success. As for Martino, she said her favorite part of the project was the opportunity to interact with children and watch them learn.

She enjoyed her internship experience, and said, "It taught me to appreciate the Cooperative Extension Service and how much they do for people, and how important volunteering is to extension and the local community."

Although she feels the extension program is very important, Martino hopes to study equine law upon completion of her undergraduate degree.

UK handles degree requirements for its equine undergraduate program, and also coordinates internships for equine science and management students and alumni. The internship program aims to give students work experience as part of their degree.

As an employer, Kelley encourages student participation in undergraduate internships. "[It lets them] apply and use the knowledge they're gaining in college" and lets students test out a career plan before committing to a job upon graduation, she said.

For more information about the internship program through UK's equine science and management undergraduate degree program, contact

Elizabeth LaBonty at [elizabeth.labonty@](mailto:elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu)

5

[uky.edu](mailto:elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu) .



Above: Martino hard at work for Kenton County Extension

Subscribe to the Bluegrass Equine Digest

As announced in the summer issue of the *Wildcat Canter*, the UK Equine Initiative and the Gluck Equine Research Center have combined with Pfizer and TheHorse.com to bring you the *Bluegrass Equine Digest*, a monthly newsletter detailing equine research at UK. We currently have close to 7,000 subscribers. Help that number grow by signing up to receive the BED via e-mail by visiting www.thehorse.com/Enewsletter/Register.aspx and checking 'Bluegrass Equine Digest'. Back issues can be found on the Gluck Center's website for June (www.ca.uky.edu/gluck/images/BED/BED-June09.pdf), July (www.ca.uky.edu/gluck/images/BED/BED-July09.pdf), and August (www.ca.uky.edu/gluck/images/BED/BED-Aug09.pdf).

To submit a research story for an upcoming issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest, or if you have feedback or suggestions about future content, please email **Holly Wiemers** (holly.wiemers@uky.edu) or **Jenny Blandford** (jbl223@uky.edu).

EI Clubs and Teams Updates

The Equine Initiative Student Working Group successfully held its first annual "Get the Scoop" ice cream social event on Sept. 10. All of UK's equine teams and clubs participated, including the Dressage and Eventing Team, Equestrian Team, Horse Judging Team, Horse Racing Club, Polo Team, Saddle Seat Team and the Equine Initiative Student Working Group.



Everyone enjoyed the ice cream and toppings as well as finding out more information about how to get

involved in the various equine clubs and teams at UK. If you were unable to attend but would like to know more information about any of the clubs or teams, feel free to contact them or email us at equineinitiative@email.uky.edu. Also, if you are interested in becoming involved with the Student Working Group, please contact Stephen Coleman at sjcole0@uky.edu.

If you weren't able to attend the ice cream social, be sure to get involved in the numerous equine clubs and teams UK's campus has to offer. Please contact each of the new club presidents for more information regarding the specific team or club you're interested in.

6

Polo Team

No update available

Horse Racing Club

Next meeting: Sept. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gallery of W.T. Young Library. Free pizza! Speaker: Nick Nicholson of Keeneland

Equestrian Team

No update available

Dressage and Eventing Team

Next meeting: Sept. 23 at 8:30 p.m. in the Student Center, room 359

Horse Judging Team

The Horse Judging Team does not have meetings. If you are interested you can sign up for Gen 300-Horse Judging in the Spring and contact Kristen Harvey at kjanicki@email.uky.edu.

Saddle Seat Team

Anyone still interested in joining the Saddle Seat Team please contact Katie Singleton at kls0822@aol.com or join the Facebook group "UK Saddle Seat Team" for more information

UK Equine Initiative Internship Section

Matching the jobs of today with the graduates of tomorrow

Please note, jobs listed here are not directly affiliated with UK or its equine programs, rather information passed along from equine businesses as an FYI.

Royal Pegasus Farm is looking for an assistant to work during the day handling broodmares and foals. This would be a paid position and could count as an internship. If interested, please contact Gui Khoury at 333-6115.

The Horse magazine has an opening for an intern this semester. This would be a great opportunity for a student to learn about journalism, electronic media, etc. If interested, please email elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu for more information.

Dancing Horse Farm, one of Southwestern Ohio's premier equestrian facilities, provides exceptional full-care horse boarding, training, lessons and a full calendar of educational events. They have an opening for a non-smoker/non-drinker equestrian studies college student looking to fulfill their internship requirement. The work experience will include all aspects of the daily operations of our commercial boarding/training dressage and eventing facility. The chosen student will also acquire experience while assisting DHF management run our busy clinic and show schedule. On-site housing and lessons for both student and a horse are available. Find out more about their facility at www.DancingHorseFarmOH.com. If interested, please contact Karen Dale, Barn Manager at (513) 933-0343 or Karen@DancingHorseFarmOH.com.

Special Note: Equine Science and Management students who plan to go on an internship this semester need to email Elizabeth LaBonty (elizabeth.labonty@uky.edu) as soon as possible to set up an appointment.



2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games Update

The Equine Initiative is involved in the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games on many fronts. Currently those projects include:

- **Part of the endurance event** will take place on the College's Maine Chance Equine Campus and Spindletop Farm. Test event will be Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, and the WEG event is Sunday Sept. 26, 2010.
- **Part of the UK official sponsorship package.** UK HealthCare is the official medical provider of the Games, and with that designation, UK is considered a major partner and the Equine Initiative the official equine university program of the Games. Part of this sponsorship includes a presence in the "UK Village," a 3,000-square-foot tent that will be set up in the main parking lot area (and where busses will drop off attendees). The College of Ag's equine programs will be one of the three anchors there (along with UK HealthCare and Admissions), with many other programs/colleges rotating in and out during the 16-day event.
- As part of the lead-in to the games, UK College of Ag has tentatively reserved one of the horses for "**Horse Mania**," and is exploring syndicating this horse to offset the cost. This horse would be used at the UK Village and other promotional venues leading up to and during the Games.
- Member of a Kentucky Equine education **consortium booth.** UK, along with eight other equine higher education programs recognized by the Council of Post-secondary Education are designing a consortium booth themed "Where else for an equine education?" promoting Kentucky as THE place for students to look to for an equine higher education.
- Rider Safety partnership with UK HealthCare. The Equine Initiative has teamed up with UK HealthCare, with financial support from several sponsors of the Games, to promote a rider safety educational campaign. Called "**Saddle Up Safely**," the educational campaign will go statewide. The campaign was born from the emergency room stats from UK for riders who were hospitalized with injuries due to their riding/handling of horses. The campaign is an attempt to help drop those numbers and help Kentuckians (and beyond) consider riding safety tips/practices.
- **Kentucky International Equine Summit 2010.** Sponsored biennially by the University of Louisville Equine Industry Program in cooperation with UK's Equine Initiative, the Summit is designed to help volunteer leaders of equine organizations discover and implement practical solutions to the challenges facing their diverse industry through enhanced communication, (continued)



Alltech FEI

World Equestrian Games™

Kentucky 2010

scientific research and expansive cooperation. The Summit will take place Monday, April 26 and Tuesday, April 27, 2010, in Lexington.

- **Kentucky Youth Equine Festival:** Celebrating the World Equestrian Games. March 19, 2010. To be held in conjunction with the American Youth Horse Council National Leaders' Symposium. It is a special one-day program targeting horse-oriented youth with prior knowledge as well as non-horse youth with no familiarity with either horses or the World Equestrian Games. Festival program activities will consist of live demonstrations of all eight disciplines included in the WEG, interactive and hands-on displays and other demonstrations, booths and vendors.
- **Advisor to the Games** in the following areas: turfgrass management, specifically if the state were undergoing a drought in 2010, animal waste management advice, advice on regulatory aspects of hay and feed, quarantine protocols through infectious disease experts in the Gluck Center, piroplasmosis consultation.

- **Other contributions include:**

- Making the Games green with the Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment
 - Collaboration on the Legacy Trail that will connect downtown Lexington to the Horse Park and run through part of the Maine Chance Equine Campus.
 - The development of the Maine Chance Equine Campus as a cultural amenity befitting the Horse Capital of the World (i.e. our farm looks nice and fits in with the farms around it in time for the Games and all its visitors)
 - Student interns for the WEG
 - Solar decathlon house
 - Development of a "Jane Beshear rose variety" in time for the Games
 - 4-Hers to give awards during the Games as well as help with demos
 - Lesson plan to be taught in



schools

- Development of an ambassador program for the Games in conjunction with Alltech, featuring students from each of the counties in Kentucky.



Important Dates

October

- 2-Last day to change your major to another college
- 7-8-Career Day (UK Student Center)
- 5-30-Degree Audits for May 2010 graduates
- 19-Midterm
- 22-Student/Faculty/Staff Picnic (5p.m. under the tent)
- 26-Nov. 13-Advising for 2009 Winter & 2010 Spring terms

November

- 1-13-Advising for 2009 Winter & 2010 Spring terms
- 2-24-Priority Registration for 2009 Summer and Fall terms
- 6-Last Day to withdraw from a class for academic reasons
- 25-28-Thanksgiving Break/Academic Holiday
- 30-Last Day to Apply for a May 2010 Degree

December

- 1-Approved time to change majors between colleges opens
- 2-21-Add/Drop
- 11-Last Day of Classes
- 14-18-Finals Week
- 21-Fall Grades Due

see blue.
in the College of Ag

Industry News

While the following horse boarding operations are not affiliated with the University of Kentucky, there have been recommendations of these facilities from outside sources or requests to add this information online. These are just a few possible places to get information for the duration of your time in Kentucky. If you have anything you would like to request, recommend or refer, please feel free to contact us.

Discount riding lessons offered to students

Rolling Hills Equestrian Center is offering discounted riding lessons to all University of Kentucky students. Its facility is located at 5380 Troy Pike in Versailles. Rolling Hills has two trainers. Jessica Vace is the hunter/jumper trainer and Vicky Esquivel is the dressage trainer. They have an indoor arena with excellent footing and dust control as well as an outdoor arena with all-weather footing and dust control. An open grass field and trails are also accessible from the center.

Along with lessons, Rolling Hills also offers boarding and training. The board fee is \$575 a month and includes two to three feedings a day, salt blocks in the stalls and paddocks. Stalls are cleaned daily. Fly control, blanketing according to the weather, night checks and a veterinarian called in an emergency situation are also included.

For training and boarding, the fee is \$1,050, which includes all full-service board care and three to four lessons or training rides per week. Rolling Hills also has horses available for your consideration or to lease. If you are interested in taking lessons, boarding a horse or looking for a horse to buy, call (859) 576-5704.



Equine Club Directory

Dressage Team

Advisor: Drura Parrish
drura.parrish@uky.edu
President: Joanna Grant
joanna.grant@uky.edu

Equestrian Team

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman
rcoleman@uky.edu
President: Christina Lawton
chris.lawton@uky.edu

Horse Judging Team

Advisor: Kristen Harvey
kjanicki@email.uky.edu

Horse Racing Club

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence
llawrenc@uky.edu
President: Katey Caddell
katey.caddell@uky.edu

Polo Club

Advisor: Roger Brown
rogerbrown@uky.edu
President: Tannis Marley
tannis.marley@uky.edu

Saddle Seat Team

Advisor: Lee Edgerton
lee.edgerton@uky.edu
President: Katie Singleton
katie.singleton@uky.edu

UK Ag

Scholarships

Academic Excellence Scholarships - \$1,000 each

Fall 2009 deadline: Sept. 23, 2009

UK Women's Forum Book Awards

Fall 2009 deadline: Sept. 23, 2009

Nofflet D. Williams Scholarship - \$500 each - scholarship for students enrolled in an electronically delivered course.

Fall 2009 deadline: Sept. 23, 2009

Downloadable application available from www.uky.edu/adultss.

Child Care Grant

The UK Student Government Association offers a child care grant to UK students. Downloadable application forms are available online from the SGA website (<http://www.uky.edu/SGA/forms.html>) on the applications link.

Stay informed about all the latest goings-on at the Equine Initiative by becoming our fan on Facebook.

Just visit www.facebook.com/pages/Equine-Initiative/130050320882?ref=ts and click 'Become a Fan.'

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You can also find our fan page on Facebook under
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