



"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

St. Andrews Western Team to Defend Title

In its first year of competition in 2006, the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Western Team at St. Andrews Presbyterian College won the regional title.

Now in its second year, St. Andrews seeks to defend that title today at the 2007 Regional Championships. The event runs from 11 a.m. to about 1:30 p.m. at the covered arena next to the Lesson Barn at the St. Andrews Equestrian Center on Hasty Road. The event is free and open to the public.

"Our discipline is judged on western horsemanship skills such as seat position and rail work," said Carla Wennberg, coach of the St. Andrews western team. She encouraged area resident to come and support the local western team.

The St. Andrews team leads the points standings in the region with 200 points for the season. Virginia Tech is in second place with 160 points.

Colleges and universities across the eastern seaboard continue to offer more teams in western competition.

"This is the second year St. Andrews has competed," said Wennberg, "but the whole region continues to develop teams. Some teams don't yet



Ashley Lancaster riding. Picture courtesy of Rooney Coffman.

have full teams. The whole region is still in the development process."

Schools from North Carolina and Virginia will compete in today's regional event. The judge for the event is Dr. Bob Mowry, extension horse specialist, from N.C. State. The top two teams from the regionals will qualify to move to the zone championship March 24 at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

By virtue of their points standings, both St. Andrews and Virginia Tech have already qualified for the

zone event. Today, other teams and individuals may also qualify.

Six individual riders from St. Andrews have already qualified for the zone event—Rys Davis, Chelsea Carson, Ashley Lancaster, Janelle Harcus, Gwen Titus and Maggie Moore.

"Our next goal is to do well at the zone meet and then move on to the nationals," said Wennberg.

For more information about today's western regional championship, call the St. Andrews Equestrian Center at 276-7771.

March Horse of the Month

Commentary by Kaylin Young

Pepper: Six-year old 15.3 Hand Dark Bay Quarter Horse Gelding



Pepper Looking around. Picture courtesy of Communications.

Only a six-year old, Pepper is a fairly recent edition to our western program, having come to us only two months ago. His pedigree is cutting horse background. Pepper originally came to us through a man who ropes calves. Through trade, he was used as a roping horse. Upon coming to St. Andrew's Pepper has been a wonderful school horse for the western lesson program. Pepper has distinguished himself through western shows such as intercollegiate shows and the Showing Under the Stars shows. Although Pepper has only been with us for a short while, he has quickly become a favorite among the many students. Welcome Pepper!

Alumna Samantha Poverud named Assitant Barn Manager

Biography contributed by Samantha Poverud



Samantha Poverud with Merlin. Picture courtesy of Samantha Poverud.

Samantha Poverud was born in Upper Heyford, UK. She began riding a Shetland pony named "Ming" in the Cotswold's. After moving to the US she found herself back in the barn and eventually owning her own horse. She joined The United States Pony Club and obtained her C2. She currently is participating in the extended age program USPC offers and hopes to take the C3 Dressage and HB exam. Samantha is a 2005 graduate of St. Andrews Presbyterian College. While at St. Andrews she earned her Bachelor's of Equine Business and interned for the Intercollegiate Dressage team. Her favorite classes were her Equine classes. After graduation she helped develop her family farm. She also toured with White Stallion Productions as a groom. This company tours the world showcasing the magnificent Lipizzaner horses. She is very excited to be back home at her Alma Mater.

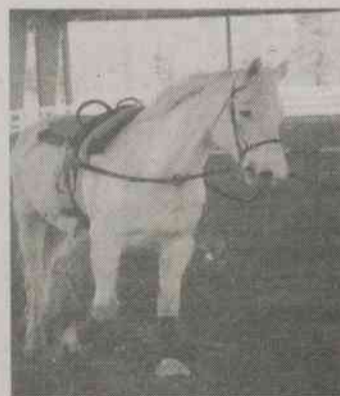
Currently Samantha has a retired cowpony that she pony clubbed on; a former barrel racer turned Dressage horse and a 3 year old Anglo Arabian that is due to go to training this Spring.

On Tuesday March 20, 2007, a great soul was set free. Diamond, one of the Ride-Like-A-Knight Therapeutic Horsemanship program's most beloved horses, was euthanized Tuesday due to severe complications from the neurological disease Equine Protozoal Myelitis (*Sarcocystis neurona*).

Diamond, an Irish Draught, proved himself a perfect fit for the program's need for a taller horse with a patient mind for his rider. Diamond was not just a TR horse, he also introduced many St. Andrews students to horseback riding in Beginner Horsemanship and helped teach a number of students the basics of Natural Horsemanship in Parelli Natural Horsemanship. As any St. Andrews Equestrian can tell you, the instructors at St. Andrews Equestrian Center are not just of the two-legged kind, but the four-legged variety as well. Diamond taught many riders how to walk, how to

Remembering Diamond

Bonnie Riehl



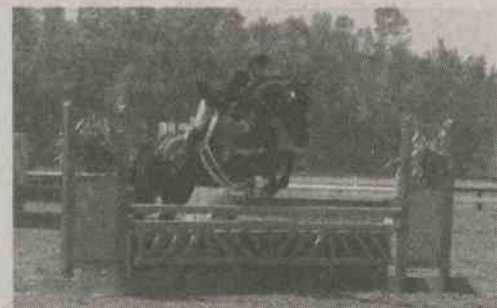
Diamond doing a vaulting exercise. Picture courtesy of Pebbles Turbeville.

post the trot, how to circle, how to plan. But he also helped them conquer a fear of heights, or graduate to riding independently. Riding independently of any help served as a model for independence in other aspects of life, and Diamond was a stellar facilitator of that independence. Independence, once gained, is very hard to take away again. Thank you, Diamond, for your tutelage, your patience, your time. We will miss you terribly.

March Rider of the Month

Commentary by Kaylin Young

Originally from Kirkland Washington, junior Janelle Harcus has distinguished herself as one of the top riders at St. Andrew's. Janelle has been riding for the majority of her life, and at the age of nine, she moved to train at a hunter barn.



Janelle Harcus jumping. Picture courtesy of Janelle Harcus.

She first became interested in reigning when helping her aunt break reigning horses. She has participated in ANRC and the intercollegiate hunt seat team since freshman year. Starting this year, she has participated in the IHSA western team as well. She has won numerous riding awards including Reserve High Point rider at the Virginia Tech show. She also participated in a horse show over spring break in Jacksonville Florida. Janelle keeps her five years old horse Gracie over at the boarder barn and can usually be found riding seven days a week.