

Eastern Echoes

By Gail Roberson



Daddy's Day

I think we've misnamed the third Sunday in June. It should be called "Daddy's Day" instead of "Father's Day." Fathers are a whole different breed of men from daddies. You may have a father, but I have a DADDY. So, I know what I'm talking about.

Fathers are men who hand their children large sums of money to entertain themselves, and then go off and play golf all day long and leave the kids to do the best they can, with whoever they can. Daddies, however, not only get out in the yard and play ball with their children, but also build backboards, hang nets and polish bats. Fathers buy the team suits. Daddies take time off without pay to sit on the bleachers and buy cokes afterwards.

Fathers load their teenage daughters down with charge cards and then drop them off at the mall entrance. Daddies go along with them to the store and "ooh" and "ahh" at all the appropriate times. Fathers often forget birthdays. Daddies come out of the field early to blow up balloons and hang crepe paper, and look for the best corner to jump out from when you enter the room, unsuspecting.

While fathers have a hard time being anything but fathers, daddies are flexible and can easily adapt to being fathers when it becomes necessary, and then they're daddies again in the blink of an eye.

For instance, it was my father who disciplined me for being late, but my daddy who showed me how to "chunk up" a baseball bat and "break in" a catcher's glove that same afternoon. My father made me work in the fields when I didn't want to, but my daddy let me slip off early now and then for a special occasion. My father threatened to take the car keys away, but my daddy supplied the gas for my teenage outings. My father tried to audit the number of boys who appeared on his front porch every week, but my daddy stood firmly behind me when I made the all-male baseball team.

It was our father who lined me and my brothers all up in a row out on the back porch, then took a switch to every one of us for turning the garden hose on grandma. But, two days later, our daddy loaded us all up in the beat-up station wagon and took us for our first trip down to the ocean.

My father quoted me the rules of life and my daddy lived them so I could see what it was really all about when done properly. Though I have always admired and respected my father, it is my daddy that I love the most. So, from here on out, let's refer to the third Sunday in June as "Daddy's Day," if for no one but Joe Leggett of Route 4, Windsor. To me, that's plenty reason enough.

U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL-'87 Riding Horses For The Gold

By Smith Barrier

(4th of 11-part series)

Beautiful indeed are the challenges of the Olympic horse world...the understanding and collaboration between man/woman and the mount itself in the dressage...the derring-do of the show jumps.

No one can forget the 1984 Olympiad in Los Angeles, and the gold earned by the U.S. Equestrian Team. Or the 1976 royal visit to Montreal, where Queen Elizabeth II thrilled at Princess Anne's first Olympic competition with the British team.

For young Americans this road to the top finds the U.S. Olympic Festival-'87 an important rung of the ladder. When most of them mount their horses

in the Hunt Horse Complex at the State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, they can see their names on the Olympic marquee of the future, the near future at that.

Equestrian competition will take place the second weekend of U.S. Olympic Festival-'87, July 23-24 for the dressage, July 25-26 for show jumping, the climactic conclusion being the individual jumping Sunday afternoon, 4 p.m.

Before this begins, 24 of the nation's top riders will be selected by the U.S. Equestrian Team through applications to the American Horse Show Association. A dozen will be chosen for the dressage, same for show jumping, then

grouped in four teams for competition. Teams represent the four regions of the nation: East, South, North and West.

At U.S. Olympic Festival-'86 in Houston, Jay Bozich of Southern Pines was on the East team. The year before, his team won the bronze. Also in show jumping, Kay Meredith of Raleigh is a world-class rider. Strong Texas entries dominated a year ago. Jeepers Ragsdale of Hunt, Texas riding his mount Cabellero Rags through four rounds of jumping without a fault.

Explained Glenn Petty, local equestrian coordinator for the Festival and manager of the Hunt Horse Complex: "Dressage is the figure skating of the horse world. It is judging the horse on a searching test of its obedience and responsiveness in performing prescribed movements on the flat."

Show jumping carries the rider and mount over 15 jumps, starting at 4-foot-6 with a five foot spread. In U.S. Equestrian Team competition jumps reach 5-foot-3. The United States won golds at both the 1986 World Championships at Aachen, West Germany, and the 1984 Olympics.

The State Fairgrounds host site has 5,000 seats in an indoor arena. An Olympic Festival attendance record was set at Houston, 14,000 spectators for the four events.

TICKETS: Season and individual event tickets may be purchased by telephone, through Ticketron, 1-800-233-4050, from anywhere in the U.S.; in person, at Ticketron outlets across the country; or by mail, with a completed ticket order form available by calling 1-800-223-USOF (N.C. only) or 919-361-1987.

For The Pan Ams

Something special awaits the equestrian competitors at the Hunt Horse Complex of the State Fairgrounds.

There will be judging between the four regional teams in U.S. Olympic Festival-'87, but these will also serve as the dressage selection trials for the Pan American Games.

These games of the Western Hemisphere take place in Indianapolis August 7-23, and

acquiring a position on the U.S. Equestrian Team will be an important step to many young riders toward future World Championships and the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

Dressage competition takes the first two days of the State Fairgrounds schedule in Raleigh, set for July 23-24 in the evening (7:30 p.m.).

More experienced horses are selected for the dressage exercises, since the judging is based on the horse's response to the rider's orders.

While 50 percent of the dressage competition at the State Fairgrounds will be scored on a team basis, the individual scores will be more important than usual in these annual Festivals. Horses and riders will be striving to make the U.S. team for the Pan-American Games, less than two weeks away.



Obituary

Nancy L. Matthis

Nancy "Nannie" Lamm Matthis, 78, of 800 Gaskins Road died June 11 in her home.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. June 13 at Broad Street Christian Church with the Rev. C. Frank Speight and Dr. Arthur W. Lilley officiating.

Burial was in Greenleaf Memorial Park.

She is survived by three daughters, Corinne M. Newell of Roxboro, Libby M. Ferebee of Newport News, Va., and Nancy M. Parrott of New Bern; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Matthis was a member of Broad Street Christian Church. She was a member of the Craven Chapter No. 129, Order of Eastern Star.

Funeral arrangements were by Cotten Funeral Home

Budget

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amount of revenue they are expected to provide are as follows:

Water tap charges, \$105; sewer tap charges, \$250; reconnection charges, \$300; sales tax refund, \$700; state funds under Senate Bill 11, \$5,486; sales tax, \$6,900; penalties, \$1,000 and miscellaneous income, \$100.

Graduation

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the graduating class. Barbara Guice Bowers, valedictorian, spoke after an address by Michelle Gaskins, salutatorian.

The West Craven Concert Band then performed *Invicta* by James Swainson.

Jimmy Smith, chairman of the New Bern-Craven County Board of Education, handed out diplomas to the 161 graduates. He was assisted by Jolly and Willie Perry, an assistant principal at West Craven High School.

After the graduates marched across the field and received their diplomas, the school's alma mater was sung. The alma mater was followed by the senior recessional, *Fanfare and Recessional*, by James Polyhar.

Junior marshals for the graduation were Darren Cayton, Pearl Campbell, William Chapman, Cedric Hargett, Deanna Hawkins, Roger Hawkins, Tammy Hughes, Vicky Hunnings, Chrishell Johnson, James Kirkman, Jennifer Peskie, Michael Register, Tina Taglieri, Kellie Wiggins, Sheila Woolard and Eric Zittoun.

Ushers for the commencement service were from the National Honor Society.



Graduation Scenes

Last minute preparations (top photo) before commencement exercises had graduates worrying about personal details rather than academic details. After 12 years of study, the night had arrived. Waiting in the wings (center photo) were the junior marshals. With a wide smile, diploma in hand and the tassel moved to the left, this graduate is ready to go out into the "real world." (Richard Cannon photos)



Rotary Club Honored

Vanceboro Rotary Club President Jim Pepper holds a certificate presented to the club by Linda Thomas, volunteer coordinator, for services rendered to Farm Life Elementary School in Vanceboro. The club also received a certificate for its efforts at West Craven High School. (Richard Cannon photo)



Rotary Speaker

Dr. Dan Campbell of New Bern, a veterinarian and owner of Craven Animal Hospital, gave a program on veterinary medicine last week to the Vanceboro Rotary Club. He discussed care and treatment of pets and other animals in the area. Campbell graduated from N.C. State in 1969. He has been in private practice in New Bern since 1981. He is the in-coming vice president of the New Bern Rotary Club. He also owns the Animal Care Center in New Bern. (Richard Cannon photo)

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