

East meets West and get together in York

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent

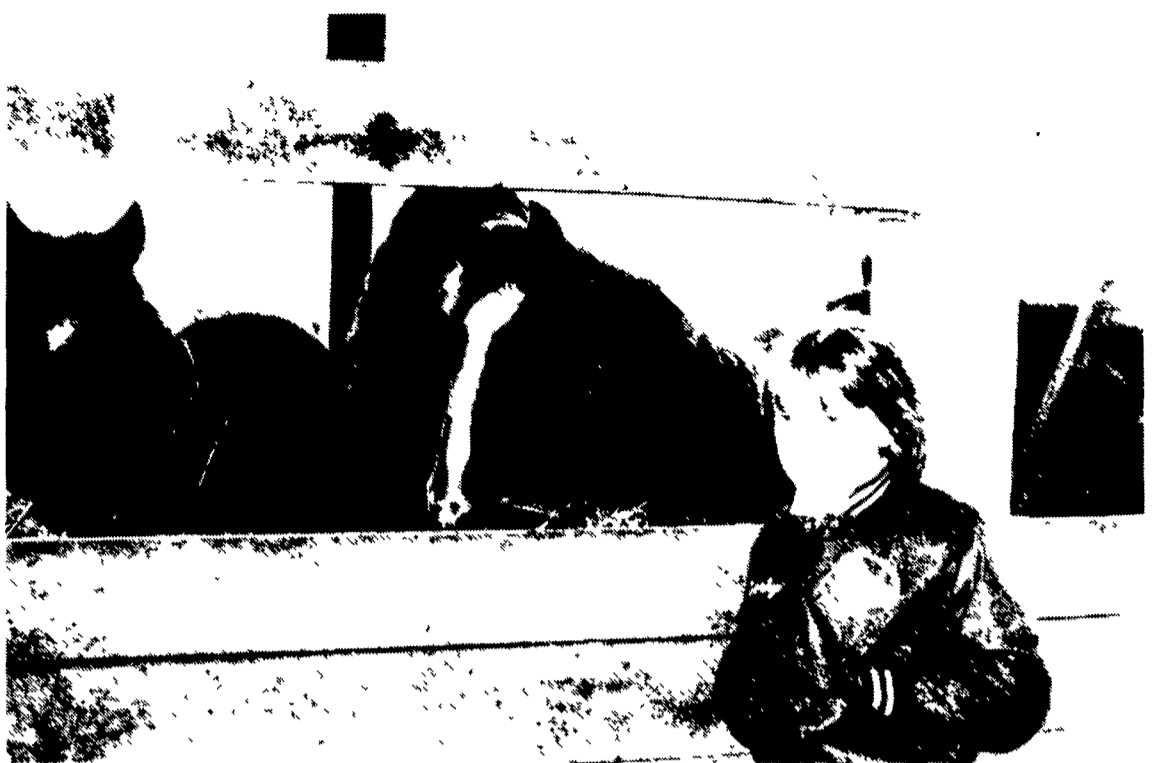
LEWISBERRY — Blonde and petite, the 12-year-old leaned against a feedrack at the Wild Horse and Burro Center near Lewisberry, never taking her quiet eyes from the cluster of horses cautiously moving about the pen.

Already, Chris Corkle had made her choice. It would be the young horse with the big white blaze over the nose, in stark contrast to the rust-hued coat.

Chris lives just up the road from the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Center, operated by Frank and Doris Goodlander. Last year, Chris' mother, Betty Trout, had selected a horse with strikingly similar features. When she learned, last

Friday morning, that the first horse shipment of the year had arrived, Mrs. Trout obtained permission for Chris to leave school early, in order to have one of the first choices from the new arrivals.

The 50 horses shyly investigating the pens had been rounded up from the barren public ragelands of Nevada. For the three previous days, they'd been traveling across the country in a shiny, double-deckered tractor-trailer rig, and rested, fed and watered periodically through each day as the law mandates. Even while Chris watched "her" 10-month-old weanling the hauler had donned his wide-brimmed cowboy hat after catching a couple of hours rest and headed back out the road west.



Chris Corkle picks out the wild horse she will adopt. She selects friendly equine and one that has similar facial markings to one that her mother adopted a year ago.



"Wildfire" is wild about people. The former wild horse begs for attention as Wild Horse and Burro Center operator Frank Goodlander chats with visitors inquiring about adoption.

She hadn't settled on a name yet. That could wait until later, after she'd gotten to know the animal's personality better. Of one thing she was certain. Hers was the friendliest in the lot.

"I picked mine, last May, because he was the friendliest of that shipment," relates Betty Trout. "His name is R.B., but everyone around here just calls him Mr. Friendly."

R.B. was 13-months-old when he was adopted. The gelding is one of about 20 horses boarded year-round at the Center's facilities.

"In no time at all, we could handle him," she adds. "He'll be broken this summer; already he's halter broken and I can lunge him. We practically live here on weekends now and help out with whatever we can."

While small groups of visitors view the pens of available adoptees, it soon becomes evident which animals are new arrivals and which ones are the old-timers at the Center.

Newly-arrived horses shy away from strangers, hovering a bit nervously back away from the

racks stuffed full of hay, waiting to nibble until after onlookers move on down the long feed alley to other pens.

By contrast, horses that have been at the center for a few weeks either ignore or seem to outright enjoy the company, busy instead burying their noses in the ever-available supplies of hay that constitute their diets.

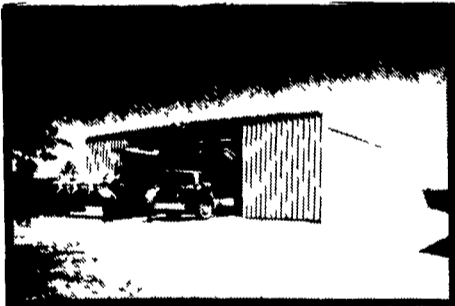
Studying the horses nearby is Sandy McLaughlin, R2 Felton, York County. The mare Mrs.

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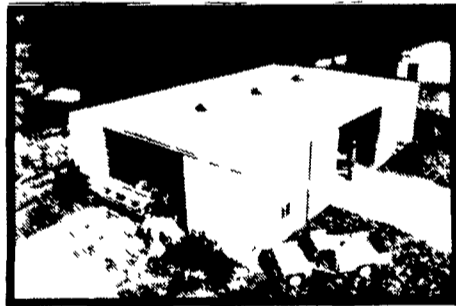


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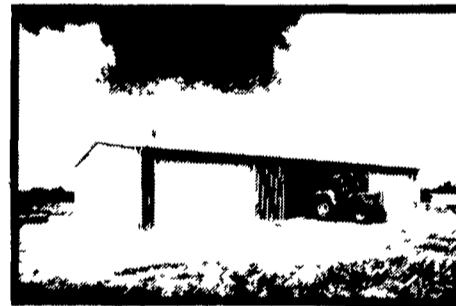
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