



David drives his way to a national youth championship award at the national show in Columbia, Missouri.

## Miniature Horses Bring Family Pleasure

(Continued from Page B15)

Silver was declared the top of 54 best miniature horses in the country, each of which were the cream of four regions of the country.

"And, it was our first year at Nationals," Ann laughs. "Everyone wondered where we came from."

A trophy room in a corner of the Whitfields' spotlessly clean barn adds to the tale of success as does an array of ribbons surrounding the sleeping quarters of the horse trailer.

"There are people who have been showing for 20 years and still have not won a ribbon," Ann continues.

Ann teaches school while Russ runs his own plastics business, but summer weekends revolve around the horses. "We're off to a show every two or three weeks," Ann says. "It keeps us busy, but we love it. We especially enjoy it because it is an excellent family activity."

There are two sizes of miniature horses. Those 34 inches and under are an A while those 34 to 38" are a B. "If they are more than 38" they are ponies," Russ explains.

"Having worked with horses for so many years, I can say I am extremely pleased to have these miniatures," Ann adds. "They take a lot less feed and a lot less space."

"We give them a bale of hay a week and a little grain. They take very little maintenance. If you treat them right they will stay very healthy. They might be a little more prone to respiratory infections, but those are treatable."

Minatures do not wear shoes, but the Whitfield horses' hooves are trimmed by Jeff Holt, a farrier from Frostburg.

The cleanliness of the barn is aided with Russ' fiberglass abilities. Stalls are constructed of fiberglass and stainless steel while wood paneling gives the barn a homey touch.

Balls hand on strings into the stalls to keep the horses contented during the day.

"They are so affectionate and they get bored when no one is home all day," Ann says.

"We have also found them easier to train than standard

horses. They are small and can be easily intimidated."

To prove a point, Russ brings a gorgeous Palomino out of the stall. "He was completely wild when we found him on a farm in North Carolina," Russ says. "But, with just a little work, he's doing great. We liked the way he trotted and that's why we bought him."

Russ and Ann have no desire to

get into breeding. "We're only in it for the shows," Ann says.

"We've reached the limit space-wise with the horses we have now and would like to sell a couple of them."

"As long as we have the energy and the desire, we'll be in that show ring every couple of weeks chalking up a lot of good memories," says Ann.



Russ and his prize palomino. Next year he'll compete against Ann in competitions.



SEE YOUR NEAREST



**DEALER**  
FOR DEPENDABLE  
EQUIPMENT & SERVICE

### PENNSYLVANIA

**Abbottstown, PA**  
MESSICK  
EQUIPMENT  
RD 1, Box 255A  
717-259-6617

**Honey Brook, PA**  
Dependable  
Motor Co.  
East Main Street  
215-273-3131  
215-273-3737

**Annyville, PA**  
BHM Farm  
Equipment,  
Inc.  
RD 1, Rte. 934  
717-867-2211

**New Holland, PA**  
A.B.C. Groff, Inc.  
110 South Railroad  
717-354-4191

**Carlisle, PA**  
R&W  
Equipment Co.  
35 East Willow Street  
717-243-2686

**Oley, PA**  
C.J. Wonsidler  
Bros.  
R.D. 2  
610-987-6257

**Elizabethtown, PA**  
Messick Farm  
Equipment, Inc.  
Rt. 283 - Rheem's  
Exit  
717-367-1319

**Pitman, PA**  
Schreffler  
Equipment  
Pitman, PA  
717-648-1120

**Halifax, PA**  
Sweigard Bros.  
R.D. 3, Box 13  
717-896-3414

**Tamaqua, PA**  
Charles S.  
Snyder, Inc.  
R.D. 3  
717-386-5945

**Honey Grove, PA**  
Norman D. Clark  
& Son, Inc.  
Honey Grove, PA  
717-734-3682  
Loysville, PA  
717-789-3117

**West Grove, PA**  
S.G. Lewis &  
Son, Inc.  
352 N. Jennersville Rd.  
610-869-2214  
1-800-869-9029

### MARYLAND

**Frederick, MD**  
Ceresville Ford New Holland, Inc.  
Rt. 26 East 301-662-4197  
Outside MD, 800-331-9122

### NEW JERSEY

**Bridgeton, NJ**  
Leslie G. Fogg,  
Inc.  
Canton & Stow Creek  
Landing Rd.  
609-451-2727  
609-935-5145

**Washington, NJ**  
Smith Tractor &  
Equip., Inc.  
15 Hillcrest Ave.  
908-689-7900



**Woodstown, NJ**  
Owen Supply Co.  
Broad Street &  
East Avenue  
609-769-0308