

Devon Horse Show Announces Event Dates

DEVON (Chester Co.) — Pony jumpers, an exciting addition to the Devon Horse Show and Country Fair, will compete for the first time ever in the Dixon Oval on Sunday afternoon, May 25.

Three unique exhibitions plus jumper classes featuring the top riders in the country, some of whom will represent our country in the Pan American Games this summer, will be a part of the upcoming event.

In addition, hunters, saddlebreds, hackney and harness ponies, and four-in-hand coaches will compete.

The ticket office for Devon opens Wednesday, April 2, and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Devon runs May 22-31 and benefits Bryn Mawr Hospital.

Carriage racing will be for the first time ever in this country at Devon two years ago, was so popular that it returns again this year with four pairs competing on the final Friday and Saturday, May 30 and 31.

Carriage racing is an offshoot of combined driving, in which drivers compete over a simulated cross country course in a ring.

New to Devon this year is an exhibition of vaulting, a discipline included in the World Equestrian Games.

The Friendship Vaulting Team will perform Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, May 24, 25, and 26.

In a combination of barrel racing and show jumping, teams including one rider from each discipline will compete in exhibition during the week.

First a Western rider will race around a course of barrels, then a show jumping rider will jump a course of fences set beside the barrels. The two team members' times are added together for their score.

Junior Weekend, Thursday, May 22 through Saturday, May 24, includes pony hunters, junior hunters, and junior jumpers, with special events including pony breeding class-



Laura Chapot of Neshanic Station, N.J., will return to the Devon Horse Show to defend her 2002 Open Jumper Championship.

es, parent and child, and a family class.

The Carriage Pleasure Drive on Sunday, May 25, assembles at St. David's Church, after which the carriages travel over the roads leading to Devon, with final judging in the Dixon Oval at 2 p.m.

Competition will be stiff in the jumper classes, featured during evening sessions Sunday through Thursday, with the \$75,000 Devon Grand Prix on Thursday evening. Jumpers conclude the evening sessions Friday and Saturday. Saturday features the \$35,000 Idle Dice Stake.

Among those expected to compete is McLain Ward of Bedford, N.Y., Devon Leading Rider title for the past four years, Laura Chapot of Neshanic Station, N.J., who has won the Open Jumper Championship twice in the last three

years, and such international stars as Lauren Hough of Wellington, Fla., Chris Kappler of Pittstown, N.J., Anne Kursinski of Frenchtown, N.J., and Leslie Howard of Fairfield, Conn.

Three and five-gaited, hackney and harness classes as well as four-in-hand coaching are competed nightly, with side saddle classes on Wednesday, May 28 and Hunter Breeding classes on Thursday, May 29.

The Country Fair includes boutique shopping daily, with jewelry, fine art, sporting clothes, and much more.

General admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, and \$4 for seniors over 65. Reserved seating is available. Call for ticket prices. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the ticket office at the show grounds or call (610) 688-2554.

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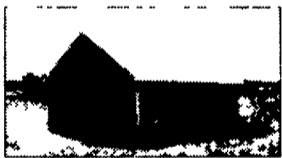
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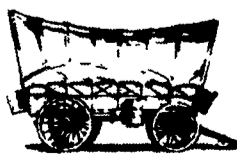
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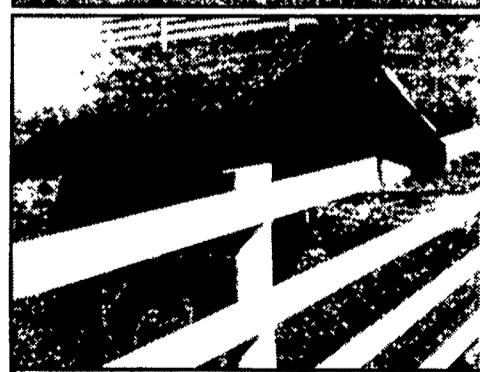
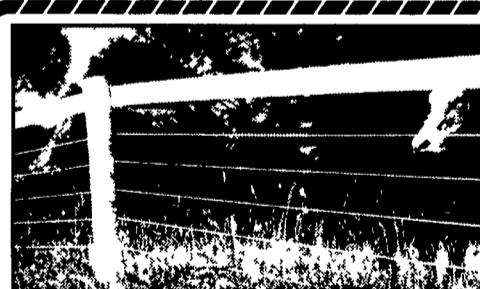
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