

Back On Track

(Continued from Page E4)

Once the lesion is identified, the veterinarian will take pictures and measurements. These records serve as a point of reference for the next time the horse's leg is checked for progress. The ultrasound is videotaped and digitized.

The ultrasound equipment is used mostly for leg evaluation, but also to evaluate the lungs if the horse has pneumonia or the abdominal cavity area if the horse has colic or suspicion of abdominal abscess or neoplasia.

The machines may also be used to look at bumps, lacerations, eyes or at a developing foal in a pregnant mare.

"We have a high-risk pregnancy program for a mare that may have problems at end gestation, and we monitor those fetuses with ultrasound every week," Seco said.

Ultrasound is also used in foals to detect internal problems, umbilical infections or fractured ribs, a common occurrence that happens during the birthing process.

Also part of the equine sports medicine center is the high-speed treadmill, which helps diagnose

horses that have been turning in lackluster performances. The horse is evaluated at rest while he is being worked on the treadmill. Although the treadmill is a part of the sports medicine center, it has been in operation for several years.

Besides a sonogram of the animals' legs, veterinarians at the sports medicine facility can do an ultrasound of the heart, an echocardiogram. The operator can obtain several different views of the chambers and valves of the horses' heart, and evaluate the cardiac size and function.

Color flow Doppler detects blood flow — whether the blood is coming or going — and color codes it. High-velocity flow will be a different color, for instance, than slower flow. "It can detect leakages in valves that will cause cardiac enlargement," Seco said.

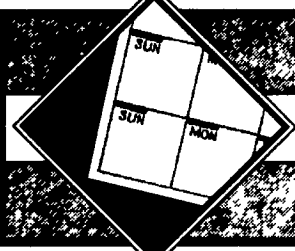
The echocardiogram, as well as the other ultrasound exams, is also taped and digitized so that the veterinarian may go back to reevaluate the horse's exam. The tape is also used in lectures and presentations for the students, said Seco.

The facility also houses other important equipment for diagnosis of cardiovascular pathologies such as electrocar-



An equine patient heads out into the sunshine through the horse-sized door.

diography to monitor animals with cardiac arrhythmias, radiotelemetric electrocardiography to monitor animals with cardiac arrhythmias during treatment or perform exercising electrocardiograms, a Holter monitor system to perform an electrocardiogram in a patient during a 24 to 48 hour period and a machine to perform blood tests specific to detect cardiac disease.



◆ EQUINE CALENDAR ◆

(Continued from Page E3)

September 19, 20
State 4-H Competitive Trail Ride, Rothrock State Forest, Centre County.

Saturday, September 20
Lancaster Polo Club versus Cowtown.

Sunday, September 21
Lancaster Polo Club versus Philadelphia.

Twin Brooks Horse Show Association Fall Show, Jim Theurer, (717) 469-0658.

September 23-28
29th Presentation of Dressage at Devon, Devon, Sallie Dixon, (610) 644-1963.

Sunday, September 28
Lancaster Polo Club versus TBA (Donecker's Cup).

Saturday, October 4
State Groom and Clean Contest, Buckey Ranch, Sheila Bush-

ong, (937) 884-7019.

Sunday, October 5
Lancaster Polo Club versus Strasbrug.

Fall Horse Show for riders with disabilities, Thorncroft, Malvern, Maire Guggenheim, (610) 644-1963.

October 16, 17
Quarter Horse Congress, Ohio Exposition Center.

October 2003-June, 2004
Therapeutic Horseback Riding Instructors Course, Thorncroft, Malvern, Debby Hadden, (610) 644-1963.

Perfect Foal

(Continued from Page E1)

his or her mare, and what are the odds of producing that "perfect" foal?

Evaluating The Mare

The first step for the mare owner is often the toughest one: an honest evaluation of the mare and breeding goals. What is the reason the mare should be bred at all?

Does she possess some qualities that make her genetic material valuable? Is the breeding goal to produce an elite performance horse or simply raise a young animal? Will the foal be marketed early in life, or kept on the farm?

Mare owners need to take a good hard look at their breeding stock and breeding goals before they begin choosing potential sires for that mare's next foal. Only then can they move on to choosing a stallion.

Choosing A Stallion

When selecting a stallion, the mare owner must realize that there is no guarantee of success, but he or she can dramatically improve their odds of producing that special foal by consideration of four P's: Phenotype, Performance, Pedigree and Progeny.

- Phenotype: While the stallion's entire ge-

(Turn to Page E6)

BOSCAINO'S ROPING SUPPLIES

Tyrone, PA • 814-684-1565

- ★ Classic Ropes
- ★ Classic Equine Products
- Saddle Pads • Legacy Boots
- No-Turn Bell Boots
- ★ Dale Martin Saddlery
- Hand-made Craftsmanship
- ★ Rattler Ropes

Shop Open by Appointment

MAIL
ORDERS
WELCOME

Dennis, Mary & Toni Boscaino

Aaron's Welding

Tube Gates
Round Pens
Mesh Gates



717-529-0918

778A Bartville Rd.
Christiana, PA 17509

Galvanized Gates & Round Pens

New Galv. Mesh Round Pens New

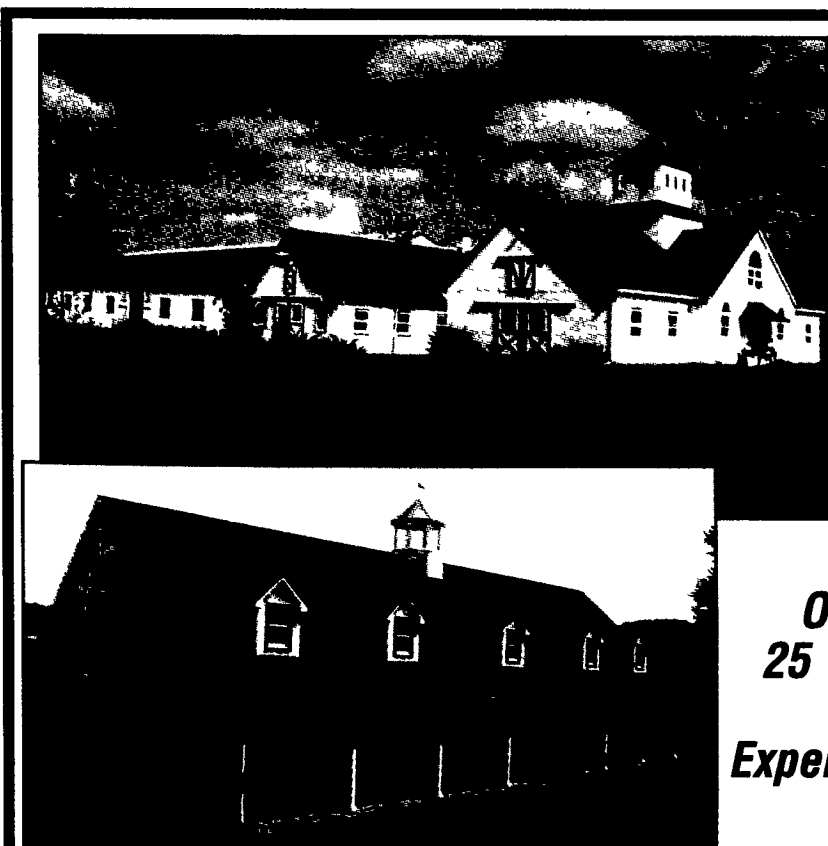
Standard Gates In Stock

4' 6' 8' 10' 12' 14' 16' 18'

- Custom Sizes Made To Order •
- Color Brochure Available •
- Delivery & Setup Available

For Round Pens •

• Dealers Wanted • Custom Mfg. •



Over
25 Years
of
Experience!

Custom Built, State-Of-The-Art Equestrian Facilities... Small and Large

KING CONSTRUCTION CO.

601 Overly Grove Road ♦ New Holland, PA 17557

Telephone: 717-354-4740 ♦ Eve. 717-274-5057 ♦ www.kingconstruction.org