



## Equine computer dating? Horses have a new way of finding a mate

By TOM BOVEE

**Associated Press Write** NORMAN'. Okla. (AP) - Call it a racetrack dating service or an equine version of "Roots" - the computer revolution is coming to the art of breeding the nation's 2 million quarter

A quarter-horse bloodlines computer service based in central Oklahoma, where some of the greatest racehorses have been bred, will be the first in the nation to list quarter horses exclusively, says Walton Wiggins, research editor of Speed-

horse Inc., whose three publications reach about 20,000 professional horse breeders. For \$50 a would-be horse trader can get a 4-foot printout giving the pedigree and record of a quarter horse he wants to breed or buy, in a league where prices sometimes run to seven

"We will have information on every start a horse has ever made in racing," Wiggins says. "On the brood mares and sires, we will have all the data on every one of their foals."

Some lines will stretch back eight generations, Wiggins says, and the job of collecting the records from various sources and horse computer and perhaps 20,000 others in the horse busines loading them into the \$500.000 computer will take up to 16 man- to make queries by phone or mail.

years, although the company hopes to hire enough hands to complete the job in eight months.

"The art of breeding a racehorse is probably the most scientific form of genealogy that ever existed, the best have been bred to the best for years," Wiggins says.

Speed on the racetrack is often a matter of choosing the right ancestors. Breeders "look for a horse that was extremely fast and had a very nice race record, but you also look for horses that are fashionably bred and have superior genes throughout their generations," Wiggins says. "That tells you the chance of getting a superior runner out of

that family is more likely because of what the computer tells you the past generations of that family have done."

Speedhorse began work on the project four years ago, says Connie Golden, editor and publisher. "Somebody has needed to do it. Considering we have a very powerful industry investing hundreds of thousands of dollars, not to have access to this information is a tragedy.'

She expects 400 subscribers to hook directly into the Speed-

## Gold and silver artifacts give clues about life on a 17th-century galleon

The Lost Treasure of Philip IV," recently then raging in Europe. pounds. shown at the Queens Museum here. The saga of the galleons and their Even the most precious items have It was a perfectly genuine invitation ---

ish gold, although a plastic shield pre- the early salvage efforts followed by madonna and child reflect the impor vented your making off with it. The gold bar was one of the many

treasures, recovered from a 1622 shipw- whose authentic evidence is in this exhi- silver bowls and plates, a gold bosun's reck, in the exhibition, which was sponsored by the Chase Manhattan Bank. The collection included archeological information that marine archeologist R. Duncan Mathewson said "is probably worth more than the gold and silver."

The objects exhibited have an esti mated value of more than \$10 million and also constitute a priceless record of life aboard a 17th-century galleon. Mathewson works for Treasure Sal-

vors Inc., the salvage team of treasure hunter Mel Fisher, whose work on two Spanish galleons shipwrecked off Florida in 1622 resulted in the collection of rare and precious artifacts on show here. It is ish colonial gold ever presented. The collection has been studied

university scholars and museum specia ists, to whom it is available when it is not being exhibited. Eventually it is hoped the collection will form a permanent exhibition, possibly in Key West, Fla: The two treasure galleons, the Nuestra Senora de Atocha and the Santa Margari-

By JOAN BRUNSKILL ta, were lost in a hurricane off the Flor-navigational instruments, a handsome NEW YORK (AP) — "Lift a Gold ida coast. They were part of a convoy of astrolabe in brass, a sundial, lead sound-

For as Mathewson points out, "Every time a ship sinks to the bottom of the sea, a time capsule is created. Each artifact recovered fits in to a lifestyle. Finds like this tell us an awful lot about what was clearly contraband, smuggled in as prihappening not only in Spain in the 17th vate-enterprise cargo. A half-disc of gold century but also in the Americas."

The collection represents not only the not only the king's gold but also his

The crew needed to defend themselves, - musket shot, grapeshot. round shot and chain shot. Functional objects from everyday life include a pewter inkwell, silver buckle and sandshaker, iron skillet and three-legged kettle, brass pestles and mortars, ceramic olive jars — and iron leg shackles.

Bar." That was the genial offer on a label 28 ships carrying the riches of the New ing weight and anchors, including one in the exhibition, "Shipwrecked 1622: World to finance the Thirty Years War massive bower anchor weighing 1,280

mission, the tragic storm resulting in their archeological value, too. A coral vou really could grab the gold bar, about their loss and the consequences of the and gold rosary, a reliquary ring, unusu-5 gleaming pounds of 17th-century Span- loss of the gold on Spanish history, then al silver devotional columns and a brass recent years of search and recovery, are tance of religious faith. Personal treasurmaterial for a real-life adventure story, es include beautifully worked gold and whistle, a selection of shininggold necl chains, a couple of emerald rings.

Then there is just bulk gold and silver in bars, most of which are officially stamped, but with a few unmarked and shows cut marks as if it were a gilded slab of soft Brie cheese. A massive bar of precious cargo but also the lives of the silver weighs 70 pounds, a mass of enmen who were conveying it - it includes crusted silver coins a bulky 105 pounds.

Mel Fisher led the salvage efforts sailor's dough cutter and razor sheath. following a trail of clues that included information from Spain's Archives of the so there are swords, rapiers and dag- Indies in Seville, and that finally led him in marine deposits, and a variety of shot wrecks. He points out that there is still a lot more to find, that this first exhibition shows only a fraction of what there is.

"We've only brought in about 5 percent so far," he says, basing this estimate on comparison with the manifests of everything on board, which still exist. The total value of the ships' cargo is estimated at more than a quarter of a billion dollars.

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