



Jacob Arnold

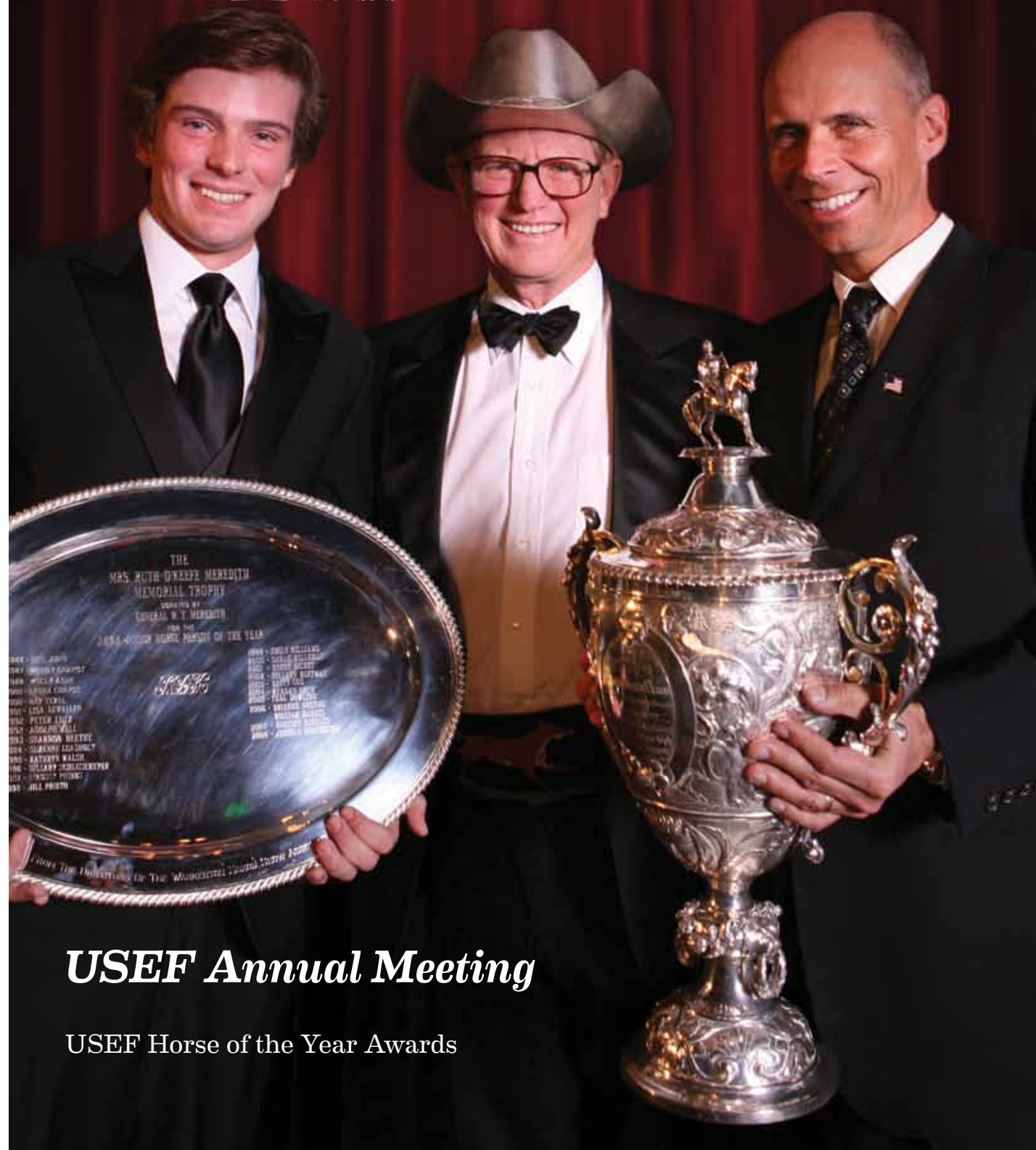
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Equestrian

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USEF Annual Meeting

USEF Horse of the Year Awards

Jacob Arnold

Jacob Arnold is “a combined driving force to be reckoned with” says *Equestrian Magazine*, the official magazine of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF). At the 2012 USEF Pegasus Award ceremony, Jacob received the Ruth O’Keefe Meredith Memorial Trophy as the 2011 USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year. Jacob is also the recipient of the American Driving Society’s (ADS) Combined Driving Event Youth Championship for 2011 & 2012.

In 2016, Jacob started his college career at the University of Louisville, in Louisville, Kentucky with part-time online classes while working with Steve Wilson of Hermitage Farm, also of Louisville. Jacob functions as barn manager and trainer for Steve and helped Steve make the USEquestrian Team and compete at the World Pairs Championship in 2017.

In 2015, working with Fred & Heather Briggs of Belle Grey Farm of Upperville, Virginia, Jacob drove a pair of grey Warmbloods, beginning the season in his first-ever Pair Horse competition at the CAI-3* in Horst aan de Maas in Holland, he finished 3rd on the marathon against a formidable field of 32 of the best marathon pair drivers in the world. In July he won his first CAI-3* for Pair Horse in Nebanice, Czech Republic, finishing first in Cones and second in Dressage and second on the Marathon. At his first Pairs World Championship in Fábiansbestyén, Hungary, Jacob finished 31st out of 65 competitors from around the world.

As the first driver apprentice at Live Oak Combined Driving, LLC in 2014, Jacob competed four different single horses throughout the year, with the highlight being his performances driving John Merritt & Karen Chandor’s Hotspur’s Red Rowley (Rowley). After one practice drive with Rowley, Jacob went on to win the Marathon at the CAI-3* Piber Köflach in Austria just 4 days later finishing 4th overall. With that win, Jacob became the first American Single Horse Driver to win a marathon in an FEI competition in Europe in 20 years. A short time after that, at the Single Horse World Championships in Izsák, Hungary, Jacob again won the Marathon against the 77 best single-horse drivers in the world. A 6th place, double-clear round in Cones left him with a 7th place overall finish. The 1st place Marathon finish at a World Championship is the first for an American horse driver (all combinations).

Jacob first began driving “Duke the Wonder Pony” in pleasure driving shows when he was eight years old. He started his combined driving competition career driving the family’s Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow (Statesmans Silhouette x Cadeceus Jocasta), starting at Training Level Single Horse, when, at fourteen, he won this first competition in 2007 at the Tryon HDT in Tryon, NC. After two years in Preliminary and Intermediate levels, he progressed to the Advanced/FEI level in February 2010, two weeks after turning seventeen.

At the Sunshine State CAI-B in 2010, his first FEI-level event, Jacob achieved an overall score that qualified him as a USEF Long-Listed driver and received a dressage score that met the FEI Qualification to compete at the Singles World Championship.

In February 2011 he won his first Single Horse CAI (Concours d’Attelage Internationale) two weeks after turning eighteen at the CAI-B Little Everglades International CDE at The Little Everglades Ranch in Dade City, FL.

Recognized nationally and internationally as a young driving phenom, Jacob was invited to compete at the CAIO in Ászár-Kisbér, Hungary, July 28-31, 2011. Using a loaned 8 year old KWPN gelding, Vinnie, they received a World Championship qualifying dressage score.

During the Salute to Driving Clinic in Aiken, SC the spring of 2011, the legendary German driver, Michael Freund, the new USEF Team Driving Coach, described Jacob’s Cones driving as “unbelievable” adding “you won’t hear me say that very often.” In 2010, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow was awarded 6th place in Combined Driving for the USEF Horse of the Year during her first year at Advanced/FEI, Shadow was awarded 3rd place in Combined Driving for the 2011 USEF Horse of the Year.

(Continued)



Wise Guy (Whooper)



Hotspur's Red Rowl (Rowley)

In addition to competing in Hungary in the summer of 2011, Jacob accompanied Shelly Temple & Suzy Stafford as a groom in their bronze-medal wins at the 2011 Pony Championships in Lipica, Slovenia.

In February 2012, Jacob began competing Marcie Quist's FEI Hackney Horse, Halstead's Shale (Hal). In their first competition at the CAI-B Little Everglades International CDE, Jacob again won the hotly contested FEI Single Horse Division, less than two weeks after turning nineteen.

Though short-listed for the 2012 World Singles Championship, Jacob was unable to take Halstead's Shale to Europe to compete. In the summer of 2012 Jacob worked with Ijsbrand Chardon throughout the competition season, culminating in the Dutch team winning the gold medal and Ijsbrand winning the individual bronze medal at the Four-in-Hand World Championship in Riesenbeck, Germany.

In 2013, Jacob continued his driving education working with Lisa Stroud in West Grove, Pennsylvania. Over the summer and fall he helped prepare her team for the 2013 World Pony Combined Championships in Pau, France, accompanying the team as head groom and back-step.

In 2014, Jacob was sponsored by Mary Alice Malone of Iron Springs farm. He initially started the year driving Whooper (Wise Guy) in the United States and in Europe drove Tara 14, owned by Heather Briggs of Belle Grey Farm in Virginia, placing 4th(49.28) in Dressage, a double-clear for 2nd in Cones, and a final placing of 6th . After returning to the U.S. from the World Championships, Jacob drove Danzer W, owned by Chester C. Weber.

Jacob has been featured on the cover of the U.S. magazine, *Driving Digest*, (July/August 2010) driving Claire Reid's four-in-hand of Welsh ponies, on the cover and in a featured article of *The Whip* (May 2011), the official magazine of the American Driving Society (ADS), in "horsepeople" in *Equestrian Magazine* (April/May 2011), in "Youth Scene" in *The Morgan Magazine* (July 2011), in an article "Junior Whips - At Home with Jacob Arnold" in *Driving Digest* (March/April 2012), on the cover, as well as in an article, of the USEF's official magazine, *Equestrian* (March 2012) and on the cover, as well as in the "Cover Story" of the *Chronicle Connection* (May 2012) and in "Youth Ambassadors" in *The Morgan Horse* (August 2013). In 2014, he was included as a part of the USEF *Equestrian Magazine's* "30-under-30", he was featured in the *The Morgan Horse* magazine in advance of the World Championship (October 2014), as well as on the cover of *Driving Digest* (November/December 2014). In 2015 he was included as a part of 25 Young riders for the *Equine Quarterly* and a feature article in *The Whip* (January/February 2015), and appeared on the cover of *Elite Equestrian* (Spring 2015).

Jacob has served on the Event Standards Committee of the American Driving Society, Inc. and has been a member of the USEF High Performance Eligible Athletes Singles Drivers Committee as well as previously serving on the USEF Young Equestrians Committee (formerly the Youth Council).

Jacob is a very dedicated, earnest competitor in this dynamic and demanding sport and plans to continue his education and competition career with the long-term goal of being a four-in-hand driver/trainer.

If you would like to join Team Arnold in support of Jacob, feel free to contact Jacob at (336)380-5555 or email him at jacob@teamarnold.com.

See Jacob's Competition History on pp54-55.



Hotspur's Red Rowl (Rowley)



Jacob and Rowley salute the World Singles judges at Izsac, Hungary.



A stunning World Championship success could be just the beginning for this young driver.

BY SANDRA COOKE
PHOTOS BY MIKE ARNOLD

Jacob's World Championship dressage test: He imagined the judges saw him as "just some random kid driving a horse."



Jacob had the fastest time through four of the eight hazards at Izsac.

Jacob Arnold

"Some Random Kid Driving a Horse" —NOT

Jacob Arnold has been busy since his last appearance in these pages, in May 2013.

At that time he was the 2012 ADS Junior Combined Driving Champion, his second consecutive year for the title (he had also been named the USEF 2011 Junior Equestrian of the Year); in the interim, he had spent several months at major European driving venues with top international four-in-hand driver Ijsbrand Chardon of The Netherlands. Increasingly, Jacob hoped that FEI-level driving would be part of his own future.

Back at home (Snow Camp, North Carolina) in fall 2012, he took some online college courses for several months ... then Advanced pony four-in-hand driver Alison (Lisa) Stroud offered another opportunity to enlarge his driving education. "Lisa asked if I would like to work for her at the 2013 FEI World Pony Championships in Pau, France." Jacob traveled to a

couple of shows in the U.S. with Lisa before going to Europe with her and five of her ponies.

Then, following Jacob's return from France came the contact from Chester Weber. "He was interested in having me work for him, and I was interested in increasing my knowledge by being part of such a high-quality operation as his." It was Chester's idea to give his role at Live Oak a "dual purpose," says Jacob. "He suggested finding someone who would be interested in sponsoring me, so I could compete at the same time that I was working with him. We ended up calling my position with him an apprenticeship. My main goal was to continue competing at FEI level, if possible."

The Right Horse

Jacob started his apprenticeship in January 2014, sponsored by Dutch Warmblood breeder and dressage rider Mary Alice Malone of Iron Spring Farm in Pennsylvania.



Photo by Jacquie at Hippoevent

For the competitive aspect of Jacob's experience, Chester suggested beginning with the Single Horse division. Finding the right horse for the job was somewhat of a challenge. The first prospect was a Dutch horse with which Jacob had already worked at Ijsbrand's farm the previous year. "I drove him in the U.S. at three shows—Sunshine State, Live Oak and Southern Pines—and we decided he was more suited to be a team or pair horse. He missed the other horses too much to be confident on his own." The next prospect was Tara 14, a mare owned by Heather Briggs of Belle Grey Farm in Virginia, that Rachael Blanchard had competed at the 2013 Pair World Championship. By this time Jacob was overseas with the Live Oak team, which was based for five months at the Frankfurt, Germany training facility of U.S. driving coach Michael Freund while Chester competed in Europe. "I drove Tara at two or three shows in Europe and we had some good results, but I was learning that you need a really forward horse to be competitive at FEI Singles level. Tara did quite well but at that point I wasn't good enough to make her a marathon winner. Michael Freund could probably have done it! There's a lot that goes into it, and I wasn't ready."

This was Jacob's situation in July, when Advanced Singles driver Cheryl Pratt Rivers—already in Europe and bound for a U.S. Team slot with her chestnut Morgan, Hotspur's Red Rowl—was injured in a driving accident.



Jacob credited much of his accomplishments this year to gatoring skills and other support from Team Weber navigator Jaroslav (Jerry) Mamula, here on course with him in Hungary.

"It was apparent she wouldn't recover from her injuries in time for the Championship," says Jacob. "Her sponsors, John Merritt and Karen Chandor, contacted Chester. He and Michael and [top international driving coach and past World Singles Champion] Thorsten Zarembowicz put their heads together and decided it might be a good idea for me to drive Rowley."

A good idea? Now there's an understatement ...



"If those three guys were happy, I was happy," Jacob said when he saw his three coaches cheering his marathon go.

A Steep Learning Curve

Rowley was not the first Morgan to play a big role in Jacob's career. He had earned both his Junior Championships driving his family's Shadow (Spring Hollow Dark Shadow), a Morgan mare that his parents, Mike and Penny Arnold, had competed as far as Prelim before handing the reins to Jacob. "That was a big learning curve!"

Now the curve got even steeper as Jacob had just one opportunity to drive Rowley (who had been stabled at Thorsten Zarembowicz's barn about an hour from Michael Freund's facility) before competing him that weekend for the first time at Piber, Austria. "Luckily Thorsten was there; he knows Rowley quite well and had worked with him enough to know all the horse's buttons. He helped me learn the horse as quickly as possible."

Rowley had "typical Morgan" attributes that were already familiar to Jacob: "He's very forward, always wanting to go." Rowley was very easy to work with in the stable or on the show grounds. "He's very sweet, kind and easy to deal with in the barn or at the vet check—almost like a kid's pony! Then when he's put to the carriage he's got quite an aggressive attitude. For instance, in Austria we drove in a dressage ring where the sand footing was very heavy but Rowley was unfazed, he just pulled harder. He understands the game; he knows each day of an event has its own demands: more relaxed for dressage, run really fast for marathon, be a bit calmer in cones."

The Jacob/Rowley combination clicked right away and finished fourth overall after winning the marathon in Piber. Although pleased by the result, Jacob "thought it was just a fluke or beginner's luck. No way it was going to happen again at a World Championship with almost 80 competitors!"



Jerry (left) and Jacob with their marathon ribbon. Jacob and Rowley were the first US combination ever to win the marathon phase of a World Championship competition.

Happy in Hungary

In the lead-up to the Championship, Jacob spent a lot of time driving with Thorsten. He also drew on what he had already learned from Chester about "organization and having a strategic plan leading up to a competition. He is really knowledgeable about details like making sure the farrier is there at the right time and the vet care is done correctly. The grooming, the amount of training—how to avoid making the horse sour by over-schooling cones or

marathon, or leaning on the dressage too much.” At training camp during the week just before the Championship, Jacob—on the advice of all three coaches—did very little with Rowley. “It’s easy to over-train in the days just before the event, to the point that the horse peaks before the competition.” Michael Freund was especially helpful in honing Jacob’s ringcraft. “The day before my dressage test, he took me through the test exactly the way he wanted me to drive each movement, in detail. I think that made a huge difference in my test.”

Jacob felt his dressage score of 55 was “pretty good” for his first Championship. He acknowledges the differences between European and U.S. judging and says, “It also has a bit to do with how well you’re known. I didn’t really have a name; I was just some random kid driving a horse.”

That perspective quickly changed after Jacob and Rowley’s marathon run, when they clocked the fastest time through four of the course’s eight obstacles and finished first in the marathon on a score of 81.72. “I knew our score was good when we crossed the finish line and I saw that Thorsten and Michael and Chester were happy. I thought, ‘Well, if these



Jacob was 13th individually before Cones.



Grooming the horses is part of Jacob’s daily routine at Live Oak

three guys are happy, I’m happy!” After helping to care for Rowley and put him away, Jacob returned to the course to watch the rest of the marathon—and learned that he was leading. At the end of the day, he was still on top. “My go was somewhere around the middle of the pack and after we took care of Rowley I watched a couple of drivers known as ‘marathon specialists’ go through, and we were still ahead! I didn’t see how that was possible; I felt there were 20 other drivers there who could have won that marathon. I was shocked.”

... But not too shocked to keep his cool the next day and drive one of that phase’s seven double-clear rounds on a difficult cones course that included two zig-zags and two skinnies. As a result of winning the marathon, Jacob had been 13th individually before Cones. His double clear in Cones moved him up to seventh individually, an astonishing achievement for a young driver at his first World Championship.

The Next Chapter

Back at Live Oak, Jacob has been immersed in his apprenticeship program. “I drive with Chester nearly every day; he’s very helpful



Jacob and Rowley drove a double clear in Cones to raise their individual standing to seventh.

in letting me learn from his horses. After I drive, we talk about what was good and what was bad about the session. I have some competition experience but less experience training at home, and he’s trying to increase my training knowledge.

“I don’t have much experience driving multiples except for driving Clare Reid’s pony team a couple of years ago. Just recently I started driving some of Chester’s horses in a pair, learning the principles behind that. There’s also both the physical and mental training necessary to compete at the top level. Chester’s guidance has been a huge help to me there; he’s able to compete without letting the stress get to him and affect his performance.”

Jacob’s winter routine: Up at 6:30 or 7, muck out the stalls, turn the horses out. “I drive a few, Chester drives a few, and barn manager Sarah Schumann does all the riding. After lunch we come back and clean all the horses we’ve worked, the harness and the carriages and put everything away. Then around 6 we feed and go home.”

Pair competition is a possibility for Jacob in the near future. “Chester is aware that my personal goal is to drive a four-in-hand at the top level of the sport at some point in my career, so we’re trying to head in that direction. There are lots of things to be figured out.”

Although excited about the possibilities of the coming year, Jacob is not impatient. “At this time last year,” he said in late fall 2014, “I had just gotten back from the Pony World Championships with Lisa and I had no idea any of this was going to happen!” 🐾



Closing ceremonies

An update on Cheryl Pratt Rivers

“I have healed and am driving,” she reported in a mid-December email. “I am still working on getting my strength back. I’ll know more about Rowley’s schedule in a few days as Thorsten is coming this week. I do plan on competing Kennebec Joyce this season. She is entered Intermediate at Sunshine State and is a special pony-sized Morgan mare who won that event at Preliminary level in 2012 as well as Katydid and the Carolina Challenge.”



Wise Guy (Whooper)



Jacob & Ijsbrand Chardon

Jacob Arnold

DrivingDigest

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World Singles • Training a Mini to Drive • WEG 2014 • Derby Driving

Youth + Experience:
**World Singles Championship
 Ends on a High Note**

By Ann L. Pringle, photos by Mike Arnold

The 8th FEI World Singles Driving Championship was held September 25-28, 2014 in Izsak, Hungary. Izsak is a small town south of Budapest, and west of Kecskamet. Driving in Hungary is a national sport and the townspeople came out in droves for the opening and closing ceremonies and prize giving, as well as the marathon and cones competitions.



REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES WAS Leslie Berndt (New Castle, Calif.), Jacob Arnold (Snow Camp, N.C.) and Donna Crookston (Saltsburg, Pa.) Five drivers were originally nominated by the USEF including Suzy Stafford (Bear, Del.) and Cheryl Pratt Rivers (Stockbridge, Vt.) in addition to the other three. The road to Izsak had some unexpected curves and early exits.

Top: Jacob Arnold drove Hotspur's Red Rowl (Rowley) to finish 7th overall. Jacob won the marathon and drove double-clear in cones.

Left: Taking a final pass around the arena, this may be 18-year-old Cowboy's last international rodeo. Donna Crookston put in one of only seven double-clear rounds, earning her a third in cones.

Right: Leslie Berndt driving Travis was the top placing U.S. driver in dressage.



Twenty-four nations and 77 competitors competed in this year's Championships. Canada was represented by Kelly Houtappels Bruder. A citizen of Australia but resident of Windsor, S.C., Janelle Marshall rounded out the three-woman team for her native country.

The jury for these championships included Pierre Cazas (FRA), Josef Borka (HUN), Reiner Wannewetch (GER) Sarah Mullins (IRE), and Diane Brownlie (GBR). Marek Zaleski (POL) was the Technical Delegate. The course was designed by Gabor Fintha (HUN).

Dressage, driven over two days, saw some interesting scoring by the five judges. For the U.S. team, Leslie Berndl earned

the best score, 46.34, driving Uminco (Travis), a 13-year-old Dutch Warmblood, putting her in 12th place. Jacob Arnold and Hotspur's Red Rowl (Rowley) finished 39th, with a score of 55.23. Donna Crookston and R.G.Cowboy's Black Cadillac (Cowboy), a 18-year-old Morgan gelding, were 49th with 57.28. The two best scores combined to put the team in 7th place going into the marathon. "The number of well-trained and well-driven horses in dressage was a privilege to see," commented Sarah Mullins, a member of the ground jury.

The best dressage score of the championship, 39.49, was earned by Wilbrod Van Den Broek of the Netherlands, and

the worst was 89.94. A study of the detailed results gave a raise of the eyebrow. How could one judge place a driver 70th, while another placed her 3rd, and the other three 38th, 44th, 45th?

Those armchair spectators who were looking forward to watching the marathon, at least some of it, on FEI TV were disappointed in the wee hours Saturday morning to find that it wasn't to be. So, instead many had to be satisfied watching the live scoring on the computer. At a championship, the marathon order is in reverse standing order of the dressage results. Donna Crookston was the first U.S. driver on the marathon and drove safely to the finish. During a later 'refresh' of the live-scoring feed, Jacob Arnold's name appeared – standing in first place! While those in the U.S. watched their computers and refreshed the score sheet over and over, Jacob's name remained at the top of the list – to the very end. When it seemed time for Leslie Berndl's name to appear on the list, it appeared, not near the top, as expected, but at the very bottom, with RE (for retired) after her name and the second obstacle. First and last. Celebration and heartbreak. A broken bit ended Berndl and Travis' marathon.

The marathon was very demanding. According to Donna Crookston, who has had the most international experience of the U.S. team, it was much more difficult than any of the others. The start of Section A was an entire kilometer from the stabling area, followed by 6.6 km of extremely deep sand roads. Following the Transfer Section, competitors were given 14 minutes to go 1400 meters to the Vet Box. Section B (the obstacle section) was 8.8 kilometers, and following that, another 1 kilometer back to the stables. Understandably, a lot of tired horses came to the finish.

Jacob Arnold won the first, second, fourth and sixth obstacles to decisively win the marathon, moving him into 13th

Nothing could keep Cheryl Pratt Rivers from going back to Hungary to watch the horse she trained at his first World Championship.



Winning four of the eight obstacles at Izsak, Rowley did everything right for Jacob Arnold.

place overall going into the cones. "The marathon was super," said Jacob, "Rowley was very willing to run, he was simple, easy, and did everything I asked. It was perfect." He also noted that this was the longest marathon either of them had ever driven, yet Rowley finished in good shape and was fresh to start cones the next day. Jerry Manula was on the back step and was "fantastic," Jacob said. Jerry, who also works for Team Weber, has been Jacob's navigator all season and a good navigator is an essential part of any successful marathon. This is just the second time an American driver has won the marathon at a World Championship. Miranda Cadwell did it with her pony pair in 2007.

Janelle Marshall finished the marathon in 20th place, and was second fastest in two of the eight obstacles, putting her 32nd going into cones. Janelle drove Joep – a horse owned by Koos deRonde that is part of his indoor driving team. Janelle went to the Netherlands twice during the summer to qualify. She was very pleased to finish the marathon so well.

Even with the U.S. hopes for a team medal dashed, the cones competition was still exciting for the Americans. Leslie Berndl was third to drive on her retired

Jacob Arnold won the first, second, fourth and sixth obstacles to decisively win the marathon, moving him into 13th place overall going into the cones. "The marathon was super," said Jacob, "Rowley was very willing to run, he was simple, easy, and did everything I asked. It was perfect."

score. She knocked down no balls and had just 3.09 time penalties. Donna Crookston and Cowboy put in one of only seven double clear rounds. The course included two zig-zags and two 'skinnies' (two sets of cones set closer than the others) and a lot of left-right-left turns, with areas for running. As Donna was among the first 20 competitors to drive, it was a long wait to see how many more would drive clean. The wait was worth it, as Donna and Cowboy placed third in the cones competition out of the 74 competitors.

"It was a good course," said Donna. "Hardly anything was straight, everything was on a bit of an angle. But Cowboy gets into a 'mode,' and does his thing at an extended trot." She really wanted to win the final competition, which will likely be Cowboy's last world championship, but was happy with third.

Jacob Arnold was standing in 13th place when he started his cones round

with Rowley. With steady nerves, he put in another double clear round for the U.S. team and then waited to see how the dozen next to drive would fare. Individual medals were lost as time and/or balls knocked down changed the final placings, moving Arnold up to finish in 7th place – an amazing finish for this 21-year-old's first World Championship.

The Dutch driver Wilbrod van den Broek won the individual gold medal, while Germany took the team gold for the third consecutive year. France took team silver, with Switzerland winning the team bronze medals. Germany's Claudia Lauterbach won the individual silver medal; Marlen Fallak, also of Germany, won individual bronze. Clearly, it takes the strength, courage and speed of these young drivers to win medals.

This year's World Singles Championship had more highs and lows for the American team than any in recent history. For Leslie

Representing Australia, but followed closely by the Americans, Janelle Marshall, who lives in Windsor, S.C., competed with a Joep, a horse borrowed from Koos deRonde.





Canada had one driver at the World Championships this year: Kelly Houtappels Bruder.

it was discovered that they were not qualified to compete at the Worlds.

Enter Donna Crookston. While qualified, she had decided she would not make the effort to train and compete in Europe unless she was a definite team member. She scratched her entry at the Hermitage, packed, and accepted Suzy Stafford's offer to drive her and Cowboy to the airport. This veteran of several World Championships did not have a brilliant start at this one, but she finished big!

"What a roller coaster ride it has been!" said Cheryl Rivers when it was over. "I am so glad we decided to go forward with Jacob driving Rowley. It took six years and the help of many people to arrive at this moment. First, Jacob did a superb job driving. It takes years to develop the potential of a horse like Rowley. Many have credited my training, and I appreciate the praise, but I want to recognize Rowley's owners [Karen K. Chandor and John C. Merritt] who had faith in me and Rowley when almost no one else did. They stood behind us through the years, always providing what I said was needed. They asked questions, but never questioned the training plan. They were patient. They gave us the time we needed to learn and develop."

Even with the supreme disappointment of retiring on the marathon, Leslie Berndt had this to say about the marathon and her horse Travis: "Marathon was...well...interesting. I spent so much time conditioning him – he was super fit. Section A was really deep sand, he came to the vet box looking like he hadn't even started – he was 110% ready. We started obstacle 1 a little slowly as we usually do to get the feel and timing, he was 110 % there too. In obstacle 2 he was so fast and accurate – then tragedy – but he was good enough to stop immediately when I asked him to. He is a remarkable horse. He could have run off, injuring me, Scott [Monroe], himself, spectators, but nope, he stood like a statue – not that he was relaxed, he was just contained and obedient. He is a gold medal horse in so many ways. It was disappointing, but I am so proud and humbled by him."

This was Jacob Arnold's first World Championship experience, but it surely won't be his last. With only a few short weeks to get to know the horse that would eventually win the marathon for him, Jacob had his work cut out for him. "Rowley is a very good, willing horse. I just had to figure out his buttons," said Jacob. "I never would have thought I would end up 7th at my first World Championship." He expressed heartfelt appreciation to the 'village' that helped him get to that place: Cheryl Pratt Rivers; Rowley's owners; his sponsors; his trainers Michael Freund and Thorsten Zarembowicz; and of course, Chester Weber for giving him the opportunity to begin with. **Ω**

Berndt, the road to Izsak was longer than most – from California, coming east in the spring, and winning the USEF National Singles Championship. Leslie then traveled back to California before boarding a plane to Europe to train and compete during the summer. A very good dressage score and high hopes to lead the team to the medal podium ended in Obstacle 2 when Travis' bit broke.

For Cheryl Pratt Rivers, years of perseverance culminated in a spring of winning marathons with Rowley in the U.S. Like Berndt and Travis, this duo also flew across the pond to train and gain some experience in head-to-head competition against their European counterparts. Cheryl's hope of driving in a World Championship came crashing down following a turnover in cones at Aszar-Kisber, almost two months before the World Championship, which resulted in a broken pelvis.

Jacob Arnold spent the spring working with a new horse provided by his sponsor Mary Alice Malone of Iron Spring Farm. As part of the Live Oak Apprentice program, Jacob spent the summer with Team Weber in Europe, competing on his own when possible. Following Cheryl's mishap, Jacob was paired with Rowley, a brilliant and generous move. Jacob's previous experience driving his own Morgan made the pairing fit perfectly.

Suzy Stafford and her own Morgan mare PVF Peace of Mind (Hunny) had raised enough money, made plans and were in actual fact 24 hours away from boarding their plane for Europe when



Photos by Pics of You



Jacob Arnold

Spring Hollow Dark Shadow

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Jacob Arnold

Age: 21

Driver

Jacob Arnold got his start in driving when his parents bought a Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow, in 2001. One year later, the Arnolds began competing Shadow in Pleasure Driving shows and some lower level combined driving competitions. A year later, they bought a Shetland pony named Duke for Jacob to drive in Pleasure shows. As the years went on, Arnold became more and more interested in combined driving and could hardly wait until I was old enough to compete in his first CDE in 2007 with Shadow. Over the next three years, he and Shadow moved up the levels to the Advanced/FEI division in 2010.

At just 20-years-old Arnold has already built an extensive resume in the sport. He rates one of his biggest accomplishments as being the first driver to ever win the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year title in 2011. Also he fondly remembers winning the FEI Single Horse class at the Little Everglades CAI-B in 2012 with Halstead's Shale, a Hackney gelding, as something he is very proud of, as it was a Selection Trial for the 2012 World Singles Championships. A year earlier he won the same event with Shadow, making him the youngest competitor to win an FEI show in the USA.

Arnold hopes to eventually become a Four-in-Hand driver and compete among the best in the world, in order to do this he has worked with many of the drivers in the world. In the summer season of 2012, Arnold was invited to be a working student for the experienced four-in-hand horse driver, Ijsbrand Chardon, of the Netherlands. He spent five months learning from Chardon, accompanying him on the carriage every day, occasionally driving his horses, and going to competitions with him. This included the 2012 Four-In-Hand World Championships in Riesenbeck, Germany, at which Ijsbrand won the Individual Bronze medal and the Team Gold medal. In June of 2013, Arnold began working full time with Lisa Stroud, the international Four-in-Hand pony driv-

PHOTOS: GEOFF BUGBEE

er from Unionville, Pennsylvania. He served as the head groom and drove some of her ponies on a daily basis. In October of 2013, Arnold accompanied Stroud to Europe as her head groom and back-step navigator at the FEI World Pony Driving Championships in Pau, France. In January 2014, he began working with Chester Weber as his first apprentice driver as part of the Live Oak Combined Driving Inc. Driver Apprentice Program. Arnold will work with Weber and his Four-in-Hand horses, as well as competing a single horse under his instruction. Weber and Arnold hope the program will increase the level of competitiveness for the U.S. at World Championships, encourage more young drivers to compete, and promote the sport in a positive way.



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Jacob Arnold

A Combined Driving Force to be Reckoned With

“First, can I read you something?” said Kelly Valdes of Big Sky Farms in Southern Pines, NC, when asked about driving phenom Jacob Arnold. “This is the kind of kid that Jacob is.”

“Kelly, thank you very much for everything you have done for me during my time in driving,” the letter begins. “You have been a great influence ever since I first went to the kid’s camp so long ago.”

The author, Jacob Arnold, who is a bit of a wunderkind in the world of combined driving these days, goes on to thank Valdes for her teaching and her inspiration.

“Isn’t that sweet?” said Valdes. “And you know, that’s an 18-year-old kid. What 18-year-old boy does that?”

In the past year or so, Arnold has proven how remarkable he is, including a remarkable affinity for driving at such a young age. Along with his 16-year-old Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow, Arnold has upped the ante at each show he’s attended since early 2010. Competing in the Advanced Single Horse division at such prestigious events as the Live Oak CDE in Florida and the Laurels at Landhope in Pennsylvania, Arnold went from solid finishes in the middle of the pack to ending the year with a first-place victory at the Carolina Challenge at Pine Tree in the Preliminary Pony Teams—his first attempt at competing four-in-hand. In February 2011, he had his first Single Horse Advanced/FEI win at the Little Everglades CDE in Dade City, FL, where he topped both the marathon and the cones to win by more than eight points over 2010 USEF National Single Horse Driving Champion Robin Groves.

Based in Snowcap, NC, Arnold began driving at the age of eight and showing in the pleasure divisions at nine. By the time he was 14, he began doing combined driving.

“I enjoy the whole connection with your horse,” he said. “The feel of it...I like the feel in my hands.”

That “feel” just may be inherent. Arnold’s parents also competed in combined driving. Truth be told, Shadow was originally

Mike’s horse until Jacob drove her “in this one little show and I just didn’t give her back,” he laughed. The Arnolds also breed Morgans and stand three stallions. Completing the family affair is his younger brother Samuel, 15, who also aspires to drive.

The elder Arnold has been trained mostly by Valdes, whom he met at the Young Driver’s Camp held annually at Claire Reed’s Big Sky Farm. Reed, a former combined driver, hosts the event along with the USEF, which sponsors an international instructor.

“He was floundering and needed help, so I took him under my wing,” said Valdes. “He was really aspiring to go advanced.” Arnold has also begun working with world-renowned USEF coach Michael Freund, a move he hopes will help him achieve a long-desired goal: making it to the 2012 World Singles Championships.

“That’s been a dream of mine,” he said, “and I would like to fulfill it.”

For now, though, driving is all consuming for the young equestrian, who is home schooled so that he can devote even more time to training and competing. But he has

managed to squeeze in a few extracurricular activities. “I play baseball,” he said, “and I have served on the USEF Youth Council. But with driving and school, I’m pretty busy.”

Not too busy, however, to encourage others.

“It’s amazing, Jacob is like the Pied Piper for kids,” said Valdes. “When he goes to the USEF meetings, they all cling to him.”

When asked about these natural leadership skills, Arnold demurs.

“If anyone aspires to drive at a higher level, I think I am example of that happening in a short amount of time without excessive resources. I hope that others see me as a good example,” he added.

Now, what 18-year-old boy does that?

■ Cynthia Grisolia



~ THIS JUST IN ~

MORGANS REPRESENT USA IN EUROPEAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

By Stephen Kinney

As big news goes, it arrived with a relatively modest announcement. Two drivers of Morgan horses have been selected to represent the United States at the Combined Driving World Championship for Singles in Izsak, Hungary, September 24-28.

To put this in perspective, two of three horses competing on behalf of America at a major international competition are Morgans. This is a big deal for our breed!

As Morgan driving authority Jeff Morse states, “In the

equine press the focus has traditionally been on the drivers and riders selected to represent their countries in world equestrian competitions. In 2014, two out of the three horses driven by drivers selected to represent the United States at a World Singles Combined Driving competition are Morgans. This is not the first time the Morgan breed has been this dominant. It’s time more emphasis shifts to the horses involved. It’s time the world recognizes the Morgan horse is consistently exceptional at this job.”

Indeed!

ABOVE: Jacob Arnold and Hotspur’s Red Rowl competing in Piber, Austria. (Photo © Madeleine Augustsson)



Donna Crookston and RG Cowboys Black Cadillac. (Photo © Pics of You)

Here's the short version: Jacob Arnold of Snow Camp, North Carolina, will be driving John Merritt and Karen Chandor's Hotspur's Red Rowl (Book's End Trademark x L&A-Knapp Ule Easter Onyx), a 2004 gelding. And Donna Crookston of Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, will be presenting her own RG Cowboys Black Cadillac (Teton Black Beauty x Kahlua's Onyx Star), a 1996 gelding.

Hidden in this announcement is a Cinderella story. Jacob Arnold has not been the driver of Hotspur's Red Rowl (Rowley) until very recently. And Jacob is a 21-year-old wunderkind of the combined driving world and a current apprentice of top rated four-in-hand reinsman Chester Weber.

Cheryl Pratt-Rivers has been Rowley's longtime trainer and driver. Competing in Europe this summer, however, fate intervened in the form of an accident that sidelined Pratt-Rivers. As she explains "...in the cones, I managed to drive poorly and flipped the carriage over. None of it was the horse's fault. It was me trying to go a lot faster than I needed to. I went too fast and turned too tightly and flipped the carriage over."

Cheryl has been home in the U.S. recovering from a fractured pelvis (as well as a broken ankle sustained while riding a motor scooter). Her prognosis is good, she says and she hopes to be back carriage driving by November.

In the meantime, Cheryl, Rowley's owners John Merritt and Karen Chandor, along with coaches Michael Freund and Thorsten

Zaremowicz and chef d'équipe Chester Weber, made the decision to tap Jacob Arnold to continue the quest toward world championship competition.

"Jacob was in contention and he was in Europe and Thorsten and I came up with a plan to ask Jacob," Cheryl says. "He's very responsible for his age. He's very skilled for his age. Jacob has worked hard to be where he is. I have a lot of respect for him.

"He's getting an opportunity to drive a great horse," she adds.

"It was very selfless of Cheryl to hand over the reins. It cannot be the easiest thing to do, but she has been very, very supportive," comments Jacob.

Jacob, who grew up with Morgans at his parents' farm in North Carolina, accepted the invitation from "team Rowley" and two days later was in a preparatory competition at Piber, Austria (home to the Lipizzaner Stud Farm) where he won—yes won—the marathon portion and finished fourth overall in a group of 30 plus drivers. It was Jacob's first time driving Rowley!

(Jacob's dad, Mike Arnold, adds here that this is the first time in 20 years that an American single has won a marathon at an FEI event in Europe. When it happened last it was with a Morgan driven by Bill Orth.)

Everyone involved gives Rowley high marks in the marathon portion of competition. Says Jacob, "He's definitely a very special horse in the marathon. I've personally never felt anything like this horse. He's very quick and agile at speed and turns, and keeping



Another view of Jacob and Rowley at Piber. (Photo © Sonja Bauer)

balanced and correct in his bend. It's all very automatic."

Cheryl tells the story from another point of view, "A friend of mine was there in Austria and she said that the announcer got excited because Rowley looked to be the smallest horse in the marathon and he started calling him the 'American Morgan Super Schnell' ("*schnell*" is a German word you use when you want something done quickly). The biggest reason for Rowley to be selected for the American team is his ability in the marathon.

"I drove him in three qualifying events in Florida and he won the marathon in all three of them. He's won, hands down, more obstacles than any other Morgan horse," Cheryl states categorically.

While Jacob may be a newcomer on the world stage, his teammate Donna Crookston has been there, done that. On the day of this writing she was at JFK Airport getting RG Cowboys Black Cadillac (Cowboy) in a box and loaded on a plane for Hungary. It is her fourth world championship, having competed in Poland in 2008, in Italy in 2010, and in Portugal in 2012.

"I did not want to attend as an individual and elected to stay home this summer. I told them if they needed me for the team I would be delighted to go," Donna remarks. "My horse has been to the worlds three times and we didn't need an individual competition. If we could help the team, that's what I wanted to do."

Donna is clear about the strengths she and Cowboy bring to the competition. "His best phase is the cones, I feel. He's just a super cones horse. He's like driving a Maserati through the cones.

He's what I call very driveable. He's the same in both directions. A lot of horses are one sided. He goes equally well to the left as to the right. He can slow down quickly and make a tight turn."

Given her vast experience, Donna has an interesting perspective on how "America's breed" is perceived in Europe. "I think they're kind of mesmerized by Morgans. They don't understand that they came up from Cavalry breeding. I know when I was in Portugal a group of people specifically looked me up and were very interested in looking at Cowboy. There are Morgans that are better movers than other ones, but I think what impresses them with our Morgans is the stamina that they have. I think when it comes to the vet check and the recovery, it seems like we're driving a much heartier breed. We don't get the high temperatures. Most of the Morgans are very quiet and not temperamental. They don't get up and anxious and nervous."

As *The Morgan Horse* was going to press with the October issue, these breed ambassadors were competing in Hungary against 75 teams from as many as 15 nations.

While this is a big moment for the breed, it is not the Morgan's first volley into European and world championship company. Already the number one carriage driving horse in the United States, this competition gives the breed even more exposure on the international scene.

And, by the way, Cheryl Pratt-Rivers will be in the audience, cheering on the horse she has trained for more than six years. ■



Photos by Hoefnet & Krisztina Horváth

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The **CHRONICLE** CONNECTION

JACOB ARNOLD

**A PRODIGY ON
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**THE BAHAMAS:
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Don't Bet on Beating Jacob Arnold

At just 18 years old, burgeoning driving talent Jacob Arnold, with younger brother Samuel at his side, was invited to drive Winfred in his first European competition, the Ászár-Kisbér CAIO in Hungary, this past summer.

He may still be years away from being able to rent a car, but this 19-year-old horseman is already driving circles around his fellow competitors.

By MEGAN BRINCKS



OLGA PROCHÁZKOVÁ PHOTO



Jacob Arnold got his start in combined driving—and his first FEI win—with his family's Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow.

Jacob Arnold has always liked the way the traces feel in his hands. Without a connection to at least one horse, they feel empty.

Throughout his teenage years, they went about their business, throwing hay and grain to his family's barn full of horses, cooking breakfast every morning for his parents and younger brother, scribbling through his home school studies, tightening around a tiny ball of rawhide at baseball practice.

But whenever he sits down in a rig and takes up the traces, his hands come alive. And no matter how many continents he is away from his Quaker family's quiet North Carolina farm, Arnold is always at home behind a horse.

Just two weeks after he turned 18, Arnold became

the youngest person to win an international combined driving competition in the United States. Driving his family's Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow, he topped the FEI single horse division at the 2011 Little Everglades International CAI-B in Dade City, Fla. But that was only the beginning.

Because 11 months and two whirlwind trips to Europe later, Arnold found himself standing on stage at the 2012 U.S. Equestrian Federation Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, with the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year trophy heavy in his hands. Up against thousands of young riders in hunters, jumpers, dressage, eventing and breeds competitions, the combined driving prodigy earned the title of top equestrian in the nation.

This February, Arnold was at it again in Little Ever-

“He’s just so adorable. So polite, so well-mannered—somebody you just really want to be around.”

—Kelly Valdes

glades, beating 16 other drivers this time and clinching the FEI single horse title again with his newest partner, Marcie Quist's Halstead's Shale.

At the tender age of 19, in a sport where the vast majority of his competitors have been driving for longer than he's been alive, Arnold can't help but turn heads wherever he goes. Because it seems it's no longer a question of *if* he will represent the United States in a senior international championship, but when.

Beyond His Years

Arnold started pleasure driving competitively at the age of 8, and he transitioned to combined driving at 14, the youngest age at which he could compete in the sport. After six years spent at a leisurely pace, much of it behind Duke, his fondly remembered 11-hand pony, Arnold was ready to step up his game.

“I didn't get bored with it, but I wanted something different,” said Arnold, of Snow Camp, N.C., who began his combined driving with “Shadow” (Statesmans Silhouette—Caduceus Jocasta, Wyoming Flyhawk), his father Mike's former partner.

“My dad let me drive one time, in this one little show,” Jacob said with a laugh, recalling how immediately he was hooked.

“Shadow isn't the easiest horse to drive, and he had started to understand the competition, getting quite strong in the obstacles, so I was hesitant at first,” said Mike. But their first competition went perfectly, “and we haven't looked back since.”

Much like eventing, combined driving is scored in faults over three phases—dressage, marathon and cones—with the lowest score winning the event. Most combined drivers are adults and lifelong enthusiasts, and the sport's youth appeal is minimal in comparison with many other equestrian disciplines. So even today, Jacob stands out in most competitive fields. When he was only 14 and unproven in the sport, the disconnect seemed even greater.

“It does intimidate me a little bit, because they all have more experience in the sport than I do,” Jacob said. But he's already found that the most intimidating competitor can also be happy to lend a hand, loan equipment or offer advice.

Kelly Valdes, his past trainer and friend, has always seen Jacob exude the same sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship. She instantly recalled one competition where Jacob, who wasn't driving his own horse in the marathon phase, instead volunteered to hop on several other drivers' carriages to navigate for them.

“Every lady in front of him was just smiling,” said Valdes with a laugh. “He's just so adorable. So polite, so well-mannered—somebody you just really want to be around.”

Valdes, 56, met Jacob at a young drivers' camp when he was 15. “One night [two older boys] used some industrial-size cellophane and cellophaned him to his bed,” Valdes said, laughing. “That was our first introduction to Jacob.”

But even then, despite his young age and inability to fight off cellophane attacks, Jacob was confident, self-assured and levelheaded beyond his years, said Valdes. And that maturity has played a big role in his competitive success.

“He's always been very focused and holds himself to a very high standard,” said Mike, who noted that his son has also benefited from his experiences as a left-handed pitcher in baseball. In that role, he's learned the importance of shaking off his mistakes as quickly as possible and coming right back for more. “He takes competition disappointments hard but works to understand what happened and recovers in time for the next phase.”

An International Perspective

Jacob's talent and determination haven't escaped the notice of the driving community, nor has his friendly, kindhearted personality. That's why, after Jacob put Shadow, now 17, into semi-retirement with plans to evaluate her later in 2012, Marcie Quist stepped in.

Quist, a judge, technical delegate and fellow advanced driver, offered her Hackney horse Halstead's Shale (Halstead's Sandman—Halstead's Miss Musk, Haven's Tradition) as a replacement in January.

“He's a really great horse,” said Jacob of the chestnut



U.S. Equestrian Federation Junior Equestrian of the Year Jacob Arnold (from left) shared the national spotlight with Lifetime Achievement Award winner Jimmy Wofford and Equestrian of the Year Steffen Peters at the 2012 USEF Annual Meeting.

gelding. “He’s very relaxed, and he’s a very easy horse to handle. He has an interesting personality and is always fun to be around.”

Their first competition together, the FEI single horse division at Little Everglades in February, not only proved they were a winning partnership. It also served as the second of four selection trials for Jacob’s 2012 goal: the FEI World Singles Driving Championship, Sept. 12-16 in Companhia das Lezírias, Portugal.

The switch from Shadow to “Hal,” Valdes said, will help Jacob stand out more at international competitions. Although she raved about Shadow’s personality and gumption, she said the mare isn’t ideal when up against the top foreign warmbloods, especially in the dressage. Mike had only competed the mare through the preliminary level, and in the advanced divisions, Jacob and Shadow had simply made up for their higher dressage scores with speed and agility in the other phases.

Jacob said no matter which horse he’s driving, he finds the cones phase the most challenging, since the margins of error are often the smallest in the final leg of competition.

“You’ve already done the dressage; you’ve already pushed everything you’ve got in marathon,” he said. “Now you have to come back cool and collected. There’s a lot of pressure to do as well as you can, if not just be better than everyone else.”

But Jacob appears to thrive under that pressure, and the higher-ups are taking notice. In the past year, he’s worked with some of the world’s top drivers through U.S. team training sessions, and USEF driving coach Michael Freund described Jacob’s skill in the cones phase as “unbelievable.”

“You won’t hear me say that very often,” added Freund.

In the summer of 2011, Jacob traveled to Europe to train, spectate and compete. After taking in some top-level competition at the Aachen CHIO (Germany), he moved on to Hungary, where a judge had invited him to drive in the single horse division at the Ászár-Kisbér CAIO, July 28-31. With all loaned equipment and an 8-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding named Winfred (Pronkjuweel, Elsa, Uriant), Jacob finished near the bottom of the pack, in 23rd. But his performance with the flashy chestnut was more educational than any U.S. win could have been, and just as importantly, it also earned a world championship-qualifying score.

“It really was an eye-opening experience to compete in Europe,” Jacob said. “I found it so educational. It’s a totally different sport, and there are a lot more people! It was great—I really enjoyed it.”

Jacob returned to Europe in September, this time accompanying the U.S. drivers Shelly Temple and Suzy Stafford to the FEI Pony World Driving Championships in Lipica, Slovenia, as a groom. There he helped the U.S. team to a bronze medal and Stafford to her third consecutive individual bronze as well.

The Support Team of a Lifetime

The career of a young, talented and hard-working horseman like Jacob is exactly the kind U.S. team leaders want to foster. If his career continues to burgeon, he’ll likely play a big role in the advancement of the sport.

The Arnold family is filled with combined driving enthusiasts, but they’re a rare group. Jacob said the biggest challenge facing the sport of combined driving is simple: its lack of popularity in the United States.

“We need competitors,” he said, “and we need more publicity to get more competitors.”



Jacob Arnold has come a long way in nine years, from competing his beloved 11-hand pony, Duke, (with mom Penny) at the 2003 Carolina Fall Classic (N.C.).

Mike also runs the combined driving results website Driving News USA and offers an invaluable “eye on the ground,” Jacob said.

Penny is a clinical research associate but helps at all of the shows, “doing it all at any given time,” from grooming

and braiding to walking the horses and videotaping the competitions.

Jacob’s younger brother Samuel, 16, spares time from playing golf to act as his brother’s navigator at competitions. Jacob said he hopes to see Sam start competing with Shadow after the mare comes back from a “pasture vacation.”

Now that he’s no longer a junior, Jacob is facing challenges familiar to any young talent who’s ever considered going professional, in any discipline. While

he’s continually bowled over by the generosity of his peers and mentors, the mountaintop experiences are still perpetually paired with a sense of impending doom if sponsors don’t appear, if horses go lame, if a costly vehicle breaks, if travel expenses skyrocket, or if any other of five million cogs in the machine misfire.

But that doesn’t mean Jacob isn’t up for the challenge.

“Obviously it takes a lot of money and sponsorships, and it requires a lot of support from other people, but my end goal and hope is to do four-in-

hand,” he said, noting that he aims to be an established professional four-in-hand team competitor and trainer in five years. At that point, he’ll be 24 years old.

“And in 10 years, I want to be competing in the top 10,” Jacob added, without a trace of arrogance. “I’m certainly willing to work hard for it; it’s just a matter of getting things together.”

That added a special meaning to winning the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year title—it wasn’t just a boost for Jacob’s own career, but a spotlight on his sport that he was proud to have attracted.

“Jacob is quite dedicated to the sport,” said Mike. “It was a wonderful recognition of his achievements and of driving in general.”

A big portion of Jacob’s support, both emotional and physical, comes from his family. Both Mike and his wife, Penny, have owned horses since they were young.

Although Penny drove her grandfather’s pony occasionally, the Arnolds didn’t dive into competitive driving until they purchased Shadow, who came with a harness and carriage.

“We began with pleasure shows [in 2001] and fairly quickly moved to combined driving [in 2003],” said Mike. “Who could have predicted what would follow?”

Today the Arnolds run Friendly Morgans at Tanyard Farms, where they train Morgans and ponies in driving and dressage and also stand two Morgan stallions at stud.

Mike, a computer programmer and amateur musician, has also served on the boards of two North Carolina Quaker 501(c)(3) organizations and now serves on the American Driving Society Board of Governors. Jacob has followed in his father’s volunteer footsteps as well, serving on the Event Standards Committee of the ADS and the USEF Youth Council.

“It really was an eye-opening experience to compete in Europe. It’s a totally different sport.”

—Jacob Arnold



Halstead's Shale

Photos by Pics of You



Photos by Pics of You



Photo by Eagle Eye Photography

Spring Hollow Dark Shadow



REPRESENTING CARRIAGE DRIVERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA



Winfried

Live Oak Combined Driving, Inc. Developing Driver Program Welcomes Inaugural Recipient



Ocala, FL (January 6, 2014) - New year. New opportunities. Just ask Jacob Arnold, who begins a mentorship under Chester Weber in January 2014 as the inaugural apprentice driver in the Live Oak Combined Driving, Inc. Developing Driver Program.

“Though Live Oak Combined Driving has always been involved in the ongoing development of many drivers, this new program will begin with Jacob Arnold as the first apprentice driver,” said Weber, the 10-time U.S. Four-in-Hand Driving Champion, outlining a program geared to give developing drivers hands-on experience competing at their discipline’s highest levels.

Live Oak has a long history helping drivers throughout the US, but Weber decided the time was right to take a more organized step: “There were many factors that made this the right time to start this program, including the great need to match talented competitors with world title-capable horses, raise the level of competitive driving in our country, and address the increasing cost of overseas competition.”

Arnold arrives at Live Oak Plantation in Ocala in January 2014, and will train and compete a Single horse while also working as part of Weber’s training and competition team. “The program will expand,” said Weber, “as drivers show world-class potential and resources become available.”

Jacob Arnold may be the program’s first beneficiary but don’t equate apprenticeship with inexperience. The 2011 USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year spent 2013 working with nine-time National Pony Four-in-Hand Champion, Allison Stroud. He participated as head groom and backstep at events including the



2013 Pony Combined World Championships in Pau, France and, since 2010, has competed nationally in the Advanced Single Horse division.

In 2012 Arnold was short-listed for the Single World Championships. Unable to take that horse to Europe to compete, he took a working student position in Holland with Ijsbrand Chardon, and that summer Chardon won Individual Bronze and Team Gold at the Four-in-Hand World Championships in Riesenbeck, Germany.

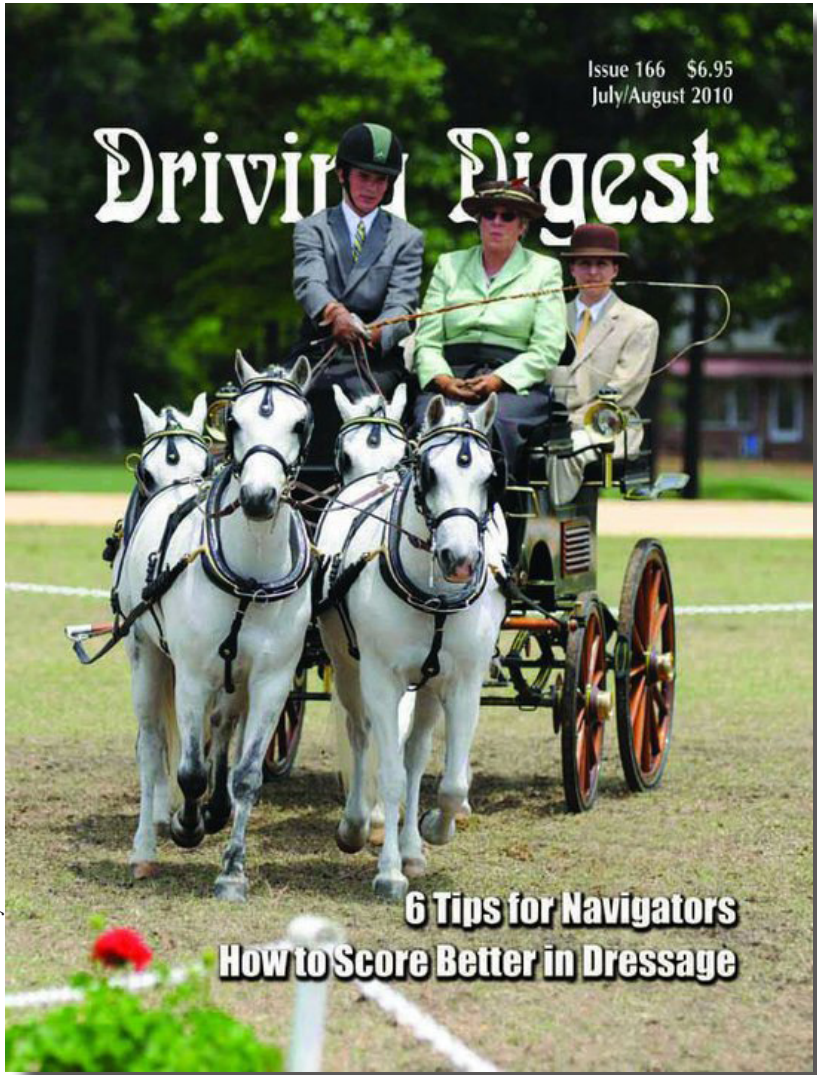
Making a lasting impression through a program that encourages and develops its next great generation of drivers and horses, is Weber’s wish with the new year.

“My hopes for this program are to develop apprentice drivers capable of winning World Championship medals, improve the quality of our U.S. competitors, and promote driving by encouraging and supporting more young drivers to aim for competing at an international level.”

Arnold will be part of Team Weber and Team Clark as Weber aims for the 2014 World Equestrian Games in Normandy, continuing the international momentum his team, owned conjointly by both Weber and Jane Clark, generated last season after wins at the 2014 WEG test event at CAI-Caen, and CAIO Saumur, and top three finishes at Beekbergen and Aachen.

Learn more about Live Oak Combined Driving, the Developing Driver Program, and Chester Weber at www.chesterweber.com and via a link to Facebook.

Photo: Jacob Arnold will begin a mentorship under Chester Weber in January 2014 as the inaugural apprentice driver in the Live Oak Combined Driving, Inc. Developing Driver Program. (Photo courtesy of PicsofYou.com)



Photos by Pics of You



Halstead's Shale



Spring Hollow Dark Shadow

Jacob Arnold



Photos by Pics of You

Jacob Arnold



Jacob Arnold on his way to winning the FEI Single Horse division at Little Everglades, driving his family's Morgan mare in the marathon with his younger brother, Samuel, on the backstep.

Photo by Louisa Emerick.

Training to Advanced: One Horse, Four Years, Lots of Work

Jacob Arnold, one of four young drivers named to the USEF 2011 Driver Training Long List in January, caused a stir in the Combined Driving world when he won the highly competitive FEI Single Horse class at the Little Everglades International CDE in February with his family's 16-year-old Morgan mare. In this exclusive retrospective, he shares the story behind his rapid rise in the sport and his partnership with a very special horse.

I first started driving when I was eight years old, with my chestnut pony named Duke. I started competing Duke when I was nine, in local

Pleasure Driving Shows. We had lots of fun and won several local shows; he quickly earned the nickname Duke the Wonder Pony. He is a great pony and loves to be driven. He is also very patient and kind. We still own him. He's now 20 years old and is doing fine.

Both of my parents started competing in Pleasure Driving Shows about 11 years ago with our Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow. When my parents bought Shadow in 2000, she was five years old and had a newborn filly, Friend Lady Anne, by her side. Now Shadow is 16 and is still going strong. She is the

same mare I currently compete in the Advanced Single Horse division in Combined Driving. After competing in Pleasure Driving for a few years, my father, Mike Arnold, started competing in Combined Driving. Everyone in the family, including Shadow, really enjoyed it—she especially loves the marathon phase. My father competed with her for about five years and then handed the reins to me.

My first Combined Driving Event was the Tryon HDT in Tryon, North Carolina in the summer of 2007. We were the Training Level Champions at that event. I continued to progress

up the levels, winning the Marathon at the Laurels at Landhope CDE in 2010 in Advanced Single Horse, and then early this year won the FEI Single Horse division at the Little Everglades CAI-B. Shadow is honest, brave, always gives me 110 percent, and she has lots of heart and go.

In addition to equestrian activities I play baseball, and also serve on the USEF Young Equestrians (formally the Youth Council), and the ADS Event Standards Committee.

Over the past 10 years I have been very fortunate to drive many different types of horses in addition to Shadow. Claire Reid graciously allowed me to drive her four-in-hand of Welsh Ponies this past summer. Kelly Valdes and Claire Reid spent a great deal of time teaching me how to drive the team. This culminated in my winning the Breezy Pines Farm Multiple Horses/Ponies Championships Trophy at

the Carriage Classic in the Pines, and a first-place finish in the Preliminary Pony Four-In-Hand division at the Pine Tree CDE in 2010. The ADS Young Drivers Camp, held at Claire Reid's Big Sky Farm, also provided me with the opportunity to drive horses and ponies of long-listed drivers.

My plan for the future is to continue to compete at the Advanced Level, with the goal of hopefully being able to one day to represent the United States at a World Championship. It can be intimidating at times to compete against top drivers, because some of them have been in the sport much longer than I have been alive. However, everyone I have encountered has been very helpful and encouraging to me.

There is no doubt in my mind that I would not be where I am today if it wasn't for Kelly Valdes and Claire Reid. They have helped me and encouraged me in so many ways

for as long as I have been in this sport. They both have been great influences to me over the years. And of course none of this would have been possible if it was not for my parents, Mike and Penny, and my navigator and groom, my younger (but taller) brother Samuel. They have been very supportive in every way possible.

I would tell any young person who is interested in competing in Combined Driving that this sport takes a lot of time, dedication, energy and help from your family for you to be able to be successful. But I would also stress that it is lots of fun. It is a process of training both the driver and the horse, which requires perseverance and patience. I would also encourage them to attend one of the ADS Young Drivers Camps, so they could meet other young drivers and learn from more experienced competitors and their horses. 🍀



Spring Hollow Dark Shadow

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Jacob Arnold, Driving Into The International Spotlight

By Suzy Lucine

At first look it might seem like Jacob Arnold came from nowhere to claim time in the spotlight. But a cursory glance at the facts proves that to be far from the truth. This talented young man grew up around Morgan horses and a supportive family gave him plenty of opportunities to discover his own place in the horse world.

Jacob has grown up on his family's Friendly Morgans at Taynard Farm in Snow Camp, North Carolina. Today, Mike and Penny Arnold, and their two sons, Jacob and Samuel, have 15 Morgans on their 70-acre farm. In addition to the Morgans they bred and raised, ten years ago Mike purchased Spring Hollow Dark Shadow (Statesmans Silhouette x Caduceus Jocasta), a black mare that had been used some as a driving horse.

Mike drove the black mare at a few pleasure shows before switching to combined driving. Shadow won the 2007 Grand National Arena Driving Intermediate Level Championship Finals. Then they made the transition to combined driving. As his interest was piqued, Jacob took over the mare's reins from his father.

"She is smart and takes care of me," Jacob told me. "She doesn't put a hoof down wrong, and she has made my learning so much easier."

In the beginning, he was under the guidance of his father. But as his interest and talent grew, he looked for further instruction from Kelly Valdes, trainer for Claire Reed, owner of the farm where the Big Sky Young Drivers Camp is held. Jacob has also worked with Michael Freund, the USEF team trainer.

"Jacob's young and he's like a sponge," said Kelly Valdes, a world competitor, former trainer, and coach. "He's interested in all aspects of competing in combined driving events, he asks lots of questions, and he always tries his best. Jacob absorbs what he learns and is able to use this information when he's driving his mare."

Jacob has received lots of satisfaction with the bonding experience he has had working with Shadow for the past several years, as well as the joy. Obviously, the time he has put into the care

and training of this mare has reaped its rewards, as they now are competing at the advanced level in combined driving events."

"I really love competing in combined driving events," Jacob said. "I like all three phases—dressage, marathon and cones. Your horse has to be good in all three phases."

At the combined driving events, his brother Samuel is Jacob's groom in the dressage and cones phases of the events, and his navigator during the marathon. His mother is his braider, head groom and videographer. Jacob's girlfriend is a pleasure show driver, so a great supportive team surrounds him.

Samuel is also interested in the sport of combined driving, and has attended the Big Sky Young Drivers Camp. He also helps his brother and father break the young horses on the farm, and he shares the daily chores with his brother, truly making this a family affair. During their spare time, both boys play baseball on a travel team.

Neither Jacob nor the mare have been wary of the hard work and hours entailed to move up through the levels—starting with preliminary, then on to intermediate, and now advanced. Kelly has helped them a lot.

"Shadow works well for me to drive at the advanced level," Jacob said. "She is versatile, like her breed, so she is able to do well in all three phases of a combined driving event."

Their success has captured international attention. Jacob has been invited to compete in Budapest, Hungary, this summer at Askar-Ksiber, an amazing honor for one so young. The event is an FEI qualifying event for the World Singles Driving Championships. The organizer of this event has offered Jacob the use of one of his horses along with all the tack and equipment.

In addition to his driving skills, Jacob is also gaining leadership skills as he sits on the USEF Young Equestrian Committee. The American Driving Society (ADS) nominated him to represent its members. ADS' participation with the USEF youth program is new. Since Jacob was one of their most active young drivers and a willing volunteer, he was chosen to represent them on the USEF Youth Council. "After meetings, Jacob communicates well with our



Jacob Arnold at Sunshine State.



At Garden State in 2010.

office, sharing important information with our members," said Susie Koos Acker, ADS Executive Director.

"Jacob is an outstanding youth," Susan continued. "His activities in the combined driving world are well supported by family and friends. He is also a great role model for other kids, because he can show them that 'you can just do it.'"

"Driving is a sport that embraces camaraderie, and family and friends become connected through this sport," Susan said. "People participate in driving for the love of it, and it's obvious that Jacob loves what he's doing with the sport of combined driving."

During the past few summers, Jacob has attended the Big Sky Young Drivers Camp. It is open to ADS members, ages 12-19. His brother, Samuel, also has attended this camp, which gives both boys opportunities to work with their own horses and others at the camp.

The recent high school graduate was home schooled, which allowed him the time to concentrate on training and competing with

Shadow. He may start some college courses via the Internet as his schedule allows, as he plans to concentrate on training and qualifying for next year's US World Championship Single Horse Team.

"Having resided in North Carolina for many years, I've had the great privilege of knowing the Arnold family through the Virginia-Carolinas Morgan Horse Club and several of the local shows," says Julie Broadway, AMHA Executive Director. "They are all devoted Morgan fans, and it's been so rewarding to see their sons grow up and excel at combined driving."

"Jacob is a wonderful young man, gifted athlete and competitor," Julie continued. "He's also an outstanding role model for young people. He carries himself with poise and professionalism—he's articulate and has great self-confidence. He's been a real asset to the USEF Young Equestrian Committee, where he represents ADS, but he's also a great ambassador and advocate for the Morgan breed." ■



At Little Everglades 2011 competing in the Dressage 1 Class.



Photos by Pics of You



Halstead's Shale

USEF Announces Wofford, Arnold to Receive Year's Highest Equestrian Awards at the 2012 Pegasus Awards

RELEASE: December 16, 2011

AUTHOR/ADMINISTRATOR: Brian Sosby

Lexington, KY - The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) is proud to announce the names of five equestrians who have been selected to receive the year's most coveted awards. Presented by the USEF, the Lifetime Achievement Award, Junior Equestrian of the Year, and the Pegasus Medals of Honor will be presented during the Pegasus Awards gala on Saturday, January 14, at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. Additionally, the Equestrian of the Year Award will be announced at the Pegasus Awards. More information about that is available here: http://www.usefnetwork.com/news/7915/2011/12/14/usef_announces_the_2011_equestrian.aspx.

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Junior Equestrian of the Year

Jacob Arnold has embraced the sport of combined driving with maturity beyond his years and has quickly become a young force with which to be reckoned. From the age of eight, Arnold immediately took to the sport - one that traditionally boasts an older demographic. Today, he is already producing top results and represents an exciting future for his sport.

He started his combined driving competition career driving the family's Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow, in the Training Level Single Horse division, when he was 14. He progressed through the ranks to the FEI level in February 2010, two weeks after turning 17. One year later, he won his first Single Horse CAI (International Combined Driving competition) two weeks after turning 18 at the CAI-B Little Everglades International CDE at in Dade City, FL. He has had a meteoric rise in a sport that takes decades to master.



Jacob Arnold. Photo by Joanie Morris/USEF Archive.

Arnold spent part of the past summer in Europe gaining valuable experience while competing at the CAIO in Hungary and serving as groom at the World Pony Championships in Slovenia. Through the USEF/USET training sessions, he has been afforded instruction from some of the world's top drivers. His hard work and determination has earned him an invitation to compete at the Arctic Equestrian Games International Single Driving Challenge in Oslo, Norway, in February 2012. USEF Driving Coach Michael Freund described Arnold's Cones driving as "unbelievable," adding, "You won't hear me say that very often."

Continuing in his pursuit of excellence, Arnold is now working toward his goal of being a member of the U.S. Team for the FEI World Singles Driving Championship in 2012.

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ENDS

Junior Whips

At Home with Jacob Arnold

Jacob Arnold has achieved more in driving in his short 19 years than most adults three times his age. And he's just getting started. 2012 was a big year for the young man from Snow Camp, N.C. It included winning his first FEI competition in February, competing in

Hungary last summer, grooming for team bronze medal winning Shelly Temple at the World Combined Pony Championships, and ending the year by being named the USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year.

Jacob was presented with the Ruth O'Keefe Meredith Memorial Trophy at the Pegasus Awards Dinner at the USEF Annual Meeting in January. According to the published criteria, the recipient must:

- ✓ Have competed at one or more USEF-recognized competitions during the last year;
- ✓ Personify the virtues of honor, courage, patience, good temper, unselfishness, and sincerity;
- ✓ Exhibit the qualities of good sportsmanship and integrity;
- ✓ Exemplify exceptional talent and dedication to the sport; and
- ✓ Have made outstanding contributions to equestrian competition.

Jacob lives with his family—father, Mike, mother, Penny, and brother, Samuel—on a 70 acre farm in Snow Camp, N.C. They operate Friendly Morgans, which includes several sport Morgans, a few ponies, and two sport Morgans that stand at stud. In 2001 the family started competing at pleasure shows, and in 2007, Mike stepped down from the box seat and turned the reins over to Jacob who has been competing with Spring Hollow Dark Shadow ever since. In 2010 Jacob and Shadow debuted at the Advanced level, usually with Mike on the back step on the marathon, but most recently Samuel has been helping his older brother at the competitions.

But what is Jacob Arnold's life like when not at a combined driving event?

Favorite sports (other than driving): Baseball and golf

Favorite food: Chicken Parmesan

Favorite TV show: *How I Met Your Mother*

Favorite school subject: History

Favorite Music Group: Coldplay

Favorite Song: Don't Stop Believin, by Journey



USEF President David O'Connor presents Jacob with the trophy for USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year. Photo from USEF Archive/Geoff Bugbee.

What driver do you admire most? Chester Weber
What horse or pony besides your own would you most like to drive? Chester Weber's Rolex

What has been the highlight of your driving career so far? Winning Little Everglades in 2011

Who has been the most influential person in your driving career? Kelly Valdes

What is your short term driving goal? To be selected to the U.S. Single World Championship team in 2012

What is your long term driving goal? To compete successfully with a four-in-hand

What are your career goals? To become a professional driving horse trainer

Jacob was home schooled which offered him a flexible schedule for working with his horses. At this point in his life, he is taking time off from his studies to take advantage of some generous offers such as going to The Netherlands to work with Isjbrand Chardon, living with Chardon's family, for ten days. He would like to complete college and "have that whole experience."

A typical day in the life of Jacob Arnold

"I get up and take care of the horses [16]—feed and water—after that I make everyone breakfast. Then usually I drive a horse then depending on the day I might drive Hal [Marcie Quist in Vass, N.C., has offered Jacob the opportunity to drive her Hackney horse Halstead's Shale (Hal) at the spring competitions and possibly at the next World Singles Championship if selected.] or take my brother, Samuel, to baseball hitting lessons, or if it's summer play golf. Then I drive another horse, or do something." Jacob also often makes dinner for the family when his mother is traveling for work and then he spends the evening relaxing and "watching his favorite TV show *How I Met Your Mother*."

Jacob has these suggestions to other young drivers who aspire to rise to the top of the driving pyramid. "Drive everything you can get your hands on. Definitely try to be a working student or intern for someone—find someone you really get along with who has a lot of horses to drive and work something out where you can drive six or seven horses a day or something like that. Drive different things—pairs, teams, singles, tandems. It's not all about competing or going to as many shows as possible. A lot has to do with the number of horses that you can drive and just the time you spend in the sport. Don't be afraid to get dirty and do a lot of hard work and get up at five in the morning. Make sure you pay your dues and do the grunt work, but it all pays off." ■



Duke was the first pony that Jacob drove as a young boy. Photo by Ann L. Pringle



▲ Jacob and Hal wait before driving a dressage test at a schooling Combined Test in Southern Pines.
◀ Shadow is taking a well-deserved vacation while Jacob and Hal hit the competition road. Photos by Ann L. Pringle.



Team Arnold at home: Mike, Penny, Samuel and Jacob. Photo by Ann L. Pringle

2012 USEF
Annual Meeting



Marvin McCabe and David O'Connor



Kelly Valdes, Jacob Arnold and Claire Reid



Howard Simpson receives the Sally Busch Wheeler Trophy from David O'Connor



Jim Wofford with his four grandsons (from the left to right): Walker and Hudson Jones and Lewis and Theo Ince

Combined Training Associations (now the United States Eventing Association).

But his influence as an athlete was also profound. Between 1959 and 1986, Wofford's successes included a berth on the 1968 and 1972 Olympic Teams aboard Kilkenny, winning a Team Silver medal both times. He was also named to the 1980 Olympic Team, and he won Individual Silver at the "Alternate Olympics" that year. In 1970, aboard Kilkenny, the pair won Individual Bronze at the World Championships in Punchestown, Ireland. In 1978, he was part of the Bronze-medal winning team with Carawich at the World Championships in Kentucky. A five-time U.S. National Champion, Wofford won on five different horses. He also won Team Gold at the 1967 Winnipeg Pan American Games. Near the end of his competitive career, Wofford won two titles at the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event (with Carawich in 1981 and The Optimist in 1986 when he came out of retirement to compete the horse for his student and fellow Olympian Karen O'Connor). He has gone onto to become one of the most respected trainers in the sport and there are few riders competing today who have not been influenced by Wofford.

Wofford expressed his great pride in being inducted into the renowned group of Lifetime Achievement winners:

"Tonight I join a long list, an impressive list of recipients,

I hasten to add you have placed me in a group of men and women who were always mentors and leaders to me; never peers. It is an honor to achieve the Lifetime Achievement award just as it has been an honor for me to be a member of this organization and work with so many great people over the years."

Arnold Has Bright Future Ahead

Jacob Arnold (Snow Camp, NC) received his laurels as Junior Equestrian of the Year. One of the few young drivers in his sport, he has caught the attention of many in his discipline for his ability and poise.

Arnold has embraced the sport with maturity beyond his years and has quickly become a young force with which to be reckoned. From the age of eight, Arnold immediately took to the sport – one that traditionally boasts an older demographic. Today, he is already producing top results and represents an exciting future for his sport.

He started his combined driving competition career driving the family's Morgan mare, Spring Hollow Dark Shadow, in the Training Level Single Horse division when he was 14. He progressed through the ranks to the FEI level in February 2010, two weeks after turning 17. One year later, he won his first Single Horse CAI (International Combined Driving

competition) two weeks after turning 18 at the CAI-B Little Everglades International CDE at in Dade City, FL. He has had a meteoric rise in a sport that takes decades to master.

Arnold spent part of the past summer in Europe gaining valuable experience while competing at the CAIO in Hungary and serving as groom at the World Pony Championships in Slovenia. Continuing in his pursuit of excellence, Arnold is now working toward his goal of being named as a member of the U.S. Team for the FEI World Singles Driving Championship in 2012.

Arnold was grateful to be honored as the 2011 Junior Equestrian of the Year and to be afforded the opportunity to promote his sport:

"It means a great deal, I really feel honored to win this award. Just to bring more attention to combined driving on a national scale and maybe an international scale, [that's what] I'm really excited about."

2011 PEGASUS AWARD

USEF Youth Sportsman's Award
Sascha Mills

USEF/Equus Foundation
Humanitarian Award
Molly Sweeney

Honor Roll of Distinguished
Officials Award
Charles Dennehy, Elizabeth Searle,
Edward Teater

Maggy Price Endurance
Excellence Award
Dr. Margaret Sleeper

The Ellen Scripps Davis Memorial
Breeders' Award
Joan Hamilton

The Richard E. Mcdevitt
Award Of Merit
Art Gaytan, Hans Senn, Cornelia
Atherton Serpell

Sportsmanship Award

The Walter B. Devereux Trophy
Georgine Winslett

The Marty Simensen Memorial Trophy
Morgan Silver

Pegasus Medal Of Honor
Raymond Francis, Marvin McCabe,
Nancy Nathanson

The Sallie Busch Wheeler Trophy
Howard Simpson

Junior Equestrian Of The Year Award

The Ruth O'Keefe Meredith
Memorial Trophy
Jacob Arnold

2011 EQUESTRIANS OF HONOR

William C. Steinkraus Trophy
Steffen Peters

Becky Grand Hart Trophy
Chester Weber

Bill Robinson Trophy
Karen Waldron

Emerson Burr Trophy
Scott Stewart

C.J. "June" Cronan Trophy
Debbie Foley

Barbara Worth Oakford Trophy
Janice Giles

Norman K. Dunn Trophy
Steven Stiller

Vaughan Smith Trophy
Danielle Barrasso

The Equestrian Of The Year Award

The Robert P. Strub Trophy
Steffen Peters

The USEF Lifetime Achievement Award

The Jimmy A. Williams Trophy
James C. Wofford

LEFT TO RIGHT: GEOFF BUGBEE, STOCKIMAGESERVICE.COM, GEOFF BUGBEE, GEOFF BUGBEE

Jacob Arnold

Combined Driving Results

2007		
Tryon HDT	Tryon NC:	1st place - Training Level Single Horse
The Laurels at Landhope CDE	Unionville, PA	6th place - Preliminary Single Horse
Pine Tree CDE	Southern Pines, NC	6th place - Preliminary Single Horse
2008		
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC:	5th place - Preliminary Single Horse
Gayla Bluegrass CDE	Georgetown, KY	4th place - Intermediate Single Horse
Iron Horse CDE	Caledonia, IL	Equipment Failure - Intermediate Single Horse
The Laurels at Landhope CDE	Unionville, PA	6th place - Intermediate Single Horse
Pine Tree CDE	Southern Pines, NC	1st place - Intermediate Single Horse
Katydid CDE	Windsor, SC	4th place - Intermediate Single Horse
2009		
Sunshine State CAI-B	Ocala, FL	6th place - Intermediate Single Horse
Live Oak CAI-A	Ocala, FL	6th place - Intermediate Single Horse
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC	3rd place - Intermediate Single Horse
Pine Tree CDE	Southern Pines, NC	3rd place - Intermediate Single Horse
Katydid CDE	Windsor, SC	2nd place - Intermediate Single Horse
2010		
Sunshine State CAI-B	Ocala, FL	8th place - FEI Single Horse (World Championship Qualifying Score and USEF Long Listing Score)
Live Oak CAI-A	Ocala, FL	9th place - FEI Single Horse
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC	5th place - Advanced Single Horse
Garden State CAI-B	Allentown, NJ	7th place - FEI Single Horse
The Laurels at Landhope	Unionville, PA	3rd place - FEI Single Horse 1st Place Marathon
Pine Tree CDE	Southern Pines, NC	1st place - Preliminary Pony Team (Driving Claire Reid's Pony Team)
2011		
Little Everglades CAI-B	Dade City, FL	1st place - FEI Single Horse 1st place Marathon, 1st place Cones
Live Oak CAI-B	Ocala, FL	no placing - FEI Single Horse
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC	2nd place - Dressage (turnover on Marathon) 2nd Place - Advanced Single Horse 1st place Marathon
CAIO Ászár-Kisbér	Ászár-Kisbér, Hungary	KWPN Winfried - 23rd Place (World Championship Qualifying Score)
The Laurels at Landhope	Unionville, PA	2nd Place - Advanced Single Horse
Pine Tree CDE	Southern Pines, NC	No placing - Combined Test/HC
Katydid CDE	Windsor, SC	9th Place - Advanced Single Horse
2012		
Little Everglades CAI-B	Dade City, FL	(Driving Marcie Quist's Hackney Horse Halstead's Shale) 1st place - FEI Single Horse
Live Oak International CAI-B	Ocala, FL	4th place - FEI Single Horse
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC	5th place - Advanced Single Horse

2014		(Live Oak Combined Driving Apprentice Driver - Sponsor: Iron Springs Farm)
Kingdom of the Sun CDE	Ocala, FL	5th place - Advanced Single Horse*
Live Oak International CAI-2*	Ocala, FL	3rd place - FEI Single Horse*
Southern Pines CDE	Raeford, NC	8th place - Advanced Single Horse*
CAI-3* Dillenburg	Dillenburg, Germany	16th place - FEI Single Horse**
CAI-3* Nebanice	Nebanice, Czech Republic	6th place - FEI Single Horse**
CAI-3* Piber Köflach	Piber Köflach, Austria (2 horses)	Tara-Retired - FEI Single Horse** Rowley-1st Place Marathon, Final 4th Place - FEI Single Horse***
FEI World Singles Driving Championship	Izsák, Hungary	7th Place - Single Horse*** 1st Place Marathon, 6th place Cones-Double Clear
Grand Oaks CT&HDT	Weirsdale, FL	1st place - Intermediate Horse****
		* <i>Wise Guy (aka 'Whooper')</i> ** <i>Tara 14</i> *** <i>Hotspur's Red Rowl (aka 'Rowley')</i> **** <i>Danzer W</i>

2015		(Sponsor: Belle Grey Farm)
CAI-3* Horst	Horst aan de Maas, Holland	19th place - FEI Pair Horse 3rd Place Marathon
CAN Zeiskam	Zeiskam, Germany	5th place - FEI Pair Horse 2nd Place Marathon, 5th Place Cones
CAI-3* Lähden	Lähden, Germany	17th place - FEI Pair Horse 4th Place Dressage
CAI-3* Nebanice	Nebanice, Czech Republic	1st place - FEI Pair Horse 2nd Place Dressage, 2nd Place Marathon, 1st Place Cones
CAIO-4* Riensenbeck	Riensenbeck, Germany	10th place - FEI Pair Horse 8th Place Marathon
FEI World Pair Driving Championship	Fábiánsebestyen, Hungary	31st place - Pair Horse



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