

# UK Equine Initiative Student Newsletter

January 2008

Welcome to the January 2008 issue of a newsletter for students and potential students interested in all things equine at the University of Kentucky! UK has a lot to offer if you're interested in horses – and even more is coming soon!

From a new undergraduate program and enhanced research to new faculty hires and upgraded facilities, there hasn't been a more exciting time to be part of the UK College of Agriculture and its equine programs.



So pull up a chair (or a laptop) and read more about what's going on. We welcome any feedback you might have. And don't forget, we're still looking for some good name ideas!

## Equine Initiative Highlights

### UK Equestrian Team to Host Its First Western Division Equestrian Show Feb. 2

By: Savannah Faye Craddock

The University of Kentucky's Equestrian Team will host its first western division competition since the reestablishment of the team in 1985 on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m., at Fiddlers Run Equine Facility in Versailles.



Photo: Lacey Werczynski

"This is huge and we're thrilled to be hosting and competing in our own show," said Kate Griffith, the western team's former vice-president and one of the event's organizers.

Preparing for the show is a big task for the team. In addition to polishing their riding skills, team members also participate in fundraising, event planning and securing the donation of horses to compete on (competitors ride horses donated to the host university, not their own). Since the show is less than a month away, students must prepare quickly. During winter break many students were unable to practice and ride. Now some members are riding more hours than required each week at their training facility in Georgetown to make up for that lost practice time.

Show organizers are expecting nearly 90 competitors from five different universities. With this many students expected, UK is working to ensure that it has enough horses for the duration of the show. Currently it predicts 25 to 30 horses will be used. During a typical horse show, one rider might ride as many as four different horses and one horse could carry around as many as 10 different riders.

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## Around the College of Ag

Don't let the on and off spring time feel of January fool you, we aren't even close to Spring Break yet! There are a few other important things to remember between now and then.

### Important Dates for the Spring 2008 Semester

#### January

9-15: Add/drop for registered students/ late registration  
Jan. 9-Feb. 22: Students permitted to change majors between colleges  
10-15: Degree audits for May 2008 graduates  
15: Last day to add a class  
21: Martin Luther King Day, no classes  
30: Last day to drop a course without appearing on transcript/last day to change grade option

#### February

7: Degree application deadline for May 2008 graduates  
Feb. 18-March 7: Degree audits for August and December 2008 graduates  
22: Last day to change majors between colleges

#### March

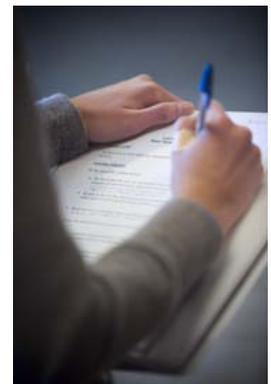
3: Midterm  
7: Last day to withdraw from a class for academic reasons  
8: Merit Day  
10-14: Spring Break  
15: Merit Day  
March 17-April 4: Advising for summer and fall 2008 terms  
March 24-April 16: Priority registration for summer and fall 2008 terms

#### April

1-16: Priority registration for summer and fall 2008 terms  
April 17-May 2: Students permitted to change majors between colleges  
21-25: Degree audits for August and December 2008 graduates  
25: Classes end  
April 28-May 2: Finals Week

#### May

1-2: Finals week  
4: Graduation (College program is 8:30 a.m. in Rupp Arena)  
5: Spring grades due



## Grad Student Forum

The College of Agriculture's Equine Initiative at UK includes an exciting branch of Master and Doctorate-level research in equine related topics, including equine economics, land management and animal and vet science. Graduate students are encouraged to post summaries of their research interests at [www.UnbridledNews.com](http://www.UnbridledNews.com), an online community for equine research, business, and related topics. The goal is to create an online graduate student equine research organization where students, faculty, and the equine industry can learn more about equine-related graduate work. The news forum is hosted by the chair of this new organization, Kimberly Brown ([kimberly.brown@uky.edu](mailto:kimberly.brown@uky.edu)).

## *Equestrian Team Continued*

Collegiate competitions are unique from the horse shows most people are familiar with. During these shows, a rider draws an unfamiliar horse's name randomly, and is then judged on his or her ability to ride and maneuver that horse (there is no warm up time). This framework was designed to provide a level playing field for college riders and gives students the opportunity to compete in horse shows without having to own and care for their own horse.

In addition to the hard work done by team members, there is also a lot of work that is done by the team's advisor and coach. Team advisor Bob Coleman, who is also Director of Undergraduate Studies for UK's new equine science and management undergraduate degree program, and UK western coach, Bennie Sargent, who was also just named the American Quarter Horse Association Professional Horseman of the Year, both assisted the team in decision making and planning for the upcoming show.

Fundraising is done by all team members year round through volunteering at horse shows in Versailles, Frankfort, the Horse Park and the Rolex Three Day Event in April. Selling t-shirts, hosting silent auctions and receiving donations from organizations including the Kentucky Equine Education Project and Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital are also ways that the team pays for the two horse shows it will host this year. Funds raised will also go to help riders pay for regional, zone and national level competition expenses.

"The support from the local horse industry for equine programs at UK is tremendous" Coleman said.

Riders from UK will compete in classes ranging from Beginner Walk-Trot to Open Horsemanship and Open Reining (the most advanced categories). Each team is on a hunt for points and will compete to earn enough to qualify for March's regional competition. After reaching regionals, riders will have a chance to compete at zone and national competitions against schools from across the country.

Both UK's English and western teams competed in four shows last fall and were very successful. They are optimistic their success will continue and earn them even more exciting results this spring.

For information on attending the horse show, joining the team or becoming a sponsor, please contact: UK Equestrian Team Western Vice President Christi Burrington, (734) 347-6732, [clburr2@uky.edu](mailto:clburr2@uky.edu) or team advisor Bob Coleman, (859) 257-2226, [rcoleman@uky.edu](mailto:rcoleman@uky.edu).

## **Student Professionalism Series**

Over the next few months we will be doing a career series; things you do now that can help or hurt your professional life. In the upcoming months look for features on embarrassing online moments, what professors think of online lingo, how to professionalize your e-mail address and some interview and resume techniques faculty and staff look for in potential employers. We hope you enjoy the stories and learn a lot in the process! Please let us know if you have any real life examples or ideas for this series!

### **The Grandma Rule: Making Your Facebook Profile Professional**

*By: Savannah Craddock*

Have you ever thought about what effects that your Facebook profile might have on your professional career? More and more people are using online communication resources as a way to profile applicants for jobs, internships and scholarships, as well as keep tabs on current students and employees. On one hand, Facebook is how we keep up communication with friends, classmates and other peers. But it has also been proven damaging to some students professionally.

Many professors and employers say they use Facebook as a way to check for professionalism in potential employees. They look for pictures they have posted, what comments are on their walls, what photos are tagged of them and what their interests are. If these things are deemed inappropriate, those postings can be a serious strike against the student, applicant or intern.

Some students claim it isn't fair for a potential employer to judge them based on their personal life. However employers retort that what a person does outside of work can affect what they do at work -- if students cannot handle themselves appropriately in a personal setting how are they expected to behave on the job? Also what they do in their nightlife may directly affect their performance level at work.

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But what is the answer? The Grandma Rule! The grandma rule is simple. If you wouldn't show your Grandma, it probably isn't appropriate to put on a public online communication website.

Other solutions may be, if you are a student who is comfortable with your profile being open, to think about adjusting your privacy settings so your profile remains private or unseen by people who are not directly associated with you. A limited profile may also be appropriate in situations like these.

If you are concerned with how your employer or professor might view an inappropriate profile, a suggestion might be to "untag" any inappropriate photos of yourself and/or request that those photos be deleted. Don't post any photos that may incriminate you, monitor what is written on your wall, the interests you have listed and your status. This will allow you to communicate with friends while maintaining a healthy professional profile.

Your first impression is always vital. With more people joining Facebook everyday, before you shake hands with your potential employer, they may know a lot more about you than you ever intended to reveal. So if you don't plan on applying the Grandma Rule, then be sure you're ready to explain those lewd comments and shocking photos (or lose a job before you ever had it).

#### **Next up:**

Next month we will feature some embarrassing and serious stories about the effects online communication can have on your life. These real-life examples might make you giggle, but might also make you think twice before you post.

### **Students Be Aware of New Bus Schedule Caused by Construction**

Beginning Tuesday, January 22, LexTran will offer bus service between the Agricultural Science Campus and Main Campus, with stops at Ag Science, the Gillis Building, and the Student Center. The route is free for students, staff, and guests. The service is provided Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., for the remainder of the spring semester, with the exception of Spring Break (March 10-14).

A map and route schedule can be found at [www.uky.edu/Parking/transportation-agscience-route.html](http://www.uky.edu/Parking/transportation-agscience-route.html).

## **Equine Initiative Update Continued**

### **UK Polo Club Update**

(Yes, UK now has a Polo Club!)

The UK Polo Club will be playing in the Cold Cup Polo Tournament Jan. 22-28 at the Kentucky Horse Park. If you are interested in watching the club sometime, it plays at the Horse Park every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the covered arena.

If you are interested in attending the Cold Cup Polo Tournament or in receiving more information about the team, please contact Tannis Marley at (215) 704-2552 or [tannis.marley@uky.edu](mailto:tannis.marley@uky.edu).

## **Student Spotlight**

### **Graduation, Vet School and Marriage; Oh My! Carly Farrell Traveling To the Land of Oz.**

When in search of a student who is involved, intelligent and intriguing, look no further than this month's student spotlight, Carly Farrell. Carly, originally from Brunswick, Ohio, will finish up her last semester at UK in May with an undergraduate degree in Animal Science/Pre-Vet option.



PHOTO: Carly Farrell

While at UK, she has participated in numerous clubs and activities, including Alpha Zeta Chancellor (President), Ag Ambassadors, Ag Student Council Treasurer, Pre-Vet Club Student Council Representative and Past President and she is currently working at the UK Animal Research Center Beef Unit.

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## Student Spotlight Continued

Like many COA students, Carly isn't just involved because it looks good on her resume, she dedicates her time and efforts to these organizations because she feels proud to represent the College's student body at various alumni and student functions and also feels accomplished through the connections she made during her four years here.

"My favorite part of UK, to put it simply, is the people, the landscape and the opportunities to explore different venues not only with my major, but also within the industry," she said.

She's obviously involved in organizations and class work, but like many students here, she has also worked her way through school. Carly highly values the experience she has received through her work at UK's research farms. Some of that hard work has included positions at UK's Maine Chance Farm, where she helped with the breeding and foaling of 25 Thoroughbreds and took part in showing these yearlings at the Fasig-Tipton sales, which she said "is another job in itself!"

Growing up, horses were always a part of Carly's life. However said their significance in her life has changed slightly. As a child, their importance was pulling sleighs and hauling trees from the woods near her home. Now, she said, "The greatest importance of horses comes from their ability to achieve, whether it be pulling a load, racing on the track, jumping over barriers or simply standing while a young child sits on its back thinking that life couldn't get any better."

Carly's plans for the future include moving to Kansas with her fiancé to work for a veterinarian and then applying to Kansas State University Veterinary School to focus her studies on large animal medicine. Carly's experience at UK and her dedication to both her schoolwork and her extracurricular activities will surely prove to be a vital part of Carly's success in the future as she moves to the Land of Oz to pursue her career and marriage. We wish her the best of luck!

## Opportunities for Jobs and Scholarships

### Help Wanted Classifieds:

Please note, classifieds listed here are not directly affiliated with UK or its equine programs, rather information passed along from equine businesses as an FYI.

Equestrian Director and Equestrian Assistant wanted at Camp Kateri (located one-half hour southeast of Gainesville, Fla). This camp is for girls 6-17 years old. Both positions are paid and applications apply to the June-August 2008 timeframe.

Contact: Cynthia Wisner

Outdoor Education Manager

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc.

(904) 291-0648, ext, 102

Nursing staff technician wanted for Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. At least one year of experience in handling horses is needed. Some training with medical or horse care preferred. Full, part-time and seasonal job opportunities are available.

Surgery Technician wanted for Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. At least one year of experience in handling horses required. Some training with medical or horse care preferred. Job openings available include full-time or part-time. Work days may vary from eight to 10 hours, five or six days a week.

Recovery Technician wanted for Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. At least one year of experience in handling horses required. Must be able to stand up long periods of times, running, holding horses, lifting up to 75 pounds, climbing and sitting. Full-time job available, flexible hours required.

UK Student wanted to work in the Barn Crew/Admissions at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. At least one year of working with horses is required and a horse farm background is preferred. No licenses or certification is required.

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UK Student wanted to work in the Barn Crew/Admissions at Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital. At least one year of working with horses is required and a horse farm background is preferred.

For more information regarding any of the Rood and Riddle job opportunities please contact [amathes@roodandriddle.com](mailto:amathes@roodandriddle.com)

UK Graduate and Undergraduate students wanted for AQHA and APHA breeding facility in Edmonton, KY. Positions are open for both full-time and part-time DVM and also for handlers for foaling, turnout and breeding assistance.

Contact:

Amber Roberts

[circlerstallionstation@yahoo.com](mailto:circlerstallionstation@yahoo.com)

### SCHOLARSHIPS:

The New Year is finally here and it is still peak scholarship application season. While out there hunting for scholarships you are eligible for, don't forget to check out what these organizations and scholarships may have to offer you.

- The College of Agriculture Scholarship Deadline is coming up soon. Please apply by March 1, 2008, [www.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/testing/AS/academic/upppapp05.pdf](http://www.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/testing/AS/academic/upppapp05.pdf)
- The Race for Education anticipates awarding at least \$400,000 in scholarships and hopes as much as possible can go to Kentucky horse farm workers and their families. Contact Elisabeth Jensen, Vice President, at (859) 252-8648 or **visit [www.racingscholarships.com/page.php?page=resources](http://www.racingscholarships.com/page.php?page=resources)**
- KEEP: [www.horseswork.com/scholarship.htm](http://www.horseswork.com/scholarship.htm)
- KyQHA: [www.kyqha.com/youth/scholarship.pdf](http://www.kyqha.com/youth/scholarship.pdf)
- Kentucky Horse Farm Workers Educational Assistance Fund: [www.horsefarmeducationfund.com/index.htm](http://www.horsefarmeducationfund.com/index.htm)
- Kentucky Horse Council Scholarship: [www.kentuckyhorse.org/scholarships.shtml](http://www.kentuckyhorse.org/scholarships.shtml)

## Industry News

The Kentucky Quarter Horse Association Breeders' Seminar will be held Feb. 3 in Louisville, Ky. To register for this event, visit the following link [www.kyqha.com/calendar/breedersseminar.htm](http://www.kyqha.com/calendar/breedersseminar.htm).

For some of the latest equine news from the College of Agriculture, please visit the Equine Initiative website news section at [www.ca.uky.edu/equine/press\\_news.html](http://www.ca.uky.edu/equine/press_news.html).

## Suggestion Box

We want to hear from you! What are we missing? What should we change? What would you like to know more about? What information should we feature in an upcoming issue?

Your feedback is important and we welcome your comments! Please email [equineinitiative@email.uky.edu](mailto:equineinitiative@email.uky.edu) and let us know what you think.

## Contact Us

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You can also find us on **Facebook** under the Equine Initiative Group