

# In the News



Bettina Drummond receiving a golden whip from Col. Patrick Teisserenc

Photo by Valérie Charrieau-Khalil

France's prestigious **Cadre Noir** presented **Bettina Drummond** with the rank of honorary écuyer, making her only the second American to receive such an honor — the other is **George Morris**. She's also only the second woman to receive such an honor from the Cadre Noir; The first was French Olympic dressage rider **Margit Otto-Crépin**. In presenting her with a golden whip and "honorary écuyer" rank, the Cadre Noir cited not only her skill and talent as a rider and trainer but also her years of dedication in promoting the French system of classical riding. Bettina trains horses and coaches riders from her base in Washington, Connecticut, and also serves as the founder of and guiding force for the **Association for the Promotion of the Art of Horsemanship in America (APAHA)**, an organization dedicated to supporting educational opportunities that advance horsemanship as an art form in the U.S.



Steven Bluman, Alicia Heiniger, Nicole Lakin and Alexa Anthony

Photo by Jump Media

The online equestrian companies **Event Clinics**, **Epona Exchange** and **Electronic Vet** have joined **BarnManager**, **Equo**, **Jumpfax** and **Stableguard** as part of the Equine Technology Collaboration, a cutting-edge group aimed at supporting one another in creating technology that better serves the equestrian industry. "We

are all young entrepreneurs and equestrians dedicated to trying to improve specific, separate facets of the equestrian industry through technology," explained **Nicole Lakin**, the founder and CEO of **BarnManager** and the innovator behind the Equine Technology Collaboration. "While our specific areas of focus are different, we all share the same mission of utilizing technology to simplify the lives of horse people, give them peace of mind and allow them to focus on why we're all really doing this in the first place: the horses." By coming together as a group, each of the seven involved companies is able to work together to improve and to further spread knowledge on what they offer to equestrians.



Lyndi Starr with Cody as the Masked Rider and Fearless Champion

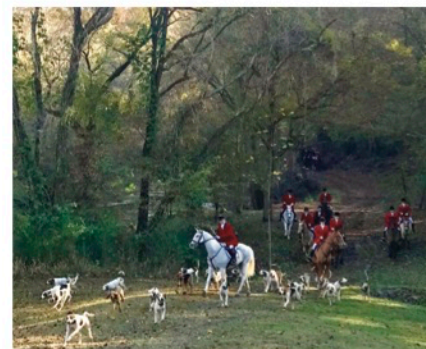
Photo by Robert Rhode

When **Texas Tech** University's mascot, the black American Quarter Horse **Fearless Champion** (BQH Hollywoodatdusk), was sidelined with a minor injury, a replacement was sought for the crowd-rousing horse. His rider, **Lyndi Starr**, otherwise known as the Fearless Rider, is a Texas Tech student from Mt. Vernon, Texas, and member of the IHSA team. Lyndi knew that finding a replacement in two weeks would be tough. The horse had to be black, quiet but still game to make the charge across the field to engage the 50,000-plus football fans. A replacement was found in **Cody** (Skip Cody Jay), a retired roping horse that belonged to a colleague's grandparents, **Jim** and **Mavis Jennings** from Amarillo, Texas.

"He felt like Fearless Champion; he had similar buttons, he was well-trained, and, above all, he was quiet," Lyndi said. "So that was on a Friday, and I rode him all weekend and then we took him to see the band that week because the football game would be that Saturday." Cody passed his audition with the band and the pair has performed at all six home games in the Jones AT&T Stadium to the cheers of the Texas Tech fans.



Roger Smith enjoying the hunt



The hunt in action along the Green Creek River



Huntsman David Raley

**Green Creek Hounds**, in North Carolina, enjoyed their Opening Hunt in November with a Blessing of the Hounds at **Green River Farm** followed by a beautiful ride through the countryside. **Father Mickey Mugan** officiated the ceremony and Green Creek provided Tally Ho wagons for non-mounted riders. A Masters Breakfast followed the hunt. For more information, visit [www.greencreekhounds.com](http://www.greencreekhounds.com).