

Two of a kind: Kansas horseman and his stallion inducted into American Quarter Horse Association Hall Of Fame

By Frank J. Buchman

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When they think of one, the other automatically comes to mind. So, appropriately, the renowned Quarter Horse breeder and his famous gray stallion have been inducted simultaneously into the American Quarter Horse Association Hall of Fame.

However, Walker of Tee Jay Quarter Horses at Canton was a conscientious horse breeder before he got Jackie. Today, Walker continues breeding horses, nearly all with a strong influence of Jackie Bee, who died over 17 years ago. Walker freely admits their successes go hand-in-hand.

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Hall of Fame with the class of 2008, on Sunday, March 2.

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"I'm so honored to be included in the hall with all of the horsemen who I've looked up to for all of my life and have our great stallion recognized at the same time," Walker said.

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The One-Of-A-Kind Stallion

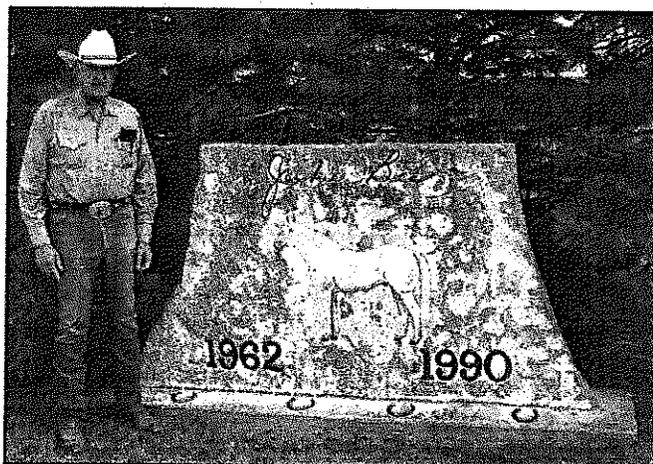
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After admiring the 1962 gray stallion for an extended time, Walker bought Jackie Bee as a five-year-old for \$1,500 from his neighbor Glen Davis. "Jackie founded a new family of Quarter Horses," Walker admitted. "They were unique in their look and consistent in their size, structure, muscling and color. Importantly, they bred true to type.

"However Jackie didn't do it all by himself. He had help along the way both from the outstanding line of foundation Quarters Horses he came from, and the great Quarter Horse mares he was bred to. It was actually a combination of those factors that made Jackie Bee and our program," Walker contended.

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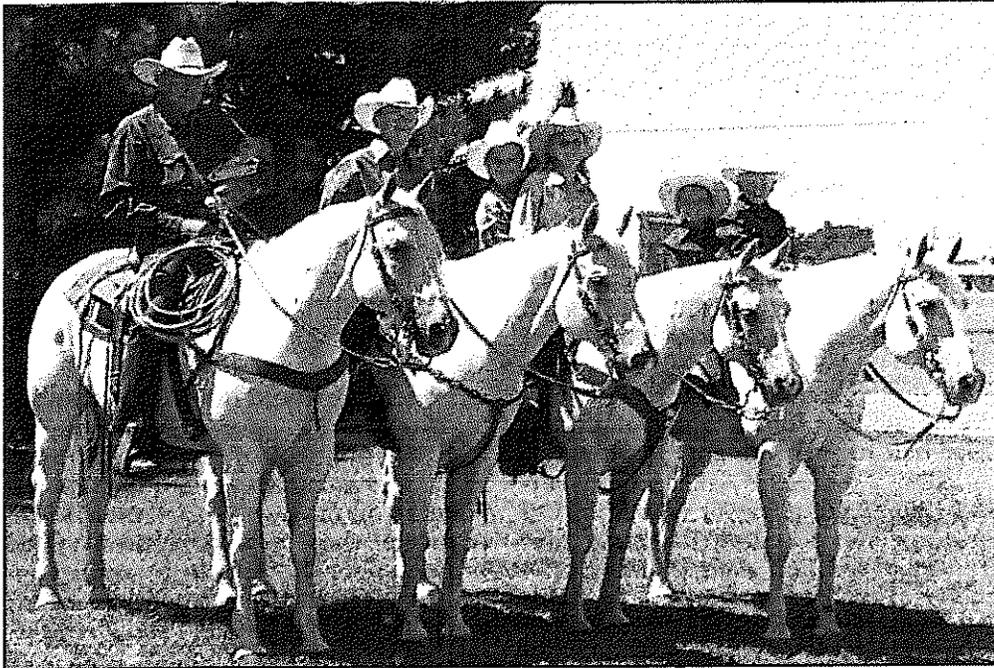


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Internationally recognized Quarter Horse breeder Duane Walker is on the lawn of his Tee Jay Quarter Horse Ranch at the edge of Canton with his six great-grandchildren. All of them are mounted on grandsons of the renowned gray Quarter Horse stallion Jackie Bee. Walker and Jackie Bee were inducted into the American Quarter Horse Association Hall of Fame Sunday, March 2, in San Francisco. The great-grandchildren from left to right are Katy Prieb, 8 days (her first horseback ride); Kaden Littrell, 12; Rachel Prieb, 6; Kaylee Littrell, 8; Andrew Prieb, 4; and Keaton Littrell, 4.

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and occasionally worked under saddle. In maturity, the stallion was still used some, with family album pictures showing him being ridden by Walker's grandchildren.

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Continued on page 10

Area rancher and mount get national acclaim

Continued from page 1

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A large native stone inscribed with a likeness of the great sire, his name and years of his life, memorializes Jackie Bee at his grave, just a few feet outside the back door of Walker's home.

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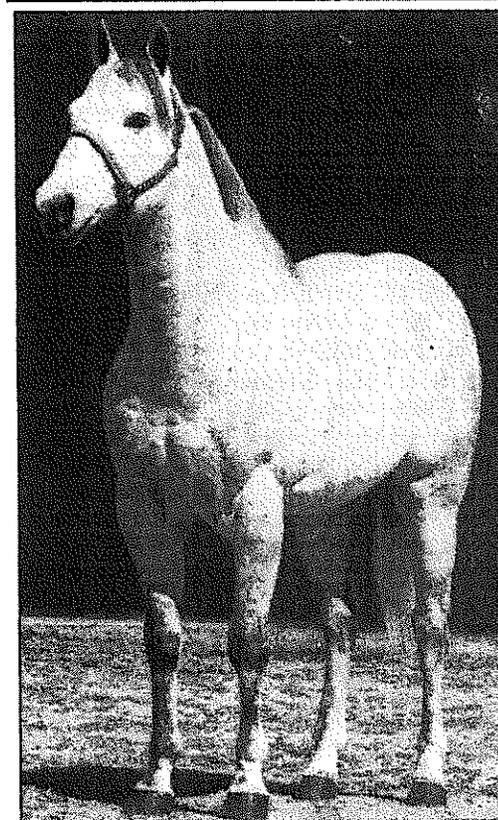
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Those foundation mares were Irvin's Babe by Dee Boy by Pretty Boy and Miss Amber, a Matador Ranch mare. "I have produced seven generations of these mares," he noted.

Miss Amber was the dam of Miss Hackberry, Jackie Bee's grand dam, and also produced My Red Money, a son of Ready Money W. "The My Red Money mares also have a strong influence in our program, as they did in the '60s and '70s," Walker added.

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The Rest Of The Class: 2008 AQHA Hall of Fame Inductees

Joining Kansan Duane Walker in the American Quarter Horse Association Hall of Fame will be:

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In addition to Jackie Bee, equines joining the Hall include:

Beduino (TB), whose Quarter Horse runners have earned more than \$13 million and include six champions;

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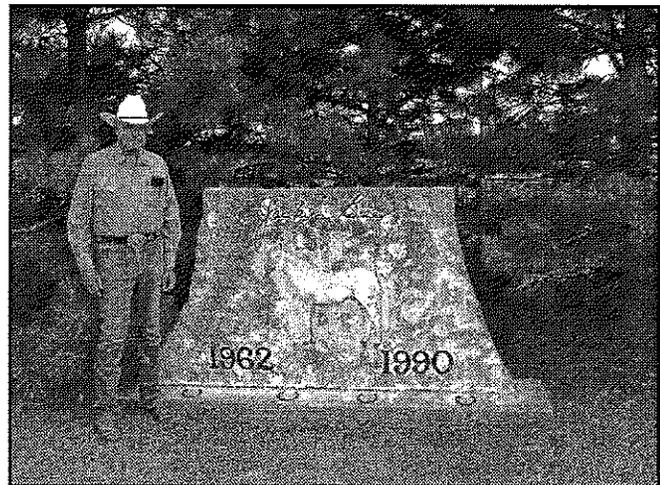
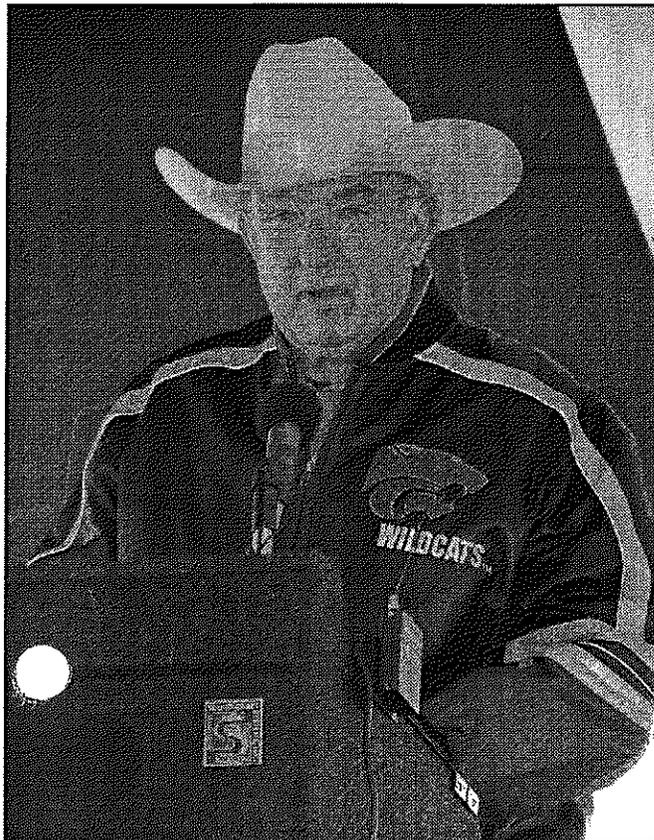
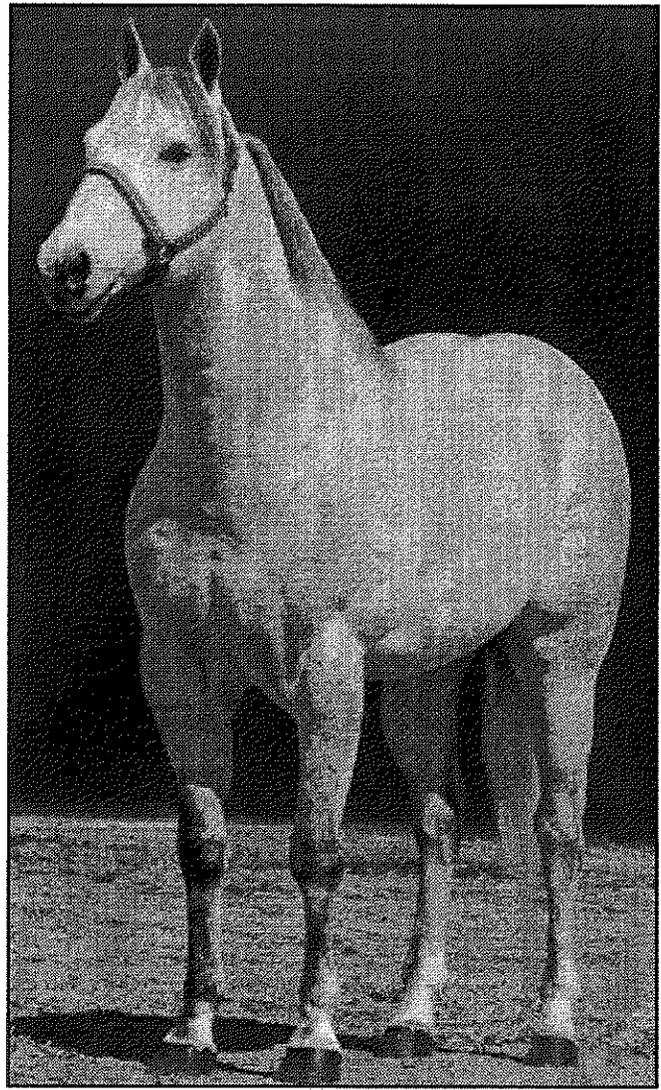
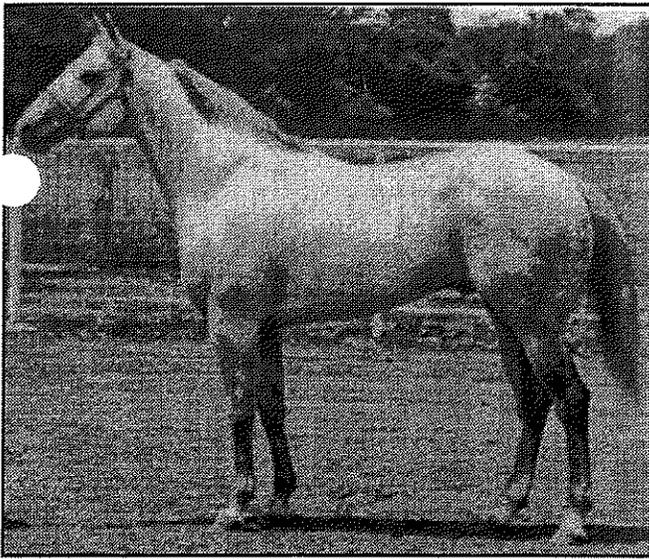
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Main sire in the program is now an outcross gray stallion called OT Seven Come Eleven. "He's a really good horse that goes back to Leo, Sugar Bars and Scottish Will," Walker recited. "Already 14 years old, he has a top disposition, good anatomy, sound feet and legs and rode good too. We've sure had some excellent colts by him."

All horses are now handled under pasture foaling and breeding conditions. However, the Tee Jay headquarters has large horse barns complete with stalls which were filled when mares from throughout the country came to the court of Jackie Bee.

Most of the Tee Jay Ranch production, usually gray in color, is now sold private treaty. "We often sell foals out of certain mares before they're even born. We have many repeat customers," Walker remarked.

Duane and Jo Walker have four children: Tim, Kathy, Cindy and Dennis. They have a love for horses too, and their sons successfully showed home-raised Jackie Bee horses for several years.

"Now my five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren are showing and riding Jackie Bee-bred horses," Walker related. Most summer mornings at Tee Jay Quarter Horses are spent training these children on their horses.

Recognizing that the cash horse market is softer now, Walker acknowledged, "The cream of the horses has always come to the top and sold well. They're doing that now more than ever.

"The numbers of horses have gotten out of hand, and it will take a long time to get it back into balance. I understand there is some strength now in these cash horses over a few months ago. But there will always be a strong demand for the good-looking horses that a person can do something with," Walker predicted.

"There's really no way people can understand how much effect a horse like Jackie could have. I was probably more emotionally attached to him than most people would have been. He was such an important part of our family as far as our lifestyle went. We shared so many experiences and met so many people together.

"It's hard to describe a horse like Jackie. I guess the best I can do is just say he was a great partner and one of my best friends," Walker concluded.

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SIDEBAR

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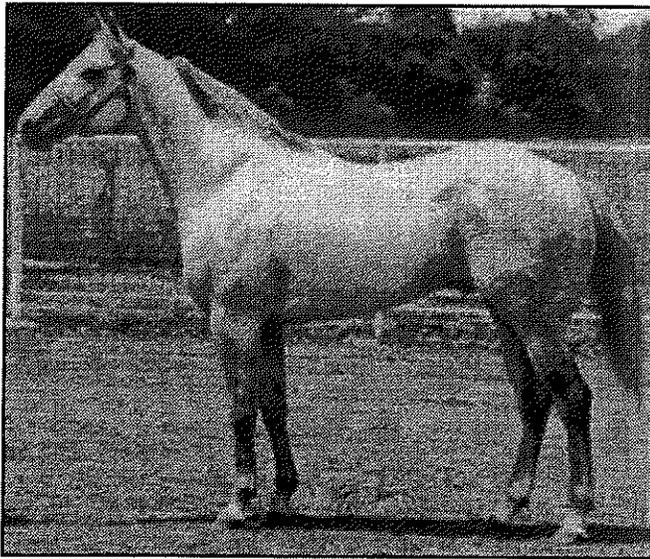
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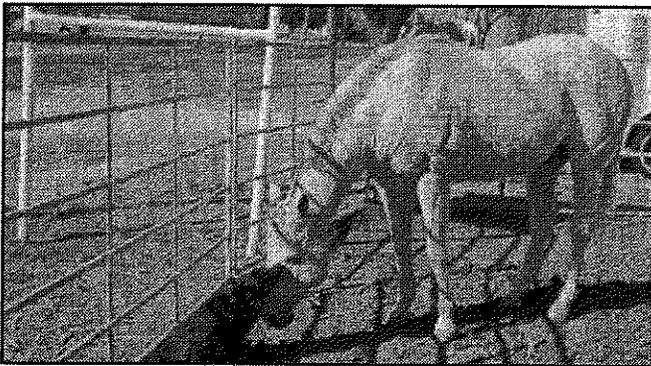
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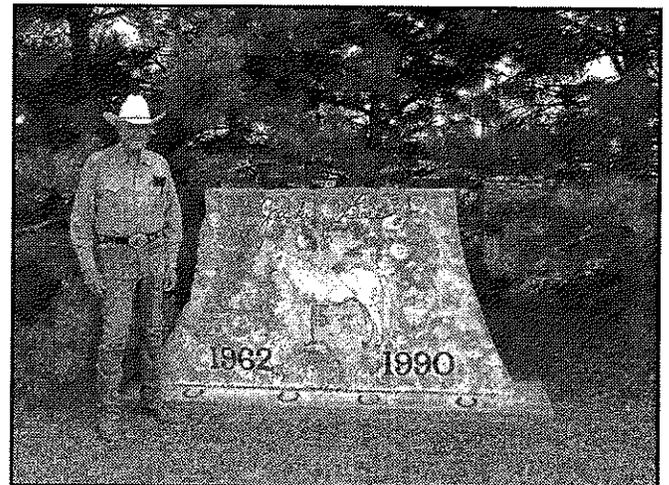
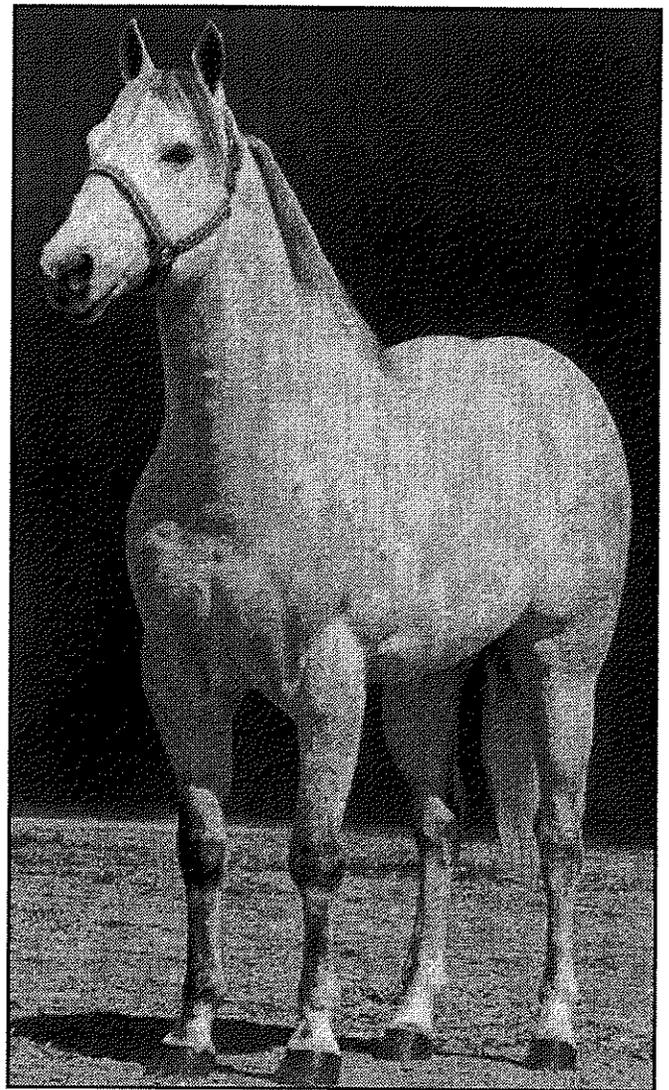
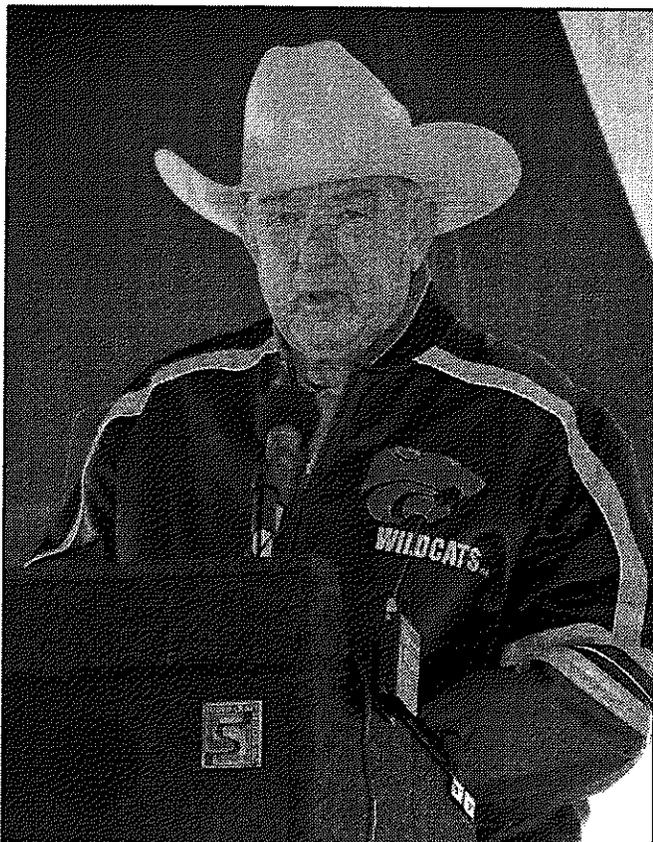
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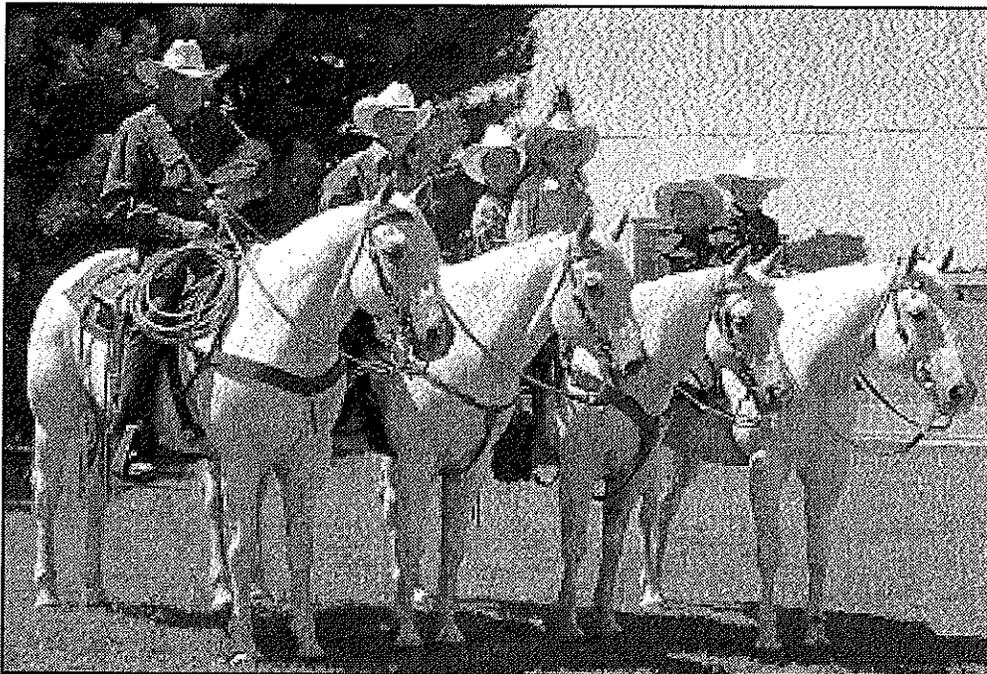


In an album photo, Jackie Bee nuzzles Smoke, his longtime canine friend, in Jackie's pen in the front yard at Tee Jay Quarter Horses, Canton.

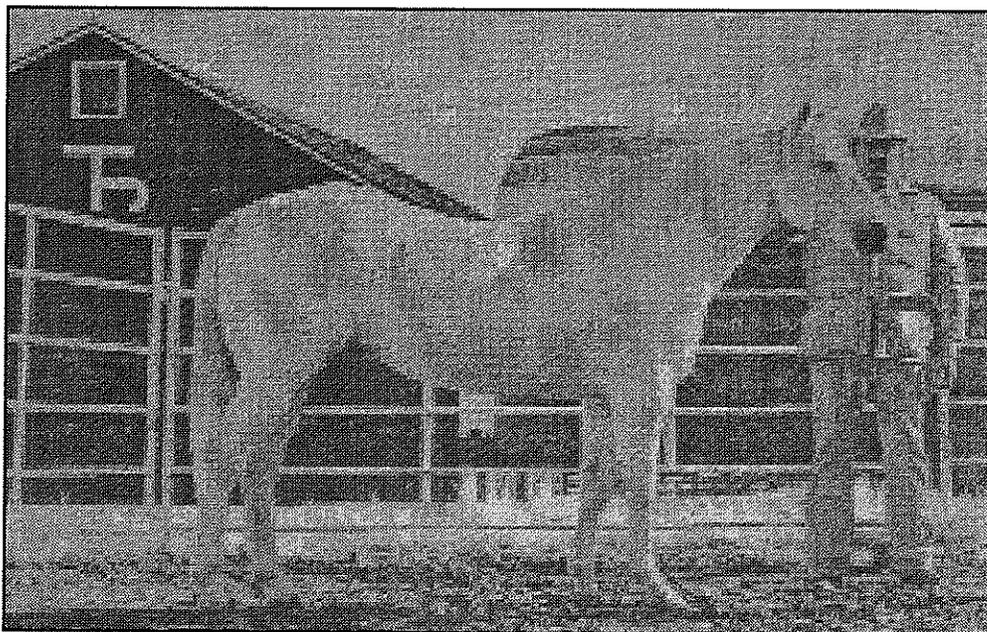


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Duane Walker was a speaker at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the new K-State Equine Education Center on the Manhattan campus. He acknowledged pioneers in the Kansas horse industry and emphasized that their works will be continued by future generations through use of the state-of-the-art structures to be constructed.



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From the front page of the November 16, 1976, issue of *Grass & Grain*, Duane Walker at the Tee Jay Quarter Horse Ranch in Canton is shown with the world famous Quarter Horse stallion, Jackie Bee. The 14-year-old, 15.2 hand, top disposition stallion is rated as the third leading sire of 1975 halter horses in the May '76 issue of the *American Quarter Horse Journal*.