

Hey Neighbor



For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

Winning Race Horse Latest Venture For Well Known Cowboy 'Cheese'

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land sale in Lexington, Ky., and bought this yearling colt in partnership with Randy Patterson of Anthony."

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The race ends, and their horse moved from last most of the race to first place in the final straightaway. "We were so excited. We're still

excited," Judy proclaimed.

Horses, and making investments, are nothing new to Cheese Marten. "Of course we worked horses when I was a kid, and I've always had horses," he recalled. "My first horse was a spotted half-Shetland mare named Trixy. I broke and rode her with a \$35 Sears & Roebuck saddle, when I was eight years old."

While he's had lots of horses, the most recent winner isn't really his first race horse. "When I was 17 years old, I bought a Thoroughbred from Bus Howard at Strong City and trained him myself," Cheese related. "Jack Chase sponsored me,

Richard Reed was my jockey and we ran him at Emporia and got beat by a long ways." The horse ended up making a good ranch horse.

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Since that first out, their horse has been in a stakes race, finishing second behind "the highest rated two-year-old in the country this year," Judy elaborated.

Because he's so powerful, a knee was chipped in that race. Following laser surgery, the stallion is resting before his next race, at Remington Park in Oklahoma City this fall.

Before going any further, let it be clarified how Cheese acquired his monicker. Born as Gerald, his name change came during the fourth grade. "We were playing Farmer In The Dell, and I never was too fast. The mouse always gets the cheese; that was me, and the name just stuck," Cheese admitted.

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"Four of us took one horse and all used him to compete in calf roping. We didn't win anything, but we had a good time," Cheese reflected.

A member of the Chaps Club at K-State, Cheese competed in calf roping and bull dogging at National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association events for five semesters. "We had a lot of fun. Actually, we did quite a few things in those

days," he grinned.

In addition to running cattle and farming, Cheese went to work for Goodyear Rubber Company at Topeka in 1959. He kept that job 38 1/2 years, before retiring in 1997. "They still send me a few tokens monthly, but I don't have any trouble spending them," the cowboy acknowledged.

Married to Lois Haefke in 1962, Cheese continued to rodeo most weekends. Among the most memorable are the Fourth of July run at Cassoday and Moline, and "of course, the Eskridge Labor Day Rodeo was considered Little Cheyenne in those days."

Collecting a share of the kitty at many rodeos, Cheese specifically remembered, "In '61, I won both the calf roping and bull dogging at North Topeka and then won both rounds of the steer wrestling at Peculiar, Mo."

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One of his most embarrassing moments had to be at the 10-day Benjamin Stables Rodeo in Kansas City. The saddle turned on his horse, and Cheese fell off in the grand entry. "There wasn't anything I could do, but get up, tighten my cinch and ride out. I never heard the end of that," he claimed.

A number of good horses were used by Cheese over the years. "I did a lot of trading, and I rode horses owned by other contest-

ants," he said. "The best horse I ever owned was a Ready Money W gelding called Robbie. He was an airplane if you didn't ride him a quarter mile first, but he'd get out of the chute very quick."

Living at Alma and Topeka for short periods, Cheese moved his family to the present Osage County ranch in 1969. Starting with 240 acres, the operation has grown to just under two sections. "It's all grass now, but I used to farm," he stated. "I'd usually work the night shifts at Goodyear, so it would fit in with the ranch."

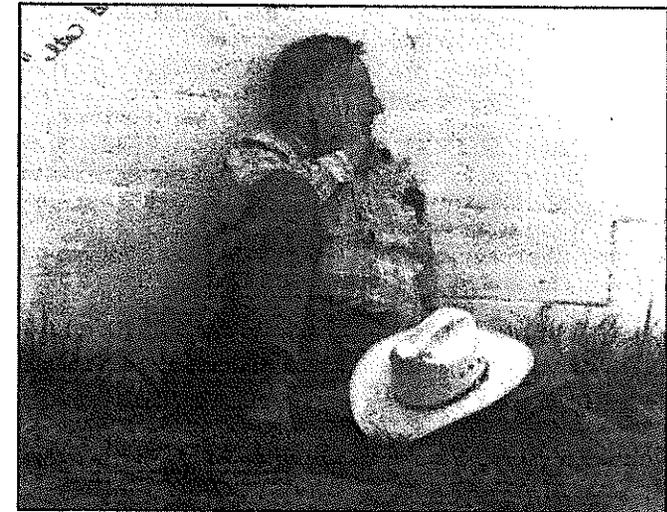
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families, Cheese named them: Todd, Wade and Jayna. "The boys are real successful professionally, but they never took to riding horses much," Dad informed. "Jayna was always a top hand and competed successfully in all levels of rodeo. She still rodeos."

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Their dogs are running at tracks around the country. "We've had luck sending dogs to Rhode Island, Florida and Memphis," Cheese detailed. "The dogs have different abilities, and there's usually a track someplace where they can win."

Having trained their own dogs, the Martens built a quarter-mile track on the ranch so they wouldn't have to drive to the track at Abilene. "It has really paid for itself in the time and expenses we've saved," Cheese explained. "Several other Greyhound owners in the area pay to train here too, so that all helps out."

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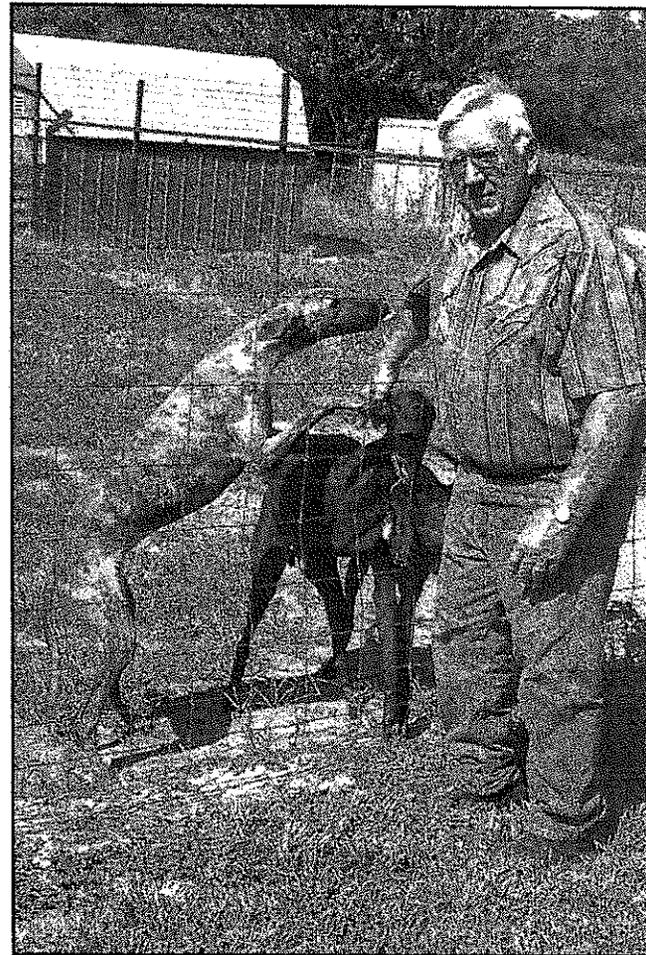
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Additionally, Cheese conducts deer hunts on the property. "We don't advertise, but we have had a lot of interest from hunters in the big cities back east," he said.

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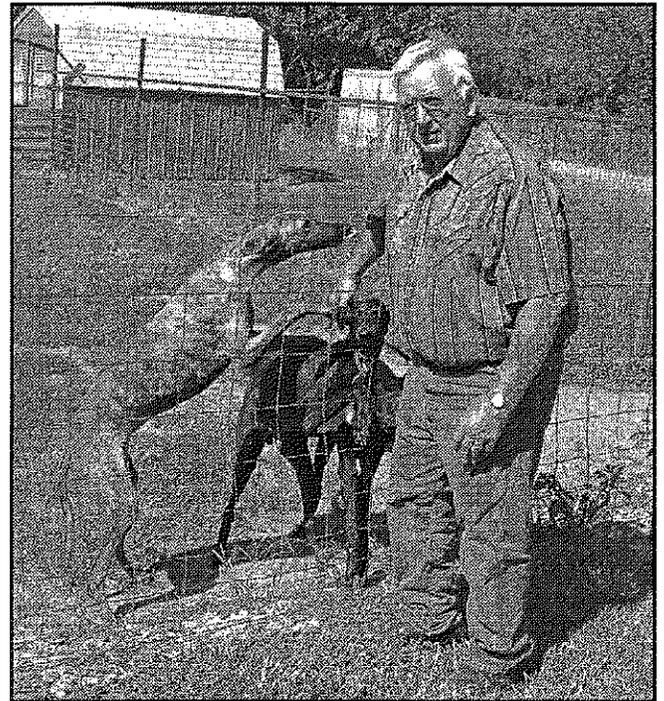
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GIFFILLIAN PARTY MAIDEN DASH
SOUTH BRANCH STORM
 Randy Patterson - Owner
 Steve Asmussen - Trainer
 Ramsey Zimmerman - Jockey
 Call Transfer - Second
 Rideitlikeustoleit - Third
 5 1/2 Furlongs in 1:06.32
 Purse \$24,000 June 30, 2007

Cheese and Judy Marten of Scranton joined their stallion, South Branch Storm, in the winner's circle after his first race at Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas.



Cheese Marten is with his Thoroughbred stallion, South Branch Storm, last winter at Keith Asmussen's training facility near Laredo, Texas.



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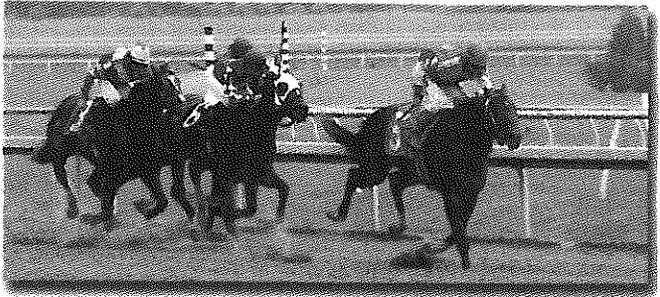
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LONE STAR PARK
at Grand Prairie



FINAL				RACE 3	
1	30	10		2:33	
2	8	6	16		
3	95	9	10	TIME OF DAY	
				POST	
			13	POST TIME	
			14		



Gilfillian Party Maiden Dash
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