

HORSE TIMES

EGYPT'S OFFICIAL EQUESTRIAN MAGAZINE

Free Copy

Issue#11, May 2003

Dermott Lennon First Irish Medalist Since 1978

Exclusive with:
Dr. Ahmed Shawki

Equicare and Sakkara:
a Merger made
in Heaven

How To:
Breed a superior
Dressage Horse

Sponsored by
BARBER
CARE

View point



Dear Readers,

First of all, I would like to send my deepest condolences to the Iraqi people, especially the families of all the civilians that were hurt during the raids. And we all pray that God grant them the strength to hold on and reach peace in their country.

After about six months of not publishing our regular Horse Times. This new issue marks the beginning of a newly modified design and more elaborate and focused theme as well. These changes were made to take the magazine to a different dimension all together.

One of our main goals in Horse Times is to create an open arena for communication amongst the members of the equestrian world in Egypt, as well as to improve the accessibility to services within the vital dynamics of the sports industry. As for the equestrian sport in particular, we aim to provide more publicity and more audience awareness so as to develop it into a more professional and a better recognized sport. So, beside the change in our looks, our new matrix provides sharper, more focused feature articles tackling the real heart of the sport as well as new departments on various topics.

In order to serve our goal better, we will be publishing a series of interviews with top businessmen and celebrities discussing different themes of developing the equestrian sport in Egypt. In this issue we feature an exclusive interview with **Dr. Ahmed Shawkī**, the former president of the American Chamber of Commerce, exploring the theme of private sector investment in the sports field in general and show jumping field in particular.

Furthermore, this issue's main feature is an article on **Dermott Lennon**, the winner of the world championship in show jumping-Spain 2003, whom I had the chance to personally meet in Holland, exploring his road to success and the means that paved his way to the level he is in presently. This article and our new 'Profile' department show our young riders examples of role models in the equestrian sport nationally and internationally.

We included our new department 'Serenity' which aims to empower a rider's mind and soul. Since we believe that when we empower our minds, bodies, and souls concurrently, the effect of the whole is much greater than the effect of empowering the individual parts separately. And so the easier it will be for us to achieve further targets and positivity.

Moreover, we are aware that an interest for the equestrian history exists within our audience and so we included "Glimpse of the Past", a department that includes articles on the history and development of the Equestrian sport in Egypt.

Our magazine also includes different departments for the readers, like the Horse'n Around section, Tips of the day, What's Up, and Around the Globe. We are very interested in knowing your opinion of the new look, departments, and the articles published by Horse Times. So please write to our new 'Reader's voice' section.

I would like to devote the rest of this letter to Mr. Ahmed Hussein, my friend, the former Managing Editor and Designer. Thank You Ahmed for all the efforts you exerted in our magazine through the past five years. You did a great job developing our project from a small news letter to a full scale successful magazine; we wish you the best of luck.

Enjoy the magazine,

Khaled Assem

KHALED ASSEM
Editor in Chief

HORSE Times
Issue #11, May 2003

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Khaled Assem

MANAGING EDITOR AND DESIGNER

Assmaa Abd El-Samad

WRITERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Ahmed Talaat

Assmaa Ahmed

Fawkia Hammouda

Khaled Assem

Mona Amin

Radwa Yousri

PHOTOS

Assmaa Ahmed

Khaled Assem

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Amr Assem

Gen. Gamal Hares

Manal Wahid

Gen. Mohamed Selim Zaki

Rafik Mohsen

Gen. Samy Negm El-Din

Sherif Wagih

SUBSCRIPTION & MARKETING SERVICES

E-mail: horsetimes@mist-net.com

Mail: Representative office:
Equicare: 2, Bahgat
Aly st, Zamalek,
Cairo, Egypt

Tel & Fax: +2 02 -735- 6939
+2 02 -735- 4348

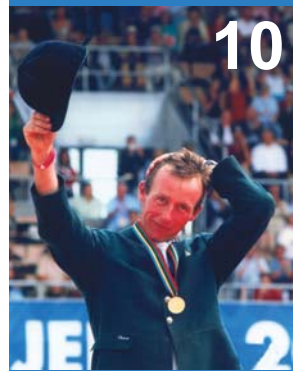
Cellular: 012-226-0453

HORSE Times is a **quarterly** magazine founded in 1998 by Khaled Assem and Ahmed Hussein. *HORSE Times* is a pioneer in its field; it is issued for riders, breeders and horse lovers nationally and internationally. Issues are Complimentary, **FREE OF CHARGE**, and not for sale by any means. Please allow a period of one issue for delivery. Delivery charges is 2 L.E paid upon delivery. Please notify us of any changes of address in advance. The views expressed by contributors are their own and not necessarily those of the editors. All rights reserved to HORSE Times; Reproduction is prohibited without the permission of the Editor in Chief, Khaled Assem.

Features

- 10 Dermott Lennon
First Irish Medalist since 1978
- 13 How to Breed a Superior Dressage Horse
- 14 Exclusive with: Dr. Ahmed Shawki
Reflecting on The Sports Business.
- 16 Equicare and Sakkara
A Merger Made in Heaven
- 18 Ahmed Mazhar: A Knight in Shinning Armor

On The Cover



Dermott Lennon

Ireland's First Show Jumping world Champion, winning the gold medal in Jerez this year.

Departments

- 6 What's Up
- 8 Around The Globe
- 20 What's in Store
- 22 Glimpse of The Past
- 24 Tips of The Day
- 26 Horse'n Around
- 27 Clip Art
- 28 Serenity
- 29 Profile
- 30 Spotlight
- 34 Contributions
- 37 Equi-listings



Reader's Voice

Let us Hear From You!

We are very interested in knowing your opinion of the articles published by Horse Times; we appreciate knowing what our readers find worthwhile and interesting. On our part, we are ready to publish all of your comments (even feelings provoked by our materials and our correspondents, ranging from strong disagreement to warm approval) just the way they are. We are against censorship, and we welcome criticism, including criticism leveled at us. At the same time, we would appreciate it if your criticism would be constructive: aiming at helping us to be better. And please don't hesitate to contribute your news and views. You can send your comments to our 'Reader's voice' department through:

E-mail: horsetimes@mist-net.com
Mail : Representative office:
Equicare: 2, Bahgat
Aly st. Zamalek,
Cairo, Egypt
Fax : +2 02 735 6939
+2 02 735 4348

10,000 m Race for Amateurs

15 March 2003

The Jockey Club of Egypt organized the fourth race in a series of long distance races funded by Sheikh Zayed President of the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E). The race was held in Gezira Sporting Club; the total distance of the race was 10,000 m. This race was opened for amateurs riding local, unregistered horses.

Eleven contestants entered this race competing for the U.A.E's long distance race for amateur's cup. Asking Mr. Rafeek Mohsen, general manager of the Jockey Club of Egypt, about who he expects to win the race, he said that he expects that Mr. Hisham El-Gawahrgy, Mr. Mohamed Rashad, and Mr. Hamdy Amin, to win this race.

Mr. Hisham El-Gawahrgy, president of the Jockey Club of Egypt, won first place finishing the race in 14 minutes 52.555 seconds. Mr. Hisham was riding his horse, King Kong; it was a very powerful and fast horse bred by an Anglo Arab mare, Saadat, and a French Sir, Deegor. Asking Mr. Gawahrgy on his opinion of the race in general, he commented that the race was "very successful, it was the first race of this kind to be held in Gezira Sporting Club, so the number of audience was more than the number in the other three races". Mr. Gawahrgy also mentioned that the track curves in this race were tougher than the other three races held before in the Sports Association Club in Heliopolis. According to Mr. Gawahrgy a rider could start riding his horse, when the horse is two years old. Then when the horse is three years old, it can be allowed to enter professional races. However, for amateur races a horse should be at least four years old so as to be able to enter the race. Mr. Gawahrgy also mentioned that what horse races lack in Egypt are more fans and more publicity.

Furthermore, the second place winner was Mr. Sherif Wagih, he was riding a horse called, Al-Sareea, owned by Khaled Ibn-Laden. Mr. Sherif thinks that "for a Rider to win the race he has to control the horse at the beginning of the race, and then leave it by the end of the race". Moreover, Mr. John Bamford, C.E.O of Egypt Cyber Center, won the third place riding his horse, Zeina. This race was the first race for Mr. Bamford to join in Egypt; "it's amazing, it was just the same as if you are watching a movie where they fix a small camera over a horse's head", he said excitedly after the race.

Horse races in Egypt could be traced back to the time of the English invasion. There are two types of horse races in Egypt. The first kind is an open race, where locally bredhorses could enter. The second kind of races is where only pure Egyptian Arabian horses could compete.



Mr. Hisham El-Gawahrgy, on the right side, recieving his cup, after winning first place.



Right to left: Mr. John Bamford, third place winner, Mr. Sherif Wagih, second place winner, and Mr. Rafeek Mohsen, general manager of the J.C.E, during a TV interview.

Free Style Dressage

11 April 2003

A one-day friendly free style dressage competition held at the Sports Association Club. The competition consisted of three levels A, B, and C, with no restrictions or minimum qualifications for joining any of the classes.

All setup rules were attached together, with an empty course that the participants fill and choose the music they will perform to, with which they have to notify the judges before they start.

The participation fee was ten pounds for each horse and each rider is allowed to participate with a maximum of two horses.

The competition was under the supervision of Dr. Mohamed El-Sherbini, member of the board of directors of the EEF. The judges were, Eng. Emad Zaghlool, Mrs. Anneta Maamoun, and Mrs. Salwa Sherbini. Trophies were presented by Trade Time, Mrs Manal Wahid, and Mr. Tarek Akad.

Results

Level A:

1. Yasser Asser (Army Club), on Ezak - 746 points

Level B:

1. Manal Wahid (Sporting Association Club), on Elite - 605 points
2. Selim Abd El-Alle (Sporting Association Club), on Todar - 503 points

Level C:

1. Areige Emad (Maadi Club), on Nour - 173.5 points
2. Maha Ibrahim (Sporting Club), on Race - 160 points
3. Dr. Ali Elsaid (Gezira Club), on Elina - 157 points
4. Dr. Mohamed Roshdy (Gezirah Club), on Funy - 156.79 points
5. Mano Medhat (Sporting Association Club), on Bascoutta - 156 points
6. Yousef Risk (Sporting Association Club), on Keevan - 154.3 points
7. Maha Ibrahim (Sporting Club), on Kaleebo - 141 points
8. Tarek Akad (Sporting Association Club), on Malaga - 134 points
9. Ahmed Mohsen (Army Club), on High Line - 122.3 points



The winners, judges, and organizers of the competition



Mrs. Manal Wahid, on Elite, first place winner (levelB)



Medhat Rageb and his daughter, Mano Medhat, seven years old, the youngest participant in the competition. Won fifth place (level C)

First Emirates Horse's Festival in Egypt

12 April 2003

Continuing on the mutual co-operation plans, especially in sports, between Egypt and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E), his Highness Sheikh Zaid Bn-Sultan, President of U.A.E, organized a two-day horse race festival. On Saturday May 12th, first day of the festival, five different races took place in Gezirah Club. The first race was 10,000m race for amateur riders. The other four were shorter races with distances equivalent to 1200, 1900, 1400, and 1600 meters, respectively. The results of the races were as follows:



Participants of the first and longest race with Mr. Hisham Al-Gawahrgy.



Ramadan, on Barood Aknaton, and Fayez, on fayad Aknaton, ending the third race.

First Race:

- 1.Hazem Labeeb, on Hawanem Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 2.Nashaat Hegazy, on his horse Kamar
- 3.Shaheer Kalifa, on Fadlowned by Abd El-menam Barakat

Second Race:

- 1.Ramadan, on Helalyat Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 2.Mostafa, on Gareeb Hemdan owned by Ibrahim Al-hageelan
- 3.Mersal, on Fares Hemdan owned by Al-Baraka Stables

Third Race:

- 1.Ramadan, on Barood Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 2.Fayez, on Fayad Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar

- 3.Mersal, on Fares owned by Adel Al-Sayed

Forth Race:

- 1.Fayez, on Moreeh Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 2.Ramadan, on Al-batal Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 3.Mohey, on Alia owned by Mostafa Omar and Mersal, on Fares Ahlmy owned by Mohamed Hamza

Fifth Race:

- 1.Kareem, on Mohga Saqr owned by Omar Saqr
- 2.Ramadan, on Negmt Aknaton owned by Mostafa Omar
- 3.Ibrahim, on Mabrook owned by Dr. Aly Abd El-Rehem

National Results

Dressage

Level A:

1. Yasser Mahdy Asr, Ferosia Club
2. Ayman Fahmy Moktar, Police Sports Federation
3. Ahmed Mohamed Al-Shaqanqiery, Presidential guards

Level B:

1. Manal Wahid, Sporting Association Club
2. Randa Barakat, Gezirah Club
3. Dina Hosni, Maadi Club

Level C:

1. Ayman Azab, Ferosia Club
2. Suzana Al-Hefny, Ferosia Club
3. Mohamed Roshdy, Gezirah Club
4. Ahmed Nabil, Ferosia Club
5. Astefania Grany, Ferosia Club
6. Tarek Al-akad, Sporting Association Club
7. Selim Abd Elaal, Sporting Association Club

Level D:

1. Ayman Moktar, Police Sports Federation
2. Areeg Zaghlool, Maadi Club
3. Aly Al-Saeed, Gezirah Club
4. Maha Mostafa, Sporting Club
5. Sherif Rady, Ferosia Club
6. Amira Al-abied, Sporting Association Club
7. Mona Al-Bakry, Maadi Club
8. Geniefer Kamel, Maadi Club
9. Amal Mostafa, Sporting Association Club
10. Ahmed Osman, Ferosia Club
11. Mahmoud Radwan, Maadi Club
12. Ahmed Osman, Ferosia Club

Cross Country:

1. Suzana Serag, Ferosia Club
2. Ayman Fahmy Moktar, Police Sports Federation
3. Ayman Fahmy Moktar, Police Sports Federation
4. Ahmed Nabil, Ferosia Club

Show Jumping

National A-Level:

1. Mohamed Sabry, on Petit Donna, Ferosia Club
2. Alaa Maysara, on Karta, Police Sporting Club
3. Gamal Amer, on Cavalier, Army Club
4. Amr Magdy, on legat, Ferosia Club
5. Mohamed Ragab, on Katya, Sporting Club

Under 21 (140 cm)

1. Mohamed Abd El-Fatah, on Milk Shake, Sporting Club
2. Islam Ragab, on Quick Silver, Sporting Club
3. Sameh Hatab, on Limited Edition, Sporting Club

Under 18 (130 cm)

1. Islam Eid, on Madonna, Ferosia Club
2. Shady Hasan, on Silver Domino, Army Club
3. Islam Eid, on Madonna, Ferosia Club

Under 14 (120 cm)

1. Zaizafon Hattab, on Matador, Sporting Club
2. Zaizafon Hattab, on Cappuccino, Sporting Club
3. Mohamed Affifi, on Kilala, Sporting Association Club

Level 1 (140 cm)

1. Mohamed Al-Boraee, on Lethander, Army Club
2. Mohamed Abd El-Fattah, on Milk Shake, Sporting Club

3. Dr. Karim El-Sobky, on Kalando, Army Club

Level 1 (135 cm)

1. Dr. Karim El-Sobky, on Froling Haft, Army Club
2. Nahla Al-Sawaf, on Neferty, Police Sporting Club
3. Sameh Hattab, on Daryous, Sporting Club

Level 2 (130 cm)

1. Islam Eid, on Madonna, Ferosia Club
2. Karim Hamdy, on Four Pledger, Army Club
3. Shady Hassan, on Silver Domino, Army Club

Level 3 (120 cm)

1. Adham Elias, on Al Paccino, Gezirah Club
2. Karim Assal, on Fadl Allah, Army Club
3. Mohamed Abd El-Maqsood, on Abdwing, Army Club

Level 4 (110 cm)

1. Fady Selim, on Little Gambler, Sporting Association Club
2. Murad Hammouda, on Fasolia, Sporting Club
3. Yehia Wagih, on La Coronna, Gezirah Club

Level 5 (100 cm)

1. Islam Ragab, on Free Styler, Sporting Club
2. Wael Al-Gendy, on Sugar, Police Sports Federation
3. Aly Swelam, on K, Army Club

European Dressage Tickets go on SALE

Tickets are now on sale for the European Dressage Championships at Hickstead (13th - 17th August 2003). This is the first time that the Championships will be held in Britain since they were hosted at Goodwood in 1987 and the event presents a unique opportunity to see the World's best dressage riders and horses competing in the UK for this coveted title. Riders are likely to include reigning European Champion, Ulla Salzgeber, World Champion, Nadine Capellmann, and Olympic Champion, Anky van Grunsven, together with teams from the top dressage nations and the very best British riders aiming to gain Olympic qualification. As well as the individual competition, European nations will also compete for the team medals.

A Young Horse day will be held on Wednesday 13th August that will see the national finals of the Rhinegold British Young Horse Championships for 5 and 6 year olds. The British Pas de Deux Championship is an excit-

ing introduction with the winners of the national finals going forward to a contest against invited international pairs during a gala performance at the event. Other attractions will include dressage to music, Quadrille, arena displays, a Sport Horse Symposium and Shopping Village.

Spectators will need to book grandstand seats to watch the competition and, with only a limited number of seats available on each day, early booking is strongly recommended. Tickets include admission with parking and grandstand seat or Gold tickets, which offer admission, parking, grandstand seat and access to VIP hospitality facilities. Season tickets are available for the duration of the event. More information is available on the website www.edc2003.com. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster on 0870 0602328 (24 hours), at all Ticketmaster ticket centres including selected Virgin Megastores and Tower Records Stores nationwide. Book online at www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

World Ratings

Dressage

FEI BCM WORLD DRESSAGE RIDERS RANKINGS:

- 1.Ulla Salzgeber (GER), scoring 80.108
- 2.Nadine Capellmann (GER), scoring 78.750
- 3.Lisa Wilcox (USA), scoring 78.395.
- 4.Monica Theodorescu (GER), scoring

View complete rankings on:

http://www.horsesport.org/fei/consult/consult_02/con_02_0

Show Jumping

FEI GANDINI WORLD JUMPING RIDERS RANKINGS:

- 1.Ludger Beerbaum (GER)
- 2.Markus Fuchs (SUI),
- 3.Rodrigo Pessoa (BRA).
- 4.Marcus Ehning (GER)

The first lady rider, Leslie Howard (USA) went up one place and is now 11th. There are 27 riders with more than 1000 points in the rankings which include British riders Robert Smith in 19th and Michael Whitaker in 26th.

View complete rankings on

http://www.horsesport.org/fei/consult/consult_02/con_02_01.html

World Records

Longest Horse-Drawn Journey

The Grant family of the UK traveled over 27,650 km (17,200 miles) during a round-the-world trip in a horse-drawn trailer (caravan). They began their journey at Vierhouten, Netherlands, on October 25, 1990, and returned to the UK early in 1998.

Most Horse Racing Wins In A Year - Trainers

The most wins in a year for a horse trainer is 496 in 1976, by Jack Charles Van Berg of the USA. (b. June 7, 1936).

Most Horse Racing Career Wins

The most racing wins in a horse racing owner's career is 4,775 by USA's Marion H. Van Berg (1895-1971) in North America. Marion's career spanned 35 years.



Federation Equestre Internationale - FEI

Major Modification to the FEI Rules for Jumping Events 21st Edition - 1 January 2003 - Information Provided by Gen. Samy Negm El-Din

Art. Definition of the adaptation / modification

- 200 Horses entered for Olympic Games and World Championships must be at least 8 years of age.
- 202-3 If the schooling (exercise) area(s) are inadequate or cannot be used, a practice obstacle which is not part of the course must be placed in the arena. In all other circumstances facultative or practice obstacles are not allowed in any competition.
- 202-4 After the sound of the bell, the competitor who has attempted only once, is allowed the second attempt but he must cross the starting line in the correct direction within the 45 seconds; failure to do so will start the time of the round.
- 203-1 The bells is used to communicate with the competitors. One of the members of Ground Jury is in charge of the bell and responsible for its use.
- 203-1.2 After the bell has been rung, the competitor must cross the starting line in the correct direction within 45 seconds; the automatic timing equipment must show a count down from 45 seconds on the scoreboard or other display beside the arena, clearly visible for the competitor. If the competitor has not crossed the starting line in the correct direction when the 45 seconds expire, the time of the round will start at that moment. Disobediences, falls etc. occurring between the signal to start and the moment the competitor crosses the starting line in the correct direction, are not penalized. Once the bell has been sounded for the competitor to start his round, the Ground Jury has the right to interrupt the 45 seconds count down as a result of unforeseen circumstances.
- 204-1 The Ground Jury must walk the course to inspect the obstacles before the start of the competition.
- 204-6 The starting and finishing lines may not be more than 15 m or less than 6 m from the first and last obstacle. These two lines must each be marked with an entirely red flag on the right and an entirely white flag on the left. The start line and finish line must also be marked with markers with the letters S (=Start) and F (= Finish)
- 206-1 Should force of circumstances make it necessary to alter the plan of the course after it has been posted up, the change may only be made after agreement of the Ground Jury. In this case the Chefs d'Equipe and all individual competitors must be advised in the alterations.
- 207-4 Knocking down a flag anywhere in the arena does not incur a penalty. If a flag marking the limits of an obstacle or compulsory turning point or the finishing line has been knocked down following a disobedience / resistance, (without passing these lines) or as a result of unforeseen circumstances, the flag will not be replaced immediately; the competitor must continue his round and the obstacle / compulsory turning point will be judged as if the flag was in its original place. The flag must be replaced before the next competitor will be given the signal to start.
- 207-5 However, if a flag defining the limits of the water jump or of a natural obstacle has been knocked down following a disobedience or as a result of unforeseen circumstances and in all cases where the nature of the obstacle is changed by knocking down the flag, the Ground Jury will interrupt the round of the competitor. The clock must be stopped while the flag is replaced and a time correction of 4 (four) seconds will be applied in accordance with the procedure provided for in article 232.
- 208-4 Poles and other parts of the obstacles are held up by supports (cups). The pole must be able to roll on its support; in this case the support must have a depth of 18 mm minimum and a depth of 30 mm maximum. For planks, balustrades, barriers, gates, etc. the diameter of the supports must be more open or even flat.
- 210 A spread obstacle is an obstacle which is built in such a manner that it requires an effort both in spread and in height. FEI-approved safety cups must be used as support for the back poles of spread obstacles and in case of a triple-bar to support the centre and back poles of the obstacle. Safety cups must also be used in the exercise area. It is the responsibility of the Foreign Judge or the Technical Delegate to establish though the Organizing Committee before the event commences whether the safety cups in use have been officially approved by the FEI. However the organizer will also be required to inform the Foreign Judge or the Technical Delegate before the event begins whether the safety cups in use have been supplied by an approved manufacturer. The name of the company which supplies the FEI approved safety cups, to be used at the event, will be mentioned in the schedule.
- 211-1/2 For an obstacle to be called a water jump it must have no obstacle in front, in the middle not behind the water. The water must have a minimum width of 2-50 metres.
A take-off element (brush, small wall), with a minimum height of 40 cm. and a maximum height of 50 cm., must be erected on the take-off side. The width of the front of the water jump, which may include (floral) decorations, must be at least 30 percent more than the length.
- 211-3 At Olympic and Regional Games, Championships, CSIOs and CSIs, and World Cup Finals the landing side of the water jump must be defined by a lath, at least 6 cm in width and not exceeding 8 cm, covered with a bed of white plasticine, or coloured plasticine painted white, about 1 cm thick. This plasticine must be replaced each time a horse touches it. Several spare laths must be provided together with extra plasticine so that a lath, which has been marked by a horse may be replaced at any time. The lath must be placed at the edge of the water, properly fixed to the ground.
- 211-5 It is a fault at the water jump:
when a horse puts one or several feet on the lath defining the limit of the water jump. It is a fault when the foot or the shoe or the fetlock joint or boot touches the lath and leaves an impression when a horse touches the water with one or several feet.
- 234-1.2 Puissance/ Power and Skill competitions: No minimum speed required.

Dermott Lennon

**“I am the world
champion: but it
hasn't really
changed me
so much”**



A modest man with few words, was how Pamela Young described Dermott Lennon in *Horse International* magazine. Lennon, thirty three years old, is Ireland's first world show jumping champion, winning the gold medal in Jerez this year. He had just four faults in the final incurred with his 15.22hh mare, Liscalgot. Lennon is originally from Banbridge County Down, and is now based in Arnhem, Holland.

Mr. Khaled Assem, *Horse Time's* Editor in Chief, traveled all the way to Holland so as to meet with Lennon just to help you know what it takes to be a world champion. How to prepare and train yourself and your horse for it and how it feels afterwards. Also Karim El-Zoghby, an outstanding Egyptian rider now based in the same stables with Lennon and flies our Egyptian flag over there, shared in the discussion.

HORSE Times (H.T): How do you feel after winning the world Championship? How did your life change?

Dermott Lennon (D.T): I have been asked that a lot, I did not really change, only in a sense that I became more functional; I can get into most of the shows now without going through the usual selection process. I didn't want to change, I am happy, I am the world champion: but it hasn't really changed me so much.

H.T: What is the prime element after this kind of success you have reached? Is it purely talent, hard work, or just smart choices of horses and shows?

D.L: I don't think there is one prime element, everything is important. I was lucky enough to have a really good horse, she was capable of jumping the biggest tracks; I have always believed that she is a little bit better than the other horses. This horse I got since she was four and now she is eleven and she won the world championship. I didn't know what it took to be a top jumper but I knew there is something special about it. She always tried to jump higher for me and I believed in her.

El-Zoghby: Dermott had this mare since she was young and he built it up all on his own and people used to tell him that she was not good enough; But Dermott always believed in his horse.

That's what's wrong in our country, because people believe that they always have to buy a ready horse.

No, here is an example for you, a young horse could reach the Top level, and you don't have to buy it at the Top.

H.T: How did you prepare for such a big championship?

D.L: It's very important to have the horse in top shape, have it assigned and confident. In fact, I think to have a goal, have your senses set against fallouts, is all. Early last year I knew I had a big chance to get around in the last year's world championship and I didn't use the mare so much during the summer. I think a lot of the experience I got during the Autumn last year in the European Championships, gave me a good idea of the level of fitness and everything the horse has to have to be good at the championship.

H.T: Who are the prime names that really helped you and gave you a boost?

D.L: Well, in the national show up until 99, I would say I was sort of stealing tips from who ever I could. Paul Darragh helped me a lot in many ways, taught me a lot in riding, picking the shows, and train the horses whenever I was out of stage. I didn't know which shows were good or bad, big or difficult, and he advised me a lot in that category. However, I think you've got to have a picture in your head of what way you want to ride, how you want your horse to go, and little tips along the way, could help you achieve that.

H.T: Is that sport horse-dependent, unless you have a great horse you don't have a chance, or is it still rider-dependent, regarding the smart choices and preparation?

D.L: It's very very horse-dependent, unless you have a quality horse you can't compete. However, to be a winner at the top level is rider-dependent to an extent.

H.T: Why did you choose Holland as a base?

D.L: It was a long meditated choice to come to Holland. I bought a horse from here, and then I came to do a little bit of training. There are a lot of good riders in Holland, and I like to ride amongst good riders and sort of see their systems rather than training with them; just sort of watch and learn. Then I ended up stopping in Holland. Moreover, the foot & mouth disease broke out, so I couldn't go back to Ireland or travel through it to England. I then soon realized that it was a lot more realistic regarding traveling to the bigger shows in Europe as it now takes less time, which is healthier for the horses.

H.T: Tell us about the rough road to success?

D.L: I went to England when I was 20 years old, and rode for a breeder there. I won a lot of classes with him. Then I realized that winning the best classes, the championships, and the grand prix, is what people recognized; so winning all of the small classes through out the year, you are just another name. I wanted to prepare a horse for a championship. So I went home, and had a nice five years old horse. The main championship for him that year was Dublin's horse show and I prepared him towards that and he won it. I guess when you succeed once, you would want to do it again, and then gradually as you achieve your goal, you look up for the next level and develop. It actually took me ten years to break on to the International circle. It took me a while to develop a system with my horse, learn how to ride properly, and then the next stage was to compete internationally. Once I started competing internationally, I wanted to win, get on the Irish team, and go to championships. I think it develops; with me it did anyway.

H.T: Now that you have achieved that target; do you have a plan figured out for the future?

D.L: I would love to go to the Olympics and try to win another medal, but I more and more realize how much horse power-dependent we are. So I will try and look for some nice and younger horses to build a team of horses, I have only really one top horse. That's really my plan; get new horses and try to get them on that level.

H.T: The show jumping sport; will it remain to represent passion and horsemanship or will it be commercialized?

D.L: There are so many different levels of show jumping in Ireland. The national novice level isn't really money oriented. And there is quiet a lot of people who have facilities to have a stable and a horse and it is not so expensive. But at the top level it's getting so much like 'money can buy success' for the top riders. I have been an exception, my horse was sold last year and I had some lawyers that I have passed to the syndicate to keep her for me. But a lot of very successful riders have big bank accounts to support them and owners to supply them with great horses.

H.T: As you are definitely an example and an Idle for a lot of young riders or novice riders, what would you advice them?

D.L: I cannot help; it's been a very short time since I came from that level. However, the thing I would advice them is to feel how there horses ride and ride well. At first they will never know it all; I think I just only learned how to ride. Even as a world champion you keep learning everyday, whenever you think you know it all, you will discover there is still a lot to learn. I think it's very important to have good advice in producing your horse, to know when its time to move it up to the next level, or when to wait on it if its quality at the moment is weak. Also try to be as professional as possible; to know when to jump your horse, if the course suits it, when it's on top shape; just horse management as well as competing and riding. But to try and ride at a higher level before developing the horse, then you are asking for trouble.



Dermott Lennon and Karim El-Zoghby

H.T: Now that you are situated at the same base with an Egyptian rider, Karim El-Zoghby, did you think that there would be an Egyptian rider at that age riding at the same level as Karim?

D.L: I have never really thought of it, everybody has a chance to ride, if you are talented, there is no reason why you can't compete at the high level. There is a lot of natural talent involved in riding at a higher level or international level. If you have that talent and you have a good horse, it's ok.

H.T: What would your advice to Karim be?

D.L: It's hard to know, I have watched him everyday ride and stopped to give him tips. He can ride a lot of different horses. You know show jumpers, as in horses, are very individualistic. At the top levels there are so many tips and techniques of horses when they are jumping. Unless you have the finances to buy the exact horse that suits you, you have to compromise with what you have and try to make the best out of it. Karim is very good at riding what he has to ride. A lot of horses you try to change them to suit your system, to build on the horse's core base; build on the ground and try to fix what's not working, is a good advice I think.

H.T: If you would give a scale from one to ten, how important is it to have a good coach next to you regularly or at some point?

D.L: I believe it all depends on the individual; I personally can have a lesson from somebody and still may not pick or achieve a lot in that lesson. But give me a few days on my own playing around with a horse and I may achieve a lot. I think you must really have a feeling of what you are trying to do, not just simply say "put your leg and do this", we can all do that but if you don't feel the horse actually moving from it. Maybe I am a little bit slower in getting what feelings are but I actually do get it at the end. Riders that are always trained loose their ability to think for themselves. I think trainers should teach their riders to think for themselves a little bit more rather than depending solely on what they say. I think if I may have been trained at an earlier age, it could have spared me the bad habits through training myself and maybe riding bad horses. Trained riders, like the Americans, have a perfect position over the fence. I have learned bad habits like looking down and trying to do things for the horse rather than the horse do things for me, I think that if I was trained to look up and sit properly it could have been easier for me.

H.T: So you are actually saying that this intense guidance should be at an early stage, to produce the base for a good rider, and then individuality comes along after that?

D.L: Yes, I think at the early stage training is very good to know how to ride properly. Through my early riding years, I lived up to people that I thought were good riders. They give me a lot of advice that I found to be unprofessional after a time. I have learnt that your natural talent and ability can take you so far but when you go to the really tough levels; ride a little bit more mathematically. When I think about Spain now, how this mare could have jumped, it's all extremely new for her from 120's and 130's, I knew I pushed it a little bit too much but she could have done better if I have ridden mathematically more than with my feelings ■



Dermott Jumping with his horse "Liscalgot" in Jerez



Dermott, third from the right, after receiving his Gold medal

How To: Breed a Superior Dressage Horse

Creating a successful dressage horse from scratch involves art, science and a little luck. Each parent must contribute positive traits, which in combination produce exceptional offspring. You have to be skillful enough in identifying mares that have a high probability of passing on superior performance traits to produce a noble, correctly built warm-blooded horse capable of superior performance.

Evaluating a Mare's Strengths

We should begin by judging the mare on her overall impression. Look for an athletic, balanced looking horse with an alert, yet calm, demeanor. All parts of the body should fit together seamlessly to create a picture of harmonious flow. The mare should be:

1. Overall: Look for a noble, large-framed horse that looks capable of the energy, soundness and saneness for performance; the neck, mid-section and hindquarters should be approximately equal in length; the withers should be higher than the croup (uphill), so the mare can lift her front end easily.
2. Breed and sex type: A mare should have her breed's characteristic "look." She should be feminine with a well-defined outline and clean, well-muscled legs.
3. The head: An attractive head is expressive and suited to the mare's body with a large, kind eye.
4. The neck: Look for a neck that rises above the point of the shoulder with a good angle, clean throatlatch and a slight crest.
5. Saddle position: Look for a long, sloping shoulder with clearly pronounced withers that extend well into the back.
6. Frame: The goal is to be able to draw a rectangular frame around the torso and legs. She also needs a smooth top line; a long, powerful, sloping and well-muscled croup; and a strong loin connection.
7. Forelegs: Legs should be clean and well muscled with well-defined strong joints. They need to be straight and stand parallel to each other. A line dropped from the point of the shoulder should bisect the leg evenly.
8. Hind legs: Look for well-muscled and clean hind legs with large, well-defined joints and a strong hock.

When mares are inspected or tested, movements are scored for correctness, impulsion and elasticity. When the mare moves toward you, her legs should move straight ahead without swinging in or winging out. From the side, the mare should move forward with power, bringing up her back and flexing all the joints to create an energetic, forward and fluid impression. The walk should be rhythmical with four, even beats. Her stride should be ground covering, energetic and elastic with the hind hoof print overstepping the fore print.

The trot should have a clear two-beat rhythm and a high level of impulsion, elasticity and balance. A trot with active, well-bending hind legs moving with thrust under the center of gravity is ideal, enabling the shoulder and forequarters to lift and move freely.

Competition-based breeding values come from horses competing in dressage, jumping or events that have been selected for talent in the discipline. You should find Stallions that will improve your mare with traits, such as a good walk or a strong hind leg, so as to score higher than did those of other Stallions in dressage qualities, jumping, or ride ability ■



All information contained in this article are extracted from the internet



Dr. Ahmed Shawki in his office after the interview with Horse Times.

a large rider base upon which to draw different competitors from, the event will not have the same level of competitive zeal that we see overseas. You can not build a sport without the base to build from and the money to support it.

H.T: As a Member of the Board of the Ferousia club and member of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation, do you think that, for example, the target of the Federation should be to increase the number of riders?

A.S: This is a very important goal. Unless we see an increase in the number of riders, you can not develop the base from which you are going to extract the top riders. The main reason why we don't have international presentation is that we have limited number of riders. As I mentioned, we have around 2250 riders, while in France you have more than one million, in Germany you have 2 million; Europe has the base we lack. In turn, this base will also be a catalyst to secure the financing the sport currently lacks, to increase awareness and attract more private sponsors.

H.T: Of course you are right sir, but at the same time, increasing the number of riders does not necessarily mean an exponential increase in the money they will bring, in fact, some will not have the money at all.

A.S: Yes, but at least you will have succeeded to create a greater awareness and a higher appreciation for the equestrian sport and that might attract the needed private sponsorship and more television coverage.

H.T: Do you think if the government invests in breeding competitive sport horses locally similar to Europe that would be suitable? Would this be a good incentive for the public sector to invest in so as to at least provide better horses for the sport locally?

A.S: The public sector can not spend a million dollars on a horse or even one hundred thousand dollars, when there are some Egyptian people who can not even support themselves. It would be very difficult for the government to justify spending vast amounts on horses for pleasure. The government might spend some money on the protection of the Arabian horse's breed, which is in itself a money earner.

H.T: I remember that a couple of years ago, all Arabian horse breeders in the U.S were tax exempted ...

A.S: That was done to promote the Arabian breed. Do you know who the first breeder of Arabian Horses is now? The United States. The private sector should try to help the sport. We should conduct a feasibility study to identify how we can achieve such goal, identify market potential, and how to improve market options, and to lobby the Government to introduce new legislation to attract private investment.

H.T: Some ten to fifteen years ago, Egyptians were not familiar with 'Squash', and then when the private sector started to invest in the sportsmen, such as Ahmed Barada being sponsored by a well-known businessman, Squash started to be developed into a known sport in Egypt. Do you think horseback riding has the same potential?

A.S: Egypt was one of the first countries to host an international Squash championship. A significant fact is that some forty years ago the top Squash players in the United Kingdom were Egyptians: Abdel Kerim Saqr, Tawfik

Amin. Again it comes down to money: the cost of playing Squash is a fraction of buying, raising, training and keeping a horse. Still you have to bear in mind that Egypt is an underdeveloped country where people look to their essential needs first so we have to maintain equilibrium between the two. We must be sensitive to Egypt's socio-economic conditions. What happened in 1960 when the Egyptian team went and did very well in Rome will never be repeated because at that time the horse back riding industry all over the world was only concentrated in the military, now it's in the private sector.

H.T: Are there some measures that could be taken at the top level in the sports industry today that could change or improve the sport?

A.S: Again more emphasis on education, and the creation of greater awareness about the sport. We should advertise the sport as this will encourage more sponsors. One obvious big disadvantage in this particular sport is transportation. In Europe competitive horse riders can transport their horse from one event to another in horse trailers by road reaching their next competition within a matter of hours. In Egypt, to attract overseas riders to participate in international events would mean that we would have to fly the riders and horses in by air, which is an economic burden.

H.T: The important question we did not ask? When will the Egyptian Equestrian team compete at the Olympics?

A.S: I understand that the Egyptian Equestrian Federation has been embarking on a constructive plan to prepare an Egyptian Equestrian team to compete at the Olympic Games in Athens. The equestrian team has been training rigorously in Europe and was invited to participate in several international events and qualifying competitions in readiness for the next Olympic Games. Our young talented riders should be sent to one of the internationally acclaimed riding schools abroad. Incidentally, the Saudi Arabian's did that and as we saw at the Sydney Olympics they were successful. Furthermore, the French Equestrian Federation welcomed the idea of such cooperation between our two countries to help develop and train our riders in preparation for world class equestrian competitions.

H.T: Actually you touched on a very important point, I think that in the past there was a certain protocol between Egypt and France. How about that through such protocols we send our talented riders to live and study in France and continue riding?

A.S: Yes. For young Egyptian children who want to study in France and to train to become a world-class rider, we could certainly do that. In the past we used to send teams to England, France, and the United States. For instance, Rania Elwany, won a scholarship to the States, where she trained to Olympic standard because she was in the right environment to do that.

We thank Dr. Ahmed for his insight into Egypt's equestrian sport today. Clearly, there seems to be a mélange between the private sector's funding, public sector support, the governmental institutions such as the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, the Egyptian Television Broadcasting Authority, the Egyptian Olympic Committee, and naturally the Egyptian Equestrian Federation ■

Equicare and Sakkara

After a long wait, we have in Cairo, the first private fully-equipped equestrian centre operated by a highly professional management company. This newly developed equestrian centre in Sakkara Country Club (C.C.), managed by Equicare company, will provide a lot of new, professional services including training, moon light rides, horse-boarding, children training programs and events organization.

EQUICARE

Equicare Company was established in 1993, by Engineer Khaled Assem, member of the national show jumping team, it started as a sole agent of Plusvital Ireland in Egypt dealing in horse feed supplements. Today, and after ten years, they are specialized in all horse care products. Equicare is very familiar with the Egyptian market. They are also co-owners in the equestrian centre at Sofitel Sharm El-Sheikh.

Moreover, Equicare organized several International shows in Egypt. These shows include: the first International Student Riders show jumping competition held at the Alexandria Sporting Club, December 93, First Egyptian International show jumping competition held in Sofitel Sharm El-Sheikh, April 97, and the first Sakkara International show jumping competition held in Sakkara C.C, November 97.

SAKKARA C.C

Sakkara C.C was founded at the beginning of the 80s by the parents of the existing owners Ibrahim and Murad Samy. Their late father, Mr. Sherif Samy, was the first to invent the Arabian horse's festival. He first started with only twenty rooms and a small stable; now it contains a fully equipped equestrian centre, four tennis courts, twenty rooms, changing rooms, two football courts, one volley court, swimming pool, and an English style bar with a fire place.

Five years ago, the equestrian centre clientele were only Arabian horse's owners riding just for the pleasure, and people who boarded their horses in the stable. Mr. Ibrahim Samy, a talented rider and a show jumper, used to give free of charge lessons to some of the members on friendly basis, and every Saturday they would organize a warm-up competitions for the members. However, all the equestrian services stopped when Mr. Ibrahim traveled to the States to be trained as a professional rider.

The idea of the merger between these two pioneers started when Mr. Ibrahim traveled and the equestrian centre was neglected for a period of four years, at the same time,

"We own a big space, new sand riding track, we are increasing the number of stables available, plus the full scale magnificent desert area touching the outskirts of the place"

Equicare was doing a lot of research regarding the equestrian centers and their management in Egypt. They did several feasibility studies for different institutions like Dreamland, Mirage city, Sunset Valley, Smash tennis club, and others.

Mr. Murad Samy, at that time, decided to invite a company to manage Sakkara's equestrian centre and talked to Mr. Khaled Assem about it. "It was a very interesting chance to put our efforts to the test and see everything we have worked for in our research materialize as we believe it to be", said Mr. Khaled. Moreover, while he and Mr. Murad were done with the planning, exploring the different improvements that can be done through utilizing the greater potential of the place, and signing all the contracts, Mr. Ibrahim came back to Egypt. "Ibrahim's return was a good asset for both parties. Ibrahim is very talented socially, and in particular he has very good contacts with Sakkara's clients, with whom he had been working for a long time, so he will be of great help in marketing for the equestrian centre, also he is a very good rider and definitely

will be of great value in the equestrian centre especially after his experience in the U.S", Mr. Khaled stated. What makes this merger even more perfect is the old friendship between Khaled, Ibrahim, and Murad. They are friends ever since childhood, when they were riding together in Ferousia club, they went to the same university, and are now riding for the same team. This common background, and great expertise, united their goals and plans to create one of the best equestrian centers in Egypt. "Murad is a very sharp businessman, I have to give him this credit, he realized instantly that all my needs would put Sakkara as a leader in the horse environment, he immediately agreed to our plans in re-innovating

the facility, I definitely enjoy working with intelligent skilled partners and life time friends" stated Mr. Khaled.

The first, and most important, improvement made by Equicare in Sakkara is changing the footing in one of the riding areas to sand rather than grass, including a whole lighting facility for holding events in the evening. Equicare provided a German professional trainer and stable supervisor, Marion, to be available all the time in the place. Furthermore, Mr. Ibrahim and Mr. Khaled will start giving serious training lessons to professional show jumpers, plus the daily riding lessons given by Marion to different level of riders. They are also planning to organize national and international championships in the place. However, "the old members are still given the choice of keeping and riding their Arabian horses in



Sakkara Country Club (C.C).



Rooms for overnights or day use overlooking the gardens.

A merger made in Heaven

the club, and we will still help in organizing the Arabian horse festival", Mr. Ibrahim stated.

In terms of competition, the centre is considered unique because of its location; "we own a big space, new sand riding track, we are increasing the number of stables available, plus the full scale magnificent desert area touching the outskirt of the place". Furthermore, concerning events organization, Sakkara Equestrian centre is considered more 'flexible', since all other institutions which organize similar events fall under certain rigid governmental specs. This makes the event more enjoyable for professionals, beginners, and more horse lovers. However, Mr. Ibrahim believes that "we are not competing with others, rather we will always try to bring new ideas, work as hard as we can and accept all different ideas from different people".

This merger will result in quiet a more complete picture in the equestrian centre. "when me and my brother started horse back riding, khaled Assem was one of the national champions, and now we are competing in one team, we all speak the same language, like the same sport, and that help this merger a lot as we understand each other perfectly, and work with each other well", commented Mr. Ibrahim. They all hope that this merger will strengthen the facilities in the centre, which will eventually help in gaining more publicity for the sport and for Sakkara C.C, encouraging people to invest in their kids so as to create a more sound generation of riders.

The new Sakkara equestrian centre aims at creating well-trained and equipped horse back riding teams. For the advanced professional riders as well as the novices, the centre will provide clinics from abroad to improve the level of the riders. And for the younger generations, they have a lot of elaborate plans, which starts with this completely new idea in Egypt. "Pony Club Camp"

Pony Club Camp

Starting this summer, Equicare and Sakkara are organizing a two-week 'Pony Club Camp' for children starting from the age of five to the age of twelve. In these camps, Children will learn how to ride ponies, Feed and groom them, socialize, meet new friends, and enjoy their time. This camp will be under the supervision of the professional German trainer, Marion, who is specialized in training kids. These camps would help the children in developing a lot of skills and traits like working with a special and highly sensitive animal like the horse, work in teams, be independent, and reliable. Furthermore, one of the newest ideas that will be applied in the camp is 'Voltage', gymnastics on the horse. This kind of physical training helps the children in learning to keep their balance over the horse and feel its rhythm better ■



Sakkara C.C's Pool.



Mr. Ibrahim Samy and his horse "M"



Engineer Khaled Assem.



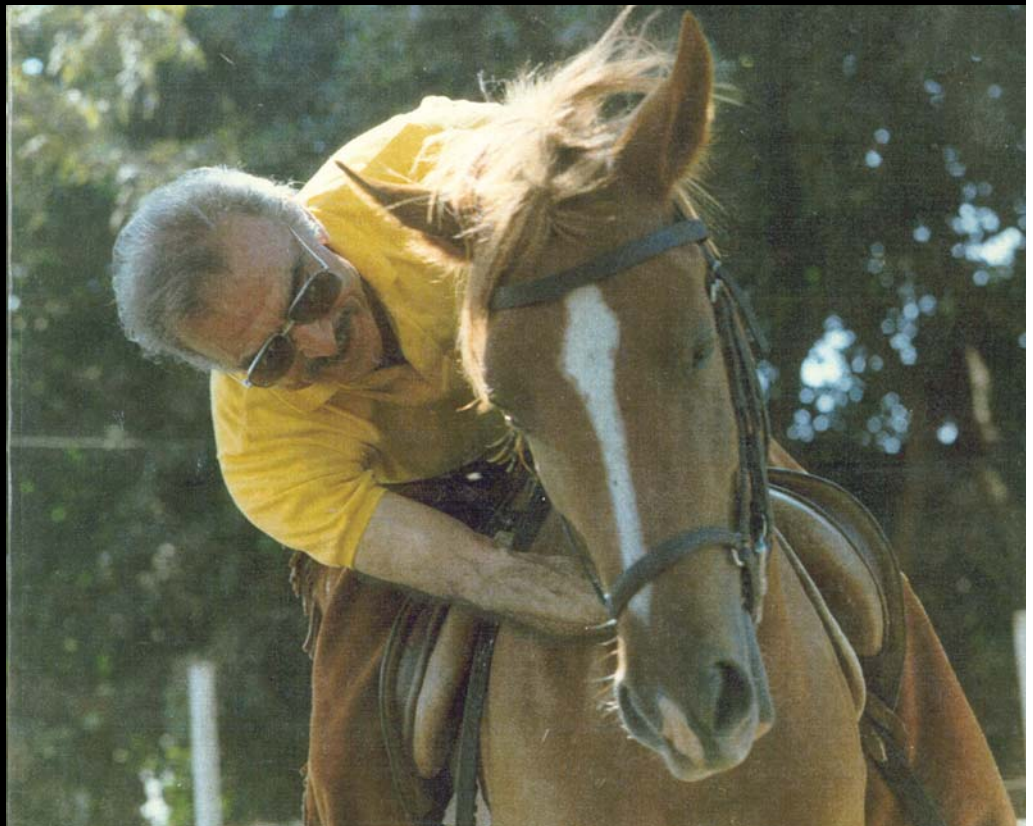
The new sand footing in the riding area.

Article based on an interview with Mr. Ibrahim Samy and Mr. Khaled Assem.

Ahmed Mazhar

A KNIGHT In SHINING Armor

By Mona Amin



To the Arab World, Ahmed Mazhar was considered one of the most important icons of the Egyptian cinema. He was an actor who managed to capture the hearts and minds of the public by starring in what many of us dub as the "classics". Those are the films that have carried the Egyptian film industry forward until this very day. If Mazhar was a star in the adoring public, he was even more so, to many riders in Egypt. His sheer dedication to the sport is what marked him.

One man who knew him well is Hussein Khairy. Their friendship dates back to when they were together at the Egyptian Royal Cavalry. Being a horseman himself, he knows exactly what it was that made Ahmed Mazhar stand out in the Egyptian Equestrian World. This is how he remembers him fondly... "Ahmed Mazhar was a gentleman in every sense of the word; he was courteous, dignified, and correct. He was always ready and willing to offer help and advice, whether it was in the realm of this sport or elsewhere. It was always performed and done with such sincerity and devotion. His advice has been invaluable to many riders, always stressing the importance of style, and the technical skills needed to achieve it". His knowledge about the technicalities and laws of international Show Jumping competitions was vast; he was instrumental in judging many show jumping events. He used to even take on the responsibility of designing many jumping courses himself.

When Ahmed Mazhar died he took away a special era; an era where dignity and honor were the norm and not the exception. Ahmed Mazhar was the personification of all this; he seemed to have touched the lives of so many of us leaving behind something very special for us to remember. In my case: magical childhood memories.

I had just arrived from England where I had been living, and having had the privilege of riding there, Egypt was an entirely different story. My uncle who is a horseman himself and finally given up on one of his racing horses, which I luckily ended up having. So there I was, an eleven

year old, with the most beautiful horse that had a temper of steel. A horse that earned a reputation of bolting off the most accomplished of riders at the Ferosia Club, a daily piece of entertainment indeed for a very amused audience. This was all happening in the Ferosia Club until a quiet, calm gentleman came along and offered his help. He, would train the horse and me, to be a bit more "civilized" and that, he did. That fine gentleman was Ahmed Mazhar. He was prepared to take time to train an eleven ear old, which he did on regular basis. His horse training methods were done with such grace, calm and patience that all the effort finally paid off: 'Fahr', my horse, was transformed.

The methods that Mazhar used in calming Fahr were numerous; it was a spectacular lesson that everyone watched and learned from. The whole exercise with the horse would evolve around one fact. You can get anything out of a happy contented horse that trusts its owner. So with each small progress that was made a reward, small carrot or lump of sugar, was offered to the horse. In jumping for instance, Fahr would stop to have his lump of sugar from Mazhar's pocket. He would keep a constant dialogue with the horse by talking to him and insist that I do the same. After riding he unsaddles the horse and leaves it to graze freely.

In short, Ahmed Mazhar was always trying to build slowly and surely this tremendous bond between the rider and the horse; a bond so strong that only horse lovers would understand. All this might sound common knowledge but you would be surprised to see many horse training methods that are very harsh not to mention vulgar. These methods are still used by some impatient riders. A very ennobled way to deal with a very noble animal.

So whilst everybody is remembering Ahmed Mazhar as a famous rider and actor; I have the honor to remember him as my riding instructor. A very important gentleman who was humble enough to train and instruct an eleven ear old on the gentle skills of riding ■

"When Ahmed Mazhar died he took away a special era; an era where dignity and honor were the norm and not the exception"

The Golden Age of:

TAHER PASHA

Taher Pasha is a figure I will always remember. This man's love and devotion for the sport pushed us forward; he employed all his power, knowledge and contacts to lead the show jumping sport to its golden age,

GENERAL MOHAMED SELIM ZAKI.



When walking through life's path, everyone has two choices. You can just walk through hoping for the best to come out of it, living a so-called "normal or peaceful" life, feeling happy, content, or even unhappy. Or you can walk through it deciding that you WILL get the best of it; enjoy every bit of it, and even make other people's paths easier and happier. The latter path was the choice of Prince Mohamed Taher Pasha, which led him further to be written in history not only through faith as a prince, but also through choices he made in his life and contributions in other people's as well. Prince Mohamed Taher Pasha was the founder of the Egyptian Equestrian Federation (EEF) in 1942, the first president of the Egyptian Olympic Committee, the first Egyptian representative in the International Olympic Committee in which he was given a life time honor membership and the initiator of the Mediterranean games first held in Alexandria 1951.

In 1948, one year after the enlistment of the EEF in the Federation Equestre International (FEI), Taher Pasha's most important and significant contribution was to bring a foreign French trainer 'Colonel Le Farg' to train the Egyptian team. 'La Farg had the most impact on me personally, he used to give us dressage sessions and he insisted that we have to have a minimum score in dressage before we could compete in jumping', said Gen. M. Selim Zaki.

1949

Taher Pasha hosted an international show jumping event in 1949 inviting the European riders with their top horses over to Cairo. This show hosted the French and Italian teams competing in full power against the Egyptian team at the Mena House Hotel.

Later at the same year Taher Pasha sent the team to Europe so as to compete in France (new Mont Li Mar, Nimes, and Vichy), then Italy (Forte De Marmi, and Monte Catini) during a period of 4 month. He ordered us to go and see how the European riders work and deal with their horses, in training and at shows", Gen. M. Selim Zaki Stated.

1950 & 1951

Taher Pasha invited teams from France and Italy again to Cairo in 1950. In 1951 he held another International Egyptian event including the Italian, French, Belgium and Turkish teams in Cairo and Alexandria. After that the Egyptian team traveled to Italy (Rome) to compete in Piazza de Siena, which is a very difficult show. "I remember I did well in Rome, so Taher Pasha gave me his golden money clipper with his initials on it" said Gen. M. Selim Zaki.



Right to left: Omar Mansour, Ahmed Mazhar, Mohamed Selim Zaki, Mohamed Taher Pasha, Mohamed Khairy, Colonel Le Farg, and Farouk Al-Heiny.



The wide water jump -- 5 meters



The water jump in the triple combination.

1952 Olympic Games

Taher Pasha sent the team to Switzerland (Lucerne), then to France (Vichy & Paris), to prepare for the Olympic Games later that year. "In Lucerne, it was raining heavily and upon our arrival we found Taher Pasha waiting for us with rain coats; he was always concerned, always keen to motivate us", said Gen. M. Selim Zaki. At the Olympic Games, Mohamed Khairy had eight faults in the first round and eight faults in the second finishing 12th over the world's ranking. Gen Gamal Hares believes that "Mohamed and his horse jumped brilliantly; if it weren't for the water jumps, I know he would have won a medal because his horse was the only one in the games that didn't knock any poles down". Even after the 1952 revolution, Taher Pasha still attended all the Egyptian Equestrian Team's games abroad.

Plane to Helsinki 1952,

General M. Selim Zaki told HORSE Times a very interesting story that he recalls from that time:

"Ahmed Mazhar who was a very good friend of mine, insisted that our horses travel by plane due to the shortage in time. Mazhar knew I had a passion for flying, I knew the flight he reserved was a plane that was written off by the British Army in Egypt after having been used for transporting casualties for several years. We were reluctant to use this plane yet, there was no other option, and anyway we loaded the horses at the front area and sat behind them. They brought two huge lunch boxes full of sandwiches and drinks. The pilot started the propellers and after 20 minutes he came back and informed us that there is an oil leakage in one of the propeller motors that will have to be fixed in Hamburg. I sat next to the window and I saw the oil leaking in fine streams over the outside of my window. We panicked to an extent that we ate all the sandwiches that were meant for the whole crew. The pilot was not very happy about it, but anyway we arrived safely.



Gamal Hares in the plane used for the trip to Helsinki, 1952



Left to right: A. Mazhar, M. Khairy, O. Mansour, M. Selim Zaki, and G. Hares, in Vichy.



Left to Right: Mohamed Selim Zaki, Gamal Hares, and Mohamed Khairy. Team of the Olympics 1952

****ALL INFORMATION AND PHOTOS INCLUDED ARE PROVIDED BY GEN. GAMAL HARES, AND GEN. M. SELIM ZAKI.**

Veterinary

Lameness is common, but even though you may have considerable knowledge and experience, it is wise to seek the opinion of an expert. Every rider should certainly have a basic understanding of the subject, and you are able to recognize when your horse is lame, this will be more easily achieved if you have a thorough knowledge of the horse and his action.

When you are riding, unevenness in the horse's step is fairly obvious. If you have any misgivings, the horse is almost certainly slightly lame. Dismount immediately and look for stones which may be lodged in his foot. Then look him over for any other obvious cause. If you can find no reason for it and he remains lame, lead him home on soft ground, or telephone for help.

Locating the source of Lameness

Identify the lame leg:

Take the horse on to some hard, level ground, walk him up and down, then trot him on a loose rein, if the Lameness is severe it will show at the walk. If he is lame in front he will nod as his sound leg comes to the ground, raising his head again to take the weight off the painful leg. If lame in both forelegs, he will tend to keep his head raised and to shuffle rather than stride out.

If you suspect lameness in one of his forelegs but can find no cause for it, it may be that the trouble is in one of his hind legs.

If he is lame behind, he will similarly try to take the weight on to the sound leg and relieve the painful one. Viewed from behind, he will drop his hip as the sound leg reaches the ground and raise the hip and hock of injured leg higher than normal as it meets the ground. As the horse is led past, you will clearly see a shorter length of stride from the lame leg.

Observing the horse at rest in the stable sometimes gives a clue to obscure lameness.

Although he is standing square, the pastern of the lame leg may be slightly straighter than that of the sound one, or he may be pointing the lame the foreleg in front of the other.

Colic!

Colic appear rapidly as violent intestinal pain that causes your horse to throw himself to the ground in a sweat, or it can develop as a slowly progressive syndrome that begins with a horse that is off his feed, seems depressed and perhaps is lying down in a quiet repose. If you suspect colic, it is sometimes helpful to make your horse walk or trot for 10 to 15 minutes to potentially move a gas pocket through the bowels. This can often relieve the distress. However, forcing prolonged exercise on a colicky horse is counterproductive, as it saps your horse's energy reserves while not actually curing the colic. Because of the life-threatening condition created by any intestinal upset (colic or diarrhea), it is important to call your vet immediately, even if the problem resolves itself spontaneously while the vet is on the way.

to Check on the Newly Shod Foot

■ The shoe has been made to fit the foot and not the foot to fit the shoe. The wall should not be rasped away to meet the iron. The toe should not be 'dumped' (over rasped). Both of these faults will remove the surface coat of the wall and will inevitably lead to cracking and breaking away of the rasped portions.

■ The type of shoe is suitable for the work required of the horse.

■ The weight of iron chosen is in correct relation to the horse's size.

■ The foot has been suitably reduced in length at both toe and heel and also on each side, so that it has a level bearing surface.

■ There has been no miss-use of the knife on either the sole or the frog.

■ That on soft surfaces the frog is in contact with the ground.

■ The correct number of nails has been used- three on the side and four on the outside, except in special cases.

■ The size of the nails is correct. They should fit and fill the nail holes.

■ That the nails have been driven well home.

■ The clenches are well formed and well seated. They should fit and fill the nail holes.

■ No daylight shows between shoe and foot, particularly at the heel region.

■ The heels of the shoe are neither too long nor too short.

■ The place for the clips has been neatly cut and the clips themselves have been well drawn and well fitted.

Jumping

Refusing to Jump??

In our last issue we discussed a reason why a horse refuse to jump; pushing too hard. In this issue we are going to give you more reasons behind refusal so as to help you try to avoid them.

1. Lack of Determination: Perhaps through apprehension or uncertainty, the rider fails to use effective leg aids and the horse senses this indecision.

2. Lack of planning. A poorly planned approach does not encourage good jumping. The pace should be balanced, with rhythm and impulsion

3. Loosing position. The horse becomes anxious and rushes towards the fence. The rider is 'left behind' and tense, causing the horse to be even more anxious. The rider must go with the horse. Or the horse suddenly slows down during the last few strides. This shifts the insecure rider forward. The horse may then refuse, run out, or jump badly and there will be little that the rider can do. The rider should stay in

balance as the horse slows down, so that he can use his legs effectively.

4. Over checking: by trying to alter the horse's strides in the approach, the rider constantly checks the horse until speed, balance and impulsion have been almost lost. It is then very difficult for the horse to jump.

5. Over riding: the rider hurries the horse, driving him on to his forehead by going too fast for too long. The horse must then steady himself to restore balance before he can jump.

6. Interfering. The rider continually fiddles with his hands. This constant change of rein contact causes the horse to lose confidence in the rider and upsets his concentration during the approach.

Above 120 cm Classes

By: Ahmed Talaat

In this issue we will start to talk about the double combinations, the difference between the fences of the doubles, the distances between them and the technical difficulties incurred.

At first we have to know how to measure the distance between the two fences, we add three numbers; I) the distance after landing from the first fence II) The strides distance-3.5 III) Plus the takeoff distance before the second fence.

The first stride is 3.5m, which is approximately the normal stride for the horse but the second stride is only 300 m, because the horse loses a bit of his speed after the first stride inside the double, therefore if we need to make the double two strides, we increase the distance of the one stride double by only 3m.

When jumping the Oxer we have to be a bit closer than the upright so that the distance of the takeoff to the oxer is 210cm, and the

takeoff to the upright is 260cm. The landing of the oxer is closer after the fence than the landing of the upright because the horse starts to land from the middle of the oxer so he lands closer than the upright; this makes the landing distance of the oxer equivalent to 160cm and the landing of the upright equivalent to 190cm.

There are 4 kinds of doubles: upright-oxer, oxer-upright, upright-upright and oxer-oxer, which is the toughest double and one of the toughest technicalities in course designing.

The ideal distance between fences, for the oxer-oxer one stride double is 720cm, for the upright-upright is 800cm, and for the upright-oxer is 750cm. Moreover, if we need to make the double two strides we just increase these distances by 300cm.

Finally, I hope you liked these little tips about course designing and I wish you all good luck.

Dressage

The Canter

The Canter is three-time pace with three beats to the stride. The rider can count, One-two-three, one-two-three, with a silent moment between strides. In Canter the horse should look and feel light on his feet, balanced and rhythmic.

The horse

The sequence of footfalls when the left is leading is:

- 1) right hind,
- 2) left hind and right fore together,
- 3) left fore (the leading leg), followed by a moment of suspension when all four feet are briefly off the ground.

The sequence of footfalls when the right foreleg is leading is:

- 1) Left hind,
- 2) right hind and left fore together,
- 3) right fore (leading leg), followed by a moment of suspension.

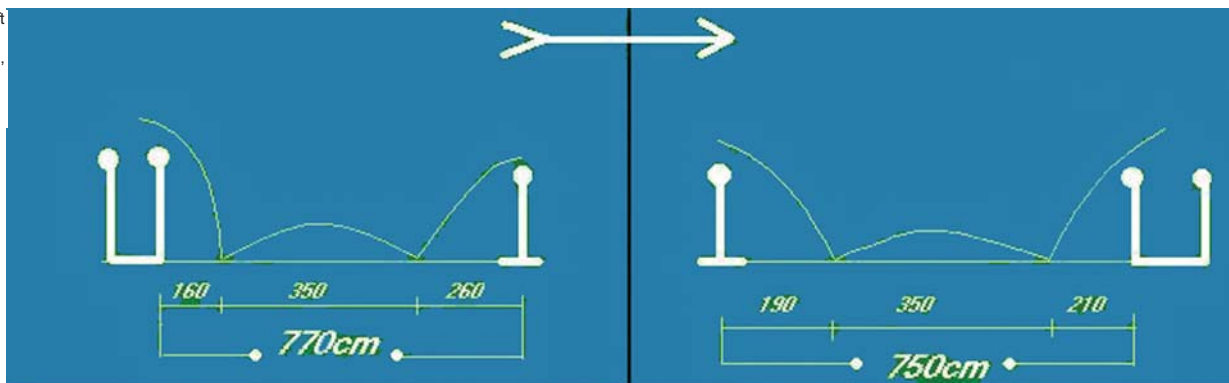
The working canter is the pace between collected and medium canter.

Aids to the Canter

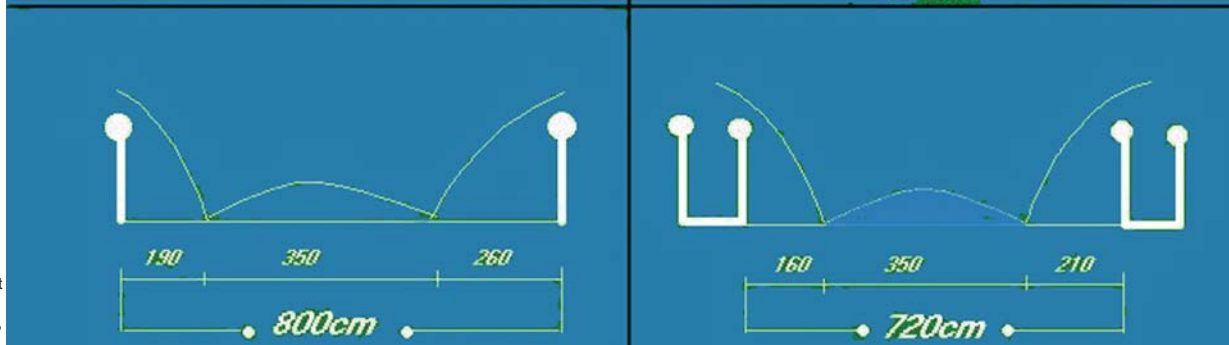
Before asking for the Canter, check that the preceding pace is of good quality. The horse must be accepting the bit and going forward in balance and with impulsion. You should indicate with your inside hand the direction of the Canter (with a quick 'take-and-give'); sit for a few strides; bring the outside leg back behind the girth and give a definite nudge to the horse's side, while at the same time maintaining the impulsion with the inside leg. As the horse strikes off into the canter you will feel the alteration of pace and you must be particularly careful to remain supple, relaxed and in balance. Your hands must follow the considerable movement of the horse's head.

You should not look down to see which leg is leading. You will soon learn to feel which shoulder of the horse is slightly in advance of the other, and which hind leg comes to the ground first.

Fences From Left to right:
Oxer-Upright,
Upright-Oxer,



Fences From Left to right:
Upright-Upright,
and Oxer-Oxer.





Horse'n Around

The Horse's Prayer

To thee, my master
 I offer my prayer
 Feed me, water and care for me,
 and, when the day's work is done, provide me with
 shelter, a clean, dry bed and stall wide enough for
 me to lie down in comfort.
 Always be kind to me. Talk to me.
 Your voice often means as much to me as the reins.
 Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more
 gladly and learn to love you.
 Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not under-
 stand what you want, but give me a chance to
 understand you.
 Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if
 something is not wrong with my gear or my feet.
 Do not check me so that I cannot have the free use
 of my head.
 If you insist that I wear blinders, so that I cannot
 see behind me as it was intended I should, I pray
 you be careful that the blinders stand well out
 from my eyes.
 Do not overload me, or hitch me where water will
 drip on me.
 Keep me well shod. Examine my teeth when I do
 not eat; I may have an ulcerated tooth and that,
 you know, is very painful.
 Do not tie my head in an unnatural position, or
 take away my best defense against flies and mos-
 quitoes by cutting off my tail.
 I cannot tell you when I am thirsty, so give me
 clean, cool water often.
 Save me, by all means in your power, from that
 fatal disease - the glanders. I cannot tell you in
 words when I am sick, so watch me, that by signs
 you may know my condition.
 Give me all possible shelter from the hot sun, and
 put a blanket on me, not when I am working but
 when I am standing in the cold.
 Never put a frosty bit in my mouth; first warm it
 by holding it a moment in your hands.
 I try to carry you and your burdens without a mur-
 mur, and wait patiently for you long hours of the
 day or night. Without the power to choose my
 shoes or path, I sometimes fall on the hard pave-
 ments which I have often prayed might not be of
 cement but of such a nature as to give me a safe
 and secure footing.
 Remember that I must be ready at any moment to
 lose my life in your service.
 And finally, o my master, when my useful strength
 is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or
 sell me to some cruel owner to be slowly tortured
 and starved to death;
 but do thou, my master, take my life in the kindest
 way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter.
 You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in
 the name of Him who was born in a Stable,
 Amen
 Author unknown



How many Horses does it take To Change a Light Bulb?

Warm blood: light bulb? What light bulb?
Any foal: The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned-out light bulb? Just one. And he'll rewire the barn while he is at it.
Thoroughbred: I can't reach the stupid lamp!
Shetland pony: Sorry, just had my hooves and mane done.
Saddle bred: Oh, oh, me, me! Pleezee let me change the light bulb! can I? can I?!!
Morgan: Let him do it, you can pet me while he's busy.
Quarter Horse: Light bulb? Light bulb? That thing I just ate was a light bulb?
Trakhener: Zero! ATs aren't afraid of the dark!
Akhal-Teke: How DARE that light bulb burn out!! Howe DARE you ask me to change it!! OH!! (Flouncing off)
Holsteiner: No, don't change it. if it's dark, maybe no one will see me raiding the feed room.
Appaloosa: that's what we pay the help for. I'll just chew on his shirttail while he's at it.
Arab: We'll just be after havin' a nip of the Bushmill's, we will, and then we'll not be noticin' the light.
Connemara: Let the maid do it, I need to go roll in the mud.
Andalusian: Och, and ye'll just be usin' up the lectricity, ye' will, better tae use a wee bit of candle... better yet tae not waist either and just gae tae sleep when the sun goes doon... electricity is verra dear.
Clydesdale: (fidgeting all the while) Lights? Lights? Where? Do you want me to pose? This is my good side... no wait, let me get my mane straight... no wait, this angle is all wrong. No wait, maybe this is my good side. Do you want dramatic... or bold... or maybe sensitive...
Nation Show Horse: (Yawn) Who Cares?
Shire:

All I need to know about life, I learned from my horse!

- ▶ When in doubt, run far, far away.
- ▶ You can never have too many treats.
- ▶ Passing gas in public is nothing to be ashamed of.
- ▶ New shoes are an absolute necessity every 6 weeks.
- ▶ Ignore cues. They're just a prompt to do more work.
- ▶ Everyone loves a good, wet, slobbery kiss.
- ▶ Never run when you can jog. Never jog when you can walk. And never walk when you can stand still.
- ▶ Heaven is eating at least 10 hours a day...and then sleeping the rest.
- ▶ Eat plenty of roughage.
- ▶ Great legs and a nice rear will get you anywhere. Big brown eyes help too.
- ▶ When you want your way, stomp on the nearest foot.
- ▶ In times of crisis, take a poop.
- ▶ Act dumb when faced with a task you don't want to do.
- ▶ Follow the herd. That way, you can't be singled out to take the blame.
- ▶ A swift kick in the butt will get anyone's attention.
- ▶ Love those who love you back, especially if they have something to eat.
- ▶ Leather and chains can make anyone look studly.
- ▶ Cold baths are a form of cruel and unusual punishment.
- ▶ You've got horse sense. Use it!
- ▶ If God meant you to be encased in metal, He would have made you a Sherman tank.
- ▶ If someone's constantly on your back, lie down and play dead or run like heck.
- ▶ Who needs nuclear power when you've got natural gas?
- ▶ Happiness is a warm fuzzy blanket.

CLIP ART

BY: Fawkia Hammouda



Picasso

Check out our Cartoon Series every issue featuring "Picasso", HORSE Time's exclusive Cartoon character and his friend "Leila". Picasso is a very lazy and friendly horse who just loves to hang around in the stable doing nothing. Every issue will include a part of his daily "do-nothing" routines, hope you like it!



Joker of all Trades, master of none!



Serenity

"let me win, but if I can not win, let me be brave in the attempt"

I asked for Strength...
And God gave me difficulties to make me strong

I asked for Courage...
And God gave me obstacles to overcome

I asked for Favors...
And God gave me opportunities

I asked for Wisdom...
And God gave me problems to solve

I asked for Love...
And God gave me troubled people to help

I received nothing I wanted...
But I received everything I needed

Live life without fear, confront all obstacles and evince that you can overcome them.

In our lives...

We get our heads cramped with information.
Pick the beneficial.

We hear many opinions.
Think and research before you agree with any.

We get so busy exploring new things and meeting challenges.
Keep time for your loved ones.

We sometimes feel we don't belong.
You're like no other human, this makes you unique not left out.

We see the different trends and norms.
Hold on to what you believe.

We get waterways over our heads.
Things will get better... don't you lose faith.

We come across many schools of thoughts.
Don't get confused.

We are many times hurt being misjudged by others.
Take things lightly, and avoids prejudging others yourself.

We make wrong decisions.
Don't regret, at least you've learnt.

We take things for granted.
Count your blessings.

We sometimes hurt others.
Never ignore... always sooth feelings and ask for forgiveness.

We face many difficulties.
It all passes. Remember that what don't kill us makes us stronger.

We meet people who are nothing but turn offs.
Forget them, but don't forget that we also meet wonderful, inspiring ones.

We face choices every minute.
Choose wisely. God gave no other creature the power of choice.

We procrastinate.
Don't... not with things that matter.

We feel down.
Think positively.

...there is a bright side; we just need to look at it.

Author: Radwa Yousri



A Butterfly's Lesson

One day, a small opening appeared on a cocoon; a man sat and watched for the Butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then, it seems to stop making any progress.

It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could not go any further.

So the man decided to help the butterfly: he took a pair of scissors and opened the cocoon.

The butterfly then emerged easily.

But it had a withered body; it was tiny and shriveled wings. The man continued to watch because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would open, enlarge and expand, to be able to support the butterfly's body, and become firm.

Neither happened!

In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a withered body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and his goodwill did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening, were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings, so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes, struggles are exactly what we need in our life.

If God allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We could not be as strong as we could have been. Never been able to fly.

A Horse Dream

If

you dreamt of a horse this means:

A Stallion can symbolize power and male sexuality.

A galloping horse can represent ecstasy, wild freedom and movement. You can go where you want. You are free. Express yourself freely. If the horse is tethered, something is restricting your freedom or tying you down.

A horse can also be a sign of gentle grace and beauty.

Accept the gifts that come your way.



Dr. Hisham Sadek

Everyone needs someone to look up to, that's why we all are continuously on the search for role models to guide us through the tough path of life and help us in deciding what we want to do with it. If you are a junior rider and still searching for one, here is the man you are looking for.

Dr. Hisham Aly Sadek, Professor and Head of private international law department in the University of Alexandria, Head of the International Community for culture and Enlightenment, Head of the Consumer Protection committee in Alexandria, Vice President of the Egyptian committee for solidarity between Afro-Asiatic people, former dean of the law school in Beirut, Former representative of the Polo Federation, was a professional horse back rider: show jumper, a polo player, and still practices them as his main hobby. I wonder how many lives does it take to do what this man did and still doing in his life.

Dr. Sadek, born on the 20th of October 1936, graduated from Law school, Cairo University in 1957; in 1963 he took his Masters degree from the University of Alexandria, and finished his PhD in International private law from both the University of Alexandria and Sorbonne University in France.

His professional horse back riding career started when he was still a student in the primary school and used to go to Gezira Sporting club with his uncle to ride. Then in 1960, when he was a student in Cairo university his interest in horse back riding started to grow so he regularly went to rent horses and ride in the area near the Giza Pyramids. When he moved to Alexandria to work as a member of the Military Prosecution for Marine Forces, he started

practicing polo and show jumping in Semoocha club and Alexandria Sporting club. In 1970, he was chosen to join the National Egyptian Horse Back Riding team and the National polo team.

Dr. Sadek participated in a lot of competitions and championships all through his life. The first horse back riding competition he participated in was in Semoocha Club, Alexandria (1961). It was a small competition, the height of barriers was only 90 cm, and he won 2nd place. Moreover, the most important competitions were: 1971 and 1974 International competitions that took place in Beirut, and Shtoorah respectively, and a friendly competition with the Lebanese team that took place in Egypt (1970). Furthermore, his first official competition in Polo was in 1963, it was the national championship finals between Gezira team and Sporting team, his team, who won the match. And the most important Polo matches he participated in were at the beginning of the 80s with the American team in Egypt. He is still participating in mostly small competitions just for the love of the sport. Dr. Sadek believes that these kinds of sports

are never restricted to an age group, even world champion's ages range from thirty five to fifty five years old, and Dr. Sadek is now over 66 years old and still in the game.

Dr. Sadek owned more than 12 horses, and he now owns a gelding named "Guevara" and a Dutch horse named "Manar2". This horse was called after his old horse "Manar" which he owned since the age of three until she aged to be 24 and still is his favorite horse.

Last but not least, the greatest success in Dr. Sadek's life is his two sons Sherif and Hossam. Sherif the eldest, practices horse back riding in Sakkara Country Club, and Hossam plays Polo ever since he was a student in Law school, is playing in the Sporting club team, and he represented Egypt Internationally in many Polo championships.



Amr Assem

'First impressions are not necessarily true', was the first phrase that came to my mind when I decided to write about Amr. When you first meet Amr you will get the impression that he is an average, normal, and quiet guy, but once you get to know him you will find out that he is the complete opposite.

Amr Assem Fathy, graduated in spring 2002 from the American University in Cairo (AUC), Mass Communication Major, with a GPA over 3.0. Amr is a Show jumper. Beside Horse Back Riding Amr plays boxing in Gezira Sporting club and likes to play the piano and the violin.

Amr's riding career started in Gezira Sporting Club back in 1987. His parents were the ones who encouraged him to start riding and his love and passion for this sport is what pushed him further, "I liked the relationship between me and my horse, unlike other sports where you are just dealing with an object like a ball" Amr Said. Till 1992 Amr was riding in the Gezira Sporting Club's junior riding school, then he moved to Gezira's show jumping team to be coached by Captain

Mohsen Seliman.

The first championship Amr participated in was Gezira Jumping Festival, in 92, where he made a clear round. And in 93/94 season, he won first place in the junior Egyptian National Competition.

In 94 Amr bought his first horse, Snoopy, it was an Arabian horse. Moreover, in the summer of 95 he traveled to be trained in Yorkshire riding centre, England, where he entered four competitions. In these competitions he won first place in one event, second place in another and third place in two other events. A year later, he bought a Dutch horse, called Disney way, with which he won third place in an international competition in Sakkara Country Club, first place in four rounds of the Egyptian National Championship, and second

place in the Egyptian National competition (96/97).

One of the unforgettable competitions Amr participated in was back in 1997, where he had an eye injury—one eye totally covered with plaster. And he still insisted to join the competition in spite of the judging board's reluctance, and he actually won 2nd place.

Amr is now riding Ever Touch his new horse, bought from Holland in 2000. Moreover, in Holland, Amr had the opportunity to ride with Karim El-Zoghby "who helped me a lot in developing my skills in Show Jumping".

Recently Amr hasn't been active in competitions because of some time-management problems. However, he is planning to get himself back on track real soon with his horse, Ever Touch.



Amr, on "Disney-Way", in Army Club, 2002



Amr in Gezira Club, 1990

SPOTLIGHT



The Alexandria Sporting Club Junior Riders team with Yaser Abo Al-Azm, and Mr. Emad Zaghloul



Enas El-Amawy and Neveen Mahmoud in Sports Association Club.



Left to Right: Mohamed Ragab, Mohamed Abd El-Maasoud, Alaa Maysara, Sameh Hatab, and Mohamed El-Borai



Adham Elanany, Zeina, Zeiad, and Rania in Sports Association Club.



Souka, Kika and Panni



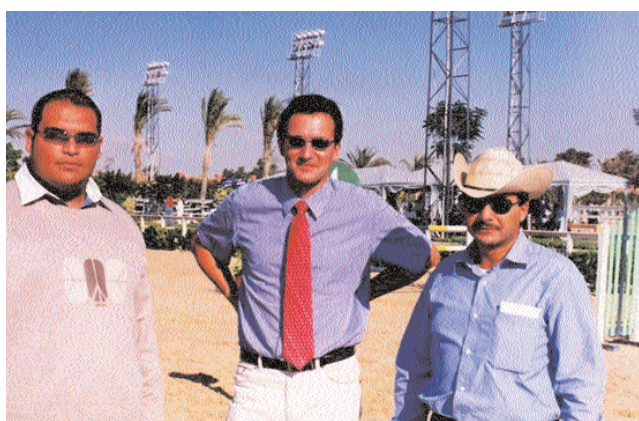
Farah Bakr, Nada El-Feky, Haya Assem, Malak Assem, Hana Bakr, Nour and Dania, new young riders in Sakkara C.C.



Shereen Assem and her daughter Nada in Sofitel Sharm El-Sheikh



Ahmed Talaat, Alaa Maysara, and Hani



Left to Right: Ahmed Talaat, The international course designer Mr. Olaf Petersen, and Emad Zaghloul

SPOTLIGHT



Right to left: Farouk El- Heiny, Elwy Ghazy, Mohamed Khairy, Hussein Khairy, Mohamed Selim Zaki, and Gamal Hares.

Re-Union in Ferosia Club

General Elwy Ghazy hosted a friendly re-union in Ferosia club on Wednesday, 23rd of April. A lot of the Ferosia club's board members and friends attended the re-union. They are all considered life-time friends, they have seen the world change together and stood by each other through good times and bad. The photos included are of the re-union attendants and a photo that dates 50 years back of four of them.



Elwy Ghazy.



Farouk El- Heiny



Mohamed Selim Zaki, and Mohamed Khairy.



Right to left: Mohamed Khairy, Mohamed Selim Zaki, Gamal Hares, Samir Abd El-Fatah.



Right to Left: Mohamed Khairy, Mohamed Selim Zaki, Gamal Hares.



Right to Left: Elwy Gazy, Mohamed Selim Zaki, Omar El-Hadary, and Gamal Hares.



Lieutenant Hussein A. Abdelalif
 One of the worlds best
 The Egyptian Cavallery does things the hard way
 (Yanky Magazine) Oct. 1944 .

**Photo
 Of
 The
 Issue**

SPOTLIGHT



Ahmed El-Zoghby on Elobria.



Amr Magdy.



Abd El-Wahab El-Salawy on Puncho.



Wahid Seeha on Lord Z.



Mohamed Medhat Abd El-Kerim.



Sherif Shaker on Lady Diana.



Shady Al-Meselhy.



Karim Al-Meselhy.



Mohamed El-Wakeed on Bodyguard.



Guess Who?

- ✗ Are you a **Rider**?
- ✗ Are you **Over Thirty**?
- ✗ You think you are **Popular**?
- ✗ You think you **know everybody** who is "anybody" in the Egyptian equestrian community?

Prove it!!

Recognize the people in this photo, and send their names in order (from right to left) and you will receive a **prize** from HORSE Times.

E-mail: horsetimes@mist-net.com
 Mail : Representative office:
 Equicare: 2, Bahgat Aly st.
 Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt
 Fax : +2 02 735 6939
 +2 02 735 4348

Our Children's Future

By: Colin Rogers

Director of El Alsson and the English Academy International School.

When I came to Egypt in 1972, I worked as a trainer/advisor for the Ministry of Education El Mahed el Kawmaya department, spending two very happy years traveling around 8 English schools in Cairo and 5 in Alexandria. I worked for some of the great schools in Egypt; the English School in Heliopolis, Victory College in Maadi and Alexandria, English Girls College, As Salam College and Port Said School. As a young teacher, I was in total awe (and fear!) of famous school directors like Ann Khalafala and Mary Salama, although over time learnt that they were wonderful, caring human beings. Under an agreement between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Overseas Development in Britain, some 25 UK teachers were required to train, advise and introduce new teaching materials and ideas in the English schools. I wonder if any of you studied 'Look, Listen and Learn' by Louis Alexander in your primary school? Well, sorry about that, but I was responsible for introducing it into the schools in the early '70s! In my defense, at the time, it was revolutionary!

Thirty years ago, it was all pretty simple. There was the government system, and the language schools. The only difference between them was the foreign language, otherwise the curriculum was the same, the exam was the same and admittance to university was the same. Now times have changed and there is a truly overwhelming choice confronting parents. In English language schools there is the Sanawi'ama, IGCSE, IB, American Diploma and GCSE. Change the foreign language and we have the French Baccalaureate or the German Abitur. Roll on the Chinese, the Outer Mongolians and the Swahilis! Perhaps someone will open a Latin school?

Having been involved in running schools in Cairo for nearly 30 years, I must admit I am getting a bit breathless as I try to stay up-to-date with all the different systems, let alone all the curricula, exams and university requirements I am supposed to remember. Parents are always asking me which system should they choose, which is the best, how can they be sure their children will succeed? To be honest there is no simple answer, so I try to point out the advantages and disadvantages of what they should look for in a good English language school.

Before I get into details, one of things that I feel is really important when choosing is school is all the things they do that they do not have to do. So much of education these days is all about academic success and many schools forget to have fun with the students. However, the extras should be properly organized. We recently set up pony and horse-riding properly supervised at the Sakkara Country Club. We were delighted to find that they also offered tennis lessons with two Belgian professionals, with special equipment so that even our 5 year olds can play. Schools that arrange all sorts of interesting activities are schools worth looking at. So, here is my brief outline of the main choices.

In the Partnership of school and parents; we have to work together as best as we can, with what God gave us and try to feel Blessed!

Sanawi'ama

Part of the state system and usually reasonably priced, Sanawi'ama involves 3 years of secondary education after preparatory level Addadeya. Secondary 1 is a general broad-based course, and secondary 2 divides into arts-or science orientated subjects. Exams are run in both secondary 2 and 3 and the results are added together to give a final result. Sanawi'ama is a rote learning system without necessarily encouraging understanding. It relies on memory and being able to regurgitate facts and figures in the final exams. It is heavier on Arabic, rather than English.. However, it is a clear system and for students whose English might not be very strong, or students who feel comfortable in a very structured programme, it has its place. On the other hand many students take private lessons.

Cambridge IGCSE

This system has been running in Egypt for around 10 years and was introduced to replace the old GCE 'O' level. It seems to be reasonably priced, but with all the extras it can be expensive. It involves 3 years of secondary education, with students studying 4 subjects each in the first two years, sometimes with an A/S (advanced supplementary) in year 2, and then picking up AS and A levels in year 3. The delivery is not very imaginative, and most students go to school and then spend half the night in private lessons, where 'famous' teachers grind them through more facts and figures. (This doubles the price). Almost all students take private lessons.

IGCSE is also a rote learning system and in style is very similar to Sanawi'ama. To their credit, The British Council and Cambridge are trying to improve the system but it is an uphill battle. Unfortunately there are a significant number of IGCSE schools that do not seem to care about the children, only the fees.

American Diploma

This approach has become popular over the last 5 or 6 years but there are few schools who are offering with integrity. In the best schools, it can be very expensive with fees in hard currency, but it can be more reasonable if you opt for one of the many 'new' American Diploma schools, some of whom have questionable standards.

It involves a combination of continuous assessment, (keeping up your GPA) and final exams. In schools that are honest, it is a good system. The problem is that in many local 'American Schools' there is no serious outside authority monitoring what the school is doing. Ask them if they are accredited and then check out the 'Accreditation Agency'. For US\$10,000 I can buy accreditation tomorrow without anyone ever visiting my school. Problems usually occur when your child is required to do the SATS exam in high school. The exam is marked externally and then many parents are shocked that their supposed A-grade student (as reported by the school) has suddenly failed.

American Diploma, if taught well by qualified staff in a committed school, is better than Sanawi'ama and IGCSE in as much that it takes into account all the work the children do, not just how well they do in a single exam at the end of the year. Some of the better schools have good facilities for slower-learners and offer a very wide range of subject-options that also appeal to high-flying students. Few students take private lessons - good schools provide support at

no extra cost. Pick your school carefully and don't be impressed by endless As and Bs unless you are sure that the school is serious and reports honestly.

The British GCSE, A/S and A-Level

This is a new system that has only recently been introduced in Egypt by Edexcel, the old London Examinations Board; The students' English needs to be good.

In the British International School in Zamalek, and the New Cairo British International School in Khatemeya, you pay in hard currency, which with current devaluations in the Egyptian Pound can be expensive. My school has been offering it since 2000 and we are a registered GCSE center. We are currently the largest GCSE center in Egypt and fees are in Egyptian pounds. Currently, we are charging LE20,000 a year (bus extra). Yes, prices will probably go up next year, but we still aim to be affordable.

We switched to GCSE because the curriculums are imaginative and modern. The children attend a full teaching day and study steadily. It is a combination of course work (20%-30% of grades), and in some subjects like Maths and science, modular exams are included (6 mini tests students do during the two-year course each worth 5%) which are added the final exam. If students do not do well in a particular test, they can re-sit.

What I feel is really fair and sensible about the whole system is that almost everything is taken into account, so the students feel rewarded as they go along. However, whilst the teachers are involved in grading and moderation the final decision is made externally in London. So, we can't tell you your child is 'doing fine' when he is failing. Very few students take private lessons. If they do, they are subject specific where the school organizes extra help. The school provides internal support classes.

GCSE has to be taught by qualified and trained teachers, not 'famous' teachers. It is taught over 2 years (GCSE) then goes on to A/S levels in secondary 3 with a non compulsory option for A-Levels in secondary 4. Interestingly, some 70% of my existing students who are going into AS levels have already opted to take year 13 as they understand this will considerably improve their grades

when entering higher education and it should give them a better than average chance of getting the university and the faculty of their choice. They can easily apply abroad, having achieved all the qualifications they need.

Whatever system you are interested in, it can only be good if the school cares about the students and teachers. Here is a basic check-list of just 10 things you should think about when choosing a school:

1. Is the school properly licensed?
2. Do they teach Arabic and Religion seriously?
3. Does the school seem to be designed for children, is it reasonably down-to-earth, or does it look like a 5-star hotel?
4. Do they have clear information, parent guides, curriculums outlines, parent/school policies? Do they encourage parents to come into school if there are problems?
5. Are the class sizes reasonable and are the teachers really qualified?
6. Have they got a good range of real facilities that are obviously used? Art, music, ICT, sports, drama, science labs, libraries?
7. Do they issue regular reports? Do they have parent/teacher days?
8. Do they have a strict entry procedure, or do they take anyone who can pay?
9. Do they offer extra activities that are properly organized?
10. Are children, already in the school, happy?

I believe a good school should be able to answer all 10 questions positively. There is no real difference between managing a factory or a school. A well run factory assumes that the managers know about their products and quality control. The same for a school; the managers need to know about education and how to ensure a quality product. It is also comforting if the management understands Egyptian culture, Egyptian parents and children as most 'International' schools in the city have a very high proportion of Egyptian children.

I wish you well in your search; I hope these thoughts are useful ■

So much of education these days is all about academic success and many schools forget to have fun with the students.

El Alsson and the English Academy International School

Providing affordable education since 1982



EL ALSSON SCHOOL



- 2 schools in 1. The Egyptian National Curriculum and the British National Curriculum.
- Pre-school to secondary.
- Well-qualified British & Egyptian teachers.
- Egyptian National exams or British GCSE's, A/S and A levels.
- Member of the European Council of International Schools.
- Fees charged in Egyptian Pounds.

El Alsson School, Saqqara Road, Haraniya, Cairo - Tel: +(202) 3888510 / Fax: +(202) 3868414
E-mail: info@alsson.com www.alsson.com

Chivas Regal An Introduction

First created in the 1890s, following a style laid down many years before, Chivas Regal has become the benchmark for premium, luxury whisky. The Chivas Regal story told in the following chapters stretches across 200 years, embracing ancient traditions and a modern passion for excellence.

A 21st Century Spirit

Chivas Regal is one of the world's best known and loved spirits brands. For generations it has been enjoyed as a smooth, rich Scotch whisky and acknowledged as a sign of distinction among many cultures around the world. Today, it sells over 30 million bottles a year across 150 countries, meaning every second, someone somewhere is enjoying a bottle of Chivas Regal.

The Story So Far

From the very earliest days in their grocer's shop in Aberdeen, the Chivas Brothers set new standards for their trade, consistently laying down the finest stocks to enable them to create truly premium, smooth and aged blended whiskies. This template paid off, firstly when blended whisky occupied the ground left in the British market by French cognacs in the 19th Century, and again when Chivas Regal enjoyed a massive boom in post war America and beyond, as 'Chivas on the rocks' became one of the world's favorite luxury drinks.

The Art of Blending

The distinctive Chivas Regal style goes all the way back to the 19th Century, to the company's founders. The present day Chivas Regal master blender has an exceptional advantage in continuing this tradition for excellence - Chivas Brothers' unrivalled stocks of aged malt and grain whiskies and in particular, the smooth, honeyed whiskies of Speyside.

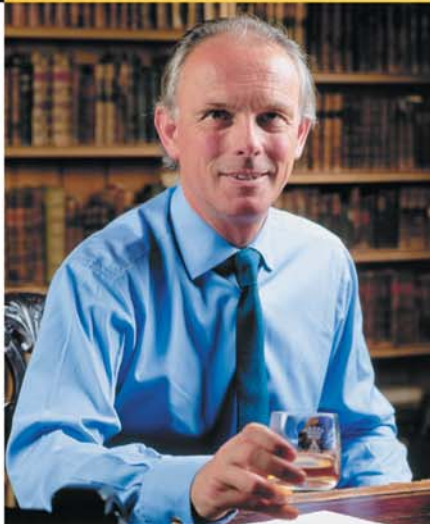


“Every second, someone somewhere is enjoying a bottle of Chivas Regal.”



Chivas Regal - The Master Blender

Master blender Colin Scott has been with Chivas Brothers for 30 years. He is the man who guarantees Chivas Regal's high quality and famously consistent flavour and character. He is the guardian of this unique style of whisky, a style which will continue, via the tradition of Chivas Regal master blenders, through the 21st Century and beyond.



Equi-Listings

VETS

Dr. Ahmed El Sayed: 271-6769
 Dr. Ashraf El Kalla: 010-140-9917
 Dr. Emad El Baroudy: 010-143-8771
 Dr. Farouk El Bana: 354-2388
 Dr. Mohamed Yousef: 010-108-1278
 Dr. Mohamed Ayad: 577-3705

Tack Shops

Equicare Company:
 2, Bahgat Aly, Zamalek, Cairo.
 Tel&Fax: 735-6939/ 735-4348

ALFA market:
 Giza, Zamalek, Maadi, Heliopolise,
 Alexandria

Ferosia Club:
 Zamalek
 Tel: 738-1719

Riding Lessons

Ferosia Club
 Tel: 738-1719, Cellular: 010-111-4815
 Stallion Equestrian Centre- Mohamed Khalifa
 Cellular: 012-218-9014
 Sakkara Country Club- Marrion
 Cellular: 010-100-2780
 For El Alsson Students:
 Contact The School's Sports Department

Riding Holidays

Sofitel, Sharm El-Sheikh
 desert trips, beach trips, and overnight riding camps.
 Tel: ++2(069) 600081/9

Classified-Ads

Horse 4 Sale

Clown

A 9 year old Gelding, excellent jumper, very good temperament.
 contact Marrion: 010-100-2781

Horse Trailers

'Pegasus' 2 horse trailers, excellent condition, license valid for
 three more years. Front unloading, large size.
 Contact: 012-211-4704

A Variety of high quality Equestrian
 products are available at:



Giza
 Maadi
 Zamalek
 Helipolise
 Alexandria

Distributor for Egypt and Jordan:
Equicare Co.
 2, Bahgat Ali Str., Zamalek, Cairo, EGYPT
 Tel.: +2.02.735.69.39 - Fax: +2.02.735.43.48
 e-mail: equicare@mist-net.com

HIPPITALIA®

Quality made to measure leather boots

EQUICARE CO.
 2, Bahgat Ali Street, Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt
 Tel & Fax: +2.02.735.6939 / 735.4348, e-mail: equicare@mist-net.com

SAKKARA COUNTRY CLUB
A riding Experience you won't forget.

RIDING WITH PROFESSIONALS
 DESERT RIDES
 PROFESSIONAL RIDING CLASSES
 MOONLIGHT RIDES
 KIDS PONY CLUB
 HORSE BOARDING

For more information Call:
 Sakkara C. C: 381-1415 / 381-1282
 Marrion: 010-100-2780
 Khaled Assem: 010-111-4815

Subscription

YES! I want to receive **four FREE*** HORSE Times issues.

To Subscribe send your: **Full Name, Address, Occupation, Phone Number, and E-mail to:**

E-mail: horsetimes@mist-net.com

Mail : Representative office: Equicare: 2, Bahgat Aly st. Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt.

Fax & Tel: +2 02 735 6939
 +2 02 735 4348

OR! You can also simply call or drop by our office to give us your information.

* delivery charges are 2 L.E / issue payed upon delivery.

Beautiful women don't buy scotch. Beautiful women don't buy anything.



WHEN YOU KNOW



