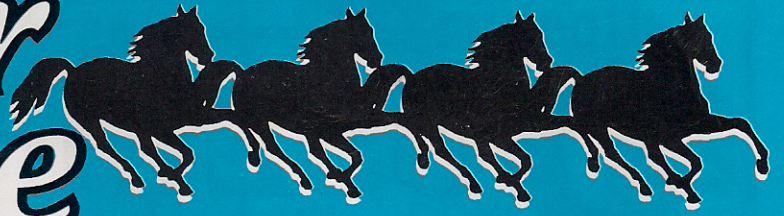


# The Paper Horse

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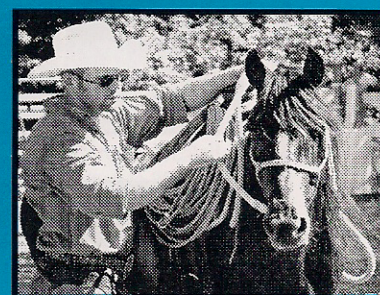
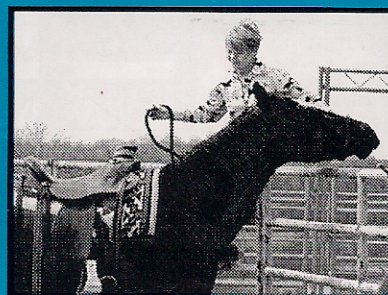
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Bill Turner, a race horse trainer near London, England has undertaken a **client of a different stripe**. His name is Zebdee and he's a 16-month-old zebra. "They say they're unbreakable, but it's something I've always wanted to do," said Turner, who's ridden over 600 winning race horses during the past thirty years. The trainer rides Zebdee all around town, even visiting the local pub in a nearby town. Zebras are African members of the horse family, but are actually more closely related to donkeys than Thoroughbreds. Breaking in zebras is difficult but doable, according to a zebra authority from the Marwell Zoological Park. "It's perfectly feasible. Don't forget that all our domestic animals at one time were wild...dogs were wolves and cows were wild oxen."

**Imprinting**, the act of handling a foal from birth to make it more people and socially oriented, **is coming under fire** from researchers at a French University. Their research reveals the short and long-term detrimental effects of prolonged handling of foals just after birth. In a study using two groups of newborn foals, handling delayed a foal's standing and sucking, plus short-term disturbances were noted such as trembling, fast breathing and abnormal sucking. Long term, (up to 12 months old) handled foals appeared more dependent on their mothers and more aggressive toward other foals. *Ed. note: PH is not taking sides on this one! We're merely reporting the latest studies out of France.*

**All in the name of love.** A 40-year-old woman in South Carolina just had to get to her boyfriend's house. Two problems: the woman was very drunk, swaying in the saddle as she rode down the middle of a state highway; and the second problem, she had "borrowed" the horse without the owner's permission. When police questioned her as to why she was riding in the middle of the road, she blamed it on the horse. She said she wasn't drunk, the horse was drunk. The woman got a ticket for disorderly conduct, but the horse owner did not press charges. The horse was returned unharmed...oh, and not drunk.

**Minnow was a Chincoteague Pony** born to a band of wild horses on Assateague Island on Maryland's Eastern shores. Rounded up and

(cont. next page)



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## News Bits (cont.)

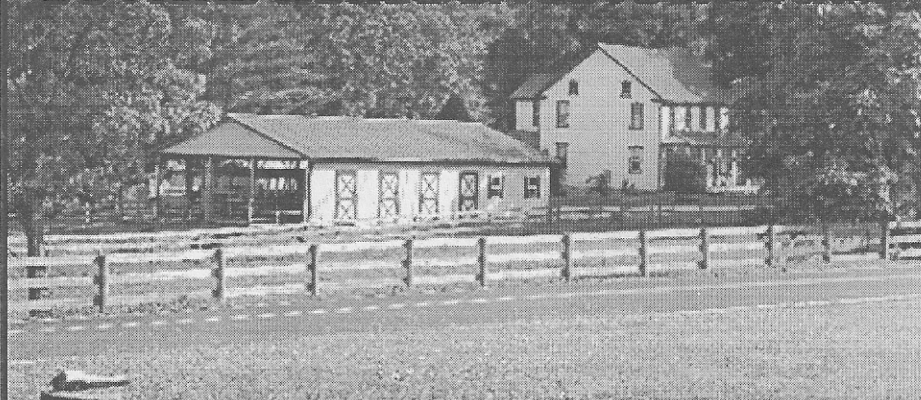
auctioned off as a colt, his past was spotty. His difficult "childhood" included being sent to the Chincoteague Pony Centre for a period of time before being sold once again. Now the little pony is all grown up and ready to do his share to help his Chincoteague ancestors. Owner Kyley DiLuigi has taught Minnow numerous tricks, including painting. He returned to his birthplace to debut his talents by performing tricks and painting at the Chincoteague Pony Centre in late July, with partial proceeds going to the Chincoteague charity. Minnow's paintings are on sale at DiLuigi's Downingtown, PA frame shop or at the website: ponypaintings.com.

A New York man got into a bit of trouble all because he wanted to go for a horseback ride. The problem was, the horse, Buddy, belonged to his ex-girlfriend. Unfortunately, Jose Romero's **need for a "horse fix"** landed him in the Saratoga Co. Jail with a grand larceny charge. At press time he was being held in lieu of \$1,000 cash bail and awaiting another court appearance. He appar-

(cont.)

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## News Bits (cont.)

ently forgot that "what's yours is mine" no longer applies with ex'es.

An **11-year-old girl from State College, PA** is making a name for herself in the equine world. Lizzy Traband's goal is to become a performing trick rider and she's already well on her way. The talented youngster has caught the eye of and trained with "Equine Extremist" Tommie Turvey, one of the world's most popular comic equine acts. So what's so special about Lizzy Traband? For starters, the miniature daredevil was born with only one hand. If anything, it's made her more determined to succeed. She and her pony Toby recently performed at BreyerFest at the Kentucky Horse Park. Soon she plans to go public with her latest trick: jumping Toby over a fire hurdle. Toby, who had humble beginnings, is becoming as much of a celebrity as his owner. He already has his own likeness as a limited edition Breyer horse. As the old saying goes, Lizzy was "to the saddle born." Horses are the family business; her parents own Carousel Farm near State College.