

# Small horses worth their weight

MAGGIE JIRASEK

Feature Co-Editor

Summer Sayles, recipient of the American Miniature Horse Association (AMHA) Youth Scholarship, and AMHA National Champion, is one of Clackamas' most accomplished students.

Born in Portland and raised in Sandy, Sayles lives on a 20-acre farm in Estacada, where she and her family own about 40 miniature horses.

"I bought my first mini when I was about 12 years old. It was a good and expensive horse; so my family and I thought we might as well show it. That's how we came up with the idea to show horses," Sayles explained.

Since then, Sayles has bought several more horses and her collection became more numerous as she began breeding them.

"I was 13 when I started showing my horses. Right now I go to about seven shows a year. Each time, I take up to six horses with me," Sayles stated.

For the past seven years, Sayles has attended shows in Oregon, Washington and California. She

has been quite successful in the ring and the year-end high point awards. She is also co-chair of the North West Miniature Horse Club (NWMHC), and is in charge of the publicity for one of the shows.

"I have won several scholarships, including the \$3000 AMHA Youth Scholarship, and I have won the Super Amateur Award in Reno as well as the National Championship," Sayles reported.

Being a student and showing horses is not easy, and it requires good time management.

"It is very stressful from time to time. I miss a lot of school. I try to make sure that all my classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays so I can show on the weekends. I also take a lot of on-line classes and make sure it's O.K. with my teachers if I miss class," Sayles remarked.

Receiving scholarships as well as selling some of her horses helps Sayles pay for school and equipment.

"It's very hard for me to sell my horses, especially if I've had them for a long time, but the money helps me out a lot, that's how I pay my tuition if I don't



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.AMHA.COM

Summer Sayles wins AMHA National Championship earlier this year in Ft. Worth, Texas.

receive enough scholarships," Sayles explained.

One of Sayles' most memorable moments was when she and her mom delivered one of her foals.

"When my mare had her baby, I was the one who delivered it. It was really exciting for me, be-

cause I have never done something like this before," Sayles remarked. "It was really funny, because neither one of us knew how to do it. My mom was sitting there and reading a book on how to deliver horses. She was giving me directions and telling me all the time 'now you have to do this and

then this'; that was pretty funny." Sayles, who is majoring in education, has already made plans for her future. She wants to become an elementary school teacher and, in her free time, continue to show her horses.

Next year, she wants to try the Nationals again.

## Adventure writers on campus

TAM OLIVER

Feature Co-Editor



BARBARA GUNDLE / Contributor

Molly Gloss will read from "Wild Life," set in the Pacific Northwest.



MARION ETLINGER / Contributor

Tucker Malarkey will read from "An Obvious Enchantment," inspired by two years in Africa.

Two writers of adventure fiction will read from their recently published novels at Authors' Night, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. in Gregory Forum.

Molly Gloss' previous novels, "Dazzle of Day" and "The Jump-Off Creek," both won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award and the Oregon Book Award. She was also the recipient of the 1996 Whiting Award.

She will be reading from "Wild Life," described by *Library Journal* as a book that "...without moralizing, explores the deeper meaning of what it really is to be human." Set in the Pacific Northwest in 1905, its main character, Charlotte Bridger Drummond, is a cigar-smoking, widowed mother of five children who writes dime-store adventure novels to support her family. When her housekeeper's daughter turns up missing, she joins the search. There are speculations that the girl has been carried off by ape-like creatures spotted in the wilderness. During the search, Charlotte is separated from her search partner and subsequently becomes lost also. Told from her journal entries, the book has been described as "...gorgeous (the writing), the characters

real and vivid, and the story transforming" by *Publisher's Weekly*.

Tucker Malarkey was co-author of "Sleepwalking Through History," a bestseller about the Lyndon Johnson era. Educated at Georgetown University, Malarkey wrote for *The Washington Post* for four years. She is a recipient of the Michener Award from the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Her recently published novel, "An Obvious Enchantment," has been described by Peter Matthiesson, author of numerous books including "The Snow Leopard" and "Tigers in the Snow," as "An exciting, intelligently imagined story, well written and well paced, with a very skillful use of place and atmosphere." Inspired by a two-year stay on an island off the coast of Africa, Malarkey has created the story of Ingrid Holtz, a woman who comes to a remote island off the coast of Kenya in search of her professor, Nick Templeton. Templeton has vanished while researching his theory that Islam was brought to the Swahili coast by a legendary king.

According to *Publisher's Weekly*, the novel is "An uncommon romance charting the restless intellect of an obsessive academic."

## Shoes



By Jim Spickelmier

Red and white striped blue shoes,  
with stars,

like tattered flags adorned the feet  
of a woebegone old woman  
laboring a cluttered shopping cart  
up the cold

snow covered  
windswept street,

past my seat behind a window  
which proclaimed across three frames  
Pacific Wine Company,  
Delicatessen,  
Espresso.

As I sipped a latte, my attention strayed  
through a side windowpane I viewed,  
a little ragamuffin girl

awkwardly determined to figure skate  
on hard packed,  
dirty white,  
ice like snow.

...And I wondered...

Would she claim Olympic fame  
or would her fate be the same  
as a woebegone old woman,  
with red and white striped blue shoes,  
with stars,

like tattered flags around the feet  
laboring a cluttered shopping cart  
up the cold  
snow covered  
windswept street.

Gloss and Malarkey will be reading from their novels Oct. 25, 7 p.m. in the Gregory Forum.

\$2 suggested donation for Friends of the Library.

## \*MIKE'S PROVERB OF THE WEEK\*

When you have something good, you ought not look for something better.

Russian