

# Man's Best Friend: A Champion Show Horse

**Bernie Berndt and his family know all the excitement and glamour of the show ring—along with the painstaking hours of raising and training horses that become champions.**

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bsolutely! If you've gotta' see a man about a horse, you can't go wrong by contacting Bernie Berndt of Herreid, South Dakota. He's an expert when

it comes to horse-flesh. And he's raised some fine champions.

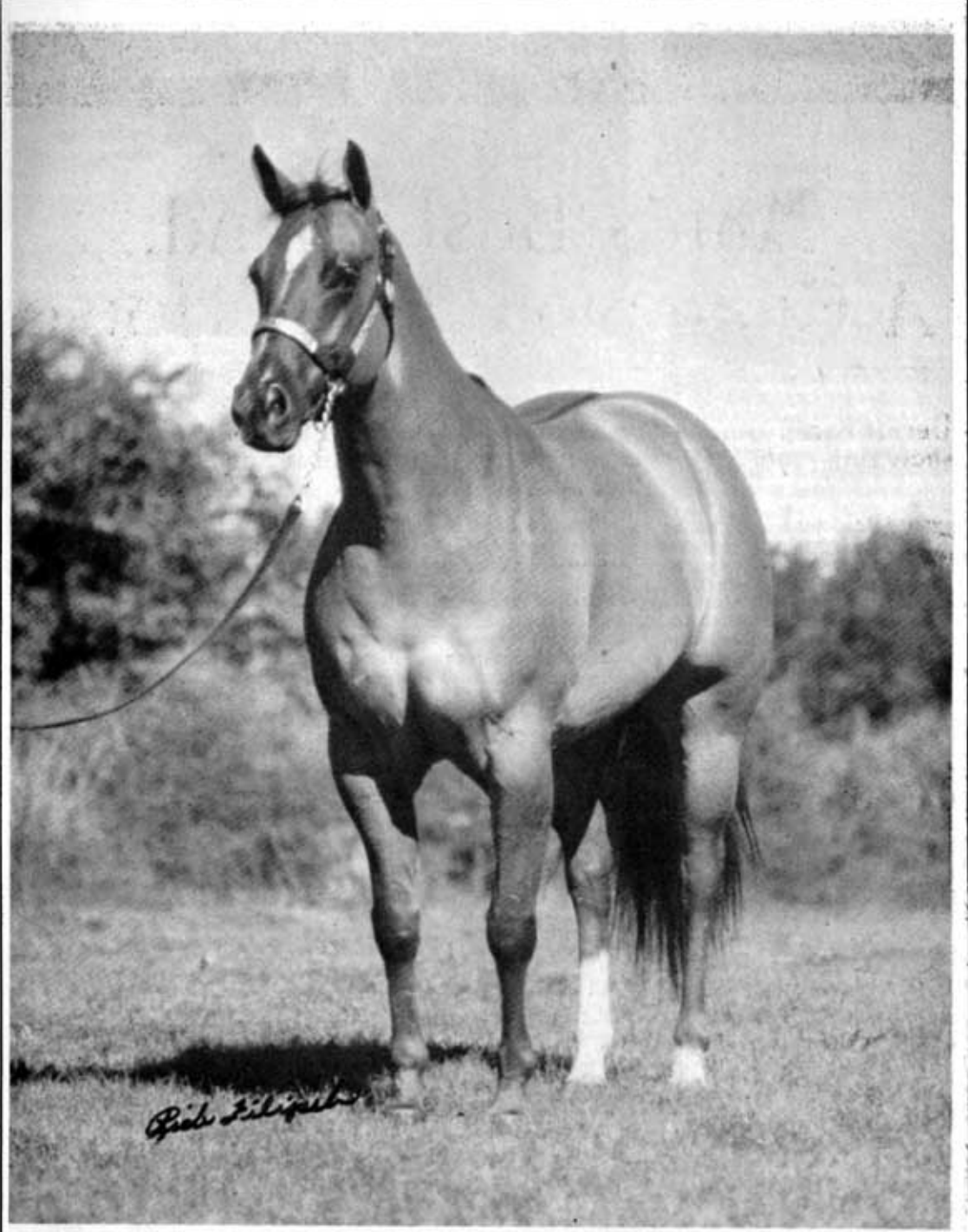
Berndt started in the registered quarter horse program in 1965. At his farm (which is called the Triple B), he was eager to get going, and so he carefully selected brood

and show mares with which to start off. The championship project was underway, encouraged by his sons, Robert and James, who were

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**O**ne of the earlier fine horses, Boston Rebellion, (LEFT) with Bernie Berndt at the Triple B Farm near Herreid. (OPPOSITE): Boston Sabrina was named best horse in South Dakota last year, and qualified for the world AQHA show at Oklahoma City.



# Champ

Continued

both interested too. They had the advantage of having received some useful preliminary training about what determines an outstanding horse because of their many 4-H and quarter horse shows in which they had eagerly participated. The boys had picked up some definite ideas about qualities to emphasize in a champion horse, and they consequently enjoyed a run of winnings, which lasted several years.

Of course, the boys' winning streak made other family members also enthusiastic about quarter horses. Bernie's wife, Eleanor, soon became thoroughly involved, right along with their daughters, Jacqueline, Barbara, Beth Ann, and Janet.

In 1970, the three younger



Barbara, Beth, and Janet ready for the horse shows.

daughters got interested in riding and showing. The interest continued while they were well into college or had graduated from college. And, along with the girls' three horses, Bernie always had a filly or mare of his own to show too.

"Most of the 16 or more shows that exhibited in the state of South Dakota, we participated in," said Bernie.

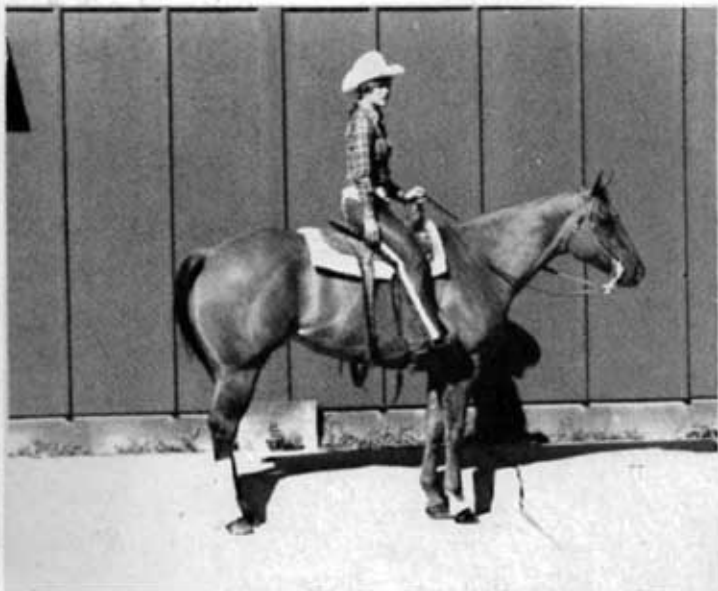
It helped that all three girls were very competitive. They won many blue ribbons, trophies, and year-end award buckles in showmanship and western pleasure divi-

sions. And they also did very well at the state horse show held every July of each year at the fairgrounds in Huron, South Dakota.

"This training and competition was very instrumental in shaping the girls' lives and attitudes toward their future," said Bernie. He added that it was enjoyable for his wife and himself to see their daughters working their horses every day and then watching them compete with the best in the show ring—and then walk off with considerable winnings.

Today, Barbara is a registered nurse; she and her husband and two boys live in Watertown, South Dakota; Beth and her husband reside in Williston, North Dakota, where she is affiliated with an accounting firm; Jackie lives in Los Angeles, and has a son and daughter; and Janet is a registered nurse in Denver.

Robert lives in Baker, Montana, where he is a manager at a Cenex fertilizer plant. James died in 1969 from cancer; he was only 15.



"Our brood mare band started with Hank Weiscamp bloodlines and gradually we acquired the Three Bars bloodlines and a few Johnny Dial bred mares," said Berndt.

The family's present stallion is a son of Boston Mac and is out of a Three Bars granddaughter mare, making him a double Three Bars-bred horse. He transmits all his good qualities to the colts and he has many good features.

In 1968, the Berndts had a three-

**Berndt** taking an afternoon stroll in front of his house. His farm has successfully raised three American Quarter Horse Association champions.

year-old mare, named Ski-Fi, who was all-around high-point horse in the quarter horse shows, winning the trophy saddle.

This past year, Boston Sabrina accomplished a great many awards. She was grand champion at nine shows and reserve champion as many times. South Dakota's state fair show was her best, at which she trotted off with grand champion and second in western pleasure. She is a superior horse, and was shown at the World Show in Oklahoma City in November 1984. She made her American Quarter Horse Association championship in Denver in the roping event, and will either be



sold or retired to the brood mare band.

Boston Sabrina's sweetest triumph was being named the high-point all-around horse for 1984 in South Dakota. She also won three silver belt buckles, is register of merit in western pleasure, and is also an American Quarter Horse

Association champion.

The Triple B Farm has had the distinction of promoting three American Quarter Horse Association champions: Ski-Fi in 1968, Miss Early Bars (dame of Boston Sabrina) in 1979, and Boston Sabrina in 1984.

That's quite a record! □