



WCABP

Western Canadian Association
of Bovine Practitioners



newsletter

Volume 10 No.4 December 2005

President's Message:

Over the years there has been a lot of discussion regarding the shortage of veterinarians in food animal practice. These discussions also include attempts to determine whether the problem is lack of interest in large animal medicine or rural practice itself. Regardless, there is progress being made to address these concerns.

One of the perceptions is that new graduates are not interested in large animal practice. I would suggest that this is not the case. As a Director for the WCABP I have had the opportunity to interact with the students (primarily the Bovine Club) at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN). The large number of students involved with the Bovine Club and the participation level they have for their meetings, our annual conference and general interactions with bovine practitioners clearly indicates there is interest. It is up to the profession to provide an environment for them to develop and maintain their interest. Programs such as the Ray Butler Bursary, summer student programs and student externships all play an important role in this development. These are areas that we as practitioners can actively contribute and promote our profession.

The WCVN has also recognized this need. The new expansion, which is now under construction, includes a significant commitment to bovine medicine and surgery. New bovine facilities for clinics, student teaching labs and research will provide students with a first class education. A curriculum review (currently underway) is taking into account the changing needs of today's student. Reductions in the mandatory classes and lectures, and more opportunities for core electives and developing special interests will allow students to become better prepared for the areas of practice they are interested in.

Alberta has a Veterinary Medicine Steering Committee in place that is developing strategies that will integrate post-secondary programs and research with the needs of our profession. This

Committee is comprised of members from universities, provincial and national veterinary associations and producer associations. The goal of this Committee is to establish linkages between all the colleges and universities that provide training for all aspects of veterinary medicine and animal health sciences.



Included in this issue of the newsletter is an update from Dr. Eugene Janzen on the status of the University of Calgary School of Veterinary Medicine. One of the reasons for developing this new veterinary college was to address the shortage of large animal veterinarians. Although there have been discussions about studies in mouse genomics or wildlife, the sole purpose is much more down-to-earth. Agriculture is very important in Western Canada and the Government of Alberta recognizes veterinarians as an important component in producing safe, inexpensive food and they are prepared to invest in this area.

I am looking forward to the annual WCABP Conference. Drs. Doug Mann and Ray Butler have put together great topics and speakers. I hope to see everyone there.

My term as President of the WCABP has been very enjoyable, interesting and rewarding. As this is my last President's Message I would like to take this opportunity to thank Murray, Phyllis, Cheryl and Deborah. They do an amazing job of taking care of business for the WCABP and let very little trickle down to my level. A heartfelt thank-you to all of them. ✎

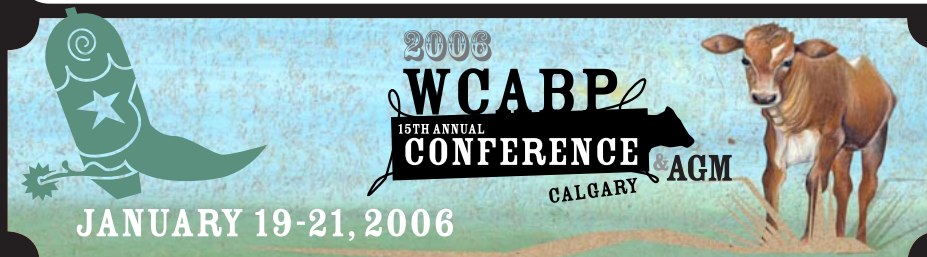
Craig Dorin, President



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www.wcabp.com



The WCABP newsletter can also be found on the WCABP website at www.wcabp.com



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**TO KEEP TABS ON
YOUR ASSOCIATION & YOUR INDUSTRY**

- 2006 Conference Updates
- Numerous links to sites of interest
- Latest industry information
- Vet Advice columns (contributed by WCABP members, and published in the Canadian Cattleman)



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MISSION STATEMENT

The objectives of the Association are:

1. To elevate standards of bovine veterinary practice by:
 - a. presenting one or more continuing education conferences on bovine practice each year;
 - b. preparing and distributing information bulletins;
 - c. otherwise encouraging a personal professional development program on the part of each member.
2. To promote research into bovine diseases by:
 - a. identifying areas of needed research of special interest to the bovine industry;
 - b. bringing this information to the attention of the Dean of the WCVN, and any other appropriate organizations,
 - c. otherwise encouraging research into bovine production.
3. To establish and maintain liaison with appropriate organizations as designated by the Board.



WCABP

Western Canadian Association
of Bovine Practitioners

The WCABP Newsletter is published by the Association as a service to its members. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of WCABP. Correspondence concerning the Newsletter should be directed to the WCABP Office.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report



This is always a busy time of the year for the WCABP, particularly the President-Elect (Dr. Doug Mann) who is responsible for coordinating the 2006 Conference. I am pleased to report that the program is on track and Dr. Butler reports that corporate sponsorship is on par with previous conferences. Once again, this year's scientific program looks to be exceptionally strong and we are anticipating a very good attendance for the conference; in fact, some members have already registered.

The WCABP is continuing to work with the Ontario Association of Bovine Practitioners (OABP) towards establishing a Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners (CABP). As with most initiatives, the devil is in the detail, and we are currently exploring the structure of the Board and a funding formula that will be fair to the OABP and future regional associations that choose to participate in the CABP. Although this initiative is moving slower than we had anticipated, there is still a desire on the part of all parties to make the CABP a reality. I will continue to provide the membership with updates as they become available.

In addition to the annual conference, the Board and K3 have been kept busy with a number of other initiatives. I am pleased to report that our inaugural regional CE meeting was very well received; a separate article on the meeting is contained within this newsletter. This is also that time of year that we receive student applications for the Ray Butler Bursary program. I am always impressed with the number and quality of the applicants. On this topic, historically the Board has tended to provide bursaries to those students who already have a strong agricultural background and a keen interest in becoming food animal practitioners. We will continue to support these types of applicants but we are also going to allocate bursaries to those students who do not necessarily have a farm background but who are interested in food animal production, particularly dairy and beef practice. I recently attended a conference in Kansas that was dedicated to educating food animal veterinarians for the future. It was interesting to note that two of the most successful dairy and swine practitioners in the United States both came from American large cities, and neither had any interest in food production until they got into veterinary college.

We will be losing two Board Members this year, Drs. Harland and Smid. If you are interested in becoming a Board member then please contact myself or another Board member. ✪

Murray Jelinski

CALL FOR WCABP BOARD MEMBERS

Richard Harland and Val Smid's term on the Board of Directors concludes January 2006. Candidates are needed to fill two "member-at-large" positions, each having a three-year term. Nomination forms were recently mailed out with the Conference registration packages. You do not have to be nominated by another member; just indicate on the form that you would be willing to stand for office. Elections will be held at the AGM on Friday, January 20th.

Traditionally the Board holds approximately 10-12 meetings per year, all but one or two by teleconference; the others during the annual Conference. Do not hesitate to contact the Secretary-Treasurer or any Board member to obtain more information on the commitment and the benefits. ✪

Murray Jelinski

Talk Back

In the June 2005 newsletter we asked for your feedback regarding the article on Pregnancy Testing Accreditation. Following is an additional response received.

I think the idea of pregnancy testing accreditation is a smart one. In college, veterinary students mainly practice palpating open cows in an attempt to master the techniques of retracting the uterus, finding the ovaries, and identifying various stages of follicular development. If a student was lucky, he/she was able to spend maybe one or two days preg-checking with the field-service clinicians. I find this to be inadequate preparation for a new grad's first fall run of preg-checking. It's not that fair to producers either for us to learn by trial and error on their cattle. Dr. Andrew Bronson made the excellent point in the September 2005 Newsletter that it would further raise our qualification above that of the layperson out there preg-checking (if they even have any qualification).

Alain Fafard DVM,
Brandon, MB

www.wcabp.com

Up-Coming Meetings

North American Veterinary Conference (NAVC) and National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) – Annual General Meeting and Conference.
January 7-11, 2006 in Orlando, Florida.

CONTACT:
tel: (352) 375-5672.
Web site: www.tnavc.org

Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) – Annual Conference and Trade Show.

January 26-28, 2006 at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto, Ontario. The conference program will feature concurrent sessions on bovine, equine, small animals and public health, practice management, and hospital personnel. Special registration fees for out-of-province delegates.

CONTACT: Christine Neziol, Delegate Coordinator, OVMA, 245 Commercial Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2J3;
tel: (905) 875-0756;
fax: (905) 875-0958;
e-mail: cneziol@ovma.org

78th Western Veterinary Conference (WVC) and Technician Program. February 19-23, 2006 at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

CONTACT:
tel: (702) 739-6698;
e-mail: info@westernveterinary.org;
Web site: www.westernveterinary.org

Atlantic Provinces Veterinary Conference. April 21-23, 2006 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

CONTACT:
tel: (902) 787-2531;
e-mail: b.sutherland@ns.sympatico.ca

WCVM and Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.

June 8-10, 2006 at the Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, SK

Request for Internship

DEAR SIR OR MADAM:

I am studying veterinary medicine in Munich, Germany. As part of my education I have to carry out an eight-week internship in a veterinary practice or animal clinic.

It would be a great opportunity to gain new insights if it were possible to do this in Canada. Since my main interest lies with farm animals, I hope you can help me.

Can you tell me if there are any veterinary practices or animal clinics in Western Canada that offer positions for (uncompensated) internships?

I am interested in a position in the spring/summer of 2007. At that time, I will be in the fifth year (tenth term) of my education.

Thanks in advance,
Michael Eschbaumer
cand. med. vet.
micha@eschbaumer.net

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Ray Butler 'Seeing Practice' Bursary Program

Have you considered a donation to the Ray Butler 'Seeing Practice' Bursary? Donations are used to provide bursaries to budding veterinarians who have shown an interest in large animal practice. The future of your practice may well depend upon someone who has taken up large animal practice as a result of a Bursary.

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VIDO Director Honoured

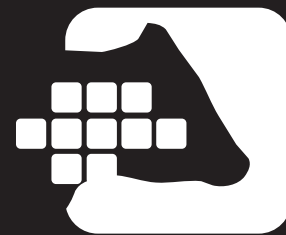
Lorne Babiuk, Director since 1993 of the University of Saskatchewan's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), has been named an Officer of the Order of Canada.

The Order of Canada is the country's highest civilian honour and is awarded to Canadians who have demonstrated merit, achievement and service to their communities.

Babiuk, a professor of veterinary medicine with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, is currently studying "natural" immunity and its potential to improve vaccine efficiency and complement or replace antibiotics. Under his leadership, VIDO researchers have developed a growing library of patented technologies and five "world firsts" in vaccine development. Babiuk receives the Order of Canada medal at a ceremony in the New Year.

Before the excitement died down, Babiuk was awarded the Prix Galien Canada (Research), an award that recognizes outstanding research in the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of diseases. Babiuk was honoured for his visionary research into the mechanisms by which infectious organisms cause disease and mammals respond to infection. By understanding these mechanisms, researchers can speed development of new ways to treat and prevent disease. The Prix Galien gold medal and plaque were presented to Babiuk at a gala ceremony November 16 in Montreal.

The awards cap an exciting year for Babiuk and VIDO. In March, the federal government awarded \$24 million towards a new International Vaccine Centre to be built adjacent to VIDO by 2009. In June, Babiuk and his team were awarded \$6.9 million by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to develop vaccines for newborns. ✪



Administrator's Report

Activity in our office has certainly increased over the past couple of months as we prepare for the 2006 Conference in Calgary. Along with Dr. Butler, we have been active coordinating the design of the Conference brochure, arranging travel for speakers, confirming hotel and audiovisual arrangements, etc.

The Conference brochure and Membership Renewal forms were mailed on November 2nd. Conference information and on-line registration forms are also available on the WCABP website (www.wcabp.com). Please note that once again we are offering incentives for those who register by January 5, 2006.

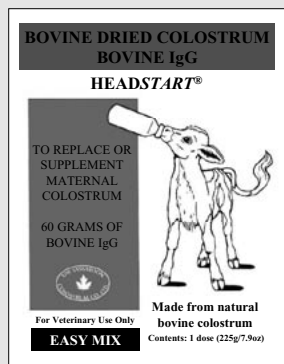
In addition to Conference and membership activities we were involved in the organization of the WCABP's inaugural regional meeting held in Leduc, AB on October 22nd, which proved to be a success. We have also been overseeing the audit of the Association's June 30, 2005 financial statements.

Have a Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in January! ✪

Phyllis Mierau/Cheryl Pasulyko
WCABP Office Administrators

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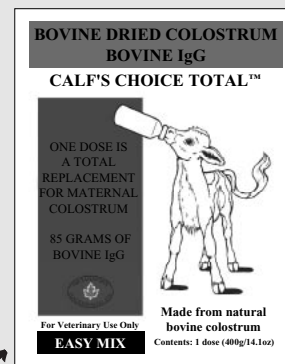
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CVMA Veterinarian Statistics (2005)

The statistics presented here are based on information contained in the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association database. The information is compiled by the CVMA based on data collected by provincial veterinary medical associations and the CVMA itself.

VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHICS

Approximate number of veterinarians in Canada: 9602

BREAKDOWN BY GENDER:

Female:	4328
Male:	5274

BREAKDOWN BY PROVINCE:

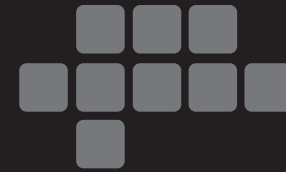
Alberta:	1102
British Columbia:	1152
Manitoba:	359
New Brunswick:	201
Newfoundland and Labrador:	62
Nova Scotia:	282
Prince Edward Island:	187
Saskatchewan:	496
Ontario:	3453
Quebec:	2285
Territories:	17
Unspecified:	6

FIELD OF PRACTICE:

Large animal practice:	949
Companion animal practice:	4347
Mixed animal practice:	2270
Other (<i>Research, Teaching, Government, Industry, Retired etc.</i>):	2018
Unspecified:	18

Approximate number of practices in Canada: 2752

Large animal:	314
Companion animal:	1597
Mixed animal:	841



Distance Learning for Veterinarians, Farmers and Those Who Work With Animals

The Royal Veterinary College is a specialist graduate college of the University of London that run distance learning programs for working veterinarians, epidemiologists, farmers and others. Students all over the world are taking their courses and appreciate the flexibility that it allows.

The Royal Veterinary College offers two Masters degrees/Postgraduate Diplomas plus a range of short courses, which people often take for professional development.

For more information please visit their website:
www.londonexternal.ac.uk/rvc

Larry Frischke, D.V.M.

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Regional CE Meeting

The WCABP held its inaugural Regional CE Meeting on October 22nd in Leduc. Dr. Ted Clark provided an informative one-day short course on bovine necropsy techniques and common pathological findings. The morning session was spent at the Leduc Veterinary Clinic, which was an ideal venue because the host (Dr. Stephen Radostits) has a detached building specifically set-up for necropsies. Stephen and his partners were able to provide Ted with four fresh cases, which were used for the demonstrations. Judging by the number of questions, the morning session was extremely informative. I was particularly struck by how the Western Beef Productivity Study (Dr. Cheryl Waldner) has changed how pathologists such as Dr. Clark examine carcasses. The old days of just taking samples from areas that show obvious gross pathological changes are over. Ted impressed upon everyone the need for a complete set of tissues, for he is seeing other underlying processes, particularly nutritional deficiencies, which historically have been missed. The old adage that more cases are misdiagnosed for not looking than for not knowing is particularly true when it comes to pathology. After lunch, we all gathered in a conference room where Ted provided a presentation on gross and histopathological post-mortem findings. This was a smorgasbord of findings, some being a refresher and others being unique findings that he has come across, particularly in his work with Dr. Waldner. Incidentally, Dr. Waldner will

be presenting her findings at the 2006 Conference, and many of the key findings are based on 1,500 histopathological examinations, all performed by Dr. Clark.

On behalf of all attendees, the WCABP thanks Dr. Clark for offering this unique and highly informative short-course to our members. We also would like to thank Dr. Stephen Radostits for use of his facilities and for coordinating the procurement of carcasses. And lastly, the WCABP relies upon the generosity of our corporate sponsors to allow us to provide CE to the membership at a reasonable cost. We thank Novartis Animal Health Canada Inc., Schering-Plough Animal Health and Bayer HealthCare; Animal Health Division for their generous support of our inaugural regional meeting. And lastly, the WCABP is here to serve the membership so if you would like us to organize a regional meeting, whether it be a short-course in necropsy technique, or any other subject, then please contact myself or K3 and we will facilitate organizing the meeting. ♣

Murray Jelinski



Link to Canadian Cattlemen's Monthly Report

General information on the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) can be found on their website at www.cattle.ca. The "Media Room" section provides copies of the latest news and audio releases as well as copies of the CCA Monthly report. Daily updates are available at www.info-cca.ca.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY VETERINARY SCHOOL

Please visit www.vet.ucalgary.ca in order to obtain the latest information as well as questions and answers regarding the establishment of the University of Calgary Veterinary School.



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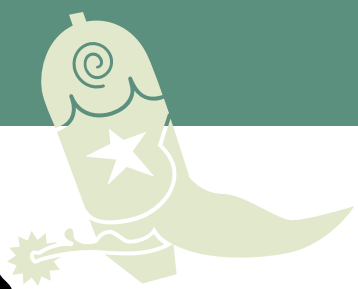


2006

WCABP

15TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM

CALGARY



JANUARY 19-21, 2006
EXECUTIVE ROYAL INN (2828 - 23RD STREET NE)
CALGARY, ALBERTA

WCABP Calling - Register NOW for the 2006 Conference

Christmas is just around the corner to be followed by the 2006 WCABP Conference, which will be held in Calgary from Thursday through Saturday, January 19th to 21st.

WCABP convention planners are ever mindful of providing a top notch practical educational program while keeping the cost to those attending as low as possible, as attested to by what is laid on for the upcoming meeting.

Refer to the program outline in this newsletter or, better still, go to the WCABP website: www.wcabp.com to gain a full appreciation of the excellent program that has been put together by Doug Mann and the WCABP office staff. Where else can you find a competitive three-day meeting that is targeted precisely to meet the needs of bovine practitioners, notably those in Western Canada?

Have you checked the price of the recent seat sale? Most of the WCABP office staff was able pick up tickets from Saskatoon to Calgary for \$67.00, same price for the return trip. Coupled with the low cost of accommodation at the Executive Royal Inn (\$89.00 per night, single or double), this might be the year to treat your better half to a few days in Calgary!

The cost of registration fees has been kept to those charged in 2005. A feature of WCABP conferences that is sometimes overlooked is that the fees are "all-inclusive" in that a 'full' continental breakfast, lunch and two refreshment breaks are provided each day of the meeting.

Thanks to the generosity of commercial sponsors, costs for the Thursday and Friday evening meals and entertainment are kept to a minimum.

For the second year in a row, Bayer HealthCare has graciously sponsored a complimentary dinner and presentation open to all registrants of the 2006 WCABP Conference in Calgary, Alberta.* Dr. Joseph Blondeau,

Head of the Department of Clinical Microbiology at Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, has agreed to present his research on novel approaches to clinical decision making in antimicrobial selection and utility. Dr. Blondeau is a world-renowned speaker on the topic of Mutant Prevention Concentration (MPC) theory, and he will explore antimicrobial resistance generation and avoidance as it applies to food animal veterinary practice. Look forward to an excellent meal and presentation on this exciting new research in human and veterinary medicine.

* Open to all conference registrants who are veterinarians or fourth year students of the WCVB Bovine Club.

Our appreciation and thanks are also extended to Pfizer Animal Health for continuing to provide generous support for the buffet and entertainment planned for the Friday evening. The Executive Royal Inn goes all out with a menu designed to please all tastes. Plan to make a full meal of the reception buffet which will include: skewered beef, breaded shrimp, honey garlic ribs, swedish meatballs, salads, cheese and dessert trays; the list goes on. Clark Robertson of Calgary's Side-Splitting Productions will provide the post-buffet entertainment with his array of props and razor-sharp comedic timing. Clark's high-energy entertainment may prove to be a highlight of the 2006 Convention. Tickets for the evening (\$20.00 per person) are a good bargain, thanks to Pfizer.

The stage is set. All that is needed is a good representation of cattle practitioners. Plan to be there!

Register for the Conference by mail (1126G - 116 Research Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 3R3), fax (306-956-0607) or on-line (www.wcabp.com). Remember there is an incentive for registering by January 5, 2006. ♣

Ray Butler

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH
Registration Desk Opens and Continental Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
DAIRY Sapphire Ballroom Introductory Remarks Chair 8:30 a.m.
What I have Learned About Veterinary Medicine Since Becoming a Dairy Producer Walter Guterbock 8:35 a.m.
Refreshment Break 10:00 a.m.
Colostrum Management in Dairy Calves Sandra Godden 10:30 a.m.
Lunch Break 12:00 noon
Pasteurization of Waste Milk Sandra Godden 1:30 p.m.
What You Can Tell About a Heifer Program by Walking Around Walter Guterbock 2:15 p.m.
Refreshment Break 3:00 p.m.
Monitoring Herd Performance - From a Producer's Perspective Walter Guterbock 3:30 p.m.
Discussion and Audience Participation 4:15 p.m.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER PRESENTATION Sapphire DR. JOE BLONDEAU (sponsored by Bayer Health Care) for all conference registrants who are veterinarians, or fourth year students of a veterinary school.



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, January 20, 2006
12:15 p.m.

Executive Royal Inn 2828 - 23rd Street N.E., Calgary, AB

Agenda to include executive reports, election of officers and award presentations

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2006 WCABP CONFERENCE



HOTEL BOOKING INFORMATION

2006 WCABP Conference
January 19-21, 2006

Executive Royal Inn
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Indicate that you are with the WCABP to qualify
for the Conference room rate of \$89

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19TH

Registration Desk Opens and Continental
Breakfast 7:30 a.m.

BEEF SEMINAR
Emerald Ballroom
Introductory Remarks
Chair 8:30 a.m.

**UPDATE ON THE WESTERN CANADA BEEF
PRODUCTION STUDY**
Factors Affecting Reproductive
Performance in Beef Herds
Determinants of Calf Survival and
Performance - A Western Perspective
Ted Clark/Cheryl Waldner 8:35 a.m.

Refreshment Break 10:00 a.m.

**Describing the Dead Pile - Causes of Death
Loss in Cow-Calf Herds**
Vitamin E and Selenium - Their Role in
Cow-Calf Herds
Ted Clark/Cheryl Waldner 10:30 a.m.

Lunch Break 12:00 noon

LAMENESS IN CATTLE
More Than Just Footrot
Chris Clark 1:30 p.m.

Refreshment Break 3:00 p.m.

**An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound
of Cure**
When a Good Foot Goes Bad
Chris Clark 3:30 p.m.

Session Adjourns 5:00 p.m.

re Room 6:30 p.m.
Care; Animal Health Division). Open to all confer-
year students of the WCVB Bovine Club.

CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20TH

Registration Desk Opens and Continental
Breakfast 7:30 a.m.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS
Emerald Ballroom
Introductory Remarks
Chair 8:30 a.m.

**How Effective is Pre-Weaning Vaccination
of Beef Calves?**
Ken Bateman 8:35 a.m.

Bull Evaluation in Australia
Albert Barth 9:15 a.m.

Refreshment Break 10:00 a.m.

**Revisiting the Chronic Pneumonia and
Polyarthrititis Syndrome (CPPS) in Feedlot
Cattle**
Ken Bateman 10:30 a.m.

Vesiculitis in Young Bulls
Albert Barth 11:15 a.m.

Lunch Meeting 11:50 a.m.

Annual General Meeting of the WCABP
11:50 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.
Sapphire Ballroom
Chair: Dr. Craig Dorin, WCABP President

**Still Flailing After All These Years?
Success Through Responsibility**
Kit Grant 1:30 p.m.

Refreshment Break 3:00 p.m.

INDUSTRY PRESENTATIONS 3:30 p.m.

Session Adjourns 5:00 p.m.

BUFFET & ENTERTAINMENT
6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Emerald Ballroom

www.wcabp.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST

Registration Desk Opens and Continental
Breakfast 7:45 a.m.

O.M.R. SEMINARS - ISSUES IN BIOSECURITY
Emerald Ballroom
Chair 8:30 a.m.

Biosecurity of the National Cattle Herd
Brian Evans 8:40 a.m.

**An Overview of Biosecurity in Beef and
Dairy Herds**
John Gay 9:20 a.m.

Refreshment Break 10:00 a.m.

TBA 10:30 a.m.

**Transposing Biosecurity Protocols from
Swine to Cattle Herds**
Mike Sheridan 11:15 a.m.

Lunch Break 12:00 noon

**BIOSECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE - A ROLE
FOR PRACTITIONERS?**

Case Presentations:
1) Salmonellosis in a Veterinary Practice
2) Johne's Disease in a Cattle Operation
Discussion with Audience Participation
John Berezowski/Sylvia Checkley/
Ron Clarke/Jagdish Patel 1:00 p.m.

Refreshment Break 3:30 p.m.

Conference Ends

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

- DR. ALBERT BARTH
- DR. KEN BATEMAN
- DR. JOHN BEREZOWSKI
- DR. SYLVIA CHECKLEY
- DR. CHRIS CLARK
- DR. TED CLARK
- DR. RON CLARKE
- DR. BRIAN EVANS
- DR. JOHN GAY
- DR. SANDRA GODDEN
- MR. KIT GRANT
- DR. WALTER GUTERBOCK
- DR. JAGDISH PATEL
- DR. MIKE SHERIDAN
- DR. CHERYL WALDNER



2006 WCABP CONFERENCE - ONE NOT TO MISS

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Beef and Cattle Trade Advisory Group Announced

To ensure on-going, integrated approaches to beef and cattle specific trade issues, Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Andy Mitchell has announced the establishment of the Beef and Cattle Trade Advisory Group (BCTAG). The creation of the BCTAG will facilitate the identification of trade priorities and discussions related to market access and market development, as well as trade negotiations that are of interest to the Government of Canada and industry leaders. "This advisory group will help in guiding industry and government resource commitments that permit us to achieve our goal of greater international market penetration", said Minister Mitchell. The BCTAG includes senior representatives from a number of key industry associations, including the Canada Beef Export Federation, Canada Beef Breeds Council, Canadian Livestock Genetics Association, Canadian Cattlemen's Association, Canadian Meat Council and other appropriate industry organizations. Along with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and International Trade Canada will also participate in the Advisory Group discussions. ♣

Report from the WCVM Bovine Club

The WCVM Bovine Club is once again looking forward to an active and exciting year! We have 97 members for the 2005-06 school year, with 52 WCABP student members. Since the 2006 WCABP Conference is the same time as the CVMA Symposium, which is being held at the WCVM this year, the WCABP memberships declined. However, those that did become members are extremely enthusiastic! The students are definitely looking forward to the WCABP Conference to be held in Calgary, but since many of them are unable to make it due to the conflict with the Symposium, they are also excited to hear that the 2nd Annual WCABP Student Seminar will be held here at the College. We are very grateful to the WCABP for being so accommodating and their willingness to include students in their Association.

The WCVM Bovine Club has started off the year by having rounds every other week. Rounds have mainly been done by Dr. Chris Clark and Dr. Hendriks, where they have presented various interesting cases that they have encountered in the clinics. However, in the near future we anticipate having guest speakers to come and talk to us. Along with the Animal Welfare Club, we hope to bring Temple Grandin to WCVM to provide a seminar on appropriate handling

and transport of cattle. Considering that she is world-renowned, this is quite an exciting opportunity for all of the students. We are also looking forward to a talk on Quality Starts Here and the On-Farm Food Safety Program. Since we are always interested in having guest speakers join us we would love to hear from any bovine practitioner who is willing to either present an interesting case or speak on a topic that they are very familiar with. We would especially like the input of more dairy practitioners as many of the cases and presentations currently revolve around beef.

On the next page is a list of WCVM students who are interested in gaining cattle experience over the coming summer. Since there was quite an enthusiastic response from the students I strongly encourage you to contact students that are looking for work in your area and discuss the possibility of them joining you in your practice. Each and every veterinarian and practice has something to offer these students, and so I hope that you seriously consider this opportunity to make a difference in their education. ♣

Jolene Meindertsma
Vice-President; WCABP Student Rep

In the Spring of 2003, the detailed planning started on the WCVM Expansion and Renovation Projects. Architects were hired later that year to start the required drawings and construction plan. In 2004, a Construction Manager was named along with a Project Manager.

Funding started with commitments from the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan. The College set a fundraising target of \$5M toward the project's total budget of \$48M. To date, contributions from alumni, corporate friends, private donations, veterinary organizations, and WCVM faculty, staff and students total \$2.3M. Fundraising continues toward meeting the target.

While fundraising continues, the drawings are becoming a reality. Two new classrooms for small group teaching are completed. The food animal teaching facility should be completed by January 2006. Foundation work on a new research wing started in October. Expansion of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital started in June. Renovations in the large animal clinic began in October also. So the plans and drawings are becoming a reality. Completion of the entire project is slated for 2008.

In closing, I want to particularly note the financial gifts and pledges of the four western Veterinary Medical Associations, as well as the Western Canadian Association of Swine Practitioners. A major corporate gift was made by Westgen last spring. I want to gratefully acknowledge all those that have provided support to date. We hope that we will be able to include the Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners among our growing list of financial supporters. ♣

Chuck Rhodes
Dean, WCVM



Neil Carruthers, BSA
Territory Manager, Beef/Dairy



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Michelle Hutchison, BSA
Territory Manager



Animal Health

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Students Interested in Gaining Cattle Experience in a Clinic Over Summer 2006

Class of 2007 (3rd Year)

JODY BARRY
jlb483@mail.usask.ca
306-652-3406
Location: Saskatoon area

NAOMI JANE HARMS
njh545@mail.usask.ca
306-343-0249
Location: anywhere in Canada

KERI GAGE
kdg226@mail.usask.ca
306-374-3712
Location: Saskatchewan, would consider other locations

AMANDA BROWN
arb192@mail.usask.ca
306-653-1768
Location: preferably within 1 hour from Saskatoon, will consider other locations

CRYSTAL CHRISTMAN
306-373-4866 (Saskatoon)
403-901-9451 (cell)
Location: within 1 hour radius of Strathmore, AB

STEPHEN ATKINSON
sna119@mail.usask.ca
306-653-4751
Location: commuting distance from Saskatoon

SHARON PYDEE
sharonpydee@hotmail.com
306-477-5909
Location: Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba

KENDRA DOORNENBAL
306-955-2182
Location: Alberta

ANDREA ULMER
avu986@mail.usask.ca
306-374-2851
Location: Alberta or Saskatchewan

ERIC MAGUET
306-683-8689
Location: Alberta

MARY RUTLEDGE
mdr281@mail.usask.ca
306-374-8090
Location: Alberta or Saskatchewan

JESS HEATH
jess.heath@usask.ca
306-477-3398
Location: Saskatchewan or BC

KENT WEIR
kdw555@mail.usask.ca
955-0138
Location: will go anywhere

DEANA SCHENHER
deanaschenher@hotmail.com
306-955-2377
Location: anywhere in Saskatchewan, Alberta

TEE FOX
tlf491@mail.usask.ca
(306)944-2005
Location: Anywhere
Very interested in dairy practice

ANGELA GUTZER
acg187@usask.ca
1-306-343-0249
Location: Saskatoon area

CLASS OF 2008 (2ND YEAR)

LAURA KIEHLBAUCH
(306) 384-9169
lmk380@mail.usask.ca
Location: Salmon Arm area or Kamloops area, B.C.

MICHAEL BUGG
meb625@mail.usask.ca
306-374-4124
Location: Saskatchewan

JORDON WOODSWORTH
jwoodsworth@sasktel.net
306-934-1470
Location: Saskatchewan

LISA HRYCAN
lisa.hrycan@usask.ca
374-4006
Location: within about a half hour's drive of Saskatoon

MARY TYRNER
mct875@mail.usask.ca
780-235-6296 (cell)
Location: southern BC, Saskatoon area, Edmonton area

JOSH LINDENBACH
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Location: Western Canada

JOLENE MEINDERTSMA
jdm669@mail.usask.ca
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Location: Southern Alberta

HANNAH DAVIS
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hcd477@mail.usask.ca
Location: Wainwright, AB or Ponoka, AB and surrounding areas

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kap009@mail.usask.ca
306-477-0514
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CHERI GALATIUK
clg142@mail.usask.ca
306-382-2437
Location: anywhere in Canada

RYAN MOHR
rkm474@mail.usask.ca
306-373-2555
Location: within commuting distance of Saskatoon

HANNA OPETZ
hanna.opetz@usask.ca
(306) 477-5909
Location: anywhere

TANYA SCHIMPL
tschimpl@sasktel.net
(306) 384-5878
Location: southern BC (Lower Mainland, Okanagan Valley), Saskatchewan (preferably within 1 hour of Saskatoon); will consider other locations in Western Canada

SARAH GRUNDY
seg602@mail.usask.ca
(306) 978-3846
Location: Saskatoon

ALLISTER GRAY
abg455@mail.usask.ca
306-934-6063
Location: within commuting distance of Saskatoon

LAURA McILWAIN
mclilwain@fastmail.ca
lcm511@mail.usask.ca
306-262-1646
Location: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, BC (Vanderhoof, Prince George in particular)

DEVIN NOBERT
(306)664-9809
dpn063@mail.usask.ca
Location: Calgary and area, or Saskatoon and area

CHRIS BIEDERBECK
cab450
306-955-4639
Location: Saskatchewan

LILY McCAIG
lcm744
306-931-8624
Location: within commuting distance from Saskatoon

RHEA PLESMAN
rlp084@mail.usask.ca
306-477-1935
Location: within one hour from Saskatoon SK or Lethbridge AB

KIRSTY ELLIOT
kme764@mail.usask.ca
306-384-9169
Location: within 30 minutes of Saskatoon

JAMIE TUDOR
jlt491@mail.usask.ca
Phone 306-652-2006 (Saskatoon)
Phone 306-638-4972 (Bethune)
Location: Moose Jaw, Watrous, or Regina areas

CLASS OF 2009 (1ST YEAR)

AMY KONSCHUH
(306) 664-4054
alk352@mail.usask.ca
Location: Saskatchewan or Lethbridge, AB; will consider other options

PAMELA SUDDABY
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ALLISON MURRAY
avm583@mail.usask.ca
306-651-2157
Location: Saskatoon area

GAYLE LONGSON
(306) 384-0754
gcl785@mail.usask.ca
Location: Okotoks, High River, Claresholm, AB

MATT FLINTOFT
306-262-5312
mjf981@mail.usask.ca
Location: preferably around Saskatoon, Winnipeg, or Neepeawa, MB; will consider other areas

JANICE REID
jar162@mail.usask.ca
(403) 519-9129
Location: Sundre, Olds, Carstairs, Cremona, Cochrane, Airdrie, Springbank areas

ASHLEY ZIEGLER
acz424@mail.usask.ca
306-382-5296
Location: Saskatoon area (within 1 hour of the city), will consider locations in the Calgary/Cochrane area

MILLY VAN DER LOOP
mcv014@mail.usask.ca
(306) 717-8110
Location: Saskatchewan

CHRISTA HARDER
cah400@mail.usask.ca
(306) 244-2442
Location: Western Canada

ALLISON COX
aec862@mail.usask.ca
306-665-8905
Locations: Saskatoon and area, Alberta (prefer Calgary region), BC near Peace River country or East Kootenays

CAROLINE BOISSONNEAULT
c_boissonneault@hotmail.com
(306) 933-3934
Location: Manitoba

ALYCIA CHRENEK
amc832@mail.usask.ca
306-880-3326 or 403-227-4348
Location: Red Deer/Innisfail area, or the Airdrie area in Alberta. I am especially interested in a practice involving reproduction.

CEMAINE TSANG
Tel 306-382-3882
Location: preferably within a 1-hour commute from Saskatoon. But, anywhere for a short period (i.e. one month)

CHAD PAETSCH
cdp428@mail.usask.ca
(306) 374-5776
Location: Saskatchewan

JAN CURRAH
jmc623@mail.usask.ca
(306) 374-3438
Location: Saskatchewan (commute from Saskatoon) or Manitoba (commute from Minnedosa)

JONATHAN LEICHT
jrl774@mail.usask.ca
306 978-7886
Location: Calgary area and south

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Receives \$46.8 Million in Provincial Funding

In October, the Alberta government approved \$46.8 million over four years for the University of Calgary's newly created Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. The faculty will open its doors to the first class of students in the fall of 2007.

"We're tremendously pleased to have the support we need to continue moving forward on a number of fronts that are essentially the building blocks of this program," said Dr. Eugene Janzen, interim dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. "With this funding in place, we are now able to focus on recruiting outstanding faculty, continuing to develop our curriculum, and cementing our relationships in the community."

The faculty, which will initially welcome about 30 students, will be unique not just in Canada but in North America in that it will focus on the relationship between human and animal health. As such, the faculty will work closely with the University of Calgary's Faculty of Medicine, as well as collaborating with other veterinary-related programs in and out of post-secondary institutions in the province and across Canada. The faculty will be in a position to be on the leading edge of research into important issues such as the safety of the food supply and zoonotic diseases like BSE and West Nile that can jump from animals to humans.

Although the doors to students in Calgary won't be open till 2007, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is already being seen in classrooms outside of our city. Dr. Jacob Thundathil, an assistant professor with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, recently delivered guest e-lectures at the University of Guelph and McGill University.

These virtual lectures provide a glimpse into the future of what learning will look like at the University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. E-lectures, along with e-rounds will allow the faculty to connect to multiple and distant sites to deliver online evaluations and examinations. The faculty's technology plan is designed to benefit both students and practicing veterinarians across the country.

In the upcoming months, a major focus for the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine will be working toward accreditation, with a plan to make their submission to the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education in late spring of 2006. Once this rigorous process is completed, being accredited will mean that students graduating from the University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine will be recognized worldwide.

As expected, the new faculty has started to create a buzz in the community, especially from prospective students. Representatives of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine are regularly being asked to attend events at high school, college and university campuses as well as information sessions in Alberta communities.

"We've always intended this to be a program that meets the needs not only of our students, but also needs to meet the needs of the community we serve," said Dr. Janzen. "The good news is that we're hearing that we're on the right track and we have the support we need to move forward with our vision of creating a truly leading edge approach to research and education in veterinary medicine." ♣

Beef Vaccination Certificate Program

The last Newsletter made reference to having an electronic version of the Vaccination Certificate Program being ready for distribution for this fall. While the program was indeed ready to go we were a bit nervous of a mass distribution without having first beta-tested the program and secondly we needed to write a manual. Subsequently, Dr. Paul Christiansen and his Committee distributed the program to approximately ten veterinary clinics. For the most part the program has performed as expected and we have received only a few minor technical questions, most of which can easily be addressed in the manual.

The new launch date is now set to coincide with the January meeting in Calgary. Paul has blocked-off 20 minutes during the Industry Presentation session to present the program and answer any questions that may arise. The program and manual will be available for sale at this time. ♣

Murray Jelinski



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Clarence Manegre
Industry Specialist, Cattle



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Market Support Specialist



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U of C Vet School to Focus on BSE

As published in *The Calgary Herald* on November 15, 2005 by Eugene Janzen

Given the recent flurry of newspaper pieces speculating about the faculty of veterinary medicine at the University of Calgary, I am happy to provide an update on our plans and progress with this revolutionary new degree program.

Some people have asked why we need to go to the expense of creating a new veterinary school when we already have four in Canada. Others have argued the Alberta government would have saved money by putting it at the University of Alberta, which has a faculty of agriculture, forestry and home economics.

What sets the University of Calgary program apart is that its design is unique, not only within Canada, but within North America. Western University in California offers the only veterinary degree program that comes close to the design being contemplated here, in that the teaching hospital will be distributed among collaborating practices in the community.

U of C's three-year program will seek to integrate human and animal medicine as never before.

That means our graduates will be best able to deal with zoonotic diseases such as BSE, CWD, West Nile and avian influenza. Studies show that 80 per cent of all human infections come from the animal world. That's why we are specifically targeting our veterinary studies at this new school towards getting ahead of emerging zoonotic diseases and developing prevention strategies.

Given the devastating impact of BSE on Alberta, I think most people would agree that a research and education program targeting this area is a priority.

Another important emphasis for this new vet school, along with public health and food safety, is a focus on rural community practice and the veterinarians required to maintain

that kind of practice - specialists who are desperately needed, not only in rural Alberta, but who have also been identified as critical elsewhere as well.

In Alberta, because of our vibrant energy industry, domestic and wild animals serve as a monitor for the health of the environment. Studies proposed at the new faculty of veterinary medicine will demonstrate to veterinary students how population exams of relevant animals will help to describe the health of the landscape around us.

This new veterinary curriculum is also designed to put our students into hands-on clinical learning situations from the very first day they begin their studies.

The distributed, community-based teaching hospital we plan to use to present our students with clinical cases means we will not be building an enormously expensive central hospital facility. We are, therefore, partnering with the veterinary community, rather than setting up a university clinical practice that competes with their clinical business.

That's why, for the past two years, the U of C has been undertaking an extensive, Alberta-wide process of consulting with key leaders in the veterinary, agricultural, ranching, equestrian, zoo and wildlife communities.

Although this model is extremely complex and time-consuming to set up initially, it will reap tremendous benefits for our students, and the communities they practice in for decades to come. It will also serve as an example for veterinary schools in other jurisdictions to emulate.

The shortage of veterinarians in Alberta and

across the country is too acute for us to waste time and money duplicating training sites and facilities that already exist. That's why we are developing agreements and understandings with other universities, colleges, and key community partners, predominantly in Alberta, but in other provinces as well, to capitalize on all of the resources already in place.

The government of Alberta has committed \$64 million in funding over the next four years to help us support and deliver this exceptional new veterinary degree. I commend the government, and in particular, Lyle Oberg and Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock for having the

vision to invest in this innovative new faculty of veterinary medicine.

We believe it's time to end the regional political debate about which institution gets what funding when, and whether distribution of government funding is perfectly fair across Alberta.

I am encouraging our team of new faculty members in veterinary medicine at the U of C, and dozens of community partners across the province to focus on delivering the promise we have made to students and the people of Alberta: to mentor leading-edge veterinarians prepared to meet the challenges of the future, conduct high-quality animal disease research, food supply safety assurance, and provide the clinical expertise Alberta and the rest of Canada needs. ✪

Eugene Janzen is interim dean of the faculty of veterinary medicine at the University of Calgary.

...it will reap tremendous benefits for our students, and the communities they practice in for decades to come. It will also serve as an example for veterinary schools in other jurisdictions to emulate.



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www.wcabp.com



PROFILE #1 Cathy Patterson

Cathy Patterson (nee James) was born, and spent the majority of her childhood, in Hampshire, England. Her first exposure to Canada was in 1973, when she immigrated to Canada (Vancouver) with her parents and 5 siblings.

After completing her high school education in Vancouver, Cathy spent a year traveling Europe before enrolling in Agriculture at The University of British Columbia. Two years at UBC and Cathy was off to England for a six-month job in the dairy industry. It was during this time that Cathy really decided to be a veterinarian. She then spent another six months traveling, in India this time, before returning to UBC for a third year.

Cathy was then accepted at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCV), "being accepted by WCV was basically the end of my life", laughs Cathy. She graduated from WCV in 1986.

Although Cathy would liked to have found a job in British Columbia, the 3 or 4 openings at the time filled rather quickly and she was left to find something on the prairies. One of her on-campus interviews was with Bob and Leah Herman from Gladstone, Manitoba. "When I interviewed with Bob and Leah, all I really wanted to do was practice my interviewing skills," recalls Cathy, "I'm sure they wanted a man for the job, so I was

probably their last choice!" Having never been east of Saskatoon, Cathy drove out to Gladstone to take a look, and decided, "What the hell - go for it!" It was a great practice to start in as it was busy, had a little bit of everything, and was truly rural.

Cathy worked full-time for a couple of years, during which time she met Garry Patterson, a farmer, and got married. After having a couple of children, Cathy worked part time through to 1995. In the fall of 1995, Cathy decided put up her own shingle and start an ambulatory practice, Patterson Mobile Veterinary Services.

"It is a perfect niche for someone like me," offers Cathy. "It provides a great opportunity for integrating family life and work. I really like being centered around home". Her work is mostly cow/calf. The Gladstone area is quite a traditional area with mostly grain/beef farms, averaging between 50 - 300 cows. There is also a fair bit of horse work.

In addition to her practice, Cathy helps out on the farm, which consists of 125 beef cows, and some 1,500 acres, 700 of which are designated for crops. When not in her SUV, Cathy can be found gardening, cooking, reading, knitting, dabbling in photography, cross-country skiing, or biking.

Professionally, Cathy is completing her 1st year on the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association Council.

Cathy is also a cop - an Animal Protection Officer. "I have authority to investigate complaints regarding the mistreatment of animals" offers Cathy. Being an APO has had a few tense moments. "On one occasion, I was ushered off a farm with the threat of a shot-gun and then chased down the road in a tractor". Despite the questionable excitement, she feels it is a necessary job which vets are well equipped to handle.

Cathy has two children, James (15) and Zoë (14), both of whom are musically inclined and play the violin and piano. They make a weekly trip to Brandon as part of the Suzuki Strings program. James, Zoë, and Cathy, who is also a flautist, are called upon to play at numerous community events. Zoë's other pleasure comes from riding horses.

So when she says that getting into WCV was the end of her life, she really means it was the beginning. ♣



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2. Hurley and Chase, 1995. Vira Shield has no approved claim for duration of immunity for Type 2 BVD.
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