



## Bellwether Magazine

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## Treadmill Dedication



*Mr. F. Eugene Dixon, Jr., chairman of the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission, addresses guests during the dedication of the Jeffords Treadmill Facility in September.*



*Mrs. Walter M. Jeffords, Jr., with assistance from Dean Andrews, unveils the plaque noting that the Jeffords Treadmill Facility was named in loving memory of her husband.*

## Widener Hospital adds Laparoscopic Surgery

Surgeons at New Bolton Center' George D. Widener Hospital for Large Animals have used arthroscopes and endoscopes for a number of years. This fall two laparoscopes were added to further enhance the hospital's short procedure capabilities.

"The goal of laparoscopic surgery is to expand our diagnostic capabilities and ultimately enable us to reduce the number of major invasive surgeries we perform," said Dr. Eric Tulleners, associate professor of surgery. "For example, it may be possible to diagnose certain causes of colic, to perform an anastomosis, repair a scrotal hernia or a ruptured bladder with the laparoscope. The instrumentation provides portals that let us cut, suture or staple tissue inside the body. The incisions necessary for performing laparoscopic surgery are very small and hence the animal should recover all the more quickly. Also, the hospital stay should be considerably shorter than for conventional surgery."

In addition to the laparoscopes, the hospital acquired a new Storz light source, a new Storz camera, a larger color monitor and two new printers and a medical grade VCR. This equip-

ment integrates with the existing laser, video endoscopic, and arthroscopic equipment. "All of these different items are interchangeable, which provides a great deal of flexibility and enhances our diagnostic and treatment capabilities," said Dr. Tulleners.

Laparoscopic surgery may also play an important role in the diagnosis and treatment of reproductive problems in large animals. For example, the laparoscope may provide a less invasive method of infertility diagnosis, embryo transfer, and treatment of blocked oviducts.

The instruments also enhance the teaching and training of students and residents. "This equipment and these techniques are relatively new to veterinary medicine. Our students and resi-

dents are now able to observe, and in the case of residents, practice these techniques," said Dr. Tulleners. "Also, the new printers and VCR enable us to generate and preserve high resolution images of the various diagnostic work ups and surgical treatments. These are excellent teaching tools for students, residents, owners, trainers and referring veterinarians."

Acquisition of the laparoscopes and the other equipment was made possible through the generosity of Dr. Charles Raker, Lawrence Baker Shepard Professor Emeritus of Surgery. Eric Hibbard of Endosurge Medical, Inc. generously donated one of the laparoscopes.

