



NEWS RELEASE

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PATTEN
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EQUEST RECEIVES ACCOLADES FOR EXCELLENCE FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

WYLIE, TX – The North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA) has named Greta Thompson the 2008 Adult Rider of the Year and Boaz “Boozie” Or the Region 8 Instructor of the Year. This is an exceptional distinction and Equest is honored to have Greta and Boozie as part of our Equest family.

Greta, 28, came to Equest in 1985 with many multiple challenges. Through the years, she has excelled to become one of the top riders and participates in Special Olympics. She not only competes but prepares a special drill performance for the end of the Olympic Games that is eagerly anticipated by everyone. Greta received this award as a result of her riding skills, enthusiasm for the sport, optimism, diversity of riding ability, longevity in the program and shared love of equines. Her entire family volunteers at Equest as well as promotes the work done by the special horses to anyone who will listen.

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Boaz "Boozie" Or received the Region 8 Instructor of the Year for his numerous contributions to Equest. During his nine years at Equest, he has earned the rank of Master Level Instructor and is the only full-time Master Instructor at Equest. Boozie is comfortable teaching all levels from beginner to most involved riders to future paraolympians in dressage. In addition to teaching, he is also responsible for finding horses that are just right for the Equest program and locating homes for those we must retire. He developed a vaulting program and is part of the NARHA Vaulting Committee. He was awarded this honor because of his versatility in teaching, knowledge, longevity and endless dedication to the cause of Equest.

Equest is a non-profit organization that is internationally recognized in providing therapy with horses for children and adults with physical, mental and emotional challenges as well as learning differences. With the help of countless volunteers and generous donors, we provide miracles to families who never thought it possible for their family member to reach goals we take for granted. For more information about Equest, visit our website at www.equest.org.

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Photo attached:

Cutline: Boozie (l) with Greta atop Tanka at Equest.