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A Dean on the Run

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It's not exactly like it was in the old song, but Dr. Phillip Pearson, Dean of the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, is certainly a "man on the run." Not only is his workday fast-paced (I know how long it took to find an open spot for an interview so that this article could be written!), but Dr. Pearson quite literally spends his leisure time on the run as well. He's an avid long distance runner, and he claims that a 5-10 mile run out on the roads around Ames is the best way he knows of to relax after a hard day's work.

Dr. Pearson has always been active athletically. He was a sprinter on his school track teams during his high school days and for his first 1½ years in college at ISU. Then, wanting more time for his studies, he quit the track team. But he remained active in sports while working on his DVM at ISU and while doing an internship at Angell Memorial Hospital in Boston.

His only period of inactivity came while working on his Ph.D. from 1958-1963. Then the exercise bug bit again, and Dr. Pearson started swimming while serving on the University of Missouri faculty. When he returned to the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine as a faculty member in 1965, he started running again and has run ever since. During the following years he competed in amateur races of various lengths.

Dr. Pearson's running career has taken an exciting new tack during the last couple of years. Last spring he ran in the 26.2 mile Drake Relays Marathon in Des Moines, Iowa. He finished with the excellent time of 3 hours and 10 minutes, placing eighth in the Masters division. To prepare himself for this long race, Dr. Pearson ran an average of 100 miles per week during the months preceding the event. His training also held him in good stead when he ran with a Vet Med team in the Turkey Trot the previous fall. The Turkey Trot is ISU's annual intramural cross country run.
race, and that year over 250 students and faculty members competed. Dr. Pearson's legs were swift enough that day to capture first place in the Master's division.

This year his work commitments have reduced Dr. Pearson's running to 30-40 miles per week. He says he'd like to break three hours at the Drake Relays Marathon this year!

Running is pretty much a family affair for Dr. Pearson. His son, Bryan, is a junior in high school and a member of the Ames High School track team. They find time for some long runs during the year and have a favorite 16-17 mile course around West Lake Okoboji that they like to run during family vacations in the summer. But other members of the family run too. His son, Todd, who is 12 runs up to 4 miles with him and his daughter, Julie, who is 9 runs up to 1½ miles. And when nobody else is available their dog, Penny, will run up to 5 miles.

Those of us who are more armchair-bound might regard his running schedule as a grueling test of courage, but like most avid runners Dr. Pearson runs for the pleasure of it. He says, "I run to relax. A long run is the best way I've found yet to get away from my problems."

Good Luck at the Drake Relays this spring, Dr. Pearson.

Pseudorabies: Control and Prevention

by Larry Klarren*

Control and Eradication of the Pseudorabies Problem

This paper will discuss the problem of pseudorabies (PrV) and the measures which a veterinarian or producer may take to control the disease, as well as what the federal government is currently planning to do to help control the disease.

The Pseudorabies Problem

Pseudorabies has become a concern to the pork industry in the last few years. At this time there is much confusion among producers and veterinarians concerning the nature of the disease and how it should be handled. Laws vary greatly from state to state and often change.

Some people claim there is not a great financial loss due to PrV. This may be true in terms of the entire United States, but in the areas where PrV is a problem, many herd owners are suffering devastating losses. For example, in Hardin County, Iowa; where one of the earliest outbreaks of PrV occurred, $467,000 were lost on just sixteen farms. Of this amount $109,007 was actual loss to the producer as money already used to bring the pigs to the point at which they were lost and $353,580 was lost as potential profit on those pigs which died. One producer claimed that it was impossible to control the disease on his farm and he lost 25% of the pigs he farrowed to PrV alone. Other farmers have had to go through the expense of depopulating and buying new breeding stock or go to much expense in testing and retesting pigs for titer to the disease.

Total losses to PrV in 1976 were estimated at $15,006,000. Other losses are less direct. Producers are hesitant to buy breeding stock from a farm which has had PrV, even if it has been tested negative. In fact, some are even wary of buying from the same area. The progress of the industry has been slowed because many animals have been withheld from type shows or tests because of slim possibilities of contracting the disease, thus some superior animals are never recognized.

Pseudorabies is caused by a heat and ether