

Ivory Pal

Performs at Equifest 2007

By Gail Shrine

Ivory Pal, with doves flying over his head, delighted his fans at Equifest 2007! The event took place at the Lake Helen Equestrian Center, Lake Helen, FL, on April 14, 2007.

Horse Lovers and Equine Art enthusiasts drove from all over Florida and parts of Georgia to get a glimpse of the talented champion, Ivory Pal. Every fan left with a smile, as Ivory Pal bowed and waved to everyone as they approached his corral. Hundred's came by Ivory Pal's corral to visit; take pictures; get autographed photos and magazines; and get free Horseshine horse treats provided by Omega Fields.



Ivory Pal entertained his fans with a performance to the song "I Believe I Can Fly" by R. Kelly. Ivory Pal's performance to "I Believe I Can Fly" was ridden bit-less, bareback, and barefoot, and showcased his signature high level moves and gaits. Ivory Pal wowed the crowd throughout the performance and ended it with a huge and powerful (almost vertical) rear in perfect synchronization with the lyrics "... Fly, Fly, Fly ...", as white doves were released and flew over Ivory Pal, causing the crowd to gasp and erupt with cheering and applause. Ivory Pal also performed a moving patriotic grand finale paying tribute to our military troops, accompanied by Southern Pride Mounted Drill Team.

Denise Shirey, a gold sponsor and one of the coordinators for Equifest 2007, stated, "There is a pure joy and unabandoned love that is clearly expressed between Rafael Valle and his golden

stallion, Ivory Pal. They are a visual and emotional delight. Having them at Equifest 2007 in Lake Helen was an honor for the Museum of Florida Art and its Equifest volunteers. They surprised and enthralled the crowd, and by the time both of their performances were complete, the fan club of Ivory Pal and his gracious rider grew in its size. The fact that Rafael makes both himself and Ivory Pal so accessible to their fans for autographs, chat, and photos makes their appearances that more unique. The Equifest team has already started planning its 2008 event which must, of course, include the crowd-pleasing Golden Pegasus, Ivory Pal."

