

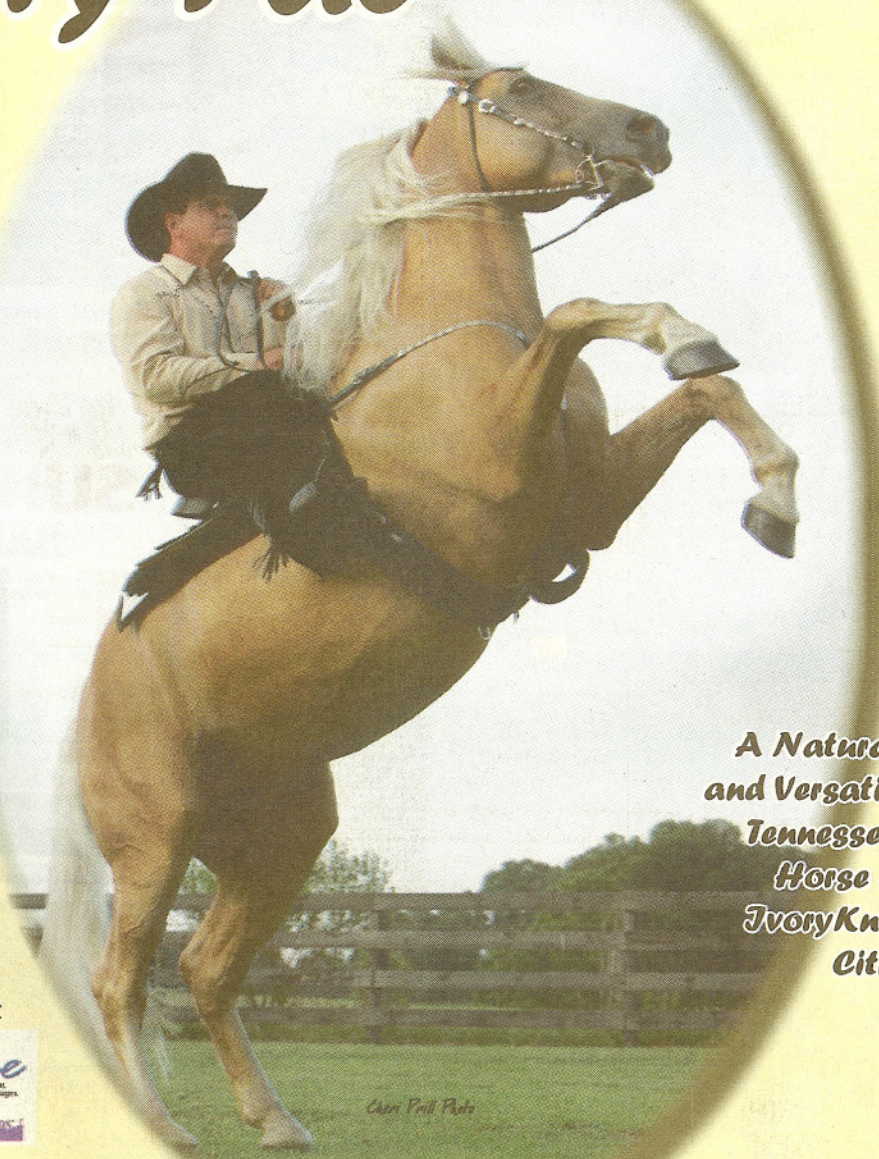
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## Ivory Pal



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Horse Stallion  
IvoryKnoll Ranch,  
Citra, FL*

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DIXIE PLANTATION

*Carmen Pail Photo*

See Page 31

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# On Being Ivory Pal...

By *Melanie Sue Bowles*

Every once in a while an extraordinary athlete comes along in the sports world who causes a stir, and suddenly, many who might not otherwise be interested in a particular sport are now watching. Beyond the talent, these are people with exceptional integrity and character; people like Tiger Woods or Cal Ripken, Jr. Athletes who children can look up to and other athletes can try to emulate. Such is the case with Ivory Pal, the golden palomino Tennessee Walking Horse stallion.

Although words like "integrity" and "character" are human traits, Ivory Pal is none the less extraordinary and exceptional. And what Rafael Valle has accomplished in his partnership with Ivory Pal is something to be emulated. To the equestrian community, they have proven that profound greatness can be achieved while preserving a horse's spirit. They have thrilled us with their performances, and anyone lucky enough to witness what this

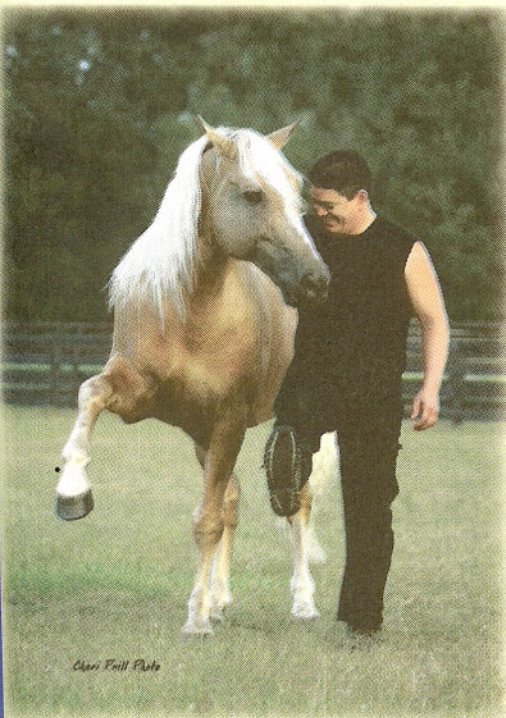
man and his horse share will be changed forever. And they have sparked and inspired our imagination. Rafael and Ivory Pal have demonstrated that compassion and kindness matter. But most of all, they've shown us that dreams really do come true.

To learn more about Ivory Pal, please visit:  
[www.IvoryKnollRanch.com](http://www.IvoryKnollRanch.com).

*About the author: Melanie Sue Bowles and her husband, Jim, are the founders of Proud Spirit Horse Sanctuary, one of the longest existing, privately run sanctuaries for horses in the United States. Melanie is the author of two books **The Horses of Proud Spirit**, an inspirational true story about the start up of the sanctuary, and the soon to be released **Hoof Prints: More Stories from Proud Spirit**, which picks up where the first book left off. Both are a must read for any animal lover.*



Cheri Prill Photo



Cheri Prill Photo

