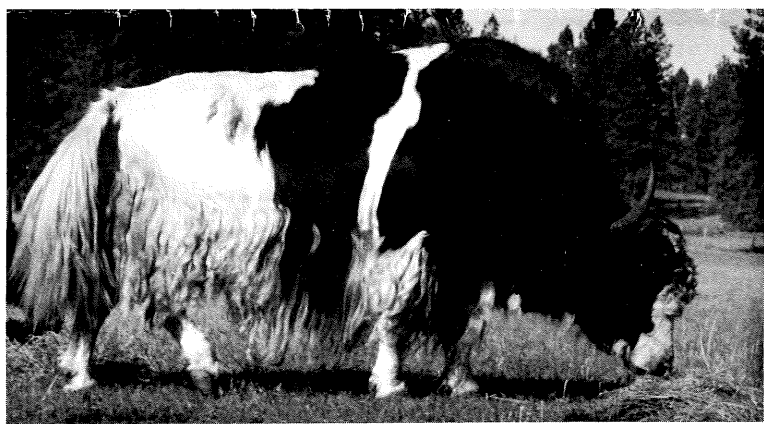


Living Diamonds TIBETAN YAK Ranch

YAKARAMA '93

Third Annual
YAKARAMA FESTIVAL and PRODUCTION SALE



- AUCTION
- BAR B QUE
- DANCING

"A Rare Investment
Opportunity"

SCHEDULE

- PRODUCTION SALE**
- 30 to 35 Tibetan Yak Females
 - 5 Tibetan Yak Bulls
 - 20 Karakul Ewe Lambs
 - New Forest Pony Demonstration

- Sept. 24 8:00 p.m. Banquet
KwaTaqNuk Resort
- Sept. 25 Noon til midnight
BBQ, Festival and Sale
- Sept. 26 10:00 a.m. Breakfast
Intl. Yak Assoc. Meeting

HOST HOTEL
 **KwaTaqNuk**
RESORT AT FLATHEAD LAKE
1-800-882-6363



Living Diamonds Royal Yak calves.
We just need someone to love us.

Sept. 25, 1993

Ph. 406/883-3504 • 6900 Farm Road • Polson, MT 59860

Living  Diamonds
TIBETAN YAK Ranch
LAWRENCE G. RICHARDS

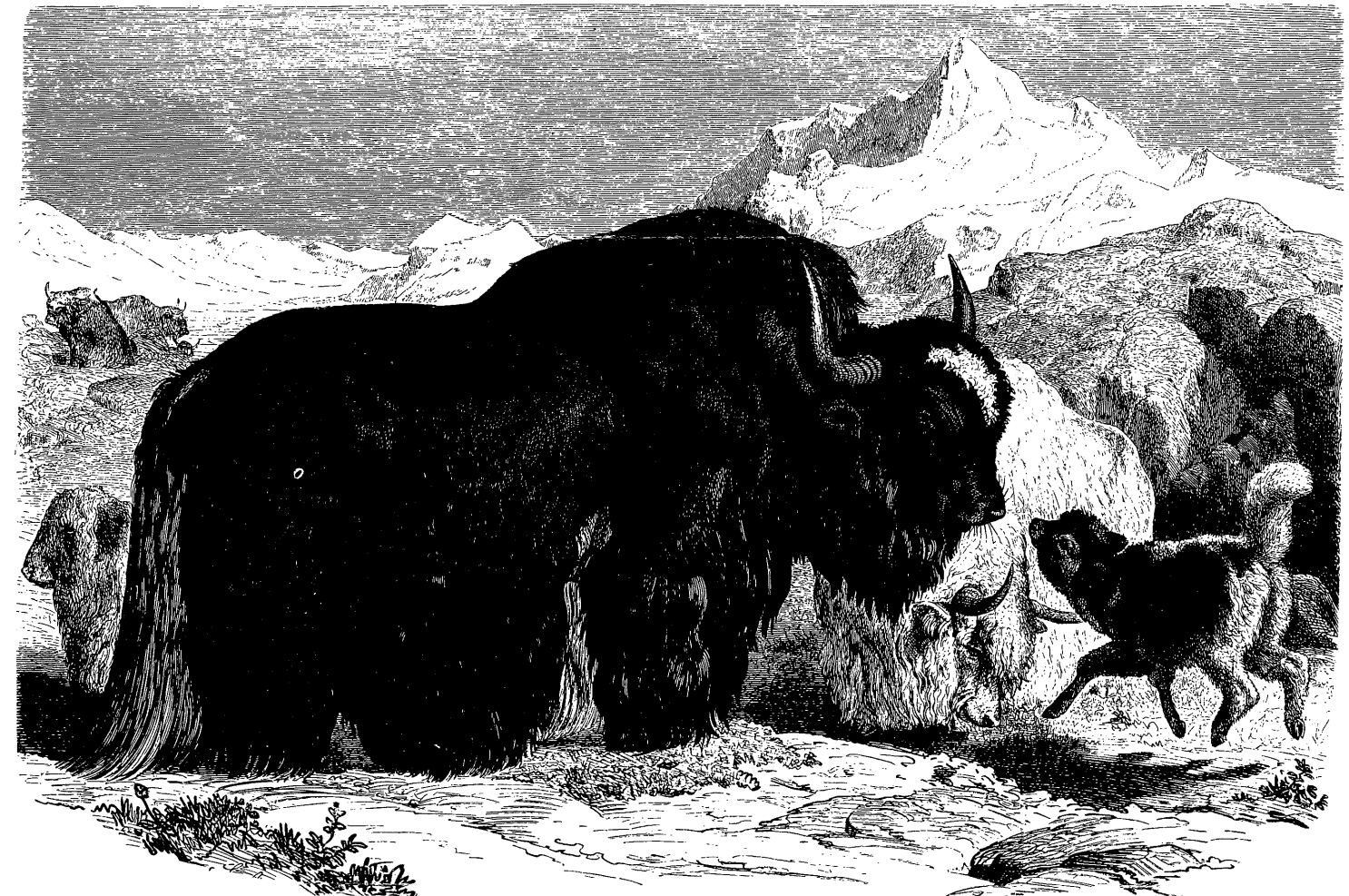
The New Yak Times

Volume 1, No. 2

YAKARAMA '93 Special Edition

Price: \$5.00

September, 1993



Capture The Imagination

Like the face that launched a thousand ships this wondrous lithograph of yaks on the Tibetan Plateau will capture the imagination of a nation of exotic animal breeders and launch a ten year breeding industry in North American and Europe. We have said before that Tibetan Yaks were

poised to capture the imagination of exotic animal breeders nationwide. And never before has this been more true. The new players are fascinated by their new Yaks. The interest level is high and the exotic world is watching us. Like Arabian horses in the sixties and llamas in the eighties, I believe

Tibetan Yaks will be the exotic animal of the nineties. Welcome to my world: the world of Yaks at Living Diamonds Ranch and YAKARAMA 93. Let your imagination be captured and your dreams begin.

Lawrence G. Richards
... the Prince of Yaks



WEATHER FORECAST for SEPT. 25, 1993

YAKARAMA 91 was interrupted by a downpour and blizzard. YAKARAMA 92 ended with a Hurricane that drove dancers from the tent in a wild frenzy and threatened to flatten all the tents. YAKARAMA 93 will be a sunny fall day reaching 75 degrees at 3:30 p.m.. The sky will be a mixture of deep blue and a mild blend of white clouds. The sun will fall upon the auction tent warming the hearts of all present. The warm breeze will be from the south at 5 to 10 m.p.h. Everyone will be lulled into tranquility. At some unknown time, the Mission Mountain Range will erupt spilling lava

over the valley floor and into Flathead Lake. When the hot lava flows into the cold lake waters, it will create a tornado of hot steam that will rush southwards past Living Diamonds Ranch. This will be followed by a tidal wave of hot water rushing southward from Flathead Lake. From the small rise of the YAKARAMA grounds visitors will watch this natural event unfold in utter amazement from the safety of their cars. Bring your video cameras as Jurassic Park was nothing compared to what we have in store at YAKARAMA 93. ♦

YAKARAMA 93

- 10 Royal Females
- 20 Trim Females
- 4 Black Females
- 4 Royal Bulls

YAKARAMA 93 Production Sale The Third Year

*"The only sale
that matters is yours"*

STANLEY E. STOUT
AUCTION SERVICES



YAKARAMA 93 presents our largest and best offering of Yaks to date. Our expanded sale includes consignments from Living Diamonds Ranch, Montana; McRoberts Game Farm, Nebraska; Dane Smith—Smiling S Ranch, Oregon; Dan Thee—Thee

Farms, Oregon; Fred Walker—Woodsedge Wools, New Jersey; Bill Martin—Far West Ranch, Washington; and Ken Jones Alberta Canada. Thanks to all the consignors.

YAKARAMA 93—34 Females and 4 bulls. ♦

YAKITY YAK

The Editors Column
Reprint 1991

"CAPTURE THE IMAGINATION"

Introducing the premier issue of "The New Yak Times." I have the pleasure to tell you that Yaks are about to capture the imagination of animal breeders throughout North America including Canada. First, it was Arabian Horses in the seventies, then the Llama in the eighties, and beginning the nineties exotic animal and cattle lovers have stepped forward to claim the Yak as the Arabian of cattle with their flashy tails and incredibly adorable calves. For Yaks indeed are a primitive breed that will capture your imagination. The sight of a herd of Yaks on a mountain meadow has the makings of a lifelong memory that can be a daily experience if you have the courage to step forward and acquire some Yaks in the early days of their promotion. I promise you The New Yak Times will strive to insure a 10 year breeders industry with stable prices and a future with Yaks that will challenge your imagination and your spirit. Please join us at the YAKARAMA Festival to be part of the exciting history of livestock promotion. ♦

YAKITY YAK

The Editors Column, 1993

We're still going strong. The "Capture The Imagination" theme could never be more true. In 1993, the best livestock investment in North America is Tibetan Yaks. We are becoming a stable livestock production industry. We are building a 10 year breeders industry, not a fast up and down speculative spike. We have the breed and the people, We're making livestock history. ♦

PUBLISHER AND EDITOR OF

The New Yak Times

Lawrence G. Richards
Living Diamonds Llama and Yak Ranch
6900 Farm Road, Polson, MT 59860
(406) 883-3504

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Polson, MT

Government Working With People— Montana Department of Livestock

Ad placements in the Galloway Press resulted in several inquiries from Galloway breeders in Wyoming. But they ran into a snag when Wyoming considered placing Yaks under control of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Thanks to Tom Harrower, Kemmerer, Wyoming for communicating this to me. I made a quick call to Dr. Donald P. Ferlicka, Administrator-State Veterinarian of Animal Health Division, Montana State Department of Livestock. Dr. Ferlicka arranged a conference call with the Wyoming Livestock Department and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department which resulted in Yaks being classified as domestic cattle for purposes of

import to the state of Wyoming. An honest victory for Yak breeders maintaining our free trade zone. Thank you Dr. Ferlicka.

NOTE A: Also established in 1993 unofficially the Montana Department of Livestock holds Yaks as exempt from Montana Brand inspection. Further at this point in time, Brucellosis vaccination is not approved nor required for Yaks in Montana and we can continue to operate under our present testing procedure.

NOTE B: It is very important to keep in touch with your State Department of Livestock about requirements applying to your livestock. ♦

Bill Martin The Knight Of Yaks . . . Living Proof that Nice Guys Finish First

Maybe the sun didn't shine too much on the grounds of YAKARAMA 92. Maybe the sun will never let loose on a YAKARAMA day. But that doesn't bother a patient man. For out of the clouds that shrouded YAKARAMA 92 rode Bill Martin on a white steed to enter the yak market and be volume buyer of YAKARAMA 92. Bill purchased his first Yaks at YAKARAMA 92 including the "twin" royal heifers, MS. YAKARAMA 92 and Excalibur the high selling Royal Bull of the sale.

Bill may be a quiet man but in the three weeks following YAKARAMA 92 he built his herd to 30 Yaks rivaling Living Diamonds Ranch for position as second largest Yak herd in North America. And the great news by September of 1993 is that Bill really loves his Yaks and is a great asset to the Yak market. In fact by June of 93 he had convinced his neighbor, Stormy Glick, to join the ranks of Yak breeders. Stormy purchased six Yaks from Living Diamond Ranch in January, 1993—Of course all this is not without its price. In order to achieve all these sales I had to give Bill's lovely wife, Joan, all these Karakul lambs. I think the ranch hands must have rounded up the Karakul sheep herd at least three times last September to find Joan the perfect lamb.

The boys were tired out, but all of this has been fun.

In real life, Bill Martin of Elma, Washington is a successful businessman owning a Pepsi distributorship near Seattle, a past thoroughbred horse breeder, present llama breeder and now also Tibetan Yak breeder. But whatever he does, Bill Martin is successful because deep in his heart he is a nice guy, perhaps one of the nicest in the world and that certainly earns Bill the title of "the Knight of Yaks." ♦

International Yak Association



Following a Sunday morning brunch at KwaTaqNuk Resort on Flathead Lake, Polson Montana, the International Yak Association was officially formed and given the official abbreviation of IYAK.

The IYAK Board of Directors were elected as follows:

President, Jerry McRoberts, Gurley,

YAKARAMA 92 SALE

TOTAL SALE

30 Lots, Full Blood Yaks \$180,450.00
Overall Average \$6,015.00

AVERAGES

Weanling Royal Heifers \$6,000
Yearling Royal Heifers \$9,800
Yearling Deluxe Trim Heifers \$6,250
Yearling Regular Trim Heifers \$4,821
Yearling Black Heifers \$4,833

There were only three no sale animals, which are not included in the above averages. Two of these were sold the next day.

High Selling Royal Bull "Excalibur" by McRoberts sold to Bill Martin, Elma, Washington for \$15,000 and High Selling Royal heifer by McRoberts was purchased by Larry Richards, Polson, Montana for \$15,000.

Volume Buyer was Bill Martin, Elma, Washington for a total of \$51,000. Bill and his wife Joan, are new buyers into the yak industry. Other new buyers included Fred Walker, Stockton, New Jersey; Jim Wickett, Palo Alto, California; Tom Petrie, Jeff Heath and Dane Smith of Oregon and Dane Mattson & Dariel Fried of Montana. Congratulations!

The YAK market looks great! New buyers at YAKARAMA 92 and 150 names in my private book of Yaks. YAKARAMA 93 is going to be held on September 24 & 25, 1993. LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT SALE and the continuance of a strong yak market. ♦

Nebraska; Vice President, Larry Richards, Polson, Montana; Secretary/Treasurer, Dee Kirkham, Bend, Oregon; Executive Board Member, Dorane Strouse, Caledonia, Michigan; Executive Board Member Jeff Heath, Bend, Oregon.

Iyak was chartered to form the North American Yak Registry, develop a logo and promote Yaks to the general public.

Jane Marek developed the beautiful logo.

The International Yak Association address is 70498 NW Lower Bridge Way, Terrebonne, Oregon 97760. Phone (800) 647-3323. ♦

YAKS

From Tibet
to North Powder,
unique bovine
makes home
in shadow
of Elkhorns

The orders aren't rushing in yet, but a North Powder rancher is raising the "new wave" for cattle: yaks.

Yes, yaks.

"It is as good as good beef. And it's no joke. This stuff cooks like steak. The hamburger is great," said Dan Thee, who has raised a small herd of Tibetan creatures along the North Powder River for about a year.

Thee recently sent a bull through the Mountain Center Livestock Market in LA Grande, just to expose cattle growers to yaks. And while interest has not yet taken off, Thee said crossbreeds of cattle and yaks will produce a leaner beef, with less cholesterol and less marbling.

"People aren't really ready to eat yak," Thee said. "People will like something that's a little more familiar. That's why the crossbreeds are so important."

Thee bought his herd, which now numbers nine females and one bull, from a ranch in Montana. But yaks originate from the high plateaus of Tibet and were first domesticated 1,000 years before Christ.

Their high-elevation breeding has made them hardy creatures; yaks have more red blood cells, which enable them to absorb more oxygen in the thinner atmosphere they're used to. They have dense coats and thick hides with a soft underdown to protect them from the frigid temperatures of their homeland.

"I give them no shelter, nothing more than what they have here," Thee said, pointing to an open field.

At 16,000 feet, with temperature at 20 below and whiteout conditions, the yaks don't seem to mind. "They'll just go sit there and tuck in for a few days, and they won't eat a thing," Thee said.

"People aren't really ready to eat yak. People will like something that's a little more familiar. That's why the cross breeds are so important."

—Dan Thee

"They're actually more thrifty than cattle," he added, pointing out that yaks eat less than cows and store energy in their shoulder hump.

"This grass is better than they're used to in Tibet," he said. "I saw that hump grow all winter," Thee said.

Thee's yaks are purebred black yaks. His bull, nicknamed Bill, stands about five feet tall at his shoulder hump, with a set of horns about 45 inches across, spreading outward and upward. Both males and females have horns. Bill's

horns, however, are so wide that Thee cannot put him through his cattle chute, even though the other animals pass through the chute normally.

"I can kind of walk him in by myself. . . They kind of get the drift of it," the rancher said.

Smaller on average than cattle, a female yak weighs between 450 to 650 pounds, while a bull can grow to half a ton. Despite their size, they're faster than cattle, running with their tails sticking up over their backs. Crossbreeds could make

good roping stock. Thee said.

"See how frisky he can be— look at him! He's as frisky as the little ones," Thee said while watching Bill gallop back toward the rest of the herd.

Thee said his animals are quite docile—the Tibetans train their yaks as beasts of burden, often using them as pack animals and for milk and wool production.

In fact, Thee calls yaks the original domesticated cow. The Chinese bred yaks with cows and got creatures that

had more milk, better meat and excellent work habits.

The tail of the yak was once a valued possession for Indian and Tibetan royalty, Thee said. Long and with a shaggy fringe, they were used as fly whisks and prized like lion skins. Thee isn't the only rancher in the United States who has turned to raising yaks, but there aren't many more. Of the 400 yak in the country, the largest herd (250 head) is located in Nebraska. Thee said three ranchers own about 80 percent of the stock, while about a dozen own the rest.

"I'm real pleased to have a herd like this," he said. "We really enjoy them. They're really easygoing. They eat hay right out of your hand," Thee said.

"We can take what little we have and work on a breeding program that can go into the future," he said.

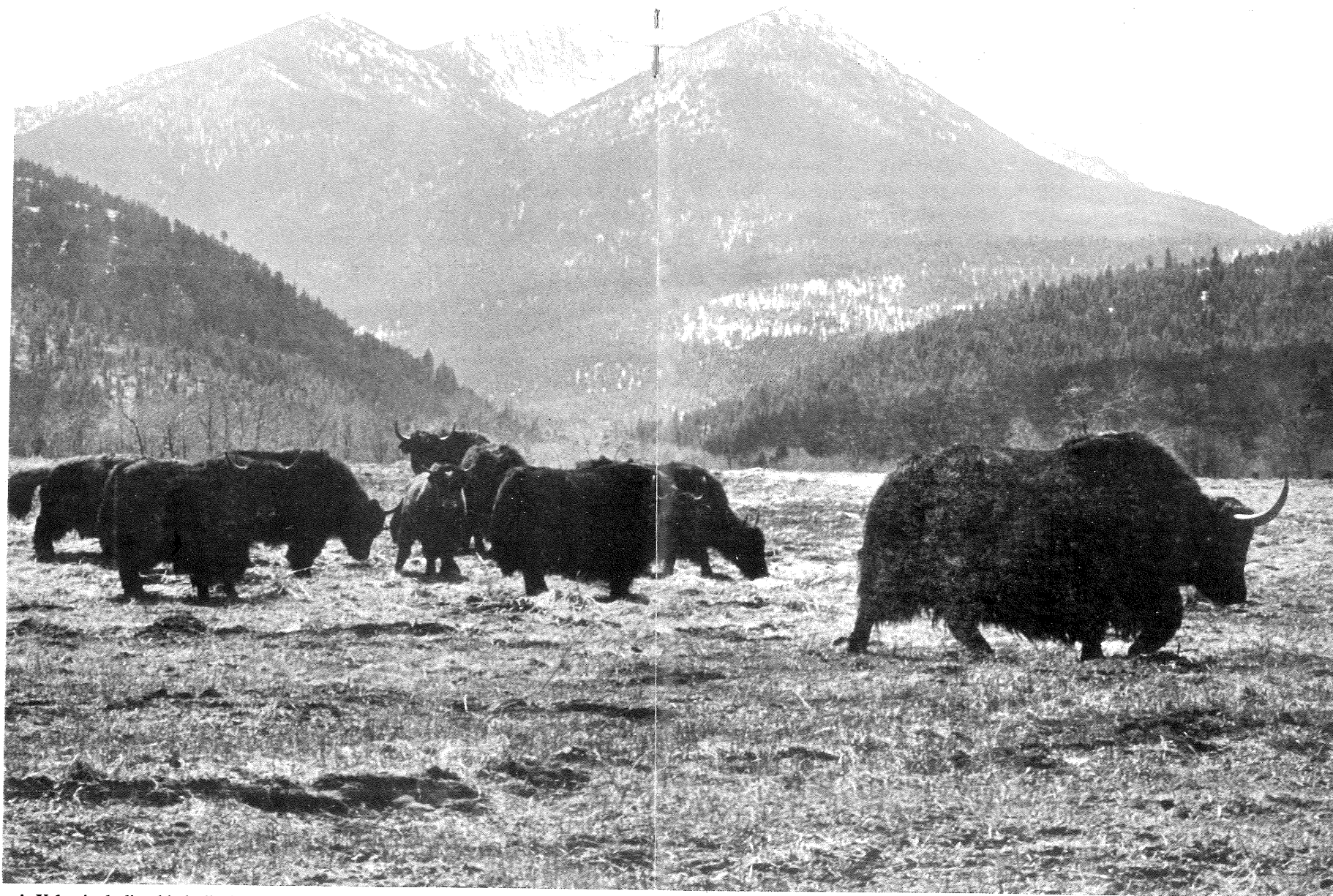
Story by Pat Perkins. Photo by Phil Bullock. Reprinted by permission from *The Observer, La Grande, Oregon, Wednesday, April 21, 1993.*

Editorial Comments:

Where does this guy Dan Thee get off? First: "People aren't really ready to eat yak." Well, we've been eatin' yak at the YAKARAMA Festival for three years. However, I do agree, 100% with Mr. Thee that yak/cattle crossbreeding will produce a meat product closer to the American consumers new demand for a leaner healthier beef. However, I believe yak hamburger is the best I've ever had. We have selected Galloway cattle for our crossbreeding stock. Ours will be a four way cattle cross for a private label product. Then Second of all: Since when is North Powder, Oregon at 16,000 feet. Dan seems to get confused between Tibet and Oregon at times. I guess that happens to a lot of people in Oregon.

And then further even his Yak are confused as to whether they came from Montana or Tibet. I quote Dan, "This grass is better than they're used to in Tibet." he said. "I saw that hump grow all winter." And this is the final point, Dan must be a new aristocrat with nothing to do but watch his bulls' humps grow during winter.

By now, this must sound like I don't like Dan Thee. Not really. We're just having a little fun. Dan is a great guy and a great Yakker. Dan has added a lot of fun to the Yak industry over the last year. His wife Karen is a sweetheart and together they are a great addition to our expanding network of Yak breeders and promoters. Good luck Dan and Karen with your new venture to breed ultra wooly type Yaks, but please keep them down below 16,000 feet. The rare air can be confusing to man and beast alike. LGR



e's Yaks, including his bull, right, graze under the Elkhorn Mountains. Yaks originate from the high plateaus of Tibet and were first domesticated 1,000 years before Christ.

North American Yak Registry

The Board of Directors of the International Yak Association formed September 27, 1993 at the KwaTaqNuk Resort were chartered to form the North American Yak Registry and appoint a Director or Registrar of the Registry.

The resulting North American Yak Registry Board:

Dr. Dane Smith, Lawrence G. Richards, Brad Sprouse, Susan Heath, Lloyd Hiebert.

Dane Smith and Larry Richards spent many long winter nights on the telephone debating and hammering out a viable registration system. When the final framework was approved by the Board of IYAK, Dane Smith implemented all the paperwork to put the Registry into motion. Throughout the proceedings, Larry Richards, argued for terminology consistent with the purebred cattle registries of the high powered European Cattle breeds such as Sale and Piedmontese cattle. His rationale was to make the Yak Registry consistent with the major cattle breeds, thereby gaining respect and possible marketing crossover from cattlemen. Accordingly, a Full-blood Yak Registry was started in 1993. And a separate percentage Yak registry. In the percentage registry, animals reaching 15/16 status are considered purebred. However, purebred animals can never be registered as full-blood Yaks.

MARKING—The North American Yak Registry requires a left ear tattoo and a corresponding left ear tag number issued by the Registry. This will be the same number as the registry number given to the Yak. (example: tattoo number C001, ear tag number C001, registration number FB C001 (full blood)—or PB C001 (purebred). An individual herd identifier consisting of four alphanumeric characters may also be tattooed in the Yak ear and maybe required when numbers dictate. As an example Rich is the

herd identifier of Living Diamonds Ranch. Further details of the Registry are available from IYAK.

Dr. Dane Smith has acted as the Defacto Registrar and has done a beautiful job and hopefully will be officially designated as the Registrar on September 26, 1993 at the annual membership meeting at KwaTaqNuk Resort, Polson, Montana.

Note A: In a sweeping move to implement the registry, Lawrence Richards, required all Yaks entered in YAKARAMA 93 to be registered with the NAYR. In a spirit of coopera-

tion the response has been terrific and all Yaks selling at YAKARAMA 93 have been tattooed and ear tagged with association tags. Congratulations.

Note B: The first registration number C001 has been assigned to the great foundation Royal Bull of Living Diamonds and Ranch and now owned by Brad Sprouse, Maple City, Michigan. The great bull is of course, Sargent Pepper, whose photograph must be the most distributed Yak photograph in the history of mankind.♥

Certificate of Registration

Certificate # 1

North American Yak Registry

FULL BLOOD

NAYR No. FBC047

Name

SMILING S ARU

Sex

COW

Owner

Dane & Jan Smith
265 Haynes Way
North Bend, OR 97459

Breeder

Dane & Jan Smith
265 Haynes Way
North Bend, OR 97459

Calved

4-12-93

Ear Tattoo No.

C047

Holding Brand

Color Description

TRIM BLACK WHITE

SIRE

SMILING S TANG #FBC045

DAM

SMILING S BULAH #FBC049

SIRE

SULTAN Ron Hatch Alberta

DAM


Unknown Canadian Cow


SIRE

Unknown Alberta Game Park

DAM

Unknown Alberta Game Park





This certification is based upon the written evidence and signature of the applicant. Issued with the right to correct and/or revoke. The North American Yak Registry assumes no legal responsibility as to the accuracy of this certificate.

Date Registered

8-25-93

Executive Secretary

Robert L. Jensen

ATTENTION ELK BREEDERS. SHOULD YOU ALSO BE A YAK BREEDER? The top ten reasons you should also be a Yak Breeder.

No. 1

There are **only** 350 Yak females in North America. This compares to over 50,000 llamas and greater than 30,000 privately held Elk. This translates to **GREAT MARKET POTENTIAL**.

No. 2

MARKET DYNAMICS. Over one-half of these Yak are owned by **ONLY** three breeders. Twelve to 15 people own the other half. This presents incredible market dynamics. The promotion potential is unparalleled by any other exotic species in North America.

No. 3

TIBETAN YAKS ARE GREAT ANIMALS. Raising Yaks is an intellectually stimulating adventure that will challenge you to rethink the evolution of species and the domestication of animal breeds.

No. 4

DIVERSIFY your Elk Profits. A new breed, a new market and extra dollars will enhance the financial security and attraction of your Elk ranch and your country life-style.

No. 5

Yak (Bos grunniens) being domesticated are more docile and easier to handle than Elk. They do not require 8' fencing and 8' handling facilities. Four strand barbwire will hold them in. Put your extra acreage into profit production without capital intensive fencing requirements.

No. 6

Yak (Bos grunniens) are classified as domestic bovine by most states and: No Game Farm Permit or Fish and Game Department hassles are involved. We can sell Yak into any state in the Union.

No. 7

Yak (Bos grunniens) are in the family bovidae and therefore the STD caudal TB test is 100% valid. You can buy and sell secure in the TB testing results.

No. 8

GREAT PROFIT POTENTIAL. Consider this price structure.

Black Heifers	\$3,000 to \$4,000	6 mo
Black Cows	\$4,000 to \$6,000	Adult
Royal Cows (Pinto Color Pattern)	\$13,000 to \$15,000	Adult
Royal Heifers	\$6,000 to \$8,000	6 mo - 10 mo
Royal Yrling to 2 yr old Heifers	\$10,000 to \$13,000	12 to 24 mo.

No. 9

Yak meat is excellent. Yak hamburger is incredibly lean and Yak/Cattle crossbreeding has tremendous potential in lean meat specialty markets.

No. 10

Is Elk velvet really an aphrodisiac? Yak hides are beautiful and have proven aphrodisiac properties. Buy one for your wife or girlfriend and see for yourself.

Thank you fellow Elk Breeders. May we see you at **YAKARAMA '93!** **YAKARAMA** is a Production and National Consignment Sale. You could start your herd at **YAKARAMA '93** and market your production at **YAKARAMA '94** or later years.

YAKARAMA presents the largest public or private offering of Yak stock in North America on an annual basis. You could even become the second largest Yak breeder in North America on September 25, 1993. However if you are not convinced and you want Elk in the sale, call us collect and we will put our 1993 Production in the Sale for you.

HOME OF THE

YAKARAMA

FESTIVAL and PRODUCTION SALE

LAWRENCE G. RICHARDS

• Rocky Mountain Elk • Roosevelt Elk • Karakul Sheep

• (406) 883-3504 • 6900 Farm Road • Polson, Montana 59860-9768