

VARIOUS

NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS AND 'BUY AND SELL' MARKET

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THE FRAME

February 2007: Which breed is this?



Take your chance to win a free subscription!

Every reader may **GUESS** which Poultry breed is portrayed in 'The Frame'. Please mail your answer to redactie@aviculture-europe.nl stating: 'Answer The Frame'. With the issue of each new edition we will choose a winner amongst the correct entries. He or she gets a **one year free subscription** to Aviculture Europe.*

Answer December Frame:

The FANCY PIGEONS in the December Frame were DUTCH BEAUTY HOMER

Again this time a lot of wrong answers; Show homer, Show racer, Homing pigeon sorry, but that just was not the name we wanted to hear.

These 'Brooding Dutch Beauty Homer' were painted by Herman Gorts, chairman of the Royal Club De Prachtduif at Turnhout, Belgium, who deceased on October 12th 2003. Herman Gorts was chairman since January 1999. Due to his dedication several new ideas were practised in the Club. Besides that he had this particular way of enthusing the Club members. Except from the pigeons, painting was his great passion. The painting '*Brooding Dutch Beauty Homer*' is a fine example. His creative spirits was also noticable in various columns with always a moralizing message. In this way he could put his mind at ease, away from his fight against cancer, unfortunately, he could not win that battle. (Text and photo: courtesy of Piet Steeman)

The happy winner of the **one year free subscription** is: **Martin Treffers (NL)**

*Only to be won once per person!

(advertisement)



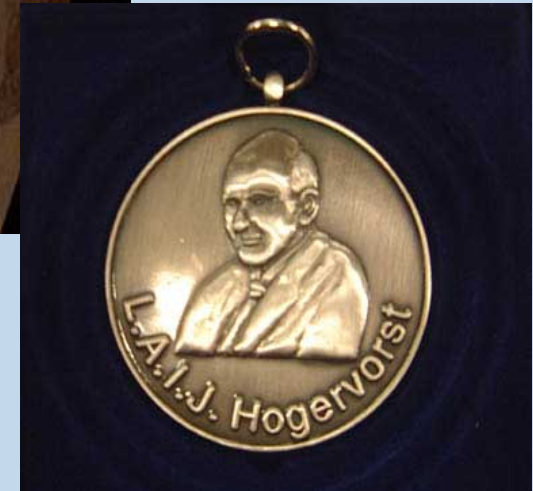
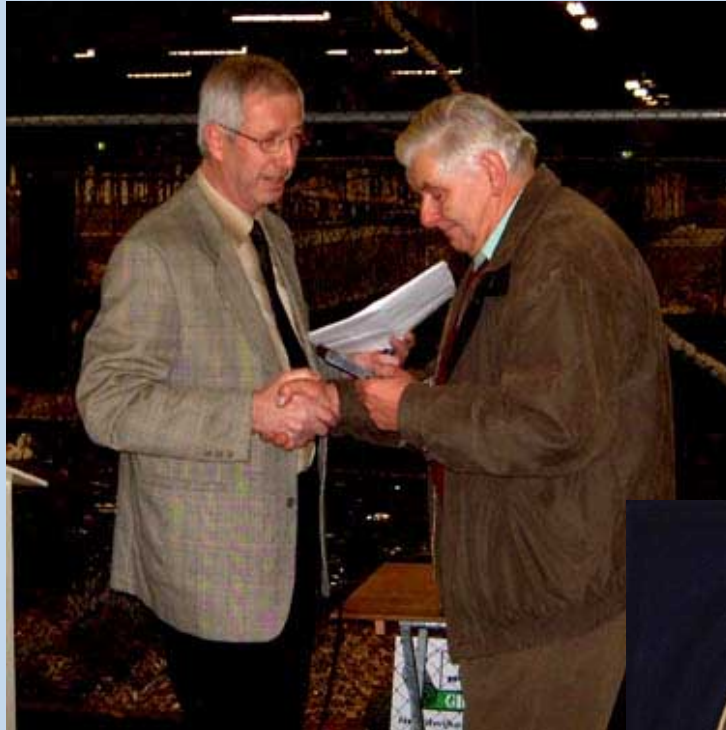
BOLLENSTREEK SHOW LISSE

At the opening ceremony of the Bollenstreekshow in Lisse, the Netherlands, on Friday the 23rd of November, 2006, a visibly moved Pieter Borst (at the right side right in the photo) received the L.A.I.J. Hogervorst commemorative medal, from the hands of Co Korsuize, chairman of the P.K.V. Lisse. This medal was awarded to Pieter Borst in recognition of his exceptional efforts on behalf of the Local Club of Lisse.

It was the second time that this commemorative medal was awarded.

A reportage of the Bollenstreek Show in Lisse is in this month's 'Ace of the Show', part 3.

Photos: Aviculture Europe.



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FASCINATING FEATHERS

Sometimes just looking at a single feather emphasises the beauty and uniqueness of poultry plumage.



Pictured here are several cuckoo coloured feathers. The cuckoo colour pattern occurs in many breeds. In The Netherlands the cuckoo plumage is usually associated with the North Holland Blue breed, the name of which is misleading as the plumage of this breed is not "blue" but cuckoo. A simple description of the pattern in the North Holland Blue would be: multiple transverse (diagonal) bands of light bluegrey on a darkgrey feather.

In the photo: cuckoo coloured feathers. Left 2x feather of a Cock; right 2x hen feather.

Please note the word "striped" is not used as this would imply the edging of the band to be sharply defined which is not the case (as opposed in example to the striping of the Plymouth Rock which in addition extends to the down and feather shaft which does not occur in the cuckoo plumage).

Right: Barred feathers of Plymouth Rock. Left to right: hen feather, cock feather, down feather.

The irregular/diffuse barring and colouration of the cuckoo pattern is caused by the sex-linked "barring gene" so this pattern can occur in various colours such as the yellow cuckoo and cuckoo partridge. The sex-linked factor involved results in the light bands of a homozygote cock being twice as wide as that of a hen. This is caused by the fact that males carry two 'barring genes' and females carry only one 'barring gene'.



Left: Cuckoo coloured chickens. Left the male, right the female. Wippell 1900.



Even day-old chicks show a different colour; the male chicks having a white spot at the top of the head and the female chicks a black head. This is one reason why the 'barring factor' was introduced in many breeds.

As the description implies, the name of this bluish barred colour pattern is given because it resembles a cuckoo. In the German language this colour is named '*gesperbert*', referring to the sparrow-hawk, which is similarly barred.



Above: The Cuckoo. Photo courtesy of Bird care centre 'Vogelklas Karel Schot' Rotterdam, Holland.

**Right: The Sparrow hawk.
Photo Wanda Zwart.**





The “Chaams Hoen”, a Dutch fowl breed, sets The Netherlands on the world culinary map during the “Terra Madre & Salone del Gusto 2006” in Turin.

(By: Ad Taks)

The representative delegation from the Dutch foundation “Friends of the Chaams Pel” (the culinary title of this breed) just one year after receiving the prestigious SLOW FOOD official seal of recognition is enjoying the unprecedented success of their participation in this international exhibition of small-scale/traditionally produced food products. The biennial event produced by the SLOW FOOD Foundation for Biodiversity welcomed the representatives accompanied by their fellow Dutch delegations as a truly representative country of the SLOW FOOD ideals and mission to “defend our world’s heritage of agricultural biodiversity and gastronomic traditions”. Read more about SLOW FOOD: http://www.slowfood.com/about_us/eng/philosophy.lasso
(Our motto: ‘Good, clean and fair’.)

Salone del Gusto

The Salone del Gusto had over 200,000 visitors reviewing more than five thousand traditionally produced culinary products from 150 participating countries. The Netherlands was represented with a triad of produce, and the Chaams Pel was introduced at this time to an audience of enthusiastic international admirers in exquisite presentation to view in the show-window. In accordance with the mission statement of “traditional dishes” the Chaams Pel was served as a traditional dish of ‘ragout’ and more than seventy kilos were enjoyed by the participating visitors in promotion of the region of Breda and the origin source of the breed in the village of Chaam.

The taste of the meat is influenced by traditional husbandry as well as slaughter methods and many visitors or gourmet, expressed their astonishment and appreciation of the delicious refined taste of what was termed in judgement as "real" chicken. Enthusiastic enquiry was made as to the origin of the *Pollo di Chaam* to which the Dutch delegation showed their quick language skills by replying: "*Olande, Contea di Breda, villaggio di Chaam*"!

Caponne di Mororozzo

Contacts were quickly laid and a 'working' visit to Morozzo, a small village 80 km south of Turin, was soon organized in light of the fact that in this village the first 'Presidium' of the SLOW FOOD organization was held to preserve the traditional fowl breed of the region, the 'Caponne di Morozzo'. *(Read more about this visit in an upcoming issue of AVICULTURE Europe!)*

Extensive interchange of breeding and husbandry knowledge between the delegates and the village stewards of the two breeds made for an unforgettable and instructional day for all participants and was followed by a festive enjoyment of the villages' traditional produce and culture. All in all the entire Dutch delegation pronounced the experience as "profoundly enjoyable" and were immensely satisfied with the results of the cultural and culinary interaction in promoting and introducing the 'Chaamse Pel' to the international community.

Right: Caponne di Morozzo.



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In the photo:
The delegation from the Dutch foundation “Friends of the Chaamse Pel”. Left to right: Vic van de Broek, Jos Rijvers, Veronica Veneziano (organizer Slowfood Foundation), Jack Rombouts, Ad Taks, Jan van de Broek and Guido Schuurung (culinary ambassador of the Chaamse Pel).



Übersetzungen in und aus dem Niederländischen
Interhaan Sprachservice www.interhaan.eu

Vertalingen in en uit het Duits

THE PASSENGER PIGEON

The Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) was once probably the most common bird in the world. There must have been as many as five billion passenger pigeons in the United States and Canada.

Picture from the Book 'Tauben-rassen' by Emil Schachtzabel 1908 (re-print 1925). Archives Mick Bassett.

They lived in enormous flocks, the largest of them one mile (1.6 km) wide and 300 miles (500 km) long, taking several days to pass and probably containing two billion birds. When they passed it became dark and they landed in the woods for the night. As they flew away in the morning it looked like it had snowed, because of the 2 or 3 inches of droppings. The name "passenger" pigeon was actually coined by early French settlers who first referred to the birds as "Pigeón de p ass age", meaning Pigeon of passage, or Migratory Pigeon because their migration (i.e. their passage) was so phenomenal, as they "passed" over head in such tremendous numbers.

The Passenger pigeons were intensively hunted for their plumage and eatable meat.

In the mid-1800s, it was noticeable that their numbers were dropping. The Passenger Pigeon only laid one egg at a time, so once numbers started to decline it would have taken time for them to start rising again.



Picture below: When the flocks passed it became dark!

The Last Passenger Pigeons in the wild

In North America, both Michigan and Wisconsin were two of the last breeding refuges for the species from the late 1870's to about 1885. There was only one documented sighting in 1899. The last recorded wild Passenger Pigeon was shot by a 14 year old boy, Press Clay Southworth in Pike County, Ohio on March 24th, 1900. Many years later this female pigeon nick named 'Buttons' (the bird was mounted, using buttons for its eyes), was offered to the state museum in Ohio, where a plaque identifies it as the last bird ever seen in the wild.



The Last Passenger Pigeons in captivity

A group of Passenger Pigeons lingered in captivity in the private collection of Dr. Charles Otis Whitman. He later donated the remaining birds to the Cincinnati Zoo. What began as a breeding group of Passenger Pigeons, was reduced to 3 birds by 1909, 2 males and one female. One male died in 1910, and the last male died in 1912. When that bird died, all hopes of ever breeding any more Passenger Pigeons died with him! The single remaining bird, a female died at 12.30 pm on September 1, 1914. Her name was Martha, the last individual of the once most abundant bird on the entire planet! She was named after the wife of George Washington. She was hatched in 1885 and was 29 years old at the time of her death.

She was frozen into a block of ice and sent to the Smithsonian Institution and was mounted. She may be seen there today, however we fear that the Smithsonian Institute has decided to permanently close the Birds of the World Hall. We can only hope that they have reversed their decision not to display these birds.



Left: The last male; right, Martha, the last female.

Naturalis Museum in The Netherlands has 11 mounted passenger Pigeons, which you can all admire 3D at <http://ip30.eti.uva.nl/naturalis/detail.php?lang=nl&id=39>

The musician John Herald has written a song about this species: "Martha (Last of the Passenger Pigeons)". You can read the lyric at <http://johnherald.com/martha.shtml> and listen to the song at http://johnherald.com/mp3/passenger_pigeon.128s.mp3

Source: Wikipedia and The Passenger Pigeon Society. For much more interesting things about this bird: see http://www.ulala.org/P_Pigeon/George.html There is assembled a wealth of information on the Passenger Pigeon. If you take your time and carefully look at the site index, you will certainly find answers to nearly all of your questions!

‘FADING’ KRAAIKOPPEN



In our December 2005-issue a keeper of the old Dutch breed Kraaikoppen wondered if one of the readers could tell him what is wrong with his chickens. After moulting, the birds, which were blue coloured, regained a lot of pure white feathers. They are still ‘young’ birds, only 1.5 years old. May be somebody has had the same experience, with this breed or another breed? Or does someone have an explanation for this phenomenon?

After a long silence this week we received an answer from the USA, by Rose Konold:

“Hello,

I saw pictures of your blue birds with increasing white feathers. I raise blues and have recessive mottling which is causing white in the roosters even when hetero-zygous.

It begins to appear at 2 years. I will include a picture, (*see: at the right*) although mine are never as white as yours. I have also seen pictures of an autoimmune disease which causes feathers to turn white; this is without moulting. I frequent a site, www.the-coop.org which has an international forum where you can ask questions. This is where the pictures of the autoimmune disease are.

We welcome further reactions at:
redactie@aviculture-europe.nl



The logo for De Baroen, featuring the name in a stylized, golden-yellow font on a dark green rectangular background with a slight gradient and a drop shadow.

WWW.BAROEN.NL

It is our pleasure to introduce:

“De Baroen” An online internet marketplace focusing on the specialty needs of the hobbybreeder striving to meet the consumer need for competitive pricing. Helping our customers to meet their specialized product needs is our first priority and we hope to distinguish ourselves from other firms by our unique SUPPORT SCHEME INITIATIVE for specialist breeder and hobbybreeder organizations!

De Baroen offers those “hard-to-find” specialty products not commonly found elsewhere such as:

- Soft-tie ringbands in a wide range of sizes (sizing a finch as well as large gamefowl including all sizes in-between)
- Poultry Shield and Diatom (read below on this anti-mite product new to The Netherlands)

What is perhaps interesting to our customers is that we are ACTVELY seeking new products to introduce and encourage an interactive line of communication between ourselves and our clients to better meet their needs. Let us hear from you!

NEW PRODUCTS:

Two new (english) products: POULTRY SHIELD and DIATOM.

We are proud to offer these two products both extremely effective on the Chicken “red-roost” mite (the notorious nocturnal “blood” mite) non-toxic and user friendly (particularly useful with ill or very young animals) Read more at our site over the above and our complete product range at www.baroen.nl

SUPPORT SCHEME INITIATIVE for HOBBY and SPECIALIST BREEDER CLUBS:

This scheme works two-fold:

- 1) -a 3% discount on our products for your (registered) club members (This discount is in addition to any current discounts offered non-club members!)
- 2)-a 3% contribution from "De Baroen" to your club treasury (the amount is based on the total sum of products sold to your members).

Your obligations? Notification of the discount and initiative to your members will be expected, however you are free to advertise "De Baroen" within your club publications or online site as you choose (however the more your members purchase from us the higher the amount of contribution donated to your treasury).

PLEASE NOTE that in the case of registration at multiple clubs from a member...the discount will remain at 3%.

This unique scheme is offered in written agreement which is valid for one year (after which either party is free to renew or end said agreement after that time period has elapsed) giving you the assurance that our word is our deed!

Interested?: Contact info@baroen.nl or telephone: 0031-297-364645 (between 19:30 and 20:30) monday through saturday.

We look forward to your comments on our products and Support Scheme Initiative !

With friendly regards,
J. Borgman, De Baroen

Fazanterie

DE ROOIE HOEVE

Heeswijk Dinther, The Netherlands.

The pheasantry houses one of the bigger collections of Phasianidae in Europa.

Tel.: +31 (0)413 224102 <http://www.derooiehoeve.nl>



Salvadori-pheasant

In our last Newsletter we sadly informed you that our Salvadori cock had died as the result of a sharp piece of metal in its stomach. Sooner than expected, some breeders in Belgium and France offered us the possibility to swap some birds enabling us to couple 2 breeding pairs of non-related Salvadori pheasants (*Lophura inornata*).

Pheasantry De Rooie Hoeve has started an investigation regarding the situation surrounding the Salvadori pheasants at the request of the World Pheasant Association.

Java Jungle Fowl to Rotterdam Zoo

In connection with a new project of the European Jungle Fowl Group (EJFG) of WPA-Benelux and Aviornis International, we placed a young pair of Java Jungle Fowl in Rotterdam Zoo which means in addition to our two breeding pairs, the Rotterdam Zoo now have two pairs as well. They are housed in a large hall in tropical atmosphere with quality 'green' as natural shelter.



The target of the project is to stop the commercial selling of these birds along with keeping unrelated populations in protected locations to ensure future stock potential.

(ad)



HOUTEN (NL) SPRING EXPEDITION March 3 & 4 2007

- Extensive representation of businesses with pigeon related articles
- Reputable Breeding Stations of racing pigeons
- Accredited pigeon clinics
- Record number of pigeon fancier clubs represented
- Over 200 breeding-specific related institutions

A HOMESICK GOOSE

You may not believe this, but geese can get homesick when they are moved to another home. I was unaware of this phenomenon until I spoke with Rob van der Steen (a well known geese and turkey breeder from The Netherlands) and this subject was raised.

He recently bought an enormous Toulouse gander in the south of the Netherlands. Together with his new 'wife' the gander was placed into a dike suitable for the birds to swim in and as it turned out, after this refreshing bath, he could not climb back up onto the land between the poles of the campshed. So Rob picked it up and out of the water and put it into a big wooden box and waited for it to pick itself up again. The next day it also appeared unable to do so, blowing a little half-heartedly then lowering itself down once again and letting its head hang. Rob was worried ... what could he do? Hopefully it would not die ...

He suddenly remembered that a long time ago he had bought a Chinese goose that kept lying in the mud all day long. If he came close, it would walk a few steps and then would lay down again. As it did not appear "ill" he wondered what the problem could be? At his wits' end he called the breeder. They talked awhile and then the breeder responded: "Well, don't laugh about what I am about to tell you, but your goose is homesick!" This indeed turned out to be the problem as after a few days it joined the flock and lived happily and raising many offspring!

Suspecting now the same, Rob decided to address the problem by reintroducing the female into the box. Lo and behold the gander rose to its feet and began to gently carress her neck! All signs of homesickness appeared to have vanished and the pair were soon moved to another meadow with a pond where they were quite content and no sign of homesickness ever returned.

Text: Jan Willem Hondelink. Photo (next page): Philippe en Catherine Provins.



THEFT - not an isolated incident anymore

Once again the USA poultry forum boards and specialty breeders groups have exploded in indignation at the latest theft of participating birds at a breed exhibition show... This time renowned Silkie breeders HATTRICK and EDDY TRAVERS were targeted and this was their response:

\$1000 REWARD

**Leading to the person or persons responsible for
stealing a White Silkie Hen from her show cage**

If someone offered or sold this bird to you or someone you know, or you have any information at all, please contact us at;

hattricksilkies@comcast.net or cudaboyed@aol.com

One breeder commented on the (apparently unusual) security measures initiated during the CROSSROADS show (see our reportage on this show in this issue of Aviculture-Europe, The Ace of the Show, part 2):

"At the Crossroads show, there were birds disappearing from cages so they put security guards at the doors. If you were leaving with a bird you had to have a sales receipt stating you purchased it. I think that they should do that for every show. If you buy a bird, have a receipt, if it's your bird you're removing from the show, then show the coop card so they can verify that it's yours.

I have showed at shows where I have been concerned that one of my birds would disappear and I have used luggage locks on my cage, but a person pointed out that all you need to do is lift the cage from the bottom and the bird could be removed that way."

Janet Winnett, co-partner in HATTRICK and owner of the bird shown in the photograph above is also involved with the organization of some of the New England Shows (thus having perspective from both the exhibitor and show official standpoint) responds:

"I was also at Crossroads and they did have these security measures, BUT there were many exits as there are at most shows and not all exits can be covered all the time. It would also be easy to put a stolen bird in a carrier under the rows of cages and remove it at coop out when security is not checking everyone.



But I absolutely commend the Crossroads show for their security measures. Most shows across the US run on a shoestring budget. So hiring security, buying cameras, etc. may not be feasible."

When asked to comment to our readers on her stolen bird Janet had this to say:

"Since the theft last week I am amazed at the amount of people who have told me they have had birds stolen at shows. And what's more amazing is that we haven't heard about them. Nikki and I want everyone associated with exhibiting poultry to know that this is happening more than they might think, and we are not going to let it slide."

Aviculture-Europe will take a more in-depth look at the incredible popularity of Hobby Breeders in the USA including the "EGGBID" phenomenon (an online auction site dedicated solely to the auction of poultry/hatching eggs) and will include a discussion over the THEFT problem at shows and what measures are being considered to deal with it.

We look forward to your feedback on this subject: redactie@aviculture.nl

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Sexing Guinea Fowl

One of the most-often asked questions about guineas is how to tell the hens from the cocks. Indeed it is very difficult to discern the females from the males. The cocks will grow a larger 'helmet' and longer, larger wattles (the fleshy red things on their cheeks). Still this is not so easy to see, especially not when they are free ranging and move around.

There also is a very subtle difference in how the sexes stand. Hens hang lower to the ground, with a larger surface horizontal to the ground. Mature males are easily distinguished with a more erect posture, chest out.

Another way to distinguish Guinea fowl males from females is to listen to their calls. However, most of the time all the guineas will holler at once, so you will not really be able to hear who's doing what!

Let's just say that the hens make a call that the cocks never make. This two-syllable call has been described as sounding like *buckwheat, buckwheat*.

The young birds start making these sounds at 6-8 weeks, but some hens do not start calling till much later.



A pair of Guinea fowl. Left is the male. Photo: Roel Duindam.



Batschka Tumbler

By: Fred Weinreder

Where did I buy them?

I bought my my first Batschka Tumblers at a local show in Bentheim (Germany) from Frank Watermeier, who lives near Osnabruck. They were sold to me with the name 'Szegediner Tumbler'. Another breeder of this pigeon breed is a mister Schutpelz, who had also bought his pigeons from Watermeier.

In those days I used to buy every bird of the breed that I could find, and I went back to Watermeier several times to buy more pigeons belonging to this particular breed.

Lately I have sold some of the offspring to Dutch breeders, such as Tjeerd Heidbuurt in Almelo and Ben Boekelder in Geldrop.

What is my aim?

I intend to specialize in breeding the red colour variety, simply because this is the colour I like most. Of course, the influence of the blacks has not diappeared completely; this you can notice in the reds, being somewhat black in tail and tail coverts and also having a darkish beak. My first aim is to upgrade the red colour by selection, while maintaining the other breed characteristics that they already have.

So far, my best birds are the yellow females, which I will use in my pedigree until I reach the same quality level in the red Batschka Tumblers.



and also having a darkish beak.

National Pride in American Poultry Events

On November 17-18-19 of 2006 The Crossroads or America Poultry club show was held in Indianapolis, Indiana. As the "National" Championships of America" title implies, it had been approved by the two National poultry associations, the American Bantam Association (representing the Bantam breeds) and the American Poultry Association (representing the Standard breeds). The financing for this massive project required an incredible amount of dedication from all parties involved with commercial participation and sponsoring of the event being crucial in making it all possible.



All proceeds from the show were geared towards financing the youth programmes of the associations as this is considered crucial to the future of both organizations. Youth participation was in abundance with 273 Standards, 1113 bantams, 123 ducks and 33 geese entered.

Each young participant received an official document of participation and also a photograph was made with the document and presented in celebration to the each youth in honour of their participation.

We cannot reproduce all these participants here in our publication (we imagine that publication takes place on a regional basis or through Poultry Press perhaps?) however we would like to present one proud young participant here to illustrate for you the beaming smile of satisfaction and pride these young breeders take in raising and breeding poultry! We will feature a more in-depth look at the American Crossroads Show with some fantastic photos in our article 'The Ace of the Show', part 2.



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