

For Immediate Release

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Scarborough Downs marshal horse succumbs to laminitis

Scarborough, Maine (March 31, 2009) – *Doc Goes Gold*, an 18-year-old American Quarter Horse lost his battle with laminitis on Monday and was humanely euthanized at the Myhre Equine Clinic in Rochester, New Hampshire.

Doc, along with his owner Laura Searway provided a familiar presence at Scarborough Downs in recent years where the tandem flawlessly executed marshalling duties during some of Maine's biggest harness racing events. Marshalling provided Doc with the perfect outlet for his boundless energy after retiring from an earlier career as a team penning competitor -- a sport in which he was once named state of Maine Champion.

"The children at the track loved Doc so much and he reveled in their attention," remarked Scarborough Downs spokeswoman Susan Higgins. "Whenever he and Laura set foot on the raceway the kids would gather along the apron railing for their chance to pat him on the nose. He was a great ambassador for the sport of harness racing and will be fondly remembered."

To honor Doc's memory, Scarborough Downs is currently in the process of organizing a fundraising event to benefit the Barbaro Foundation, an organization named for the former Kentucky Derby champion and which is dedicated to finding a cure for laminitis, an equine disease that is most often fatal. Details will be forthcoming.

Scarborough Downs will open its 2009 harness racing season on April 10th, proudly featuring live harness racing every Friday and Saturday evening at 4:15 pm (EDT) with the popular Sunday matinees commencing at 1:30 pm.

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