



HORSES

David's ride more than impressed

By **SIMON PINDER**

QUARTER horse trainer David Norbury has what it takes to win the national western pleasure horse celebration title.

David recently rode West Australian quarter horse More Than Impressed to win the 1996 National Pleasure Horse Celebration in Tamworth.

He also won the title in 1991 and 1993.

David, who hails from Whittlesea, won the 1996 Western Pleasure Futurity on the chestnut colt, which is owned in WA by David Nutton.

He said the 1996 western pleasure class was judged on a series of walks, a jog and loping gaits.

He said some horses tended to go too fast or pick their head up in the judging.

"I train them to slow down and put their head down through leg pressure," David told *The Weekly Times*.

David said the event was one of the most prestigious two-year-old events for the western pleasure season and the last big event for the season.

David won prizes to the value of over \$1000 as well the winner's share of the \$8000 first prize money.

In other events at the contest, an elated Trish Shugg, of Kilmore, took first place in the Amateur Owner Western Pleasure Derby.

Trish said she had decided to return to the showing after a break from competition, but changed from the hack show ring to the western arena.

She rode her handsome chestnut, Charary Power, to Impress by imported stallion Zippo Larry Two.

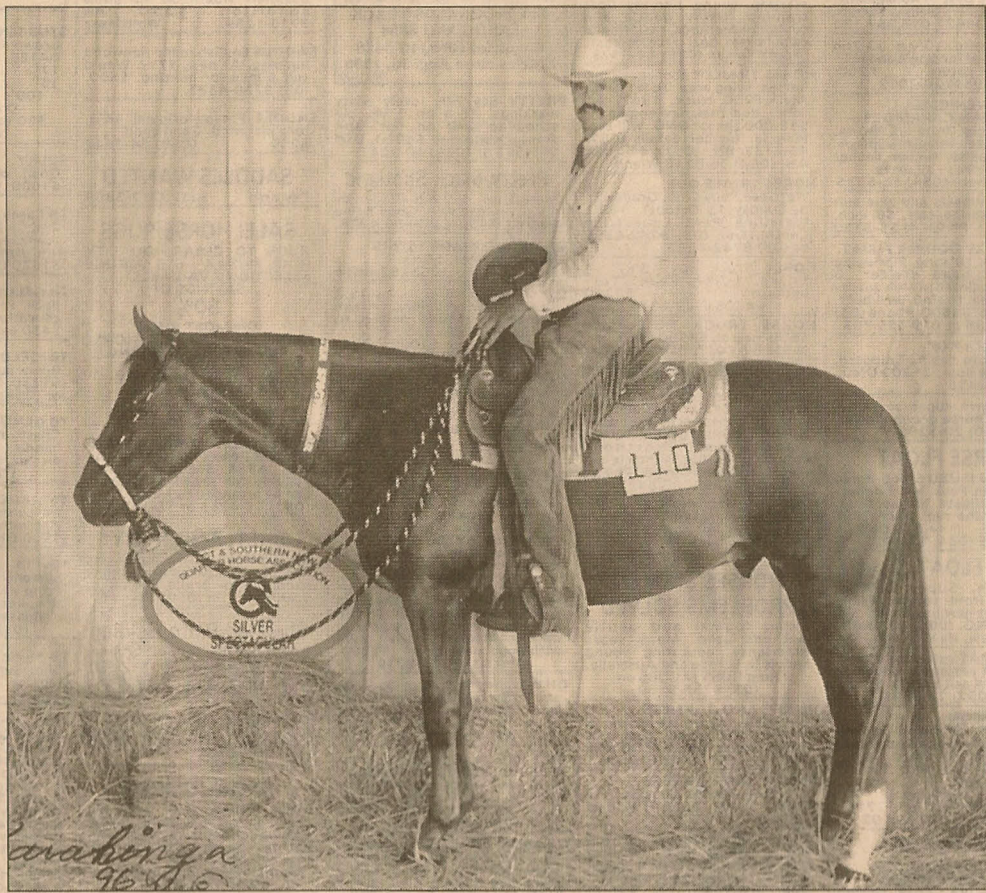
Kerang resident Michelle Yard was also very happy with her win in the limited division of the Amateur Owner Western Pleasure Derby.

Michelle rode her Appaloosa, Windriver Mahogany Man.

The Junior Western Pleasure Derby Limited winner was Kirsty Rose, from Shepparton.

Her horse, Docs Gypsy Dazzler, has been a consistent performer.

They work well together and have earned a place in the Australian Junior Quarter Horse Association team to contest the Quarter Horse World Cup in Arizona in July.



High quarter: David Norbury and his relaxed mount, More Than Impressed, savor the spoils of victory.

Picture: Courtesy Karalinga Animal Photography