the

Transwest Air Inflight Magazine

Complimentary Summer 2002

farmfresh

goes off the deep end

CCA Rodeo best semi-pro circuit in North America

Equine artist Valerie Hinz finds the winner's circle

+ State Of



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In June of 2002, Transwest Air reached another new horizon when we received approval to start using our new Saab aircraft. This means we have moved into the same regulatory environment as large air carriers, a step that has involved a tremendous amount of behindthe-scenes work by Transwest Air employees and management personnel, along with Transport Canada. We thank everyone for their co-operation and commitment.

This year's fishing season got off to a late start due to some unseasonably cold spring weather. A number of fishermen had to rebook their trips because the ice was still on some lakes. We hope everyone who found their trip delayed did rebook, because the northern Saskatchewan fishing experience is truly unique.

July will bring the 2002 Canadian Special Olympics Summer Games to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Transwest Air would like to salute the many volunteer groups, individuals, and sponsors who are making it possible for more than 1,000 athletes to enjoy a once in a lifetime experience.

On a final note, as everyone who travels by air now knows, a security fee was introduced this spring for travel from larger airports. The aviation industry in Canada has been lobbying the federal government to have the fee reduced, and the government has made a commitment to review the fee this fall. We encourage you to register your objections to the current fee level by contacting your local Member of Parliament or the Finance Department directly. It is the only way the government will listen.

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Jim Glass Managing Partner

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Transwest Air Inflight Magazine Summer 2002

FASHION FORWARD farmfresh is branding with all the intensity of a major label, but why?





MAD ABOUT YOU Valerie Hinz rises to the elite among North American sporting painters.

TALL TALES

The rodeo is alive and well, and some of the best are here in our own backvard.





SUMMER SIZZLERS

Cows take the spotlight once again this time it's on the grill, with a spicy mustard marinade.

NEWS FROM TRANSWEST

An explanation of the fees added to your ticket. TRANSWEST AIR



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Publications Mail Canada Post #1880373

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> farmfresh challenges the fashion juggernaut by doing its own branding.

You couldn't ask for a better day. Not a cloud in the sky. The sun is warm but not blistering, and a good rain has greened everything up. That's important, because there's a fashion shoot going on poolside at photographer Sean Martin's studio/home.

Nothing too extraordinary there, until you remember that this is Saskatoon, not Toronto or Vancouver or Montreal where most fashion campaigns originate. And the object of all the attention is not a particular clothing line, but a little store called farmfresh.

"It's good to see a business that isn't afraid to take control of its own advertising, that wants to create something original," Martin says. "It's unique, I can tell you that, especially here.

"farmfresh has a vision of how they want to present themselves. They're not satisfied doing what everyone else is doing, they want their own look."

Martin, who heads up Dark Horse Studio, is drawing on fifteenplus years experience in fashion photography to get that look just right. The day-long shoot requires endless set ups, position shots, colour checks. Martin and Ben Lamothe, one of the farmfresh owner/partners, confer regularly. By late afternoon, when the light begins to fade, they've got the shots they want.









"It's a bit of a spoof, really," Lamothe says of the campaign. "The fashion industry tends to take itself too seriously, so we got some really beautiful people, put them in really great clothes and set up the shots like a major fashion layout, except the shots are a little over the top. We intentionally made them a little cheesy."

Lamothe is talking in subtleties.At first look, the shots are simply sexy: beautiful girl rubbing suntan lotion on beautiful guy's back. At second look, she seems to have used the entire bottle of lotion. You figure it out. That's the cheese Lamothe is talking about.

"Yeah, a lot of people will probably just take the boards at face value, but our customers will get it," he says.

The shots will be featured, larger than life, in a high profile, monthlong billboard campaign around the armfresh co-owner ben lamothe with photographer sean martin

city. Lamothe does wonder if the boards will offend: maybe they're too glossy, too sexy, too major market. Then again, he doesn't want them to look local. The whole point of the campaign is to set farmfresh apart as something distinctive and entirely individual. It's branding 101.

What makes this interesting is that farmfresh is not a major chain, or any chain. It is an upscale independent store in Saskatoon's trendy Broadway Avenue shopping district.

So far, it's the one and only store, yet Lamothe and partner Tyler Dunn are branding themselves with all the intensity of a major label. In this, they are representative of their Generation X roots. They are not prepared to follow but to lead. And if they lead only themselves, that's just fine.

"farmfresh is a concept fashion store for the 25-34 age demographic," Lamothe says. "We carry European and American designers, but we're putting more emphasis on Canadian lines like Narcissist, Rudsak and Pusch. Canadian designers really seem to know what people want to wear, and they have more freedom to push the envelope. There's no logo clutter, nothing outrageous, just very simple, very sleek, yet stylish designs."

You could argue that 'outrageous' is a subjective term, because farmfresh definitely has some overthe-top pieces. Most of the lines, though, are flexible enough to accommodate Gen Xers as they move from school to career. The biggest challenge in developing this fashion line-up comes from an unexpected quarter.

"It's important for us to know that the products we sell are made ethically, but in the fashion industry, it's so easy to get around international standards for wages, health care and child labour. You have to be aware."

Despite a de facto 'don't ask, don't tell' policy that pervades much of the industry, Lamothe asks his suppliers where the fabrics come from, where the garments are made, and if they are made ethically.

"They're always shocked. Sometimes, they don't know what to say because they don't know themselves. It's really tough and I can't say we're there yet, but when we learn a product is iffy, we drop it." Since farmfresh opened last year, other stores have targeted the same market. When they picked some of the same lines, however, farmfresh promptly dropped them.

"We were actually relieved when other stores took over some of the brands, because they were becoming too popular."

Too popular?

"We have a strong desire to be unique," Lamothe says. "We must be



specific line or we won't touch it. Our suppliers are always telling us that it's great if other stores carry the same brands, it's good for business. Well, maybe, but that's not what we want to do. Fashion shouldn't be about everyone wearing brand x or brand y. The style of the clothes should be reason enough to buy and wear them, not the brand or label."

You can almost hear the major labels crying blasphemy. It has taken billions of advertising dollars to condition consumers to revere labels. Now this small town entrepreneur is saying it's not the label that counts, but the style and fit and quality of the garment. Things are becoming clear. farmfresh is not about major brands; farmfresh is the brand.

the only store in the city to carry a

"Exactly," says Lamothe."We want to develop our own label, even our own scent. We hope to contract Canadian designers, and change them to keep our look fresh. But we know you can't do it with just one store. The next step will be to take farmfresh to a larger market, like Winnipeg, Edmonton or Calgary."

That doesn't mean leaving the province."I like this town, I like the vibe. It's a good place to start something, to make mistakes, to learn and grow," Lamothe says. "Right now, we're fine tuning our lines and concept, and building the farmfresh brand."

That's where the billboard campaign comes into play. The vision seems to be, think big but take one step at a time and keep the doors open.



zuzak applies eyeshadow



photographer sean martin sets up a shot.

"I think the billboards will really open some eyes," Sean Martin says. "farmfresh has always had a strong marketing presence, a really clean look. The new boards take it a step further. They're sexy and maybe a little out there. But you can't miss them."

"It was an awesome shoot," Lamothe says. "We had people who looked like supermodels, but without the ego.We wanted to keep it fun, to not take things too seriously."

As for the success of the billboard campaign and their strategy of marketing their own brand, Lamothe and Dunn feel they are on the right track.

"People swear they've seen our store in Calgary or Vancouver, or that they've seen our name in fashion magazines," Ben says. He smiles, adding, "they're really adamant, even when I tell them that this is the only farmfresh store."

The guys are humble enough to know the strategy could crash and burn. After a whirlwind start, Lamothe and Dunn are slowing things down, letting customers get to know them. At the same time, this is Generation X we're talking about. Confident, cocky, determined to do it their way. Will it work? Stay tuned.

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a childhood love for horses into a grand passion. And a career among the elite of North American sporting painters.

Horse Mad

Blame it on Roy Rogers. Val Hinz was a horse mad youngster growing up horseless on a farm near Muenster, Saskatchewan.

"I couldn't have a pony because my dad thought they were hay burners. But my sister and I used to hook up calves to our sled. We played stockyard with the piggies," Hinz laughs, "and my bike's name was Trigger."

The girls finally broke through their father's resistance when Hinz was

11, and she got her first pony. She and her sister spent the summer holidays playing 'charge' in sloughs and galloping madly down grid roads - things you never, ever want your child doing on a horse.

Hinz grew out of her childish derring-do, she almost never plays 'charge' on horseback these days, but she never outgrew her love of horses. Many girls do, usually around the time they discover life's other grand passion - boys. But most people don't have the talent to turn their passion into a living. Even for Hinz, the realization that she was one of the lucky ones was a long time coming.

"I took fine art at university, and honestly, I didn't do well. I thought I was going to learn how to be a painter. But my instructors were into Cubism, and they did not like my work at all. I remember at one point my professor told me I wasn't going to pass the year. He said I wasn't an artist."

Hinz was devastated."I needed to prove him wrong, so I learned how to paint like Picasso. Of course he

loved it, he even wanted to hang one of my pieces."

Hinz passed the year but quit the program - and painting. She drifted into a job in the art department at the local television station. It was a year before she picked up a brush again. When she did, it was to paint a friend's horse. It was enough to rekindle her creative fire, and from that day Hinz gave herself the freedom to paint what she loved. It was the first step on her road to fame.

Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was her first major show as an equine artist, but it didn't come cheap: she paid \$1,000 for her booth.

The year after, she went to the show in Louisville, Kentucky. Hinz did the tourist rounds, including a bus tour of the Kentucky Horse Park.

"I remember there was this huge beautiful museum, and adjacent to the main hall was this area of horse art. It was the American Academy of Equine Artists (AAEA) exhibition," Hinz says."It was the first time I'd

> seen horse art of this calibre, museum quality work. I was so impressed.There was a big painting by Heather St. Clair Davis, she's a British artist who's now diseased. 'He Never Ouits' was the title of her painting and I was so impressed with her work."

The next year, she entered one of her own works and was accepted in the show. In 1992, she won her first AAEA award: the Gordon Barton Memorial Award for Best in Show. The painting was 'On Duty', a scene of the Calgary police force working as a colour guard at Spruce Meadows.

"I thought, this is really great. There's no politics because nobody knows me," Hinz says. "I've since learned there is politics."

The '90s were a steady march forward in terms of recognition and confidence. She won awards, had articles written about her and by 1995, was a full member of the AAEA.

A highlight came in 1997, when she had her first one-woman show at the International Museum of the Horse at the Kentucky Horse Park.

She spent nine months preparing and had 90 pieces on display, from 'script sketches' - drawings she'd

The exhibition did very well, providing Hinz with her first taste of financial freedom. Despite that, she found herself struggling with a mounting list of worries.

done on the sides of television com-

mercial scripts - to oil paintings.

"I discovered anxiety," she says grimly. "I was so burned out, preparing for the show, and then dealing with anxiety and depression. I was also breaking up with a boyfriend. I learned what fear can do to you. Fear is the enemy, faith is good thing."

Hinz didn't paint for almost two years, but unlike earlier dry spells, she knew that one day she would. She built a studio in her backyard. She can't remember when she returned to her work, but says,"I must have done some things that knocked some socks off, because suddenly my work was in demand. I was making money."

Hinz quit her job to become a full time artist. But life is never simple. With her career moving forward in exciting new directions, Hinz found herself reeling from the death of her 23-year old Arabian gelding.

Colic. To a horseperson, it's one of the scariest words there is. For the first time since she was 11, Hinz did not have a horse.

This time, she painted through it. She's learned that the toughest challenge is beating the mind game. "I think every artist goes through it. Even if you don't paint for a week, it's like coming back to a blank. You feel, I'm not a painter anymore. It's very intimidating."

All wounds heal, even that early blow from her professor, who had pronounced with such authority that she was no painter. She has survived, better yet, she has prospered. Today, Val Hinz is regarded as one of the







"I was painting horses for friends,

and because I had an Arabian inter-

est, reading Arabian magazines. They

had these pictures of Arabian horse

artwork and I realized there were

people like me, doing the things I

was doing. In 1982, I went to the

Arabian nationals in Calgary because

I heard there were commercial dis-

plays with artists. I saw the artwork

At a friend's suggestion, she went

down to the 1983 U.S. National

and thought, I can do this."

Arabian Horse Show in

top equine artists in North America. Her works hang in two of the most prestigious galleries in the sporting art world, the Cross Gate Gallery in Lexington, Kentucky and the Sporting Gallery in Middleburg, Virginia. She was commissioned to paint the winner of the 1999 Queen's Plate, Woodcarver; her work has been featured on the cover of Equine Images; and next year, she's going to be one of the artists-in-residence at the Kentucky Horse Park. That's as good as it gets for Hinz.

As for the Picasso-inspired work her erstwhile professor admired so much, it is a dark, stormy piece that still hangs in her home, a stark counterpoint to the light and colour of her horse art ... the works for which she has gained international acclaim.





RODEO! RODEO!

THE MAN ON THE LOUD-SPEAKER IS HAVING FUN. **"EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE YOU GET A COUPLE OF PUPPIES THAT GO OUT AND** EAT THE BIG DOG'S LUNCH," HE ANNOUNCES, AFTER THE **TEAM-ROPING TIME OF 6 SECONDS FLAT FOR 17-YR OLD CLAYTON VOTH AND 25-YR OLD RYAN COX. THE CROWD RESPONDS WITH** A WAVE OF APPLAUSE.

Jim Boswell, veteran rodeo announcer, loves a good story. Like the one about a CCA competitor that came up from Texas."Butch Myers, a champion roper from Texas, had three kids, two boys and a girl.And he named his kids Rope, Tye and Cash. When Rope was 18 years old, he had a goal of being a pro rodeo champion. And his dad told him to come up to Canada and compete in the CCA. So in 1993 and '94 he came and competed for two years and learned his skills." In 2001 Rope Myers won World Champion Steer Wrestler at the National Finals Rodeo.

Rodeo is the western carnival. It's sprung from our own Saskatchewan roots and acknowledged around the continent. Every weekend across the province, horses, bulls, spectators and of course, cowboys and cowgirls gather for a test of skill, speed and strength. Just a small town rodeo? Nope. It's a Canadian Cowboys'Association rodeo, called the best semi-pro circuit in North America.

Rodeo has always been immensely popular in small-town Saskatchewan. The Canadian Cowboys'Association, or the CCA, was founded in 1963



with 60 members. One of the originals, Carl Barrett, recalls the early days. "The CCA was started by Alvin Dunford, who was a storekeeper in Port Reeve. That's down by Leader (Saskatchewan). I don't believe there's even a town there anymore. He wasn't a competitor or anything, he just did it for the betterment of the sport, to give the cowboys a fair chance. Make sure everyone got paid."

From a start of just fifteen sanctioned rodeos, the CCA has grown to over 60 events spanning Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Montana. The association has over 600 members and is the largest semi-pro association in Canada. It also has the reputation of being the best, and has been a springboard for World, Canadian and Australian Rodeo Champions.

Former CCA Champions Murray Linthicum and Rocky Dallyn won both the Alberta and Canadian Finals in 2001. In February of 2002, they headed down to Utah to compete in the team-roping event at the Cultural

Olympiad, which was held as part of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games. They edged out fivetime World Champions Speed Williams and Rich Skelton to bring home an Olympic gold medal.







There are seven main events in a CCA rodeo: saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, calf roping, team roping, steer wrestling, ladies' barrel racing and bull riding. The CCA also recognizes several junior events, including steer riding, girl's barrel racing, saddle bronc and bareback.

Every event requires speed, skill, strength and a little bit of luck. Team roping is probably the event that is closest to actual ranch work. One cowboy, called the header, ropes the steer by the head or horns, which are protected by a horn wrap. He turns the steer so his partner, the heeler, can rope its hind feet. Out on the range, the heeler keeps the rope taut on the hind feet so the steer stays down



BRIAN BREEN

and the header can doctor it. In a rodeo, the run is complete when the steer is secured and both team ropers' horses face each other from opposite ends of the steer.A good run can be less than six seconds.

It's the bucking events that often provide the most excitement. Rodeos get their stock from stock contractors, whose animals are bred to buck. The good ones come back year after year and can be just as wellknown on the circuit as the cowboys that ride them. Some get to know their job so well that they actually quit bucking when they hear the buzzer. Though the bulls look more impressive, the horses are just as difficult to ride, if not more so. Horses are more unpredictable and tend to be smarter. They are also harder on a cowboy. You're likely to get hurt more seriously on a bull, but more often on a horse. Also, when the rider comes off, a horse just wants to get away, whereas a bull often targets the rider. This is where one of rodeos' great traditions comes in - the bullfighter. They're also called rodeo clowns, but don't let that fool you. These are some of the bravest men ever to step into a rodeo ring.

"RODEO IS A LINK TO THE PAST. A LINK TO THE FUTURE AS WELL FOR PEOPLE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES, AND THROUGH THE STRENGTH OF PEOPLE, A LINK TO OUR HERITAGE."

It's a tight-knit community that can seem closed to outsiders. The 'make do with what you've got and don't cry over what you haven't' attitude may seem like an act. It isn't. In fact, these are some of the most honest, down-to-earth people you'll ever come across.

Tom Herman, the current Director of the CCA, is from Hilldale, Alberta and a former CCA team roping and calf roping champion. He talks first-hand about the camaraderie and the jokes shared by the cowboys on the circuit. "We were telling one of the judges he should come out of the judges' booth with a white cane, just to see everyone's eyes pop. If he'd had one handy he would've, too."

Some practical jokes don't quite end up as they are intended. During the Finals one year, Mark Fraser from Esterhazy acted on a dare and went down the laundry chute at the Parktown Hotel. He thought there would be a big pile of laundry to land in at the bottom. There wasn't. He wound up with some cracked ribs and a concussion, and went on to compete in bull riding the next day anyway.

Most competitors grew up in their boots. They're from ranching families, with parents and siblings who have



competed and shown them the ropes. It fosters a real family atmosphere on the circuit. Eastend cowboy Brian Breen says, "Everyone in this association (is like that). If you need help, someone's there to give it to you. They're like a second family." It's not just the competitors, either. "Some of these committee people have been around for twenty years or longer ... they're the backbone of the association."

Breen grew up on a 200-head cattle ranch and started steer wrestling when he was 16. He learned from his older brother. "I think it took about twenty runs that first time before I got up the guts to drop down on that steer. Last year, I went to about fifty rodeos and won enough to pay for my hotel

rooms and my diesel. I was in Eston yesterday and will be in Assiniboia tomorrow. I think I go through about ten shirts a year being ripped in competition. Jeans are getting better, though," he grins. "Only been through about five pairs so far this year."

Some competitors travel a little farther to compete in the CCA.Adam McNamara is the youngest of three brothers from Warrnambool. Australia. He's a fourth generation rancher - his grandfather was a stock contractor, his father rode bulls. Both of his brothers rodeo back in Australia, where he shears sheep for nine months of the year. His goal is to get to the Australian Pro Rodeo Finals.

"I'll be back to Australia in September, then back to Canada if I'm in the (CCA) Finals in October.



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I'd like to try the PRCA in Texas next year."

Injuries haven't stopped McNamara. A few years ago, he broke his neck when he was stepped on by a bull. It was the third vertebrae down; any higher and it would have killed him. He took ten months off and went right back at it. The injury did slow him down a little, he only rides the bulls now. He quit riding the broncs because they're too hard on a person. "Some people think I'm crazy," he says with a smile, "but if I'm gonna go out, I'd rather be doing what I love."

The CCA does face some challenges today, particularly attracting sponsorship and spectators. Changing demographics mean fewer spectators for small town rodeos. Harvey Spears is a radio

announcer who wrote "Rodeo Shows for Radio" in the 1980's. He says, "It's a tough road these days for any amateur association to attract spectators, but the CCA keeps communities and towns interested."

Randy Fernets, General Manager of the CCA, credits sponsors with helping keep rodeo alive."Our sponsors have been just great especially the hotels." It's important, he adds, because "Rodeo is a link to the past. A link to the future as well for people in rural communities, and through the strength of people, a link to our heritage."

Rodeo is more than just a sport. It's a lifestyle. And some of the best competitors are in our own back yards. Here's to future champions.



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then round out your plate with grilled veggie shis-ke-bobs. Oh, and take a moment to give thanks for cows and cowboys before you chow down.

Summer Steak Sizzler

- 1/4 cup dry red wine
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 cloves crushed garlic
- 2 tbsp hot mustard
- 1 tsp dried basil
- 1 tsp ketchup
- 2 lbs boneless sirloin steaks

Combine all ingredients in a shallow bowl or plastic container. Add steak and marinate for at least an hour, preferably overnight in the fridge. Barbecue steaks (see sidebar for grilling tips) and serve.

Sliced Baked Potatoes

4 medium potatoes 1 tsp salt 2-3 tbsp melted butter 2-3 tbsp chopped fresh or dried herbs, such as parsley, chives, thyme or sage 3 tbsp Parmesan cheese

4 tbsp grated cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 425 F. Cut thin slices into the potatoes, but don't cut all the way through. Place potatoes in a baking dish and fan out slightly. Sprinkle each with salt, melted butter and herbs. Bake for about 50 minutes. Remove from the oven and top each potato with cheddar and Parmesan. Bake for another 10-15 minutes, until cheese is melted and potatoes are soft inside (use a fork to check).

Shis-ke-bob Veggies

Cut your favourite vegetables into chunks. Good candidates for grilling include peppers, onions, mushrooms, chunks of corn on the cob and even baby tomatoes. Spear the veggies on shis-ke-bob sticks and place on the grill. Brush with olive oil and turn once to cook evenly.

Grilling Tips

The secret to successful grilling is to maintain as much of the meat's natural juices as possible. Pre-heat the grill on high and be sure it's sizzling hot before you put your meat on. Brush a thin layer of olive oil on the steak, then sear each side on high before reducing heat. For hamburgers, you can add one teaspoon of olive oil to one pound of meat.



TRANSWEST AIR

Frequently Asked Questions

Fees, Fees and more Fees! What are they and what do they do for us as a passenger and an airline? The following fees are a result of the Federal Government offloading costs onto the traveling public.

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news from

Baby On Board

On April 23, 2002, Lyman Paul Wayne Fern came into this world on board our Navajo Aircraft while in flight from Fond Du Lac to Uranium City.

Tranwest Air's pilot Lyman Cropus was called out to do a medivac to Uranium City; little did he know how the evening was going unfold for him. Crystal Fern was in labour and needed to get to Uranium City hospital as soon as possible to give birth. Baby Lyman decided that he could not wait until he arrived at the hospital and was born as soon as the plane was airborne, weighing 8-lbs. 4 oz. Parents Crystal Fern and Eric Naldzil decided to name their child Lyman, in recognition of the pilot.

Everyone at Transwest Air wishes Crystal, Eric and Lyman all the best and we feel honored that they decided to name their child after our pilot.

For reservations and information call 1-800-667-9356 or 1-800-665-7275, book on-line at www.transwestair.com, or call your local travel agent.





Employee Training at Transwest Air

Saab 340 Maintenance Course - Recently Transwest Air held a Maintenance Course for our new aircraft, the Saab 340. It is a Transport Canada approved course that was put on by Flight Safety International. Pictured below are

the Transwest Air graduates from the course, left to right: Wayne Knarr, Flight Safety Instructor Ken Koprivia, Gale Blythe, Wayne Catte, Al Reding, Mark Philips, Jonathan Tonn.



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