



## Bellwether Magazine

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### Commentary

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Photo by Bill Fraikes, Sports Illustrated



Photo by Andy Lyons, Getty Images



**B**arbaro will long be remembered around the world as the horse with an indomitable spirit, who brought hope and joy to the lives of so many. No amount of eulogizing will ever adequately celebrate his achievements, but we can make sure that his short life will continue to have great meaning, that Barbaro will leave behind a gift for other horses for many years to come.

Laminitis, the disease that ultimately claimed Barbaro's life, is a painful and serious condition that afflicts many horses; Barbaro is just one example of the terrible toll that laminitis takes. Unfortunately, there is still no cure, but we are committed to focusing our energies toward finding one. Perhaps the greatest tribute we can make to Barbaro—the most fitting way of honoring and memorializing him—will be to defeat the disease that abbreviated the life of a truly great horse.

Much work remains in this fight, a battle that needs the help of people like you who understand the need to study disorders uniquely afflicting our equine athletes and companions. We invite you to join our team of clinical specialists and scientists here at Penn Veterinary Medicine in beating not only laminitis but other serious equine diseases as well. The Barbaro Fund at New Bolton Center helps provide the George D. Widener Hospital for Large Animals with needed equipment and improvements, and the Laminitis Fund supports crucial research being done on laminitis. Friends of New Bolton provide vital support to the George D. Widener Large Animal Hospital through their generous gifts. These unrestricted funds ensure that our equine and other large-animal patients receive the finest care available and help advance the number and type of procedures we can offer our patients.

I encourage you to support the Barbaro Fund, the Research for Laminitis Fund or the Friends of New Bolton Fund by making a gift today at [www.vet.upenn.edu/giving](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/giving) or by mailing your check, made payable to the "Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania," in the enclosed envelope or to: Office of Development and Alumni Relations, University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine, 3800 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6047.

Together we can help Barbaro continue to make headlines as a champion both on the track and off.

Thank you.

*Alan W. Ribick*



## Dean W. Richardson, DVM

Dr. Dean W. Richardson is the Charles W. Raker Professor of Equine Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and Chief of Surgery at the George D. Widener Hospital at New Bolton Center. He is an internationally recognized orthopedic surgeon whose research focuses on cartilage repair. In his illustrious career, Dr. Richardson has received the Pfizer Award for Excellence in Research (1997), the Norden Distinguished Teaching Award (2000), the Class of 2004 and the Class of 2005 Distinguished Teaching awards, the Ohio State Distinguished Alumni Award (2005) and the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award (2006). In fall 2006, he received the National Turf Writers' Joe Palmer Award.

