

Nebraskans Host Outhouse Race

Popular new spectator sport at fairs, centennials and other community celebrations is outhouse racing.

North Platte, Neb., recently held a privy race as part of their Nebraskaland Days celebration. It was the first time for the race in North Platte, according to Larry Britton, coordinator of the event, who says the idea came from a neighboring community which has staged the event for the past few years.

Since it was the first year for the race in North Platte, only three teams entered. However, Britton says the crowd enjoyed the race so much that he expects many more entries next year.

The three teams, sponsored by local merchants, were the "Backyard

Trots", "Night Deposit" and the eventual winner, "South Farty". The teams raced against the clock, vying for prizes, trophies and the distinguished honor of being the town's fastest outhouse racing team.

Each team had five members, four to push and one rider. The 4 by 4 by 5-ft. outhouses were mounted on wheeled trailers equipped with a crazy wheel and brakes but not a steering lever. Each privy required a working door, complete with a ¼ moon. Maximum weight, with the rider was 650 lbs.

Teams raced through a five stop obstacle course. At each stop, the rider jumped out of the privy and completed the particular task. The stops, spaced 90 ft. apart, included



Photo courtesy Nick Carlson

Teams race the clock through a five-stop obstacle course.

such athletic skills as: digging a walnut out of a pail of mud; throwing a tire over a running sprinkler head; dashing through an obstacle course of tires, tearing out a page from a Sears and Roebuck catalog and then

running back through the tires; throwing a roll of toilet paper into a commode 10 ft. away; and hurdling a 4 ft. high headboard, unrolling an entire roll of toilet paper and then jumping back over the headboard.

PRODUCES 2,000 PER DAY

Florida Farm Raises Four-Leaf Clovers

By Don Spatz

"As far as we know, ours is the world's only four-leaf clover farm," says Andy Safco who, with his wife Dandy, owns and operates the Clover Specialty Co., near St. Petersburg, Fla.

The Safcos purchased the unusual farm business from C.F. Daniels, a "backyard botanist" who developed a secret way of propagating four-leaf clovers from Dutch clover (trifolium repens).

Secrecy surrounds much of the en-

terprise. The clover plants must be handled in a specific way or they will revert to the ordinary field variety. The Safcos will sell no plants — only the four-leaf greens which are preserved in a special way and shipped year-around to foreign and domestic buyers who, for the most part, seal them in key rings, jewelry and other items for advertising purposes. "We're not set up to sell or ship individual four-leaf clovers to private individuals," Safco told FARM SHOW.



Andy and Dandy Safco closely guard their secret for raising four-leaf clovers, which are grown on raised beds.

He notes that the special-bred clover regenerates by runners, similar to strawberry plants. Should anyone ever illegally obtain any of the plants, it won't matter, says Safco;

"The secrets of handling them, and drying the leaves, are known only to us. And nothing will persuade us to part with them."

SIMPLE AND CHEAP

He Makes Coffins The Old-Fashioned Way

Dan Shelton has started a new business that no one wants to talk about. The Greybull, Wyoming, native has begun building simple, no-frills coffins that reflect the personalities of his customers without bankrupting family survivors.

"I'm making caskets for farmers, ranchers, hunters, foresters and others who don't want to be laid to rest in a fancy, frilly coffin" says Dan. "Many people aren't comfortable in a suit and tie and yet, when they die, they're dressed up and put in a casket lined with lace."

Shelton's first casket was built for a hunter. It's made of solid pine, has buckskin handles, and a carving of a horse on top. Shelton's wife Eileen sewed the plaid lining, which is as

thick as a sleeping bag.

"We can carve a steer, sheep or any other design onto the top and line the casket to suit the person," says Shelton.

His first casket is on display in a furniture showroom in Greybull. Sales have been slow, however, because people don't want to think ahead to death. "We sell our custom-built models for less than \$500. You can easily pay \$1,200 or more for a similar quality casket from a funeral home."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Shelton, Crystal Creek, Sheel Route, Box 25A, Greybull, Wyo. 82426 (ph 307 765-2711).



Dan Shelton's coffin has plaid lining and rawhide carrying straps.