

"THE BELT PULLEY"

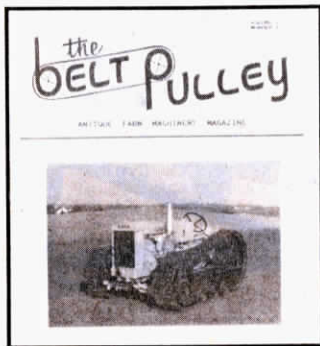
18-Year-Old Publishes His Own Farm Magazine

The hottest new farm magazine in the country is the brainchild of an 18-year-old Illinois farm boy who loves antique farm equipment and thinks there's a market for a publication to go to similar machinery enthusiasts around the country.

Kurt Aumann, Nokomis, Ill., got the idea for the *THE BELT PULLEY* working at auctions with his father, Nelson. Kurt has been auctioneering since he was 12 years old. With six years experience, he's already an accomplished professional. He decided to publish his own magazine when he started looking around for information about antique machinery he saw at auctions.

When Aumann discovered that "there weren't any good publications around about antique machinery" he decided to try to start one himself. He talked to a newspaper man, got lots of advice from other people, and persuaded his banker to grant him a loan to launch the magazine. The first issue of *THE BELT PULLEY* came out in November, 1987. He now has 325 subscribers, mostly through word-of-mouth, and employs six part time contributing reporters around the country.

Each issue features a "Tractor of the Month" - the one featured in the current issue is a Case CD crawler tractor - and a "Find of the Month", a story about a collector's most exciting or unusual "find". The tractor "discovered" in the current issue is a Deere 420. The story tells how the



"The Belt Pulley" is a new magazine for enthusiasts of antique farm equipment.

tractor was found and explains that the 20-hp. tractor is a missing link in many tractor collections because it was only manufactured for three years, 1956-58.

Each issue also features a "Collector of the Month", as well as a column about collecting toy tractors. There's also an extensive listing of antique tractor and power shows around the country, along with classified ads featuring equipment and parts for sale to both active farmers and collectors.

A subscription to *THE BELT PULLEY* sells for \$10 for six issues a year. For a sample copy, send \$2 to: FARM SHOW Followup, *THE BELT PULLEY*, P.O. Box 83, Nokomis, Ill. 62075 (ph 217 563-2523).

BUILT FROM FARM MACHINERY PARTS

"Scrap Iron" Dinosaur Roams Iowa Pasture

An 11 ft. tall, 25-ft. long "scrap iron" dinosaur, built from old farm machinery parts, grazes Dennis Allen's pasture just west of U.S. Highway 59, south of Cherokee, Iowa.

Allen used old disk blades, plowshares, car axle housings, and other junkpile odds and ends to build the skeleton replica of a stegosaurus, a lumbering dinosaur identified by a double row of bony plates along its back. He researched dinosaurs at a local library and used photos of a stegosaurus skeleton as a model while building the dinosaur, which weighs nearly a ton.

"I've always been interested in dinosaurs and I thought it would be a challenge to build," says Allen. "Dinosaurs are large so they're relatively easy to build from farm machinery parts. It was interesting to see how drivers reacted when they first noticed the dinosaur. Some of them walked out into the pasture to see it, and some even climbed up on it."

Allen built the dinosaur from the top down. He says the most difficult part of the project was building and shaping the dinosaur's backbone, which he made from a 25-ft. tiling machine chain. He formed the chain into a curve on the shop floor and then

welded the links together. He then used a front-end loader and chain to hang the backbone from the ceiling so he could weld on the ribs, shoulder blades, head and legs.

Allen made the ribs from 5-ft. lengths of galvanized well pipe, hand bending the pipes to the proper contour. He used old disk blades to make the bony plates along the back and tail, as well as the rear shoulder blades. The front shoulder blades are made from moldboard plowshares. He made the front legs from car rear axle housings, using the transmission cases on those housings as knees. Allen removed the differential gears from the transmission case so he could bend it, then welded it back together to provide the effect of a knee joint. He made the large rear legs from rectangular tubing and angle iron. He made the head from a transmission case, using the spout of an old hand well pump and cultivator blades to form the snout.

Four disk blades, placed underground, anchor the dinosaur to the ground. A toe on each foot goes through the hole in each blade to keep the structure rigid.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Allen, RR 2, Box 11, Aurelia, Iowa 51005 (ph 712 434-5706).



Gene Fleming, Hastings, Neb., fitted Andy the Goose with a pair of tennis shoes because Andy was born without webbed feet.

"ANDY" STEPS OUT IN STYLE

A Goose With Shoes

By Becky Ohlde

What do professional basketball player Michael Jordan and Andy the Goose have in common? They both wear Nike tennis shoes.

Wait a minute! A goose that wears shoes? It's true! Andy was born (or hatched) without webbed feet.

Gene Fleming, Andy's master and traveling companion, discovered Andy when picking up some ducks from his sister-in-law's place, near Hastings, Neb. (Fleming is the owner of Fleming Mfg., a livestock handling equipment company near Hastings.)

"I built a little pond in my back yard and my sister-in-law, who raises ducks and geese, asked me if I wanted some ducks for it," he explains. "When I picked up the ducks, I saw this goose that looked like he was having trouble walking. I asked my sister-in-law about him and she said he didn't have any feet."

Fleming says he thought about that goose for a week, trying to figure out how to help him walk better. He finally concocted the idea that shoes might help the poor goose walk. So, he went back to his sister's place and traded a pair of his ducks for the footless goose.

The first shoes Andy wore were size 0 leather baby shoes.

"First, we had to wait for Andy to grow into the size 0 shoes," Fleming explains. "Since he had no toes or webs, we cut slits

in the sides of his shoes and poked sponge rubber into the toes to keep his shoes on straight, to provide comfort and to enable him to walk, run and swim. We also cut a 1/4-in. hole in the bottom of the shoes to let the water out when he swims."

There was just one problem.

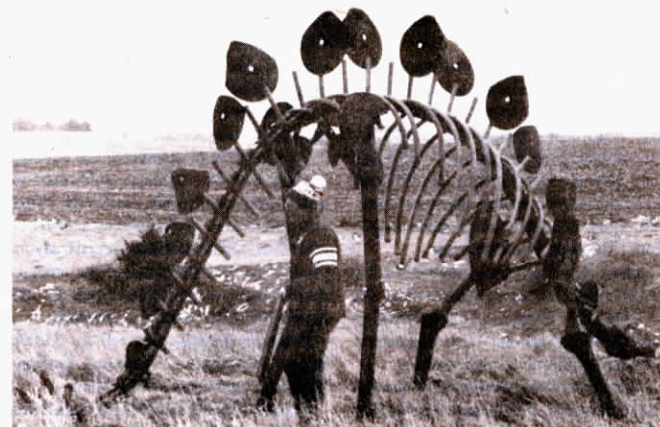
Andy went through that first pair of shoes in 30 days. Fleming says that if he would have had to keep buying that type of shoe for Andy every 30 days for the rest of his life (geese live about 50 years), he would have had at least \$7,800 invested in shoes for the goose. So, he decided to switch to tennis shoes.

The 3-year-old Andy has become pretty famous, Fleming says. This duo has appeared on NBC's Johnny Carson and ABC's Incredible Sunday. *People Magazine* and *Reader's Digest*, as well as newspapers all over the United States and Europe, have featured Andy's story.

"There isn't a kid in the United States who doesn't know who Andy is," Fleming says. "That's because he's been featured in the kids' *Weekly Reader* (an educational newspaper for youth)."

Fleming adds that Nike is planning to induct Andy into its Hall of Feet, an exhibit where photos of athletes and the first pair of Nike tennis shoes they wore are displayed.

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Dennis Allen, Cherokee, Iowa, built this 11 ft. tall, 25-ft. long "scrap iron" dinosaur using old disk blades, plowshares, car axle housings, and other odds and ends.