



## Family Shoe Store

For More Information

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### **THE BARN FAMILY SHOE STORE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPRESENTS UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN TEAM FOUNDATION IN ROSE BOWL PARADE**

**WEST NEWTON, MA, Jan. 3, 2008** – Karen Stives, Olympic medal winner and president of The Barn Family Shoe Store, was one of 12 equestrians chosen to represent the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation in the 2008 Rose Bowl Parade held in Pasadena, Californian on New Year’s Day.

Stives was one of four international riders named to represent the USET Foundation from the sport of Three Day Eventing, one of the most challenging disciplines in equestrian sports. She joined fellow Olympians from the disciplines of dressage and show jumping in a 12-member squad who rode the five and a half mile route to the cheers of nearly a million spectators. The parade was also broadcast to millions of viewers in 75 countries.

“Being chosen to once again ride for my country, in the company of fellow Olympians, was a tremendous honor,” said Stives, who now oversees The Barn Family Shoe Store, a Greater Boston retailing landmark and one of Southern New England’s leading shoe stores.

A New England native, Stives achieved world acclaim when she won Team Gold and Individual Silver Medals in the 1984 Olympic Games, held in Los Angeles. In so doing, she became the first woman ever to win an Olympic medal in Three-Day Eventing, one of the most challenging disciplines in equestrian sports. She began her international career in 1980 at the Alternate Olympic Games held in Fontainebleau, France and represented the US in numerous team competitions including the 1982 World Championships in Luhmuhlen, Germany, the 1984 Olympics, and the 1986 World Championships in Sydney, Australia. She achieved the rare feat of securing short list status for the 1988 Olympics on not one, but three horses. She was named the USCTA (United States Combined Training Association) Rider of the Year in 1981, 1987 and 1988.

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Following her retirement from competition in 1988, Stives continued to contribute to equestrian sports by becoming a coach, an international judge, a member of numerous committees including the Board of the United States Equestrian Team (USET), and Chairperson of the Selection Committee for International Competition Teams for 10 years.

Today, Stives is helping to ensure the success of a different team – The Barn's managers and staff, ably led by Vice President and General Manager Joe Carrigan. The Barn Family Shoe Store, in West Newton, is one of Southern New England's leading destinations for top quality footwear for the entire family. The store, which is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2008, has been family owned and operated since its founding by her father in 1948. In addition to being a multi-generational tradition for Greater Boston families, The Barn and The Kids Barn have received numerous awards including Boston Magazine's prestigious *Best of Boston – Best Children's Shoe Store* award, the TAB Newspaper's *#1 Readers Choice Award* and Retailer of the Year 2008 from the Boston Shoe Traveler's Association (BSTA), a leading industry group.

***About The Barn Family Shoe Store and The Kids Barn***

Family-owned and operated for 60 years, The Barn is located in West Newton, Massachusetts. The Barn Family Shoe Store and The Kids Barn ([www.thebarnfamilyshoestore.com](http://www.thebarnfamilyshoestore.com)) have become Southern New England's favorite destination for top quality footwear for the entire family, delivering an unmatched combination of top quality brands with a vast array of styles, backed by excellent service and competitive pricing. Conveniently located near the Massachusetts Turnpike and I-95/Route 128, the store is open seven days a week. For more information, visit the website at [www.thebarnfamilyshoestore.com](http://www.thebarnfamilyshoestore.com) or call (617) 332-6300.

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