

run." This was an exercise that took place shortly after guard mount, or just before the orderly officer was expected to visit your stable to make sure that everything was neat and clean, and that all the equine members were happy. Sunday afternoons were crucial times also, because civilians were often escorted through the stables, and droppings in the straw bedding were definitively a no-no. This is when the "home-run" came into play, so to speak. The only equipment required was a sharp eye, a scoop shovel

and running shoes — not to mention stamina, and a good shot of adrenalin. The players were the stable orderly, scoop in hand and a wheelbarrow nearby, and up to 30 horses. Looking left and right, the orderly would sprint as soon as a tail began to rise; if he was in time to catch it all, it was scored as a "home run."

There were times when the hay burners conspired to defeat him. Two or sometimes more, would start the action at the same time, at opposite ends of the

