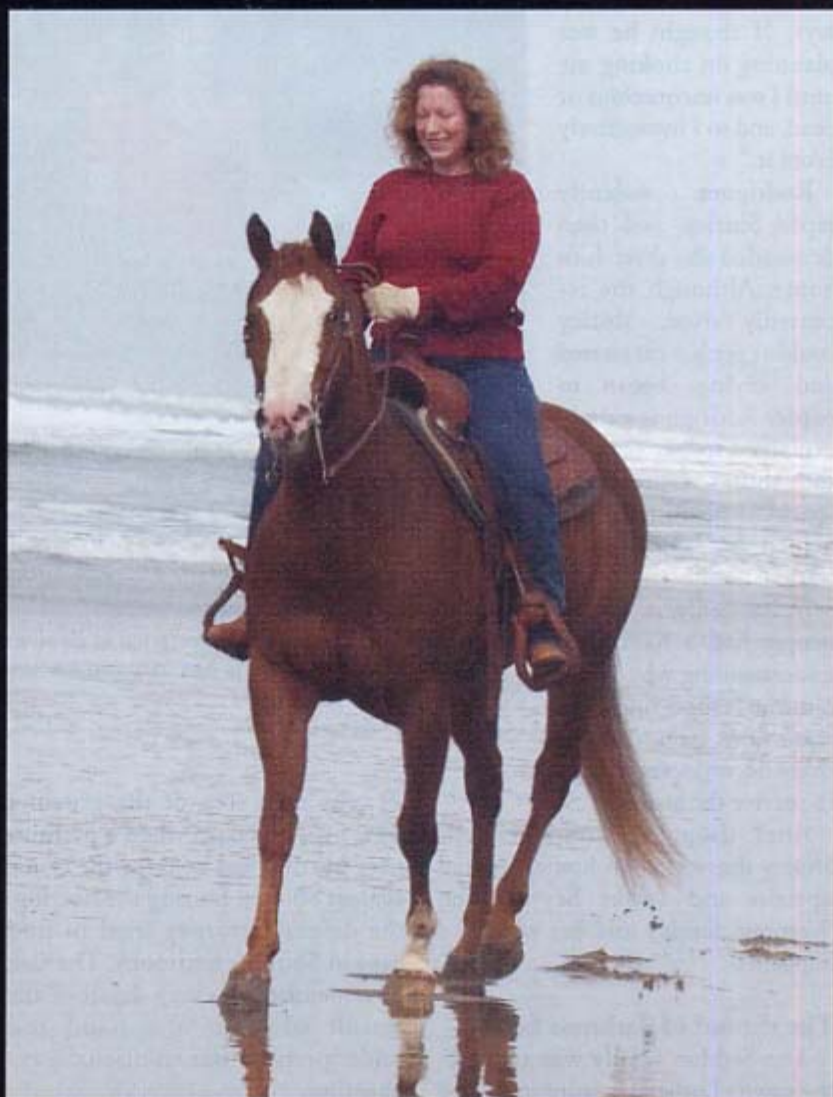


By PAUL A. CAÑADA

From Darkness Into the Light

*Paints help
Shirley Iverson
find hope and
purpose in life.*



It was October 19, 1974, and Shirley Seddon (now Iverson) was home during a semester break. The Concordia College student was enjoying a rare night out with old friends, in her hometown of Crookston, Minnesota. The girls went to the local pub, a hangout for the town's young crowd.

The college freshman decided to end her evening a bit earlier than her former classmates and left to return to her parents' home at about 11:30 p.m. On the way to her car, Alfonso Rodriguez, the older brother of one of her former high school classmates, stopped her and asked for a ride home.

Initially, Shirley refused, but after continued pleading by Rodriguez, she agreed to give him a lift.