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Clydesdale Named Budweiser Hides Out for Days After a Helpful Goat Set Him Free

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Clydesdale Named Budweiser Hides Out for Days After a Helpful Goat Set Him

He had the help of a scapegoat

A horse managed to [escape his holding pen](#) in Santa Cruz, Calif. and hide out for five days, after getting some help from a friend.

The horse, a 1,900 pound Clydesdale named Budweiser, was captured Sunday in the Santa Cruz Mountains after he broke out of his pen with the help of his friend Lancelot, a Nigerian dwarf billy goat, the Santa Cruz *Sentinel* reports.

Owner Tamara Schmitz said she left the goat in the horse pen last Wednesday and Lancelot figured out to ram the gate open.



While Buddy managed to avoid detection for nearly a week, another Clydesdale named Harry who escaped was captured the next day.

“Buddy’s very elusive. He’s not like other horses. He’s not attracted by meadows and other horses. He can stay hidden,” Schmitz said.

Buddy roamed a three mile area, according to the *Sentinel*, causing Schmitz to enlist a community search “posse.” They eventually found the horse hiding in a patch of small trees about a mile from his home.

End



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With help from goat, wily Clydesdale goes on lam for 5 days

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This undated photo provided by Tamara Schmitz shows Clydesdale horse Budweiser with his friend, a Nigerian dwarf billy goat named Lancelot, near Santa Cruz, Calif. Budweiser was safely back in his pen Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016, in the Santa Cruz Mountains on California's Central Coast after five days on the lam. Owner Tamara Schmitz says Buddy was busted out Wednesday, Aug. 24, by Lancelot, who knows how to butt open the stable gate. (Tamara Schultz via AP)

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (AP) — A dwarf billy goat gave new meaning to the word "scapegoat" when he busted out a surprisingly slippery Clydesdale that went on the lam in California for several days.

The nearly 1-ton horse named Budweiser, who goes by "Buddy," was safely wrangled back into his pen Sunday in the Santa Cruz Mountains on California's Central Coast.

The goat named Lancelot knows how to butt open the stable gate, and did just that Wednesday, letting his best friend escape, owner Tamara Schmitz told the Santa Cruz Sentinel newspaper (<http://bit.ly/2bPTqBD>).

Another Clydesdale, Harry, also fled and was nabbed in a meadow the next day. But Buddy is more wary and wily, Schmitz said.

"Buddy's very elusive," she said. "He's not like other horses. He's not attracted by meadows and other horses. He can stay hidden."

That made him very hard to find. He eluded volunteers from around the Santa Cruz area for five days, with evidence like tracks and loud snorts suggesting he was as far as 3 miles away.

The owners even trotted out Lancelot and Harry to try to lure back Buddy, but he didn't fall for it. They just hoped the horse would stay away from Highway 17, a busy and dangerous road running through the area.

A pair of searchers on horseback finally found Buddy hiding amid manzanita shrubs Sunday.

"When we got him back in the pen, he was particularly frisky and playful and happy," Schmitz said. "I think he was glad to be back."

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