

# Peter Lundy and the Medicine Hat Stallion

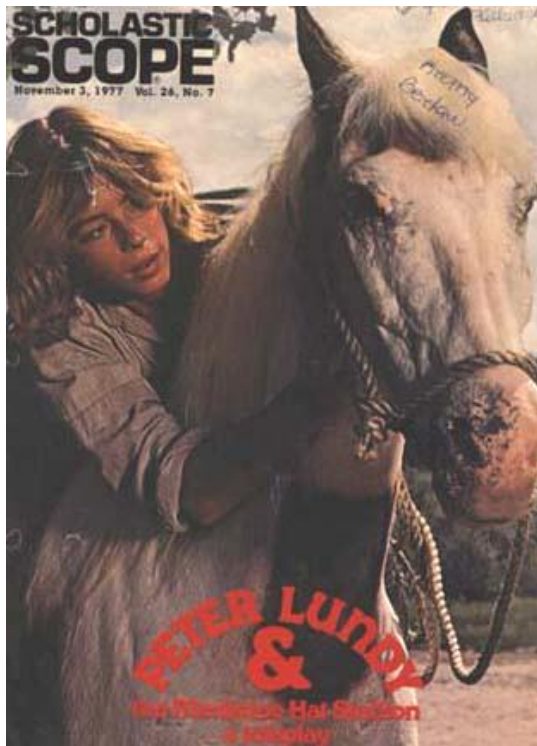
( aka: "The Medicine Hat Stallion"; "Rough Rider" )  
 US TV series pilot : 1977 : dir. Michael O'Herlihy : NBC : 104 min  
 prod: Ed Friendly : scr: Jack Turley : dir.ph.: Robert L Morrison  
[Leif Garrett](#) .....  
 Milo O'Shea; Mitch Ryan; Bibi Besch; Charles Tyner; John Anderson; John Quade;  
 Ned Romero

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	♀	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
3123b	4	6	7	711	3	-	-	-	-	No	Unseen



*Slaver at will. For it is indeed the sexiest boy in the universe, paired with perhaps the ugliest pony. Prepare to be mounted, both of you ! Source: My Love For Leif website*

## “ There’s a New Kid Shaking Up the Old West”



There was actually a film magazine calling itself “Scholastic Scope”? And it chose a film like this for its cover story? Tiger Beat, on the other hand, had for years been a worshipper at Leif’s altar. Source: My Love For Leif website

### Leonard Maltin’s Movie and Video Guide 2001 review:

“Teenaged frontier lad becomes a Pony Express rider in the mid-1800s in this Disney-like adventure tale. Good family entertainment. Video titles: "THE MEDICINE HAT STALLION" and "ROUGH RIDER". *Above Average* ”

### Speelfilm Encyclopedie review – identical to above

### Halliwell’s Television Companion review:

“A Pony Express rider recalls his youth in Nebraska. Overlong pilot which caused no enthusiasm. Wr: Jack Turley, from a novel by Marguerite Henry. Music: Morton Stevens.”

### Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89 review:

“A charming story, aided by author Marguerite Henry’s storytelling skills about frontier life.

Her hero is a 16-year old boy riding for the Pony Express. \*\*\* ”

**Video Movie Guide 1993** review:

“Decent TV movie about a young lad (Leif Garrett) who, with the help of indian chief Red Cloud (Ned Romero), runs off to join the Pony Express. Well acted, but overlong, and the commercial breaks are jarring and obvious. \*\*”

Videocassette sleeve notes:

“Leif Garrett is scrappy and heartwarming as Peter Lundy, a fifteen-year old trading post settler in the wild, Nebraska territory of old. When a suspicious trader swaps a stolen mare and pony, Peter returns the pilfered horses to their rightful owners in a nearby indian tribe. The wise chief gives Peter the pony as a reward, and an unforgettable friendship is born. Peter has never been so happy... until his thoughtless father sells the beloved animal.

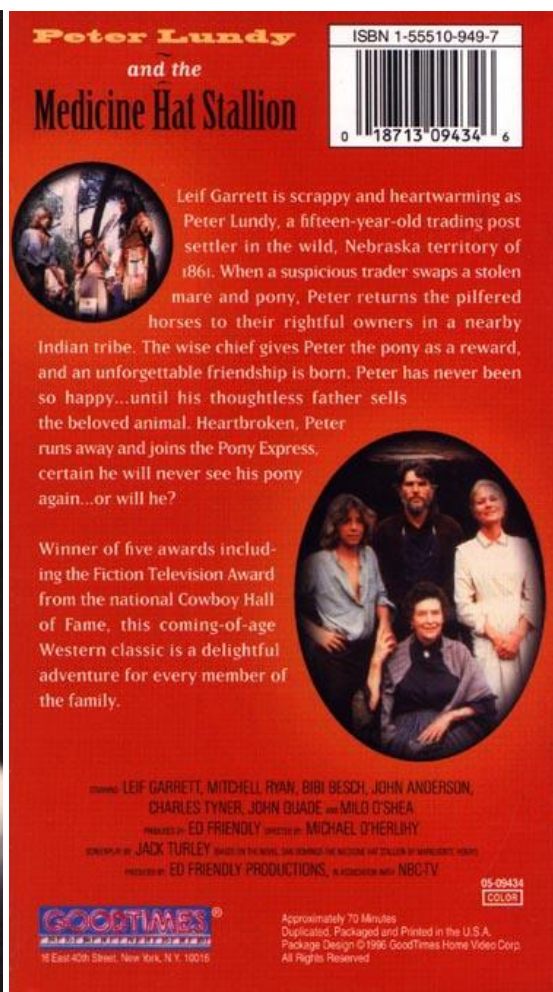
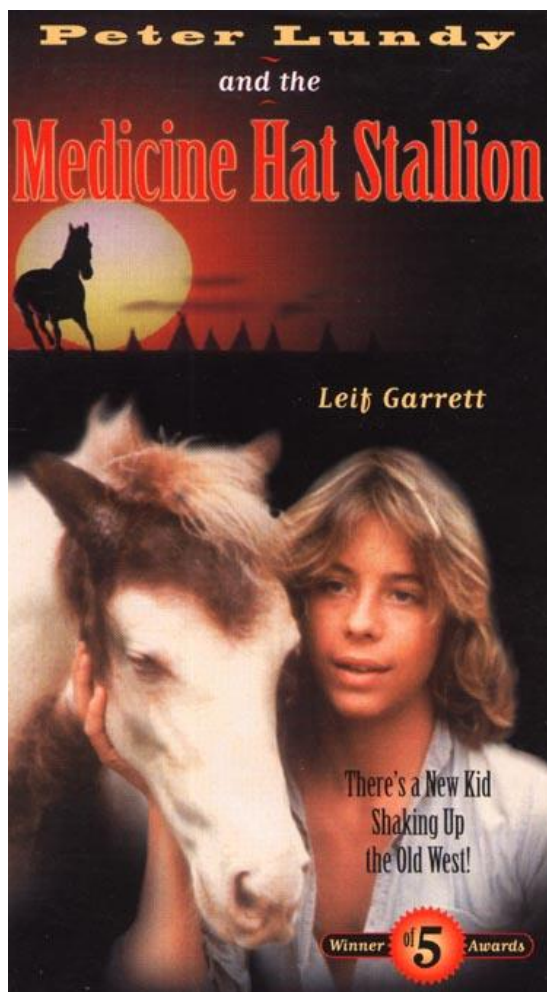
Heartbroken, Peter runs away and joins the Pony Express, certain he will never see his pony again... Or will he?

Winner of five awards including the Fiction Television award from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, this coming-of-age Western classic is a delightful adventure for every member of the family.”

[no listing in "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

**Sunday Times** perfunctory note:

“Youngster joins the pony express.”



No further information currently available. That death-knell "family entertainment" again. Adjust your expectations accordingly. Leif Garrett was 15, the same year he starred in



"SKATEBOARD" and featured in the clumsily titled "FINAL CHAPTER: WALKING TALL". Indeed, so much a creature of the androgynous early 70s was Garrett that one would expect him to look as wildly out of place in an Old West setting as Mae West in an SF one. If a series did not materialise for him this time, he salvaged a short one in 1975 with "Three For the Road", and in 76 he was the love interest of Kristy McNichol in the series "Family". His other TV movie outings included "THE LAST SURVIVORS" (75), "FLOOD" (76) and "ME AND DAD'S NEW WIFE" (76), which also has the ring of a series tryout .

Leif was a pouting boy supermodel deluxe, his carefully crafted media image almost gratuitously inviting both sexes coequally, and though his cinema career never quite took off, he more than compensated in the fame stakes with a season as disco heartthrob of the adolescent set, his big hit being "*I Was Made For Dancing*". Dirty dancing, needless to say.

See subject index under [HORSES](#), [RUNAWAYS / STOWAWAYS](#) and [WESTERNS](#).



Do not look for period authenticity from American television. 1970s values and hairstyles didn't stop **"The Little House on the Prairie"** from being hugely popular, and other Western series – **"Father Murphy"** for one – continued the trend of parachuting "empowered" kids, politicised women and post-Civil Rights Act black people into a time when such individuals would have had a rude awakening indeed.

Above: Garrett angles a reflector to ensure his charms reach the screen in their full, soft focus glory.

Source: My Love For Leif website

