



ROW: Kamala Harris

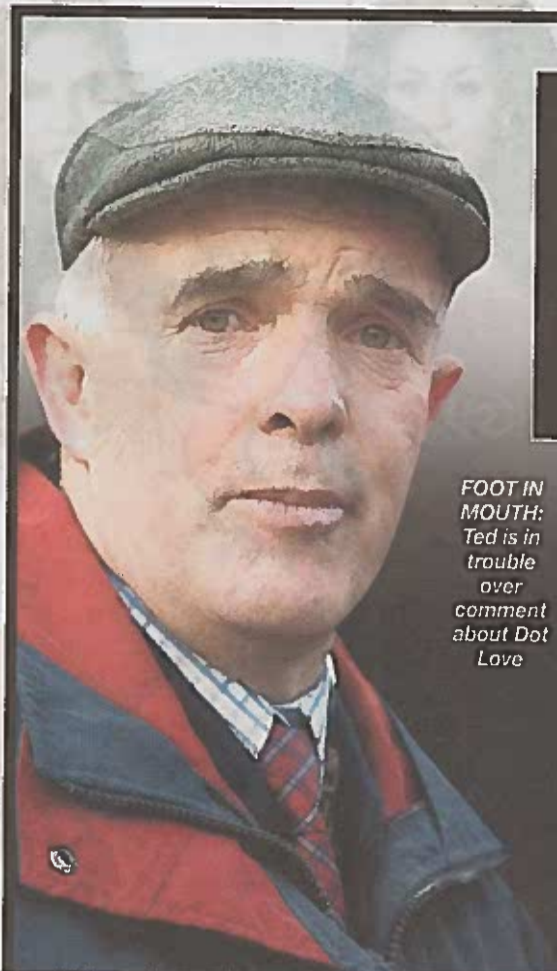
## OBAMA'S APOLOGY

● A SPOKESPERSON for California's attorney general, who was described as "the best-looking" one in the country by US president Barack Obama, has refused to say whether she has accepted his apology.

● A red-faced Obama caused a stir when he described Kamala Harris as "by far the best-looking attorney general in the country"

● "It's true! C'mon," he declared at a fundraiser in Silicon Valley on Thursday.

● A spokesman for Ms Harris said she had a great conversation with Mr Obama, who said sorry by telephone on Thursday.



FOOT IN MOUTH: Ted is in trouble over comment about Dot Love

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WINNERS ALRIGHT: Our girl meets Dot Love and the team behind the National success

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BY GERALDINE COMISKEY

**THIS IS** the stunner who caught the eye of top racehorse trainer Ted Walsh - and now she's in the winner's enclosure herself!

Dot Love gave Mná na hÉireann a massive boost in the macho world of horseracing last week when a mare she trained, Liberty Counsel, won the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse.

But po-faced feminists were up in arms after her old friend Ted Walsh commented after her victory: "She was a great-looking bird when she was younger - and she's still not too bad!"

### Harmless

The PC brigade took to Twitter and message boards to vent their fury. An anonymous troll on [Irishpokerboards.com](http://Irishpokerboards.com) wrote: "F\*\*\*ing Ted Walsh! Unbelievable pig of a man. What a creep, yuck!"

Meanwhile, on Facebook, racing fan James Robinson wrote: "Ted Walsh is an absolute embarrassment to Irish racing and to RTE!"

The fuss over Ted's harmless remark comes in the same week that angry parents' groups in the UK slated another top horsewoman, Ted's jockey daughter Katie, for saying that racehorses are "better looked after than some children".

Dot agrees with Katie - and proved it as she showed the *Sunday World* her pristine stables at Charlestown Stud, Mullingar.

And the glamorous granny-of-four simply laughed off the "fine bird" comment. The Danish beauty has no hang-ups about her image and the effect it has on men - after all, she's been turning heads on the international horse scene for 40 years!

It was Love at first sight for Ted when he clapped eyes on Dot (right with Liberty Counsel) in the 1970s when they were both amateur steeplechase jockeys.

"I bought my first point-to-point horse off Ted. He would ride up beside me and say something cheeky. He is a funny and cheeky man. But no, he was not my boyfriend!" she laughs.

"I don't think he said a bad thing

## Dot is 'flattered' by her old pal Ted's comments as he faces a backlash

about me, I took it as a compliment. I don't know why people are offended by it. He can say that any time he wants!"

She said she had not been in touch with Ted since the race "but he knows I am not offended, I'm flattered".

The blonde beauty, who inherited her love of horses from her mum back in Denmark, moved here in the mid-1960s and settled in Mullingar after she married a local man, but still has her Danish accent.

She bought Charlestown Stud off her boss, the legendary point-to-point trainer and former Turf Club Chief Steward Joe Moorhead - who still lives on the land.

Dot, who also breaks in young racehorses for Ryanair boss Michael O'Leary, made her name on the international scene in the gruelling sport of three-day-eventing, a sport in which she had to look elegant in a top hat and white breeches for dressage - and unleash her daredevil side in the cross-country, where she competed against brawny men.

Her kitchen and parlour are full of action shots of herself on horseback, leaping across huge fences and wide ditches.

And while she's since given up riding competitively to focus on training racehorses, she's as fit as ever and could pass for a woman more than 30 years her junior.

"Don't ask me my age - they'll only want to put me in a wheelchair or a coffin!" she laughs.

When we caught up with her, she was fresh from a gallop with her assistant trainer, top point-to-pointer Ciaran Murphy, her staff

of six, and some young helpers, including her grandson Timmy Love (13) and Michael O'Leary's nephew Jack O'Leary (15).

"Michael's brother Eddie is the real expert, but Michael takes a big interest. Every time a new batch of young horses arrives in my yard, he comes down to see them," she says.

Dot's own favourite mount is Liberty Counsel, and she rides the mare every morning. Even before "Libby" won the Irish Grand National, Dot knew she was special.

"She will work so hard for you, she'll keep trying. She's won five times altogether, including two races at Kibbegan last year. I knew she would win the big one this year! I'm bringing her to the Galway Races - to win the Galway Plate!"

### Keen

Dot is keen to see more women in racing and regards last weekend's victory as "a big day for girl power. The owners are women [Mullingar sisters Irene Neale and Helen Murtagh] and, of course, the horse is a girl!" she says.

Dot's own daughter Melanie runs a livery yard for eventers, showjumpers and point-to-pointers, while her son Mickey is a farmer and keen horseman.

Dot, who got her trainer's licence in 2001 after years on the amateur point-to-point scene, is just the second woman to train the winner of the Irish Grand National - the last was Jenny Pitman in 1997.

"Jenny Pitman and Jessica Harrington are my role models. And of course jockeys Katie Walsh and Nina Carberry are competing against the men too.

"It's really a great time for women in racing."

