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Combat Handguns® Presents #65

SPRING 2010



GUNS OF THE OLD WEST

COWBOY COMBO

- ★ 1883 Colt-Burgess .45 LC
- ★ Tom Horn's Colt SAA .38

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1883 Colt-Burgess .45 LC

Tom Horn's Colt SAA .38

Guns Of The Gunfighter
 ★ **BILLY** ★
THE KID'S
COLT 1877 .41

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GUN TESTS

Taylor's Top Break .45 Colt ★ 1883 Colt-Burgess .45 Colt ★ LSI Bounty Hunter .44-40
 Man With No Name .45 Colt ★ EMF Hartford Sharps .45-70 ★ Peabody .44-95
 Cimarron SAA .38 Colt ★ Uberti Chisholm .45 Colt ★ Winchester M1897 12 GA
 EAA Bounty Hunter .45 Colt ★ Marlin M1895 Cowboy .45-70 ★ Colt 1877 .41

UBERTI CHISHOLM .45

Introduce a new shooter to Cowboy Action with THE RIGHT SIXGUN!



Over THE PAST FEW YEARS the sport of CAS (Cowboy Action Shooting) has caught fire and grown at an unprecedented rate. "Cowboy shooting clubs" began to pop up everywhere and the membership of SASS (Single Action Shooting Society) has skyrocketed. As we move into the second decade of the new century the CAS boom has leveled off. However, I still encounter folks at the range and at shows who have questions about getting started in "Cowboy Shooting."

Many of those new to the sport are a bit daunted by the thought of purchasing four guns, leather accessories and the period-appropriate clothing to go with it all. Everyone is on a tight recreational budget these days, and that's natural. For what it's worth, my advice to a curious cowboy shooter is to start slowly. After you have attended a cowboy match or two and decided that it's for you, pick up single-action revolver and start practicing.

Why the revolver? Because of the three; rifle, shotgun, handgun, the SA revolver requires the greatest dedication

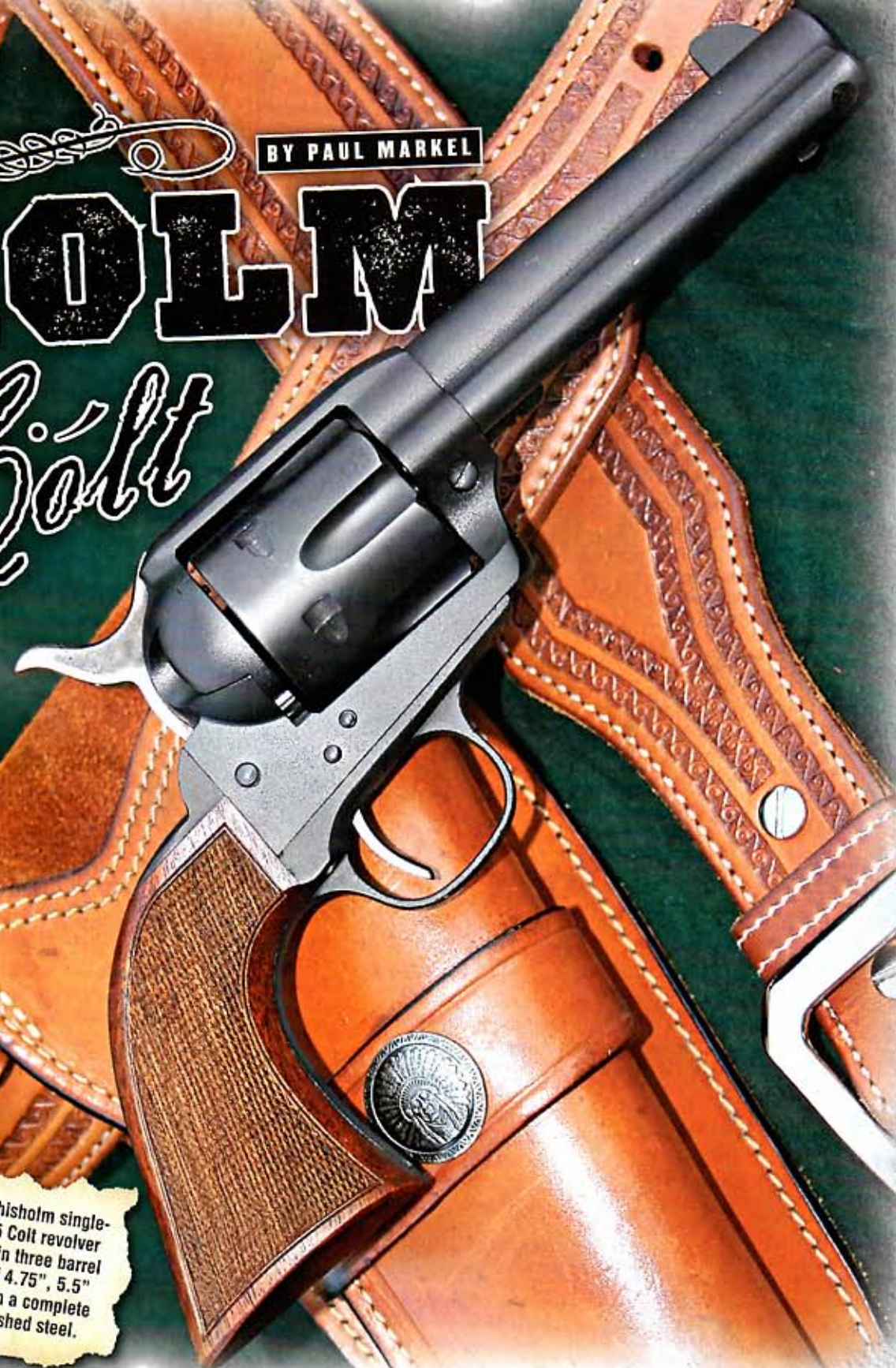
to learn and master. Yes, we need to practice running all of them, but the wheelgun is normally the most demanding for any shooter — particularly a beginner.

What many shooters need is a good first gun (or guns). Uberti has an entire line of single-action revolvers called the "1873 Cattleman" series. Under the Cattleman name there are numerous models and variations. Caliber choices include the .45 Colt, .357 Mag and the cowboy classic .44-40. The revolvers are offered with traditional barrel lengths of 4.75, 5.5, and 7.5 inches. The particular model we'll be looking at is the Chisholm revolver chambered in .45 Colt. It has a matte blue steel finish and checkered Walnut grips. The revolver used here had a 4.75-inch tube with 1-in-6-inch right-hand rifling. The six-shot cylinder will chamber .45 Colt or .45 Schofield ammunition and the barrel, frame, and cylinder are all steel.



BY PAUL MARKEL

HOLM Colt



Uberti's Chisholm single-action .45 Colt revolver is offered in three barrel lengths of 4.75", 5.5" and 7.5" in a complete matte finished steel.



1) The author trains with steel Hi-Power Silhouette from PortaTarget. 2) All SA revolvers require dedicated practice to master. 3) Cowboy ammunition came from Black Hills and Winchester.



All Cattleman revolvers are built on the original Colt SAA 1871 and 1872 patents and use a traditional four-position hammer. Half-cocking the hammer frees the cylinder for loading and unloading. The loading gate is located on the right side of the frame. Just below the barrel you will find the ejector rod and spring. As for sights, they are traditional as well. The front sight is tall, narrow blade while the rear sight is merely a groove cut in the top of the frame.

As for the Cattleman line of single-action revolvers, you can choose from stainless steel, color casehardened or polished nickel. Smooth or checkered walnut, pearl or checkered black polymer grips are available as well.

Range Time

In addition to the Chisholm pistol, I would need ammunition and leather. The ammunition came in two forms, .45 Colt and .45 Schofield. The Colt load was Winchester's 250-grain lead round and the Schofield round was 180-

grain lead from Black Hills. To tote the hog leg, I used a Kirkpatrick Leather holster.

Cowboy loads are specifically designed for sport (not hunting or home defense) and as such they are mildly loaded. After chronographing both loads I put one cylinder of five rounds onto a paper target from 10 yards merely to

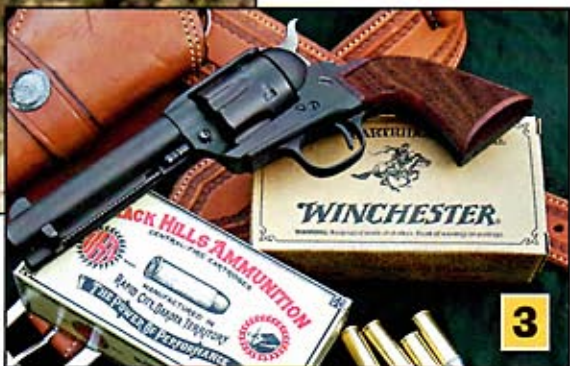
be sure the bullets were striking where they should. No worries there, from that distance all rounds impacted within a couple inches of each other.

Step two would be to set up a steel target from Porta Target. This particular model was their Hi-Power Silhouette. The great thing about this target is the fact that it is angled in a near perfect manner to direct all bullet-splash down to the ground/base. I've been working with these targets for a while now and have never had fragments come back at me. That being said, safety glasses are still mandatory.

The vast majority of the targets at a Cowboy Shooting match will be reactive steel. You might as well practice on the steel.

Most of us have been shooting reactive target since we were young. I recall blasting empty soup cans at ten paces with my Daisy BB gun at age twelve.

Many of us have now moved beyond soup cans to



the "big boy" targets. Steel is a fantastic target material because it is brutally honest. You either receive an immediate "clang" indicating that you hit the target or silence telling you that you missed. Immediate reinforcement both positive and negative is the beauty in the simplicity of steel.

SPECIFICATIONS

Uberti Chisholm



Caliber: .45 Colt
Barrel: 4.75 inches • **OA Length:** 11 inches
Weight: 36.8 ounces (empty) • **Grips:** Walnut • **Sights:** Fixed
Action: SA • **Finish:** Matte blued • **Capacity:** 6-shot • **Price:** \$539

Final Notes

Returning to the initial concept, introducing a new shooter to Cowboy Action, the combination of the Chisholm revolver and the Hi-Power silhouette are a perfect match. Start out at reasonable distances, 10 to 15 yards,

