



***Desert Pageantry* wins US award**

The book won gold medal, beating 5,000 competing books

NEW YORK — *Desert Pageantry*, a book by the Royal Cavalry of Oman was announced the winner of golden medal for most outstanding design of the year by US-based Independent Publisher Book Awards at a ceremony recently during the annual Book Expo America Publishing convention in New York.

The book won gold medal, beating 5,000 competing books. As a representative of Royal Court Affairs, Brig Abdulrazak bin Abdulkader al Shahwarzi, Commander of the Royal Cavalry, received the award at the ceremony which was also attended by Henry Dallal, the photographer and author of the book.

Desert Pageantry won this coveted award due to its contents which dazzled readers and its high — quality design and art production.

In its announcement of reward-

ing *Desert Pageantry* the golden medal for most outstanding design, Independent Publisher Book Award stated that the book features vivid photography, exotic papers and won the Most Outstanding Design award.

Brig Al Shahwarzi said: "We are glad that *Desert Pageantry* won the golden medal for the most outstanding design from American Independent Publisher Book Award. Undoubtedly, this international winning will play big role for disseminating Omani culture and heritage and will attract westerners to get familiar with Oman and its touristic and historic landmarks. Also, it will boost Oman's reputation for horse welfare."

The book, which covered equestrianism in Oman, was launched by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos at the

beginning of this year after His Majesty's generous patronage of the Annual Royal Horse Racing Festival.

The Royal Court Affairs represented by the Royal Cavalry was kept during the preparation period of this book to include Omani culture and heritage, starting with horse racing organised by the Royal Cavalry and ending up with its activities and participation in international stage.

The book also depicts the development of equestrianism in Oman as result of the wise thinking of His Majesty and his care for Omani heritage.

The 352-page book has photos from the Royal Cavalry and horses of Oman in general. After collecting and selecting the best pictures, they were printed with high standards to match the real pictures.