



# WEEKLY WIRE

EDITOR: JENNIFER WOOD

WEEK 7



FEBRUARY 20-24, 2019

## NICOLE SHAHINIAN-SIMPSON AND AKUNA MATTATA

Seize the \$134,000 CabanaCoast Grand Prix CSI 3\*



Nicole Shahinian-Simpson and Akuna Mattata won the \$134,000 CabanaCoast Grand Prix CSI 3\* in the Global International Arena at Equestrian Village. ©Sportfot

The highlight jumper class of week 6 at the 2019 Winter Equestrian Festival, the \$134,000 CabanaCoast Grand Prix CSI 3\*, was held at Equestrian Village at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC) on Friday, February 15. Taking the top spot of the night was Nicole Shahinian-Simpson (USA) and Akuna Mattata, owned by Silver Raven Farms. Over on the main grounds of PBIEC, junior and amateur hunters shined during World Championship Hunter Rider (WCHR) week in the International Arena for their championships.

Competing in the Global International Arena at Equestrian Village, 44 entries competed in the first round over a course set by Ana Catalina "Catsy" Cruz Harris of Mexico. With five retirements in the first 11 trips, a clear round was looking difficult to tackle, but riding out of the 21st spot in the order, Shahinian-Simpson and Akuna Mattata made the crowd cheer as the first clear round of the night.

Shahinian-Simpson noted, "I just stuck to my plan. I thought to myself, 'I'm just going to ride it like a speed class - like a timed first round - and stick to the numbers.' Truly that's really how she goes the best anyhow, so I just tried to keep it as simple as possible out there."

Three trips later, Spencer Smith (USA) and Quality FZ, owned by Gut Einhaus LLC, guaranteed a jump-off. As the fastest four-fault round of 10 in the class, Laura Chapot (USA) and Mary Chapot's Chandon Blue took the third spot on the podium in a first-round time of 67.22 seconds.

"The grand prix here is always much more difficult than it walks," said Chapot, who was also named the Martha Jolicoeur Leading Lady Jumper Rider, in memory of Dale Lawler. "The lights, the difficulty of the smaller ring, the new venue - it always seems like you walk it and it doesn't seem too bad and then the rails down come from everywhere. [Catsy is] very clever in the way she sets the course that way. It wasn't one specific problem. For sure [fences] three to four was a difficult choice, but you had to make your choice and make it happen. She did a good job that way."

Chapot and Chandon Blue were second in Thursday's \$36,000 Equinimity WEF Challenge Cup Round 6, and Chapot said the 14-year-old Oldenburg gelding by Chacco-Blue has "been jumping very consistently."

She added, "We did the first couple weeks and then gave him a few weeks off aiming for this show here. For a lot of horses, it's a bit refreshing to come over here. It's a new venue for them, and it perks them up a bit. He's been jumping fantastic all circuit and gotten better and better. This week he was over the top."

Shahinian-Simpson made it clear as she cantered into the ring that she was going for it in the jump-off. She sped around clear in 37.08 seconds, which would give her the win. Smith and Quality FZ were slower in 38.71 seconds after they pulled a rail for four faults.

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## Victoria Colvin Secures Fifth \$100,000 USHJA/WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular WIN ABOARD PRIVATE PRACTICE



Victoria Colvin took home her fifth win, but her first as a professional, in the \$100,000 USHJA/WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular with Private Practice. ©Sportfot

Young hunter professional Victoria Colvin piloted her 2018 USHJA International Hunter Derby Championship mount, Private Practice, to the victory in the \$100,000 USHJA/WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular at the 2019 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF).

Thirty-two of the week's most successful juniors, amateurs, and professionals contested the round-one course designed by Ken Krome. The top 12 combinations qualified to return for the second round of competition. Both rounds were offered at three heights (3'6", 3'9", and 4"). Judges for the event consisted of Chris Wynne and John French in one panel, Jim Clapperton and Shane George in a second panel, and Rachel Kennedy and Rick Fanher in a third panel.

Amanda Steege of Bedminster, NJ, and Lafitte De Muze held the early lead into the second course as the pair received a high score of 92.00 in the first course. Designer Ken Krome gave returning competitors plenty of options to show off their horses' abilities with several long approaches to gain speed and a rare bounce-jump feature made of hay bales halfway through the second round handy test. Junior rider Jordan Allen of West Bloomfield, MI, ascended to a top three finish on Kind of Blue, owned by Float On Equestrian

LLC. As the second-to-last to return, 21-year-old Victoria Colvin of Loxahatchee, FL, and Brad Wolf's Private Practice performed a flawless round to win the event with judge's scores of 93, 94, 91 and a final two-round total of 182.66.

"This is the first year that I've won as a professional, and I think it almost means more to me now than it did when I was a junior," said Colvin, who won the Hunter Spectacular a stunning four times in a row from 2012 to 2015. "When I competed in it as a junior, I knew it was an amazing class, but I probably didn't realize how significant and amazing it is."

"We showed this horse last year in this event as well, but we had just bought him and he was right out of being a jumper," she added of the nine-year-old Holsteiner gelding by Lordanos. "He was a lot more tame today, and he went around like a champ. His handy round felt like he did at Derby Finals, so I think it was as good as he could have gone."

Steege and the eight-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding (Darco x Everlychin De La Pomme) gave it their all in the final performance, but fell just short of overcoming Colvin and Private Practice, totaling a final result of 182.16.

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## WEF SPORT HORSE AUCTION

*Featuring*

**PREVIEW:**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019**  
 at 3:00 p.m.

**AUCTION:**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019**  
 at 7:00 p.m.

Skara Glen's Machu Picchu ridden by Paul O'Shea, graduate of 2011 auction.

Florida won Grand Prix in Caledon May 2018, and took 2nd and 3rd at Spruce Meadows Grand Prix, 2nd in Grand Prix Qualifier in Sumner, won 2 classes in Dublin and 2nd at Spruce Meadows Masters in Qualifier for winning round. Owned by Ariel Grange, graduate of 2016 auction.

For the complete schedule of events:  
**WEFSPOORTHORSEAUCTION.COM**  
 Contact: melanie@horsemls.com  
 or call 561.870.6587

For horse trials and information,  
 contact Janko van de Lageweg:  
 Cell: 0031-651815225 or 832.706.3407  
 e-mail: janko@vdlstud.com

## PBIEC WEEK 7&8 UPCOMING EVENTS

### LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

On Thursday, February 21, the Lunch & Learn Series continues for the 2019 season. Held every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Wellington Club, this informational and educational series has a variety of subjects for horsemen and women to learn more for their horses. Admission is free for riders, trainers, and owners. Register at the door for a chance to win exciting prizes. The Week 7 Lunch & Learn topic is "Equine Rehabilitation and Fitness Modalities", presented by Spy Coast Farm. Contact Kailey Blasius at 561-784-1137 or kblasius@equestriansport.com for more information.

### ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL CDI-W

AGDF's "Friday Night Stars" Series returns in week 7, showcasing some of the world's best dressage riders as they perform freestyles at the top level of competition. The seventh week of AGDF features the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI-W, presented by Helgstrand Dressage on Friday, February 22. Held at Equestrian Village at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, gates open at 6 p.m. and competition begins at 7 p.m. General admission is free, parking is \$10 per car, and valet is available for \$20.

### EQUUS FOUNDATION "FOR THE LOVE OF HORSES" BENEFIT

The 2019 EQUUS Foundation "For The Love of Horses" Benefit will be held on Saturday, February 23, in The Wellington Club. Cocktails will be served from 6-7 p.m. featuring the exclusive Trips of a Lifetime Silent Auction - followed by dinner and ringside viewing of the \$391,000 Grand Prix CSI 5\*. Learn more and RSVP at <https://www.equusfoundation.org/wef>.

### "SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS" \$391,000 PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC GRAND PRIX CSI 5\*

The top show jumpers in the world return to the International Arena at PBIEC for the second five-star event of the season, the \$391,000 Palm Beach Equine Clinic Grand Prix CSI 5\*, on Saturday, February 23, at 7 p.m. Admission is free, parking is \$20/car.

### THE VEUVE CLICQUOT SUITES – AVAILABLE SATURDAY NIGHT!

Located in the Special Events Pavilion, The Veuve Clicquot Suites are available on select Saturday Night Lights events throughout WEF. Prime viewing, a full buffet, and premium bar options in a semi-private suite catered by White Horse Catering, this is the place to host friends and family or even a corporate get-together. Each suite accommodates up to 22 people. Availability is on first-come, first-served basis, so book now before they all fill up! Contact Patti Miele at 561-784-1125 or pmiele@equestriansport.com today.

### \$50,000 DUTTA CORP./GUIDO KLATTE GRAND PRIX CSI 2\*

Competitors participating in the CSI 2\* division during WEF 5 will have their \$50,000 Grand Prix sponsored by The Dutta Corp. in association with Guido Klätte on Sunday, February 24. See up-and-coming horses and riders in their highlight class of the week. Admission and parking are free.

### SAVE THE DATE

### WEF SPORT HORSE AUCTION

Each year the WEF Sport Horse Auction offers an exclusive opportunity for individuals to acquire the next generation of top champions from VDL Stud. Riders, owners, and trainers have the ability to purchase their next star in an exciting live auction atmosphere. The 2019 edition of the WEF Sport Horse Auction is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, at Equestrian Village at PBIEC (Home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival – 13500 South Shore Blvd.). General admission is free. For more information on the WEF Sport Horse Auction please visit [www.WefSportHorseAuction.com](http://www.WefSportHorseAuction.com) or [www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction](http://www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction).

### GLOBAL LYME ALLIANCE RECEPTION

The Global Lyme Alliance will host a special event to raise awareness about Lyme disease—something we all need to be more aware of for ourselves and our horses. The reception will take place on March 2, 6-10 p.m., during the "Saturday Night Lights" \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO4\*. Please join GLA board member, equestrian, and Wellington competitor Erin Walker at this important event. Get tickets (\$125) at [GLA.org/2019florida](http://GLA.org/2019florida) or email [events@GLA.org](mailto:events@GLA.org) for more info.

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## INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB HAPPENINGS

The C.V. Whitney Cup wraps up this week with semifinals throughout the week and the final on Sunday during the feature match at U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1. Check out the game schedule below.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

12 p.m.: Aspen vs. Old Hickory – Iglehart Cup Subsidiary Semifinal  
 2 p.m.: Stable Door vs. Santa Clara – Iglehart Cup Subsidiary Semifinal

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

12 p.m.: Postage Stamp vs. Tonkawa – Glenn Hart Subsidiary Semifinal  
 3 p.m.: Iconica vs. Coca Cola – Glenn Hart Subsidiary Semifinal

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

11 a.m.: C.V. Whitney Semifinal – Monday's 2 pm Winner vs. Monday's 10 am Winner  
 2 p.m.: C.V. Whitney Semifinal – Monday's 4 pm Winner vs. Sunday's 12 pm Winner

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

12 p.m.: Glenn Hart Subsidiary Final

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

12 p.m.: Iglehart Cup Subsidiary Final  
 3 p.m.: C.V. Whitney Cup Final

Join us for the exciting highlight match of the week on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. on the U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1, featuring the C.V. Whitney Cup Final. Enjoy brunch in the Pavilion or in the Celebrity Cruises® Polo Lounge or watch the game from stadium seats or tailgate spots. All tickets for Sunday can be purchased online at [www.internationalpoloclub.com](http://www.internationalpoloclub.com).



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## NICK DELLO JOIO: Following In His Father's Footsteps



Together, the Dello Joio family runs Wembly Farm, founded by Norman and his wife Jeanie, with bases in Wellington, FL, and Ridgefield, CT. The months they spend at the Winter Equestrian Festival are usually the busiest time of year for the team with a full roster of horses to ride and clients competing.

"A regular show day for me typically includes showing between four to eight horses as well as training clients," said Nick. "I am fortunate at the moment to have a group of owners and business partners who have afforded me the ride on horses at various levels in their careers. This allows me to do everything from developing young horses to stepping up to ride bigger tracks."

Their successful business is a product of a tight-knit family dynamic, leaning on his father's knowledge of the sport as he continues to develop in his own career.

"It is a common saying that you should 'never work with family,' but in my experience keeping it close to home has been my greatest asset," he said. "The lessons I have learned simply from being in proximity to someone with as much knowledge and experience as my father is truly priceless."


There are often days where the two can't be at the ring together but as a truly great team, they find their own way to make it work.

"Sometimes coordinating our schedules to be in the same place at the same time can prove to be tricky," said Nick. "At the end of every show day we sit down and watch all the rounds from the day. In this way, we are able to check-in, discuss the horses' progress, and make plans for the future."


While he's already experienced some impressive results on the international stage, the 29-year-old rider has his sights set on something even greater ahead.

"There are several Grand Prix wins that have been nice highlights, but we're more focused on what's to come!"

 Kate Pettersen



## INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB 2019

<b>20 GOAL</b> Herbie Pennell Cup - 20 Goal December 30, 2018	<b>C.V. Whitney Cup - 22 Goal</b> February 13 - 24, 2019	<b>USPA Gold Cup* - 22 Goal</b> February 24 - March 24, 2019
<b>Joe Barry Cup - 20 Goal</b> January 3 - 13, 2019	<b>Butler Handicap - 22 Goal</b> February 17, 2019	<b>Gay Polo League™ Tournament</b> April 4 - 7, 2019
<b>Yvisaker Cup - 20 Goal</b> January 11 - February 10, 2019	<b>U.S. Women's Open Final</b> March 23, 2019	<b>U.S. Open Polo Championship* 22 Goal</b> March 27 - April 20-21, 2019
<b>The Lucchese 40 Goal Challenge</b> February 16, 2019 <small>22 Goals</small>		

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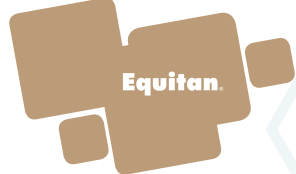
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## WEF SPORT HORSE AUCTION

Prepares for 2019 Edition of Prestigious Auction

The 2019 WEF Sport Horse Auction, the premier sport horse auction in the United States, will once again feature top prospects from the distinguished VDL Stud in the Netherlands on Thursday, February 28, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Equestrian Village at PBIEC. The auction, which has garnered tremendous success since its inception, will highlight a group of fifteen fantastic horses, ranging in age and experience level.



### MEET VDL IT'S ANDIAMO

VDL It's Andiamo is an impressive horse with the scope and talent to reach the Grand Prix level. The 2013 bay gelding (Andiamo x Indoctro) is currently competing at the 1.20m height and is a modern and elegant type with quick reflexes and strong technique. His sire, Andiamo competing at the highest levels of the sport and is a renowned breeding sire. He has passed on his strong qualities to top international mounts such as Picasso Z, First Devision, and Aristo Z. His dam, Estarina (Indoctro x Lux) was awarded "Elite" status by the KWPN and competed up through the 1.35m height. Her sire, Indoctro, the great-grandsire of It's Andiamo is one of the most prolific breeding sires of our time.



### MEET VDL HETERINA

VDL Heterina is a late addition to the 2019 WEF Sport Horse Auction and is a quality horse sure to not be missed. Born in 2012, VDL Heterina (Dakar VDL x Calvados) is currently competing at the 1.30m height. She is brave with the right amount of blood to make her a top competitor. She is suitable for an Amateur, Child, or Professional with the talent to mature into a very special horse. Her sire, VDL Dakar (Cardento x Nimmerdor) has been campaigned by both James Billington and Jur Vrieling, is scopey and powerful, traits he passes onto his offspring. Her dam Zietarina (Calvados x Lux) has produced multiple top show jumpers, who's sire, Calvados is one of the most successful French-bred breeding sires in the Dutch lines

Trials will begin on Wednesday, February 20, at Ossian Ventures and continue through Thursday, February 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Trials must be scheduled through Janko van de Lageweg at (832) 706-3407 or jankovdl@gmail.com. Veterinary Repositories are available by request.

To learn more about the 2019 WEF Sport Horse Auction prospects and to view their videos, please visit [www.wefsporthorseauction.com](http://www.wefsporthorseauction.com) or contact Melanie Peterson-Ramey at [Melanie@horsemls.com](mailto:Melanie@horsemls.com) or (561) 870-6587.

# Standings and Awards

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WEF WEEK 6

### Leading Lady Jumper Rider, sponsored by Martha Jolicoeur of Douglas Elliman Real Estate in memory of Dale Lawler

(after 10 qualifying events)

1. Bizzie Madden (USA): 436
2. Amanda Derbyshire (GBR): 408
3. Adrienne Sternlicht (USA): 382
4. Tiffany Foster (CAN): 371
5. Lauren Hough (USA): 355



### CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Championship Jumper Classic Series

(after 4 qualifying events)

1. Erynn Ballard (CAN): 138
2. Peter Lutz (USA): 127
3. Francisco Jose Mesquita Musa (BRA): 115
4. Luis Francisco de Azevedo (BRA): 109
5. Peter Wylde (USA): 102



### Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix Standings

(after 5 qualifying events)

1. Ailish Cunniffe (USA): 137
2. Eugenio Garza Perez (MEX): 120
3. Jennifer Gates (USA): 107.50
4. Abigail McArdle (USA): 103
5. Zoe Conter (BEL): 99.5



### Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award:

Cameo, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Dr. Betsee Parker



### Champion Equine Insurance Jumper Style Award:

Cristo, ridden by Martin Fuchs and owned by Jacques Bodenmuller



Laura Chapot was named the Martha Jolicoeur Leading Lady Jumper Rider, in memory of Dale Lawler, for WEF 6, presented by Sharon Loayza. © Sportfot



Hannah Hoch and Clear Sailing won the Section B of the \$5,000 WCHR Junior Hunter 3'3" Classic. © Sportfot



Maggie Hill and O'Ryan were named the Grand Junior Hunter champions after their winning performance in the Small Junior Hunter 16-17 3'6" division, pictured with Bill Schaub, ringmaster Steve Rector, and trainer Jack Towell. © Sportfot



The win in the Section A of the \$5,000 WCHR Junior Hunter 3'3" Classic went to Brenna Magness and Hey King. © Sportfot



Coco Fath and Akinda won the \$5,000 Peggy Cone Memorial WCHR Adult Hunter Classic, presented by ringmaster Steve Rector and Carol Cone. © Sportfot

Photo © Erin Gilmore

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# WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER RIDER WEEK

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Ryan Moloney and Just Jagger were the Section B champions in the Children's Hunter Older.



The Section B champion of the Junior Hunter 16-17 3'3" was Calvanos, ridden by Alexander Goet.



The Children's Hunter Older Section A champion and second in the \$2,500 NAL Children's Hunter 15-17 Classic was Zeppelin, ridden by Lilah Bass.



Hoopla and Tessa Downey were the Children's Hunter Younger champions and won the \$2,500 NAL Children's Hunter 14 & Under Classic.



Cecelia Perry piloted Pokerface to the win in the \$2,500 Florida Large Pony Hunter Classic.



The Rosenbaum PLLC Large Pony Hunter championship went to Benetton and Georgia Jacob. They also took home a new "Catch Me" Breyer horse, given by Becky Gochman.



Amy Brubaker rode Like I Said to the Adult Amateur Hunter Older Section A championship.



Lightful and Angela Dominguez were the Marshall & Sterling Adult Amateur Hunter Older Section B champions.

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- Sport Horse Essentials
- Stephex Horse Box
- Tack n Rider
- Tony Hanley Horse Supplements
- Turner & Co.
- Voltaire Design Fine Saddlery

**RING 6**

- Antarès Sellier France
- Horsegym USA

**BARN 1-4**

- Dandy Products
- Farmvet Inc.
- RC Saddle & Tack Repair
- Josey's Laundry Service

**INTERNATIONAL WARM-UP ARENA**

- Animo USA
- Bruno Delgrange Custom Saddles
- Equitan Flooring
- Wellington Agricultural

**RINGS 9 & 10**

- Barn Savers
- Devoucoux Saddles & Tack
- McGuinn Farms Inc. Tack Trunks & Stable Equip.
- SportFot USA
- Stephex Horse Box

**TIKI TERRACE**

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- PCI, Professional Concessions
- Magdalena's Mexican
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**BARN 4**

- Anonymous Coffee

**PONY ISLAND**

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- Ted's Take Out



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# In Remembrance of Betsy Mackenzie - 1942-2019



Betsy Mackenzie with one of her favorite horses, the famous hunter Riot Free, ridden by Rodney Jenkins. Photo courtesy of Sue Eaton.

We fondly remember our friend Betsy Mackenzie. Betsy Baily was born in 1942 and grew up in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania riding at Derbydown with Buzz and Mary Warner in the 1960s. Betsy attended Penn State University and was an avid football fan, supporting the Nittany Lions and the Philadelphia Eagles.

With her husband Dennis Mackenzie, Betsy worked for Susie Jackson and then had a great partnership in the 1970s with Edie Spruance, who owned the top hunter Riot Free and jumper Second Balcony, ridden by Rodney Jenkins. Betsy was most proud of grooming Riot Free and had an enduring friendship with Edie for the rest of her life.

When Edie sold her horses, Betsy and Dennis went on to groom and manage for legendary owner Harry Gill, who owned the famous show jumpers Number One Spy and Idle Dice. Sherry Robertson remembers a time at Southampton when Betsy gave a pony ride on Idle Dice to none other than Paul McCartney's kids.

"She was really a great horsewoman," said Rodney Jenkins. "She handled the horses the best. Dennis and Betsy did a really good job. I knew they were dedicated to the sport."

"The horses all got taken care of and treated equally. To me, that is a real horseman," said Sherry Robertson.

Her good friend Ronnie Beard noted that Betsy was a "superb horsewoman. Nobody took better care of their horses. The knowledge was just so great."

After working in the sport for decades, Betsy transitioned to be a horse show secretary for Stadium Jumping in 2001. She also worked for Phelps Media Group after it started and was a horse show secretary with Equestrian Sport Productions since its inception. When Ronnie watched her deal with demanding exhibitors in the horse show office, he said, "She always would smile and get through the process. She said, 'They'll be old someday too.'"

Her coworker Angela Pritchard said, "Betsy loved this sport and you could always count on being able to walk into her office and watch snippets of the biggest classes from here and around the world because she always had them playing in the background on her computer. She loved flowers. She was quick with a comment and a laugh. She will be so very missed by us in the office and the competitors that loved her."

Friends remember Betsy's love of her corgi dogs and the common refrain is "everybody loved Betsy." She was beloved by all and the show office won't be the same without her.



## WEF 6 JUMPER HIGHLIGHTS



Ibrahim Barazi and Omnia Incipit won the \$36,000 Equinimity WEF Challenge Cup Round 6. ©Sportfot

In the \$36,000 Equinimity WEF Challenge Cup Round 6 on Thursday, February 14, 61 entries went to post for a chance at prize money and the opportunity to compete in Friday night's \$134,000 CabanaCoast Grand Prix CSI 3\*. There were 13 clear in the first round, and 10 of those chose to return for the jump-off with Ibrahim Barazi (JOR) taking the top spot.

Setting the pace as the first ones in the jump-off, Laura Chapot (USA) and Chandon Blue, owned by Mary Chapot, were clear and very fast in 36.77 seconds. However, it would not quite be enough, and they settled for second place. Third place went to Kelli Cruciotti (USA) riding her own Hadja van Orshof, who were clear in 38.01 seconds.

Cutting more than two seconds off the leading time, Barazi and Omnia Incipit, an 11-year-old Bavarian mare by Lordanos owned by IB Stable, brought the winning time down to 34.59 seconds.

Capt. Brian Cournane of Ireland and his mount, Penelope Cruz, topped a 40-horse starting field to win the \$36,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Classic CSI 3\* held at the Derby Field at Equestrian Village on Saturday afternoon.

Cournane and the 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse mare, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stiller, were one of seven entries to advance to the jump-off after navigating the first-round, Ana Catalina "Catsy" Cruz Harris (MEX) designed course without fault. Time proved to be a bit of a factor over the opening course, with four additional entries kept from the jump off by just one time fault apiece.

When Cournane returned to the grass field midway through the jump-off order, the time to beat had been set at 45.25 seconds by Liza Finsness (USA) and her own longtime mount, Shiver. Cournane and Penelope Cruz, however, swiftly took over the lead with a time of 44.89 seconds, and while three riders would follow Cournane, none would catch either he or Finsness, securing him the victory and Finsness the second-place honor. Finishing in third on a time 45.43 seconds were Mattias Tromp and Eyecatcher, owned by Beyaert Farm Inc.

Taking advantage of an opportunity to show on the grass derby field at Equestrian Village, the individual silver medalist at the FEI World Equestrian Games™ Tryon 2018 was able to speed to the lead of the class. Martin Fuchs (SUI) rode Jacques Bodenmuller's Cristo to a blazing time of 33.733 seconds to win the \$25,000 CP Grand Prix, the closing event of WEF 6.

Twenty-four entries went to task on the first round, and five went clear to contest the jump-off. Fuchs went first on Cristo, setting an unbeatable time. Coming closest was Caelinn Leahy (IRL) on Steve Schaefer's Dymendy. They finished in 36.206 seconds. Third place went to Hector Florentino (DOM) riding Venus, owned by Raylyn Farms Inc., in 37.330 seconds.

Along with winning the CP Grand Prix, Cristo was named the Champion Equine Insurance Jumper Style Award winner for week 6, presented by Laura Fetterman.

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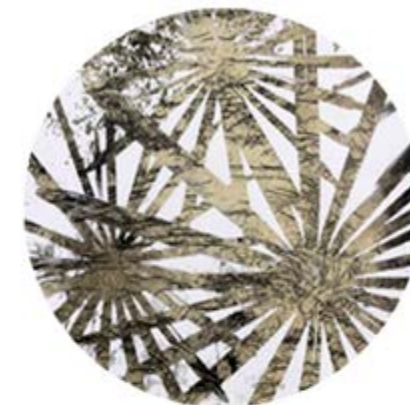
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# FACES OF WEF

MIA ALBELO

Miami, FL, 14



### WHO DO YOU TRAIN WITH?

I ride with Margie Engle out of Gladewinds Farm.

### HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU STARTED RIDING HORSES AND WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY COMPETE IN?

My uncle is a team roper and when I was younger, he would take me to his farm and let me ride his horses. I loved being with the horses, but we had to find a closer farm for me to ride at. My mom asked a few friends if they knew of barns close by and we were sent to a show jumping facility and have been jumping ever since. I started riding when I was about three, began English-style riding when I was five, and began competing at age six. Now I am competing in the Low Junior Jumpers.

### WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST GOAL FOR THIS WINTER HORSE SHOW SEASON?

My biggest goal this winter season is to be consistent in the Low Junior Jumpers and eventually move up to the Medium Junior Jumpers.

### WHAT IS THE BEST EXPERIENCE OR OPPORTUNITY YOU'VE HAD IN THE HORSE INDUSTRY SO FAR?

The best experience I have had in the industry was winning at the Longines Global Champions Tour in Miami Beach in 2018. I live in Miami and that day around 50 members of my family and friends from school and the barn had come to watch me. Winning in front of all of them just felt so amazing. Coming out of that ring and hearing all my friends and family cheering for me just made me feel so special and happy.

### WHAT IS YOUR GOAL FOR THE FUTURE? HOW ARE YOU WORKING TOWARDS THOSE GOALS AS A JUNIOR?

My goals are to be a professional and eventually go to the Olympics and the World Equestrian Games representing the United States of America. To reach these goals I will continue to work hard. USEF and USHJA have also made these goals more achievable with team competitions for younger riders that teach us the foundations of team competitions that are based off of how the Olympics, WEG, and other international competitions are structured.

## \$134,000 CABANA COAST GRAND PRIX CSI 3\*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Smith took over the ride on Quality FZ, a 10-year-old SI gelding by Quintender, in November of 2018, but they have not had a lot of experience in the show ring together.

"I've never done a jump-off with him," Smith acknowledged. "I think the horse is a quality horse like his name. I trust him a bit now, and we started to have a little common ground. He's so scopey, and you can use the scope to get out of any trouble that a course like that could bring."

As a student of Lamaze's, an Olympic individual gold medalist, 22-year-old Smith is learning and taking the experience to further his young career.

"For me, it's been the biggest change in my career and my life to have him choose me to ride some of these horses and to get me to this level," said Smith. "Along with my parents, we have such a big team. I just feel really lucky that he's taken me under his wing. He's an amazing guy, an amazing rider - we all know that - but as a person, he's a super guy. He's like family to me, so it's really nice."

It was a satisfying win for Shahinian-Simpson, who has known Akuna Mattata since birth. She rode Akuna Mattata's dam, SRF Dragonfly, to the top of the sport in 2008 and

represented the United States on Nations Cup teams. Akuna Mattata, also known as "Nahla" in the barn, is one of three mares born the same year out of SRF Dragonfly and by Quinar that Shahinian-Simpson has brought along in the jumper ring. The 11-year-old Holsteiner mare has come into her own in the past year.

"It's been really a very meaningful journey with the three of them," she expressed. "We brought them up through the young horse classes, and it's just been a really cool journey. They are very competitive, sassy, and really confident mares, and I've just always let them do it their way and stay out of their way. Nahla was a little behind the others for some different reasons - she had a hormone issue - and then grew out of that and suddenly came on strong. It's been a very cool 11 years.

"This one has had the most experience," she continued. "Every test that's been asked, she just keeps producing. She's growing up. It's a lot of fun to jump these courses with these caliber riders and horses, and it was about rising to the challenge, so it means a lot."

Jennifer Wood

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**FINAL RESULTS:**  
 \$134,000 CABANA COAST GRAND PRIX CSI 3\*

- 1 AKUNA MATTATA: 2008 Holsteiner mare by Quinar x Landwind II  
 NICOLE SHAHINIAN-SIMPSON (USA), Silver Raven Farms: 0/0/37.08
- 2 QUALITY FZ: 2009 SI gelding by Quintender x Eurocommerce Berlin  
 SPENCER SMITH (USA), Gut Einhaus LLC: 0/4/38.71
- 3 CHANDON BLUE: 2005 Oldenburg gelding by Chacco Blue x Landcapitol  
 LAURA CHAPOT (USA), Mary Chapot: 4/67.22
- 4 TOSCA DE L'ESQUE: 2007 Selle Francais mare by Cardento x Apache d'Adriers  
 FABIO LEIVAS DA COSTA (BRA), Bonne Chance Farm LLC: 4/68.70
- 5 D CAROLUS: 2008 KWPN gelding by Tjungske x Calando I  
 JONATHAN MCCREA (USA), Candy Tribble: 4/69.32
- 6 EMMERTON: 2009 KWPN gelding by Silvio I  
 KENT FARRINGTON (USA), Kent Farrington: 4/69.93
- 7 CHICA BZ: 2009 Zangersheide Mare by Canturano Berlin  
 MARTIN FUCHS (SUI), Juri Adolfo: 4/70.23
- 8 CASALL: 2005 Holsteiner gelding by Casall ASK x Capitol I  
 ALI WOLFF (USA), Blacklick Bend Farm: 4/70.47
- 9 RMF ECHO: 2004 BWP gelding by Virus de Laubry x Feo  
 WILLIAM WHITAKER (GBR), Rushy Marsh Farm LLC: 4/70.53
- 10 CATINKA 25: 2009 Oldenburg mare by Catoki x Luxano  
 VANESSA MANNIX (CAN), Vanessa Mannix: 4/70.64
- 11 DALI DE VY: 2009 SBS mare by Ugano Sitte x Fidji du Fleury  
 CHRISTINE MCCREA (USA), Candy Tribble & Windsor Show Stables: 4/70.92
- 12 DINGEMAN: 2008 KWPN gelding by Nintender x Darnels  
 SANTIAGO LAMBRE (MEX), Santiago Lambre: 4/71.12



## David Oberkircher and Upper Rise to the Top of the \$25,000 Hermès Under Grand Prix



David Oberkircher picked up his first FEI win in the \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix with Upper. © Sportfot

The sixth week of the 2019 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) concluded on Sunday, February 17, with jumper competition on the grass derby field at Equestrian Village at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC) in Wellington, FL. David Oberkircher (USA) and Upper, owned by Southfields Farm LLC, rose to the top of the \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix.

Riding out on the beautiful grass derby field in the morning, some of the best up-and-coming show jumpers in the world competed for top grand prix honors. There were 43 entries in the class, with 13 of those going clear to advance to the jump-off.

The early pace-setter going third in the jump-off was 22-year-old Jennifer Gates (USA) on Oaks Redwood, owned by Evergate Stable LLC. They were efficient around the course, setting the time to beat at 37.72 seconds, which would hold up for third place.

Gates has only ridden Oaks Redwood for a month, and this was their first jump-off together. When trainer Harrie Smolders wanted Gates to move up to the 1.45m this week at WEF, Gates said, "We thought it would be a good opportunity to test him out and see how he rode, and he was absolutely excellent so I'm really happy with him."

Three horses later, lowering the time down to 35.86 seconds was 24-year-old Abigail McArdle (USA) riding Victorio Equine Group LLC's Victorio 5. McArdle trains with Katie Prudent and works for Adam Prudent's Plain Bay Sales.

"I felt like I was on it," McArdle admitted. "The one place where I took time was where David actually did one less [stride]. I think he did nine, and I did ten back on that. I wanted to be real sure on that. I think that's where I lost it, but it was really close, and I think it was good competition."

Five horses later, the winner entered the ring. With a neat turn back halfway through the course, Oberkircher and Upper sped through the finish timers in 35.70 seconds.

"[Upper] is a bit of a slow mover, so I knew I had to do all the leave outs in the jump-off," said Oberkircher of his jump-off ride. "Just be as tight as possible. I knew Abby and Jen were both pretty fast, so I knew I couldn't take my foot off the gas the whole way around. I think maybe in my turn back to 14, that black vertical, I really sliced it and he handled it well. But it was very close; I mean, milliseconds."

Oberkircher, who has ridden Upper for a year and a half, moved the horse into the Under 25 series at the 2018 WEF. "He's been great, and it's been a great partnership. He's a super brave horse," he said.

It was the first FEI win ever for the 23-year-old Oberkircher, who is also in his second year competing in the Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix Series.

"I have a great team around me that's supporting me, and I fly back and forth between Washington, D.C. and Florida to work during the week," said Oberkircher, who is a financial analyst at Freddie Mack and trains with John Roche. "So to come down here and have all the hard work pay off is really great."

## HUNTER SPECTACULAR continued from page 1

"I was hoping he would come out and be a competitor out there tonight, and I think it's needless to say he far exceeded my expectations," Steege commented. "When we competed in this last year, he was a first-year horse and it was only his third show in America. It's incredible to feel how much more mature he is a year later."

"I was really happy with my round in the handy; I thought he jumped amazing," she continued. "I made the conscious choice to go around the red vertical on the way to jump one because my horse is a little less experienced than Tori's and I just wanted to make this the most positive experience possible for him."

Allen, who is a working student for Ken and Emily Smith at Ashland Farm, took third place aboard Kind of Blue with an overall score of 177.57.



Victoria Colvin and Private Practice in their winning presentation with ringmaster Steve Rector, owner Brad Wolf, USHJA President Mary Babick, USHJA Executive Director Kevin Price, Torrey Hardison, Aurelio Elizondo, Dinette Neuteboom, Tom Wright, and WCHR Task Force Chair Carl Weeden. Photo © Sportfot.

"It's beyond exciting to be here and do so well in this event," Allen said. "I thought he was amazing in both rounds, obviously, but in the second round I think he really stepped it up with the brilliance. It's my final junior year and everything is shaping out!"

Allen credits the opportunity to show the seven-year-old Swedish Warmblood gelding (Bravour x Caresse Tau) to her "second family" at Ashland Farm, trainer Brady Mitchell, Alvin Menendez, Adam Graham, and the gelding's owner, Dana Schwarz.

"I can't put into words how grateful I am for all of the opportunities they've given me," Allen enthused. "I don't own any horses and each week they have horses for me to show. This is by far one of the greatest accomplishments."

Summer Grace

### FINAL RESULTS:

\$100,000 USHJA/WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular

#### Horse, Rider, Owner

Round 1 judges score, Round 1 total  
Round 2 judges score, Round 2, Overall total

#### 1 Private Practice, Victoria Colvin, Brad Wolf

89.00 92.00 89.00, 90.00  
93.00 94.00 91.00, 92.66, 182.66

#### 2 Lafitte De Muze, Amanda Steege, Cheryl Olsten

92.00 95.00 90.00, 92.33  
92.00 88.50 89.00, 89.83, 182.16

#### 3 Kind of Blue, Jordan Allen, Float On Equestrian LLC

86.25 90.00 92.00, 89.41  
87.50 88.50 89.00, 88.16, 177.57

#### 4 Tradition, Elizabeth Towell Boyd, Maggie Hill

87.00 85.00 88.00, 86.66  
89.00 90.00 86.00, 88.33, 174.99

#### 5 Small Anecdote, Jamie Taylor, Iwasaki and Reilly

85.25 87.50 86.50, 86.41  
87.00 88.00 90.00, 88.33, 174.24

#### 6 SKF On My Own, Maria Rasmussen, Sunset View Farm LLC

84.75 89.00 87.00, 86.91  
91.00 87.00 84.00, 87.33, 174.24

#### 7 Bright Side, Scott Stewart, Stephanie Danhaki

86.50 86.00 86.00, 86.16  
86.50 86.00 87.50, 86.66, 172.82

#### 8 Cassanto, Elizabeth Towell Boyd, Maggie Hill

85.00 88.00 85.00, 86.00  
85.00 84.00 85.00, 84.66, 170.66

#### 9 Consent, Kelley Farmer, Larry Glefke and Kent Farrington LLC

78.00 79.00 84.00, 80.33  
86.00 85.00 87.00, 86.00, 166.33

#### 10 Hobbs Lane, Maria Rasmussen, Sunset View Farm LLC

84.00 75.00 80.00, 79.66  
83.00 82.00 78.00, 81.00, 160.66

#### 11 Small Occassion, Augusta Iwasaki, Iwasaki and Reilly

86.00 87.00 83.00, 85.33  
71.00 70.00 74.00, 71.66, 156.99

#### 12 Bond, Isha Swani, Shadowfax Equestrian LLC

81.00 82.00 82.00, 81.66  
67.00 65.00 68.00, 66.66, 148.32

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Gratitude, ridden by Christopher Payne and owned by Still Water Farm LLC

### GREEN HUNTER 3'3"

Moonlight, ridden by Jimmy Torano and owned by Blue Rhode Inc.

### FARMVET PERFORMANCE HUNTER 3'3"

Sebastian, ridden by Tiffany Morrissey and owned by Stacey Shore Werner/Lightful, ridden by Courtney Lenkart and owned by La Primera Hacienda, L P

### YOUNG HUNTER 3'6" 7 YEAR OLDS

Dubai, ridden by Jimmy Torano and owned by Kirsten Ostling

### EQUINE TACK & NUTRITIONALS GREEN HUNTER 3'6"

Consent, ridden by Kelley Farmer and owned by Larry Glefke and Kent Farrington LLC/Lion, ridden by Tara Metzner and owned by Davlyn Farms Inc.

### EQUITAN PERFORMANCE HUNTER 3'6"

Private Practice, ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by Brad Wolf/Koala, ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC.

### EQUINE TACK & NUTRITIONALS GREEN HUNTER 3'9"

SKF On My Own, ridden by Maria Rasmussen and owned by Sunset View Farm, LLC

### GREEN CONFORMATION HUNTER

Scandal, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC

### ANTARES SELLIER FRANCE HIGH PERFORMANCE WORKING HUNTER

Cameo, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Dr. Betsee Parker

### HIGH PERFORMANCE CONFORMATION HUNTER

Private Life, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Dr. Betsee Parker

### AMATEUR-OWNER HUNTER 18-35

High Society, ridden and owned by Lindsay Maxwell

### HUNT LTD. AMATEUR-OWNER HUNTER 36 & OVER

Catch Me, ridden by Becky Gochman and owned by Gochman Sport Horses, LLC

### ADEQUAN® AMATEUR-OWNER HUNTER 18-35 3'3"

Airport 48, ridden by Martha Ingram and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram LLC

### PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC AMATEUR-OWNER HUNTER 36 & OVER 3'3"

Alisto, ridden and owned by Lori Mathews

### SMALL JUNIOR HUNTER 16-17

O'Ryan, ridden by Maggie Hill and owned by Stella Styslinger

### BRUNO DELGRANGE LARGE JUNIOR HUNTER 16-17

Kind of Blue, ridden by Jordan Allen and owned by Float On Equestrian, LLC.

### SMALL JUNIOR HUNTER 15 & UNDER

Evermore, ridden by Mimi Gochman and owned by Gochman Sport Horses, LLC.

### PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY LARGE JUNIOR HUNTER 15 & UNDER

Small Occasion, ridden by Augusta Iwasaki and owned by Iwasaki & Reilly

### JUNIOR HUNTER 15 & UNDER 3'3"

Clear Sailing, ridden by Hannah Hoch and owned by Hannah Hoch, LLC/Cabrio, ridden by Ella Bikoff and owned by Bikoff Equestrian, LLC

### JUNIOR HUNTER 16-17 3'3"

Capitaano Z, ridden by Taryn Fall and owned by Ridgeway Stables, LLC/Calvanos, ridden and owned by Alexander Goet

### EQUILINE ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER YOUNGER

Shoreline, ridden and owned by Tracy Scheriff-Muser/Ice Time, ridden by Martha Ingram and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram LLC

### TRIPLE CROWN BLANKETS/FREE X REIN ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER MIDDLE

Capella, ridden and owned by Garland Alban/Valhalla, ridden and owned by Kate Ellis

### MARSHALL & STERLING ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER OLDER

Like I Said, ridden by Amy Brubaker and owned by Pony Lane Farm/Lightful, ridden by Angela Dominguez and owned by La Primera Hacienda, L P

### CHILDREN'S HUNTER YOUNGER

Hoopla, ridden by Tessa Downey and owned by Hollis Grace/Journey, ridden and owned by Charley Stowell

### CHILDREN'S HUNTER OLDER

Zeppelin, ridden by Lilah Bass and owned by Natalie Bass/Just Jagger, ridden by Ryan Moloney and owned by Karen Bailey

### VISSE WEDELL SMALL PONY HUNTER

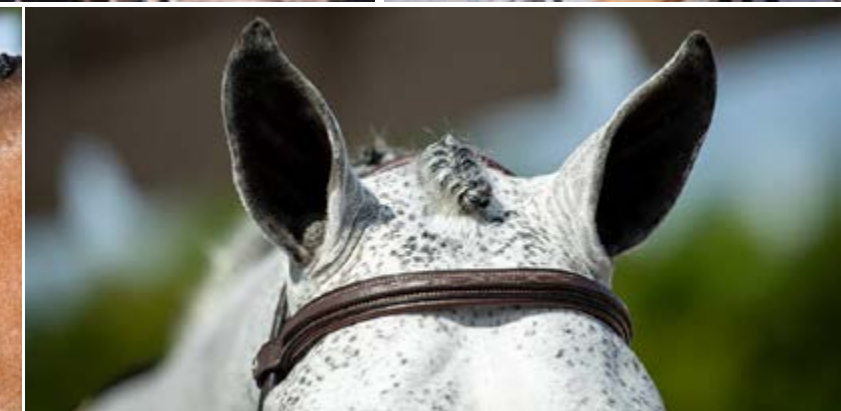
Secret Love, ridden by Olivia Sweetnam and owned by Jill Shulman/iParty, ridden and owned by Alexa Elle Lignelli

### ALWAYS FAITHFUL STABLES MEDIUM PONY HUNTER

Fox Creeks Curious George, ridden by Alexa Elle Lignelli and owned by the Lignelli family/ EMC Entourage ridden by Alexa Elle Lignelli and owned by the Lignelli family

### ROSENBAUM PLLC LARGE PONY HUNTER

Benetton, ridden by Georgia Jacob and owned by Pretty Penny Farm



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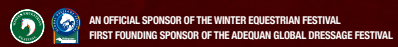
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