

April 1, 2005

Hello, West Coast Active Riders!!!!

Now THIS is the **Californian weather** we all remember! If you're at the Oaks this weekend in beautiful San Juan Capistrano, we all hope you're enjoying jumping in this gorgeous sunshine...what a change! To all of our Spruce Meadows Team competitors about to jump their second trials, GOOD LUCK! Spruce Meadows is so fun, and you are going to LOVE going there. So go jump a clean round! Remember, **Junior Amateur Modified** competitors have **TWO trials** this weekend, classes 211 and 354, so check your schedule!

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Speaking of our Spruce Teams, we were off to a terrific start last week with the **\$5000 WCAR Prix de Nations at the Palms Classic**. This superb show is going to be a great part of our Californian circuit with fantastic footing that stood up to all SORTS of weather, fun classes like the Prix de Nations and the European format Grand Prix, and top class competition!

We couldn't have been happier with our WCAR Prix de Nations class, and how about our Junior and Amateur riders? Now THAT'S show jumping! Huge congratulations are in order for our **winning team, Team Silver Spoons: Richard Spooner, Katherine Bardis, Kaylen Spooner and Rachel Kummer**. They were followed very closely by **Team Delila: Fred Bauer, Lauren Hester, Tammy Chipko and Patricia Hayward**. And of course, applause PLEASE for our clear rounders: **Patricia Hayward** with Pro Jump Khomedian, **Paige Kirwin** with Gangster, **Richard Neal** with Swish AND Sbrutsch, **Aimee Primm** with Alaric, **Rachel Kummer** with Lunas, **Ken Dickey** with Miro AND Isaiah 65, and **Melissa Brown** with Herra 122. Terrific job, you guys!

All of us know that you just can't get enough practice with the Nations Cup format...the pressures of riding on a team, riding at night, knowing that your score counts...all those add up to a **very different feeling than your average round**. And that's what we're all here to practice! We don't want your first Nations Cup experience to be at a Championship level event, or in Europe, ok? So we're giving you lots of **opportunity to rehearse this format** that's used at Spruce Meadows. For all of you out there who jumped a clean round (or two!)- great job! Go on with it! For those of you out there who didn't get quite the score you were hoping for, well, you've got **three more rounds PLUS that drop score**. (We LOVE that drop score.) And you're going to jump a clean round anyway, this weekend, so who cares?

Good luck to all our competitors- **we'll all be cheering for you this weekend!** For complete results following last weekend, please see the attached file "Spruce Meadows Results".

By the way, did you all see the **\$30,000 Antares Grand Prix at the Palms Classic**? **Mandy Porter** and the beautiful **Summer** won with the only double clear round...**Mandy and Julie Winkel** were the only two riders clear in the first round, which proved to be very exciting jumping! And how about that cool format? The "**top twelve**" format isn't used that much in America, although we see it a lot in Europe. It was fun to practice that last week, and a nice change! Congratulations to all our Grand Prix riders, and thanks to the Palms Classic for putting on such a great show!

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You guys remember the terrific **FEI Childrens' International Jumping Final** at Hummingbird Nest last November, right? What an amazing event, and we're STILL getting great feedback on that show! Well, guess what? The FEI agrees with you, and they've awarded the show to the Sapersteins again for 2005! Check out this press release from the coolest hosts ever, Hummingbird Nest:

We are excited to announce the 2005 F.E.I. Children's International Jumping Final will once again return to Hummingbird Nest in Simi Valley, California from November 22 – 27, 2005. This is the first time in the history of the event that the finals will take place at the same location two years in a row.

Hummingbird Nest is a 140 acre equestrian facility located in Simi Valley, California. This world class facility is surrounded by thousands of acres of land which is part of the Simi Valley Parks District. It has breathtaking mountain views, beautiful landscaping and a spectacular 18,000 square feet clubhouse overlooking the International Grand Prix arena, making it an excellent venue.

The 2005 F.E.I. Children's International Jumping Final is a premier international event, providing a setting for children from around the world to meet on a friendly yet competitive level. It is a great opportunity to gain respect for each other's cultures and traditions and to build lifetime friendships. The unique event is comprised of children from around the world between the ages of 12 to 14 years old.

Last year Daniel Bluman of Colombia took home the gold medal, with Jennifer Stillman and Julie Weisz both representing the United States of America, taking silver and bronze.

For information about the qualifiers for this years final, please contact the United States Equestrian Federation, Jennifer Haydon, Assistant Director, Hunter Jumper at (859) 225.6911 or via e-mail at jhaydon@usef.org

For further information about the finals and Hummingbird Nest please feel free to contact the ranch at 805-577-1816 or via e-mail at Info@Hummingbirdnestranch.com

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For those riders who wish to see the **meeting notes from the Indio USEF Meeting**, please see the attached file, "USEF Notes from Indio Meeting". Wow- was that EVER a riders' meeting!!!!

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Finally, last but CERTAINLY not least, thank you to all our riders, parents, sponsor and friends who attended our Indio Party and Calcutta. We are so grateful for all your help and support. By coming to our party, you contributed greatly to our ability to help our sport on the West Coast! The energy was terrific, and it was so great to see everyone all dressed up.

Great thanks to our Silent Auction winners: **Mary Manfredi**, who won the private tour of the Basquiat Exhibit by Professor Fred Hoffman, **George O'Malley**, who won the Ariat Cobalt Crepe boots, **Tracy Immel**, who won the Weekend in Hidden Valley, **Mary Tyng**, who won the Ariat Heritage Western Boots, **Lisa Baldesari**, who won the Pure and Simple Beauty Bag, **Laura Mauck**, who won the Ariat Baby Buck boots, **Patty Mahaffey**, who won the WCAR I-Pod, **Christy Reich**, who won the custom saddle from CWD, **Jim Mitchell**, who won the Ariat Heritage Buckaroo Boots, and **Carol Bird**, who won the Ariat Spring Buck Boots and Terrain Half Chap combination. Thank you SOOO much to all our bidders- what a great gift to WCAR!

Our Calcutta was very exciting this year, since the horse that won the \$150,000 Ford Grand Prix (Ezrah), was not originally entered for the class, and therefore not on the calcutta list! Unbelievable! In the end, we divided the pool between the bidders on the four faulter horses, tied

for third: **Anke Magnussen**, who bid on Team No Tan Lines, **Guillermo and Lynn Obligado**, who bid on Team Beach Bask, and **Carol Bird**, who bid on Team Darn Cute Boys. Congratulations to all our bidders, and to the **Buie family** and the **Salick family** as well, who also bid on teams. Thank you, thank you!

Of course, we couldn't have done any of this without **our wonderful sponsors**:

Kenneth Vinther, from CWD, whose generosity over the years to WCAR is as cool as his totally uninhibited "horseless saddle-bronc" impersonation that we love so much!

Sally Peoples, whose amazing beauty products from Pure and Simple really DO help our horse show skin!

The Hoffman family, whose wonderful private tour of the upcoming Basquiat exhibit is going to be SO terrific...

El Campeon Farms, who have been unfailing supporters and great friends to WCAR over the years- I wish that I had bid on that weekend, but I'm sure that Torie Immel is going to have the time of her life!

J2- They sponsored the open bar during cocktail hour ! How cool is that? Wasn't it nice not having to wait in line for drink tickets? That was great for everyone!

Billy Mieldazis, whose support of our riders, and great vision in designing cool restaurants has improved our social lives at Indio considerably,

.....AND....Ariat! Wow! Who would have guessed that we would have so much fun with our fashion show?! That was entertaining!!! Ariat has been a great supporter of WCAR, from the gorgeous team coats for our Sprucers last year to the super merchandise they donated to our silent auction. That was SO cool, and we had SO much fun!

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Great luck to everyone this week, and enjoy our beautiful sunshine!

Yours,
Gaby