



THE CHRONICLE of the Horse

DAILY UPDATE

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Staying High and Dry

Welcome to the 17th Annual Capital Challenge

The remnants of Tropical Storm Nicole wreaked havoc in many cities on the Mid Atlantic coast, dropping over ten inches of rain in some areas causing streams and rivers to rise while roads closed due to flooding.

Rain always puts a damper on a horse show, but excessive rain can create unique challenges for horse show management. Keeping rings drained and stalls dry becomes a full-time job. The Prince George's Equestrian Center sits in the middle of the winding Western Branch of the Patuxent River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay.

The backside of the show grounds is especially close

to the water and is where management was keeping a close watch.

"The guys did an unbelievable job of keeping us dry," said show manager Oliver Kennedy. "They worked around the clock trenching and pumping, and hopefully the gusty winds will continue to dry us out. If it wasn't for our amazing crew, and the guys from the Equestrian Center, we would have seen some flooding. Everyone pitched in."

Co-manager Billy Glass added, "In order to accommodate the best show hunters in the world we have the best staff, and they did a phenomenal job. They went above and beyond the call of duty."

With the river so close to the back tent everyone is still prepared to divert water but so far all the stalls are dry. Thanks to Dean Rheinheimer and Rick Rollins' careful footing management, the outdoor show ring has nearly ideal conditions for a full day of classes.

The 17th annual Capital Challenge may have had a soggy lead in, but we're excited for another year of stellar competition. Thanks for joining us here in Upper Marlboro.

Whether competing at the Capital Challenge has been a year-long goal or is the start of the indoor season, best of luck to everyone and enjoy the show!



2010 Michael Tang Official Poster



This year's subject for the annual poster was Hunt Tosh on Lone Star. Hunt Tosh was the winner of the 2009 World Champion Hunter Rider Professional Finals.

Lone Star is a ten-year-old bay warm-blood owned by Betsee Parker. The poster is created from a water-

color painting by Michael Tang. According to Tang, this year's painting was difficult to create from the photograph provided by Shawn McMillen because, although it was a nice photo of Lone Star, it was taken indoors. Tang needed to invent the lighting and the background for the painting. The series of commemorative posters can be purchased at the souvenir stand at the horse show. *****



This year the Daily Update will feature a special USHJA section to cover the World Champion Hunter Rider classes. Tricia Booker will be covering the events for us. You can also find results of the WCHR classes on the Capital Challenge website (www.capitalchallenge.org) and on the USHJA website (www.ushja.org).

The USHJA website will also be covering the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games so if you're wondering what's going on at WEG while you're attending Capital Challenge check it out! You'll find coverage, blogs and photos. USHJA staff and freelancers will be following the action during the WEG in Lexington, Ky., with coverage of the show jumping beginning on October 4. You can also follow the USHJA on, Twitter, Facebook and the USHJA RSS feed. Blogger Jeannie Blancq Putney is an avid horse enthusiast who enjoys covering all breeds and all levels of equestrian sport. Putney's first few blogs have already been posted, so drop in to check out some behind-the-scenes stories and photos prior to the start of show jumping (www.ushja.org/blog/WEG.aspx).

Weekend Events

Saturday

INDOOR RING 8:30am

17 Year Old Equitation
16 Year Old Equitation
15 Year Old Equitation
13/14 Year Old Equitation
12 Year Old & Under Equitation

North American Jr. Flat
Equitation Championships
Taylor Harris Insurance Services
National Children's Medal Warm Up
Adult Amateur Equitation

OUTDOOR RING 8:00am

17 Year Old Equitation
16 Year Old Equitation
15 Year Old Equitation
13/14 Year Old Equitation
12 Year Old & Under Equitation

Taylor Harris Insurance Services
National Children's Medal
Adult Amateur Equitation
Open Equitation 3'6"
Open Equitation 3'

Sunday

INDOOR RING 8:00am

North American Junior
Equitation Champ.

Taylor Harris Insurance Services
National Children's Medal Finals

North American Adult Amateur
Equitation Championship

Best Equitation Rider
Leading Equitation Trainer

Welcome Reception
for the
THIS National Children's
Medal Finalists

Parents, riders, trainers
Saturday, Oct. 2nd at 6PM
in the Paddock Room



The Taylor Harris Insurance Services NCM is a competitive stepping-stone into the 3'6" equitation division. Competing in the Show Place Arena is a great preparation for those continuing on to the "big eq" and needing indoor experience.

We are grateful to Taylor Harris Insurance Services who stepped up in 2008 to sponsor the National Children's Medal, which has given many young riders a leg-up into the 3'6" equitation division.

Bella Cramer
Katherine Barry
Maryann Osborne
Molly Peddicord
Jordyn Shaffer
Gina Calicchio
Emily Simon
Maggie Ridenour
Porter Allen
Jayme Shapiro
Emily Rizzo
Hannah Stabler

Brooke Price
Alexa Boggio
Kelli Crucioti
Nikki Diamantis
Madeleine Swem
Ashton Alexander
Mackenzie McGehee
Kira Zelman
Grace Howard
Nicole Lyuere
Maggie Savoie
Geoffrey Hesslink

Kendall Fately
Catherine Regan
Taylor Ann Clark
Anna Joan Rea
Caroline Johnson
Olivia Wilson
Madelyn Keck
Samantha Gumbin
Catherine Kenny
Devon McCarthy

Best Buy: Horse of a Lifetime

By Caraneen Smith, *Bigeq.com*

It's what every rider wants - the horse of a lifetime. Sometimes a partnership clicks immediately, sometimes it develops slowly. At some point, however, a rider becomes aware that their horse is special, whether it's because of the walls of blue ribbons or just the comforting knicker of a four-footed friend from down the aisle.

Pam Robertson Clingensmith, of Basking Ridge, NJ, was a blossoming young rider in the late 1960s when she was introduced to a 12.3-hand bay mare named "Kit Kat." A neighbor kept the pony in a two-stall barn with a small pasture in the backyard and Clingensmith began taking lessons on the mare. A few months later, Clingensmith got the surprise of her life, when Kit Kat was given to her as a birthday present. Her parents paid a modest \$500 for the pony.

Clingensmith and Kit Kat went on to a very successful local show career together. One highlight was during the 1971 show season, when the Pony Finals were held in New Jersey, bringing national caliber ponies and riders into Clingensmith's area for the Monmouth County Horse Show. Despite the stiff competition, Kit Kat prevailed in a Pony Hunter Stake class, beating perennial pony finals champion Liseter Gold Coin.

Over the years, Clingensmith's family received several purchase offers on Kit Kat, one as high as \$5000. No price, however, was enough to persuade them to sell Pam's pony - her horse of a lifetime! After Clingensmith finally outgrew Kit Kat, she was given to a family who participated in 4H and lived well into her thirties with them.

Meanwhile, Julia Wiley, of Vernon, NJ, had heard through her trainer Linda Mancini that a great children's jumper was for sale. His name was "Never Satisfied" and Wiley's purchase of the bay gelding commenced a long career with the Wiley family spanning from 2000 to 2008. Doogie, as he was known around the barn, was very fast around a jumper course. Wiley recalls that at their first horse show she fell off after asking him to turn in the air. He turned so quickly that she found herself on the ground. "I realized if I asked him to turn, I had better be ready," she said.

The pair won at major shows along the east coast in the children's/adult jumpers, including the Capital Challenge, Washington International and the Marshall & Sterling Finals. Doogie was so consistent that Wiley



Kit Kat pictured above. Doogie and Julia below.

admits they began to rely on him to pay the show bills, as they would often win the Classic and take home the winner's check. Wiley reminisced, "He was just an amazing horse that wanted to win as badly as I did."

Doogie's talents were not limited to the show ring, however. He found new life as a field hunter for Wiley's father. He was surefooted and brave and could whip-in or lead the field. Doogie eventually returned to the show ring for one more season with Wiley's younger sister Emily. They were champion at every show together, including Upperville. Unfortunately, Doogie contracted an infection and was put down in 2008. Yet his memory will live forever with the Wiley family who loved him dearly.

Just as Kit Kat and Doogie were special partners for their owners, your best buy awaits you! Finding the horse of your lifetime has never been easier with *Bigeq.com* - we're first in hunter/jumper sales online. Come shop for your next show partner and view photos and video clips... or visit to sell your quality horse. www.bigeq.com



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