Who to Watch This Winter!

Horse Show

With four winter circuits under way this winter, there are plenty of new and old faces alike to watch out for in the show ring. Keep your eye on these riders and trainers!

Hillary Dobbs: Hillary Dobbs has made a name for herself since she first entered the Grand Prix ranks at 18. The Sussex, NJ resident and Harvard University senior, now 21, has won over 20 Grand Prix, ridden on Gold Medal winning Nations Cup teams, and has received numerous awards. Todate, Hillary is the youngest rider to compete in the 2009 FEI World Cup Final, to win the Falsterboro's Swedbank Derby, and the 2008 Hampton Classic \$200,000 FTI Grand Prix. This past summer, she turned professional and is sponsored by the international companies "Parlanti" and "Cavalor." This fall, she competed at the "Masters" in Spruce Meadows, and rounded out the season by being named Leading Open Jumper Rider at the Syracuse During the Winter Equestrian Festival, Dobbs will vie for a slot at the 2010 World Equestrian Games competing aboard her mounts Quincy B, Corlett, and Marlo. She will also be showing her youngest jumper, Undento VDL. Hillary Dobbs piloted her mount Quincy B to win the \$50,000 Holiday & Horses Grand Prix, a World Cup Qualifier at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center in Wellington, Fl.

Karen Healey: Karen Healey Stables had a great indoor circuit competing at the most elite shows on the East and West Coasts this fall. Karen is one of the most respected and sought after trainers in the country and along with having riders finish in the top of the hunter and jumper divisions, she also had several students excel in the equitation throughout the 2009 season.

Karen's students won in the Junior Jumpers at the Washington International Horse Show and finished fourth in the ASPCA Maclay Finals at the National Horse Show. Healey also had young rider win the Platinum Performance/USEF Talent Search Finals- West among other top placings through the year.

As the 2010 season gets underway, Karen and her students will be the ones to watch at the HITS Desert Circuit in Thermal, CA, this winter. Healey has brought California to the forefront of the hunter-jumper industry by helping young riders succeed and young trainers learn.

Jennifer Nadalin: Jennifer Nadalin, the owner and trainer at Sugar Run Farm, will be traveling from Plain City, Ohio, to compete at the Gulf Coast Winter Classics in Mississippi during the 2010 winter season. Jennifer rides a variety of training and sales mounts, from ponies to grand



Hillary Dobbs is making a name for herself as one of this season's rookie professionals, already with an impressive list of wins under her belt. Photo by Kenneth Kraus/PMG



Karen Healey will have a barn full of students competing at HITS Thermal after a successful indoor circuit.

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Jennifer Nadalin and Lazzara compete in the open jumpers at the Gulf Coast Winter Classic.

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prix horses. She and her partner, Chris Eadline, assist students of all levels at the shows as they compete in their respective divisions.

Jennifer Alfano: SBS Farms' trainer and rider Jennifer Alfano capped off an incredible year in the professional hunters and the hunter derby classes by winning tricolors at all three indoor competitions. Jennifer and Jersey Boy, owned by SBS Farms (head trainer Susie Schoellkopf), won the \$10,000 hunter derby at the HITS Ocala Winter Circuit and the \$50,000 hunter derby at the Winter Equestrian Festival along with two other derby wins. They were the highest money winners of the vear in the USHJA International Hunter Derby standings and finished second in the \$100,000 derby finals. Alfano will return to Ocala this year to compete for the winter.

Kelsey and Madeline Thatcher: Pony Lane Farm is based out of South Jordan. ι Γ, and is home to two of the untry's top up and coming ers, Kelsey and Madeline ntcher. Seventeen-year-old Kersey and 13-year-old Madeline train with Maggie Jayne of Our Day Farm in Elgin, IL, and compete with some of the top horses in the country in the hunters, jumpers and equitation.

Kelsey competes in the junior hunters with top horses Early Applause, Gianni and Mirasol, and shows her talented horses Carlotta, Milous de Fontaine and Esquilino Bay in the junior jumpers. Madeline competes in the pony hunters with Hillcrest Blue Cwilt and Beau Rivage, does the pony jumpers with Bally Mac, tops the children's jumpers with her horse Victor, and shows in the junior hunters with Pony Lane Farm's top star, Francesca, along with leading hunter Capone. Kelsey and Madeline were very successful at WEF last season and look forward to returning this year for another great winter of competition.



Jennifer Alfano and Jersey Boy will be the ones to beat in the hunter derbies this winter in Ocala and Wellington.

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Kelsey Thatcher and Gianni will be top competitors in the junior hunters at WEF. Photo copyright Jennifer Wood/PMG



Madeline Thatcher, like her sister is a rising star in the junior divisions