

Jennifer Wooten's Trinity Eventing is off to a fantastic season.

by Cheryl Erpelding

Since having her first child last July, veteran eventer Jennifer Wooten has been itching to get back onto the competitive circuit. From her training bases in Santa Ynez and Agoura, she is bringing a promising crop of students along with her and her Trinity Eventing team is off to a terrific start this season. Outings at Galway Downs and Twin Rivers last month loaded up the program's ribbon string with rosettes and more are projected through the year.



At Galway, Jennifer took home the blue ribbon in the CIC1* on her dressage score on Ballingoway Ginger, owned by Jordyn Horwitz. Her 42.3 score remained the one to beat with

scores over 70% from both dressage judges.

Double clean in the show jumping and clear on cross-country meant no one could catch them. Jennifer has only been partnered with Ginger since January 2016. The mare was brought along by Olympic-bound Lauren Billys and Jennifer is thrilled with the mare's continued improvement and performance.

Jennifer showed Kathryn Johnson's Eduardo in the Open Preliminary B class. She is also very happy with "Ed's" progress as he had made a huge improvement from his last event and had only time faults added to his impressive dressage score of 33.9 to finish his second Preliminary outing of the season. Having just moved up to Prelim this past March, Ed is figuring out the new level and gaining more confidence every outing.

Jennifer's students, Kelsey Holmes, Katherine Hill, Avery Noblitt and Katie Boydston, also had excellent rides at Galway.

Kelsey Holmes competed her two horses, Heart of Gold SE, aka "Sofia," and NZB The Chosen One, aka "Squid," in the CIC1*. She had solid rides on both horses, finishing up in fourth place with Sofia and in seventh with Squid.

These finishes put her as the first and second placed Young Rider in the very large FEI division. Jennifer first brought Sofia along for breeder Rose Sullivan and felt the mare would be a good match for Kelsey when Squid was sidelined by an injury a few years ago. The trainer has since helped Kelsey bring Sofia onto the next levels, and is especially proud of the results the young pair is getting.

Katherine Hill rode her own Wings of Fire, aka "Kasey," in the Jr. Training, where she did a super job figuring out her new horse and the new level. They had a particularly strong finish with their double clean cross-country round.

Avery Noblitt rode in the Jr. Novice class aboard her own Amy Z. Avery and Amy had their personal best dressage test, followed by two solid jumping rounds to finish up in sixth place. This pair debuted at Training Level at Twin Rivers.

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