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Riders Jump into Spring Success

Submitted by Heather O'Donnell



Marieka Maesen and Bam Bam Photos provided

The hunter-jumper show season has begun in California and local horsewomen have enjoyed early wins. Marieka Maesen, a Camino Pablo third grader riding for Redwood Ranch, entered the Skye Valley Hunter-Jumper Show in Castro Valley on March 25th. Maesen and her pony, Bam Bam, won seven ribbons in eight judged classes on the cross rail and 1'6", including one first place, one second, four fourths and one fifth.

Hannah O'Toole, an eighth grader at Orinda Intermediate School, also rode for Redwood Ranch at the Skye Valley show. O'Toole and her Connemara pony, Tallula, won two first places, one second and one fourth in her 2'6" Hunter Jumper division. O'Toole also won overall Reserve Champion in the 2'6" division, including a small cash prize sponsored by Western Saddlery.

Gabrielle Cirelli, a tenth grade Bentley student from Moraga, riding for Shady Lane Farm, travelled to Thermal, California to ride in the HITS Desert Circuit over Feb 28-March 11. Gabby and her horse, Famko, placed sixth in the \$1000 Lamborghini Challenge Child/Adult Jumper Classic and sixth out of 44 horses in the Marshall & Sterling Child Jumper Classic. Cirelli also placed in five additional 15-and-under Jumper classes with third, fourth, fifth, sixth and eighth place finishes.



Gabby Cirelli on Famko

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