



# Karl Slezak Eventing

## Spring Updates

### Spring Edition Issue 2, Volume 1

Thank you to my sponsors for the high quality products you provide to both me and my horses



Phoenix  
Performance Products



GAME  READY™



## In This Issue....

There are lots of exciting updates from Team Slezak this spring. I returned to Ontario after Rolex at the end of April after enjoying several days cheering on my fellow Canadians at this event. We also hosted a cocktail party for any attending sponsors and supporters who had attended the event which proved to be an exciting party with tornado warnings and torrential rainstorms! Contained in this issue are updates and information on our plans for the summer Eventing season including updates on two new competition prospects. Additionally, there are two new columns to the newsletter. One will be written Janelle Caldwell who is my working student and the other will be a column entitled "Cooking with Karl" that will contain a recipe for one of my favourite dishes. I have also included a schedule of the competitions that I will be attending in the spring and summer months and am also happy to announce that [www.karlslezakeventing.com](http://www.karlslezakeventing.com) is now online and will contain updates, pictures and video footage as it becomes available. Hope you enjoy this issue! Thank you again for all of your support. It's going to be a fantastic summer!!

## A Spring Preview: Game Plan for Summer 2010

While each and every season of eventing is filled with competitions, clinics and cross-country schooling this year will be busier than most. 'Charley' and I will be competing at Bromont in the CCI\*\*\* in early June and hope to produce some stellar results at this event. Last year we won the CCI\*\* here and this year my expectations for us are even higher as we attempt to reproduce these results at the CCI\*\*\* level. In addition to this, my young horse 'Yoshi' will compete in the Young Event Horse Competitions in Canada and the USA this summer. He is a phenomenal horse and has the makings of a superstar. I will also be competing a new horse that I brought home from Florida this year named 'Mick'. He is another seriously talented mount who gallops in search of cross-country flags better than any horse I've ever sat on. I'm thrilled to be introducing these younger horses to the sport and look forward to seeing them improve throughout the summer. In other exciting news, 'Kachemak Bay' will be returning to the Advanced level this summer after minor surgery put him out of competition for the winter in Florida. This is a fiercely competitive horse who will be happy to be back. When I'm not competing I will be out coaching my many talented students as they work towards their goals this summer. We've got an exciting season on hand and hope that you get a chance to come out and cheer us on!!



Karl and Mick working on the flat



Introducing Yoshi: He will be competing in the Young Event Horse competitions this year

## Florida Wrap Up: A Change of Plans

While things didn't work out for Charley and I to compete at Rolex this year, we had a very successful winter improving our partnership over the winter months. From our flatwork to our show jumping technique, David O'Connor really emphasized the importance of versatility in the riding repertoire of an event rider at this level of competition. From the necessity of having a wide range of 'tools' to work with in our day to day training to the finer details of showmanship. We worked on a variety of collection exercises both on the flat and in our show jumping, horse placement exercises for work over fences as well as improving the overall finesse and precision in the show jumping ring. The work has helped me immensely in my work with Charley, the training of my younger horses and in the lessons I teach at home each day.

With the Florida season wrapping up my last show before heading home was at the Florida Horse Park. I competed Dana Carlin's "As Time Goes By" at this event in the Open Intermediate and finished 5<sup>th</sup>. Throughout the Florida season this horse improved tremendously. She is super sweet and a ton of fun to ride, especially in the dressage although I must admit that she does love to gallop out on cross country. 'Cala', as she is known around the barn will be competing with Dana this summer and I am looking forward to working with them and wish them success in their summer competitions together

I also had success on the sales front this winter with both of my two sale horses selling and finding fantastic new homes. Congratulations to Cathleen Rose who purchased Frankie Simpson's Machiatto and Cheryl Benefield who purchased Janelle Caldwell's Dinera.



Charley and I working with David O'Connor



Cala and I at Florida Horse Park

## Behind the Scenes: The Life of a Working Student

By Janelle Caldwell

The very first day of a working student position can be filled with many different emotions and maybe even a little stress, especially when living in a different environment, let alone 3,000 miles away from home around people you have never met before. I have heard many stories from past working students for various riders and it seems that first impressions can range from a scary "get me outta here!" to a welcoming and fun new home. I have to admit that as soon as my Dad and I pulled into the Florida farm this January I settled in and became quickly familiar with the horses as well as Karl's daily routines and chores for around the barn. My anxious feelings of what to expect and horrifying thoughts of being home sick quickly diminished and I became a little too comfortable on the gorgeous Florida farm. I never wanted to leave! Karl soon became not just my boss but a friend. He was and still is a blast to work for. Apart from him having his own advanced horses and those of his clients to worry about he always found time to give me at least a lesson a day and a lot of the time even gave me two!

My riding skills skyrocketed especially learning how to ride Forrest, Janette Leask's stallion also known as 'Rather Well' who Karl had trained and ridden up to CCI\*\*\* level, as well as improving with my own horse at the time, 'Dinera'. One thing I realized about Karl right from the beginning is that he doesn't stop ANYTHING until he, the rider or the horse gets it right before moving onto something else which helped me and the horses I was riding improve a lot under his instruction and training methods.

Although Florida was only for the 3 months it was an experience of a lifetime for me and I hope to be able to continue these adventures after university! It was sad to leave Florida but nice to be back in Canada and once again starting a new adventure at Wolf Run Farm in Caledon. More horses and more clients make the days much busier. This summer I'm focusing on how to care for competition horses, horses needing rehab and young horses who need experience. I look forward to spending the rest of the summer at Wolf Run and CANNOT wait to see what other experiences and opportunities will come my way. I'll keep you posted!



Dinera and I Galloping through the water at Florida Horse Park this winter.

## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Event	Date
Wits End Horse Trials	May 8 <sup>th</sup>
Will o' Wind Horse Trials	May 15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>
Virginia 3 Day Event and Horse Trials	May 21 <sup>st</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup>
Grandview Horse Trials	May 29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup>
Foggy River Combined Test	June 5 <sup>th</sup>
Bromont Three Day Event <i>Bromont, Quebec</i>	June 9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>
Caledon Horse Trials	June 20 <sup>th</sup>
Woodwind Horse Trials 1	June 26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup>
Wits End Combined Test and Young Event Horse	July 1 <sup>st</sup>
Headwaters Horse Trials	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>
Equus 3D Combined Test and Young Event Horse	July 7 <sup>th</sup>
Dressage at Orangeville	July 10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>
Will o' Wind Horse Trials	July 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>
Lane's End Horse Trials	July 25 <sup>th</sup>
Glen Oro Combined Test and Young Event Horse	July 28 <sup>th</sup>
Grandview Summer Horse Trials	July 31 <sup>st</sup> -August 1 <sup>st</sup>
Wits End Horse Trials	August 5 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>

## Cooking with Karl: Pancakes to start the day off right!

**Essential Ingredients:** Chocolate Chips, Butterscotch Chips, Banana (Sliced) and Blueberries (Whole)

**Less Essential Ingredients:** 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour, 3 ½ teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 tablespoon white sugar, 1 ¼ cups milk, 1 egg, 3 tablespoons melted butter

1. Combine flour, baking powder, salt and sugar
2. Combine milk, eggs and melted butter
3. Mix together until blended
4. Scoop batter onto grill and add either chocolate chips, butterscotch chips, banana's, blueberries or a combination of the four
5. Flip CAREFULLY!! When the batter is bubbling
6. Enjoy!



THANK YOU TO ALL OF MY SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS FOR HELPING ME REACH MY GOALS



## Team Slezak Apparel is Available Now

### Come out and support the Team!

Karl Slezak Eventing Apparel is now available with a portion of all proceeds from this clothing going to support Karl and his upper level horses. The golf shirt, hat and jacket are pictured in the photos on the right.

### Available Apparel Includes

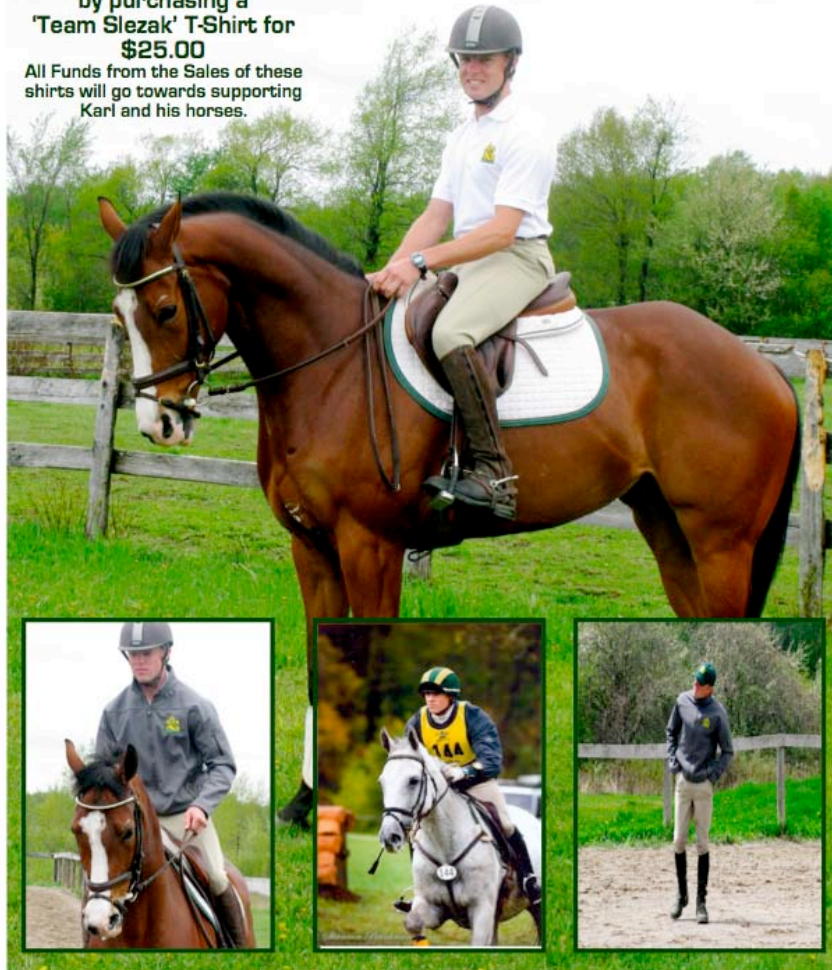
Baseball Caps	\$25.00
Golf Shirts	\$40.00
Jackets	\$110.00
T-Shirts	\$25.00

Please contact us at [supportkse@gmail.com](mailto:supportkse@gmail.com) if you are interested in purchasing this clothing.

### KARL SLEZAK SETS HIS SIGHTS ON THE WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

Support this local athlete by purchasing a 'Team Slezak' T-Shirt for \$25.00

All Funds from the Sales of these shirts will go towards supporting Karl and his horses.



[www.karlslezakeventing.com](http://www.karlslezakeventing.com) is Online Now!



While we are still working on updating the site with extended horse biographies, results and multimedia the website is online. Be sure to check out the "Media and News" page for all results and team updates. Thank you to Bryson Gilbert for his work on designing and building this website. He has done a fantastic job!

## Contact Karl

### Phone

647-229-0092

### E-mail

supportkse@gmail.com

### Website

www.karlslezakeventing.com



No hour of life  
is wasted that  
is spent in the  
saddle.

*Winston Churchill*



## Donations Still Needed

The costs associated with campaigning horses at this elite level of competition make it impossible for Karl to reach his goals without the support of generous sponsors like you. All donated funds will go to the maintenance, training and show fees for Karl's elite horses.

Developing and maintaining reciprocal relationships with all sponsors is a part of the Team Slezak approach and specific rewards are available upon request. We thank you in advance for your generous support.

### Sponsorship and Donation Levels are as follows:

Advanced Sponsor	\$25,000+
Intermediate Sponsor	\$15,000
Preliminary Sponsor	\$10,000
Training Sponsor	\$5,000
Pre-Training Sponsor	\$2,500
Entry Sponsor	\$1,000
Friends of Karl Slezak	less than \$1,000

### LOCAL: ATHLETE KARL SLEZAK SETS HIS SIGHTS ON THE WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

Support his quest to represent Canada this fall by  
contacting Team Slezak

[supportkse@gmail.com](mailto:supportkse@gmail.com)

all donations are 100% tax deductible



Until Next Time.....

*Karl Slezak*