

White Oak Stables

Realistic Equine Game



English Register | Racing Register | Western Register



White Oaks Stables

Site Stats

50,288 members

15,811 horses

685 stables

156 racetracks

3 total ranches

93 members online

Interview with 2008 Olympic Rider

conducted by jade@whiteoakstables.net on June 30, 2005

What's your full name?

Cannot answer until events are approved for the future olympic games.

How old are you?

18 (almost 19)

How old were you when you started riding?

I received my first horse when I was 4 years old. It was a pony my mother bought at an auction (for less than \$100) and had never had a bit in its mouth or a saddle on its back and she gave him to me for my birthday. I was riding him around just walking when he slipped and fell (from a girls jelly sandal) and cracked my head open. Right after I came back from the hospital I hopped on that bloody pony and rode him around like nothing had ever happened



What's your horse's name?

King Corlandus, AKA King

How old is your horse, what breed and gender?

7, Selle Francias, Stallion

Did you ever think you would be able to make it this far?

I always dreamed of it but never really thought it would come true!

How much time do you spend practicing?

Everyday I ride horses, they may not be mine but I will train them and try to increase there skills along with teaching other riders and I love it!

What events will you be riding in?

I will definitely be doing cross country and possibly dressage and stadium jumping

How well do you think you'll do in the olympics? What would you consider your best event and your worst?

I feel I will do fair, not excellent but not awful. I know King will take care of me and I feel that cross country is MY best event but dressage is definitely KINGS

What advice would you give to riders who want to get where you are?

Make sure you have a horse you love. I would not be where I am if I didn't have my horses who support and encourage me more than a human ever could

What's your favorite event?

Cross Country, no doubt

Do you think that people will overlook you because of your age in this competition?

They may, and they have a right to, because I am young and this will definitely be a learning experience because I have never done something this big before and I will probably be very nervous and excited

Do you think making the team has made you a better person? If true, how so?

I think it has because now I have more confidence in all that I do

What other competitions have you ever been in? Any big ones? Or were they just small?

No big competitions, the olympic thing was a HUGE suprise

When was it that you first started dreaming about making it to the Olympics?

I watched the 1992 olympics (I was 5) and I was amazed at the capability of the

riders and from then on I was hooked

What does it feel like to know you've accomplished a life-long dream?

I feel that I have completed a part of my life and that I actually will have a story to tell kids and grandkids of mine.

What are your plans with your riding in the future? Will you go pro, take up training, breeding, etc?

I really enjoy teaching and training so I think that is what I will do and I have a crazed fascination in taking horses off the track and recouping and retraining them and just seeing what they can grow into

How much would you attribute your success to your horse, and how much would you say is actual talent?

Well, I think that a lot about riding can be learned if you have the right horse and trainer but I think you also need the heart, will, and God given talent. I know that my horse attributes 100% towards me and I to him so we even out about 50/50

How much would you attribute your success to your trainer?

My first and best trainer was my mother. We were not very wealthy and I always had auction horses and ponies but my mother and I would train them and sell them for more money than we paid and she saved that up for my first well bred, well trained horse and she taught me all the basics (which I think is all you really need) so I accredit a lot of my "success" to her

Was there ever a time when you doubted you could make it?

I am a very confident and strong person so if I set a goal I'll make that goal. I said I wanted to go to the olympics, and I knew I would. I didn't care if I went as a stable hand or a groom, or what ever, as long as I went (although I'm glad I'm going as a rider)

How many other riders did you compete against for your spot in the olympic team?

Hmmmm, I really don't know. I get nervous when I find out what I'm up against but if I just pretend its me against myself then I know I will do well

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