

Young rider and a young horse buck conventional wisdom.

by Kim F. Miller



Pairing a young horse with a young rider contradicts conventional matchmaking wisdom, but 16-year-old Angela Cricelli and 6-year-old Sunsprite's Cali have debunked that idea. After pairing up in the summer of 2013, the hard working, horse-savvy rider and her talented horse are off to a fantastic start. They finished as Area VI Junior Novice Champions and are poised for more success on the West Coast eventing scene this year.

Angela and her trainer Sabrina Miller, of The Riding Academy in Salinas, had their eye on "Cali" while Debbie Rosen campaigned the youngster for his breeders, Sunsprite Warmbloods. The adorable, energetic bay is the son of the late Thoroughbred Coconut Grove and out of Sunsprite foundation mare, the Hanoverian Econda, by Espiri. Athleticism was never an issue for the youngster. "He jumped the moon and was so fancy in dressage the judges loved him," recalls Debbie.

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