

2011 NAJYRC REGION 7 JUNIOR TEAM

Rider: Stephanie Early

Age: 16

Hometown: Watsonville, CA

Horse: Panash

10-year-old chestnut Hanoverian mare

(Pablito x La Boheme by Lortzing)

Bred in the United States by Lilli-Anne Price

Owner: same as rider

Stephanie Early was born in Salinas, CA and has lived on the Central Coast all her life, where this fall she will be a senior at Monte Vista Christian School in Watsonville.

Stephanie has been riding since she was six years old, and working with her trainer, Jennifer Roth, since she was seven and received her first pony, Sundance.

With Sundance, she competed in small local hunter/jumper shows and many competitive trail and endurance rides. With her second pony, Berry, Stephanie competed in eventing and also completed numerous endurance rides (including two 50-mile rides). However, by the time she was eleven, she began seriously training and competing in dressage. Her first dressage pony was Turbo Diesel, with which she showed at Training and First Levels. In 2007, the pair qualified for the California Dressage Society Junior Championships, and were members of the First Level champion team. Stephanie also won the Sportsmanship Award for Northern California at these championships. That same year, she qualified for the USDF Regional Dressage Championships, and won the First Level championship.

In 2008, Stephanie traveled to Lamplight Equestrian Center in Wayne, IL, where she won the National Championship at the USEF Dressage Seat Medal Finals (13 & under division). As an equitation competition held half-way across the country, Stephanie rode a borrowed mount for the show, and thanks to the incredible kindness and generosity of the Barteau family, she had the privilege of winning the Gold Medal with GP Sarasanna.

In June of 2008, Stephanie's trainer, Jennifer Roth, found Panash, a ten-year-old Hanoverian mare. Stephanie describes Panash as "both the hardest and best thing in my life so far. She has not been easy, but the journey of training her and merely figuring her out has taught me some incredible life lessons. Panash is not just my horse; she is my trainer, my life coach, and my best friend."

Last year, Stephanie and Panash competed at the NAJYRC as members of the Region 7 junior team (the first rider from the Central Coast to do so) where they won the Team Silver Medal – a first for the Region 7 junior team. This year, this talented pair return to Kentucky even more experienced, and as Stephanie says, "We'll do the best we can and have fun while we're at it!"

