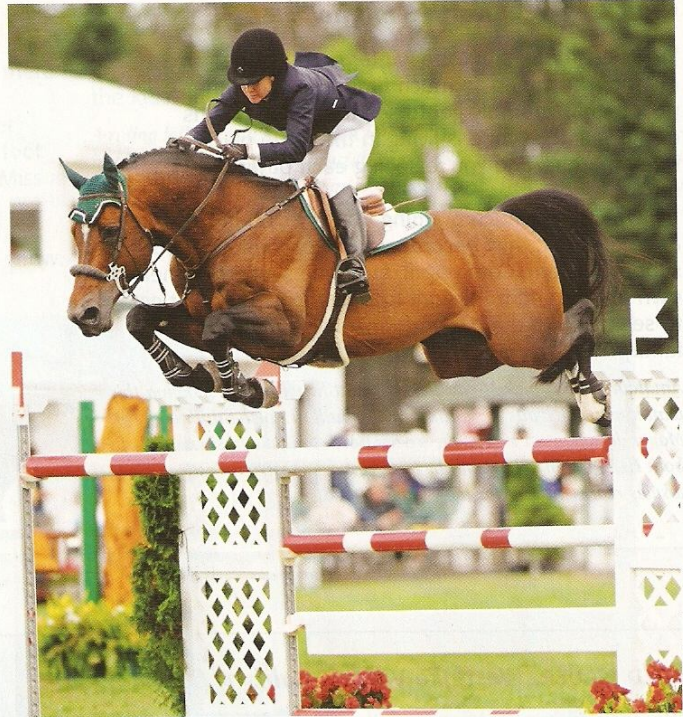


**DANIELLE TORANO, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.**

"My daughter [Natalia] was born on Dec. 8, 2006, right before circuit. I went to Palm Beach with a newborn and having not ridden in six months. I had never not done anything for that amount of time in my life. I was really gung ho: three weeks later I was riding, which, looking back on it, was a little bit crazy. I rode for about two days on the flat, but I was so nervous that maybe I'd forgotten how to jump that I'd sneak in little x's when no one was looking.

"I showed the first week, around Jan. 15, right in the grand prix. But within two days of jumping, everything felt perfect. I had Vancouver D'Auvray, and [my husband] Jimmy had been riding him a little bit, so he was really ready. It was a great circuit: the last week we ended up third in the [\$399,230 CN Worldwide Florida Open Grand Prix]. Looking back on it, it was a great experience. When days weren't so great it was so nice to have something nice to come home to."

*Danielle Torano will enjoy this year's FTI Winter Equestrian Festival as a "spectator and video girl," as the amateur rider is expecting her second child.*



(Mellic Bailey Photo)

**JEFF GOGUL, Chagrin Falls, Ohio**

"I'm a huge 70s music fan, so the year of the 1999 USET Denim 'N Diamonds fundraiser was fantastic. It was a circus theme, and [organizer] Mason Phelps did a great job with it. All of these grand prix riders came out riding an elephant.

"We were stabling at the show at the time, and our stalls were near where the party was being held. Donna Summer, who was performing, practiced all day, so we got to hear her during the day and at night at the party, and she's one of my 70s favorites."

*Trainer Jeff Gogul will spend this season at the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival along with his Flagship Ltd. horses and customers.*



(File photo/Phelps Media Group)