

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QMS Equestrian Team Jumps to the Challenge

Thermal and SSITS Results Showing Progress

April 22, 2015 - Duncan, BC, Canada – The Queen Margaret's School Equestrian Team have been working hard this spring at competitions in Thermal, CA, and SSITS in Saanich, with strong results.

The first large show of 2015 saw members of the QMS Royals heading south of the border to Thermal, CA, USA. "Travelling to Thermal for the HITS Desert Circuit is always a huge undertaking," explains QMS Equestrian Head Coach Cheryl Keith. "It takes hundreds of hours of planning, training, financial resources and community support to make the trip a reality. I'm always grateful to be able to offer our students the opportunity to compete at this incredible show." The dedication to riding paid off in the arena.

Kassidy Keith (Grade 11) rode *Ella 104* to win Reserve Champion in the 1.2m Jumper and 1st Place in the Junior Jumper Low Classic. She also earned consistent ribbons on *Crackerjack* in the 1.2m and 1.3m Jumper Divisions. *Ana Sofia Alban Madero* (Grade 9) who recently won a bronze medal at the FEI Children's International Classics in Mexico, rode *Piccadilly* to 1st Place in the 1.0m Jumper Division. Other QMS riders who placed in the ribbons included *Emily Cake* (Grade 9), *Eugenia Gutierrez Cantu* (Grade 9) and Coach *Cheryl Keith*.

Following a short rest after Thermal, a larger QMS team travelled to Victoria to compete in the Saanich Show in the Sun (SSITS). "The April SSITS went well," shares Keith. "Our team once again made me very proud of their work ethic."

Results

Hailey Gascoigne (Grade 7) on *Liberty W*

Champion Pre Child Hunter Division and
Winner of the Buckerfield's Hunter Classic

Emily Cake (Grade 9) on *Marlowe*

Competed in the 1.10m Division for the first time and 3rd Place in the
Campus Auto Specialty Class

Christine Coels (Grade 11) on *Bella*

Consistent ribbons in the .85m, .9m and Children's Hunters Divisions

Miranda Lebeuf (Grade 11) on *Carivero*

Good results on her new horse in the .75m Jumper Divisions

Lilian Jiang (Grade 11) on *Hercules*

Three 2nd Place ribbons in Open Pony and Short Stirrup Divisions

Kyra Westman (Grade 11) on *LL Bean*

Reserve Champion in the .9m Jumper Division

Cheryl Keith (Coach) on *Carivero*

Winner of the Campus Auto 1.10m Specialty Class

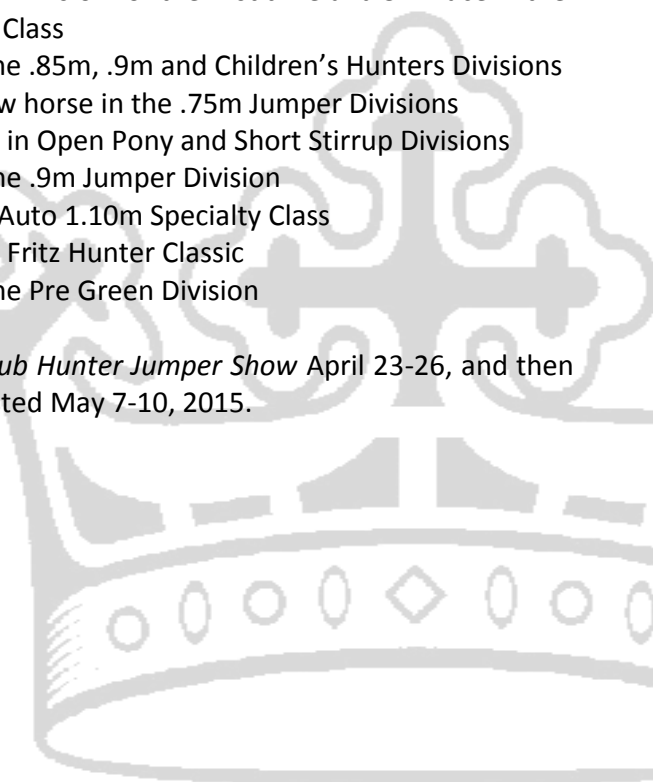
on *Hershey Kiss*

1st Place in the Danielle Fritz Hunter Classic

on *Carlton K*

Reserve Champion in the Pre Green Division

The team will now journey to BC's interior for the *Kelowna Riding Club Hunter Jumper Show* April 23-26, and then prepare to compete on home soil at the *QMS Spring Classic* being hosted May 7-10, 2015.



About Queen Margaret's School

Established in 1921, **Queen Margaret's School (QMS)** is located on 27 country-like acres in Duncan, BC. QMS offers a co-ed Early Childhood Education program, co-ed Junior School (Kindergarten-Grade 7), University Preparatory High School for girls (Grades 8-12) and all girls Boarding School (Grades 6-12). Queen Margaret's School is home to Canada's *only* on-campus school English Equestrian Program and an intensive ELL Program. The school's comprehensive scholastic and extra-curricular program provide opportunities for achievement and personal growth through academics, sports, visual and performing arts, riding and community service. We prepare students for university, for higher education, for life.

For more details about Queen Margaret's School, please visit the school's website at www.qms.bc.ca.

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For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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Photo by Amanda Straughan (Soul Touch Photography): QMS rider *Hailey Gascoigne* rode *Liberty W* to win Champion in the Pre Child Hunter Division and the Buckerfield's Hunter Classic during the SSITS last weekend.

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