

New Changes For A Veteran Rider

Even professional riders have to make tough choices to ensure a balance between horses and family.

Earlier this year, Canadian Karen Pavicic sold Centre Line Stables in Richmond, British Columbia, the farm her family has owned for more than a century, to open more space in her life for traveling and competing. Pavicic has a decidedly non-horsey husband, David, who works for a computer software company, and two children, Niko, 11, and Katie, 9.

"Before they were school-aged, they would come down with me and my husband, and we would rent a house and just stay in California for the season. Since they've been school-aged, it's been much more challenging," said Karen, 42. "I know I've had a harder time with it than they have. My husband is fantastic and super supportive. I couldn't do it without him, that's for sure."

The sale of the barn helped Karen travel to California to campaign Don Daiquiri, whom she co-owns with Jayne Essig, without worrying about the business she was leaving behind. They won the Grand Prix at the Golden State CDI on a 66.72 percent.

"It was a challenge to try to keep everybody happy all the time from a management point of view. [That] is where I found it very stressful, especially when I wasn't home," she said.

She went to California in mid-February with "Dono," an 11-year-old Oldenburg gelding (Don Cardinale—Nedstate III).

Karen first got the ride on Dono when he was 5. Essig bought him as a ride for herself, but the gelding soon proved to be a bit much for her.

"He's quite a hot horse, quite sensitive. He was really not very trusting. Dressage is about the partnership, and as time has gone on, he's begun to trust me more and more," said Pavicic. "[He was] very nervous, particularly in the show ring."

Canadian Karen Pavicic and Don Daiquiri snagged the win in the Golden State CDI Grand Prix.

GOLDEN STATE CDI Rancho Murleta, Calif.—Apr. 4-7

▶ GRAND PRIX

Judges: E: Mary Seefried (AUS); H: Lorraine MacDonald (CAN); C: Bernard Maurel (FRA); M: Jane Weatherwax (USA); B: Cesar Lopardo-Grana (ARG)

HORSE/RIDER/NATION	E	H	C	M	B	TOTAL
1. Don Daiquiri/Karen Pavicic/CAN	67.97	66.59	65.85	65.63	67.55	66.72
2. Lombardo LHF/Brian Hafner/USA	66.38	66.91	66.17	66.27	65.53	66.25
3. Stefano 8/Beatrice Marienau/USA	63.08	67.34	61.80	66.17	65.85	64.85
4. Harmony's Sandro/Leslie Webb/USA	64.46	65.21	62.12	66.38	65.95	64.83
5. Udo/Tracey Lert/USA	62.66	62.44	61.48	62.23	63.93	62.55
6. North Forks Card/Jessica Wisdom/USA	64.46	62.02	62.23	62.76	60.95	62.48

Also competed: 7. Rudy/R. Killberg/CAN, 62.44.

▶ GRAND PRIX SPECIAL

Judges: E: Weatherwax; H: Lopardo-Grana; C: Seefried; M: MacDonald; B: Maurel

HORSE/RIDER/NATION	E	H	C	M	B	TOTAL
1. Lombardo LHF/Brian Hafner/USA	66.77	66.35	66.87	66.04	68.54	66.91
2. Don Daiquiri/Karen Pavicic/CAN	66.87	63.22	66.56	63.95	66.14	65.35
3. Stefano 8/Beatrice Marienau/USA	65.62	66.25	64.47	66.25	63.95	65.31
4. Rudy/Rochelle Kilbers/CAN	59.58	62.70	59.89	62.29	60.83	61.06

▶ GRAND PRIX FREESTYLE

Judges: E: Weatherwax; H: Lopardo-Grana; C: Seefried; M: MacDonald; B: Maurel

HORSE/RIDER/NATION	E	H	C	M	B	TOTAL
1. North Forks Card/Jessica Wisdom/USA	66.25	67.50	67.62	66.75	66.37	66.90
2. Harmony's Sandro/Leslie Webb/USA	66.75	67.62	66.12	65.37	62.37	65.65
3. Udo/Tracey Lert/USA	63.87	67.87	64.00	63.12	62.37	64.25



“At this point, for where we are in our lives, it was the right thing to do.”

—KAREN PAVICIC

To counter that tension, she took him to a variety of shows and even some symposiums. “It doesn’t matter where we are, I’m there for him, and he can trust me,” she said.

While in Canada, Karen’s personal horses, including Dono, now live at Hazelmere Equestrian Center in Surrey, British Columbia, base of Rochelle

Kilberg, a fellow Canadian dressage rider.

“It’s worked out really well to have somebody there who’s like-minded and has similar goals. It’s kind of nice to be able to go somewhere and focus on my own riding,” said Karen, who returns to Centre Line regularly to teach and train.

“It’s been quite a big change this year for the whole family. It gave me more flexibility, and it made it less difficult for my husband. When I was away, he not only had the kids, but he had the business to worry about as well. We felt we needed to simplify things there and have less responsibilities and less ties,” Karen explained.

Although she’s not ruling out the possibility of owning a horse property sometime in the future, she said her children are enjoying having peers nearby and walking to school instead of riding the bus from the country.

“At this point, for where we are in our lives, it was the right thing to do,” said Karen. “I have the best of both worlds right now.”

A Giant Teddy Bear

Kasey Perry and her new ride, Goerklintgaards Dublet, won the Intermediaire I (69.81%) and the Prix St. Georges (68.92%).

Perry found “Dublet,” a 10-year-old Danish Warmblood (Diamond Hit—La Costa, Olympic Ferro), last September while on a trip to Denmark to find a potential Grand Prix mount.

“He was very striking from the ground and even more eye catching while being ridden,” she said. “We were immediately impressed by his physical appearance and conformation. He has so much power under saddle that one would think he was a handful on the ground.”

But that couldn’t be farther from the truth. Instead, Dublet, now owned by Diane Perry, Kasey’s mother, proved to be a perfect gentleman.

“Dublet has the most gentle, lovable and playful personality. While in work, he puts forth 100 percent effort



Kasey Perry and her new partner Goerklintgaards Dublet topped the Intermediaire I and the Prix St. Georges at the Golden State CDI.