



CAPITAL CHALLENGE HORSE SHOW

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 7, 2018 UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND

[RESULTS](#)

[SCHEDULE](#)

[LIVE STREAM](#)

[SHOPPING](#)

Nation's Best Hunter Champions Named at Capital Challenge Horse Show

Upper Marlboro, Maryland – Twelve new hunter champions were named on Tuesday, October 2, during the 25th anniversary edition of the Capital Challenge Horse Show at Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD.

Christopher Payne of Pleasant Plain, OH, kicked off the day's 3'6"-4' professional hunter divisions by sweeping the Green Conformation Hunters aboard Fibonacci, an eight-year-old warmblood gelding owned by Still Water Farm LLC.

"It was a good day – a good two days!" said Payne, who won all three of the division's jumping classes, the model, and the under saddle.



Christopher Payne and Fibonacci
Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

"He's an amazing horse," continued Payne in speaking of the gelding that was only imported to the U.S. in January. "He didn't get a pre-green year like a lot of these horses. He just came over, got gelded, and started doing this. He's such a natural athlete and has such an amazing fantastic jump. He has the most amazing, natural jump that I've ridden."

Finishing in reserve in the Green Conformation Hunter division, sponsored by Joie Gatlin and Morley Abey, was Status, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Krista and Alexa Weisman.



John French and Boss
Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

Also nearly sweeping a division on Tuesday was veteran Capital Challenge champion, Boss. With John French in the irons, the 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, owned by Laura Wasserman, won all three of the High Performance Conformation Hunter over fences classes and finished second under saddle to take the championship.

"You have a good round with Boss and you think, 'Oh, I hope I can get another one,' and then he has another one," said French, who originally hails from Maryland but now resides in Paso Robles, CA. "He was super consistent. The first day one of the judges gave him a 94. I think he really likes it back here, he likes this place. He's just such a great horse, the way he goes around."

"He's 12 years old now; one of the judges said he's ageless," said French of Boss, whose 2018 High Performance Conformation championship marks the third consecutive year that the gelding has won the division's top honor.

[Read More](#)



Green Conformation Hunter

Sponsored by Joie Gatlin and Morley Abey

Champion: Fibonacci, ridden by Christopher Payne and owned by Still Water Farm LLC

Reserve: Status, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Krista & Alexa Weisman



Green Hunter 3'9"

Sponsored by Courtney and Scott Lenkart

Champion: Banksy, ridden by John French and owned by Grace Russo

Reserve: Private Practice, ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by Brad Wolf

3'6" - 4' HUNTER CHAMPIONS

All photos by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)



High Performance Hunter

Sponsored by Karen Long Dwight

Champion: Catch Me, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Gochman Sport Horse LLC

Reserve: Cornelensky, ridden by Jamie Taylor and owned by Caddell & Chapman



High Performance Conformation Hunter

Sponsored by Ginny Edwards

Champion: Boss, ridden by John French and owned by Laura Wasserman

Reserve: Truman, ridden by Christopher Payne and owned by Maypine Farm



Green Hunter 3'6" Section A

Sponsored by Peter Pletcher

Champion: Lafitte de Muze, ridden by Amanda Steege and owned by Cheryl Olsten

Reserve: Hemingway, ridden by Sandy Ferrell and owned by Stephanie Bulger



Green Hunter 3'6" Section B

Sponsored by Lee Sadrian and Cynthia Kellogg

Champion: Bastogne, ridden by Hunt Tosh and owned by Ceil Wheeler

Reserve: Big Shot, ridden by Jenny Karazissis and owned by Dulcie Lou Morris



Green Hunter 3' Colts & Geldings

Sponsored by Tim and Kelly Goguen and Boggs Hill Farm

Champion: Traveller, ridden by Laena Romond and owned by Catherine Cowie

Reserve: Critic's Choice, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Ella Bikoff



Green Hunter 3'3" Mares

Sponsored by Penelope Ayres

Champion: FVF Just Watch, ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by Missy Luczak-Smith

Reserve: Fairlife, ridden by Jennifer Alfano and owned by Debbie Marks

3'3" CHAMPIONS

All photos by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)



Green Hunter 3'3" Section A

Sponsored by Hunt and Mandy Tosh

Champion: Paper Trail, ridden by Kelley Farmer and owned by Derby Lane LLC and David Larry Glefke

Reserve: MTM Style, ridden by Tracy Fenney and owned by MTM Farm



Green Hunter 3'3" Section B

Sponsored by Hunt and Mandy Tosh

Champion: Kindred, ridden by Jennifer Alfano and owned by Kathy Chiao

Reserve: Endeavor, ridden by Patricia Griffith and owned by Callie Seaman



Green Hunter 3'6 & Over

Sponsored by David Belford, Christopher Payne, and New Hope LLC

Champion: Cabrio, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Ella Bikoff

Reserve: Consent, ridden by Kelley Farmer and owned by David Larry Glefke



Green Hunter 3'5 & Under

Sponsored by Jennifer Smith

Champion: Bordeaux, ridden by Hunt Tosh and owned by Douglas Wheeler

Reserve: Cirque, ridden and owned by Christopher Payne

BEHIND-THE-SCENES VIDEOS



2018 marks 25 years of the Capital Challenge Horse Show. Hear from the show's co-founder and manager, Oliver Kennedy, on how the horse show all began and what sets it apart.

[Watch Here!](#)



Jenny Karazissis comes to the 2018 Capital Challenge Horse Show as the USHJA World Championship Hunter Rider Program - WCHR's leading professional. We caught up with her and found out why this year's competition is more emotional for her than most!

[Watch Here!](#)

DAILY UPDATE



Get more news in the Capital Challenge on-site, daily newsletter, The Daily Update!

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS



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