

Holly Jacks -Smither says “goodbye” to Finely Brewed and Favonious Nite as they go on to be compete with Canadian young riders.



of Holly to competing Favy, and eventually for 1 of their daughters to take the reins in a few years.

Less than a month after the new partnership was formed between Marquis and Jacks -Smither, Favy lost an eye in an unfortunate accident. “It was one of the worst days of my life recalls Holly. “As I was taking him to Guelph, all I could think about was all of the hopes and dreams going out the window.” We knew he would be ok on the flat but would he ever Jump again?”. Well, not only did he jump again but only six weeks after losing his eye he was back competing and even won his first event “That was so emotional” said Jacks “I came across the finish bawling, he is such a classy brave horse!”. The following year, Favy won the Foshay 1* scoring Holly’s personal best FEI dressage score to date on a 26! Holly joked that the horse with “1” eye is better than a lot of horses with two eyes she has ridden. Eva Marquis, is a long-time student of Holly’s and daughter of Mark and Jayne Marquis she was on the bronze medal team at the young rider championships in 2017 in Montana. Eva was only 14 when she was riding a horse previously campaigned by Holly.

Favonious Nite (Favy) is a 9-year-old Dutch gelding known to many as “The 1 eyed wonder”. Favy was broke by Holly and Bruce as a 2-year-old for owner Genevieve Trimble. He was originally intended to be a dedicated dressage mount, but proved to be way too precocious! He then left to try his hoof in the hunter ring, but once again ended back up in Holly’s barn after being proven too naughty for the average hunter rider, and began to pursue a career in eventing with Holly.

Favy quickly went on to make training level, it was then that Genevieve and Holly knew they had something special and needed to find him new owners to help fund his promising eventing career. Holly approached Mark and Jayne Marquis of Windwood Stables about going into a partnership for Favy. The Marquis’ came on board with the intention



After taking a break for the better part of 2018, Eva decided that she wanted to come back with a purpose - to try and win NAYRC in 2020! It seemed the time had come for Holly to hand the reins over to Eva. Eva exclaims "I am so excited to own Favy and can't wait to see our partnership grow together. I'm also grateful to be able to ride such an amazing horse, have such an amazing coach and parents to help me along the way. I can't wait for the show season to be begin and finally be out eventing again. I am really looking forward to see what future holds for us."



Holly remarks on the new partnership between her human and equine students: "I'm so excited to see what these two can do" said Jacks. "The whole Marquis family has been so supportive in my career and I'm so excited to coach this pair! Eva is a strong rider with big goals, I know they have the ability to win a medal next year. I have taught Eva since she was 9, so at 16 you can say that we know each other pretty well! I have known Favy for 7 years. So now it's my job to tell her everything I know about him". You can follow their journey on social media #oneeyedwonder.

Finely Brewed (Budweiser) was a horse that unlike Favy- wasn't for sale. Bud has been in Holly's barn since he was a just a young horse. Holly remarked on Bud's arrival to the farm "he actually came to the farm for my husband to re break for Bernadette Johnson. He had hurt a few people who tried to break him and my husband is a phenomenal horseman. It took him 6 months to get him going, he was a horse who needed partnership, passion and patience. After some convincing my husband let me sit on him and we built a bond like no other horse I have ever had." Bud was eventually gifted to Holly by his amazing owner Bernadette who also continued to support the pair financially through the levels and helped Holly earn her first FEI win.



Last season Holly won a CCI2S last season At GMHA then went on to Win Foshay International CCI2L later that season. "I always thought he would be a team horse for me" said Holly but when the Marquis family found Favy for Eva. It became clear that they would need to find a horse for Eva's twin sister Ella. Ella also competed at NAYRC at age 14. She was on the bronze team with a horse that wasn't an easy ride at the level so I thought if any kid could build a bond with him-it was Ella." and with that Holly agreed to have Ella try Budweiser. "Anybody who knows Bud, knows he is quirky! nobody else has ever gone xc on him but when I saw the partnership of him and Ella I knew that it was the right decision-they were a match made in heaven."



Holly isn't shy to tell you that Budweiser is one of her favourite horses to ride she says "it's because he relies completely on your relationship you build with him." Holly says Budweiser is tricky on the ground and because of that she's happy he will stay in her barn. She recalls when Ella tried Bud, "I was so proud of Ella, the way they jumped around, he just loves her and I believe that he is going to take her wherever she dreams of going. I'm so happy to be involved even though I know I will be in tears when I watch them at their first event, but they will be happy tears!". You can follow Budweiser and Ella on social media #finelybrewed. Holly explains "Sometimes we need to make business decisions and I'm so lucky that to have such supportive, loyal owners (and friends) such as the Marquis family and Bernadette for allowing me to

re-invest the sales money into young and up and coming stock!"

With old friendships and new partnerships coming together, Holly couldn't be more excited for the future she says "I'm excited to travel around North America with Eva, Ella and the horses that have been a huge part of my life and success the last few years. I'm thinking with the new under 25 program in Ontario we are going to have a great team for the North American young riders championships next year. These horses and these kids are all like family! I couldn't have asked for a better situation, I'm so excited for their future!"

Wishing you the Best of Luck in the future!
Eva and Favy, Ella and Budweiser!

