

## ONES TO WATCH



**Carly and Alexa Anthony** continue to carry on the family equestrian legacy. Their mother, Cara Anthony is the head trainer at Potcreek Meadow Farm in Redmond, Washington. The two sisters were standouts at HITS Thermal with Alexa winning the Antares Sellier France Full-Circuit Champion in the Equitation 14-15 division and was the Second-Half Champion in the Equitation 14-15 division.

Her sister Carly was the Antares Sellier France Full-Circuit Champion in the Equitation 16-17 division and she won the Second-Half Champion in the Equitation 16-17 division. Additionally, Carly won the Ronnie Mutch Classic.

You'll be hearing a lot about these two sisters in the years to come and they will definitely be "ones to watch!"

### Alexa Anthony

Alexa Anthony is 14 years old and is currently a freshman at the Overlake school in Redmond, Washington. She plays soccer, basketball, and other school sports.

**1. How did you get started riding?**

My mom, Cara Anthony is the trainer at my barn, so I grew up riding ever since I was about three years old.

**2. What are the accomplishments you are most proud of?**

The majority of the accomplishments that I am most proud of happened last fall. When I was 11 years old I was 8th in the Maclay Regionals. I won my first USET when I was 12, and qualified for USEF finals that same year. Last September, I was 2nd in the Maclay Regionals, qualifying for Syracuse, and won the Zone 9 USEF Final, and the Zone 9 Regional Final.

**3. Do you want to be a professional trainer?**

When I get older I would like to be a professional trainer like my mom, but until then I'm going to make the best of my junior riding years.

**4. Do you have a preference between dressage or hunter/ jumpers?**

I prefer Hunter/Jumper to Dressage, mainly because that is what I grew up around.

**5. Tell us about your horse.**

I share an equitation/hunter horse with my sister, Carly Anthony. I show Vogue (Ava) in the 3'6" medals, age group equitation and the junior hunters; she is an 11 year-old, Westphalian mare. I ride Castaway Ladd (Grumpy) in the jumpers; he is an 18 year-old Irish Draft by Clover Hill. Grumpy was first my mom's Grand Prix horse, and was then handed down to my sister, Carly to be her first Grand Prix horse.

**6. What are your goals?**

My riding goals are to be within the top four in the USET finals, the Maclay, and Pessoa Finals by the time I am 17. Competing in the Olympics, and continuing becoming a better, more experienced rider is definitely something I am currently striving for.

**7. What is your riding routine?**

I ride five times a week when we're at home - Tuesday through Saturday because the horses get Sunday and Monday to rest.

**8. What is the hardest thing about balancing riding and school/family/career?**

The hardest thing about balancing riding with school and my family is definitely keeping up with all of my schoolwork. Family is not such a problem considering my mom is my trainer, and my sister rides just as much as I do, and my dad comes to the horseshows as well. However, schoolwork is very hard to make up especially when we have most tests on Thursday and Friday, which are the most common days that I would miss.

**9. Do you have any hobbies?**

Other than riding, I like playing sports such as soccer and basketball. Aside from that I enjoy spending time with my friends on the weekend if I have time, because I rarely get to see them otherwise.

**10. In what horse show would you most like to compete?**

I would most like to compete at Syracuse Invitational this year. I hope to qualify for Maclay finals again this year. That would give me the opportunity to compete there.

**11. If you had a chance to ride with anyone in the world whom would you most like to ride with, even if it was just for a clinic or for a week?**

I would choose to ride with George Morris because he pushes me to the level that I'm not sure I can reach.

**12. What is your favorite horse show?**

My favorite horse show would be Spruce Meadows. Spruce is by far my favorite horseshow because you get to watch the Olympic riders, and their very talented horses. I take it as a privilege to be able to watch all the great riders and learn from what they do that makes them succeed and try to apply that to my riding.

**13. What do you love most about horses?**

I'm not really sure what it is that gives me my passion for riding, but I love getting out to the barn each day knowing that I have the potential to be one of the top riders in the world if I keep working at it.

Do you know someone who should be a "Ones to Watch"?  
Contact [gyoung@horseconnection.com](mailto:gyoung@horseconnection.com)



Carly Anthony (on the left) is holding the bay mare Vogue (owner Potcreek Meadow Farm) and Alexa Anthony is holding the grey gelding Grasshopper (owner Carissa Brock)

## Carly Anthony

Carly Anthony is seventeen years old and is in her last year as a junior rider. She is a junior at The Overlake School in Redmond, WA.

**1. How did you get started riding?**

I was 3 years old when I started riding.

**2. What are the accomplishments you are most proud of?**

In 2007 I placed 5th in the USET Talent Search West Coast finals and 4th in the Maclay finals. And this year I won the Ronnie Mutch Classic.

**3. Do you want to be a professional trainer?**

I would love to be a pro one day. Teaching people what I know and sharing with them what I enjoy is so much fun, and I would love to do that in the future.

**4. Do you have a preference between dressage or hunter/jumpers?**

Hunter/Jumper all the way! Flat work is key for jumping, without it there would be a lot of struggle over fences, but I love the excitement and thrill that I get when I'm going over jumps especially in the jumpers.

**5. Tell us about your horse.**

I have a high junior jumper named Afonya and I share an equitation horse with my sister. Afonya is a six-year-old Hungarian mare. She is very cute with a big forelock. I have not had her that long, but I am so lucky to get such an amazing horse for my last junior year.

**6. What are your goals?**

One day I hope to go to the Olympics for the U.S. team. That will be in a long time but I would love to do that. I would also like to win USET, USEF, and Maclay finals this year because it is my last junior year.

**7. What is your riding routine?**

I ride five times a week, Tuesday through Saturday. I ride a few horses after school for a couple of hours. On Sunday there are no lessons because the trainer gets a break, and on Monday the barn is closed so the horses and the trainer get a break.

**8. What is the hardest thing about balancing riding and school/family/career?**

The hardest thing about balancing is time. When I am home on weekends, which is very rare, all I want to do is party with my friends, but I still have homework to do and catching up on sleep that I lost from the horse shows from previous weekends. I always struggle to manage my time, but once I get my priorities straight it becomes much easier.

**9. Do you have any hobbies?**

I like playing basketball. I had to quit my freshman year because of riding, but next year I want to start playing again since I will be an amateur in the show world.

**10. In what horse show would you most like to compete?**

I have always dreamed of showing in the Hampton Classic. If I got to show there I would be the happiest girl in the world.

**11. If you had a chance to ride with anyone in the world whom would you most like to ride with, even if it was just for a clinic or for a week?**

There are so many people that I would love to ride with but if I had to pick one I would pick Leslie Howard. She seems like the type of rider that can get it done no matter what type of obstacle she is faced with, and I need to learn how to do that on a horse. She is also an amazing rider, and to learn from her would be a great honor.

**12. What is your favorite horse show?**

This year I was fortunate enough to show in Palm Beach. That is my favorite horse show. But a close second would have to be The Oaks.

**13. What do you love most about horses?**

I love the heart that horses have. They give people so much; they put everything they have on the line for us so we can succeed. They understand the idea of being a team. If I am upset then they are upset, if we had a great round, they already know that. They just want people to love them the way that they love people. That's what I love about horses.

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