



Will Simpson is off to a soaring start to 2015 with a spectacular showing at HITS Desert Circuit I, II and III, winning five grand prizes. Here he takes S.F. Ariantha to victory in the \$25,000 SmartPak Grand Prix on Jan. 30

Will to win

Simpson hotter than Thermal in first weeks of HITS Desert Circuit

FROM HORSETRADER STAFF REPORTS
THERMAL—Olympic Gold Medalist Will Simpson has virtually shut out the field of Grand Prix riders so far at HITS Desert Horse Park. Simpson, riding S.F. Ariantha, claimed his fifth consecutive victory with a first place finish in the \$25,000 SmartPak Grand Prix on Jan. 30.

S.F. Ariantha, a new mount for Simpson, is owned Olivia Cox-Fill.

Thirty-five riders competed in the class and 11 returned for the jump-off. Simpson took

home the \$7,500 top prize by cleanly completing the jump-off course in 39.033 seconds—just .1 second faster than second-place finisher, Karl Cook on Basimodo, owned by Signe Ostby, with a time of 39.130 seconds. A little more than a full second behind Simpson and Cook, to finish in third, was Kara Chad, riding Stone Ridge Farms LLC's Alberto II, in a clean 40.551 seconds.

Simpson said S.F. Ariantha "is a really fast horse and a different ride, for me but I loved it." He praised the setting, too, add-



Will Simpson and Katie Riddle strike a familiar victory pose.

"Everything is rolling along pretty good... I probably need to pinch myself a little."

—Will Simpson

Hits Desert Circuit Week II

\$50,000 Horze Equestrian Grand Prix

| Pl | Horse | Owner | Rider | Prize | R 1 Faults | J0 Faults | J0 Time |
|----|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | The Dude | Monarch International | William Simpson | \$15,000 | 0 | 0 | 39.002 |
| 2 | Tembla | Signe Ostby | Karl Cook | \$11,000 | 0 | 0 | 39.355 |
| 3 | Pater Noster | Jaclyn Duff | Jaclyn Duff | \$6,500 | 0 | 0 | 41.991 |
| 4 | Calero | Neaulani Farms | Allyssa Hecht | \$4,000 | 0 | 0 | 43.135 |
| 5 | La Fleur | Francisco Pasquel | Eduardo Menezes | \$3,000 | 0 | 4 | 38.046 |
| 6 | Quintol Mercedes Benz | Santiago Hank | Eduardo Menezes | \$2,500 | 0 | 4 | 38.923 |
| 7 | Katie Riddle | Monarch International | William Simpson | \$2,000 | 0 | 4 | 39.090 |
| 8 | Axl Rose | Monarch International | Hannah Heidegger | \$1,500 | 0 | 4 | 42.729 |
| 9 | AJE Cluny | AJE Equeitation | Christian Heineking | \$1,500 | 0 | 8 | 42.121 |
| 10 | Zamiro | Alix Fargo | Susan Artes | \$1,000 | 4 | * | * |
| 11 | Son of a Gun | Forest View Farm Inc. | John Pearce | \$1,000 | 4 | * | * |
| 12 | Terrific | John Anderson | John Anderson | \$1,000 | 4 | * | * |

\$25,000 SmartPak Grand Prix

| Pl | Horse | Owner | Rider | Prize | R 1 Faults | J0 Faults | J0 Time |
|----|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | The Dude | Monarch International | William Simpson | \$7,500 | 0 | 0 | 39.562 |
| 2 | Charika | Isabelle Terry | Christian Heineking | \$5,500 | 0 | 0 | 40.312 |
| 3 | Katie Riddle | Monarch International | William Simpson | \$3,250 | 0 | 0 | 40.675 |
| 4 | Quidam Blue | Juniper Farms & Equitop Farm | Jill Henselwood | \$2,000 | 0 | 0 | 41.020 |
| 5 | Zilox T | Haley Farms, LLC | Tiffany Sullivan | \$1,500 | 0 | 0 | 45.035 |
| 6 | Geledimar | Monarch International | Hannah Heidegger | \$1,200 | 0 | 0 | 45.346 |
| 7 | Conejito | Carol Wright | Carol Wright | \$1,000 | 0 | 0 | 47.180 |
| 8 | Chantico | Forest View Farm & Karen Ball | John Pearce | \$750 | 0 | 4 | 43.690 |
| 9 | Tembla | Signe Ostby | Karl Cook | \$750 | 0 | 4 | 44.393 |
| 10 | Terrific | John Anderson | John Anderson | \$500 | 0 | 8 | 41.664 |
| 11 | Nakich Double Dutch | Madeline Louise Wilson | Nayel Nassar | \$500 | 0 | 8 | 42.724 |
| 12 | Acita | Nayel Nassar | Nayel Nassar | \$500 | 0 | 12 | 43.521 |

\$10,000 Jr/AO Jumper Classic High, presented by Vetera Vaccines

| Pl | Horse | Owner | Rider | Prize | R 1 Faults | J0 Faults | J0 Time |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | Acardi | E. Sanchez Navarro Rivera | E. Sanchez Navarro Rivera | \$3,000 | 0 | 0 | 34.873 |
| 2 | Mucho Gusto | Melissa Doddridge | Melissa Doddridge | \$2,000 | 0 | 0 | 36.401 |
| 3 | Lifestyle | E. Sanchez Navarro Rivera | E. Sanchez Navarro Rivera | \$1,400 | 0 | 0 | 38.379 |
| 4 | Calvatos Z | Neaulani Farm | Allyssa Hecht | \$1,000 | 0 | 4 | 35.389 |
| 5 | E-Unanime De La Haie | Monarch International | Hannah Heidegger | \$800 | 0 | 4 | 37.790 |
| 6 | Kavanagh IV | Harris Equestrian LLC | Taylor Harris | \$700 | 0 | 4 | 52.006 |
| 7 | Star La Tuillere | Stone Ridge Farms LLC | Kara Chad | \$600 | 0 | 12 | 50.256 |
| 8 | Leopold 221 | Abbygale Funk | Abbygale Funk | \$500 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Cornishman | Stone Ridge Farms LLC | Bretton Chad | * | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Quantonius | Nicole Peterson | Nicole Peterson | * | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | NKH Barbosa | Alexandra Ozmy | Alexandra Ozmy | * | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 | Chamcara | Woodacres Stables LLC | Saree Kayne | * | 4 | 0 | 0 |

\$5,000 Jr/A-O Jumper Classic Medium

| Pl | Horse | Owner | Rider | Prize | R 1 Faults | J0 Faults | J0 Time |
|----|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | Gucci | Cavallo Farms, LLC | Hannah Heidegger | \$1,500 | 0 | 0 | 37.902 |
| 2 | Valentia RC | Guy McElvain | Chenoa McElvain | \$1,000 | 0 | 0 | 38.537 |
| 3 | Lysander 99 | Peyton Warren | Peyton Warren | \$700 | 0 | 0 | 39.703 |
| 4 | Bonito R | Devon Mac Neil | Devon Mac Neil | \$500 | 0 | 0 | 41.393 |
| 5 | Camona 3 | Elena Fernandez | Elena Fernandez | \$400 | 0 | 0 | 43.108 |
| 6 | Zola | Sophia Mossman | Sophia Mossman | \$325 | 0 | 0 | 44.513 |
| 7 | Albertino | Ransome Rombauer | Ransome Rombauer | \$300 | 0 | 0 | 45.660 |
| 8 | Volla | Guy McElvain | Chenoa McElvain | \$275 | 0 | 4 | 37.479 |
| 9 | For Fun | Stone Ridge Farms LLC | Kara Chad | * | 0 | 4 | 42.576 |
| 10 | Loving Dancer | Zeidler Farm Canada LTD | Julia Tops | * | 0 | 4 | 54.869 |
| 11 | Capital One | Morgan Dickerson | Morgan Dickerson | * | 5 | * | * |
| 12 | Ucarls | Susan Hill | Susan Hill | * | 8 | * | * |



Bridget Vice leads Mercedes ER, owned by Rosewood Arabians, to the Arabian Breeding Mare Reserve Championship.

Bragg, Social Hour top hunters

SPECIAL TO THE HORSETRADER

John Bragg of Rancho Santa Fe captured the top spot again in the HITS Desert Circuit II \$5,000 Devoucoux Hunter Prix riding Social Hour for Laura Strasburg of Los Altos Hills.

Bragg, who earned a score of 88 in the first round and 87 in the second for a total of 175 for the first place win Friday, also finished third on Deanna Sage's Trousdale with scores of 86 and 87 to total 173, and fifth on Pamela Mollenhoff's Lukatoni, scoring 84.50 and 85 to total 169.5.

"This was Social Hour's third win for three starts in these classes, the first being at this facility in November," said Bragg, who won last week's Devoucoux Grand Prix on Social Hour. "Social Hour is an amazing horse—big open stride, big scope, big soft jump—and loves the impressive jumps."

Second in the class was Jenny Karazissis, riding Legacy for Emily Sukert of Newport Coast, California, who scored 85.50 and 88 to total 173.50, followed closely by Bragg on Trousdale. Karazissis was pleased with her horse's performance and the turnout of the class. "It's nice to get to show in the different rings each week with these Prix horses... Our horses have a nice

HITS \$5,000 Devoucoux Hunter Prix

| Pl | Horse | Rider | Prize |
|----|-------------|------------------|---------|
| 1 | Social Hour | John Bragg | \$1,500 |
| 2 | Legacy | Jenny Karazissis | \$1,000 |
| 3 | Trousdale | John Bragg | \$700 |
| 4 | Woodstock | Hope Glynn | \$500 |
| 5 | Lukatoni | John Bragg | \$400 |
| 6 | Exemplar | Tommi Clark | \$325 |
| 7 | Winfield | Jamie Taylor | \$300 |
| 8 | Channing | Eleanor Hellman | \$275 |

experience galloping across this ground that we get to enjoy this whole circuit."

The \$5,000 Devoucoux Hunter Prix is a qualifier for the \$500,000 Diamond Mills Hunter Prix Final at the HITS Championship in Saugerties, New York, this September, which gives West Coast riders an opportunity to have success in the final, including Bragg and Karazissis who have competed in the \$500,000 Diamond Mills Hunter Prix.

Stephanie Ray, of San Diego won the \$1,500 Platinum Performance Hunter Prix on her own chestnut gelding Castle Hill, with scores of 80 and 84, to total 164. The \$1,500 Platinum Performance Hunter Prix is a qualifier for the \$250,000 Platinum Performance Hunter Prix Final, also in Saugerties at HITS-on-the-Hudson.

More online: http://bit.ly/502A_HITS2