

Castle storms to victory

Oasby (2), Lincs 17-18 October By Hilary Manners

NIVERSITY accountancy and finance student Isabella Castle couldn't believe it when she found herself at the top of the leaderpoard in intermediate section G. The 20-year-old was riding Trelotte in the pair's second run at the level.

"She's a typical mare and does things only if she wants to, but, like her mother, she's fast across country (see box, above right).



Amy Furness lands second place with 'highly strung' Landmark Abacus

"I'Ve thought about going bitless with her for the jumping because she doesn't like her mouth being touched — I literally have nothing in my hand, and instead she listens to my seat. We even loosen off her noseband to jump." said (sabella.

With a double clear and a speedy round across country, Isabella moved up from equal 16th after the dressage to win.

Hard on Isabella's heels was Amy Furness, just half a penalty off the pace. It was a perfect end to the season for Amy, who has suffered a couple of falls this year, which knocked her confidence.

"I had hoped to go CCI2* this season but took a step back after that. Landmark Abacus is highly strung and goes a bit crazy at the cross-country start," she said.

Mark Kyle and Algy Smith-Maxwell's Kilronan Classic were the fastest combination around Stuart Buntine's intermediate cross-country frack, adding just 1.2 time-penalties to win section F. The pair had a 10-point advantage over second-placed Felicity Collins, thanks to a good dressage test and one of only five penalty-free showjumping rounds in the section.

Felicity, 17, and Rainstown Frost were longlisted for the juniors this year. She is in her second year of A levels at St Bede's School in Sussex, and has produced her eight-year-old gelding from scratch.

"He was going to be a project for me to bring on and sell at BE90 level, but he's exceeded all expectations," she said, adding that she has recently switched to showjumping in a hackamore because he can be "very gobby" approaching a fence.

Levett top of the class
THE small open intermediate
section went to Bill Levett riding

RESULTS

Ol-1 Natisatha W16 Levetth 33.2,0.28-56.2 (
Ol-1 Natisatha W16 Levetth 33.2,0.28-57.0,16.23.3 (
Ol-1 Natisatha W16 Levetth 34.3,7.28-44.3 (
Ol-1 Natisatha W16 Levetth 34.3,7.3 (
Ol-1 Natisatha W16

IN THE GENES

Trelo

ISABELLA CASTLE'S winning mare Trelotte is a daughter of Preci Spark's The Wexford Lady, who finished fifth at Burghley 2003 and eighth at Badminton 2004 under Sarah Cohen, before being selected for the 2004 Athens Olympics. Sadly, The Wexford Lady suffered a training injury two days before the Games started and had to be pulled out. Trelotte has inherited her mother's speed across country.

Professor Edward Peck's Natasha VII. It was a fitting win; Professor Peck is vice-chancellor of Nottingham Trent University, sponsors of the class.

"'Natty' has come on this year," said Bill. "Edward and Ingrid Peck have been patient, giving me time to work on her flatwork. It's great to end the season with a win for them."

Both Wills Goodhew and Olivia Leyland came home 4sec over the optimum time of 5min Olsec, Wills and Trefilan Quicksilver narrowly holding Olivia and Carden Imp back into third.

Despite excellent ground, the jumping phases were influential, including the showjumping time allowed. Coloured poles fell frequently and across country, fence 14ab, the KBIS Cabin and Brush on a curving line, caused the most trouble as horses ducked left: 17 out of the 58 combinations faulted here, H&H

27.5.0.0=27.5; Jumbo's Jet (K Horgan)
31.3.0.0=31.3, BET00 set (-1 | Kingsland)
31.3.0.0=31.3, BET00 set (-1 | Kingsland)
31.3.0.0=30.3, BET00 set (-1 | Kingsland)
31.3.0.0=30.3, 30.0=30.0=30.3, 30.00.3=30.3, 30.0=30.3, 30.0=30.3, 30.00.3=30.3, 30.00.3=30.3, 30.00