



AGDF TIMES

Issue 2, January 27-31, 2016

2016 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival

Editor: Jennifer Wood

Team USA Leads the Way at CPEDI 3*



Rebecca Hart earned her high point rider accolades for the second week in a row, as she added a score of 75.250% with Schroeter's Romani in the FEI Para Freestyle Grade II test. Photo © SusanJStickle.com

Competition at the second CPEDI 3* of the season at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) concluded with Team USA maintaining their control of the leaderboard, winning their second consecutive team CPEDI 3* victory at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC). This week's CPEDI 3*, presented by Mane Stream courtesy of Rowan O'Riley, Mission Control, Adequan®, and Nutrena, hosted competitors from the United States and Canada as they prepare for the 2016 Paralympic Games.

Team USA continued their dominance and earned their second team victory in CPEDI 3* competition at AGDF this week, as Roxanne Trunnell, Margaret McIntosh, Rebecca Hart and Annie Peavy each contributed to the superb overall performance by Team USA.

Roxanne Trunnell and NTEC Royal Dancer, owned by Julie

Handt, led Team USA in the FEI Para Grade 1a competition, scoring a 71.449% in team competition, followed by a score of 69.27% in individual competition hosted on Saturday. Margaret McIntosh and her own Rio Rio also represented Team USA in FEI Para Grade 1a competition, receiving a 69.275% in team competition and a 68.478% for the individual portion of the week. Angela Peavy, the youngest member of Team USA, earned a 68.816% and 69.106% aboard Lancelot Warrior, owned by Heather Blitz and Rebecca Reno. Team leader Rebecca Hart and Schroeter's Romani, who have showcased their incredible consistency through the two weeks of competition, earned a 72.108% on Friday morning, followed by a 73.048% in individual competition the following day.

Rebecca Hart earned her high point rider accolades for the second week in a row, as she

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Vilhelmson-Silfven and Don Auriello Impress at AGDF 1



Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfven and Don Auriello won the first "Friday Night Stars" FEI Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by AMCI Group to Benefit Brooke USA. Photo © SusanJStickle.com

In a spectacular display of balance and precision, six-time Olympian Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfven (SWE) and the famed Don Auriello captivated the crowd during their FEI Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by AMCI Group to Benefit Brooke USA. They received a score of 80.450% to best the class. American star Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades fell just short of Vilhelmson-Silfven to collect second place with a score of 78.250%, while Charlotte Jorst (USA) and Kastel's Nintendo received a 74.375% for third place.

Never missing a beat, the artistic style of the choreography accompanied the brilliance and regularity of the required movements. The pair was rewarded with impressive marks and received as high as an 82.125% from the judge at M. According to Vilhelmson-Silfven, the ride aboard Don Auriello, a 2002 Hanoverian gelding (Don Davidoff x Wey o mey x White Star), is never the same, but

that is what makes him so special in the ring.

"I think maybe you're a bit more careful in the beginning when they're hot, but he felt settled at that time we entered the ring," she explained. "It's nice when they're hot like that but you also have to handle it and decide how to ride. You have to decide how much power you can have and handle. That's our problem, every time, our nice problem," she said.

Graves and Verdades nearly had the crowd on their feet as the final ride in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle as the duo performed a risky but powerful test, showcasing the raw talent and ability of the 2002 Dutch Warmblood gelding (Florett AS x Liwilarde x Goya).

"Every time I ride, I'm just reminded of how sharp of a learning curve I'm on. Tonight was a big step for us. I'm learning to ride such a hot horse in

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U.S. P.R.E Association Returns as AGDF 3 Weekly Sponsor for CDI-W Competition

The U.S. P.R.E Association, the nation's leading organization dedicated to promoting and expanding the global reach of the Pure Spanish horse (P.R.E.) will return to the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) as the title sponsor of AGDF 3 FEI CDI-W competition this week at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC), beginning Wednesday, January 27, and concluding Sunday, January 31, showcasing international Large and Small Tour competition.

The U.S. P.R.E. Association, a long-time sponsor of the AGDF circuit, has seen tremendous growth through the increased presence of the Spanish horse on both national and international dressage circuits around the world. Through the course of their five-year sponsorship with AGDF, the competition has provided an unmatched platform, which has allowed a variety of riders, trainers, and owners from around the world access to this one-of-a-kind breed.

"The Adequan® Global Dressage Festival is a world-class organization and event that is hosted at an absolutely elite venue. We knew that partnering with AGDF would be essential to our global brand," noted Joan Mack, Executive Director of the U.S. P.R.E. Association. "How could you not be involved with the biggest and most important competition venue in the country and quite possibly the world? There was no question that we knew we had to be involved."

"We are so appreciative of the continued generosity from the members of our Board of Directors who completely underwrote our sponsorship for the season. This allows us to direct money raised back to our members and breeders. U.S. P.R.E. Association's sponsorship of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival has always been underwritten for us and we are grateful for that support," she continued.

The success of the Spanish horse breed as a choice for both professional and amateur dressage competitors has been immense. The breed has exploded in popularity throughout North America, with the U.S. P.R.E. Association recording a healthy expansion of breed registrations and increased participation each year.

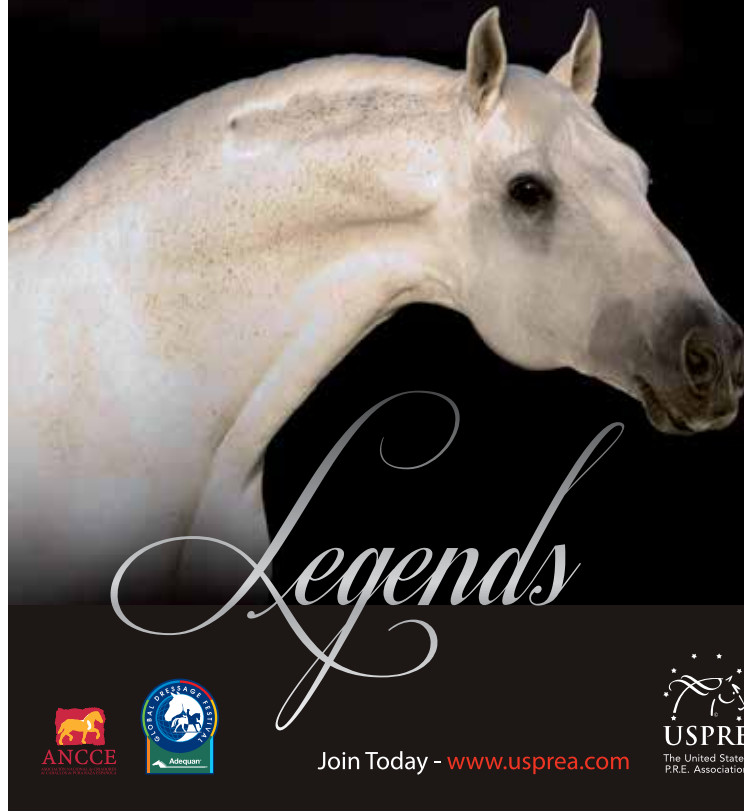
"It wasn't enough to just remind people about the Olympics and the World Games performances. We wanted to make sure that people know and our breeders knew the endless possibilities for the P.R.E.," she continued. "We wanted to offer the ability and possibility for our breeders to witness the reach of the Spanish horse and really open up this world to them. We're seeing more and more people breed this horse today as a sport horse and they're winning ribbons in a number of different disciplines."

Kim Boyer, President of the U.S. P.R.E. Association, has been a major influencer for the breed, maximizing opportunities and educating members on ways to market their horses, as well as increase awareness and reach for their businesses, according to Mack. She explained, "Kim is truly the strategic head of the organization. She's taught the board how to put the P.R.E. out in front of the world-class competitors and that's what we've done. It's been a massive success for the breed and it wouldn't have been possible without her knowledge and expertise."

As the venue continues to develop new opportunities for riders and their mounts, the established presence of the Spanish horse is notable on both ends of the competition spectrum, in the international arena as well as throughout the national shows also hosted at the facility. The growth of the P.R.E in the United States mirrors the development of the AGDF venue and is a prime example of the influence the world's largest dressage competition offers to emerging sport horse breeds.

"We know that expansion is a major part of the vision and there is no way that this breed would be where it is today in the United States if it weren't for this vision. We knew we had something going when we became involved with this competition, but nobody ever thought that it was going to become as big as it has," elaborated Mack. "We're amazed at what we've been able to accomplish through the success of the show and I don't think that any of us thought that it would be this big. In our wildest dreams we absolutely hoped, but I don't think that anyone really realized where we would be. It's beyond our wildest dreams." ■

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PBIEC Week 3 Upcoming Events:

U.S. PRE ASSOCIATION DINNER AND PERFORMANCES

On Wednesday, January 27, at 6 pm, everyone is welcome to join this free event of the biggest celebration of the PRE in this country. Held at the Global Pavilion at The Stadium at PBIEC (AGDF Showgrounds), the theme is "Legends." It will be a festive evening of great food, beautiful horses and amazing music. Several local riders on their PREs will perform while dinner is served. Then, around 6:45 the Show begins with Robert Dover, the U.S. Dressage Chef d'Equipe, and many other stars, including Kerrigan Gluch, Jacqueline Cuddy, Debra Cooper will exhibit a Western Dressage ride accompanied by "American Equestrians Got Talent" finalist soloist Jenna Wyatt, and Nicholas Fyfe will ride Fiero HGF, along with several of his students on their PREs. The highlight of the evening will be the tribute to the famous champion horses including and most specially Gaucho III, owned and ridden by the incomparable Janne Rumbough. Don't miss this amazing evening of fun, horses, food and friends.

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

On Thursday, January 28, the Lunch & Learn Series will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Wellington Club. This informational and educational series has a variety of subjects for horsemen and women to learn more for their horses. Admission is free for riders, trainers, and owners, while all others are \$25. Register at the door for a chance to win exciting prizes. The season finale door prize includes a custom trunk provided by Clever Jumps & Trunks and TheraPlate. The subject for WEF 2 is "Drugs, Devices, and Decisions: Understanding Your Options in Managing Equine DJD" with Marian Little, sponsored by Adequan®. Contact Laura Bostwick at 561-784-1130 or laura@equestriansport.com for more information.

ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL "FRIDAY NIGHT STARS"

AGDF's "Friday Night Stars" Series returns in 2016, showcasing some of the world's best dressage riders as they perform freestyles at the top level of competition. The second week of CDI-W competition, sponsored by U.S. PRE Association, will feature FEI World Cup qualifying grand prix musical freestyle competition on Friday, January 29. Held at The Stadium at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, gates open at 6 p.m. and competition begins at 7 p.m.

THE SUITES – AVAILABLE SATURDAY NIGHT!

Located in the Special Events Pavilion, The Suites are first available on Saturday, January 16, and then on nine other Saturday nights during WEF. Prime viewing, a full buffet, and premium bar options in a semi-private suite catered by White Horse Catering, this is the place to host friends and

family or even a corporate get-together. Each suite accommodates up to 22 people. The Suites are available for \$150 per person for WEF 3 - January 30, WEF 8 - March 5, WEF 10 - March 19, WEF 11 - March 26, and for \$200 per person during the CSI 5* weeks: WEF 5 - February 13, WEF 7 - February 27, WEF 9 - March 12, and WEF 12 - April 2. Availability is on first-come, first-served basis, so book now before they all fill up! Contact Patti Miele at 561-784-1125 or pmiele@whitehorsetavernflorida.com today.

"SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS" – \$130,000 ADEQUAN® GRAND PRIX CSI 3*

The grand prix competition continues at WEF 3 on Saturday, January 30, with gates opening at 6 p.m. The best show jumpers of the circuit qualify during the week to compete under the lights of the International Arena. This always-exciting competition features the biggest jumps with daring jump-off rides for the best prize money.

SAVE THE DATE! GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE, PRESENTED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS

Heading into its seventh annual event, the Great Charity Challenge, presented by Fidelity Investments® (GCC), will be returning to Wellington on Saturday, February 6. The team competition, held each year at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC), has distributed more than \$7.5 million to over 150 non-profits in Palm Beach County over the last six years. This family-friendly event offers free general admission and will feature this year's "Fairy Tale" theme. Thirty-four of these lucky charities will depend on their Fairy Godmothers to receive a share of the \$1.5 million dollar purse. All children are invited to attend dressed as their favorite Fairy Tale characters. For the latest event information and application guidelines, please visit: www.GreatCharityChallenge.com and follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/greatcharitychallenge.

SAVE THE DATE! ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT WELLINGTON EVENTING SHOWCASE, PRESENTED BY WELLINGTON EQUESTRIAN REALTY

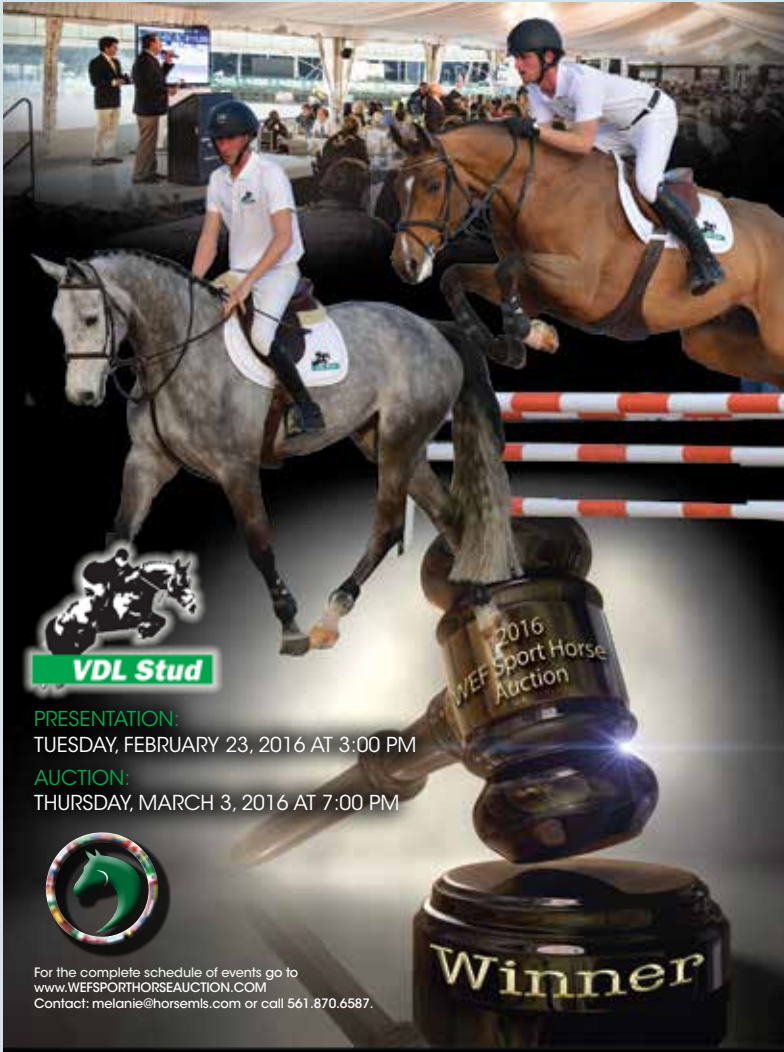
The Asheville Regional Airport Wellington Eventing Showcase, presented by Wellington Equestrian Realty will be held at The Stadium at PBIEC on February 5-6 with dressage on Friday followed by stadium jumping and cross-country on Saturday. Approximately twenty top Eventing riders representing the USA, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand are expected to attend this Advanced level competition. VIP tables, which include lunch buffet and drinks each day, are available for the event for prime viewing of both the dressage and stadium jumping arena as

well as the cross-country course. Please contact Shelley Spielman for details and order forms at shspielman@gmail.com. Visit www.PBIEC.com for more information!

RIDE & LEARN WITH CANDICE KING

The Ride & Learn Series will take place each Tuesday from 2-4 p.m. during WEF. Each week will feature a mounted riding clinic instructed by highly esteemed

industry professionals and will be held in various venues and arenas at PBIEC. Week 4 features top show jumper Candice King at PBIEC Ring 7 on Tuesday, February 2. Participation to ride in the clinic is \$100 per horse/rider per clinic, with a maximum of 12 horses, so sign up today! Auditing is Free. For more information or to sign up for a clinic, please contact Jessica Nichols at 561-784-4275 or jnichols@equestriansport.com. ■



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added a score of 75.250% in the FEI Para Freestyle Grade II test to her weekend tally, making her a strong candidate for selection in the coming months to represent Team USA in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Ashley Gowanlock was the highest placing Canadian rider throughout the competition, and commented on her three final rides aboard Ferdonia 2, owned by Lauren Barwick, who will now officially be retired from competition.

Sophie Ghedin (USA) concluded a banner week of competition in her first CPEDI 3* aboard her own Remy Martin G by winning the first two classes in the FEI Para Grade IV division on Saturday. Ghedin, who has owned Remy for nearly 10 years, is looking forward to gaining more experience with the Para-Dressage tests and confirming the Intermediaire I movements, dispersed through the FEI Para Grade IV tests.

The first day of competition on Friday showcased 18 combinations competing in six different divisions, including FEI Para Team Test – 1b, FEI Para Team Test – Grade II, FEI Para Team Test – Grade 1a, FEI Para Team Test – Grade III, and FEI Para Team Test – Grade IV.

Paralympian and President of the USPEA, Hope Hand, expressed, "I am so pleased how the sport has grown in just the last few years. The U.S. team is really raising the bar and showing some great rides during these CPEDI3* events. With talented athletes and their wonderful horses, these Para Dressage riders have earned the right to represent the United States on the world stage at the Rio Paralympics. These final two CPEDI3* qualifying events for Rio at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival are building momentum and excitement for the future."

Roxanne Trunnell (USA) and NTEC Royal Dancer, owned by Julia Handt, rode to an early lead in the FEI Para Team Test – Grade 1a competition, earning a score of 71.499%. Sydney Collier (USA) and Western Rose, owned by Wesley Dunham, topped the Para Team Test – Grade 1b competition with a score of 67.267%, while veteran Rebecca Hart (USA) and her own Schroeter's Romani continued

their dominance in the Para Team Test Grade II competition with a score of 72.108%. Angela Peavy (USA) and Lancelot Warrior, owned by Heather Blitz and Rebecca Reno, rode a lovely test to receive a 68.816% in the Para Team Test – Grade III. Sophie Ghedin (USA) and her own Remy Martin G captured top honors in the Para Team Test – Grade IV class with a 64.206%.

During Sunday's awards ceremony Mark Bellissimo, managing partner of the Wellington Equestrian Partners, announced that the organization would be giving \$10,000 to both Team USA and Team Canada in an effort to help them on their journey to Rio de Janeiro for the 2016 Paralympic Games.

"It will help us a lot. Money is obviously a big struggle in this business, and this will be a huge help. It will offset some of the financial burden of actually traveling to the Games," noted Handt.

"The donation that we received today was completely out of the blue, but absolutely incredible for this program," said Canadian Chef d'Equipe, Elizabeth Robinson. "We appreciate the fact that it was for both teams, and it just makes it so special. That \$10,000 will help us tremendously. We have a lot of issues right now because we have to find a horse for Ashley, we have to fly around everywhere all over the world to compete. There's no competition in Canada, and we have to come here. We will be spending the money very wisely, but it will also give our riders a chance to have help from the federation."

"It is truly inspiring to watch these athletes continue to do what they love every day and witness firsthand their ability to overcome adversity. We are hopeful that our donation can provide some additional support to these great athletes from both the U.S. and Canadian Para-Equestrian teams as they pursue their passion and look to represent their respective countries in Paralympic competition later this summer," noted Bellissimo. "We are looking forward to continuing and expanding our relationship with the Para-Equestrian community here at PBIEC and AGDF for years to come."

■ Carly Weilmister



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for securing a spot in the 2016
Rio de Janeiro Paralympics!*



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CPEDI Candid Photo Gallery – © Lindsay McCall

PHOTOS COUNTER CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Rebecca Reno of Mission Control and USEF Director of Sport Will Connell.

Grade II Rider Kelly Boccia watches as her horse Donauwalzer CSF is presented at the FEI Jog.

Chef d'Equipe Kai Handt helps Charlotte Merle-Smith mount her horse Firewalker.

Charlotte Merle-Smith, Grade II, smiles at her trainer Barend Heilbron as she leaves the ring with Firewalker.

Sophie Ghedin, Pam Hardin, Kate Shoemaker, and Annie Peavy.

Rebecca Hart (USA) and Schroeter's Romani.

Equine Canada's David Hunter and Elizabeth Robinson with Equestrian Sport Productions' Mark Bellissimo and U.S. Chef d'Equipe Kai Handt with USEF Para-Equestrian Discipline Director Laureen Johnson.

TEAM USA (Back row left to right) Rebecca Reno, Mane Stream representatives Kelly Champion, Linda Dietz, Chef d'Equipe Kai Handt, USEF Para-Equestrian Discipline Director Laureen Johnson, Jen Dermondy, Annie Peavy, Rowan O'Riley, Christine Traurig of USEF. Front Row (Left to Right), Margaret McIntosh, Roxanne Trunnell, and Rebecca Hart.







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a hot atmosphere," commented Graves. "Honestly it felt like one of our very best freestyles."

Charlotte Jorst and Kastel's Nintendo also concluded a banner day, as Jorst, an incredibly successful adult amateur, was thrilled to finish within the top three in such a competitive class. She noted, "I just love his joy, his enjoyment of the test, of showing off. I look forward all day to getting into the ring and showing everyone what I've learned. I think I did that tonight, and it was wonderful."

On Thursday to start out AGDF 1, Tinne Vilhelmsen-Silfven (SWE) and Don Auriello, in their first competition since the FEI European Championships in August 2015, received a score of 76.900% for the win in the FEI Grand Prix, presented by MTICA Farm. Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades finished in second with a score of 75.540% and Canada's own Leah Wilson Wilkins collected third place honors aboard Fabian JS.

Leah Wilson Wilkins (CAN) and Fabian JS, owned by Maria Simpson, had a successful first week at AGDF, collecting a top three finish in the FEI Grand Prix on Thursday afternoon and rising to the top of the FEI Grand Prix Special, presented by MTICA Farm, with a score of 72.863% over Lars Petersen (DEN) on Mariett on 72.098%, and Beatrice Marienau (USA) with Stefano 8, who had a score of 69.260%.

Michael Klimke (GER) and his own Djamba Djokiba won the FEI Prix St. Georges class, presented by The Axel Johnson Group yesterday at the AGDF facility with a score of 72.632% while Susan Pape (GBR) and Harmony's Don Noblesse rose to the occasion in the FEI Intermediaire I class, presented by The Axel Johnson Group, with a score of 73.904%.

Leah Wilson Wilkins (CAN) and Fabian JS won the FEI Grand Prix Special, presented by MTICA Farm, at AGDF 1. Photo © SusanJStickle.com.



After competition was postponed early on Sunday morning due to continued inclement weather, Leida Collins-Strijk (NED) and Don Tignanello made the most of their afternoon in the Global International Ring. The pair received a 73.700% to take the win in the FEI Intermediaire I Freestyle presented by The Axel Johnson Group. The competition concluded the first full week of competition at AGDF, which is named in memory of AGDF manager Lloyd Landkamer.

Michael Klimke (GER) and Djamba Djokiba earned second place with a score of 73.625%, while Katharina Stumpf (AUT) and For My Love finished in third place, receiving a 64.275%.

David Marcus (CAN) and Chrevi's Capital, owned by Deborah Kinzinger-Miculnic, earned the win in the FEI Consolation Grand Prix with a score of 64.900%. Adrienne Pot (USA) and Something Special owned by James & Elizabeth Bramsen, followed in second with a score of 63.200%, while Jennifer Marchand (USA) and Cardeur collected third place honors, receiving a 62.167%.

As the 2016 edition of AGDF competition is set to be the largest in circuit history, talks of expansion were addressed, as more riders, trainers, and owners are flocking to Wellington each winter to participate in the event.

"We are quite excited about this season because we see a true international competition here with fifteen flags already in week one, and we're expecting that number to grow throughout the season," said AGDF Director of Sport Thomas Baur. "It's the first time that we have seen a rider from Asia in the ring this morning and at the end of the month the first rider from Africa will come to join us."



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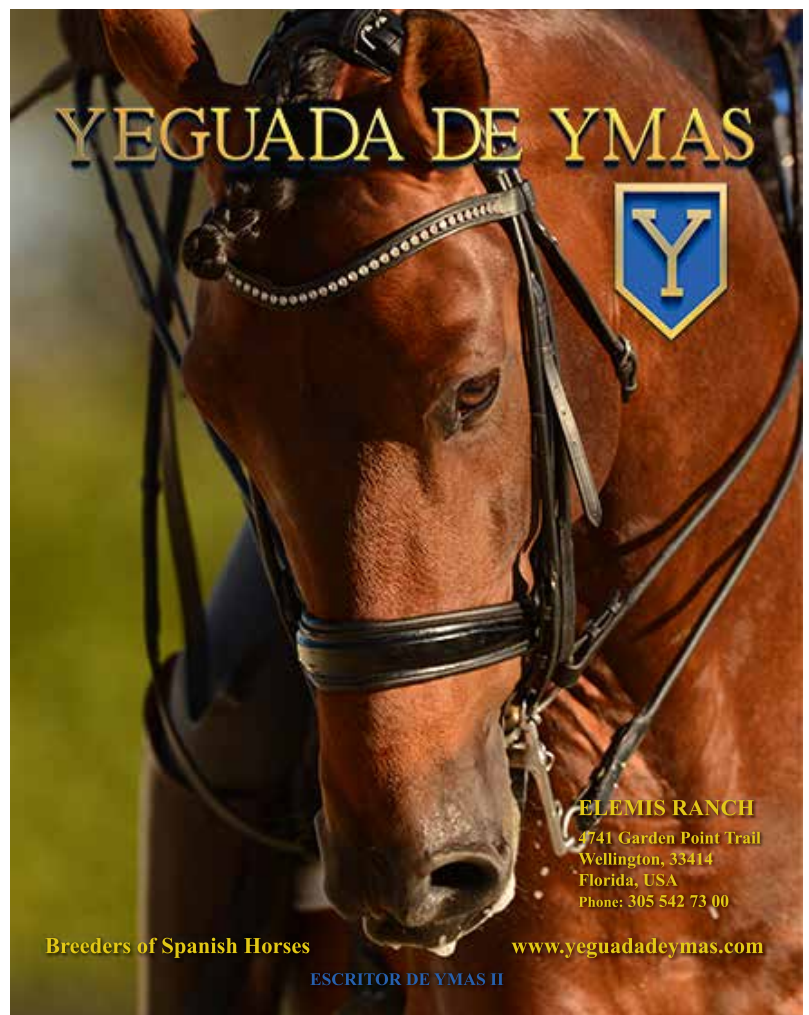
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1. Juan Matute Jr was given the FarmVet Youth Sportsmanship Award.

2. Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfven and Don Auriello won the Gumbits Happy Horse Award.

3. The High Point Junior/Young Rider Award from N2 Saddlery went to Juan Matute Jr. with Dhannie Ymas.

4. The Perfect Conduct Award from Perfect Products was presented to Melissa Fladland riding Royal Gem.

5. Jacquie Brooks on D Niro with Ann-Louise Cook, received the Dressage People's Choice Award for sportsmanship, horsemanship and performance.

6. The Horse & Rider Best Horse Turnout Award went to P.J. Rizvi with Unlimited.

7. Kastel Denmark's Best Seat Award was given to Laura Graves with Verdades, presented by Debbie McDonald

SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS PHOTO GALLERY



1. David Marcus wins the ShowChic Jog Turnout Award (Photo left to right: Krystalann Shingler of ShowChic, David Marcus, Michele Hundt of ShowChic, and Lily Zilo)

2. Vita Flex Victory Pass Award winner Ayden Uhlir

3. Premier Equestrian Award winner Lars Petersen (right)

4. Cesar Parra of Piaffe Performance (left) presents Jane Springer (right) with the Piaffe Performance Adult Amateur Achievement Award

5. Stephanie Brown-Beamer of Neue Schule (far left) presents Megan Lane (far right) on Caravella with the Neue Schule Best Hands Award

6. Denielle Gallagher-Legriffon (left) with Steeped In Luck wins the World Equestrian Brands Tack Matters Award

7. Carol Cohen (left), Engel & Völkers Real Estate advisor, presents Robert Dover (right) with the Global Dressage Visionary Award

8. Beth Haist (left) of the Horse of Course presents Janine Little (right) with The Horse of Course High Score Award



ADDITIONAL AGDF 1 AND CPEDI AWARD WINNERS

The Theraplate Peak Performance Award

– Zonnekoning and Katie Poag

The Omega Alpha Pharmaceuticals Healthy Horse Award

– Ellegria and Lauren Spreiser

The Custom Saddlery MVR Award

– Lisa Wilcox



Rebecca Hart won the High Point Freestyle Award from N2 Saddlery.



Sydney Collier was presented with the Horse and Rider Best Horse Turnout Award.

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South Florida has an amazing a cappella quartet dazzling audiences with their harmonious voices and charming personalities! Sunsation's talented members include Gail Katz crooning the melodies, Dixie Challinor maintaining the rhythm on bass, Cindy Moeller floating the tenor harmony and Marcy Wiseman filling in the chords to create a barbershop-style flavor to the quartet sound.

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APRIL-NOVEMBER 2016

DRESSAGE SCHEDULE

April 20-24 - Tryon Spring Dressage 1
June 15-19 - Tryon Summer Dressage 1
June 29-July 1 - Tryon Summer Dressage 3
August 3-7 - Tryon Summer Dressage 4
August 10-13 - Tryon Summer Dressage 5
August 17-21 - Tryon Summer Dressage 6
September 7-11 - Tryon Fall Dressage 2



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