



AGDF TIMES

Issue 4, February 23-26, 2017

2017 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival

Editor: Jennifer Wood

Laura Graves and Verdades Achieve First FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 5* Win



Laura Graves and Verdades scored their first five-star Freestyle victory at AGDF 5. ©SusanJStickle.com

Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades captured another stunning victory at AGDF 5 in the 4FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 5*, presented by Diamante Farms, on Friday, February 10. This was Graves and Verdades' first win in an FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 5* competition.

2016 Olympic Bronze Medalists Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades, a 2002 Dutch Warmblood gelding (Florett AS x Liwilarda) owned by Graves, dominated in the Global Arena once again this week, coming out on top of the competition with a winning score of 82.000%.

On her ride, Graves said, "The adrenaline is so high when you come out of the arena. You're so in the moment that when it's over, you kind of think, 'What just happened?' But he was great. He really feeds off of the atmosphere. He's a highly sensitive horse, and he never lets me down."

Placing second to Graves in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 5* was Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven (SWE) and Paridon Magi, a 2003 Swedish Warmblood gelding (Don Primero x Napoli x Napoleon 625) owned by Lövsta Stuteri, with a score of 77.450%.

"I was pleased today with the feeling of Magi," said Vilhelmson Silfven. "He had a super warm-up and I think that when you get into this arena with this atmosphere,

it's just fun to ride. I had some small mistakes, but a very nice feeling, so overall I'm very pleased."

2016 Olympic Bronze Medalist Steffen Peters (USA) and Rosamunde, a 2007 Rhineland mare (Rock Forever x First Lady) owned by Four Winds Farm, took third place with a 77.325%.

"I had a different strategy today," Peters said of his changed routine from Thursday. "This morning I worked her (Rosamunde) for about 45 minutes, and I walked her around all day. I had my doubts after yesterday's Grand Prix if she could handle an atmosphere like she would have to at the FEI World Cup [Finals], and tonight she proved that she might have the potential to qualify. I'm super happy. There was one 80 already in there. She had a clean test that was much more relaxed than the Grand Prix, and in this atmosphere, I'm stoked."

Devon Kane spoke on behalf of Diamante Farms, one of the founding sponsors of AGDF.

"We are very, very grateful for the riders who show up and for the owners who send the riders and everything in between that make this show so special," she said. "It's a great opportunity for us. We feel very blessed and privileged to be able to sponsor here. It's pretty phenomenal."

Judge Gary Rockwell spoke about the CDI 5* competition in Florida.

"I think it's a huge thing for this spot and for all of Florida, and it's attracting the best horses we have," he said. "It's fun to see these horses and riders progressing and getting better and better. We enjoy judging it. When the horses are good and the quality is good, the judging is easy."

A ceremony was also held Friday night to celebrate the official retirement of Lars Petersen's (DEN) Grand Prix mount, 1998 Danish Warmblood mare, Mariett, owned by Marcia Pepper.

Ken Braddick of dressage-news.com awarded Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades a special browband to signify their induction into the "80% Club," after her win in Thursday's FEI CDI 5* Grand Prix. The victory puts her alongside U.S. Olympic teammate Steffen Peters as a member of the "Club," which counts only 15 riders in the world as members.

Kim Beaudoin

WEF Sport Horse Auction Graduates Excel at Winter Equestrian Festival



VLD Ferrari SMH currently competes in the 7-Year-Old Jumper division with Erynn Ballard and in the Low Junior Jumper division with owner Sabrina Lefebvre.

Each year during the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF), the WEF Sport Horse Auction highlights the talent and quality of a hand-selected group of VDL sport horses, sourced by VDL Stud, one of the world's most renowned show jumping and dressage breeding operations located in The Netherlands. Past auction graduates are currently competing at the highest levels of both the show jumping and hunter disciplines with professional, amateur, and junior riders.

Sabrina Lefebvre, a Canadian junior rider, purchased VDL Ferrari SMH (Bugatti VDL x Burggraaf) at the 2015 WEF Sport Horse Auction and has been pleased with progress and talent the gelding has displayed in the jumper ring. The pair competed for the first time together in the 5-Year-Old Jumper Division only two weeks after Lefebvre purchased VDL Ferrari SMH and the duo have only encountered success since.

During the 2016 season, VDL Ferrari SMH competed in the 6-Year-Old Jumper Division and finished sixth overall in the \$15,000 6-Year-Old Finals at the International CSI** at Angelstone and is currently competing with Lefebvre's trainer, Erynn Ballard, in the 7-Year-Old Division at WEF, and in the Low Junior Jumper Division with Lefebvre. Lefebvre's ultimate goal with VDL Ferrari SMH is to compete in the High Junior Jumper Division throughout the competition

year.

"He has impressed us at every turn. We're so happy with the progress that he's made," commented Lefebvre. "I would highly recommend VDL horses and the WEF Sport Horse Auction for individuals looking to purchase their next top horse."

"Everyone who was involved with the entire trial and purchasing process was amazing. Each time I see Janko [van de Lageweg] at a horse show, he always comes to see us and asks for news about Ferrari and how we're doing!"

For Side VDL, another graduate of the WEF Sport Horse Auction, shares a similar success story. Purchased by Monty and Sandy Kelly, For Side VDL (Ziocco Blue VDL x Landlord) currently competes in the 7-Year-Old Jumper Division with McInain Ward, and is also competed by Shaine Brooks. "I have ridden him since he was four and each year he shows me more scope and energy," Brooks says. "It's very exciting and we're looking forward to the future with him."

Melanie Peterson, who organizes and manages the auction, has worked closely with the VDL organization for many years and believes that the personalities and characteristics of each graduate is what makes them unique both in and out of the competition arena.

Please turn to page 7

Adequan® Global Dressage Festival Welcomes The Axel Johnson Group as Weekly Sponsor of AGDF 7



Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven and Paridon Magi at the 2017 AGDF. ©SusanJStickle.com

As the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) reaches its seasonal half-way mark and hosts the third FEI CDI-W competition of the 2017 competition year, the venue will also welcome longtime supporter, The Axel Johnson Group, as the headlining sponsor for the week's "Friday Night Stars" FEI Grand Prix Freestyle competition. Beginning Thursday, February 23, and continuing through Sunday, February 26, AGDF 7 will showcase an impressive line-up of the world's leading dressage riders thanks in part to the significant dedication and commitment The Axel Johnson Group has made to the sport of dressage.

Founded in 1873 in Sweden, The Axel Johnson Group has been a pillar for development and sustainability since the company's inception.

Remaining a family owned and operated entity, employing thousands around the globe, Antonia Ax:son Johnson serves as the company's fourth generation leader and visionary. Johnson has developed a strong understanding of the similarities between business and horses and has used the company's successful strategy to influence the growth of the equestrian industry not only in the U.S., but in Sweden and around the world.



"We want to serve as a leading example of horsemanship, common understanding, and communication for the equestrian industry on an international scale. That has been our vision since we started this venture," said Johnson. "At the beginning this was very entrepreneurial, and we have developed our operation into something very positive and special."

There is a deep correlation between passion, communication, and success, which Johnson believes is embodied within the relationship of horse and rider, specifically in the sport of dressage. She explained, "Dressage is the foundation of equestrian sport for each of the disciplines. It is enhancing and building on the natural movements of the horse, which is why communication and passion for progress play such important roles."

"There is a need of respect and humility for every horse and a sense of passion and understanding. Each of these qualities are also necessary in operating a successful business," she elaborated.

After purchasing her first dressage horse in 1993 and discovering a deep passion for the sport, Johnson chose to partner with seven-time Swedish Olympian Tinne Vilhelmson-Silfven in the year 2000, and together the duo have revolutionized the breeding industry in Sweden and strengthened competition opportunities through Lövsta Stuteri, their home base for equestrian related operations. The Lövsta Future Challenge, hosted in Sweden, offers emerging professionals in both dressage and show jumping disciplines the opportunity to gain valuable competition experience. Lövsta Stuteri has also emerged as one of the most environmentally friendly and sustainable equestrian facilities in Europe, which has been a focus for Johnson at The Axel Johnson Group for many years.

"We have made a commitment to sustainability and environmentally friendly practice," commented Johnson. "We pride ourselves in the care and respect that we give to not only our horses, but our facilities and management in day-to-day operations. We are always striving to find new, innovative ways to incorporate sustainability and we have seen some very positive and creative results."

Not only have passion and sustainability connected The Axel Johnson Group to the equestrian community, but also a common focus on growth and expansion, which Johnson noted is directly exemplified through the development of the winter circuit in Wellington each season.

"When we first came here with the horses before AGDF began, there were very few dressage riders who were offered a platform to compete and better themselves and the relationship with their horses," she explained. "Now, we see the best come here to compete each year. This has quickly become the home for dressage around the world, and we are excited to see and support what the future has to hold for dressage at AGDF."

For more information on The Axel Johnson Group please visit www.axeljohnson.se and www.axeljohnson.com.

Carly Weilmünster



Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven and Don Auriello competing at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. ©Tomas Holcbecher

PBIEC Week 7 Upcoming Events:

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

On Thursday, February 23, the Lunch & Learn Series will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Wellington Club. The topic is "Invisible Workers: The Crucial Role of Working Equines in Sustaining Livelihoods and Food Security" with Kimberly Wells, Senior Animal Welfare Advisor, and special appearances by Brooke USA Ambassadors, presented by Brooke USA. This informational and educational series has a variety of subjects for horsemen and women to learn more for their horses and health. Admission is free for riders, trainers, and owners. Register at the door for a chance to win exciting prizes. Contact Kailey Blasius at 561-784-1137 or kblasius@equestriansport.com for more information.

GLADIATOR POLO™, PRESENTED BY U.S. POLO ASSN., RETURNS!

The next event of the Gladiator Polo™ series, presented by U.S. Polo Assn., will be held on Thursday, February 23, at Equestrian Village – The Stadium at PBIEC. With gates opening at 6 p.m. and competition finishing by 8 p.m., it is a perfect family-friendly event. There will be free general admission and an Asado for \$40/per person and \$10 for children under 12. Visit www.gladiatorpolo.com for more information and to buy Asado tickets.

Gladiator Polo™, presented by U.S. Polo Assn., is the newest equestrian event to join the elite season in Wellington, FL. Hosted on select Thursdays at the Equestrian Village in The Stadium at PBIEC, also home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF), Gladiator Polo™, presented by U.S. Polo Assn., brings the exciting sport of polo to a 3 on 3 setting featuring teams of professional players. Spectator-friendly and offering family fun with free general admission, Gladiator Polo™ is sure to entertain attendees of all ages with interactive activities in an engaging sporting atmosphere!

"FRIDAY NIGHT STARS"

Dressage returns to Friday night this week on Friday, February 24, with gates opening at 6 p.m. The FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CSI-W, presented by The Axel Johnson Group, will feature horses completing their freestyle choreography to entertaining music ensembles. In the break of the freestyles, there will be a "Two Tempi

Challenge," so stick around to see this fun exhibition! General admission is free and parking is \$10/car.

"SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS"

The \$380,000 Suncast® Grand Prix CSI 5* is the second five-star event of the season on Saturday, February 25, and will see the best horses and riders compete for speed under the lights of the International Arena. Gates open at 6 pm. General admission is free, parking is \$20/car, and valet is \$30.

THE VEUVE CLICQUOT SUITES – AVAILABLE SATURDAY NIGHT!

Located in the Special Events Pavilion, The Veuve Clicquot Suites are available on Saturday, February 25. 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. Availability is on first-come, first-served basis, so book now before they all fill up! Contact Patti Miele at 561-784-1125 or suites@equestriansport.com today. VEUVE CLICQUOT SUITES NATIONS CUP PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE! FOR MORE DETAILS, EMAIL SUITES@EQUESTRIANS-PORT.COM.

YOUR PRINCE JUST RODE IN! JOIN PRINCE LORENZO BORGHESI & THE EQUUS FOUNDATION ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

"The Bachelor", Prince Lorenzo Borghese, and our EQUUSStars, Arianna Rockefeller, Brianne Goutal-Martreau, Georgina Bloomberg, Hayley Barnhill, Jennifer Gates, Jessica Springsteen & Paige Johnson, invite you to join the EQUUS Foundation at 6 pm prior to the \$380,000 Suncast® Grand Prix CSI 5* in the Wellington Club on Saturday, February 25. Enjoy cocktails with Prince Lorenzo, our celebrity bartender & avid animal advocate, hors d'oeuvres, and our fabulous silent auction, from 6 pm - 8 pm. \$100 in advance; \$150 at the door. Stay on for a delicious buffet dinner & ringside viewing of the exciting competition under the lights. Dinner seating must be reserved in advance. Your support will help keep America's horses protected, working and loved! RSVP online at www.equusfoundation.org/WEF. Contact equus@equusfoundation.org or 203-259-1550 for more information.

SAVE THE DATE! PBIEC WEEKS 8 & 9 UPCOMING EVENTS

AMATEUR RIDER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA PANEL

Please join the Amateur Rider Association of America on Wednesday, March 1, at The Wellington Club at 1:30 p.m. for a panel on the new USEF rule for the Low, Medium, and High Amateur-Owner Jumpers. The panel will include Ariane Stiegler, ESP President Michael Stone, Anne Kursinski, Kevin Babington, Peter Leone, David Distler, and Anthony d'Ambrosio. To RSVP, please call 203-984-1238.

WEF SPORT HORSE AUCTION

Each year the WEF Sport Horse Auction offers an exclusive opportunity for individuals to acquire the next generation of top champions from VDL Stud. Riders, owners, and trainers have the ability to purchase their next star in an exciting live auction atmosphere. The 2017 edition of the WEF Sport Horse Auction is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 2, at Equestrian Village at PBIEC (AGDF Show Grounds). General admission is free. For more information on the WEF Sport Horse Auction please visit www.WefSportHorseAuction.com or www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction.

\$150,000 FEI NATIONS CUP CSIO 4*

Which country will you be cheering for? Come to PBIEC on Friday, March 3, to show your national pride for such teams as USA, Canada, Brazil, Colombia, France, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, and Venezuela. Gates open at 6 pm. General admission is free.

STALLER APP PARTY AT THE TIKI HUT

Come join the Staller team for a good time and a great view of the Suncast® 1.50m

Championship Jumper Classic on Saturday, March 4, on the second floor of The Tiki Hut at 7 p.m. Meet for an unforgettable night of horses, music and fun! For more information, visit www.stallerapp.com and call 561-480-5296 to RSVP for the party.

PALM BEACH DRESSAGE DERBY

The derby class during AGDF 8 returns on Saturday, March 4, with the finals, sponsored by Yeguada de Ymas, held during the break in competition of the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle. Top dressage riders Mikala Gundersen (DEN), Juan Matute (ESP), Kasey Perry-Glass (USA), and Chris Von Martels (CAN) will compete in semi-finals on Friday and the two winners go head-to-head on Saturday night. Don't miss this special and exciting exhibition!

RIDE & LEARN WITH KEN SMITH

On Tuesday, March 7, at 2 p.m., top trainer Ken Smith will be training with the theme of "Equitation" at the Van Kampen Covered Arena at The Stadium at PBIEC (AGDF show grounds). Participation to ride in the clinic is \$100 per horse/rider per clinic, with a maximum of 6 riders! Auditing is free and encouraged. For more information, please contact Jessica Nichols at 561-784-4275 or jnichols@equestriansport.com.

GLADIATOR POLO™, PRESENTED BY U.S. POLO ASSN.

The next event of the Gladiator Polo™ series, presented by U.S. Polo Assn., will be held on Thursday, March 9, at Equestrian Village – The Stadium at PBIEC. With gates opening at 6 p.m. and competition finishing by 8 p.m., it is a perfect family-friendly event. There will be free general admission and an Asado for \$40/per person and \$10 for children under 12. Parking is \$10/car. Visit www.gladiatorpolo.com for more information and to buy Asado tickets.



Proud to be the Title Sponsor of the Global Dressage Festival

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INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB HAPPENINGS

More high-goal polo action revs up at IPC after Coca-Cola's victory over Tonkawa 9-8 in overtime Sunday, Feb. 19. Coca-Cola took home the 2017 Ylvissaker Cup trophy.

This week features the start of two additional high-goal tournaments at IPC. The 26-goal series kicks off with the prestigious 2017 C.V. Whitney Cup, and the 20-goal series continues with the 2017 Iglehart Cup. Opening day for the C.V. Whitney Cup is Thursday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. with a superpower match between Coca-Cola and Orchard Hill. The Iglehart Cup starts Friday, Feb. 24.

The evening of Thursday, Feb. 23 brings Round 3 of high-goal \$250,000 Gladiator Polo™ Presented by U.S. Polo Assn. Many top polo stars who compete at IPC also play in the Gladiator matches. Held at the Equestrian Village, the 7-evening Roman gladiator-themed series is free admission with \$10 parking. There is an optional asado (\$40) and a lively after-party with music and dancing that is open to all. The family-friendly event offers numerous activities for children without charge. More information and asado tickets: gladiatorpolo.com.

To purchase tickets to Sunday polo and brunch at The Pavilion, visit internationalpoloclub.com.



2017 ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL WEEKLY SCHEDULE



February 23-26: AGDF 7 CDI-W, FEI Grand Prix Freestyle, FEI Grand Prix and FEI Grand Prix Special, presented by The Axel Johnson Group; and FEI Small Tour, presented by Wellington Regional Medical Center. Schedule includes National Show.

March 2-5: AGDF 8 Palm Beach Dressage Derby CDI-W and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle (Sat., Mar. 4), presented by Everglades Dressage; FEI Grand Prix and FEI Grand Prix Special, presented by Peacock Ridge; and FEI Small Tour. Schedule includes National Show and FEI Small Tour, presented by Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center.

March 10-12: AGDF 9 Para-Equestrian CPEDI 3*, presented by Mane Stream courtesy of Rowan

O'Riley, Mission Control, Adequan®, and Nutrena; and National Show.

March 16-19: AGDF 10 CDI 4* and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by Havensafe Farm; CDI 3*, presented by The Dutta Corp; and CDI 1*, presented by CaptiveOne. Schedule includes National Show and Florida International Dressage Youth Championships.

March 22-25: FEI Nations Cup week - AGDF 11 CDIO 3* and FEI Grand Prix Freestyle, presented by Stillpoint Farm; CDI 3*, presented by Harmony Sporthorses; and CDI 1*, presented by Yellow Bird Farm. Schedule includes National Show.

****Tentative schedule, subject to change. "Friday Night Stars" freestyles on Friday nights of CDI competition with exception of AGDF 8. Dates are actual competition days.**



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*Invisible Workers: The Crucial Role of Working Equines
in Sustaining Livelihoods and Food Security*

Kim Wells, Senior Welfare Adviser for Brooke

Welcome by Katherine Bellissimo, Brooke USA Board Member

Thursday, February 23, 2017

11:30 a.m. | Palm Beach International Equestrian Center | The Wellington Club

BrookeUSA.org

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**TUESDAY, MARCH 7
2:00 PM**

**VAN KAMPEN
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jnichols@equestriansport.com

\$100 per rider per clinic.
Max 6 riders

Auditing is free.

Life After the Olympics: Steffen Peters



Steffen Peters and Legolas 92, shown here at last year's AGDF, helped Team USA win the bronze medal at the 2016 Olympic Games. ©SusanJStickle.com

Steffen Peters (USA) is a four-time Olympic dressage competitor and three-time USEF Horseman of the Year. Born in Wesel, Germany, Peters emigrated to the United States in 1985, becoming a U.S. citizen in 1992. Peters helped the U.S. achieve a team bronze medal at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games. He also represented the United States in Beijing in 2008, placing fourth, and in London, scoring sixth in team competition. In 2016, Peters and Legolas 92 rode to another Bronze Medal finish with Team USA at the Rio Olympic Games.

What was your favorite memory from Rio, in regards to the team?

Steffen: The second we knew we had won a bronze medal. From my perspective, it was 20 years for me. Of course, the U.S. had won medals in 2000 and in 2004, but for me it was 20 years. Twenty years came down to Laura [Grave]'s ride. I remember sitting there with everyone, and halfway through Laura's test I said, 'You know what, this could happen.' And then when Laura went down the last centerline, she could've screwed up every single movement, but we had the bronze medal. It's one of those things that I won't ever forget, what we did as a team.

What was your favorite Rio memory with Legolas?

Steffen: Of course, Legolas scoring a 77% in the Grand Prix with one of his best tests. It doesn't get much better than that.

What was different about Rio, in comparison to the other Olympic Games that you've been to?

Steffen: I thought that the entire venue was absolutely outstanding. There was so much more space, stalls were bigger, [and] we felt very safe because it was on the military base. I thought the arena itself was fantastic, and there was a great atmosphere. I loved the Olympic Village. We were closer to the village this time so we were able to spend a little bit more time there. Just from start to finish, there wasn't one single day where you wanted to say, 'Ok, it's time to go home.'

What is your next goal in the saddle?

Steffen: Rosie is 10 years old, and if my body holds up then I'd love to make 2020 Olympics a possibility. Right now, short term goals include the FEI World Cup Finals in Omaha.

Kim Beaudoin

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AGDF 6 National Wrap Up



Akiko Yamazaki (USA) and Chopin R took the win in the FEI Intermediate I* AA at AGDF 6. ©SusanJStickle.com

Week 6 of AGDF featured a National Competition, presented by Adequan®, on February 17-18, 2017.

On Friday, February 17, Akiko Yamazaki (USA) and Chopin R, a 2007 gelding (Ferro), owned by Four Winds Farm, took the win in the FEI Intermediate I* AA with a score of 66.447%. Yamazaki has been to AGDF in the past as a sponsor and owner for 2016 Olympic Bronze Medalist Steffen Peters, but this is her first season competing here as a rider herself.

"Coming to Florida has been on my bucket list,"

said Yamazaki. "I've been here as a sponsor for Steffen a few times, starting with Ravel, and then Legolas and Rosie and now Bailarino. I felt that it would be so fun to be here as a rider myself. I have been able to compete at the Nationals in Kentucky twice now with Donovan, so I've had some experiences with putting a horse on a plane and competing, but coming to Florida and being in this environment is an entirely different story. I'm so glad that I realized that."

Commenting on her ride, Yamazaki said, "I'm so smiley because this was my first ride, and it was decent so I'm really happy about that. My horse, he can be quite hot. He just got here on Tuesday, so for him to just go in there and do what he did, I'm very happy with that. This was only his second I-1 test with me. I've had him since he was almost seven, so he's really a horse that we all develop together. I know that the canter still needs quite a bit of work, but with the trot I knew that we could pretty much nail everything. We needed to get all of the points possible there, so we try to get that trot as good as possible."

Placing second to Yamazaki in the FEI Intermediate I* AA was Amanda Arberman (CAN) and Santino Tyme, a 2005 Oldenburg gelding (Stedinger x Romantic Star x Roulette) owned by Arberman, with a score of 64.868%. Third place went to Tyrelle Keslin (USA) and De Lainie, a 2006 Hanoverian gelding (De Laurentis x Em Delight x De Niro) owned by Keslin, with a score of 61.579%.

Suzan Pape (GBR) and Harmony's Fiorano, a 2005 Hanoverian gelding (Rousseau x Rousseau x

Rotspon) owned by Harmony Sporthorses, topped the FEI Grand Prix on Saturday, with a score of 74.900%.

"I really enjoyed my ride today. He was totally focused and wanted to do his best," said Pape. "Maybe his walk wasn't so relaxed, but he had many highlights in the piaffe and passage work, canter pirouettes, and had totally straight tempi-changes. We scored a personal best which makes me very happy. I am very much looking forward to future challenges after I return to Europe in the beginning of March."

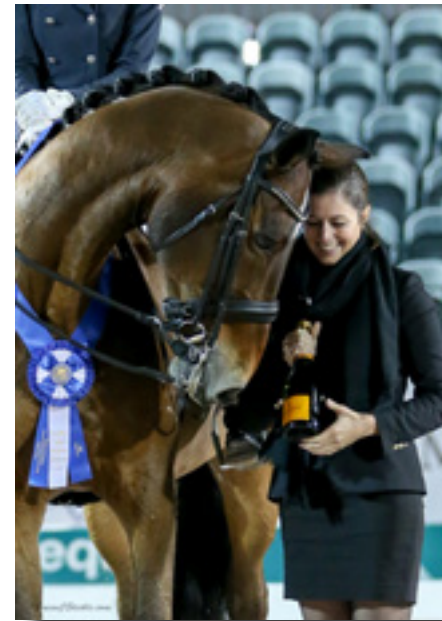
Second place was awarded to Adrienne Lyle (USA), and Salvino, a 2007 Hanoverian stallion (Sandro Hit x Donnerhall) owned by Salvino Partners LLC, with a 72.900%. Third place went to Christilol Boylen (CAN) and Drenato, a 2003 Hanoverian gelding (De Niro x Brenda Lee x Bren-tono II) owned by Deborah Miculinic, with a score of 69.400%.

Earlier in the day, Kayla Kadlubek (USA), and Freewill, a 2004 Oldenburg gelding (Freestyle x Dunchelfuchs) owned by Kadlubek, won the FEI Junior Individual test with a score of

68.618%. Second place went to Antonia Arl (BEL) and Equestricons Belstaff W, a 2004 Westfalen gelding (Breitling W x Devisa x Diego xx) owned by Equestricon N.V., with a score of 68.026%. Third place was awarded to Amanda McAuliffe (USA) and Brahm, a 2006 DWB gelding owned by Donna McAuliffe, with a 66.579%.

Kim Beaudoin

Faces of AGDF: Cora Causemann



Cora Causemann is an integral part of the AGDF team and enjoys organizing the presentations for winners. ©SusanJStickle.com

If you are familiar with the AGDF showgrounds, there is a good chance that you are also familiar with AGDF's Cora Causemann. Cora has been working at AGDF for three years now and wears many hats. She keeps things organized and is one of the many reasons that the show runs smoothly day-to-day.

What are your specific duties at AGDF?

Cora: This is my third year here. I was here for the first time in 2014 as an intern, and I wasn't here in 2015 because we had the European Championships in Aachen. That's where I work when I'm in Germany, and I also do some work for other shows when I'm in Europe. I started here as an intern working a little bit with special events and sponsorship. I do all of the awards here now, and I take care of a lot of sponsorship activities around here. I work very closely with Thomas and Monica in the show office, I work on a little bit of scheduling and I also do credentials. I plan the Friday night classes with Thomas, as well as a lot of the other activities that happen around the show grounds that are not necessarily part of the sport program. I also work with Jim Wolf on the [Land Rover Wellington] Eventing Showcase planning.

How did you get involved with AGDF originally?

Cora: I studied in The Netherlands. I got a Bachelor degree in marketing and economics, and I worked for the German Federation. That's how I got my internship in Aachen, which is where I started. They asked me to stay with them for two and a half years. The woman that I worked for was good friends with Michael Stone; they worked together on the World Equestrian Games in 2006. She basically contacted him and said, 'Hey, there is someone I know that would like to visit you for three months!' and that's how it kind of fell into place.

What do you enjoy the most about working at AGDF?

Cora: For me, the best part about it is that it's not work. We are here all day, we have a great group of people, most of us have known each other now for a couple of years, and it never feels like work. Yes, we are around the horse show all day, and when I get home I'm tired, but it's worth it. We see that as a team, we keep the show going and help it get better every year. I can see every day why I put so much effort into it.

What do you like to do for fun that is non-horse related?

Cora: I travel. I try to take one to two months off at the end of the year, and I go to Asia, Austria, places like that. I do it just to get away from everything for a while, and after that I'm motivated again to begin a new season. So that's what I do, I hop on a plane!

Kim Beaudoin

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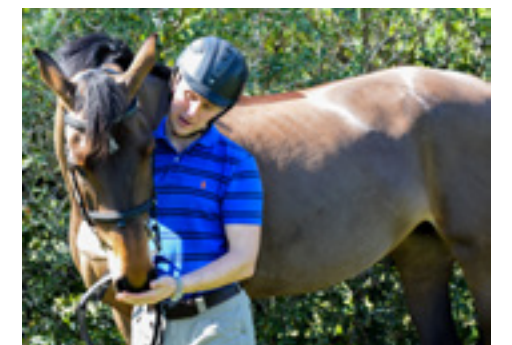
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WEF Sporthorse Auction, Continued from Page 1



James Billington and VDL Gearcemeta W

"They have Labrador personalities. They're all so incredible to work with and I've never met a VDL horse that didn't display perfect manners," she smiled. "As soon as the auction is over, you can see the horses begin to bond with their new owners. It's amazing."

"The success of the auction has been outstanding and we're committed to bringing the best of the European bloodlines to the U.S. and North American market," she added. "These horses are top of the line and each year they uphold the reputation of VDL through their success in the competition arena."


The 2017 auction will offer the same quality of horses, as VDL Stud has selected three Elite mares to participate in the WEF Sport Horse Auction. In addition to being exceptional athletes, the mares VDL Dorina (Indoctro

x Burggraaf), VDL Gearcemeta W (Indoctro x Mr. Blue), and VDL Gottie W (Cantos x Casco), will be superb additions to North American breeding programs.

The Presentation of Horses is set to be hosted in the International Ring at Palm Beach International Equestrian Center (PBIEC) on Tuesday, February 21, while the 2017 edition of the WEF Sport Horse Auction will take place on Thursday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stadium at Equestrian Village, home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF).

For more information about the horses available at the 2017 WEF Sport Horse Auction, please visit
www.wefsporthorseauction.coth.com.

Kate Kosnoff



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TDF's Two-Tempi CHALLENGE

The Dressage Foundation's (TDF) 2017 Two-Tempi Challenge, presented by The Axel Johnson Group, will take the stage during "Friday Night Stars" on February 24!

How many consecutive two-tempi will the horses and riders be able to perform? Last year, Shannon Dueck and Jim Koford each did 39...can they be beat?

Four riders are up for the Challenge. Olivia LaGoy-Weltz riding Fendi W, Lauren Chumley riding Millennium, Jim Koford riding Adiah HP, and Susanne Hamilton riding Lutz will participate in the TDF Two-Tempi Challenge.

Pledges for any dollar amount per successful change will support TDF's grants and programs aimed at cultivating and providing financial support for the advancement of dressage in the United States.

Pledges can be made in person or online at www.dressagefoundation.org/agdf-ttc.html.

Week 5 Sponsor Awards



Dawn White-O'Connor (left) won the Custom Saddlery MVR Award for successfully taking over the reins of Legolas 92, the Olympic partner of Steffen Peters (right).



Janne Rumbough (right) is presented with the Triple Crown Dressage Excellence Award by Triple Crown Florida representative Craig Bernstein (left) for her contributions and achievements in the sport of dressage.

Week 5 Sponsor Awards



Lauren Sprieser and Ellegria are presented with the Perfect Conduct Award by Walter Bagley.



Adrienne Lyle and Horizon, owned by Elizabeth Juliano (right), were awarded the Accuhorsemat Accuracy Award presented by Colleen Elliott (left).



Zonnekoning, ridden and owned by Katie Poag, earned the Omega Alpha Healthy Horse Award.



Gabiela Stumpf and Finally Love are presented with the Happy Horse Award by Walter Bagley.



Lisa Wilcox aboard Galant won the World Equestrian Brands Tack Matters Award, presented by Robin Moore.



The Horse of Course CEO Beth Haist (right) presents Michael Bragdel (left) with the AGDF 3 Horse of Course High Score Award.



Jan Ebeling (right) accepted the Horse of Course High Score Award from Cheryl Ulrich (left).



Premier Equestrian presented Terri (left) and Devon Kane (right) with the Premier Equestrian Award.



Nichole Smith aboard Ebikur, owned by Pat Gillian, are awarded with the Vita Flex Victory Pass Award.



Michele Roark (right) is presented with the Piaffe Performance Adult Amateur Award by Cesar Parra of Piaffe Performance (left).



Ansgar, owned by Nicole Polaski and ridden by Melissa Taylor, won the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award.

AGDF Week 5 Highlights



Olympic bronze medalists Kasey Perry-Glass (USA) and Goerklintgaard's Dublet won the FEI Grand Prix Special CDI 5* at AGDF 5. ©SusanJStickle.com

Week five kicked off at the 2017 Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) on Wednesday February 8, with a win for Charlotte Jorst (USA) and Kastel's Nintendo, a 2003 Dutch Warmblood stallion (Negro x Rodieni R x Monaco) owned by Kastel Denmark, in the FEI Grand Prix CDI 3*, presented by Wellington Equestrian Realty, with a score of 71.300%.

Placing second to Jorst was Susan Pape (GBR) and Harmony's Don Noblesse, a 2007 Hanoverian stallion (Dancier x Descana x Don Davidoff) owned by Harmony Sporthorses, with a 70.880%. Third place was awarded to Dawn White-O'Connor (USA), and Legolas 92, a 2002 Westfalen gelding (Laomedon x Furstin x Florenstan II) owned by Four Winds Farm, with a score of 70.560%.

Laura Graves (USA) and Verdades climbed to the top of the leaderboard in Thursday's FEI Grand Prix CDI 5*, presented by Diamante Farms, ending their day with a winning score of 80.080%.

The score was Graves' first one above 80% in a FEI CDI 5* Grand Prix, putting her alongside U.S. Olympic teammate Steffen Peters as a member of the "80% Club," which counts only 15 riders in the world as members.

Placing second to Graves in in the FEI Grand Prix CDI 5* was fellow 2016 Olympic Bronze Medalist Steffen Peters (USA) and Rosamunde, a 2007 Rhineland mare (Rock Forever x First Lady) owned by Four Winds Farm. They scored 73.820%. Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven (SWE) and Paridon Magi, a 2003 Swedish Warmblood gelding (Don Primero x Napoli x Napoleon 625) owned by Lövssta Stuteri, took third place, with a score of 73.700%.

Earlier in the day, Steffen Peters (USA) and Bailarino, a 2008 Oldenburg gelding (Breitling x Schila x De Niro) owned by Four Winds Farm, captured a win in the FEI Prix St. Georges CDI 1*, presented by Engel & Völkers, with a score of 72.719%. Coming in at second place was Jane Cleveland (USA) and Monique, a 2009 Danish Warmblood Mare (Temptation x Kaprice x Matador) owned by Cleveland, with a score of 71.886%. Thrid place was awarded to Adrienne Lyle (USA) and Horizon, a 2007 Hanoverian mare (Hotline x Don Schufro) owned by Elizabeth Juliano, with a 70.482%.

The FEI Grand Prix Special CDI 3*, presented

by Wellington Equestrian Realty, was won by Chase Hickok (USA) and Sagacious HF, a 1999 KWPN gelding (Welt Hit II x Judith x Cocktail) owned by Hyperion Farm Inc, with a score of 71.667%. Second place was awarded to Megan Lane (CAN) and San D'Or, a 2002 Hanoverian gelding (De Niro x Rosana M x Regazonni) owned by Jill Irving, with a 70.647%. Placing third was Susan Pape (GBR) and Harmony's Don Noblesse, a 2007 Hanoverian stallion (Dancier x Descana x Don Davidoff) owned by Harmony Sporthorses, with 70.608%.

Saturday brought a win for Adrienne Lyle and Horizon, a 2007 Hanoverian mare (Hotline x Don Schufro) owned by Elizabeth Juliano, took home another victory, this time in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 3*, presented by Engel & Völkers, on Saturday with a score of 75.325%.

Olympic Bronze Medalist Steffen Peters and Bailarino, a 2008 Oldenburg gelding (Breitling x Schila x De Niro) owned by Four Winds Farm, placed second with a score of 75.100%.

Placing third in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle CDI 3*, presented by Engel & Völkers, was Jane Cleveland (USA) and Monique, a 2009 Danish Warmblood mare (Temptation x Kaprice x Matador) owned by Cleveland, with a 72.750%.

Earlier in the day, Diana Porsche (USA), and Di Sandro, a 2003 Oldenburg gelding (De Niro x Gentina x Sandro) owned by Porsche, won the FEI Grand Prix 16-25 CDIU 25, sponsored by Diamante Farms, with a score of 71.535%. Second place was awarded to Anna Buffini (USA) and Sundayboy, a 1999 KWPN/ Oldenburg gelding (Kennedy x Eezelma) owned by Buffini, with a score of 69.651%. Mathilde Blais Tetreault (CAN) and Utah, rounded out the top three with a 65.907%.

Week five of the

Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) concluded competition on Sunday, February 12, with a win for Diana Porsche (AUT) and mount Di Sandro, a 2003 Oldenburg gelding (De Niro x Gentina x Sandro) owned by Porsche, in the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle 16-25 CDIU25, presented by Diamante Farms, with a score of 74.875%.

Porsche and Di Sandro are currently ranked at number one on the FEI Youth Dressage World Ranking List - U25.

Coming in second to Porsche was Mathilde Blais Tetreault (CAN) and Utah, a 2001 KWPN gelding (by Jazz) owned by Tetreault, with a score of 70.850%. Third place was captured by Kaitlin Blythe (USA), who rode Don Principe, a 1999 Hanoverian stallion (Donnerhall x SPS Papagena x Prince Thatch xx) owned by Maryanna Haymon, to a 68.925%.

Alson on Sunday, Katriana Sadis (USA) and Zeplim, a 2004 Lusitano gelding (Ribamar x Sereia) owned by Sadis, were the champions of the FEI Young Rider Freestyle CDIY, presented by Yeguada de Ymas, earning a score of 71.875%.

Codi Harrison (USA) and Katholts Bossco, a 2007 Danish Warmblood gelding (Blue Hors Don Schufro x Katholts Farceur x Michellino) owned by Harrison, placed second with a 67.725%. Third place was given to Camille Carier Bergeron (CAN) and Expression, a Westfalen gelding owned by Bergeron, with a score of 67.625%.

Kim Beaudoin



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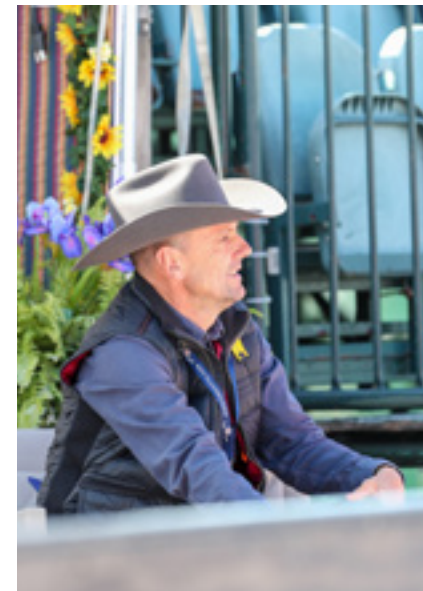
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AGDF 5 Photo Gallery

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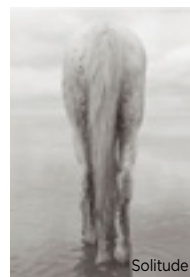
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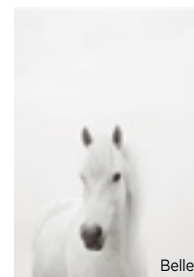
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