



# WEEKLY WIRE



EDITOR: JENNIFER WOOD

WEEK 8 FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 1, 2020

## MCLAIN WARD PILOTS HH AZUR BACK TO THE TOP IN LUGANO DIAMONDS GRAND PRIX CSI5\*



McLain Ward repeated a five-star victory at the 2020 WEF, this time with HH Azur at WEF 7. ©Sportfot

Two-time U.S. Olympic team gold medalist McLain Ward won his third CSI5\* in two weeks by taking top call in the \$401,000 Lugano Diamonds Grand Prix CSI5\* riding his 2016 Olympic mount, HH Azur, during "Saturday Night Lights" on February 22.

Santiago Varela (ESP), who has been tapped to set the tracks at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, was the course designer for the Lugano Diamonds Grand Prix, which welcomed six contenders from three different countries to a tie-breaking jump-off.

Continuing a banner month that included the birth of his second daughter, Madison, Ward is riding a wave of success and a little bit of luck.

"It's been a pretty incredible few weeks. My team is doing an amazing job," said Ward, who also won the Fidelity Investments® Grand Prix CSI5\* during WEF five riding Noche de Ronda. "I'm lucky to have phenomenal horses and owners, to be able to have multiple horses that can win at this level. If we're really honest with ourselves, sometimes you can do nothing right, and sometimes you can do nothing wrong. We're in one of those streaks, and we're going to enjoy it and try to keep doing our best."

Of the two riders who jumped double clear, Ward and HH Azur, a 14-year-old Belgian Sport Horse

mare (Thunder van de Zuuthoeve x Sir Lui) owned by Ward and Double H Farm, utilized "Annie's" massive stride and foot speed to stop the clock at 39.85 seconds. The time proved more than good enough to top Ireland's Capt. Brian Cournane riding his own Penelope Cruz in 44.19 seconds. The podium was rounded out by Alex Granato (USA), who had the time to beat Ward but pulled a single rail with Page Tredennick's Carlchen W to settle on four faults in 38.87 seconds.

HH Azur is making a comeback from a minor injury that sidelined her during the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Final in Barcelona in the fall of 2019. "Tonight, she felt great," said Ward. "She's getting a little older, has jumped a lot of big jumps in her life, and been an incredible partner. You count your jumps at this stage in a career. We stopped for the year after Barcelona, but we kept her in light work."

Ward's plan came to fruition on Saturday, and HH Azur appears to be back in the game. "Once I got through the double, I took a touch off coming home. For sure I left a little room, but a lot of times you can lose it before you get started, and I didn't want to do that," he said. "For me, Santi is one of the best [course designers] in the world. He's a horseman course builder, and I think he's going to do a brilliant job at the Olympic Games."

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## HUNTERS AND EQUITATION RIDERS CONTINUE EXCELLENCE AT WEF 7



John French and Babylon won the Pre-Green 3 & 4 Year Old Hunter championship at WEF 7. ©Sportfot

The Rost Ring began on Thursday morning of Week 7 with the Pre-Green Hunter 3 and 4 Year Old division. John French, of San Juan Bautista, CA, rode Kent Farrington LLC's Babylon to the championship by winning three blue ribbons in the class.

Babylon arrived in the United States from Europe in December, and French began riding and working with the horse in January. The four-year-old Oldenburg gelding (Crumbie x Die Cera) has shown three times this year and has been champion every time.

"Before I started working for Kent, he called me and sent me this video and said, 'I'm thinking of buying this horse, what do you think?'" said French. "He was just jumping around a jumper course, but you could tell how cute and flashy he was. He's a good mover and a good jumper; he's got everything that it takes."

Although Babylon had been showing in the jumpers in Europe, he quickly caught on to being a hunter. "He has a great expression and is so careful upfront. With all of his flash the judges are just drawn to him," French commented. "I can just tell that one day he is going to be a famous junior or amateur-owner hunter."

Reserve champion of the division went to Michael Delfiandra and Hopetown, owned by Runaway Holdings, LLC. Delfiandra, of Wellington, FL, and Hopetown received first, second, fifth, and sixth place ribbons.

The Ariat National Adult Medal took place on Saturday in Ring 7 with Claire Stevenson piloting Prem' Dollar Boy to top honors. The pair received a 77 in the first round. The top four horses returned to the ring for the test, where Stevenson and Prem' Dollar Boy were able to rise to the top of the class.

Not far behind was Kristin McCuin, of Lake Worth, FL, and her horse Fenway. The pair received a score of 78 and kept their second place spot through the test. Third place honors went to Macenzie Ingenito and her horse Fascino. Ingenito, of Glastonbury, CT, and Fascino received a first round score of 75 and went from fourth place to third place after the test.

Equitation competition took place on Sunday in Ring 9 with the Dover Saddlery USEF Hunter Seat Medal Section A and Section B. After the first round was complete, six riders in each section were called back to test. Zayna Rizvi, of Greenwich, CT, aboard Finnick took top honors in Section A of the class.

Rizvi has been riding and leasing "Finn", owned by Jordyn Rose Freedman, for the past two years. The pair currently trains with North Run and hopes to attend all of the equitation finals this fall. "I love him so much. I've done all my first big finals on him and he's taught me so much," Rizvi said of the 14-year-old Westphalian gelding (Cayetano L x Landliebe).

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# PREMIER EQUESTRIAN

## There and Back Again

2020 marks Premier Equestrian's 20th year in business. The company has grown from a small basement office into North America's leading provider of equestrian surface products and services. The remarkable story is defined by innovation, marketing savvy, and the spirit of competition.

Like most companies, Premier Equestrian started with a need. Heidi Zorn had moved from riding hunter/jumpers into dressage and needed a dressage arena to train her mount, Serrano. After shopping around Heidi realized it would be much less expensive to build her own. That idea was The Classic Arena, Premier's very first product.

Enter Mark Neihart, long-time associate of Zorn, and the two founded a company called Premier Dressage, llc. This was the seed of today's larger and more diversified company. "The first years were spent attending every dressage show we could find," says Neihart, Premier's CEO, "Heidi and I were on the road constantly, showing our dressage products to everyone we could."

The national dressage community responded eagerly to the new products. "We spent a lot of that time on product development," said Heidi Zorn, Premier's President. "We had the audience and the demand, so we worked on expanding our product line." Soon Premier had dressage letters, new arena designs, and the company moved into a facility for fabrication and distribution.

Then it happened, Serrano, Heidi's long-time horse and friend, became lame. It was the event that began investigation into arena footing. "It's a long story," recalls Zorn, "Serrano's lameness showed me the critical importance of arena footing. That was fifteen years ago. Had I known then what I know now Serrano would not have retired early. It was all footing related."

The deep dive into footing was a journey weaving through partnerships, product innovations, trial and error, and small successes. "We started with our customer base of small, backyard riders," said Neihart. "While our competition was chasing after the big jobs, we focused on the dedicated

amateur riders. Looking back, this was good for us; first, we gained a very diverse experience with all kinds of arenas, conditions, and materials. Second, we learned from the ground up about how to design the perfect footing solution for any situation, large or small, high budget or low budget. Today, 80% of our customers are still the small farm or backyard riders; that's our core."

This year Premier Equestrian was chosen to supply products for the International Arena at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center. This is a grand testament to the expertise and partnerships developed over the years. "We are now a major supplier to large institutional horse show facilities," said Zorn, "our products are widely accepted as the best of class and our service gets accolades. Still, our hearts remain with the everyday rider in need of a quality product at a reasonable price. Those people are why we get up every morning, them and their horses. It's still all about the horses."



# PBIEC WEEK 8 & 9 UPCOMING EVENTS

## LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

On Thursday, February 27, the Lunch & Learn Series continues for the 2020 season. Held every Thursday 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. Register at the door for a chance to win exciting prizes. The Week 8 Lunch & Learn topic is "Footing Facts, an in-depth look at the effects footing surfaces have on our horses" sponsored by Premier Equestrian. This lively session will include information about sand characteristics, footing products, and types of surfaces for different disciplines. Contact Miranda Tiona at 561-784-1137 or mtiona@equestriansport.com for more information.

## 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 2020 edition of the WEF Sport Horse Auction is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, at Equestrian Village at PBIEC (Home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival - 13500 South Shore Blvd.). General admission is free. For more information on the WEF Sport Horse Auction please visit [www.WefSportHorseAuction.com](http://www.WefSportHorseAuction.com) or [www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction](http://www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction).

## ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL "FRIDAY NIGHT STARS"

AGDF's "Friday Night Stars" Series showcases some of the world's best dressage riders as they perform freestyles at the top level of competition. Competition will highlight CDI 4\* riders and feature the grand prix musical freestyle competition sponsored by Havensafe Farm on Friday, February 28. The night also features the final of the Palm Beach Dressage Derby Knockout Exhibition class, presented by Summit Farm. Held at Equestrian Village (13500 South Shore Blvd.) in the Global International Arena, gates open at 6 p.m. and competition begins at 7 p.m. General admission is free, parking is \$10/car.

## \$37,000 HERMÈS UNDER 25 SEMI-FINAL GRAND PRIX

The popular Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix Series will hold its \$37,000 Semi-Final Grand Prix on Friday, February 28, at 7 p.m. in the WEF International Arena. Watch some of the best young talent in the world go head-to-head. General admission and parking are free.

## "SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS" - \$150,000 NATIONS CUP CSIO 4\*

Which country will you be cheering for? The \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO 4\* will be the featured class during "Saturday Night Lights" in the International Arena on Saturday, February 29, at 7 p.m. This always-exciting team competition features national pride as spectators cheer on their favorite country to win. Admission is free and parking is \$20/car with \$30 valet available.

## THE VEUVE CLICQUOT SUITES - AVAILABLE SATURDAY NIGHT

Located in the Special Events Pavilion, The Veuve Clicquot Suites are available on select Saturday Night Lights events throughout WEF - reserve your seats for the \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO4\* on Saturday, February 22. 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 561-784-1136 to book your Suite today.

## \$214,000 GRAND PRIX CSIO 4 PRESENTED BY PREMIER EQUESTRIAN

The \$214,000 Grand Prix CSIO 4\* presented by Premier Equestrian will take place as the jumper feature on Sunday, March 1. It will be held at 1 p.m. in the International Arena with the best riders navigating a challenging course for top prize money. General admission and parking are free.

## SAVE THE DATE

### \$5,000 USHJA PONY HUNTER DERBY

The \$5,000 USHJA Pony Hunter Derby will be held on Friday, March 6, at 10 a.m. on the grass derby field at Equestrian Village (home of the Adequan Global Dressage Festival - 13500 South Shore Blvd.). Watch pony riders show off their skills! General admission and parking are free.

### CHALLENGE OF THE AMERICAS

The Challenge of the Americas, known throughout the equestrian world for its spectacular Grand Prix Musical Quadrilles, will continue its fight against breast cancer on Friday, March 6, with gates opening at 5 p.m. at Equestrian Village (home of the Adequan Global Dressage Festival - 13500 South Shore Blvd.). This one-of-a-kind affair showcases the Olympic sport of Dressage and includes the "Who's Who" of top equestrian competitors from the United States, Canada, Latin America, and Europe. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to join the Breast Cancer Research Foundation & Play for P.I.N.K. as international riders perform to world-class music and choreography in their efforts to find a cure in our lifetime. General admission tickets are \$20 at the door (does not include entry to the Gala) with children 12 & under free, while tickets and tables are for sale at [www.ChallengeOfTheAmericas.com](http://www.ChallengeOfTheAmericas.com).

### \$10,000 USHJA NATIONAL HUNTER DERBY

The \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby will be held on Saturday, March 7, at 8:30 a.m. on the grass derby field at Equestrian Village. Watch some of the best hunters in the nation compete and show off their skills over the beautiful hunter derby course on the grass. General admission and parking are free.

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## Schatt and Iwasaki are Victorious in the \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby



Havens Schatt rode Highlander to victory in the professional section of the \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby at WEF 7. © Sportfot

The \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby took place on Friday morning during week seven of the Winter Equestrian Festival. The derby was held on "Pony Island," where Rings 11 and 12 were combined to create a larger field. The class had a junior/amateur section, as well as a professional division, and offered \$10,000 in prize money to both. There were 38 junior/amateur riders and 34 professionals to complete the first round with 12 riders coming back for the handy round in each section.

Havens Schatt aboard Highlander captured the victory in the professional division, and Augusta Iwasaki rode Sambuca to the top spot in the junior/amateur section.

Schatt rode Meredith Mateo's Highlander to a score of 89 in the first round with four bonus points to put them in second place going into the handy round. After scoring a 95 with four bonus points in the handy, the pair took over the lead with a total score of 192. Highlander has only been with Schatt, of Georgetown, KY, for about three weeks and this is the pair's first week showing together. After successfully competing in the 3'3" Performance Hunters this week, Schatt decided to enter in the National Hunter Derby.

"Going into the handy, since he is a very big horse I was curious to see if I could really do the inside turns," Schatt explained. "Actually going to the first jump I was like 'Am I going to turn inside or am I not?' But when I decided to try it, he did that one so well and the others amazing."

Highlander is a nine-year old Zangersheide gelding (Vigo D'Arsouilles x Cruisly Orashi), who is currently for sale. Schatt still plans on continuing to compete him in National Hunter Derbies until he finds a new home.

"I think after doing this class for sure he would be a blast out there on the grass, but ultimately he will find a nice junior or amateur and make them happy!" Schatt said.

Second place in the professional section went to Hannah Isop, of Pawling, NY, and Heidi Tummel's Sincerely. The pair received a high score of 90 with four bonus points

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## Views From WEF 7

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# WEF 7 Winners



Kristen Vanderveen, shown here on Bull Run's Risen, was named the Martha Jolicoeur Leading Lady Rider for WEF 7. © Sportfot



Erika Thornell and Calamera won the \$2,500 Equestrian Sotheby's International Realty NAL/WIHS Children's Jumper 14 & Under Classic. © Sportfot



The Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award, presented by Laura Fetterman, went to Enchanted, ridden by Sam Walker for Christell Weller. © Sportfot



Mia Mannis and Dorusino won the \$10,000 Martha Jolicoeur/Douglas Elliman Low Amateur-Owner Jumper Classic and were champions of the division. © Sportfot



Grace Tuton rode Lautento to the Adequan® Amateur-Owner 18-35 3'3" Hunter championship, presented by Kathy Serio. © Sportfot



The WEF 7 Vita Flex Tack Toom Award went to Stepping Stone Farm, presented by Katie Stevenson of Vita Flex to Shaine Brooks and Amy Momrow. Courtesy of JRPR Equine News Room.



Kaitlin Porath and Breaux took home the Palm Beach Equine Clinic Amateur-Owner 18-35 3'6" Hunter championship. © Sportfot



The WEF 7 Omega Alpha Healthy Horse Award was given to Belmont and Dennis Sweeny. Courtesy of JRPR Equine News Room

# Standings and Awards

## WEF WEEK 7



**LEADING LADY JUMPER RIDER**, sponsored by Martha Jolicoeur of Douglas Elliman Real Estate (after 14 qualifying events)

1. Jessica Springsteen (USA): 464
2. Lillie Keenan (USA): 453
3. Kristen Vanderveen (USA): 435
4. Adrienne Sternlicht (USA): 415
5. Katherine Dinan (USA): 4107



ADVISORS™

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1. Bliss Heers (USA): 199
2. Erynn Ballard (CAN): 164
3. Peter Lutz (USA): 159
4. Tiffany Foster (CAN): 156
5. Darragh Kenny (IRL): 143



U25 GRAND PRIX SERIES 2020

**HERMÈS UNDER 25 GRAND PRIX STANDINGS** (after 5 qualifying events)

1. Sydney Shulman (ISR): 182
2. Tanimara Macari (MEX): 154.50
3. Flore Giraud (FRA): 153.30
4. Carlos Hank Guerreiro (MEX): 144
5. Emily Ward (GBR): 134



**CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE HUNTER STYLE AWARD:**

Enchanted, ridden by Sam Walker and owned by Christell Weller

**CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE JUMPER STYLE AWARD:**

Stalando 2, ridden by Martin Fuchs and owned by Gospodarstwo Rolone Andrzej Oplatek

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### WELCOME SERIES

Tryon Welcome 1	March 19-22	National/Hunter A/Jumper 3
Tryon Welcome 2	March 26-29	National/Hunter A/Jumper 3
Tryon Welcome 3	April 2-5	National/Hunter A/Jumper 3
The Fork @TIEC	April 2-5	National BN-A/CCI 1*S, 2*S, 3*S, 4*S
73rd Tryon Block House Races	April 11	National Steeplechase Association
Tryon Welcome 4	April 8-12	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 3
Tryon Spring Dressage 1	April 16-19	National/FEI CDI 3*
Katydid CDE @ TIEC	April 23-26	National/FEI CAI 1*, 2*

### SPRING SERIES

Tryon Spring 1	April 29-May 3	Premier/AA Hunters/Jumper 4
Tryon Spring Dressage 2	May 2-3	National
Tryon Spring 2	May 6-10	National/Hunter AA/Jumper 4
Carolina Classic Reining @ TIEC	May 6-10	National
Tryon Spring 3	May 13-17	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 4
Tryon Spring 4	May 20-24	Premier/AA Hunters/Jumper 5
Tryon Spring 5	May 26-31	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 3*
Tryon Spring 6 TR&HC Charity Horse Show	June 2-7	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 3*

### SUMMER SERIES

Tryon Summer Dressage 1 & 2	June 12-14	National/FEI CPEDI 3*
Tryon Summer 1	June 12-14	Regional 1/Hunter B/Jumper 3
Tryon Summer 2	June 19-21	Regional 1/Hunter B/Jumper 3
Tryon Summer 3	June 24-28	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 2*
Tryon Summer 4	June 30-July 5	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 3*
Tryon Summer 5	July 7-12	Regional 1/Hunter B/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 2*
Tryon Summer 6	July 14-19	Regional 1/Hunter B/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 3*
Tryon Summer Dressage 3 & 4	August 8-9	National

### FALL SERIES

Tryon Fall Dressage 1 & 2	September 11-13	National
Blue Ridge Mountain Horse Trials @ TIEC	September 12-13	National BN-A
Tryon Fall 1	September 18-20	Regional 1/Hunter B/Jumper 3
Tryon Fall 2	September 23-27	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6
Tryon Fall 3	Sept. 30-Oct. 4	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 2*
Tryon Fall 4	October 6-11	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 3*
Tryon Fall 5	October 13-18	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 5*
Tryon Fall 6	October 20-25	Premier/Hunter AA/Jumper 6/FEI CSI 2*
Tryon Fall Dressage 3	October 23-25	National/FEI CDIW

### FALL FESTIVAL SERIES

Young Horse Show Finals	November 5-8	
Tryon Fall Festival 2	November 13-15	Regional/Hunter B/Jumper 3
US Mounted Games Association (USMGA)	November 11-15	International Pairs

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# PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

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Zoey Burton and Everwood won a championship in a section of the Cross Rail Hunters Younger.



Maureen Allen and Revocation were the Take2 Thoroughbred Jumper champions.



Alexa Curry and Zanziboy won the \$1,500 Low Children's Jumper Classic at WEF 7 and were champions in the division at WEF 6.



Qualified, ridden by Keri Kampsen and owned by Quail Run Partnerships, was the Equitan Performance Hunter 3'6" champion, pictured with Mary McKenzie.



Sophia Pessoa and Anderin's Pick Pocket were the Walk/Trot section A champions.



Dylan Clark won another championship at WEF 7 in the Cross Rail Hunter Younger with Empire's Paris. She was also reserve champion on Davidson.



In the Low Children's Jumpers at WEF 7, Arabella Visser and Zilver Pomme VDL were champions.



Brienne Beerbaum won the Palm Beach Day Academy Small Pony Hunter championship with So Enchanted.



Cecelia Perry and Fortnite took home the championship in the Small Green Pony Hunters.



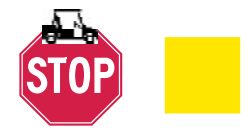
Inverness was the Gold Coast Feed ESP Open Hunter 3'3" champion with Molly Sewell and the USHJA Hunter 2' champion with owner Leslie Campbell.



**VENDOR VILLAGE**

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- Fab Finds by Sarah
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- Tony Hanley Horse Supplements
- Turner & Co.
- Voltaire Design Fine Saddlery
- Willow Equestrian
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**SHUTTLE ROUTE/PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

**RING 6**

- Antarès Sellier France
- Equifit
- Horse Gym USA
- MK Horse Walkers

**BARN 1-4**

- Dandy Products
- Farmvet Inc.
- RC Saddle & Tack Repair
- Josey's Laundry Service
- Woody's Shoe Repair

**INTERNATIONAL WARM-UP ARENA**

- Animo USA
- Bruno Delgrange Custom Saddles
- Equitan Flooring
- Hermès
- Premier Equestrian, Inc.

**RINGS 9 & 10**

- Devoucoux Saddles & Tack
- McGuinn Farms Inc. Tack Trunks & Stable Equip.
- Prestige Italia USA
- SportFot USA
- Wellington Agricultural Services

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- Clare Christie Fine Art
- COSI
- Davin Art Photo Inc.
- Elizabeth Locke Jewels
- Hermès
- Horse Gym USA

- IYC
- Kaval
- MDVii
- MK Horsewalkers
- Mark Cross Leather Goods
- Michel McNabb Jewelry
- Morphew
- Nouvelle
- Pageo X Misani
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- Susan K Friedland Fine Art Photography
- Tommy Conch
- The Urban Strides
- Vhay Studios

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- Vestrum

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- Loopy's Crêpes Café
- Oasis Café
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## HUNTERS AND EQUITATION (Cont. from Page 1)

Second place in Section A went to Kierstin Antaniadis, of Middletown, NY, riding Heritage Farm, Inc.'s Cascadel. Elli Yeager and her mount Copperfield 38 received third place in the class.

The Section B winner was Kathryn McCarthy, of New Canaan, CT, riding Cool de Reve.

"He knows his job so well and he's there to help me whenever I need it," McCarthy described. "I've been really close to winning every weekend, and we really wanted to qualify for the Excellence in Equitation class and he really pulled through!"

Kennedy McCaulley, of St. Charles, IL, rode her horse Chacco Star to a second place finish in Section B. Third place went to Ellie Ferrigno, of Newtown, CT, aboard FRH Group's FRH Remarkable.

Kat Fuqua of Atlanta, GA, picked up the Large Pony Hunter championship with Heaven's Gift, owned by Glade Run Farm LLC. They won the conformation and handy classes, were second in the under saddle and over fences, and picked up a third place ribbon. The reserve champion was Benetton, ridden by Georgia Jacob for Pretty Penny Farm.

 Sabrina Brashares



Kathryn McCarthy and Cool de Reve won section B of the Dover Saddlery USEF Hunter Seat Medal. © Sportfot

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## WEF 7 JUMPER HIGHLIGHTS



Georgina Bloomberg and new mount Balotelli 5 won the Bainbridge Companies 1.40m CSI5\* on Wednesday of WEF 7. ©Sportfot

Four-time U.S. Olympic medalist Beezie Madden claimed victory in the \$37,000 Douglas Elliman 1.45m CSI5\* aboard Jiva, and Georgina Bloomberg topped the Bainbridge Companies 1.40m CSI5\* riding new mount Balotelli 5 to open week seven at the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) on Wednesday, February 19.

Madden and her lightning-fast mare bested a field of 73 over courses set by Santiago Varela (ESP). The top three in Wednesday's feature class were all separated by less than a half of a second. Madden's time of 46.52 seconds bumped Ireland's Jordan Coyle and Kristen Vanderveen (USA) to a tie for second place with matching times of 46.81 seconds. Coyle piloted Centriko Volo for Celtic Park LLC, while Vanderveen rode Bull Run's Divine Fortune, owned by her own Bull Run Jumpers Six LLC. Fellow U.S. rider Adrienne Sternlicht took fourth riding Cadans Z, owned by Starlight Farms 1 LLC, in 48.04 seconds, while Japan's Karen Polle capped the top five with her own Kino by stopping the clock in 48.54 seconds.

Kicking off CSI5\* competition earlier in the day, Georgina Bloomberg (USA) rode a new mount to the pair's first FEI victory together, topping the Bainbridge Companies 1.40m CSI5\*. Besting 35 other contenders, Bloomberg and Balotelli 5 stopped the clock at 34.58 seconds over Sweden's Petronella Andersson and Cassini Bay, owned by StepheX Stables. Their time of 35.85 seconds was just ahead of Catherine Tyree (USA) in third riding BEC Lorenzo in 36.69 seconds for owner Mary Tyree.

Also in the International Arena on Wednesday, Sarah Segal (USA) topped the \$8,000 Dutta Corp/G Klatté 1.40m during Performance EP, owned by Robert Segal.

Swiss rider Martin Fuchs showed why he is ranked number two in the world with a win aboard Stalando 2 in Thursday's \$137,000 Equinimity WEF Challenge Cup Round 7 CSI5\*. Fuchs and Stalando 2 were one of 49 entries to contest Thursday's featured class, and the duo was one of 13 combinations to jump the first-round track without fault to qualify for the Santiago Varela (ESP) designated short course.

When Fuchs entered the ring as the penultimate rider, the time to beat had been set at 40.75 seconds by Great Britain's Amanda Derbyshire and Luibanta BH, owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC. With his spot in the order on his side and with strides left out throughout the course aboard Stalando 2, Fuchs shot straight to the top of the leaderboard with a double-clear time of 40.69 seconds.

Fuchs's time with Stalando 2 would relegate Derbyshire to second, while third place with a time of 41.28 seconds went to the final rider to return, Canada's Mario Deslauriers riding Amsterdam 27, owned by Deslauriers and Wishing Well Farm, LLC.

Also winning in the International Arena at WEF on Thursday were Spencer Smith and Sangris Boy in the \$8,000 Dutta Corp/G Klatté 1.45m CSI2\* and Natalie Dean and Don's Diamant in the \$2,500 High Amateur-Owner Jumpers.

Please turn to page 17



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Featuring 

**PREVIEW:**  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020  
at 3:00 p.m.

**AUCTION:**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020  
at 7:00 p.m.



For the complete schedule of events: [WEFSPOORTHORSEAUCTION.COM](http://WEFSPOORTHORSEAUCTION.COM)  
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Lindsay Brock

## INTERNATIONAL RIDER PROFILE

Margie Engle



Margie Engle ©Elena Lusenti

As one of the winningest and most beloved riders in show jumping, Olympian Margie Engle is a fixture at the Winter Equestrian Festival circuit. Having grown up in Miami, she has spent her life in South Florida and amassed many fans who admire her style and skill. Margie is a team silver medalist from the 2006 FEI World Equestrian Games and picked up team gold and silver plus individual bronze at the Pan American Games. She is always one to watch in the jump-off.

### Q. What got you into horses and the sport?

A. I've always loved animals, and I've always loved sports, so it seemed like a great combination of the two. I fell in love with horses at an early age. My best friend from the first grade was riding out at a place that had a riding school, boarding stable, and a dog and cat kennel. My friend took me out with her when I was in third grade, and I just fell in love with horses. My family's background has nothing to do with horses. They thought I was crazy when I kept begging for lessons. Plus, it's thought of as an expensive sport. We weren't poor, but it was out of our budget. It was more of a 'luxury.' They were scared of the horses, too, and didn't want me to get hurt. I finally begged them enough and they saw how much I wanted to do it, so I talked them into one lesson a week. I was too young to groom the horses, so I worked in the dog and cat kennels to earn extra rides. My parents laughed when I came home and said, "They finally let me groom the horses and muck the stalls!" It was much nicer cleaning out the horse stalls than the dog and cat kennels. The people who owned the farm were like second parents to me. They said, "I think if we'd asked you to ride a donkey, you would!" They eventually gave me a job. They raised a lot of ponies and horses, so I worked in the barn and helped break the ponies because of my size. I just loved it! Once it got in my blood, I was obsessed with them.

### Q. What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment in life so far?

A. I think my biggest accomplishment is when people would tell me, "There's no way. You don't have enough financial backing." They tried to get me to race horses because of my size. They said, "You're not going to make it in this sport." The more people told me I couldn't, the more I wanted to do it. Another thing has been staying true to my values and treating people the way I would want to be treated. You can't go wrong being honest and staying true to yourself. If you work hard enough at something and really have a passion for it, you can accomplish almost anything.

### Q. What's the best gift that you gave someone?

A. I think the gift that meant the most to me was when I won my first car and gave it to my parents. They always thought that horses were a nice hobby, but they never thought it was something that I could make a living at. They always thought of it as for the elite people. They were so adamant about not wanting to take it, but I told them it meant more to me just being able to give back to people. Another one that meant a lot was from the Make A Wish Foundation. I had a girl who had bone cancer, and she was going to have her leg amputated. She came to visit us and we set up this whole thing for her to meet a bunch of the other riders and go on a trail ride with us. We spent the whole day with her, and that meant a lot. She was 13 at the time and the cancer was supposed to be terminal, but she lived. She ended up getting married and having kids and has a prosthesis now that you'd never even notice. She wrote me the nicest letter and said her day with us meant so much to her. She was just the nicest girl. Later, we raised money with another group to buy her a quarter horse because she always wanted her own horse. We gave it to her at one of the horse shows, and she was in tears. That was probably the most meaningful.

### Q. Which horse would you like to ride that you haven't already, and why?

A. Probably my favorite horse of all time to watch was Gem Twist. I just loved watching him. He was like a cat the way he'd crouch down and pounce off the ground. To this day, I've never seen a horse who could jump from so many different distances. He'd put so much effort into every jump. He did things that looked physically impossible. He got better and better with every rider that rode him. I always liked Fit For Fun, too. She looks like such a pleasure. There are so many good horses out there. I like so many of them, so it's hard to pick!

## GRAND PRIX (Continued from Page 1)

Capt. Cournane is now in his third year piloting Penelope Cruz, a 12-year-old Irish Sport Horse (Ustinov x Peter Pan), and stepped the mare up to the five-star level just two weeks ago at WEF. "She's been jumping great in the 1.50m league on Sundays," he said. "Tonight, she really felt on form and jumped great."

"It was very clever course building," continued Cournane of the track that proved to be a challenge for many. "The water jump came up early and got the horses really open. The skinny at the in-gate really got a lot of people. The combination was also very difficult."

Granato made his way onto the podium beside Ward and Cournane despite some last-minute wavering in his jump-off plan. "I had definitely walked the inside turn to the double during the course walk, and I was planning it," he said. "But, it didn't go well for Eduardo, I saw Brian go around. I looked at it two or three times once I was in the ring. I was a little unsure, but as soon as I started, [Carlchen W] felt really with me. If anything I got in his way. He turned so well into it, and I pushed a little bit out to give him a little extra help and caused the rail at B."

"I was really happy with him," continued Granato of his 12-year-old Mecklenberg gelding (Chacco-Blue x Continue) he plans to point toward the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Final in Las Vegas, NV, this spring. "I thought he performed well, and I am excited for how he feels."

Darragh Kenny (IRL) and Romeo 88 took fourth place with a four-fault jump-off round in 39.30 seconds for owner Ann Thompson, while Brazil's Eduardo Menezes capped the top five riding Magnolia Mystic Rose with four faults in 40.10 seconds or owner Rm Agronegocios Eireli. Returning last over the short course, Daniel Coyle (IRL) finished sixth with two poles hitting the ground in a time of 43.36 seconds aboard Legacy, owned by Ariel Grange.

## FINAL RESULTS: \$401,000 LUGANO DIAMONDS GRAND PRIX CSI5\*

1 **HH AZUR:** 2006 Belgian Sport Horse mare by Thunder van de Zuuthoeve x Sir Lui MCLAIN WARD (USA), Double H Farm & McLain Ward: 0/0/39.85

2 **PENELOPE CRUZ:** 2008 Irish Sport Horse mare by Ustinov x Peter Pan CAPT. BRIAN COURNANE (IRL), Capt. Brian Cournane: 0/0/44.19

3 **CARLCHEN W:** 2008 Mecklenberg gelding by Chacco-Blue x Continue ALEX GRANATO (USA), Page Tredennick: 0/4/38.87

4 **ROMEO 88:** 2009 Zangersheide stallion by Contact van de Heffinck x Orlando DARRAGH KENNY (IRL), Darragh Kenny and Ann Thompson: 0/4/39.30

5 **MAGNOLIA MYSTIC ROSE:** 2009 BH mare by Zirocco Blue VDL EDUARDO MENEZES (BRA), Rm Agronegocios Eireli: 0/4/40.10

6 **LEGACY:** 2010 Zangersheide mare by Chippendale Z x Bon Ami DANIEL COYLE (IRL), Ariel Grange: 0/8/43.36

7 **CARLITO'S WAY 6:** 2010 Holsteiner gelding by Casall x Lordanos RODRIGO PESSOA (BRA), Artemis Equestrian Farm LLC: 4/75.94

8 **BLUE MOVIE:** 2006 Anglo European mare by Chacco Blue x Pilot ROWAN WILLIS (AUS), Rowan Willis: 4/76.04

9 **VIC DES CERISIERS\*** 2009 Selle Français gelding by Olympic d'Anguerny x Desir du Chateau BEAT MÄNDLI (SUI), Grant Road Partner GmbH: 4/76.80

10 **SILVER SHINE:** 2009 Oldenburg gelding by Califax x Balou du Rouet MARTIN FUCHS (SUI), Willow Grace Farm: 4/77.60

11 **LADRIANO Z:** 2008 Zangersheide gelding by Lawito x Baloubet du Rouet DANIEL BLUMAN (COL), Blue Star Investments: 4/77.94

12 **LUCIFER V:** 2006 Westphalian gelding by Lord Dezi x Grandeur NAYEL NASSAR (EGY), Evergate Stables LLC: 4/78.48

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## WEF 7 JUMPER HIGHLIGHTS (Continued from Page 13)

Ireland's Bertram Allen continued a successful debut season at the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) in Wellington, FL, with a victory in the \$37,000 Bainbridge Companies 1.45m CSI5\* riding Lafayette van Overis on Friday, February 21.

Friday's one-round, featured event built by course designer Santiago Varela (ESP) saw 67 riders compete for the win, but none could best Allen and the foot speed of his nine-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding (Kashmir van Schuttershof x Tauber van het Kapelhof), owned by Ballywalter Stables.

Stopping the clock at 63.61 seconds, Allen and Lafayette van Overis, a horse he got the ride on in August of 2019, handily won with almost two seconds to spare. Mexico's Santiago Lambre finished the runner up in 65.15 seconds riding his own Doloris, and Andrew Kocher (USA) capped the top three in 65.44 seconds on Fashion V for owner Eye Candy Jumpers.

Also winning in the International Arena at WEF on Friday, Claire McKean (USA) opened the day with a victory in the \$2,500 High Amateur-Owner Jumpers, presented by Lugano Diamonds, riding her own Cartoon Time. In

the CSI2\* ranks, Mexico's Eugenio Garza Perez topped the \$37,000 Dutta Corp/G Klatte 1.45m CSI2\* aboard Caracas for owner El Milagro.

Saving the best for last in the seven-horse jump-off including number-two ranked rider in the world, Martin Fuchs. Catherine Tyree and her 10-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding Bec Lorenzo (Livello x Guidam) blazed to the win in Sunday's \$73,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Classic CSI5\*. They finished double-clear over Varela's track in 37.39 seconds over the short course for owner Mary Tyree.

In second place, Fuchs (SUI) finished with a time of 37.92 seconds aboard Stalando 2, owned by Gospodarstwo Rolne Andrzej Oplatek, ahead of Ireland's Daniel Coyle riding Farrel for owner Ariel Grange. They stopped the clock without fault in 38.60 seconds. Fourth place went to fellow Irish rider and Daniel's cousin, Jordan Coyle, on Centriko Volvo in a time of 39.98 for owner Celtic Park, LLC. Rounding out the top five, Jorge Matte Capdevila rode his own Destiny Van Schore to a time of 46.889.

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## Spencer Smith and Princeton Z Soar to First International Win



Spencer Smith and Princeton Z recorded their first international win together in the \$50,000 Dutta Corp./Guido Klatté Grand Prix CSI2\*. © Sportfot

Spencer Smith (USA), 23, guided a new and promising mount in Princeton Z to a win in the \$50,000 Dutta Corp./Guido Klatté Grand Prix CSI2\* to close week seven of WEF on Sunday, February 23.

Course designer Santiago Varela (ESP) welcomed 44 horses to the final event of the week with 15 advancing to the tie-breaking jump-off. Smith and Princeton Z, a nine-year-old Zangersheide stallion (President x Indoctro) owned by Torrey Pines Stable, rose to the top while promising a bright future for the young horse and blooming partnership.

Their time of 39.52 seconds bested Madison Goetzmann (USA) and her own Prestigious, who pocketed a time of 40.14 seconds to finish the runner-up. Ireland's David Blake and Don't Touch du Bois, owned by Pine Hollow Farm, rounded out the top three in 41.04 seconds.

"Princeton came to us in the beginning of January and I got along well with him right away," said Smith, who has worked with Canadian Olympic champion Eric Lamaze at his Torrey Pines Stables for several years. "He jumped really well in the [Hermès] Under 25 team event earlier in the season, so we thought we'd step him up to this. He's a nice horse. And I think he'll do everything; he'll jump all the big tracks."

Smith candidly described Princeton Z, the former mount of French rider Mathieu Laveau, as "a little monster!" "He just wants to win and wants to go faster. He's got a lot of fight."

Of Varela's track, Smith noted, "I think at this show, with this top level of riders, it has to be difficult, so it wouldn't just become a total runner. It was a nice track, and I love having the two-star running along with the five-star. It's an awesome division; it brings everyone into the FEI ranking system you're able to step up."

Just off the podium, Bliss Heers (USA) took fourth aboard Christos in 41.23 seconds for owner Bridgeside Farms LLC, while Spain's Miguel Torres capped the top five in 41.84 seconds riding his own Chacendra.

Lindsay Brock



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## USHJA NATIONAL HUNTER DERBY (Cont.)



Augusta Iwasaki and Sambuca won the junior/amateur section of the \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby at WEF 7. © Sportfot

in the first round and an 87 with four bonus points in the handy, for a total score of 192. Keri Kampsen, of Wellington, FL, and her horse San Diego received third place, with a total score of 183. Kampsen and San Diego had a first round score of 86 with four bonus points and a handy score of 89 with four bonus points.

Taking top honors in the junior/amateur section was Augusta Iwasaki riding Sambuca. Iwasaki, of Calabasas, CA, and Sambuca received a first round score of 86 with three bonus points to put them in second place. In the handy round the pair scored a 93 with four bonus points to put them on top with a total score of 186.

"I thought it was a super fun course. I had a great time on both of my horses," Iwasaki commented.

Sabrina Brashares



## INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB HAPPENINGS

The USPA Gold Cup® - the second leg of the GAUNTLET OF POLO™ - starts up this week at the International Polo Club Palm Beach after an exciting final of the C.V. Whitney Cup last Sunday saw Las Monjitas beat La Indiana and claim the 2020 cup. Check out this week's full game schedule below and join us at the IPC fields!

CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S FULL GAME SCHEDULE BELOW.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

3:00 p.m.: Park Place vs. Pilot - Bracket II

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

3:00 p.m.: Old Hickory Bourbon vs. Tonkawa - Bracket II

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

3:00 p.m.: Las Monjitas vs. Coca Cola - Bracket III/IV

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

12:00 p.m.: Daily Racing Form vs. La Indiana - Bracket I

### SUNDAY, MARCH 1

3:00 p.m.: Tonkawa vs. Pilot - Bracket II

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"Footing Facts" will be an in-depth look at the effects footing surfaces have on our horses. This lively session will include information about sand characteristics, footing products and types of surfaces for different disciplines.

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Contact Miranda Tiona at 561-784-1137  
mtiona@equestriansport.com for more information.

ADMISSION IS FREE





# FARM STAND

*We cordially invite you to our Weekend Wonderland!*

*Follow us @ farm\_stand for details and times!*

*Friday Feb 28 - Sunday March 1*

TAMMY FENDER

MILOU PALM BEACH

LAZY POINT VARIETY

GELATO & CHAMPAGNE

MANICURES & PEDICURES

LIVE MUSIC

## WEF PREFERRED REALTOR WEEK 8



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