



WEEKLY WIRE

EDITOR: JENNIFER WOOD

WEEK 7 FEBRUARY 24-28, 2021

All Bets on Bertram as the Irishman Notched Second Win of WEF 6



After winning Friday's qualifier, Bertram Allen and Castlefield Vegas returned to the winner's circle in the \$137,000 IDA Development Grand Prix CSI3*. ©Sportfot

Opening the final day of week six at the 2021 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF), it was Bertram Allen (IRL) and Castlefield Vegas, owned by Martin Egan, taking the top spot in the 137,000 IDA Development Grand Prix CSI3* held on the grass Derby Field at Equestrian Village, on Sunday, February 21.

In the first round of Sunday's grand prix, the final line on course featured a triple combination [vertical, oxer, vertical] followed by five strides down to the IDA Developments oxer, the final jump on course. This combination of jumps proved to be one of the most difficult sections of the track designed by Catsy Cruz (MEX). A starting field of 45 combinations challenged the course, with 18 qualifying to return for the jump-off.

Fresh off their victory in the Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup on Friday, Allen and the 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding by Cassino x Lux Z did it again, putting forth a blistering double-clear effort to stop the clock in 37.10 seconds.

"I knew I just had to give it everything I had," said the 26-year-old rider. "I didn't watch Nayel's round, but I was talking to a few people and they said it was very fast and my guy is naturally fast, so my plan was to just be as fast as I could be without doing anything crazy. It all came up great. Friday was the

biggest class he's [Castlefield Vegas] jumped so far, and he won that, so I was delighted. Today I was interested to see how he would go along with that. He jumped great, and I had a good feeling."

Less than three-tenths of a second off the leader, Egypt's Nayel Nassar rode Igor Van De Wittemoere owned by Evergate Stables, LLC, to a second-place finish. Nassar and the 13-year-old gelding by Cooper VD Heffinck x Orlando 96, also posted a double-clear round in 37.39 seconds. The pair has been together for about a year now so their success on Sunday comes as a very exciting step in the right direction.

"It has been a bit of a process trying to get him going the way I would like him to," said the 30-year-old rider. "He has a ton of energy and so much blood, and sometimes he tends to rush the jumps a bit. We've been messing around with bridles and doing a lot of flatwork just to try to get him to switch a few gears, and I was so pleased with him today. He jumped the first round spectacularly and came back to jump the jump-off even better. I thought we had it won, but this guy [Bertram] is pretty darn fast. We are so happy with the result and just very pleased with how he's coming along."

Rounding out the top three it was Paul O'Shea (IRL) and Skara Glen's

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Amanda Steege Pilots Lafitte De Muze to a Victory in the \$50,000 WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular



Amanda Steege and Lafitte de Muze captured victory in the \$50,000 WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular. ©Sportfot

Seasoned hunter rider Amanda Steege guided Cheryl Olsten's Lafitte De Muze to top honors in the \$50,000 WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular during "Saturday Night Lights" at the 2021 Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF).

Thirty-three junior, amateur, and professional hunter riders took their turn over the track designed by Andy Christiansen. The course consisted of 12 elements and was offered at 3'6", 3'9", and the 4' height. After all riders completed the first course, the top 12 returned for a second classic round. Six judges split into three panels oversaw the class with panel one consisting of Mary Lisa Leffler and Chris Wynne, panel two being Rachel Kennedy and Sissy Wickes, and the final panel including Tom Brennan and Mark Jungherr.

Eleventh to go, Laena Romond, of Brookfield, CT, and Catherine Cowie's Traveller took an early lead with a score of 89.66 and held onto the top spot for the remainder of the first round. Less than a full point behind Romond was Wellington, FL, resident Jimmy Torano aboard Isalou, Inc.'s Laskano with a score of 89.16. Steege, of Bedminster, NJ, and Lafitte De Muze were sitting in third place going into the second round with a score of 88.91. The top 12 riders who returned for the second round consisted of 10 professionals and two junior riders.

Tenth to come back in the order, Steege and the 10-year-old Belgian Warmblood by Darco showed off their handiness and rideability to receive a score of 88.83, which put the pair at the top of the leaderboard with an overall score of 177.74.

"My plan for round one was to just go as smoothly as I could and show off some galloping; I can trust that he's going to jump the jumps with amazing style so I was just trying to do my job the best way that I could," explained Steege. "For the second round, I did a different plan than the one we had decided when we walked it. Liza [Boyd] and I walked together with a few others, and we were not planning on doing some of the inside slices that we did. As we were watching people go and people started doing tighter turns and judges seemed to reward that, I actually phoned a friend. I called Tom Wright who was sitting in the stands literally as I was at the gate, and he helped me formulate a plan that he thought would be the best for Lafitte. I was happy that I was able to make it work."

Elizabeth Towell-Boyd and Gigi Manigault's Walk-Off finished the first round in tenth place and then received the highest second round score of 91 to finish in second overall. Their second round score combined

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR PBIEC WEEK 7 EVENTS AND MORE

PBIEC EDUCATIONAL SERIES, PRESENTED BY ADEQUAN®

The PBIEC Educational Series, presented by Adequan®, is hosted weekly during the annual Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF). The series provides an educational platform for horse enthusiasts to expand their knowledge on a variety of equine- and rider-related topics. Admission is free, and pre-registration is required. Participants will automatically be entered to win a luxury item from Karina Brez Jewelry as the grand prize giveaway. The seventh session, hosted on Zoom, will be Thursday, February 25, from 6-7 p.m. EST. The topic of "Making Smart Choices in Crucial In This Sport: Join in a conversation about smart tools to manage the financial and physical risks of getting into the saddle, from insurance to air vests and more," with Athletes Risk Management President Geoffrey Wight and Ride EquiSafe Founder Catherine Winter, is sponsored by Athletes Risk Management and Ride EquiSafe.

WEF 7 LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE

WEF 7 brings CSI5* competition, along with a concurrent CSI2*, back to the International Arena at PBIEC on February 24-28 sponsored by Lugano Diamonds with weekly highlights including: the \$37,000 Douglas Elliman Real Estate 1.45m CSI5* on Wednesday, Thursday's \$73,000 Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup Round 7, the \$37,000 Bainbridge Companies 1.45m Classic CSI5* and \$37,000 Griffis Residential 1.45m Qualifier CSI2* on Friday, the \$401,000 Lugano Diamonds Grand Prix CSI5* as part of "Saturday Night Lights," and the \$73,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Classic CSI5* and \$50,000 Griffis Residential Grand Prix CSI2* on Sunday. Hunters will be featured on the grass Derby Field at Equestrian Village on Friday, February 26, in the \$10,000 USHJA National Hunter Derby, with the professional section presented by Restylane and a junior/amateur section.

ADEQUAN® GLOBAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL 7 CDIS*

AGDF 7 hosts one of the biggest dressage shows of the year with CDIS* competition on February 24-28, along with CDI3*, CDI1*, and national competition, including: Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDIS*, presented by CaptiveOne Advisors - this is one of only two Grand Prix Freestyles under the lights this year, don't miss the livestream!; Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDIS*, presented by Palm Beach Equine Clinic; Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle CDI3*, presented by Premier

Equestrian; Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special CDI3*, presented by Hygain Feeds; Small Tour CDI3*, presented by Donato Farms; and Small Tour CDI1*. CDI judges for the week include Katrina Wuest (GER), Elizabeth Max-Theurer (AUT), Evi Eisenhardt (GER), Christof Umbach (LUX), Mike Osinski (USA), and Peter Storr (GBR).

PLUS! Watch the retirement ceremony for U.S. Dressage superstar, Verdades, on Friday night!

WEF 8 – NATIONS CUP WEEK

It's Nations Cup week at WEF during week 8 on March 3-7, with the \$150,000 Nations Cup CSIO4*, presented by Premier Equestrian, under the lights on Friday, March 5; the \$37,000 Hermès Under 25 Semi-Final Grand Prix under the lights on Saturday, March 6; and the \$214,000 Grand Prix CSIO4*, presented by JTWG, Inc. on Sunday, March 7, at 1 p.m.

AGDF 8

Week 8 of AGDF, the Palm Beach Dressage Derby, will host CDI-W competition on March 3-7 and include the Florida International Youth Dressage Championships for Pony, Children's, Junior, Young Rider, and Under 25 divisions.

SAVE THE DATE

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. This year's auction will also be livestreamed and bids can be placed online. The 2021 edition of the WEF Sport Horse Auction is set to take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, at 7 p.m., at Equestrian Village at PBIEC (Home of the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival - 13500 South Shore Blvd.). For more information on the WEF Sport Horse Auction please visit www.WefSportHorseAuction.com or www.facebook.com/WEFSportHorseAuction.



WEF SPORT HORSE AUCTION

Featuring 

PREVIEW:
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021
at 3:00 p.m.

AUCTION:
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021
at 7:00 p.m.



2020 winner of the World Cup Qualifier Live Oak Oaks 2020



2020 Grand Prix Performer at 2020 World Cup Qualifier with First Place



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For the complete schedule of events:
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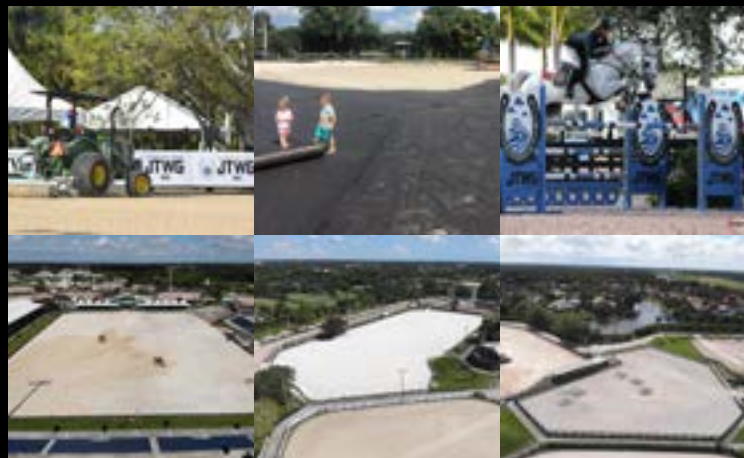


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Standings and Awards

WEF WEEK 6



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

1. Adrienne Sternlicht (USA): 732
2. Margie Engle (USA): 665
3. Lillie Keenan (USA): 626.5
4. Laura Kraut (USA): 626
5. Tiffany Foster (CAN): 590



CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE HUNTER STYLE AWARD: Trademark, ridden by Geoffrey Hesslink and owned by Shadowfax Equestrian LLC

CHAMPION EQUINE INSURANCE JUMPER STYLE AWARD: Deauville S, ridden by Tanner Korotkin and owned by Castlewood Farm Inc.



HERMÈS UNDER 25 GRAND PRIX SERIES

(after 5 qualifying events)

1. Ashley Vogel (USA): 208.5
2. Flo Norris (GBR): 190
3. Jessica Mendoza (GBR): 159.5
4. Tanner Korotkin (USA): 154.5
5. Natalie Dean (USA): 148

CaptiveOne

ADVISORS*

CAPTIVEONE ADVISORS 1.50M CHAMPIONSHIP JUMPER CLASSIC SERIES (after 7 qualifying events)

1. Darragh Kenny (IRL): 269
2. McLain Ward (USA): 264
3. Jessica Springsteen (USA): 243
4. Daniel Deusser (GER): 218
5. Shane Sweetnam (IRL): 201

WEF 6 WEEKLY SPONSOR AWARDS



Beezie Madden won the Martha Jolicoeur Leading Lady Rider Award, in memory of Dale Lawler, presented by Martha Jolicoeur and Sharon Loayza.



Winner of the WEF 6 Vita Flex Tack Room Award, Tiffany Morrissey of East Wind Farm in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.



Tanner Korotkin won the Hermès U25 Welcome and the Champion Equine Insurance Jumper Style Award, presented by Laura Fetterman, Dieter de Ridder, Independent Saddle Expert, and Leah Rogers Meierfeld, Senior Equestrian Account Executive for Hermès.



Geoffrey Hesslink and Trademark were presented with the Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award by Laura Fetterman.



The Vita Flex Tack Room Award for WEF 5 went to the team at Back Country Farm: Sydney and Jill Shulman and Gabrielle Hero. Sydney Shulman started out the week piloting Jill Shulman's Villamoura to the win in the \$37,000 Douglas Elliman Real Estate 1.45m CSI5* and returned to their beautiful tack room area to learn they had won the Vita Flex Tack Room Award, too!

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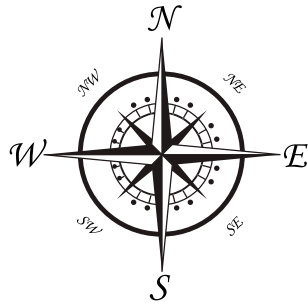
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- Wellington Agricultural
- Woody's Boot Repairs

PLACES TO EAT

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- Loopy's Crepes (Vendor Village)
- Magdalena's Mexican Food (Ring 10)
- Meraki (Farm Stand)
- Muddy Paw Coffee & Ice Cream (Ring 9)
- Nathalie's Café (Ring 9)
- Oasis (Vendor Village)
- Pump House Coffee (Farm Stand)
- Silva's Mexican Food (Pony Island)
- Tess & Co (Farm Stand)
- Tiki Hut (International Arena)



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WEF 6 JUMPER HIGHLIGHTS



Paul O'Shea and Squirt Gun won the \$25,000 CP National Grand Prix on Sunday on the Derby Field. ©Sportfot

On the grass Derby Field at Equestrian Village, Ashlee Bond (ISR) and Imagine, owned by Aurora Farms and Little Valley Farms, captured the Douglas Elliman Real Estate 1.45m Jumpers CSI3* to open FEI competition during Week 6 of WEF.

A total of 40 entries contested the two-phase track set by Catsy Cruz (MEX), which featured nine jumping efforts in the first phase, moving over to an additional six efforts in the second phase. With 15 passing the initial test, it was the best for last on the day as Bond and the eight-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare by Emerald x Heartbreaker jumped double clear and posted the fastest time of 26.24 seconds.

Canada's Erynn Ballard was second last to go, posting a double clear effort aboard Classic Penny, a nine-year-old Norwegian Warmblood mare by Clapton x Brokers Plastic City, owned by Ilan Ferder, finishing in 27.38 seconds. Rounding out the top three was Alex Matz (USA) with Davidson, a 13-year-old gelding by Harley VDL x Chin Chin owned by 5 Star Partners, crossing the finish line fault-free in 28.45 seconds.

Ireland's Bertram Allen and Castlefield Vegas, owned by Martin Egan, finished in top form to take the victory in the \$37,000 Adequan® WEF Challenge Cup Round 6 CSI3* on Friday. Last to go in the order, Allen and the 11-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding by Cassino x Lux Z posted the fastest time of the day, leaving all the jumps in their cups in 36.09 seconds.

It was less than a second separating the winner from the runner-up as Bizzie Madden (USA) and her veteran partner Breitling LS, owned by Abigail Wexner slotted into second place. Madden and the 15-year-old Dutch Warmblood stallion by Quintero x Accord II put forth a double-clear effort in 37 seconds flat.

Paul O'Shea (IRL) piloted Skara Glen's Chancelloress, owned by Skara Glen Stables, to a third-place finish. O'Shea and the 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare by Chacco Blue x Balou du Rouet left all the rails up for a double-clear finish in 37.72 seconds.

Natalie Dean (USA) and Dotcom D'Authiut wrapped up Friday with a victory in the \$1,000 Hermès U25 1.40m. Dean and the eight-year-old Selle Français mare, owned by Marigold Sporthorses, LLC, took the win in the speed class by more than three seconds, stopping the clock at 65.89 seconds.

A successful week at WEF continued for Gavin Harley (IRL) and Corbawido PS, owned by Wolfstone Stables and Sales Inc, as they flew to the top of the podium in the \$37,000 CaptiveOne Advisors 1.50m Classic CSI3*.

Harley and the nine-year-old Polish Warmblood gelding by Cornet's Balou x Widolan, stuck to their plan and it paid off, finishing with a double-clear effort in 39.44 seconds.

A regular contender at WEF, Jessica Springsteen (USA) piloted Hungry Heart, owned by Stone Hill Farm, to a quick double-clear just off the mark, as she and the nine-year-old Swedish Warmblood gelding by Baltimore 1178 x Loucaibo took second place in 39.72 seconds.

First to return in the second round, Daniel Deusser (GER) and Calisto Blue, owned by Stephex Stables, galloped effortlessly across the track to set the pace for the rest of the field, with a fault-free round in 39.99 seconds. He and the 14-year-old Oldenburg gelding by Chacco Blue x Con Air held the lead until the final few horses, ultimately landing them in third position.

To open Saturday competition on the Derby Field, Tanner Korotkin (USA) and Deauville S, owned by Castlewood Farm Inc, captured the Hermès Under 25 Welcome speed class. Korotkin and the 15-year-old Holsteiner gelding by Diamant De Semilly x Lux Z topped the starting field of 66 entries, posting a time of 60.46 seconds.

Competition concluded on the Derby Field at PBIEC on Sunday, February 21, after Ireland's Paul O'Shea claimed victory in the \$25,000 CP National Grand Prix aboard Eye Candy Jumpers' Squirt Gun.

With 35 riders testing the first track, the jump-off only welcomed back two combinations to navigate the day's final course. O'Shea and the 2011 Oldenburg gelding by Diarado ended the afternoon as the only pair to go double clear in a time of 39.526 seconds.

Second place in the \$25,000 CP National Grand Prix went to Juan Manuel Gallego (COL) and Havana de la Lande, a 2007 Belgian Warmblood mare by Nabab de Reve owned by Elise Uribe, who crossed through timers in 38.484 seconds, but with four faults. Third place was awarded to the USA's Alex Matz riding Flash, a 2010 KWPN gelding by Numero Uno owned by 5 Star Partners, who ended their day in the first round with four faults in 82.777 seconds.

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WEF 7

Thursday, February 25 at 6:00 pm

Making smart choices is crucial in this sport. Athletes Risk Management president Geoffrey Wight and Ride EquiSafe founder Catherine Winter join in a conversation about smart tools to manage the financial and physical risks of getting into the saddle, from insurance to air vests and more.

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Chancellor, owned by Skara Glen Stables, leaving all the jumps in their cups in a time of 38.35 seconds. O'Shea and the 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare by Chacco Blue x Balou du Rouet had a successful week overall, after also finishing third in Friday's qualifier.

"I thought it was a great course," said O'Shea, who is ranked 40th in the world. "I was very happy with my mare. She was good the other day too, so I think we went as quick as we could. I'm very happy with her, and at least another Irishman won! Bertram's horse is co-owned by a very good friend of mine, so it's great to see them going so well."

Allen, who sits 46th in the world rankings, echoed the praise of other international competitors of the quality of the turf, after racking up three wins to date with Castlefield Vegas on the grass Derby Field during the 2021 WEF.

"Everyone is delighted to be able to jump on the grass," he said with a smile. "There is so much space and everyone loves jumping out here, so it's nice."

 Kate Pettersen



FINAL RESULTS

\$137,000 IDA DEVELOPMENT GRAND PRIX CSI3*

- 1. CASTLEFIELD VEGAS:** 2010 ISH gelding by Cassino x Lux Z BERTRAM ALLEN (IRL), Martin Egan: 0/0/37.10
- 2. IGOR VAN DE WITTEMOERE:** 2008 Belgian Warmblood gelding by Cooper VD Heffinck x Orlando 96 NAYEL NASSAR (EGY), Evergate Stables, LLC: 0/0/37.39
- 3. SKARA GLEN'S CHANCELLORESS:** 2009 KWPN mare by Chacco Blue x Balou du Rouet PAUL O'SHEA (IRL), Skara Glen Stables: 0/0/38.35
- 4. LEGACY:** 2010 Zangersheide mare by Chippendale Z x Bon Ami DANIEL COYLE (IRL), Ariel Grange: 0/0/38.45
- 5. URHELIA LUTTERBACH:** 2008 Selle Français mare by Helios De La Cour li x Emilion DARRAGH KENNY (IRL), Kerry McCahill: 0/0/38.70
- 6. CHIC HIN D HYRENCOURT:** 2008 SBS gelding by Taran de la Pomme x Elanville BEEZIE MADDEN (USA), Abigail Wexner: 0/0/40.33
- 7. FREAKY LIEFHEDBER:** 2010 Dutch Warmblood by Darco x Litho x JACQUELINE STEFFENS (CAN) Jacqueline Steffens: 0/0/40.72
- 8. QU ALFONS SANTO ANTONIO:** 2007 ESH gelding by Aromats x False Pass YURI MANSUR (BRA), Yuri Mansur: 0/0/41.51
- 9. SKYHORSE:** 2007 Belgian Warmblood gelding by Calvaro x Quidam de Revel LILLIE KEENAN (USA), Chansonette Farm LLC: 0/0/42.70
- 10. H5 JUST THE MUSIC:** 2009 BWP gelding by Tornado FCS x Quidam de Revel CARLOS HANK GUERREIRO (MEX), H5 Stables: 0/0/43.06
- 11. GK COCO CHANEL:** 2008 Holsteiner gelding by Clarimo x Lerano 2 CONOR SWAIL (IRL), Vanessa Mannix: 0/4/38.32
- 12. JEFF TEN HALVEN:** 2009 BWP gelding by Toulon x Cassis Z MICHAEL DUFFY (IRL), HMF Equestrian: 0/4/39.39

Meet The Riders of WEF: Cara McFadden



Cara McFadden and Serafino. © Jennifer Wood Media/Sabrina Brashares

Q: How long have you been riding, and how did you start?
A: I've been riding for ten years, since I was seven years old, and I got into it because of my mom, Elisabeth. She rode with Beacon Hill as a child, so it's really cool because I actually have her old trunk from Beacon Hill. She knows the program so well, even though it's a different trainer. It's so cool that we ride at the same barn and can share that. I think when I was about seven she brought me to the barn for the first time.

Q: Who do you train with and what horses are you showing this season?
A: I ride with Beacon Hill Show Stables. I usually show Acido 7, but sadly he is injured right now, and we are hoping he will be back for finals this Fall. I showed Laramy in the 15-17 Equitation and Serafino in the 3'3" Junior Hunters for the first time since Capital Challenge 2019, which was amazing. I'm also showing Argento in the Low Children's Jumpers. Argento is 19 years old and teaching me how to do the jumpers, which has been so much fun.

Q: Do you prefer hunters, jumpers, or equitation?
A: I like the equitation for the fun courses and the tests. I also like all the unique classes that they have and the thrill of trying to qualify and get points. I think I'm way less stressed doing the hunters and jumpers though! I put a lot less stress on myself in the hunter and jumper classes.

Q: If you could ride any famous horse who would it be?
A: HH Azur! McLain Ward rides her so well, and she looks so calm and relaxed even though she's jumping these giant jumps. I think it would be so much fun to experience what her jump feels like and what she is like in the ring. It would be interesting to see if she is a totally different horse with me compared to McLain.

Q: Who has had the biggest impact on your riding career?
A: Definitely my mom! She is always helping me around the barn, taking care of my horses. We take care of Serafino on our own, so she has been my groom this week. She is always with me and supporting me. I'm thankful that she never pushed me into horses or made me ride. She let me find my love for the sport on my own.

Q: How do you balance school and riding?
A: COVID has actually made that easier since I am in school online and can be down here full time. It's nice not having to worry about flying back and forth. Stacia Madden also makes sure that she has my school schedule so she can plan that I ride during my free periods, after school, or even before school. It's typically really long days, but worth it.

Q: What is your favorite part about showing at WEF?
A: I love the trails and pathways around the show grounds. They are so pretty with all the palm trees around them. I love getting to walk around and see all the different classes going on and enjoy the beautiful view.

 Sabrina Brashares

Walker Welcomes a Win in \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix



Canadian Sam Walker and Coralissa captured the top spot in the \$25,000 Hermès U25 Grand Prix. © Sportfoto

It was Sam Walker (CAN) and Marbill Hill Farm's Coralissa who jumped to the top of the leaderboard after 63 horse-and-rider combinations took to the Derby Field in the \$25,000 Hermès Under 25 Grand Prix on Sunday afternoon, with nine pairs returning to the jump-off round set by designer Catsy Cruz (MEX).

Walker and the 2010 Holsteiner mare by Com Air were one of two combinations to put in two fault-free rounds, finishing the short course in 43.89 seconds. "This past year with the pandemic, I pretty much took a full year off from competition," said Walker. "To come back out here and do so well today, to feel her still in her prime, it really means a lot to me."

Walker stuck to his plan from start to finish and was thrilled with the pay-off. "My first round went according to plan," he explained. "Every line I had walked in in the course walk and observed when watching the rest of the class, I stuck to the plan all the way around. My horse was really good today and jumped fantastically. The first round set us up very nicely for the jump-off. Going into the jump-off, my horse is super-fast but has a shorter step, and I took that into account. I stuck to my plan and just went for it."

Walker and the mare have a lengthy partnership, and their resume includes the 2019 team gold and individual silver medals at the Adequan®/FEI North American Youth Championships. "I've had this mare since she was seven years

old," he said. "We've had a really great, successful partnership thus far. She has had multiple FEI wins so far. She's a special horse, and I'm thrilled with the day's outcome."

Walker concluded with thoughts about the U25 Series and his hopes for its future. "It's fantastic having a series like this for the U25 riders to compete in," noted the 18-year-old rider. "It's a crucial step in bringing junior riders up the ranks and also a great opportunity for riders who maybe didn't get the chance to jump in the juniors or go to young riders. It's a great alternative for that. As far as the competitiveness, it's an extremely competitive division, and I think that we will only see numbers grow in the years to come because it's also a lot of fun."

Second place in the \$25,000 Hermès U25 Grand Prix went to Violet Lindemann Barnett (USA) and Lindemann Barnett Sporthorses' 2010 Selle Français mare by Allegreto, Alanine de Vains, who made it through the jump-off timers in 46.85 seconds. Third place went to Ashley Vogel (USA) and her own Bellissimo Z, a 2009 Zangersheide mare by Bamako de Muze, who ended on four faults and in 42.58 seconds.

 Kim Beaudoin

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FINAL RESULTS

\$50,000 WCHR PETER WETHERILL PALM BEACH HUNTER SPECTACULAR

Horse, Rider, Owner
Round 1 total | Round 2 total | Overall total

- 1. Lafitte De Muze, Amanda Steege, Cheryl Olsten**
88.91 | 88.83 | 177.74
- 2. Walk-Off, Elizabeth Towell-Boyd, Gigi Manigault**
86.66 | 91.00 | 177.66
- 3. Bond, Geoffrey Hesslink, Shadowfax Equestrian LLC**
87.16 | 89.33 | 176.49
- 4. Quimby, Grace Debney, Temple Equestrian LLC**
86.16 | 89.33 | 175.49
- 5. Traveller, Laena Romond, Catherine Cowie**
89.66 | 84.99 | 174.65
- 6. Charlemagne, Scott Stewart, Dr. Betsee Parker**
85.66 | 88.33 | 173.99
- 7. Love Note, Scott Stewart, Richard Prant**
86.53 | 85.33 | 171.86
- 8. Catch Me, Mimi Gochman, Gochman Sport Horses LLC**
88.00 | 83.00 | 171.00
- 9. Laskano, Jimmy Torano, Isalou Inc.**
89.16 | 81.00 | 170.16
- 10. After Hours, Vivian Yowan, Saddle Ridge LLC**
87.00 | 83.00 | 170.00
- 11. Pritchard Hill, Evan Coluccio, Balmoral**
86.83 | 71.00 | 157.83
- 12. Avatar Z, Victoria Colvin, Isabella Watson**
88.50 | 51.66 | 140.16

HUNTER SPECTACULAR Continued from Page 1

with their first round score of 86.66 gave them a total score of 177.66. Unlike many of the horses in the class, this was Boyd's first time competing Walk-Off under the lights.

"My horse is honored to be second to a horse like Laffite," commented Boyd. "Being green the first round I was a little cautious, and then the second round arrived and I was in tenth place, and I thought, 'We'll just go for it,' and he really stepped up to the plate. He really proved to me that he's a derby horse in the making."

Third place honors were earned by Geoffrey Hesslink, of Shelbourne, VT, and Shadowfax Equestrian LLC's Bond. Hesslink rode Bond to a first round score of 87.16 to put them in sixth. The duo received a second round score of 89.33 which put them right behind Steege and Boyd.

"Bond is lovely. He does the junior hunters with his rider Isha [Swani]," said Hesslink. "He's done this class twice with her so I knew he would be more than ready to do it. He's always game for anything so I just tried to put in a nice smooth round."

"I thought the course was great," continued Hesslink. "I like having more single jumps and there were a lot of those today, I thought it was nice that they also incorporated some trickier jumps that we haven't seen here in the past."

"It's a huge honor for him to have this class on his resume," said Steege, who placed second with Lafitte de Muze in the Hunter Spectacular in 2019. "It's a class that's very important to me every year and very important to his owner. Every year when we sit down and make his schedule, we plan his Florida season around this event to get to and to try to win. There are months of work that go into preparing for this class. This is a hard and stressful week; at first, you're just happy to be qualified and then for me, once I'm qualified I can take a breath and really go in there and show off. It's an experience that I'll never forget."

 Sabrina Brashares

Hi, my name is Amelia Burnside. Let me tell you the story of a pony with a heart of a champion named Blue Moons Glass Slipper. Blue Moons Glass Slipper, "Tiffany," was a 28-year-old dark bay mare. She passed away on February 2, 2021. Tiffany was a very special pony. She brought me to the WEF horse show in 2020 and took me all the way to Circuit Champion in the Short Stirrup Hunter.

Tiffany had a personality like no other pony. The way she showed everyone what she was made of would make you smile. Tiffany used to run over to you when you walked by her paddock looking and asking for treats. I remember the first time she did that. I walked into her paddock with the lead rope. I had not seen her in two weeks, and as soon as she heard my voice, she picked up her head from grazing and galloped over to me as fast as she could and then stopped right in front of me and put her head on my shoulder. She took her time to warm up, but then she was the most friendly and happy pony ever! She was one in a million, that pony of mine. She was one in a million.

This year while I ride my pony Turning Point in the Small/Medium Children's Pony Hunters, and my pony Almost Midnight in the Large Children's Pony Hunters, I will think of her as I dedicate this season to her. Tiffany was the most perfect pony and was loved by so many people at so many barns for almost 29 years. Tiffany has taught so many little boys and girls in her lifetime and has brought so much joy to everyone that has been given the gift of her love. Tiffany will stay in my heart forever, in the hearts of my family, my trainer Kristina Muse, and Beach Acre Farm. To Blue Moon Farm LLC, thank you for loving and raising this perfect pony and for sharing her with us. As I ride this season at WEF, I will keep a picture of Tiff in my pocket close to my heart. She was with me in my pocket this past weekend when my pony Almost Midnight and I had the honor of winning champion in Large Children's Pony Hunter. I know she was with us over every jump.

By Amelia Burnside, age 10, of Sag Harbor, NY



WCHR Peter Wetherill Palm Beach Hunter Spectacular Gallery

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World Championship Hunter Rider Week - Notable Winners

Adult Amateur Hunter - Younger

Better In Blue, ridden by Meghan Knapic and owned by First Blue LLC/Trust, ridden and owned by Caroline Ratigan

Karina Brez Jewelry Adult Amateur Hunter - Middle

Catbird, ridden by Jennifer Speisman and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC

Adult Amateur Hunter - Older

Eleventh Hour, ridden and owned by Meredith Lipke/Playbook, ridden by Carolyn Anderson and owned by CH Farm, LLC

Adequan® Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3" 18-35

Airport 48, ridden by Martha Ingram and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC

Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'3" 36 & Over

Orlon, ridden and owned by Margot Peroni
Palm Beach Equine Clinic Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'6" 18-35
Chablis, ridden by Kelly Tropin and owned by Libertas Farm LLC

Hund Ltd Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'6" 36 & Over

Koala, ridden by John Ingram and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC

Green Conformation Hunter

Charlemagne, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Dr. Betsee Parker

High Performance Conformation Hunter

Philadelphia Story, ridden by Evan Coluccio and owned by the Lignelli Family

Hygain Feeds Green Hunter 3'

Waverly, ridden by Holly Orlando and owned by Waypoint Farm, LLC

FarmVet Young Hunter 3'3" (7 & Under)

Incognito, ridden by Laura Bowery and owned by Halsted Horses LLC

Green Hunter 3'3"

Game Night, ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC

Equine Tack & Nutritionals Green Hunter 3'6"

Laskano, ridden by Jimmy Torano and owned by Isalou, Inc./Traveller, ridden by Laena Romond and owned by Catherine Cowie

Equine Tack & Nutritionals Green Hunter 3'9"

Love Note, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Richard Prant

Antarès Sellier France High Performance Hunter

Catch Me, ridden by Scott Stewart and owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC

Junior Hunter 3'3" 15 & Under

Perseus YC, ridden by Rylynn Conway and owned by Mountain King Ranch LLC/Arabesque, ridden by Clara Propp and owned by Aquitaine Equine

Junior Hunter 3'3" 16-17

Jade, ridden by Claire Healy and owned by Shaw Johnson Price

Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 & Under

Grand Remo, owned and ridden by Kat Fuqua

Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 & Under

Everwonder, ridden by Ella Bikoff and owned by Bikoff Equestrian LLC

Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17

Small Social, ridden by Augusta Iwasaki and owned by Iwasaki & Reilly/Catch Me, ridden by Mimi Gochman and owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC

Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17

Quimby, ridden by Grace Debney and owned by Temple Equestrian LLC

FarmVet Performance Hunter 3'3"

Emilio, ridden by Samantha Schaefer and owned by Ava Berman/Sebastian ridden by Victoria Colvin and owned by Brad Wolf

Performance Hunter 3'6"

Small Occasion, ridden by Geoffrey Hesslink and owned by Shadowfax Equestrian LLC/Trademark, ridden by Geoffrey Hesslink and owned by Shadowfax Equestrian LLC

Children's Hunter Younger

Applaud, ridden and owned by Parker Peacock/Denmark, ridden by Ellie Sadrian and owned by Signorino Family Farm LLC

Children's Hunter Older

Mythical, ridden by Ryder Richardson and owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC/Bozeman, ridden and owned by Hollin Sutherland

Large Pony Hunter

Chiccobello, ridden and owned by Agatha Lignelli

Always Faithful Equestrian Club Medium Pony Hunter

Cleverist, ridden by Ava Barnes and owned by Ellie Sadrian/High Tops, ridden by Agatha Lignelli and owned by Hidden Ridge and Alexa Elle Lignelli

Small Pony Hunter

Armani, ridden by Olivia Sweetnam and owned by Madeline Schaefer/Farmore State of the Art, ridden and owned by Eva Mackenzie

Small/Medium Children's Pony Hunter

Heart to Forget, ridden by Ava Crolick and owned by Katherine Cotton/Playdate, ridden by J.J. Torano and owned by Susan J. Casey

CWD Large Children's Pony Hunter

Prestige, ridden and owned by Ava Barnes

\$5,000 Peggy Cone Memorial WCHR Adult Hunter Classic

Better in Blue ridden by Meghan Knapic and owned by First Blue LLC

\$5,000 WCHR Junior Hunter 3'3" Classic

Perseus YC, ridden by Rylynn Conway and owned by Mountain King Ranch LLC

Kingsland Bay, ridden by Caroline Tinsley and owned by Mary Le Blanc

\$2,500 NAL Florida Children's Hunter 14 and Under Classic

Emilio, ridden and owned by Ava Berman

\$2,500 NAL Florida Children's Hunter 15-17

Cayento Z, ridden by Grace Rahaim and owned by Renaud Farm, LLC

\$2,500 Florida Large Pony Hunter Classic

Eastside, ridden by Lauren Gee and owned by Aquitaine Equine

\$2,500 Florida Medium Pony Hunter Classic

On Your Mark, ridden by Olivia Sweetnam and owned by Sweet Oak Farm

\$2,500 Florida Small Pony Hunter Classic

Armani, ridden by Olivia Sweetnam and owned by Madeline Schaefer

\$2,500 Florida Large Children's Pony Hunter Classic

Prestige, ridden and owned by Ava Barnes

\$2,500 Florida Small/Medium Children's Pony Hunter Classic

Wildwynn Sinatra, ridden by Terri Gunderman and owned by Ashley Pardoe

Florida Low Adult Amateur Hunter Classic

Clearly, ridden and owned by Chelsea Cohn

Florida Low Children's Hunter Classic

That's My Boy, ridden by Blake Rowan and owned by Virginia Georges

Florida 2'9" Adult Amateur Hunter Classic

Benji, ridden by Victoria Chaconas and owned by Cynthia Chaconas



WEF 6

Hunter Winners Gallery

© Sportfot



The Karina Brez Jewelry Adult Amateur Hunter - Middle champion was Catbird, ridden by Jennifer Speisman and owned by John & Stephanie Ingram, LLC.



Cleverist, ridden by Ava Barnes and owned by Ellie Sadrian, was the Section A Always Faithful Equestrian Club Medium Pony Hunter champion.



The Large Pony Hunter champion was Chiccobello, ridden and owned by Agatha Lignelli.



The Section B Children's Hunter Younger champion was Denmark, ridden by Ellie Sadrian and owned by Signorino Family Farm LLC.



The Small Pony Hunter Section B champion was Farmore State of the Art, ridden and owned by Eva Mackenzie.



Agatha Lignelli won her second championship in the Always Faithful Equestrian Club Medium Pony Hunter Section B with High Tops, owned by Hidden Ridge and Alexa Elle Lignelli.



Armani, ridden by Olivia Sweetnam and owned by Madeline Schaefer, was the Small Pony Hunter Section A champion.



Ava Barnes picked up her second championship of the week in the CWD Large Children's Pony Hunters with Prestige.



The Children's Hunter Younger Section A champion was Applaud, ridden and owned by Parker Peacock.

\$150,000

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