

HORSE INTERNATIONAL

SPORT & BREEDING

reports on the *European Scene*

L'ANNEE HIPPIQUE AWARDS 2003

Ludger Beerbaum, Ulla Salzgeber and Pippa Funnell have been awarded Rider of the Year honours in the 2003 edition of Horse International's sister publication the equestrian yearbook *L'Année Hippique*. The three riders were due to receive their awards during Jumping Indoor Maastricht, 11-14 December.

In the annual Best Events category, drivers and dressage riders voted for their favourite events in 2002-2003. Aachen won both categories. Fourteen out of the 16 drivers surveyed chose Aachen CAIO as their preferred event, giving it a massive 77 points. Donaueschingen was runner-up with 38 points ahead of Breda (31), Riesenbeck (20) and Beekbergen (19). For the first time the leading four in hand drivers were asked to select their top indoor show following the first two seasons of the World Cup. Stockholm was voted best with 31 points, ahead of Stuttgart (27), Vigo (21), and s'Hertogenbosch (20). Five of the 13 dressage riders who participated in the survey placed Aachen CDIO in first place, which gave Aachen 36 points. Stuttgart again had to settle for second place overall although it was the top rated indoor show.



Klaus Peters of the CHIO Aachen receives his award for best driving outdoor and dressage outdoor event from BCM's director Eric Bruger.

CSI-W GENEVA: CARNUTE WINS

A capacity crowd enjoyed the third annual Top-Ten Final in the Palexpo Arena in Geneva on the Saturday when Rodrigo Pessoa claimed the 36,000 CHF first prize riding the stallion Baloubet du Rouet. The Brazilian rider, who placed ninth in 2001 and seventh last year, said "it's a unique competition, my horse jumped very well in both rounds and I am very happy to win it."

His success was all the more remarkable for the fact that he had been feeling ill on Thursday and Friday but, after his victory, Rodrigo said "I felt it was important to stay and compete, so I rested a lot. I'm still not one hundred per cent but I was well enough to stay on the horse and be transported!"

For the home crowd there was huge disappointment when World No. 1, Markus Fuchs, was forced to retire in the opening round. Fuchs has been bothered by a thigh-muscle problem since mid-summer and was feeling uncomfortable going into the ring with Tinka's Boy. After jumping a few fences however the pain increased dramatically and he pulled up and left the arena.

The World Cup qualifier was won by Danish Thomas Velin with Equest Carnute. He was right to be determined because Whitaker produced a stunning round from the mare Fleur who stopped the clock in 40.76 seconds but the British partnership had to settle for fifth position when lowering one fence while Becker and Dobel's Cento were more than a second slower than Velin to take runner-up spot ahead of Wylde who finished third.



Thomas Velin and Equest Carnute.

CSI MAASTRICHT: US LADIES GO DUTCH

Jumping Indoor Maastricht has a reputation for innovation. Through the years many new initiatives were developed in Maastricht, of which many found their way to other European shows. This time an Indoor Derby was staged, with part of the course outside the main arena. Because of the long distances the course could be ridden at pace, which made the competition even more exciting. The Derby had a Dutch winner in Willem Greve, a pupil of Henk Nooren's. Greve rode his Dutch stallion Karandasj (by Fedor) so fast that he could even afford a jumping fault. American riders with KWPN horses dominated the Grand Prix at Jumping Indoor Maastricht (JIM) just before Christmas watched by a capacity crowd. In a thrilling jump-off Beezie Madden with Guidam-son Authentic beat her compatriot Schuyler Riley with Ilian (by Zuidhorn) by less than two tenths of a second.



Beezie Madden and Authentic.

Sixteen horses out of a starting field of 45 were faultless in the first round. The course built by Frank Rothenberger in the octagonal arena looked to be quite difficult, with short distances between fences, but as the competition progressed it soon became apparent that clear rounds were possible.

First to go in the jump-off, Jos Lansink was clear with Zandor Z, but his time was immediately bettered by young Dutch rider Leopold van Asten and he was not going to be the only one. Schuyler Riley was the first to take the fast route. The American, who now trains with the Pessoa's in Brussels, steered Ilian across the finish at a wicked pace and it looked as if she was going to win the Audi A4. But Beezie Madden had other plans. She took the same route, but was just a bit sharper and faster with Authentic. Third place went to Belgium's Ludo Philippaerts with the BWP stallion Parco (by Darco), followed by Olympic Champions, Jeroen Dubbeldam and De Sjiem.

The World Cup Dressage qualifier was won by Heike Kemmer ahead of Dutch Olympic champion Anky van Grunsven with her new ride Gestion Salinero.



POETIN SOLD FOR 2.5M EUROS

A RECORD 2.5million euros was paid to secure the services of six-year-old World Young Horse dressage champion Poetin

when the Brandenburg mare was auctioned at the 2003 Performance Sales International (PSI) at Ankum, Germany in December. The annual sale is well known for the fantastic prices achieved for up and coming stars but Poetin (by Schockemohle's stallion Sandro Hit) stood out on her own with none of the other 51 lots reaching anything like the money Dutch Peter and Patty van der Zwan paid for her.

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World Cup winners Rolf-Göran Bengtsson and MacKinley.

GOOD CHEER FOR BENGTTSSON IN MECHELEN

Sweden's Rolf-Göran Bengtsson headed the line-up at the seventh leg of the FEI World Cup Jumping series in Mechelen, Belgium (26-30 December) when steering MacKinley to victory in the Land Rover Grand Prix. Course designer Lucien Somers set them a tough test over his 13-fence track and Rolf-Göran said, "the oxers were big and wide with some tricky distances so it was quite difficult in the first round."

Second to go in the opening round, Maurice Van Roosbroeck and Le Coup C set the arena alight when recording a clear for the home audience but another 11 horses jumped before Hubert Bourdy followed suit for France. It looked like it might just be a two-horse race until, with just four left to jump, Dirk Demeersman and Jos Lansink strengthened the home advantage with two more clear performances and Bengtsson then rounded the number into the jump-off to five with a foot-perfect run.

First to go Van Roosbroeck decided to go for a slow clear but lowered a fence and collected three time penalties. Hubert Bourdy also left the door open with a beatable 45.29 seconds. The crowd grew excited as Demeersman steered Clinton home for Belgium in 42.74 seconds to take the lead and when Jos Lansink and AK Zandor Z shaved almost a full second off that target a home win looked very likely indeed, but Bengtsson had other ideas. "I knew Jos and Dirk were really fast and I didn't know if I could be quicker but I decided to give it a try and I think I took a stride out to the second fence - I was a bit lucky when the horse stumbled but he always tries to give his best every time and we recovered," said the 41-year-old-rider.

BEERBAUM CLAIMS THIRD CLASSIC

On the last weekend of January the CSI of Zurich took place for the 14th time. This edition's highlights included Ludger Beerbaum's wins in the Mercedes Swiss Master and Swiss Life Classic with Goldfever and Marcus Ehning's victories in the Credit Suisse Grand Prix with For Pleasure and in the Swiss Life Challenge, the 'champions' competition with change of horses. Ludger Beerbaum is the first rider ever to win Zurich's focal competition, the Swiss Life Classic, three times. Previously he won the class with Goldfever in 2001 and 2002.

DUTCH HEROINE WINS SIXTH TITLE MARCUS AND MOLTEX IN FINE FORM

Dutch dressage riders reigned supreme at the 19th FEI World Cup Dressage Final presented by YORN in Düsseldorf. For the sixth time Dutch heroine Anky van Grunsven won the World Cup Dressage title with Gestion Salinero. Runner-up was her pupil Edward Gal with the stallion Gestion Lingh. Best German combination was Hubertus Schmidt, who finished in third place with his mare Wansuela Suerte.

Düsseldorf was not only the venue for dressage's indoor championship it was also host to international show jumping during its four days. Saturday saw the final of the Moltex Öko Team Trophy, which had five teams going after the last points on offer in the three show series (Leipzig, Dortmund, Düsseldorf). Rather handily for the sponsor, the Moltex Team of Meredith and Markus Beerbaum, Marc Wirths and Lars Nieberg, the leaders going into the final, ran clean off with the Trophy recording zero penalties in the process.

On Sunday afternoon, after the conclusion of the World Cup Dressage Final, the show jumpers again took centre stage to vie for the Aegon Grand Prix of Düsseldorf. Only four combinations managed to come home clean over Frank Rothenberger's first round course although 15 suffered the luckless ignominy of just four faults, including Toni Hassmann (Camirez B), Leopold van Asten (VDL Groep Think Twice II), Jessica Kürten (Castle Forbes Maïke), Franke Sloothaak (Sundance K) and Peter Wylde (Lauriston). Marcus Ehning and the Oldenburg stallion Sandro Boy flew round the jump-off in 30.87 seconds to secure the first prize of 12,500 euros and a MoneyMaxx savings account worth 10,000 euro. Also clear but .41 seconds off the winning pace for second place was Hauke Luther and the 10-year-old Holsteiner mare Index. Pia-Luise Aufrecht had a single mistake with Hofgut Liederbach's grey stallion Ingmar for third place while eight faults relegated Marc Wirths and Montedan to fourth.



The Moltex Öko Team, Lars Nieberg, Marc Wirths, Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum and Markus Beerbaum.



Anky van Grunsven and Gestion Salinero.



AEGON Grand Prix winners Marcus Ehning and Sandro Boy.

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FEI WORLD RANKINGS JUMPING RIDERS AS OF 3 MARCH 2004

1	2	Ludger Beerbaum	GER	2627	56	57	Richard Davenport	GBR	698
2	1	Markus Fuchs	SUI	2565	57	62	Ian Millar	CAN	694
3	3	Marcus Ehning	GER	2490	58	47	Lauren Hough	USA	668
4	5	Rodrigo Pessoa	BRA	2284	59	56	Molly Ashe	USA	665
5	4	Otto Becker	GER	2211	60	59	William Funnell	GBR	665
6	6	Lars Nieberg	GER	2039	61	60	Willi Melliger	SUI	653
7	7	Beezie Madden	USA	1965	62	74	Pia-Luise Aufrecht	GER	651
8	8	Jos Lansink	BEL	1874	63	70	L. Diniz-Knippling	BRA	650
9	9	Michael Whitaker	GBR	1814	64	61	Albert Zoer	NED	640
10	10	Malin Baryard	SWE	1651	65	69	Robert Whitaker	GBR	639
11	12	Peter Wylde	USA	1578	66	63	Gerco Schröder	NED	632
12	14	Robert Smith	GBR	1522	67	64	Cian O'Connor	IRL	620
13	11	Ludo Philippaerts	BEL	1482	68	75	Rutherford Latham	ESP	619
14	20	Toni Hassmann	GER	1385	69	72	Maria Gretzer	SWE	618
15	13	Christian Ahlmann	GER	1360	70	71	J-C Vangeenberghe	BEL	615
16	15	Marco Kutscher	GER	1295	71	66	Eric Navet	FRA	605
17	17	Wim Schröder	NED	1279	72	67	Robert Splaine	IRL	588
18	19	Chris Kappler	USA	1242	73	73	Florian Angot	FRA	565
19	24	Steve Guerdat	SUI	1181	74	92	Patrice Delaveau	FRA	550
20	26	Jeroen Dubbeldam	NED	1177	75	78	Dirk Demeersman	BEL	543
21	18	Norman Dello Joio	USA	1176	76	68	Todd Minikus	USA	539
22	22	Nick Skelton	GBR	1165	77	76	M. Merschformann	GER	535
23	28	Kevin Babinmton	IRL	1159	78	77	Eric Levallois	FRA	534
24	16	Laura Kraut	USA	1149	79	65	Candice S King	USA	528
25	23	Richard Spooner	USA	1088	80	84	Jean-Marc Nicolas	FRA	525
26	21	Jan Tops	NED	1071	81	80	Peter Geerink	NED	515
27	31	Michel Hécart	FRA	1059	82	81	Roberto Arioldi	ITA	515
28	27	Samantha McIntosh	BUL	1055	83	96	Leopold van Asten	NED	505
29	25	Eric vd Vleuten	NED	1053	84	86	Laura Linback	USA	496
30	30	Michel Robert	FRA	1047	85	99	Hauke Luther	GER	490
31	29	Franke Sloothaak	GER	1039	86	82	Gert Jan Bruggink	NED	483
32	32	Helena Weinberg	GER	1030	87	94	Lutz Giphshöver	GER	480
33	34	Leslie Howard	USA	1030	88	79	Will Simpson	USA	480
34	36	Reynald Angot	FRA	1024	89	89	Daniel Meech	NZL	445
35	33	Hubert Bourdy	FRA	1000	90	90	H.-H. Engemann	GER	445
36	43	Rolf-G. Bengtsson	SWE	936	91	91	Robert Breul	FRA	443
37	37	Beat Mändli	SUI	935	92	88	Santiago Lambre	MEX	443
38	40	Thomas Velin	DEN	927	93	105	Jeffery Welles	USA	439
39	35	McLain Ward	USA	887	94	93	Philippe Lejeune	BEL	435
40	38	Margie Engle	USA	874	95	83	Christophe Barbeau	SUI	430
41	42	Billy Twomey	IRL	851	96	96	Stanny V. Paesschen	BEL	430
42	44	Bruno Brouqsault	FRA	839	97	119	Daniel Deusser	GER	413
43	41	Schuyler Riley	USA	838	98	85	N.Shah.-Simpson	USA	407
44	48	Sören Von Rönne	GER	836	99	98	Tim Stockdale	GBR	405
45	45q	Helena Lundback	SWE	829	100	100	Alison G Firestone	USA	401
46	46	Andrew Davies	GBR	810	101	87	Marley Goodman	USA	400
47	49	Peter Charles	IRL	805	102	114	Mark Watring	PUR	399
48	39	M. Michaels-Beerb.	GER	801	103	101	Roelof Bril	NED	395
49	50	Gianni Govoni	ITA	786	104	103	Debbie Stephens	USA	390
50	58	B. Cardoso R. Alves	BRA	775	105	104	Khaled Al Eid	KSA	388
51	52	Jessica Kürten	IRL	774	106	106	Dermott LennWon	IRL	384
52	54	John Whitaker	GBR	765	107	107	Gerfried Puck	AUT	382
53	51	Piet Raymakers	NED	752	108	109	Christian Hermon	FRA	380
54	53	Edouard Couperie	FRA	725	109	110	Rossen Raitchev	BUL	379
55	55	A. Pollmann-Schw.	GER	713	110	136	M.Diederichsmeier	GER	379

reports on Calendars and Rankings

SAMSUNG SUPER LEAGUE CALENDAR 2004

CSIO LA BAULE	FRANCE	6-9 MAY
CSIO ROME	ITALY	27-30 MAY
CSIO LUCERNE	SWITZERLAND	3-6 JUNE
CSIO ROTTERDAM	NETHERLANDS	17-20 JUNE
CSIO AACHEN	GERMANY	13-18 JULY
CSIO HICKSTEAD	GREAT BRITAIN	21-25 JULY
CSIO DUBLIN	IRELAND	4-8 AUGUST
CSIO BARCELONA FINAL	SPAIN	16-19 SEPTEMBER

SAMSUNG NATIONS CUP SERIES CALENDAR 2004

CSIO WELLINGTON	USA	10-14 MARCH
CSIO COPENHAGEN	DENMARK	6-9 MAY
CSIO LINZ	AUSTRIA	13-16 MAY
CSIO LISBON	PORTUGAL	3-6 JUNE
CSIO POZNAN	POLAND	10-13 JUNE
CSIO HELSINKI	FINLAND	17-20 JUNE
CSIO DRAMMEN	NORWAY	24-27 JUNE
CSIO SOFIA	BULGARIA	1-4 JULY
CSIO FALSTERBO	SWEDEN	8-11 JULY
CSIO GIJON	SPAIN	28 JULY-2 AUGUST
CSIO BUDAPEST	HUNGARY	29 JULY-2 AUGUST
CSIO BRATISLAVA	SLOVAKIA	5-8 AUGUST
CSIO LUMMEN	BELGIUM	12-15 AUGUST
CSIO SPRUCE MEADOWS	CANADA	8-12 SEPTEMBER
CSIO ISTANBUL	TURKEY	9-12 SEPTEMBER
CSIO PODEBRADY	CZECH REPUBLIC	10-12 SEPTEMBER
CSIO ZAGREB	CROATIA	23-26 SEPTEMBER
CSIO ATHENS	GREECE	7-10 OCTOBER
CSIO BUENOS AIRES	ARGENTINA	18-21 NOVEMBER

JUMPING SHOW DATES MAY, JUNE, JULY 2004

MAY				JULY			
7-9	CSI*** Cervia	ITA	1-4	CSI*** Hachenburg	GER		
14-16	CSI**** Aach	GER	1-4	CSI**** Neuendorf	SUI		
20-23	CSI***Eindhoven	NED	2-4	CSI*** Capri	ITA		
20-23	CSI**** Hamburg	GER	7-11	CSI**** Spruce Meadows	CAN		
20-23	CSI*** Munich	GER	8-11	CSI**** Geesteren/Twente	NED		
20-23	CSI**** San Juan Cap.	USA	16-18	CSI*** Vichy	FRA		
21-23	CSI*** La Courneuve	FRA	15-18	CH-EU-YRJ Vilamoura	POR		
21-23	CSI*** Pontedera	ITA	22-25	CSI**** Coruna	ESP		
27-30	CSI**** Madrid	ESP	23-25	CSI*** Royan	FRA		
29-31	CSI**** Wiesbaden	GER	23-25	CSI**** San Patrignano	ITA		
			23-25	CSI*** Spangenberg	GER		
			23-25	CSI**** Valkenswaard	NED		
3-6	CSI**** Hickstead (D.)	GBR	30-1/08	CSI**** Ascona	SUI		
4-6	CSI*** Bourg-en-Bresse	FRA	30-1/08	CSI*** Cortina d'Amp.	ITA		
9-13	CSI**** Spruce Meadows	CAN	30-1/08	CSI**** Gera	GER		
10-12	CSI*** Cannes	FRA					
17-20	CSI*** Redefin	GER		OLYMPIC GAMES			
17-20	CSI*** Spruce Meadows	CAN		Show Jumping: 22 - 27 August			
18-20	CSI*** Lons le Saunier	FRA		Dressage: 20-25 August			
18-20	CSI*** Sopot	POL		Eventing: 15-18 August			
24-27	CSI*** Norten-Hardenberg	GER					
25-27	CSI*** Abano Terme	ITA					
30-4/07	CSI*** Spruce Meadows	CAN					

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