



The impressive arena of the Herzlake festival.

For the first time... **The International Equestrian Show Jumping Festival CSI of Herzlake!** By Ina El Kobbia, Germany

In the midst of a beautiful and endless green scenery in the region of Emsland in North Germany, the international show jumping event of Herzlake kicked off with fantastic sunny weather and an amazing number of international top class riders; starting with the world's no.1 Marcus Ehning to the world's best riders Rodrigo Pessoa, Jessica Kuerten, Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum, Sweden's Rolf-Goeran Bengtsson and Britain's Michael Whittaker. However, that was still not the end of list of the best competing at the Festival that took place on May 11th 2006 till the 14th. Germany's international course designer Frank Rothenberger, who will also be the course designer at the FEI World Equestrian Games in Aachen, designed the courses for all nine classes at the event. The extra highlight was the Grand Prix of Herzlake with prize money of 60.000 Euros. The Grand Prix ended on the last day of the Festival with a fantastic four horse jump off determining Franke Sloothaak and his horse 'Legurio' as the winners of the Grand Prix ahead of Rolf-Goran Bengtsson on 'Grandina' and Germany's Eva Bitter with her horse 'Argelith Stakkato'. American Christine McCrea and 'Promised Land' finished fourth with a four-point penalty. ■



The world's no. 1 Marcus Ehning competing at the Grand Prix



Sweden's top rider Rolf-Goeran Bengtsson



The winner of the 60.000 Euro Grand Prix Franke Sloothak