

FEATURING

UPDATES FROM WELLINGTON INTERNATIONAL



Weekly Wire



RIDER SPOTLIGHT
Bliss Heers page 10

LINDSAY BROCK
Editor

WEEK 8

MARCH 1, 2023

Laura Kraut Shines Bright Like a Diamond



Wellington International was brimming with horse sport fans on the edge of their seats Saturday night as top show jumping talent from across the globe jumped for the \$425,000 Lugano Diamonds CSI5* Grand Prix title. The WEF Week 7, sponsored by Lugano Diamonds, saw U.S. Olympic team silver medalist Laura Kraut and her Tokyo Games partner Baloutinue take the top spot.

From a seven-horse jump-off, the stage was set for a U.S. battle as Kraut, Brian Moggre and Mclain Ward were the final three to jump off. Course designer Steve Stephens (USA) tested them in true five-star fashion, which got the best of Moggre and longtime partner MTM Vivre le Reve as they pulled a brick from the wall to eventually finish fifth. Kraut's winning time of 40.26 seconds stood after Ward gave his best aboard Contagious, but finished just three tenths shy of the winner's mark.

"I knew it was going to be difficult," said Kraut. "The track he built was big and the oxers were really wide. For me, I thought it was probably the scopiest course we had this year, and I was happy with what I saw."

Ward settled for second behind his U.S. teammate, also in the irons of his 2020 Olympic mount. Ireland's Shane Sweetnam set the clear-round standard in the jump-off aboard his superstar 10-year-old Irish-bred gelding, James Kann Cruz.

Kraut beamed as she clinched a five-star victory in Wellington after knocking on the door several times recently. "I've not had many successful jump-offs and I've not jumped very many with him," said Kraut of Baloutinue, a 13-year-old Hanoverian gelding (Balou du Rouet x Landor S) owned by St. Bride's Farm. "I always try to go faster than I probably should, but he's fast enough on his own, and tonight I

Continued on page 4

It's Nations Cup Week!

The world collides at Wellington International as 11 teams put forth their best talent – on both two legs and four – in the \$150,000 CSIO4* Nations Cup, presented by IDA Development, during this week's 'Saturday Night Lights.'

Meet the countries and decide who you're rooting for!



Argentina



Chile



Australia



Great Britain



Belgium



Ireland
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IDA Development Sponsors Major Events at WEF Highlighting Their Commitment to the Community



specifications and built in virtually any dimension. A metal riding arena is the modern solution for covered riding arenas, because of the strength and efficiency steel offers. IDA Steel designs the steel riding arena according to your discipline or use, meaning your interior layout will be designed to accommodate the activities of your choosing.

Each metal stable is sturdy and well-made with only high-quality materials. Traditional barns require constant maintenance and can decay over time. IDA Steel barns are manufactured with triple-galvanized steel to ensure their strength and extend the life of your equestrian

Continued on page 9

Industry leader IDA Development continues to be a major part of the equestrian community that it serves so diligently.

IDA Development has been named the title sponsor of one of the most popular events of the season, the \$150,000 Nations Cup week from March 1-5 at Wellington International.

IDA Development owner Harry Knopp believes in giving back and supporting the equestrian community.

"It's extra special to sponsor this major competition at WEF where riders are representing their country," said Knopp. "You can feel the enthusiasm everywhere you go on property. It's one of my favorite events of the season."

IDA Development has sponsored numerous classes and divisions at ESP shows not only during the winter season but year round as well as classes at other notable venues throughout the years while also donating to several local charities.

They donated \$20,000 worth of Equitan flooring for the Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding

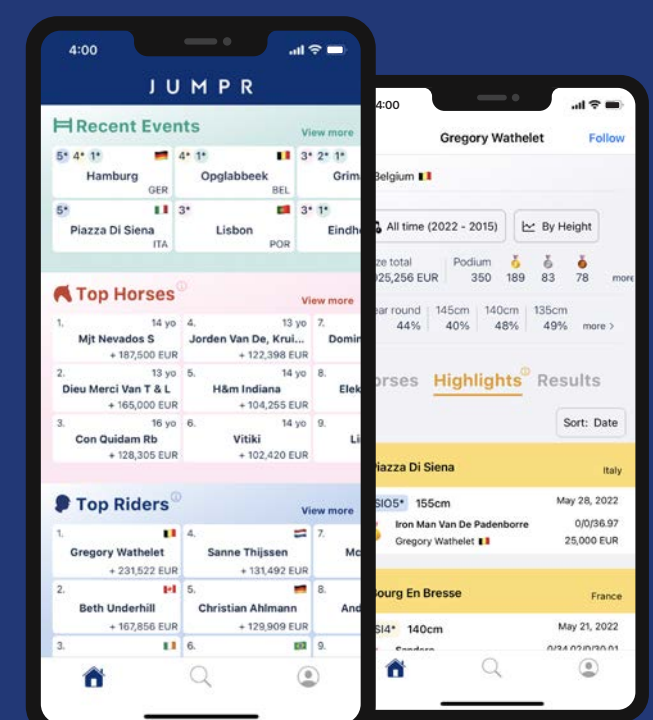
Center's annual fundraiser as well as sponsoring a great evening at Forget Me Not Farm for the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation to raise money for cancer research. The event was transformed into a beautiful special event venue under the metal covered arena built by IDA. They are also proud sponsors of the Buck Off Challenge to benefit Southeast Florida Honor Flight and the famous Challenge of the Americas to raise money for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Play for P.I.N.K.

Knopp is building a team of leaders that are committed to keeping IDA Development successful while also being generous to their clients, big or small.

"They're here for a career," said Knopp. "They bleed IDA, they're so connected, so rooted in the community. And that's important to me and to our clients."

While the Nations Cup is a fan favorite, with animated supporters cheering loudly for their team, the cheering hasn't stopped for IDA Development, which has become the go-to company with an unmatched portfolio of equestrian services.

Their latest venture, IDA Steel, focuses on building prefabricated metal horse barns, buildings and covered steel riding arena designed to the clients'



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Laura Kraut Shines
continued from page 1

just let him go his speed and that seemed to work better.

"He's a trier, he's elastic and he's very careful," she continued. "It was a fantastic crowd; the atmosphere here at night is as good as it gets. We feel like the crowd is really behind us; when I was clear it was an explosion."

Kraut admitted that there was no resting easy outside the ring while Ward took to the track as the final rider in the jump-off order. Her lead held strong, however, after Ward noted that he gave it the best he had.

"I know that Laura's horse is very quick, and Contagious is fast across the ground but a little slow in the air. I tried everything I could, and I didn't leave anything on the table," he said. "You never want to win because someone else messed up, you want to win because you were the best and you did better," continued Ward. "Contagious is incredible because he's always very careful, but I never really expected him to do everything

he's done. I think at the end of the day the horse is a little bit of a lion. He rises and he fights with you, and he's really been a great partner to me."

Sweetnam rounded out the podium on a horse that's 10 but brimming with potential. He noted that James Kann Cruz is only getting better, "I'm very happy with him. Every time I jump with him, I feel I have a chance, and every class I can go a bit quicker. We're sat up here with two Olympic horses, so I couldn't be happier."

Speaking to the talent in course designers at WEF and the depth of field the venue attracts, Sweetnam concluded, "All the five-stars have different course designers that come over here and they want to prove something. Two weeks ago was an incredibly tough course and the standard was very high. Same again tonight, I thought there would be only three clear but it showed how good the standard was of the horses and riders. It proves that these are top five-star grand prix and you better bring your A-Game."

Wellington International's Own Jeanie Burns Featured at Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival

You know her work if you've taken a short stroll through Wellington International, read the WEF program or picked up an issue of *Weekly Wire*. What you may not know about Wellington International's own graphic designer Jeanie Burns is that she is a talented chalk artist.



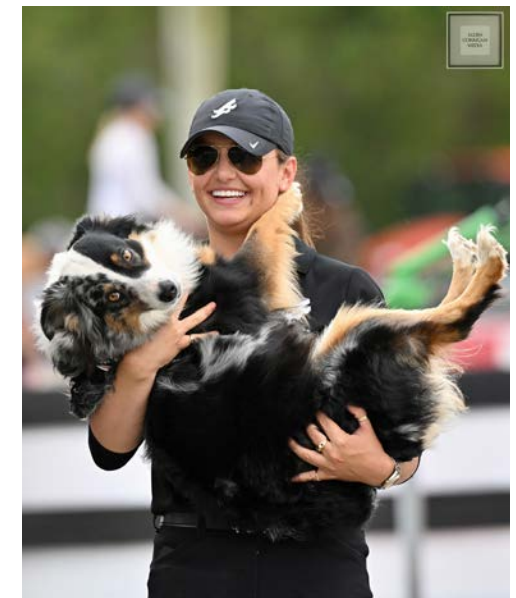
Burns' colorful portrait on display during the Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival.

For the past 26 years, Burns has participated in the annual Lake Worth Beach Street Painting Festival, which returned to town last weekend. Artists – like Burns – of all ages and creative capabilities participate by transforming the streets of Lake Worth into a chalk-on-asphalt art exhibition.

"Artists freely share techniques and encourage each other," said Burns, a largely self-taught artist. "The camaraderie that develops while working among artists whose work you respect is a bonus."

Congratulations to Jeanie Burns on a stunning creation!

Moments from the WEF Photography Collective



Get Social!

Follow us on social media to keep up with current happenings and more at WELLINGTON INTERNATIONAL

Facebook: @Wellington International
Instagram: @wellingtoninternational_wef
TikTok: @wellingtoninternational
YouTube: @wellingtoninternational

NETWORKING BRUNCH

Sunday, March 26, 10 a.m.
The Wellington Club
Join us!
EqBusinesswomen.com for tickets

VENDOR VILLAGE

- ActivoMed
- Anne Gittins Photography
- Charles Ancona NY
- CM Hadfields Saddlery Inc.
- CWD Custom Saddles
- Danny & Ron's Dog Rescue
- Der Dau Custom Boots
- EquestrianClub
- Equestrian Team Apparel
- Equiline
- Equine Tack & Nutritionals
- Equis LLC
- ES Equine Photography
- Eyes of Wellington
- F.LLI. Fabbri Inc.
- Fab Finds by Sarah
- Four Oaks Creative
- Jods Equestrian Apparel
- Kingsland Equestrian
- Kocher Tack Shop
- La Enovese Designs
- Miki Saddlery
- Parlanti
- Personalized Products
- Ride Equisafe
- Röwer & Rüb
- Running Fox Equestrian
- Sofie's Boutique
- Stephex Horse Box
- Tack n Rider
- Theraplate Revolution
- Tony Hanley Horse Supplements
- Vogel
- Voltaire Design Fine Saddlery

BARN 1-4

- Dandy Products
- Farmvet Inc.
- Josey's Laundry Service
- Woody's Shoe Repair

INTERNATIONAL WARM-UP ARENA

- BarnWalkers
- Bruno Delgrange
- Custom Saddles
- IDA Development
- Shop HSH

RINGS 9 & 10

- Arion Horse Sport Tack (10)
- Devoucoux Saddles & Tack (9)
- McGuinn Tack Trunks & Stable Equipment (10)
- Prestige Italia USA (9)
- Show MDs LLC (10)
- Sportfot USA (9)

SOUTH BARN

- Riders Boutique
- Zest

TIKI TERRACE & BRIDGE DECK

- Clare Christie Fine Art
- Dada Sport
- Equisite
- Hermès
- Karina Brez Jewelry
- Kaval
- Keyes Art
- Kingsland Equestrian
- Lauracea
- Sam Edelman
- Wellington Equestrian Realty
- Yagya

THE SHOPPES AT INTERNATIONAL CLUB

- Ari
- Gavi Home
- Helgstrand Jewellery
- Hunt LTD
- Lugano Diamonds

RING 6

- Antarès Sellier France
- Kind Media

HUNTER HILL

- Chloe's of Middleburg Style Mobile
- Elegant Equis Photography
- Enise Jewelry
- Wellington Antiques
- Taroo

FARM STAND

- The Shop at Farm Stand
- Akuma
- Bustle & Brew
- Meraki Juice Kitchen
- Pop-Up Markets

RING 11 (Pony Island)

- Palm Beach Int'l Academy

PLACES TO EAT

- ### INTERNATIONAL ARENA
- Chik Monk
 - Tiki Hut

- ### VENDOR VILLAGE
- Harry's Lemonade
 - Loopy's Crepes
 - Oasis Cafe

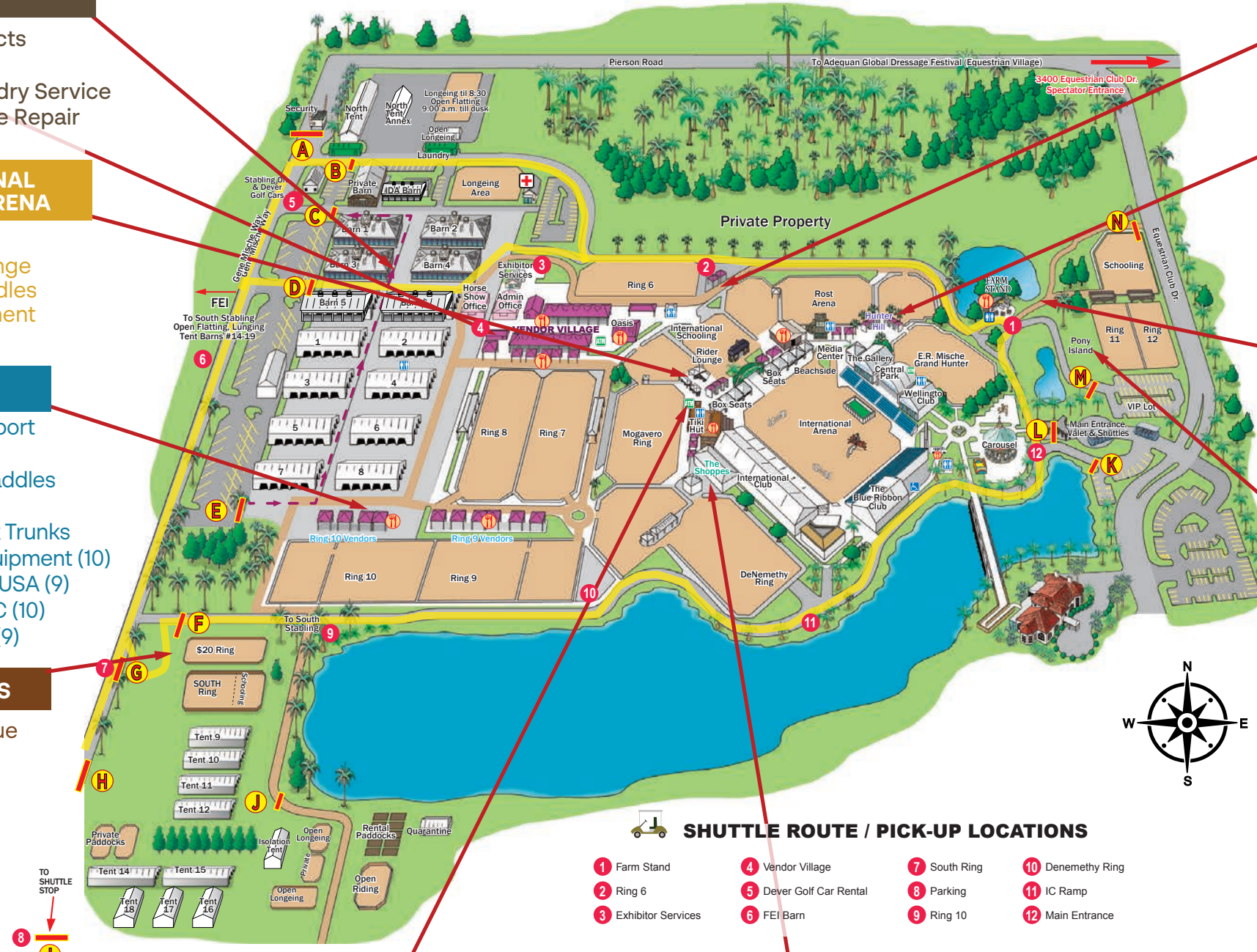
- ### RING 9
- Muddy Paws Ice Cream
 - Nathalie's Cafe

- ### RING 10
- Magdalena's Mexican

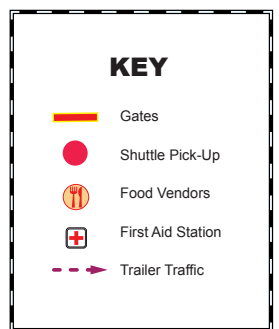
- ### BARN 4
- Anonymous Coffee

- ### PONY ISLAND
- Florida Snow
 - Silva's Mexican

- ### SOUTH BARN
- Island Kitchen



- ### SHUTTLE ROUTE / PICK-UP LOCATIONS
- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 Farm Stand | 4 Vendor Village | 7 South Ring | 10 Denemethy Ring |
| 2 Ring 6 | 5 Dever Golf Car Rental | 8 Parking | 11 IC Ramp |
| 3 Exhibitor Services | 6 FEI Barn | 9 Ring 10 | 12 Main Entrance |



sip & shop

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FRIDAY, MARCH 3
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 by the
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11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
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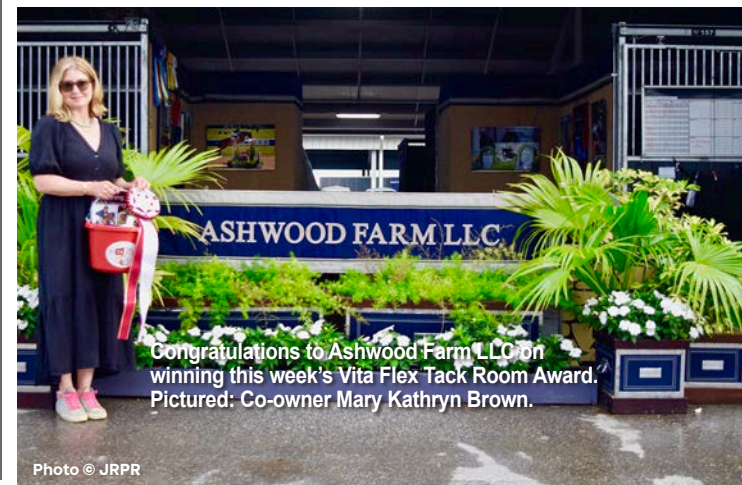
Kiana van het Herdershof, ridden by Daniel Deusser (GER) & owned by Stephex Stables, earned the Champion Equine Insurance Jumper Style Award after winning the \$78,000 CaptiveOne Advisors CSI5* 1.50m Classic.



The Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award was presented to Solstice, owned & ridden by Natalie Jayne in the Adequan® 3'3" Amateur-Owner Hunter 18-35 division.



Winning groom & Baloutinue's caretaker Margo Thomas was honored with the \$500 Grooms Award, presented by Double H Farm, by Claire Stevenson & Caroline McLeese of Double H Farm after Laura Kraut (USA) & Baloutinue won the \$425,000 Lugano Diamonds CSI5* Grand Prix during the WEF 7 Saturday Night Lights.



Congratulations to Ashwood Farm LLC on winning this week's Vita Flex Tack Room Award. Pictured: Co-owner Mary Kathryn Brown.

Photo © JRPR

USET Foundation Supports Pathway to High-Performance Sport

For U.S. athletes with aspirations to compete at the high-performance level, there is a long journey from competing at the national level to representing the U.S. at international championships.



Philanthropic Partner of US Equestrian

The U.S. Equestrian (USEF) development pathways for each Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) discipline, supported by the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation, help bring promising athletes along each step of the way, ensuring the best opportunities for success.

The team at the USET Foundation is excited to cheer on a talented group of young athletes—all of whom were high performance pathway participants—at

this year's IDA Development CSIO4* Nations Cup in Wellington. Please visit USET.org to learn about the ways you can support riders progressing along the high-performance pathway and to ensure our U.S. teams' prominence at the most impressive events in the world in the years to come.



MARCH 1-5, 2023



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1. Darragh Kenny (IRL)	252
2. McLain Ward (USA)	243
3. Richard Vogel (GER)	234
4. Laura Kraut (USA)	206
5. Eduardo Menezes (BRA)	200

IDA Development
continued from page 3

structure. The barn is also engineered to withstand the high winds and heavy rains Florida is known for, allowing practice time rain or shine.

As always, IDA listens to their

clients and puts their 30 years of expertise to work making it happen, whether it's a barn, an arena or giving back.

For more information about IDA Development visit idadevelops.com or contact Harry Knopp at (561) 486-0502 or via email at harryknopp@me.com.

WEEK 8

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RIDER SPOTLIGHT: Bliss Heers

In October, Heers captured her first five-star grand prix victory on the Major League Show Jumping tour and isn't slowing down yet! Keep reading to find out how Heers always puts gratitude first in this sport, her plans for WEF 2023 and much more.

How did you get into riding?

I started riding when my mom suggested we take a mother-daughter riding lesson together. I was playing tennis at the time, but once we took that lesson, I caught the bug immediately.

In a sport so driven by results, can you explain how important gratitude is?

In life things can go right or wrong. You can wake up and decide whether to be in a good mood or a bad one. In this sport, your partner is a living animal with a mind of its own, and things are always changing. The things you can always be grateful for are the opportunities and the relationships that are formed with these animals. There's something incredibly special about how these horses are willing to perform for us and share their hearts with us.

You were recently part of Team Helios in the Major League Show Jumping tour winning the team championship. What was it like working with a team for so long?

Ashlee Bond and Eugenio Garza brought the team together. They wanted to pick competitors who were not only ready to give it their all to win, but also pick a team with good character. Most of us knew each other beforehand, but no one expected to end up being so close. To have a team that is truly rooting for each other makes a big difference. If you are going into this type of competition without all the experience in the world,

or you don't have the horse that somebody else does, the fighting spirit when your whole team is cheering you on brings out the best in you. I'm incredibly appreciative to have had that team.

You have a team of horses across all experience levels. Between all of them, what is the importance of establishing and keeping to the basics?

Across the board, flatwork is of primary importance. The basics allows you to keep the horses in the proper condition without overcomplicating things. I had the opportunity to work with Michael Matz a couple of seasons ago, and I do my best to stick with the principles he reinforced, which involves straightness, balance, balance around through corners, and staying with the horse. The simple things are something we tend to lose sight of but are the most important.

What piece of advice would you give to someone who wants to be at your level in the sport?

Be patient, enjoy your horses, and enjoy the relationship with your horses. Never doubt the power of a positive attitude. It's so hard to get out of being critical all the time, but that is the sport. There will always be something that doesn't go your way, but the best thing you can do is be a problem solver. Look for ideas, for options, ask questions, and try new things.



The lawyers
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– THE NEW YORK TIMES
“HOW TO HIDE \$400 MILLION”

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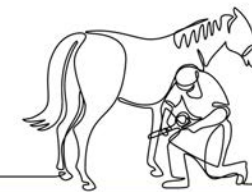
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March 11, 2023
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// PRESENTATION

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It's Nations Cup Week!

Congratulations to all competitors.

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BROKER AGENT



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