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Sport

Faustus leads
ranking

Breeding

Weltmeyer- and
Stakkato-Prize

Auction

Fiadora goes
to France

Faustus by Falsterbo/Forrest xx (breeder: Heino Bruns, Gödensdorf) leads the ranking points statistics of the German Equestrian Federation. The bay became European Team Champion with Germany's Dorothe Schneider.

Photo: Lafrentz





A perfect couple: FRH Butt's Avondale and Anna Siemer. Photo: Goedecke

Having fun while getting to the top

"Horses must enjoy the training," says Anna Siemer. With FRH Butt's Avondale, she has reached the top. After the Bundeschampionat and the World Championships for Young Event Horses, the pair won team silver at the European Championships in Avenches/SUI last year.

By Britta Zünger

Anna Siemer was born on the island of Norderney, where her father Arno Junkmann still runs a riding stable today. The islanders are said to be straightforward and determined. In her childhood days, she wanted to become a dressage rider. "I always thought the tailcoat was so chic and thought the German riders wore a yellow vest underneath as a sign of being a member of the national squad. I wanted that too," she recalls happily. But her parents were into riding in the hunt field and into eventing. "And then someone said to me that I wouldn't dare do eventing anyway!" She didn't need to be told that twice and participated in a cross-country competition. Down a dirt road, turn around, back to the barn, the fastest one won! The girl was bitterly disappointed. "I had read a book by Lucinda Green, had prepared meticulously, and, in addition, our veterinarian had given me a box with bandages and everything you might need in case of an emergency. And that was it? That's how it started." At the time, she was eleven years old and lived with her mother in Bakum-Hausstette.

As a thirteen-year-old, Anna Siemer took part in the Golden Sash and in the National Championships for young riders. In 1997, she won bronze at the German Championships with her pony Vilano, and a year later, she became European team and individual vice champion in Le Touquet/FRA. She made the successful switch to riding big horses aboard Cancun, with whom the then 17-year-old took part in the Bundeschampionat for the first time in 2000 and won silver in Warendorf a year later. After placing seventh at the European Junior Championships in Walldorf/GER, she was called to Warendorf to join the newly founded Perspective Group. There she not only found optimal training conditions, but also completed her training as a business woman for sports and fitness after graduating as an equine trainer. After nine successful years at the German Olympic Committee for Equestrianism (DOKR), Anna Siemer made the decision to start her own business. Her boyfriend of many years, Christian, who was successful in show jumping up to the advanced level and has since become her husband, had just finished his studies in Münster and taken a job as a tax consultant and auditor in Hamburg. Anna Siemer still remembers a rather coincidental encounter with Hans Melzer, Germany's national coach. "It was in front of the registration office in Marbach, where he asked me 'Why don't you just come to Luhmühlen, when Christian is working in Hamburg?' And, poof, I was at the training centre."

Anna Siemer's passion and daily driving force is the training of young horses. Getting the horse on

the rider's side with little resources is her goal. "After all, I'm not very big or heavy, and unfortunately I'm not that strong. The horse's confidence is what makes it fascinating," says the trainer. "I like riding dressage, I like show jumping, but the speed on the cross-country course – this speed rush – only exists in eventing," says the 39-year-old. What started with seven stalls has developed into a stable wing with 15 stalls. In addition to the professional rider Kim Heitmann, who is currently taking her master's exam, her team includes apprentice Ayleen Stuhr and intern Hannah Lanz. "That's four people for 15 horses. A lot of people think that's 'overpowered.' But I'm also a mom of two young kids." The workday at Siemer Stables begins at 7:30 a.m. The boss arrives at 8:15. By then she has already taken Carlotta (5) and Henry (8) to kindergarten/school. Until 3 p.m., the team works hard. Dressage, jumping, cross-country, trot and canter training – everything that is necessary to conduct a successful training program. Then it's family time, which is very important to Anna Siemer. "I think I've become a better rider as a mother. I'm much more focused because I don't have as much time to mess around," she says, admitting with a smile that it's only since she's had children that she knows where the public swimming pool is.

The age of the horses in training ranges from five to 15. None of them belongs to Anna Siemer. The clientele is international; most are long-time regulars. The trainer gladly accepts young horses into her training program, which are to be prepared towards participation in the Bundeschampionat. Between 2014 and 2018, she placed third at the Bundeschampionat for eventing horses three times, came in second once and won the title aboard Clara Bö by Concours Complet/Carismo (breeder: Helmut Böttcher, Ehlbeck) in 2018. "Most breeders are not collectors. They sell their horses after the Bundeschampionat. We always have a change of horses in the stable in September," says Anna Siemer. Often the same breeders then place the training of their other young horses in her proven hands again. Sometimes she continues training a talented youngster. Like Valerie M by Valentino/Le Primeur (breeder: Friedhelm Mohlfeld, Ahrsen), who won the bronze medal in Warendorf in 2014 and participated in the World Championships for young event horses in Le Lion d'Angers/FRA a year later. It was not planned for the liver chestnut mare to become a show horse. "The owner, Kirsten Kistermann, suffered a serious injury in a autumn while mounting the horse. So I said that we should just take her to horse shows," Anna Siemer recalls. "From the beginning, 'Johanna,' as we call her, did everything right. But unfortunately



Cross-country, dressage and show-jumping – FRH Butt's Avondale and Anna Siemer are having fun.

Photos: Lafrentz



Christian Siemer rejoices over the success of his wife and FRH Butt's Avondale. „My husband has been training for 23 years,” says Anna Siemer. Photos: Lafrentz

she wasn't tough enough for eventing.” Today, Valerie H is at home in the show jumping arena. Every now and again, Kim Heitmann competes her in an M-level dressage class. “The connection with this horse and its owner is very special. The mare is our watchdog in the stable. No matter when you come, she stands there and neighs – like a meerkat,” laughs Anna Siemer. She regrets that the mare can no longer be used on the cross-country course. “That's the difficult thing in our sport. Johanna can do anything and is incredibly smart; she has the guts, can really read the jumps and is not afraid of anything. But then she didn't become the perfect event horse after all because of one little thing.”

Anna Siemer already had brother Escot by Escudo in her stable, who was later successful up to the CCI4*-level in the USA, as well as Valerie's full sister Valeca. Not all promising young horses go on competing. “Sometimes it works out, sometimes it doesn't,” the trainer is quite realistic. Anna Siemer's broodmare Charlott by Convoi/Marcello xx lives with Claudia Mohlfeld on her farm called Wiechmannshof in Ahrsen. Anna Siemer successfully competed her at the three-star level. “My luck as a breeder, however, is terrible: out of four foals, I was only able to sell one,” Anna Siemer says with a smile.

If a new horse comes to Luhmühlen, Anna Siemer determines during a four-week trial period, whether or not they might be a good match. “I don't want this to sound esoteric, but if I don't have a connection with a horse at all, it won't work out,” says the trainer. “It's not like I'm particularly strong. I can't ride with a lot of force and have to find different ways.” Her height and weight were her big shortcomings when she started out on her own, she says. “Many feared that I would be unable to assert myself if a horse got cheeky. This has since become my big plus. The horses that we are able to ride on a cross-country course in a regular

snaffle, anyone can actually ride,” says Anna Siemer. “Today that's our advantage: Just get on and go – isn't that what everyone wants?!” One thing in particular is important to the event rider: intelligence. “Horses must be comfortable in their own skin, and they must like to canter,” Anna Siemer lists important features. These also include enjoying to move, a good pre-disposition for jumping and good basic gaits. “They have to have wit and like to move,” she says. “The bottom line is that I have no use for a ,tractor,’ I need a ,sports car,’” she says. Anna Siemer is also critical when it comes to the exterior. She pays particular attention to the hooves. Bad hooves are a criterion for exclusion. “If the conformation already gives you the impression that the horse won't last, you should not even start on the long and comparatively expensive journey of training for eventing.”

Looking into the pedigrees of the young talents for the sport of eventing, it becomes apparent that not all dispose of a high percentage of Thoroughbred blood. “There hardly are any clumsy, heavy-set, unwieldy horses left today. Horses have become much lighter. They must be quick on their feet,” so Anna Siemer. “The percentage of Thoroughbred blood in horses up to the four star-level is no longer a deciding criterion. “We have horses in the stable that have over 50 percent Thoroughbred blood, yet they don't look it at all. Next to them are horses that have very little blood on paper, but are very light and elegant. There are horses which have to learn to sprint; others need more endurance. There certainly are very significant differences.” The event rider has been working with the DOKR's performance diagnostics team for several years. The horses are equipped with a training GPS that records exactly how long and where they trot or canter and what their heart rate was. “Being picky from the beginning, is important.” To Anna Siemer it is the be-all and end-all of training horses. It starts with mounting the horse for the first time. If that doesn't work at

On the diagonal with Anna Siemer

The best eventing horse at the moment? FRH Butts Avondale

Favourite horse show: Aachen, Luhmühlen and Hausstette

Favourite place in Germany: Home

Favourite sport besides riding: I think athletics is great!

Favourite memory of first competition: I fell off twice in a youth test at my first competition. But I rode bareback.

Favourite destination: Aachen

Career aspiration as a child: I never really had one. At the beginning I wanted to be a teacher, but definitely not a professional rider – I was sure of that.

Idol in your childhood: Marcus Ehning

Favourite food: Everything.

Which horse holds a special place?

Always the one I'm sitting on at the moment. If I have a horse I don't like, I don't ride it.

Which music group would you fit into?

I'm super lyrical, but I have a hard time hitting the right note. I listen to everything from Mozart to brand new. I'm totally free and can sing along anywhere, preferably in a car, as loud as possible and, unfortunately, really weird.

home, it won't work at the show. "And there we already have the first stress factor," she says. Or trot-canter transitions. "They sound really easy, but they need to always come through. Just like accelerating and applying the brakes. On the cross-country course, you have to be able to shift up and down. You can't do a lot of other things with a five-year-old yet." It is important to her that she really knows the horse, knows what kind of horse personality she is dealing with. Each horse reacts differently, each wants to be treated differently and has different preferences. And not just when it comes to riding, but also when it comes to feed or transport. "That's why we have so few horses in the stable. We deal with them a lot. I want to know a lot about every single one. It's important to build a relationship with your horse and know his personality. Every horse is different. If I build the horse's confidence, I can count on it at a later date. Horses have to fight with you in eventing. They have to enjoy going cross-country."

This enjoyment is what characterizes FRH Butt's Avondale. The Nobre xx/Heraldik xx-daughter came to Anna Siemer as a four-year-old. Ten years later, she became European Vice Champion with the German team in Switzerland. "The whole horse is special," Anna Siemer raves. The mare was born with talent, as she is out of the legendary breeding program of Friedrich Butt. Several spectacular event horses descend from the line of Ordalie, such as Andreas Dibowski's FRH Butts Avendon and Ingrid Klimke's FRH Butts Abraxxas. Both are grandsons of the Wiesenbaum xx/Julius Caesar xx-daughter Anatevka, who we find in Avondale's pedigree in the sixth generation. Under the name "Native Charme," the bay mare proved her quality early on when she was awarded the state's premium-status and brought home from her mare test a 9.50 for jumping. The avid eventing and hunt rider, Prof. Dr. Volker Steinkraus, Ollsen, has secured several jewels for his breeding program from Friedrich Butt's treasure chest. "When I came to Luhmühlen, I knew his horses, but didn't dare approach Volker," says Anna Siemer. Chance came to her rescue. She had Butts Anton, a horse out of Prof. Dr. Steinkraus' breeding program by Embassy and out of Avondale's dam, in training and competed him in Sahrendorf. The breeder saw this and approached Anna Siemer. "You fit our horses perfectly," he said. After various other horses, Avondale then came to Anna Siemer. When she was started under saddle, walk and canter were her basic gaits; mounting her turned out to be not so easy. "I never really fought with her. Except for trotting, she did everything from the start. From day one, she went into the water; she always jumped the ditches. She was in

her element," the trainer shares. "She is by far the smartest horse we have, and she knows it. You have to ride her in a way that she feels everything is her idea. You must take her personality seriously, then everything is easy with her. She likes to present herself and is not shy at all."

But even with a star, things don't always go straight uphill. After placing fourth at the 2012 Bundeschampionat and competing at the World Championships for young horses in Le Lion d'Angers/FRA, FRH Butt's Avondale and Anna Siemer seemed to be treading water for a while. "I was at a point where I thought I was doing everything wrong," the rider recalls. But Prof. Dr. Volker Steinkraus always stood behind the pair, knowing that their time would come. And so it did. Three years ago, they won the first CCI4*-S in Renswoude/NED, competed in the Nations Cup-tournament in Aachen/GER and participated as individual competitors in the European Championships in their home town of Luhmühlen. They finished thirteenth and ended the competition on their dressage score. After finishing fourth at the German Championships, they tackled their first five-star event. A hoof abscess ruined the participation in Pau/FRA. Then the idea of going to Kentucky came up. Anna Siemer knew the course from a previous trip: "My gut told me this was a site for Avondale." Since the course in Lexington was built by the same course designer who built the course in Tokyo, national coach Hans Melzer gave the green light. Herpes and Corona shook up the tournament schedule. "I often thought that there were a lot of stones in the way," Anna Siemer recounts. After that, the Olympics also became a possible option. FRH Butt's Avondale and Anna Siemer were second reserve and as such went to the European Championships in Avenches/SUI, where they won silver with the team. "It was a mega feeling to ride for Germany. Even though they were not my first championships, it was competing on the team with the 'cool riders', with Dibo, Ingrid and Michi – that was superb. And, I contributed to the team performance. I feel riding is a team sport and I don't think anyone was as happy about the team medal as I was. It was a great experience."

Three- and four-star events lie ahead of FRH Butt's Avondale, perhaps Aachen or a Nations Cup. The event rider realizes that a nomination for the World Equestrian Games in Pratoni del Vivaro/ITA will be difficult. Germany has so many strong horse/rider combinations at the moment. "But we give it our all, are already training dressage and fine-tuning our jumping technique. What will happen, will happen!" ■



In 2018 Anna Siemer won the Bundeschampionat for five-year-old eventers with Hann.Pr.A. Clara Bö by Concours Complet/Compliment (photo above) and came second in the six-year-old class with Hann. Pr.St. Dark Moon. Only eight weeks before, she had taken over the Don Index/Matcho AA-daughter from her trainer Stephan Dubsky after his accident. Photos: Bischoff

Triple victory in Riesenbeck

Riesenbeck International was all about Hannover on the first weekend in February: Prieuré won the Grand Prix, Diacontina was the best youngster and Lucato Mad Jo secured the victory in the final of the Medium Tour.

By Britta Züngel

Showjumping



Balou du Rouet

Balotelli

At the CSI3* in Wellington, USA, the clear rounds of Balotelli by Balou du Rouet/Contendro/Chasseur (line of Gotenprobe; breeder: Ulrich Heitmann, Hagenah) and Matthew Boddy in the 1.50 meter-jumping competition on Saturday were rewarded with a fourth placing. Seven days later, the pair placed third in the final jumping competition (1.50 metres) of the CSI4*.

Baloutinue

The newly crowned Rider Of the Year, Laura Kraut, and Baloutinue by Balou du Rouet/Landor S/Figaro (breeder: Heinrich Meyer, Langwedel) successfully competed at the CSI4* in Wellington/USA. On the third weekend of the Winter Equestrian Festival at the

Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, they jumped into third place in a two-phase jumping competition. At the CSI5* at the same location, he was among the successful Hanoverians in the Grand Prix (1.60 metres). Coby won, Count Me In was second, and Baloutinue finished twelfth in this well funded competition.

Bayleaf

In mid February, Bayleaf by Balou du Rouet/Acord II/Drosselklang II (line of Fürstenkraft; breeder: Jean Claude Ferrand, Contest/FRA) celebrated her first international victory in Oliva/ESP. She won the final for six-year-olds with Bertrand Genin.

Bella Balou (Rhld.)

In mid February, the Horses Riviera Resort in San Giovanni in Marignano/ITA opened its doors to the international sport. On the last day, the Balou du Rouet/Quidam's Rubin/Contender-daughter Bella Balou (line of Neapaza; breeder: Karl-Heinz Girkes, Viersen)

and rider Fabio Cotta finished third in a two-phase show jumping competition.

Baloubet du Rouet

Babou du Rouet (VA)

In a 1.40 metre-jumping competition at the CSI3* in Vilamoura/POR, Babou du Rouet by Baloubet du Rouet/Calido/Argentinus (line of Schilfgarbe; breeder: Kai Baumgartner, Wulkau) and Toni Haßmann remained penalty-free and made it onto the podium placing third.

Berlin

Boston ASK

At the CSI5* in Wellington/USA, Boston ASK by Berlin/Quidam de Revel/Grannus (line of Nesuli; breeder: Callaho Warmblood Sport Horses, Christiana/South Africa) finished in the top three. The 14-year-old and rider Jordan Coyle placed third in a 1.45-metre jumping class.

Canstakko

Hann.Pr.A. Chicolina

Hann.Pr.A. Chicolina by Canstakko/Chasseur/Argentan (line of Klaseta; breeder: Frank Johannsen, Daensen) celebrated two victories at the CSI1* in Oliva/ESP. She won two 1.40-metre classes with Kim Vukadin

Canturano

Carlsson

In his adopted country of Kuwait/KUW, the Canturano/Contendro/Drosselklang II-son Carlsson (line of Nondura; breeder: Hans-

Cornet's Iberio by Cornet Obolensky (here in Leipzig) won the Grand Prix of Kronenberg with Denis Lynch. Photo: Lafrentz



Heinrich Brüning, Ochtmannien) delivered strong performances at the World Cup. In the 1.45 metre-jumping competition on Friday, he finished third with Annaz Al Annaz in the saddle. In the World Cup-jumping class (1.50 metres), the twelve-year-old finished seventh.

Carrico

Carrisma (VA)

The Carrico/Eiger/Airport-daughter Carrisma (breeder: Henrik Plass, Neustadt) represented Luxembourg at the CSI3* in Vilamoura/POR. With Victor Bettendorf, she finished third in a two-phase show jumping competition.

Casino Grande

Concord

At the end of January, the Spring Mediterranean Equestrian Tour entered its third round in Oliva/ESP. With Oleksandr Prodan, Concord by Casino Grande/Cassini II/Cordalme (line of Nachnahme; breeder: Rudolf Scherpergerdes, Meppen) finished a class for six-year-olds in a brilliant second place.

Chacco-Blue

RMF Chacco Top (VA)

The U.S. American rider Shawn Casady started competing RMF Chacco Top by Chacco-Blue/Graf Top/Wandersmann xx (line of Isabella; breeder: Torsten Siems, Oyle) and immediately won a class with jump-off at his first international start in Thermal/USA. The new combination had been second in a two-phase jump-off earlier.

Chalet

Carisma Can Fly

From Opglabbeek, Belgium, Carisma Can Fly by Chalet/Foxhunter/Quasi Roy (line of Nachbarin I; breeder: Arnd Behr, Seevetal) drove to Kronenberg in the Netherlands. In the CSI2* at the Peelbergen Equestrian Center, Tim Hoster rode her into third place in a time-and-fault class.

Codex One

Condor One Z (Rhld.)

At the CSI2* in Kronenberg/NED, seven-hundredths of a second separated Condor One Z by Codex One/Berlin/Polydor (breeder: Heiner Dückers, Lindlar) and Christian Ahlmann from the winner of the two-phase jum-



Lucato Mad Jo v. Ludwigs As und Alexa Stais haben das Finale der Mittleren Tour in Riesenbeck gewonnen. Photo: RI

ping competition of the Youngster Tour. The pair finished second. They went on to Opglabbeek/BEL, which is 60 kilometres away. There they won the second qualification for seven-year-olds.

Comme il faut

Chao Lee (Rhld.)

At the end of January in Oliva/ESP, seven of eight participants in the jump-off for the Grand Prix of the CSI3* remained penalty-free. This included Chao Lee by Comme il faut/Chacco-Blue/Kannan (line of Schliesserin; breeder: Otmar Eckermann, Kranenburg) and Katrin Eckermann, who finished sixth with this top performance.

Comme-Laude W (Rhld.)

Without any penalty points, the Comme il faut/Diagonal/Ramonow-son Comme-Laude W (breeder: Herbert Werth, Wesel) and Bart Bles from the Netherlands finished eighth in the qualifier (1.50 metres) for the Grand Prix at the CSI5*-W in Sharjah/UAE. The pair then finished the World Cup-jumping class (1.60 metres) in tenth place.

Contagio

Catch Me Imperio

The very first qualifier for the Grand Prix of the CSI2* in Lier/BEL saw the Contagio/Werther/Gotthard-son Catch Me Imperio (line of Julianca; breeder: Heinz Tiedje jun., Bottendorf) and Francisco José Mesquita as

the winners. The following weekend, the pair finished second in the Grand Prix at Azelhof.

Coby

From the Persian Gulf, the Contagio/Escudo/Pik König-son Coby (line of Kurheim; breeder: Jürgen Geffken, Lilienthal) went to Florida. The flight agreed well with him: Mid February, he and Philipp Weishaupt won the US \$406,000.00-Grand Prix (1.60 metres) at CSI5* in Wellington/USA.

Colestus

Campino MR (Rhld.)

As the winner of the free-jumping competition of the Hanoverian Breeding Program for Show Jumpers, Campino MR by Colestus/Clinton/Quite Capitol (line of Flechtka; breeder: Marius Rittstieg, Seeburg) became Hanoveraner show jumping champion for four-year-olds with Roman Duchac. In the following two years, the bay stallion jumped onto the podium two more times as the third-placed horse. At the beginning of the year, Campino MR came to Helmut Schönstetter's stables, and end of January he obtained his first international placing in Vejer de la Frontera/ESP. In the second qualification of the Youngster Tour, the new horse-rider combination finished third. The following week, the pair picked up two more third-place ribbons at the same venue. In mid February, Campino added a second place in the opening jumping class to his success record.

Cordobes

Coenig (Rhld.)

The clear round in Friday's main jumping competition at the CSI3* in Sharjah/UAE rewarded Coenig by Cordobes/Baloubet du Rouet/Pit (line of Pia; breeder: Gerd and Sylvia Koenen, Viersen) and Abdullah Humaid Al Muhairi with a second placing. One day later, the pair earned the next second-place ribbon in a time-and-fault class. The participation in a two-star event at the same venue followed. There, Coenig finished third in a two-phase jumping class.

Contendro

Con Coleur

At the CSI2* in Wellington/USA, American Rebecca Conway rode the Contendro/Couleur-Rubin/Picart-son Con Coleur (line of Selma; breeder: Ingo and Britta Janssen, Holtgast) into second place in a 1,45 metre-jumping class.

Contendros (VA)

Contendros by Contendro/Drosselklang II/ Glückspilz (line of Neapenda; breeder: Wilhelm Berghorn, Stolzenau) won the Grand Prix (1.55 metres) of Lerma/MEX. He and his rider Andres Azcarraga were the only horse-rider combination to complete the 1.55-metre course without any penalties. The pair had already led the field in the qualification (1.50 metres). A week later, Contendros had a jumping fault in the Grand Prix (1.55 metres) at the same location and finished sixth in this competition.

Contendros

Conlouba

At the CSI05* in Abu Dhabi/UAE, Conlouba by Contendros/Baloubet du Rouet/Carthago (line of Gralsgöttin; breeder: Stud Lewitz, Mühlen) and Abdurakhmon Abdullaev delivered a fast, four-penalty round finishing eighth in the jumping competition with a winning round (1.50 metres). A week later, the pair competed in the CSI4*-W and took second place in a two-phase jumping competition.

Conteur

Casablanca-H

At the CSI3* in Oliva/ESP, the Conteur/Landor S/Argentan-daughter Casablanca-H (line of Maldone; breeder: Günther Heilshorn, Wulsbüttel) and Tobias Meyer finished the Grand Prix (1.50 metres) in fifth place. The following weekend, they earned another fifth place in a 1.50 meter-Grand Prix.

Cornet Obolensky

Cornets Iberio

At the CSI2* in Kronenberg/NED on the penultimate weekend in January, Denis Lynch kept his nerves in the exciting jump-off to the Grand Prix and won aboard Cornets Iberio by Cornet Obolensky/Iberio/Acorado (line of Steingilde; breeder: Heinrich Ramsbrock, Menslage) by a margin of almost two tenths of a second. The grey then paid the Sentower Park in Opplabbeek/BEL a visit. He finished second in the qualifier for the Grand Prix.

Crocodile Rock (VA)

Two six-year-olds advertised Hannover's show jumpers in Oliva/ESP. In the second qualification of the Youngster Tour of the vintage from 2016, the Cornet Obolensky/Sir Shutterfly/Graf Top-son Crocodile Rock (line of Jugendzeit; breeder: Peter Bertling, Meckenheim) and Robin Muhr finished second ahead of Kaidan. The pair also remained penalty-free in the final finishing third. In the next round a week later, Crocodile Rock won the two-phase jumping competition. The gray horse, whose great-granddam Gundula produced the legendary Goldfever, had once sold to Argentina via Verden's foal auction.

Cornet's Balou

Mike Wazowski

The main jumping competition on the opening day of the CSI2* in San Miguel de Allende/MEX celebrated a double Hannoveraner victory. Behind Pandora, the Cornet's Balou/Centadel/Stakkato-son Mike Wazowski (line of Flaute; breeder: Stud Lewitz, Mühlen) finished second with Nicolas Pizarro. The ten-year-old did even better in the Grand Prix, which he won by more than three seconds.

Count Grannus

Count Me In

The Count Grannus/Sherlock Holmes/Mahon-son Count Me In (line of Maritim; breeder: Friedrich Lüßmann, Neustadt) is on the road to success. After winning the World Cup-jumping competition in Fort Worth, he finished the Grand Prix (1.60 metres) in Wellington/USA in second place with Connor Swail behind Coby and Philipp Weishaupt.

Diarado

Dicas (Rhld.)

Only four pairs made it into the jump-off of the main jumping competition (1.50 metres) on the final day of the CSI5* in Wellington/USA. Margie Goldstein-Engle rode Dicas by Diarado/Cassini/Lancetto son Dicas (breeder: Karl-Heinz Girkes, Viersen) into second place.

Diraba

On the last weekend of January, Diraba by Diarado/Contendro/Grannus (line of Nokadero; breeder: Heinrich Bremer jun., Nöpke) and

After the start at the Bundeschampionat (Photo) Fascinora by Firth of Lorne collects top results with Katrin Eckermann in Spain. Photo: Equitaris





From Warendorf (Photo) to North America: With Richard Vogel, Looping Luna completes her first international season in Mexico and the USA. Photo: Equitaris

Francesco Turturiello celebrated a victory in a jumping competition of the Gold 2-Tour at the CSI3* in Oliva/ESP.

Don Diarado (Rhld.)

After the transfer of Don Diarado by Diarado/Lord Lancer/Circus (line of Carmina; breeder: Dirk Lohmann, Schermbeck) from Maurice Tebbel to Harm Lahde, the first reports about the pair's success are coming in from Oliva/ESP. In the Grand Prix (1.50 metres), the 2009-born stallion finished ninth.

D'Inzeo

Darquito

With a fast four-penalty round, Darquito by D'Inzeo/Contefino/Stakkato (line of Kalunda; breeder: Dieter Köneke, Nienhagen) and Andrew Bourns finished seventh in the 1.50 metre-show jumping competition on Sunday at the CSI5* in Wellington/USA.

Diacontinus

Diacontina

The last day of Riesenbeck International was a Hannoveraner feast: Prieuré won the Grand Prix and Lucato Mad Jo the final of the Medium Tour. The best young horse was the Diacontinus/A Conto As/Balou du Rouet-daughter Diacontina (breeder: Konrad Böth, Niederwalgern), who won the final of the Youngster Tour with rider Sönke Fallenberg. The seven-year-old had already finished the first qualification in second place.

Firth of Lorne

Fascinora

Fascinora by Firth of Lorne/Cassini II/Jasper (breeder: Otmar Eckermann) was among the successful young Hannoveraner during week two of the Spring Mediterranean Equestrian Tour in Oliva/ESP. Behind Serendepety, the seven-year-old finished third in the second qualification of the Youngster Tour. The breeder's daughter Katrin Eckermann presented Fascinora. The following Wednesday, the pair won the final for the vintage from 2015.

Giorgio

Giorgino (Rhld.)

Giorgino by Giorgio/Harry Potter/Polany (breeder: Rudolf Pellengahr, Höxter) made it into the sports pages of DER HANNOVERANER because of his successes in Oliva/ESP. At the end of January, the nine-year-old finished second in the two-phase jumping competition at CSI1* with rider Alexa Larkin.

Harley VDL

Harry

At the start of the Youngster Tour at CSI3* in Sharjah/UAE, Abdalla Hamad Eli Al Kirbi rode the Harley VDL/Diamant de Semilly/Heartbreaker-son Harry (breeder: Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, Zobbenitz) into second place in the two-phase show jumping competition for six-year-olds. One day later, the pair then claimed victory in the final. They

also managed to be just as successful a week later at the CSI5*-W at the same venue.

Heartbreaker

Oak Grove's Heartthrob

In mid February, Oak Grove's Heartthrob by Heartbreaker/Artos Z/Ramiro (line of Fairness III Z, Breeding Farm Eichenhain, Varste) made the trip to Andalusia and immediately entered the winners' lists. At the CSI2* in Vejer de la Frontera/ESP, he won a division of the two-phase show jumping competition for six-year-olds with rider Kendra Claricia Brinkop.

Kannan

Kaidan

The year 2022 began for the Kannan/Gerlinus/Hinault-son Kaidan (breeder: Elmgestüt "Drei Eichen", Königslutter) with a trip to the Mediterranean. At the CSI2* in Oliva/ESP, the six-year-old won the Youngster Tour with Finja Bormann after finishing third in the second qualifier behind Crocodile Rock.

Lord Fauntleroy

Looping Luna (VA)

After three shows in Mexico, Looping Luna by Lord Fauntleroy/Calido/Gambler's Cup xx (line of Juka; breeder: Andreas Middelkampff, Grönloh) went to Florida. With Richard Vogel, the eight-year-old finished third in a 1.45-metre class.

Ludwigs As

Lucato Mad Jo

At the CSI2* in Riesenbeck/GER, Lucato Mad Jo by Ludwigs As/Stakkato/Don Juan (line of Dichterwelt; breeder: Jochen Meyer, Allwörden) celebrated the fourth international, 1.40-metre victory of his young career. He won the final of the Medium Tour with Alexa Stais.

Perigueux

Portofino

Portofino by Perigueux/Stakkato/Drosselklang II (line of Almka; breeder: Heinz-August Grewe, Hemsloh) is at the beginning of a promising career. The six-year-old gained his first international merits on the Andalucía Sunshine Tour. In week one, he finished second behind Oak Grove's Heartthrob in the two-phase jumping competition of the Youngster

Tour. The bay was guided through the course by Konstantin E. van Damm.

Pandora (VA)

Pandora by Perigueux/Lordanos/Athlet Z (breeder: Christel and Helge Deußer, Hünfelden) and rider Arturo Parada Vellejo celebrated a victory in the main jumping competition on the opening day of the CSI2* in San Miguel de Allende/MEX.

Prieuré

At the CSI2* in Riesenbeck/GER, Prieuré by Perigueux/Acord II/Bold Indian xx (line of Julianca; breeder: Erwin Brennecke, Burgdorf) stood at the top of the podium twice. The eleven-year-old won the Grand Prix with Benjamin Wulschner in a commanding manner after he had already won the first qualification with a lead of almost four seconds.

Prinz (VA)

At the CSI2* in Kronenberg/NED, the Perigueux/Escudo/Werther-son Prinz (breeder: Volker Ebeling, Ingeln) and Hans-Dieter Dreher won the second-place ribbon in the first qualifier for the Grand Prix. Along with Carisma Can Fly, he is the second Hanoverian from the line of Nachbarin I to achieve top results in Peelbergen. Next stop: Sentower Park in Opglabbeek/BEL. Prinz celebrated two wins there, in the opening round and in a two-phase jumping competition.

Plot Blue

Hann.Pr.St. Bahira

Mid February in Oliva/ESP, Lauren Buhl rode the Plot Blue/Stakkato/Kolibri-daughter Bahi-

ra (breeder: Birgit Lehner, Müggendorf) into second place in the speed class of the Youngster Tour.

Messenger

H5 Messentus PS

The CSI2* in Florida in mid February was the first event of the year on the calendar of H5 Messentus PS by Messenger/Cento/Latus (breeder: Stud Lewitz, Mühlen). The nine-year-old and his new rider Enrique Gonzales finished second in a time-and-fault class.

Quaid

Hann.Pr.St. Quatinka

The Quaid/Perigueux/Stakkato-daughter Hann.Pr.St. Quatinka (breeder: Manfred Schäfer, Köchingen) celebrated her best results to date in the Persian Gulf. With Kevin Jochems, the ten-year-old finished second in the Grand Prix (1.50 m) of Sharjah/UAE. Only two competitors had managed to produce two clear rounds. One week later, the World Cup-tournament was on the agenda. The eleven-year-old celebrated the first 1.50-metre victory of her career. In the main jumping competition (1.50 metres) on Saturday, she found the fastest line.

Quintus-H

The Quaid/Werther/Gotthard-son Quintus-H (line of Julianca; breeder: Jochen Schrader, Königslutter) currently jumps from success to success. In week two of the Spring Mediterranean Equestrian Tour in Oliva/ESP, he won the first Gold 3-test with Tobias Meyer from Germany by exactly two seconds. The fol-

lowing day, the twelve-year-old jumped into third place.

Stakkato

Sama Dubai FBH

In Abu Dhabi/UAE, Sama Dubai FBH v. Stakkato/Landcapitol/Grannus (breeder: Wilhelm Winkeler, Herzlake) and Abdullah Mohd Al Marri added a clear round for the team from the United Arab Emirates to win second place at their home event in the Nations Cup.

Stakaya

Fabio Thielen took over the Stakkato/Clearway/Sir Dancer xx-daughter Stakaya (breeder: Kai Gattermann, Rehburg) from sister Julie. The 14-year-old triumphed at the CSI2* in Opglabbeek/BEL winning a two-phase show jumping competition.

Hann.Pr.A. Souper Shuttle

Under the Florida sun, Hann.Pr.A. Souper Shuttle by Stakkato/La Zarras/Fantus (breeder: Andrea and Norbert Wulf, Schilddorf) and Chloe Reid impressed in the 1.55 meter-jumping competition on Thursday at the CSI4* in Wellington/USA, which they finished in third place. In the Grand Prix (1.60 metres), the pair had one jumping fault, which translated into eighth place.

Silvio

Solero MS

At the CSI3* in Oliva/ESP, Julien Epailard was able to rely on his experienced Solero MS by Silvio/Espri/Sandro (line of Corona; breeder: Richard Mangels, Nordholz). The

Superb was super in Ankum

After a break of almost a year, the Surprise/Donautanz-daughter Superb (breeder: Marion Gabel) made an impressive comeback. In Ankum, the ten-year-old won the Grand Prix at her debut with Isabell Werth. She just missed the magic 80 percent-mark with 79.533 percent. All three judges saw the black mare in front.

Superb has not often been seen on the show circuit in recent years, but she is not completely unknown. In 2015, the black mare won the Hannoveraner Championship for three-year-olds and finished sixth in the Bundeschampionat with Marlene Heye. In October

of the same year, Superb opened the 132nd elite auction in Verden. She made the hearts of many visitors beat faster and the telephones at the auction ran hot. Interested parties from Denmark and Australia caused the price to soar within a very short time. In the end, however, the black youngster was to remain in Germany: For 250,000 Euros, equestrian patron Madeleine Winter-Schulze won the bid and Superb came to the stable of multiple Olympic and World Champion Isabell Werth. After careful training, Superb qualified for the final of the Louisdor Prize last year with a victory in the short Grand Prix of Munich. ■



Superb (here in Hagen) won her first Grand Prix with Isabell Werth in Ankum.

Photo: Lafrentz

After winning the qualification, Prieuré by Perigieux and Benjamin Wulschner won the Grand Prix of Riesenbeck. Photo: RI

pair won the Grand Prix-qualifier as well as an accumulator class that produces ranking points.

Stanley

Hann.Pr.A. Sally

In the Gold 2-Final of the CSI3* in Oliva/ESP, Hann.Pr.A. Sally by Stanley/For Edition/Dupon (breeder: Hermann Rosenbrock, Bredorf) and Finja Bormann placed second in a field of 74 participants. A week later, a double Hannoveraner victory was announced at a 1.45 metre-jumping class. Behind Solero MS, Sally finished second.

Stakata

With a fast four-penalty round, the Stanley/Embassy/Landclassic-daughter Stakata (line of Stange; breeder: Hans Henning von der Decken, Stade) finished seventh in the Grand Prix (1.50 metres) of Vilamoura/POR with rider Adam Grzegorzewski from Poland.

Stakkato Gold

Secret Star

The Stakkato Gold/Landadel/Servus-son Secret Star (line of Jadara; breeder: Albert Sprehe, Essen) will soon no longer be an insider's tip. With his victory in the second qualification of the Youngster Tour at the CSI2* in Lier/BEL, the seven-year-old landed on the international sport pages in DER HANNOVERANER. This success was followed by a brilliant second place in the final of the Youngster Tour. Thomas Ryan presented the bay.

Starissa

Starissa by Stakkato Gold/Quidam's Rubin/Landadel (line of Jadara; breeder: Albert Sprehe, Essen) and Mario Stevens placed third in the first qualifier for the Grand Prix of Riesenbeck/GER.

Stolzenberg

Serendepety

At the CSI2* in Oliva/ESP, Serendepety by Stolzenberg/Escudo/Calypto II (line of Schuttsiegel; breeder: Jennifer Lee, The Plains/USA) and Jonna Ekberg delivered the second-best performance in the second qualifier for seven-year-olds. erendepety's grand-



dam Cecile is the dam of the internationally successful, showjumping sire Satisfaction.

Voltaire

L.St.-S Venice Beach

Venice Beach by Voltaire/Escudo/Calypto II (line of Dallas; breeder: Carsten Meyer-Nordhorn, Raddestorf) and Rodrigo Pessoa finished second in a two-phase show jumping competition at the CSI4* in Wellington/USA.

Dressage



Danciano

Dolciario

For the first time, Frederic Wandres took the Danciano/Don Frederico/Morning Star-son Dolciario (line of Sporthaus; breeder: Christin Eggersgluß, Soltendiek) to Florida, where he also rode him in a competition for the first time. He did it with great success winning the Prix St. Georges at the CDI1* in Wellington/USA on the second weekend in February.

Don Frederico

St.Pr.A. FRH Davinia la Douce (VA)

In the middle of February it was all about World Cup-points in Wellington/USA. After fourth place in the short Grand Prix, St.Pr.A. FRH Davinia la Douce by Don Frederico/A

Jungle Prince/Akzent II (line of Antje; breeder: Rober Kühn, Hagen) and Anna Buffini were delighted with a third place in the freestyle.

Fighting Fit

Quantico Ymas (VA)

Quantico Ymas by Fighting Fit/Constant/Mephisto (breeder: Marijke Goethals, Eeklo/BEL) and Juan Matute Guimon started the World Cup in Wellington/USA with a third place in the short Grand Prix. In the freestyle, the 16-year-old and his Spanish rider advanced to second place.

Füstenball

Frieda (VA)

As a broodmare, the Fürstenball/Roulette/Trapper-daughter Frieda (line of Agueda; breeder: Family Schmidt, Mulsum) had sold as a two-year-old wto Canada via Verden's auction in August of 2013. With her owner Pia Virginia Fortmüller, she began her career as a sport horse in Germany celebrating victories in riding and dressage horse-classes. She participated in the World Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Ermelo/NED. Now Frieda dared to compete in Florida at the Grand Prix-level and made an impressive debut: The black mare won the Grand Prix at the CDI3* in Wellington/USA and finished third in the Special.

Hotline

Havalon

A CDI4* in mid-February was part of the Global Dressage Festival in Wellington/USA. In the Grand Prix Special, Havalon by Hotline/Wolkentanz II/Rubinstein (line of Firuza; breeder: Heinz Lenter, Meppen) delivered his personal best performance and finished second in this competition with Laurence Vannomeslage.

Londonderry

Summerwood's Limei

The Londonderry/Weltmeyer/Akzent II-daughter Summerwood's Limei (line of Flaumblüte; breeder: L. Tetreault and C. Menard, Ulverton/CAN) was born in Canada. Beatrice Boucher rode the nine-year-old into second place in Inter I at the CDI1* in Wellington/USA. It was the mare's debut at this level of competition. ■



Good feeling and calculation

The breeding farm of Rafaela and Dr. Wolfgang Thiel shows how to successfully combine a passion for numbers, the right gut feeling and the sport of dressage, which is often perceived as being purely subjective.

By Rebecca Thamm

Rafaela and Dr. Wolfgang Thiel from Meerbusch. Photos: Thamm



Rizzoli T by Radisson/Royal Classic has completed his first show season with rider Elena Carroll.

The passion for horses and riding dressage accompany Rafaela Thiel since her childhood. In 2008, she and her friend Elke Maurer made the plan to buy a broodmare. The search for a suitable mare was difficult, because they wanted to lay the proper foundation for a successful breeding program. They found what they were looking for at the farm of Family Siekmann in Emmerthal. "The test of character consisted of my wife trotting a few laps around the indoor arena without a saddle and with only a halter and a rope," Dr. Wolfgang Thiel reports with a smile. The Metternich/Rubinstein-daughter St.Pr.St. Madonna passed the test and found her way to the Rhineland. At that time, Dr. Wolfgang Thiel had no connection to horses. "I was working a lot and I just didn't have the time to deal with the subject," the breeder recalls. Madonna's first foal by Sandro Hit was born in 2009. Sanssouci MT developed into a noble, medium-framed mare with good gaits and plenty of nerve. "Many experienced breeders warned us not to breed with this chicken as they described her. But we used her for breeding anyway." Rafaela Thiel is pleased that she already then listened to her gut feeling. The Escolar-son Escolar T, born in 2014, celebrated his first successes at the M-level with Elena Carroll in 2021 and is on his way to the S-level. His full-sister Elli Pirelli T, a participant in the Herwart von der Decken-Show, was nominated for the 2021 Bundeschampionat with rider Beatrice Hoffrogge. The 2016-born Benetton Dream-daughter Bella Louisa T won at the mare show in Viersen and was also invited to the Herwart von der Decken-Show. In 2009, Verb.Pr.St. Sandra Hit 2 by Sandro Hit/Latus II (breeder: Hans-Victor Classen, Viersen)

came to Meerbusch. "Sunny" was actually intended as a riding horse for Rafaela Thiel. Because of family reasons, Rafaela Thiel was unable to devote enough time to the sport of riding, and so, in 2010, the idea of raising a foal out of Sunny came about. "The emphasis here lies on ONE foal," laughs Rafaela Thiel. By now, Sunny is one of the foundation mares. "Sunny was a stroke of luck," Rafaela Thiel is pleased to say. The great-great-granddam is the mare Bühne, the foundation mare of the famous Holstein line No. 8769 of the breeding station Magens in Oldenburg. The ten-year-old Fidertanz-son Friedrich T is currently successfully competing at the advanced (S)-level with Beatrice Hoffrogge. This year, her daughters Hann. Pr.A. Rosé de Flores T and Hann.Pr.A. Fürstenfee T – both were successful up to the M-level – will deliver their first foals.

In 2013, Dr. Wolfgang Thiel entered the breeding business. From the very beginning, the business mathematician was able to score points with his analytical streak. True to the motto: "The mare line doesn't lie," he quickly acquired the theoretical knowledge about the breeding of horses. Since his entering into the breeding business, he focused on the breed value estimations, progeny statistics and databases of all kinds. While Dr. Wolfgang Thiel likes to make his decisions on the basis of data and facts, his wife decides more intuitively from her gut. "At the same time, my wife has a really good eye for horses," says Dr. Wolfgang Thiel, who knows to appreciate his wife's good instinct. By now they are able to very successfully combine his analytical knowledge, her good gut feeling and her excellent eye for the

right horse. After the great experiences with Madonna, Rafaela Thiel and Elke Maurer acquired St.Pr.St. Highlight by His Highness/Matcho AA (breeder: Hermann Jarck, Himmelpforten) in 2010. In 2011, she gave birth to Hann.Pr.St. Royal Coco MT by Royal Classic, who has produced six foals to date, five of which are still owned by Family Thiel. The big hope lies in the Radisson-son Rizzoli T, born in 2017, who is being prepared for the upcoming Bundeschampionat-qualifiers. "What is most important to us above all is a long-term, health-maintaining development of the horses. The Bundeschampionat in Warendorf is a great event. However, we are well aware that many factors have to align," says Rafaela Thiel.

Team of experts for support

"From the very beginning, it was important for us to present the mares and their foals on shows, where you get a neutral assessment of the quality of your own horse and have a direct comparison to other horses," says Rafaela Thiel. "The first show successes were almost a bit scary," she recalls of the early days. All mares are performance tested and promoted in the sport. "As non-farmers, we are always dependent on support in this regard," explains Dr. Wolfgang Thiel.

For the first ten years, the mares and foals stood in Ratingen with Heinz Bernd Schumacher, who, together with his daughter Wiebke, was a great supporter, especially in the early days. "As on any path, however, we also made some painful and instructive experiences." True to the motto: "In every crisis lies an opportunity," the couple completely reorganized in 2020 and built a new team around them. "We are more than happy to know that we have highly competent and, above all, trustworthy partners at our side," the couple agrees. Their friends Tanja and Johannes Baumeister look after raising the young horses. Family Pferd-menges attends to the broodmares, and oversees the preparation for mare shows and the training of the young horses. Yannink and Leon Pferd-menges work hand-in-hand with their parents, while Miriam Reipen starts the young horses under saddle. "Beatrice and Jens Hoffrogge and their great team are responsible for the more advanced training of the sport horses," the couple says happily. "Our dream is to one day breed a Grand Prix-horse. Maybe we've already succeeded in doing that, but if not, we'll keep working on it!"

The couple's philosophy is not to sell the foals, but to accompany them on their way into competition. Making a plan for each individual horse and developing a gentle training program are the top priorities.

In addition to the prerequisites for sport and rideability, the focus is on the health of the horses, where, in the opinion of Dr. Wolfgang Thiel, the greatest need for action exists on the part of the breed associations: "A breed association is not called a breed association for nothing. There is an enormous amount of empirical knowledge in the traditional breeding community, but for us as lateral entrants, it would obviously be very helpful, if the associations provided us with more systematic information on health issues. We know our mares very well. The decision which stallion to use, is virtually a blind flight from a health perspective." Dr. Wolfgang Thiel contributes his ideas in various places as a volunteer.

The couple is very attached to the Rhineland and still registers the foals in the Rhineland in old solidarity. A corresponding commitment to the district association is therefore a matter of honor. Dr. Wolfgang Thiel has just been elected deputy chairman of the district horse breeding association Rhein-Kreis-Neuss, Rhein-Erft-Kreis, and the cities of Mönchengladbach and Cologne. In addition, he represents his district horse breeding association as a delegate in the association NRW and in the Hannoveraner Verband. He was also a member of the structural commission. "As a man of industry and trade, I never imagined how much negative energy could arise in an association that is run by volunteers and that is supposed to provide its members with fun and enjoyment of wonderful living creatures," he says, summing up passed times. He is all the more pleased that a positive path for the future has been paved by many committed horse people in order to be able to continue to successfully exist in a challenging environment and to stand its ground in the tough competition with other breed associations at home and abroad.

Rafaela and Dr. Wolfgang Thiel are already looking forward to the next season. Be it the eagerly awaited foals, the events in Wickrath or on the competitive stage – enjoying the horses will always be most important. Whether one of their three grown children or even one of the three grandchildren will one day enter into the successful horse breeding program, is not yet certain. The couple already passed on their love of animals and especially their passion for horses to the next generation. Bella Louisa T, for example, has already been named after the Thiels' two daughters. "We will also dedicate a name to our son Max when the (stallion) opportunity arises," says Rafaela Thiel with a wink, making it clear that the breeding of horses has become a shared affair of the hearts within Family Thiel. ■



Hann.Pr.A. Elli Pirelli by Escolar/Sandro Hit was not only highly awarded at the Herwart von der Decken-Show in 2020 but also celebrated top results in dressage tests for young horses with Beatrice Hoffrogge. Photo: Thamm



Verb.Pr.St. Sandra Hit's second foal, Friedrich T by Fidertanz, is successful in the dressage ring up to advanced (S) level with Beatrice Hoffrogge. Photo: Chiara Schmidt Fotografie



Valuable first building blocks

In addition to the breeding value estimation, which is based on the successes of the offspring in competitions, the Hannoveraner breeding value estimation offers valuable first building blocks, because information from mare tests and from pre-selections is available earlier. The breeding value for the size of a horse is new.

By Dr. Ludwig Christmann

Through his son King Edward, the Celle state stud stallion Edward is on everyone's lips. For the first time he also appears on the top list of jumping sires. Photo: Loveley Moments

After the analysis of the FN breeding values and the WBFSH ranking list of sires in the January issue of DER HANNOVERANER, the results of the Hannoveraner breeding value estimation will be presented. This is divided into three parts: Breed values marebook

inspection, breeding values broodmare inspection/auction and breeding value size. For the breeding values studbook inspection and broodmare test/auction, "the higher the better" applies. This is not necessarily the case for the breeding value size. A very high breeding value means that a stallion tends to pass on a very large size. On the other hand, if a stallion has a breeding value around 100, it can be expected that a large portion of the offspring will be in a target range between

165 and 168 cm. It should be noted that most of the offspring are mares between three and five years of age, meaning that many are not yet full grown.

Another figure that is always published along with the Hannoveraner breeding values is accuracy. This depends on the number of horses evaluated and the heritability of the individual trait. The theoretical maximum value is 1.0 (100 percent). A very high accuracy, for ex-

1) Breeding values studbook inspection:

The basis of the breeding value estimation are the scores awarded at the studbook inspection. Individual breeding values for the characteristics head, neck, saddle position, frame as well as breed and sex type are combined in the breeding value riding horse points/type. The individual breeding values for the characteristics fore limbs, hind limbs and correctness are part of the breeding value foundation.

2) Breeding values broodmare test/auction:

There are the two breeding values, dressage and jumping, which are based on scores awarded at broodmare tests and

at the selection sites for Verden's auctions. The dressage breeding value includes the partial breeding values for trot, canter, walk and rideability, each carrying equal weight. The breeding value jumping is based on the two individual breeding values for technique and scope, which are calculated from the scores from free-jumping. At the selections for auctions, not all traits are evaluated for every horse.

3) Breeding value size:

This breeding value is estimated based on the estimated height at the studbook inspection.

Breeding values are calculated using the so-called BLUP method (Best Linear Unbiased Prediction), which is also used in breeding

programs for other livestock. A feature of this method is that the individual animal is compared to a base population. In the current Hanoverian breeding value estimation, all horses born in 2011 and 2012 make up this base for comparison. The base shifts by one year each year. This means that the compared group is formed one year later from the vintages from 2012 and 2013.

Overall, there is a positive genetic trend in the Hannoveraner population. This means that the breeding values increase slightly from year to year, but the average of the base population is always standardized at 100 with a standard deviation of 20 points. This in turn has the consequence that for stallions where no new information is added, the breeding value decreases slightly, it is depreciated.

ample 0.98 (98 percent), signals that this breeding value is very stable and that not much will change with an increasing number of offspring. Stakkato is a good example. 437 daughters of Celle's state stud stallion were evaluated in the studbook inspection, which gives this breeding value an accuracy of 0.98. If another ten or twenty daughters are added now, not much will change. The evaluation of conformation as a whole is an important basis for grading a horse and complements the sport-oriented evaluation of the basic gaits, the rideability and the pre-disposition for jumping. A functional conformation and a correct foundation are an important basis for a horse's suitability for sport and its durability over many years. Therefore, these traits should definitely be also considered in the stallion/mare selection.

Don Frederic surprises

The two top lists include the show jumping stallions and the dressage stallions with the highest rankings in the current breed evaluation. Included are those stallions that were registered in Stallion Book I in 2021 or 2022 or that are used by the daughter societies. In dressage, three stallions – Benicio, Don Frederic and Fürstenball – have the highest breeding value of 141. Benicio and Fürstenball are firmly established as sires, while Don Frederic has not been in the spotlight so far. However, above-average breeding values for dressage, riding horse points/type and foundation as well as the record of his offspring in competition make the Don Frederico/Wolken-tanz-son well worth considering. Fürstenball also has the highest breeding value for type at 165. His positive breeding value of 121 for foundation may be surprising, since an often long hind leg with a soft connection to the fetlock are considered the "Achilles' heel" of his offspring. Therefore, one must look a little more closely there, and must carefully consider the individual breeding values, which are published in the stallion yearbook. The breeding value foundation includes, among other things, the breeding value correctness. Fürstenball's offspring are rarely misaligned, which leads to his very high breeding value for correctness of 160. This in turn compensates for the weak breeding value of 87 for the hind leg.

If we now look at all the stallions from which Hannoveraner breeding values have ever been estimated, there are only six stallions with higher values. These are the legendary

Toplist dressage

Top list dressage (published are stallions with a dressage breeding value of 120 or more, which were registered in the stallion book I of the Hannoveraner Verband in 2021 or 2022 or are in use at the daughter societies)

| Name | Hannoveraner breeding values mare performance test/auction | | | Hannoveraner breeding values studbook inspection | | | Accuracy (%) |
|--------------------------|---|---------|--------------|---|------------|------|--------------|
| | Dressage | Jumping | Accuracy (%) | Riding horse points | Foundation | Size | |
| Benicio | 141 | 92 | 0,86 | 134 | 151 | 98 | 0,88 |
| Don Frederic | 141 | 82 | 0,80 | 129 | 136 | 84 | 0,83 |
| Fürstenball | 141 | 89 | 0,95 | 165 | 121 | 108 | 0,97 |
| Floriscourt | 140 | 80 | 0,95 | 130 | 134 | 137 | 0,96 |
| Foundation | 139 | 76 | 0,86 | 116 | 116 | 113 | 0,90 |
| Sir Donnerhall | 139 | 88 | 0,97 | 144 | 131 | 129 | 0,97 |
| Bon Coeur | 137 | 84 | 0,90 | 117 | 106 | 103 | 0,92 |
| Fürst Romancier | 137 | 83 | 0,94 | 145 | 109 | 137 | 0,95 |
| Fürsten-Look | 135 | 86 | 0,83 | 150 | 122 | 116 | 0,87 |
| Secret New | 133 | 90 | 0,69 | 127 | 105 | 134 | 0,80 |
| Don Frederico | 132 | 80 | 0,99 | 112 | 86 | 112 | 0,99 |
| Borsalino | 131 | 89 | 0,73 | 123 | 131 | 102 | 0,76 |
| Fürst Nymphenburg | 130 | 83 | 0,96 | 131 | 61 | 129 | 0,97 |
| Sandro Hit | 130 | 84 | 0,98 | 133 | 125 | 109 | 0,98 |
| Belissimo M | 128 | 94 | 0,97 | 122 | 157 | 88 | 0,97 |
| For Romance | 127 | 89 | 0,84 | 151 | 128 | 114 | 0,90 |
| Rock Forever | 127 | 105 | 0,72 | 104 | 88 | 113 | 0,80 |
| Livaldon | 126 | 77 | 0,90 | 113 | 116 | 121 | 0,90 |
| Londonderry | 126 | 74 | 0,99 | 145 | 118 | 130 | 0,99 |
| Benetton Dream | 125 | 80 | 0,92 | 113 | 108 | 132 | 0,92 |
| Christ | 125 | 106 | 0,89 | 125 | 120 | 115 | 0,93 |
| Dressage Royal | 125 | 79 | 0,86 | 106 | 105 | 121 | 0,86 |
| Fürst Wilhelm New | 124 | 88 | 0,71 | 131 | 123 | 120 | 0,78 |
| Revolution New | 124 | 95 | 0,64 | 98 | 66 | 138 | 0,69 |
| San Remo | 124 | 79 | 0,93 | 131 | 125 | 108 | 0,92 |
| Scolari | 124 | 82 | 0,96 | 128 | 117 | 139 | 0,96 |
| Danone | 123 | 76 | 0,91 | 104 | 117 | 100 | 0,92 |
| Fidertanz | 123 | 85 | 0,97 | 99 | 112 | 88 | 0,97 |
| Lord Loxley | 122 | 87 | 0,91 | 112 | 120 | 113 | 0,87 |
| Fürstbischof | 121 | 91 | 0,72 | 139 | 114 | 150 | 0,81 |
| Quantensprung | 121 | 86 | 0,82 | 120 | 121 | 122 | 0,86 |
| Dacaprio | 121 | 87 | 0,94 | 126 | 102 | 56 | 0,92 |
| First Dance | 121 | 81 | 0,82 | 102 | 117 | 121 | 0,79 |
| Don Darius | 120 | 89 | 0,82 | 97 | 70 | 102 | 0,84 |
| Herzensdieb | 120 | 76 | 0,85 | 117 | 145 | 98 | 0,85 |

representatives of the D-line Don Primero (breeding value 164), Damon Hill (152), Donnerhall (148), Don Schufro (143) and Dimag-gio (142). In addition, two-time World Champion Florencio, who is out of the Florestan-line, has a breeding value of 146. Looking at the development of the offspring

of these stallions, which were excellent, competitive dressage horses themselves (their own performance is not taken into account in this breeding value estimation), then everyone knows that they have all developed into international top sires. This shows that this breeding value estimation is on the right



Toplist jumping

Top list jumping (published are stallions with a dressage breeding value of 120 or more, which were registered in the stallion book I of the Hannoveraner Verband in 2021 or 2022 or are in use at the daughter societies)

| Name | Hannoveraner breeding values Mare performance test/Auction | | | Hannoveraner breeding values mare inspection | | | Accuracy (%) |
|---------------------|---|----------|--------------|---|------------|------|--------------|
| | Jumping | Dressage | Accuracy (%) | Riding horse points | Foundation | Size | |
| Calido | 152 | 97 | 0,97 | 112 | 85 | 128 | 0,97 |
| Stakkato | 151 | 68 | 0,98 | 57 | 115 | 61 | 0,98 |
| Stolzenberg | 150 | 69 | 0,97 | 79 | 109 | 84 | 0,96 |
| Balou du Rouet | 148 | 77 | 0,92 | 90 | 105 | 100 | 0,96 |
| Forsyth | 147 | 77 | 0,76 | 64 | 111 | 61 | 0,79 |
| Perigueux | 147 | 59 | 0,95 | 121 | 112 | 116 | 0,95 |
| Graf Top | 145 | 73 | 0,98 | 95 | 112 | 94 | 0,97 |
| Stakkato Gold | 145 | 62 | 0,81 | 73 | 123 | 73 | 0,85 |
| Stanley | 144 | 89 | 0,80 | 75 | 93 | 62 | 0,83 |
| Quaid | 143 | 69 | 0,91 | 97 | 113 | 74 | 0,92 |
| Canstakko | 142 | 91 | 0,87 | 102 | 100 | 114 | 0,86 |
| Asti's Amsterdam | 138 | 68 | 0,74 | 82 | 67 | 88 | 0,71 |
| Numero Uno | 138 | 94 | 0,78 | 91 | 105 | 82 | 0,85 |
| Grey Top | 137 | 86 | 0,92 | 111 | 138 | 107 | 0,93 |
| Valentino | 137 | 98 | 0,95 | 116 | 106 | 93 | 0,94 |
| Diacontinus | 136 | 101 | 0,94 | 103 | 139 | 116 | 0,95 |
| Monte Bellini | 136 | 76 | 0,72 | 107 | 128 | 101 | 0,77 |
| Cador | 135 | 85 | 0,74 | 107 | 123 | 137 | 0,77 |
| Diarado | 135 | 77 | 0,87 | 100 | 108 | 77 | 0,91 |
| Escudo | 135 | 60 | 0,98 | 127 | 114 | 61 | 0,98 |
| Vesuv | 134 | 75 | 0,77 | 87 | 127 | 60 | 0,75 |
| Carridam New | 132 | 95 | 0,70 | 106 | 107 | 69 | 0,76 |
| Colman | 131 | 78 | 0,64 | 101 | 115 | 115 | 0,78 |
| Edward | 128 | 113 | 0,88 | 87 | 98 | 87 | 0,90 |
| Viscount | 123 | 93 | 0,90 | 119 | 81 | 95 | 0,92 |
| Conteur | 122 | 100 | 0,97 | 103 | 58 | 90 | 0,96 |

track and that its results can be trusted. This, in turn, also speaks to the fact that the judging committees, which include representatives from both the sport and the breed, are doing a good job. The older stallions in these top lists have proven themselves as sires, as the further development of their offspring in competition reflects. However – there also are absolute performance sires whose offspring were still inconspicuous as young horses and were accordingly rated rather average, but then developed beautifully with further training. Therefore, the Hannoveraner breeding value estimation dressage and jumping, which is based on the first impressions of young horses under the rider or in free-jumping, is a first building block for the pro-

geny evaluation of stallions. It is certainly a valuable one, since these values are available earlier than meaningful results from competitions would. The other, no less important building blocks are the FN-breeding values 'young horse class' and 'highest achieved class'. The number of offspring does not play a decisive role for the breeding value. Even a stallion with just a few tested offspring can receive a high breeding value. A very good example of this is the already mentioned Olympic Champion Damon Hill, who was used just a little by Hannoveraner breeders. That is why only 16 offspring were tested. These, however, were of very high quality and gave their sire the very high breeding value of 152. A current example is the highly sought-

after Bundeschampion Secret by Sezuan/St. Moritz. Twelve horses from his first crop were evaluated, resulting in the very good, first dressage breeding value of 133. This immediately places him among the top five percent of current stallions. However, the number of evaluated offspring has an effect on the accuracy of the breeding values. This is 0.69 for Secret, so it is to be expected that the breeding value will still change. In order to ensure a minimum level of accuracy of the Hannoveraner breeding values, these are only published once ten offspring have been tested.

Also pay attention to size

The top list of show jumping stallions is also convincing in terms of the athletic statement, although the breeding values are exclusively based on the evaluation of the free-jumping. The highly proven Holstein stallion Calido heads up the list. His above-average heredity of type is also convincing. Only the outstanding Chacco-Blue (breeding value 159), who for years is the number one on the list of the WBFSH-world ranking for show jumping sires, and the legendary Contendro (154), who topped the WBFSH -list of eventing sires for several years, were rated higher than Calido.

The breeding values of size are on average lower in show jumping sires than in dressage sires. This coincides with observations in the daily life of equestrian sports, where we notice a tendency towards the very large, sometimes even too large, horse in dressage and not so in jumping. In show jumping, Hannover for a while had the problem that renowned sires like Contendro, For Pleasure or Stakkato and many of his sons tend to produce smaller horses. Also in show jumping, the big-framed athlete is sought after, which has the right levers for a generous jumping sequence. This generally includes a certain size. Younger stallions like Cador, Diacontinus, Grey Top and Perigueux, who have already proven themselves as show jumping-sires, help in terms of size, as their breeding value reflects. The estimation of the Hannoveraner breeding values, by the way, is not discipline-specific; dressage and show jumping horses are in one pot, so to speak. All individual breeding values of all stallions, whose breeding values were estimated, are published in the Yearbook Stallions, which, in addition to the breeding values, provides further statistical data on the heredity and the inherent performance of a stallion. ■

The best of their vintage

For the eleventh time, the young stallions with the best test results will be awarded the Weltmeyer- or the Stakkato-Prize. A festive award ceremony in front of a large audience will take place at a later date.

By Britta Züngel

The dressage horse

Although breeder Dr. Christine Feichtinger lives in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, Segantini has never seen this principality. The Secret/Fidermark son was born and raised on the farm of Eckhard Wahlers in Viselhövede. For many years now, he cares for mares and foals belonging to the female doctor-of-law. At W.M. Stud, **Segantini** was also prepared for the approval and the 50-day-test, both of which he mastered with flying colors. As a premium stallion, the dark bay achieved the highest final score of 9.03 in the stallion test. In Adelheidsdorf, he impressed not only with outstanding movement, but also with his huge willingness to perform, for which he received an even 10.

"His dam Financial Times, who is a strong, reliable producer, passes on her type. Her foals are real dressage horses: strong in the back with a correct foundation," says Dr. Christine Feichtinger, who is

delighted with being awarded the Weltmeyer-Prize. First Step, the full brother of Segantini's dam, is successful up to Grand Prix. Sanneke Rothenberger's Paso Doble by Don Primero, with whom she won three gold medals at the European Junior Championships, also goes back to the foundation mare Kabanus. ■

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Secret | Sezuan | Zack |
| | | Don Romina |
| | Seline | St. Moritz |
| | | Royal Star |
| Financial Times | Fidermark | Florestan |
| | | Watonga |
| | Verb.Pr.St. Dream Rose | Dream of Heidelberg |
| | | Rosaleen |



Photo: Beelitz

The joint project

At the licensing in Verden, a bay stallion equipped with impressive movement from the Upper Palatinate aroused great desire. He was born at the Breeding Farm Greim in Bärnau. "He presented himself great during the lunging session exhibiting good rhythm and a lot of strength in his back," recalls Ingo Pape. "In addition, his pedigree without Weltmeyer- nor Donnerhall-blood is an interesting alternative for dressage horse breeders," says the stallion owner from Hemmoor. Together with state stud manager Dr. Axel Brockmann, he bought the rough diamond at auction. A suitable stallion name was quickly found for this joint project: **Fusionist**.

Next to Fashion by Fiorano, he is the second licensed stallion by the mare Evita out of the line of Aslaug. She is also the dam of Belaggio by Belissimo M, who has now reached Prix St. Georges. At

his first sport test in Verden, Fusionist impressed with his basic gaits and his high rideability. With a final score of 8.88, he led the field of four-year-olds. The bay also demonstrated these virtues in the dressage arena and qualified with Greta Heemsoth for the Bundeschampionat for five-year-old dressage horses. ■

| | | |
|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Franklin | Ampere | Rousseau |
| | | Larivola |
| | Warkle M | Ferro |
| | | Sparkle M |
| Evita | Ehrentanz | Ehrentusch |
| | | Fantasie |
| | St.Pr.St. Farina | Florestan |
| | | Verb.Pr.St. Nora |



Photo: Beelitz



Photo: Lafrentz

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| | Rockwell | Rocket Star |
| | | Galatee |
| Rock Forever | | |
| | Lady Sunshine | Landstreicher |
| | | Darling |
| | | |
| | Fidertanz | Fidermark |
| | | St.Pr.St. Reine Freude |
| Fein im Design | | |
| | Winett | Weltmeyer |
| | | St.Pr.St. Britta |

The bronze medal winner

Just two weeks after winning the bronze medal at the Bundeschampionat, **Rod Laver** represented Germany at the World Championships for five-year-

old dressage horses with rider Lena Stegemann. He finished tenth, adding another highlight to his brilliant record.

Rod Laver came into the possession of Frank Becker, Einbeck, via the stallion sales. One year after his licensing, he passed the 14-day-test in Adelheidsdorf with a final dressage score of 9.29. Rod Laver was born on the farm of Simone and Thomas Visser in Dentelein. The couple breeds riding ponies as well as Hannoveraner for around 15 years. Rod Laver's dam Fein im Design out of the line of Dünenschwalbe delivered her first masterpiece back in 2015, when her son by Vivaldi sold on the stallion sales for a six-figure sum. "Rod Laver had a very difficult start in life and is very people-oriented as a result," says Simone Visser, who is delighted with the excellent offspring of Fein im Design. ■



Photo: LL-Photo

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| | Jazz | Cocktail |
| | | Charmante |
| Don Juan de Hus | | |
| | Vodorette | Krack C |
| | | Novorette |
| | | |
| | Lemony's Nicket | Londonderry |
| | | St.Pr.St. Wild Flower |
| Lombarda | | |
| | Randy | Royal Highness |
| | | Wendy for Ever |

The brave dancer

At the Bundeschampionat for five-year-old dressage horses, the Don Juan de Hus/Lemony's Nicket son **Dancing Brave** (breeder: Axel Windeler, Ver-

den-Walle) danced his way into a brilliant fourth place in the final after finishing second in the qualifier. Sina Aringer presented the performance-willing stallion from the Rhineland. Two years earlier, he had earned an even "very good" for his walk and his canter at the 14-day-test. Dancing Brave comes from a championship-proven family. Two other Don Juan de Hus sons, also born in Verden-Walle, descend out of the same dam line: Don Martillo, World Champion of Young Dressage Horses in 2017, is a grandson of Wendy For Ever; Don Mateo, who had been third in the 2019 Bundeschampionat for five-year-olds, is a son of Randy. In addition, the Nuremberg Burg Cup-winner Burlington FRH, Bundeschampioness Dejavu and Vice Bundeschampion Coal Diamond are also relatives. ■



Photo: LL-Photo

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Vivaldi | Krack C |
| | | Renate-Utopia |
| Vitalis | | |
| | Tolivia | D. Day |
| | | Nalivia |
| | | |
| | Floriscourt | Florencio |
| | | El.St. Arkona |
| Flori | | |
| | Sanatee | Santino |
| | | Deja Vu |

The fashionable one

The second Weltmeyer-Prize recipient with the address "State Stud Celle" is **Von und Zu** by Vitalis/Floriscourt (breeder: Christa and Ludger Welling, Wietmarschen) out of the renowned line of Paninka. The chestnut stallion, who carries the

name of a Bavarian fashion label, was one of the most striking stallions at the licensing. "I am glad that his owner Thomas Berger and we were able to present Von und Zu together in Verden," said a delighted State Stud Manager, Dr. Brockmann. Von und Zu also impressed at his 50-day-test in Schlieckau, where he finished at the top of his class with a final score of 9.17. "That was phenomenal," says Ludger Welling, who had sold the stallion as a foal. Breeders also recognized the qualities; four of his foals were already auctioned off online in the past year. Ludger Welling raves about the quality of movement that Von und Zu's dam Flori has passed on to her children. "After the pre-selection, very many requests came in for more horses from this line," he says. Full sister Hann. Pr.St. Venus W, who also inherited the quality of movement, sold to Hesse at the auction in January of this year. ■

The double-champion

As last year's double champion, **Vitalos** was also awarded the Weltmeyer Prize as one of the best of his year. The Vitalis/De Niro son had won the Hannoveraner Riding Horse Championships with Leonie Richter in July last year and eight weeks later had become Bundeschampion of four-year-old stallions. In the meantime, he has passed his 35-day test in Vilhemsborg/Denmark. At the beginning of his pedigree is the foundation mare Aina, to whom the Celle state stud stallion Fabriano and the private stud stallion Don Libre K also go back. Breeder Josef Bramlage from Sögel had given the liver chestnut to Paul Schockemöhle's online foal auction. The host himself secured Vitalos for his stallion breeding. Four years later, Andreas Helgstrand became aware of the strong mover and became equal co-owner of the stallion. Vitalos moved into

a box at the facility of Helgstrand Dressage's German location in Syke-Legenhausen. „He has a beautiful presence and a very calm manner. When he starts to move, he is very sovereign,” says Eva Möller, who is responsible for the training of the exceptional stallion together with Dr Ulf Möller. ■

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Vitalis | Vivaldi | Krack C |
| | | Renate-Utopia |
| | Tolivia | D. Day |
| | | Nalivia |
| Darlina | De Niro | Donnerhall |
| | | Alicante |
| | Westsidelady | Wanderbursch II |
| | | Antje |



The exceptional talent

Cornet's Edition already attracted attention at 14-day-test in April 2019. The ideal score of 10 for his jumping talent was on the test certificate. Two years later, the powerfully jumping grey was among the best in both parts of the sport test. "I always believed in Cornet's Edition," said Holger Baum. The stallion was born on his breeding farm called Fohlenhof in Hofheim-Wallau just outside of Frankfurt. Holger Baum had bought the dam Finesse in foal from the breeder Friedrich Niemeyer in Petershagen. "He was incredibly blood-influenced and an incredible talent in the free-jumping chute." He also received a great share of rideability. After a short stay at the State Stud Celle, Cornet's Edition embarked on a career as a sport horse. Karl-Heinz Löffler is the co-owner; he had already

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cornet Obolensky | Clinton | Corrado |
| | | Urte |
| | Rabanna van Costersveld | Heartbreaker |
| | | Holivea van Costersveld |
| Verb.Pr.St. Finesse | Clapton | Collin L |
| | | Laren L |
| | Frühlingsbotin | Rouletto |
| | | Fruehlingspilotin |



Photo: Placzek

discovered the legendary Fine Lady at the place of Holger Baum many years ago. In the future, the stallion will be promoted by the 21-year-old Marwin Jüngel, who already won a jumping class at the elementary (L-) level aboard Cornet's Edition. ■

The flyer

For Friendship VDL by For Pleasure/Stakkato Gold (breeder: Günter Soltan, Hamburg) left Hannover at an early age. He was part of the foal collection at the summer auction in 2016 and was the top-priced jumper foal. Dutch stallion owner Wiepke van de Lageweg secured this chestnut. With For Pleasure and Stakkato Gold, his pedigree includes two "Hannoveraner Stallions Of The Year", who both were highly successful in international competitions. For Friendship VDL proved his outstanding qualities two years later at the licensing, where he was awarded a premium. The name of the dam line could not be more fitting: For Friendship VDL goes back to the foundation dam Fliegerin. He showed that he can fly at the 14-day-test (9.50) as well as in both sport tests. At part two in Münster-

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| For Pleasure | Furioso II | Furioso xx |
| | | Dame de Ranville |
| | Gigantin | Grannus |
| | | Goldi |
| Symphonie | Stakkato Gold | Stakkato |
| | | L.St.-S Wertherroeschen |
| | L.St.-S Zaphira | Zeus |
| | | Ramona |



Photo: De Boer

Handorf in 2021, his ability was rated 9.20. Athleticism is firmly anchored in the line. Granddam Zaphira celebrated successes in 1.45 meter-show jumping classes. ■

Münster-Handorf: Double victory in the dressage test



Thumbs up for Va'Pensiero. Photos: Hartwig

Two Hannoveraner topped both parts of the sport test for dressage stallions in Münster-Handorf. The Secret/Belissimo M-son San to Alati (breeder: Lena-Marie and Kerstin Klose, Burgwedel; station: Krüsterhof, Voerde) obtained the highest final score in part I. The four-year-old was ridden by Stefanie Wolf, who had already presented him victoriously in tests for young riding-horses last year. With a score of 9.5 for rideability and for overall impression, which put him more than a whole grade ahead of the competition, the liver chestnut achieved a final score of 9.12. The outstanding riding-horse characteristics

were passed on to him by his dam, Hann.Pr. St. Bella Florencia, who not only also received an even "very good" for this characteristic at her mare test, but, in addition to her good basic gaits, she also showed definite potential in jumping obtaining a score of 8.0. Her right sister Bellis Blue Label is on her way to Grand Prix with Philipp Hess. San to Alati had already been licensed at his pre-disposition test in September of last year. In part II for five- and six-year-olds, Va'Pensiero by Vitalis/Fürstenball (breeder: Zuchthof Düvel, Katlenburg-Lindau) was the favorite to win. The Hannoveraner and Bundeschampion of 2020, who belongs to the battery of stallions at Klosterhof Medingen, convinced the commission to grade his rideability with an even 10. Hannah Laser made the expressive bay dance and was rewarded with top scores for the basic gaits as well. With a final score of 9.36, Va'Pensiero led the field and was unbeatable. The Westphalian Shynedo followed in second place with a score of 8.45.

Ogano's Edition by Ogano Sitte/Cassini II (breeder: Ludwig and Lutz Decker GbR, Bierbergen), who was discovered by Holger Baum



San to Alati war Bester im Teil II.

from the farm called Fohlenhof two years ago at the stallion sales, delivered the fourth-best test among the four-year-old jumping stallions with a final score of 8.39. It was the year that his stallion Forsyth became Hannoveraner Stallion Of The Year. Ogano's Edition also has a top-class pedigree, going directly back to the mare Odessa, who wrote history as the dam of the foundation sire Grannus. In the division for older stallions, the Dutch-born Madness won with a final score of 8.81. The Kannan/Emerald van het Ruytershof son from the Stallion Station of Dirk Ahlmann, Reher, is approved for Hannover. ■

Results

Sport test – jumping part I in Münster-Handorf, February, 2 to 4, 2022

| | Canter | Rideability | Scope | Technique | Overall impression | Final score |
|--|--------|-------------|-------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|
| Average score/14 participants | 8.32 | 8.49 | 8.20 | 8.01 | 8.27 | 8.27 |
| Apple (Rhld.) v. Amazon/Cascadello II Z.: Georg Oostendorp, Rees | 8.20 | 8.40 | 8.30 | 8.00 | 8.20 | 8.24 |
| Carmarino, Holsteiner v. Carbol/Clarimo | 9.00 | 8.40 | 8.30 | 7.70 | 8.40 | 8.36 |
| Ogano's Edition v. Ogano Sitte/Cassini II Z.: Lutz u. Ludwig Decker GbR, Bierbergen | 8.40 | 8.40 | 8.50 | 8.20 | 8.40 | 8.39 |
| Stensbeck, Westfale v. Stakkato Gold/Balou du Rouet | 8.20 | 8.40 | 8.20 | 7.90 | 8.20 | 8.19 |
| Veyron von Falkenhöh v. Verdi/Lupicor Z.: Dr. Bernd Ciesler, Bünde | 8.20 | 8.20 | 7.90 | 8.10 | 8.00 | 8.09 |

Sport test – jumping part II in Münster-Handorf, February, 2 to 4, 2022

| | Canter | Rideability | Scope | Technique | Overall impression | Final score |
|---|--------|-------------|-------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|
| Average score/7 participants | 8.14 | 8.46 | 8.11 | 8.27 | 8.27 | 8.25 |
| Madness, KWPN v. Kannan/Emerald van het Ruytershof | 8.50 | 8.70 | 8.80 | 9.20 | 8.90 | 8.81 |

In these tables the results of all Hannoveraner and Rhinelanders as well as all licensed stallions are published.

| | Trot | Canter | Walk | Rideability | Overall impression | Final score |
|--|------|--------|------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Sport test – dressage part I in Münster-Handorf, February, 2 to 4, 2022 | | | | | | |
| Average score/9 participants | 7.93 | 8.18 | 8.04 | 8.27 | 8.27 | 8.14 |
| Infantino, Oldenburger v. Ibiza/Sandro Hit | 7.70 | 7.80 | 7.40 | 7.50 | 7.80 | 7.61 |
| Ironman Black M, DSP v. Ibiza/Weltmeyer | 8.30 | 7.50 | 7.80 | 8.30 | 8.20 | 8.03 |
| Isterberg II v. Instertanz V/Belissimo M Z.: Gestüt Letter Berg, Coesfeld | 7.70 | 7.50 | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.00 | 8.09 |
| Royal Black Diamond v. Rotspon/Laurentio Z.: Ralf Zierke, Braunschweig | 7.50 | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.20 | 8.20 | 8.18 |
| San to Alati v. Secret/Belissimo M Z.: Lena-Marie und Kerstin Klose, BS | 8.60 | 9.20 | 8.80 | 9.50 | 9.50 | 9.12 |
| St. Athletique v. St. Schufro/Hofrat Z.: Friederike Peters, Ahstedt | 8.00 | 8.20 | 8.00 | 8.20 | 8.20 | 8.12 |
| Sport test – dressage part II in Münster-Handorf, February, 2 to 4, 2022 | | | | | | |
| Average score/11 participants | 7.80 | 7.85 | 8.11 | 8.15 | 8.08 | 8.01 |
| Frankie Lee v. Franziskus/Spörcken Z.: Friedrich Wilhelm Gerke, Klötze | 8.80 | 7.80 | 7.70 | 8.50 | 8.80 | 8.29 |
| Indianapolis (Rhld.) v. Indian Rock/Fidertanz Z.: Johannes Baumeister, Kranenburg | 7.80 | 8.20 | 8.80 | 8.50 | 8.20 | 8.33 |
| Iowa Gold, Oldenburger v. Ibiza/De Niro | 7.90 | 8.30 | 8.00 | 8.20 | 8.30 | 8.13 |
| Va' Pensiero v. Vitalis/Fürstenball Z.: Zuchthof Düvel, Katlenburg-Lindau | 9.00 | 8.50 | 9.50 | 10 | 9.60 | 9.36 |
| Moreno, Oldenburger v. Morricone/San Amour | 7.00 | 7.80 | 8.10 | 7.80 | 7.80 | 7.70 |

Fiadora goes to France

Verden's online auction in January had a perfect start. Fiadora, a mare with enormous basic quality, sold to France for 218,000 Euros.

By Victoria Riemenschneider



A record result at the start of the new auction year: Only once before, an auction horse reached the 200,000 Euro-mark at the very beginning of a year. In 2017, it was Darjeeling by Don Darius/Royal Blend (breeder: Klaus Kropp, Bremen; exhibitor: Filijan Müller, Nienburg) who sold on the auction for exactly 200,000 Euros. On average, 24,762.29 Euros had to be paid for the youngsters at the first auction of 2022 – about 5,000 Euros more than last year at this site. From the very beginning of the online auction, the Fürsten-Look/Valentino-daughter Fiadora (breeder: Dr. Michael Lühs, Wagenfeld; exhibitor: Anke Tonne-Lühs, Wagenfeld) had been the top candidate for obtaining the top price. Twenty-one bidders submitted 156 bids. In the end, France competed against Austria: For 218,000 Euros, the Hannoveraner premium candidate, who is equipped with the very best traits, will start her journey to the "Grande Nation". There, a French Olympic rider and her international trainer will continue the mare's training towards a career in the big dressage arena. For Family Lühs, the breeder and exhibitor of the top-selling horse, the online auction was an exciting event. Dr. Michael Lühs shared that the moving artist had already caught the eye of fellow breeders when she was delivered; many had asked him about the mare. "We did not expect that Fiadora would become the top-selling mare with a sale price of over 200,000 Euros. We were very happy about this phenomenal result, however! After a few conversations and looking at the screen in the morning before the start of the bid-up, we already knew that she would crack the 100,000 Euro-mark. And there were still six bidders in the race." The dark bay mare is backed by the powerful and

successful mare line of Königsheldin. Just last August, the veterinarian celebrated the Ic-Prize at the Herwart von der Decken-Show with his mare family, which included Fiadora. "Fiadora already convinced at the foal championships in Lienen, receiving scores up to 10 for her trot and thus becoming best Hanoverian filly," the proud breeder raved about the expressive mare and is pleased that the mare is now in such good, sport-oriented hands.

The customers also rewarded the high quality of the jumpers. The online auction ended at 65,000 Euros for the licensed stallion Light Up E by Light On/Embassy (breeder/exhibitor: Dirk and Lars Eggers GbR, Hamburg), who will continue his career in a renowned training stable in Lower Saxony. The typy chestnut stallion had already proved his quality at his 14-day pre-disposition-test last year. With a score of 9.5 for his jumping ability and 9.0 for his willingness to perform, Light Up E convinced over fences. At 41,000 Euros, the virtual auction gavel fell for the talented Action Blue/Newcomer-daughter Action Hope (breeder/exhibitor: Hans-Heinrich Philipps, Wunstorf). During the entire auction period, she presented herself with a lot of overview, courage and ability at the jump. A regular customer from Bavaria purchased Action Hope.

The high-class collection of Verden's auction in January will be good advertisement for the Hannoveraner Verband worldwide. All 61 horses, which were offered for sale, received a digital bid and sold. 30 out of 61 horses will leave Germany. In addition to other European countries, buyers from the USA and Mexico became successful bidders at this auction. ■

The Fürsten-Look/Valentino-daughter Fiadora was top-priced at the online auction in January for 218,000 Euros. Photo: Fellner

Statistics

Riding horses

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Offered for sale | 61 horses |
| Horses sold | 61 horses |
| Net proceeds | 1,510,500.00 Euro |
| Average price | 24,762.92 Euro |
| Top price | 218,000.00 Euro |
| Lowest price | 9,000.00 Euro |

Price range

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 8,000 to 10,999 Euro | 2 horses |
| 11,000 to 14,999 Euro | 8 horses |
| 15,000 to 24,999 Euro | 36 horses |
| 25,000 Euro and more | 15 horses |

Sold to areas

| | | |
|-------------|----|---------------|
| Germany | 31 | |
| Belgium | 3 | Finland 3 |
| France | 6 | Italy 1 |
| Mexico | 1 | Netherlands 1 |
| Norway | 1 | Russia 2 |
| Switzerland | 3 | Spain 7 |
| USA | 2 | |