



[LEFT] Bizzie Madden rode Breitling LS to the top of the \$135,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup Washington. **[RIGHT]** Australian horseman and bush poet Guy McLean brought his remarkable bridleless exhibition to the Washington International Horse Show's 60th anniversary.

Washington International Horse Show

Celebrates 60 Years of Horses in the Capital

BY MOLLY SORGE/JUMP MEDIA

BEEZIE MADDEN AND ABIGAIL Wexner's Breitling LS showed just how they won the 2018 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup Final in a dominating performance again at the Washington International Horse Show (WIHS). They sped to victory in the \$135,000 Longines FEI Jumping World Cup Washington, presented by Events DC, by more than two seconds. "This was his first indoor event of the year, so it's nice to see that he's in form," said Madden of the 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood stallion. "It shows why he was good at the World Cup [Final]; he walked right in here and was clever, rideable, adjustable, careful, and he can handle tight spaces like this."

Madden's grand prix win was just one of many highlights of the 60th Anniversary of WIHS. In addition to top performances from stars in the international jumper division, junior riders took a turn in the spotlight in the Lindsay Maxwell Charitable Fund WIHS Equitation Finals, where Elli Yeager, 16, of Wellington, FL, won, and in the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals, won by Samantha Takacs, 13, of Oldwick, NJ, catch-riding the veteran pony Storyteller.

Yeager rode longtime partner

Copperfield 39 into the final testing of the Lindsay Maxwell Charitable Fund WIHS Equitation Finals, where she switched horses with Coco Fath and then clinched the win with a flawless ride on Fath's Class Action. "I didn't think this was ever going to happen to be honest—especially just being 16," said Yeager. "But it happened, and I'm just elated that it happened here at my favorite horse show with my favorite horse, who is the best partner that I could ask for."

During the hunter divisions, Milton, GA, professional Hunt Tosh took center stage when he rode Ceil Wheeler's Bastogne to the WIHS Grand Hunter Championship. The tricolor came after Bastogne also claimed the Grand Green Hunter Championship and the Green Hunter 3'6" Championship. "Coming to a venue like this with a first-year horse, you never know how they're going to take it, but he was great," said Tosh of Bastogne, who, at only six years old, was making his WIHS debut. "We all come hoping for the best. When everything goes your way and turns out well, it's great."

Becky Gochman, of Palm Beach, FL, captured the Grand Amateur-Owner

3'6" Hunter Championship riding Gochman Sport Horse LLC's Catch Me after taking the tricolor in the Amateur-Owner Over 35, 3'6" division. Making a clean sweep of the Amateur-Owner 18-35, 3'3" division helped Lindsay Maxwell, of Beverly Hills, CA, claim not only that championship, but also the Grand Amateur-Owner 3'3" Hunter Championship with her Belgravia. Ashley Vogel of Mequon, WI, rode Legacy to the Grand Junior Hunter Championship and the Best Child Rider on a Horse title, while Tessa Downey of Houston, TX, rode her own Anisette to the Grand Pony Hunter Champion and Medium Pony Hunter Champion titles.

In between the thrilling competition, Australian bush poet and horseman Guy McLean charmed the crowd with his inspiring bridleless exhibitions and the pint-sized racers of the WIHS Shetland Pony Steeplechase Championship Series races, presented by Charles Owen, enchanted spectators. With fantastic entertainment and top-notch competition, the 60th Anniversary of WIHS showed just why horses in the nation's capital have been such a success for six decades! 🐾