



RAISING THE BAR TOGETHER FOR U.S. EQUESTRIAN SPORT

BY EMILY RANDOLPH

Throughout the last 60 years, United States equestrian athletes have earned 243 medals in international championships. This includes nine Olympic gold medals, 49 Pan American Games gold medals, and 27 World Championship gold medals.

It is an impressive accomplishment. However, there is more that must be done to ensure that the U.S. remains a top contender in worldwide competition, including giving future athletes the opportunity to forge their gold medal legacies.

That's why the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation, philanthropic partner of US Equestrian, is committed to "Raising the Bar."

The USET Foundation's comprehensive fundraising program has achieved great success, completing two major gift campaigns and expanding its donor base. Since 2004, the USET Foundation's donors have helped contribute more than \$43 million to US Equestrian's high performance programs.

As our athletes pursue their goals, the USET Foundation continues to pave this fundraising pathway. Designed to minimize monetary obstacles, it helps athletes focus on the dream of representing their country through the continued development and implementation of a world-class US Equestrian high performance program.

The USET Foundation embarked on the quiet phase of the Raising the Bar campaign in 2017 and has raised \$31 million toward the \$40 million goal, thanks to the incredible leadership and support of many of those who share the USET Foundation's passion for equestrian sport and competitive excellence.

Two major funding priorities make it possible to Raise the Bar: cultivating greatness and investing in the future. The USET Foundation is empowering its members, friends, and donors to help support current needs and the future of equestrian sport in the U.S., ensuring stability and permanence for our teams like never before.

"As you can imagine, this is an ambitious agenda, and it requires hard work and significant funding. It takes a committed community to keep us at the top of the sport and ensure we have a pipeline of talent to stay there," said USET Foundation Chairman, President, and CEO James McNerney.



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RAISING THE BAR

The Campaign for the United States Equestrian Team Foundation

Philanthropic Partner for US Equestrian



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Dear Friends,

As the world navigates through challenging times, the USET Foundation is thinking about our wonderful friends, athletes, and supporters.

This January, our "Take Me To Tokyo" gala brought together more than 500 members of the equestrian community in a highly anticipated celebration of sport. Hosted by Honorary Chairs Lou and Joan Jacobs at their Deeridge Farm in Wellington, Florida, the event raised \$1.5 million for our "Raising the Bar" campaign, helping ensure strong futures for our athletes. Special thanks go out to our many supporters for their generous donations including Chairs Bruce Springsteen and Patti Scialfa, who took to the stage during the live auction to rally the crowd in song.

Already this year, our U.S. teams have made us proud, triumphing on home soil at key events. This February at the Longines FEI Jumping Nations™ Cup USA, a team of veteran show jumpers galloped away with the victory after battling it out in a thrilling head-to-head jump-off. That same week, the U.S. youth teams swept the podium at the Palm Beach Masters, showcasing the impressive depth of up-and-coming talent in the sport. In March, another group of rising stars celebrated a commanding win in the Wellington Nations Cup, led by Brian Moggre, who was also awarded this year's prestigious Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy.

Not to be outdone, other disciplines had exciting starts to their season as well. The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team kicked off its year by winning the Stillpoint Farm FEI Dressage Nations Cup USA, with four-time Olympian Steffen Peters and Suppenkasper leading the competitive field. The FEI Nations Cup CDIO-U25 teams clinched gold and silver.

In this issue, we also highlight special partnerships that have inspired us. Paralympian Roxanne Trunnell shares what it was like to reach FEI world number-one after receiving career high scores in January at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival CPEDI3* with her mount, Dolton. In addition, we celebrate the achievements of Laura Graves' dressage superstar, Verdades, who recently retired after an incredible career, earning many medals for U.S. dressage over the years.

The equestrian community has always shown great resiliency and strength, with our love of horses and sport binding us together. We're so inspired by our hard-working athletes, their support and encouragement of each other, and their courage to embrace the positive during an uncertain time. Our U.S. equestrian teams stand poised for great things ahead, and we are here to help them along the way!

Sincerely,

Bonnie Jenkins
Executive Director



Check out the 2020 March issue of *YOUR TEAM* at USET.org

- ◆ Groom Extraordinaire Sally Robertson's Labor of Love
- ◆ Adrienne Lyle is Ready to Get Back in the Show Ring
- ◆ "Horses Just Make Life Better" – Tom and Roberta Hawkins
- ◆ Remembering a Legend: America's First Show Jumping Champion, William "Bill" Steinkraus

And more!

The United States Equestrian Team Foundation (USET) is a philanthropic partner of US Equestrian (USEF). The USET Foundation funds U.S. teams and programs through charitable gifts and donations and makes grants to USEF annually.

Cover collage photos by: US Equestrian, Shannon Brinkman, Becky Pearman, Phelps Media Group

RAISING THE BAR

The Campaign for the United States Equestrian Team Foundation

Philanthropic Partner for US Equestrian

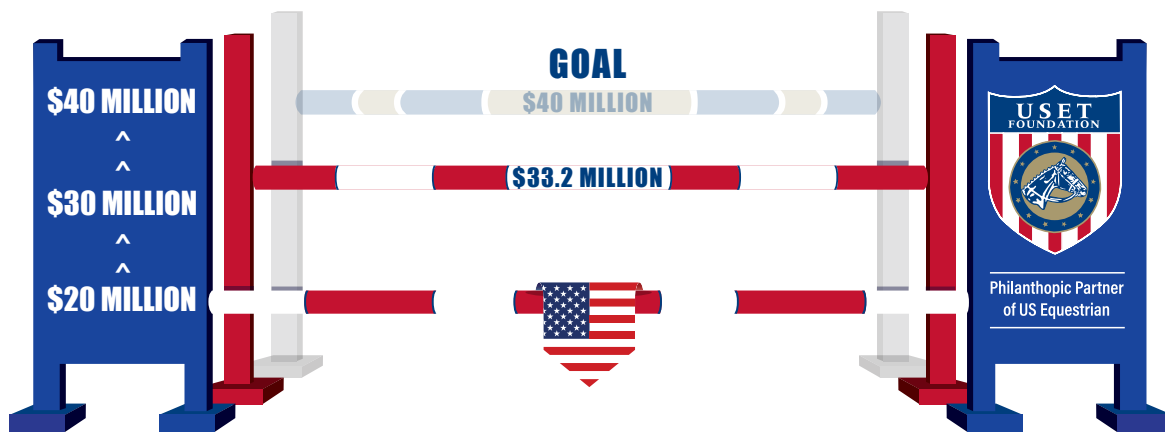
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Historically, the USET Foundation has a cyclical pattern of philanthropy: donations reach high levels during the Olympic years and dip in the three years that follow. However, developing elite athletes takes a long-term, sustained effort, which is the objective of the Raising the Bar campaign.

The USET Foundation is building its endowment to provide a sustainable source of revenue that transcends the ebb and flow of donor support and the fluctuations of economic and political cycles. This will leave a lasting legacy, supporting the great tradition of equestrian sport in our country now and ensuring its continued excellence in the future.

Lead donors in the Raising the Bar campaign whose generous endowment gifts will continue to make a lasting impact include:

- Abigail S. Wexner, for the establishment of the Wexner Olympic Endowment
- Jane Forbes Clark for the establishment of the Clark Endowment Fund
- Jacqueline B. Mars for the establishment of the Giltedge Endowment
- Paul and Wendy Raether for the establishment of the Raether Show Jumping Endowment



CULTIVATING GREATNESS

Helping developing athletes reach the highest level of equestrian sport, funding the high performance programs and cultivating greatness among those already at the top of the sport are key objectives of the Raising the Bar campaign.

Among the lead donors committed to enhancing the pipeline for developing athletes are Fritz and Claudine Kundrun. Thanks to the generosity of the Kundruns, the US Equestrian High Performance Dressage Development Program will continue to provide strategic guidance and resources to dressage athletes. US Equestrian created this program to provide support to selected athletes with the potential to make it to the podium and to contribute to team scores.

It is through high performance programs such as this that the country's up-and-coming athletes will have the opportunity for future success that otherwise may not be possible.

Gifts received from donors to the campaign will allow funding for the high performance programs and teams where it is needed most, including:

- Athlete international competition and training grants
- Athlete and horse transportation and lodging
- Veterinarians, physiotherapists, and farriers
- Coaches, chefs d'equipe, and team leaders
- Human sports science and medicine
- Equine sports science and medicine
- Coach development
- Equipment and uniforms

Each year, the USET Foundation funds approximately 50 percent of the US Equestrian High Performance program budget through grants that are crucial to the continuing success of the country's athletes and teams.

"This type of support is life-changing," said U.S. Olympic dressage rider Laura Graves. "Limited funding forces you to make decisions that are not always healthy. You're saying, 'I need to go to this competition, so I won't have health insurance this year,' or 'My horse can't have his supplements because it's not in the budget.' Having the USET Foundation's support allows us to live a healthy lifestyle and maintain ourselves as world-class athletes without the fear of being unable to afford rent or board."

Since announcing the public phase in January 2020, the Raising the Bar campaign has raised an additional \$2.2 million, bringing the total to \$33.2 million. Now, more help is needed to get to the \$40 million goal.

"We will need everyone's help to reach our \$40 million goal this year," said McNerney. "We are working on maintaining a high level of support ensuring the continuation of the development programs and a strong pathway to the podium. The money raised through this campaign will help fund development through senior programs, not only this year, but also into the next quadrennial."

Join in supporting the Raising the Bar campaign by visiting USET.org or contacting the USET Foundation at 908-234-1251 or bjenkins@uset.org.

LONGINES FEI JUMPING NATIONS CUP™

NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team

Scores Win in Head-to-Head Jump-Off



Margie Engle and Royce, owned by Gladewind Partners LLC

Veteran team members continued to shine while up-and-coming talent proved the future is bright for the NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team at the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup USA, hosted at Deeridge Farms in Wellington, Fla., on February 16. The all-female team of Jessica Springsteen of Colts Neck, N.J.; Margie Engle of Wellington, Fla.; Laura Kraut of Royal Palm Beach, Fla.; and Beezie Madden of Cazenovia, N.Y., were led by Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland and com-

menced their journey throughout the competition to land atop the highest tier on the podium.

In a jaw-dropping finish that was determined by a two-rider head-to-head jump-off with Great Britain, Madden faced British rider Alexandra Thornton with Darry Lou, a 12-year-old KWPN stallion owned by Abigail Wexner. They blazed to the finish line with a comfortable margin on the clock to take the victory for the U.S.

Ridland was thrilled with the team's

performance and commented that the results went according to plan, which featured three clear efforts from Springsteen, Engle, and Kraut in the second round.

"Our home Nations Cup is special, as it is for any country, and it's also a hard one for everyone. These horses aren't in mid-season form yet, but the field of play, when you looked at the teams last night, it would have been just as easy to be fifth. It was really great jumping, and it was a great course," said Ridland, as he dis-

cussed his team's performance in their first FEI Nations Cup competition of the season.

Springsteen aboard RMF Zecilie, a 13-year-old Holsteiner mare owned by Rushy Marsh Farm LLC, tested the track designed by Alan Wade (IRL) first. They finished with four faults in their initial tour around the course, followed by an impressive clear effort in the second round.

Crowd-favorite Engle piloted Royce, a 16-year-old Oldenburg stallion owned by Gladewind Partners LLC, dropping one rail in the first round, before returning to secure a valiant clear effort which allowed

the anchor combination of Madden and Darry Lou to forgo the need to take part in the second round.

Kraut and her trusted partner Confu, a 13-year-old Holsteiner gelding owned by St. Bride's Farm, produced one of four double-clear efforts of the day. Their consistency secured the team's final total of eight faults, which allowed the anchor combination of Madden and Darry Lou to forgo the need to contest the second round.

"This is what the sport is about. The pinnacle of the sport, to me, is the Nations Cup," concluded Ridland. – *Lindsay Brock*



Photo by Jump Media

Jessica Springsteen and RMF Zecilie, owned by Rushy Marsh Farm



Photo by Jump Media

Laura Kraut and Confu, owned by St. Bride's Farm



Photo by Jump Media

Beezie Madden and Darry Lou, owned by Abigail S. Wexner



Photo by Shannon Brinkman / FEI

Margie Engle, Laura Kraut, Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland, Beezie Madden, and Jessica Springsteen



U.S. YOUTH TEAMS SWEEP

In a battle for top honors, and while striving to gain valuable team experience, the U.S. Young Rider, Junior, and Children's Jumping Teams dominated their respective competitions in the Palm Beach Masters CSIO5* on Saturday, February 15, in Wellington, Fla., sweeping the first-place podiums for the second year in a row.

Photo below: Sophie Gochman on Gochman Sport Horses LLC's Carola BH; Isabella Russekoff and Balou's Fly High, owned by Suave Pony LLC; Natalie Dean and Maestro Vica van de Ark, owned by Marigold Sporthorses LLC; and Coco Fath and Hillside Farm LLC's Exotic Sitté



Stephanie Garrett and Fani Puigroq, owned by Postage Stamp Farm LLC

Photo by US Equestrian



Photo by Jump Media

PALM BEACH MASTERS PODIUM

Where It Begins

For the Children's Jumping Team of Stephanie Garrett of Wellington, Fla., with Fani Puigroq, Postage Stamp Farm LLC's 13-year-old Warmblood mare; Brooks Hull of North Fort Meyers, Fla., with Gorky, Audrey Robison's 14-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding; Sara Pezza of Newburgh, N.Y., aboard Dundalk, Elan Farm's 15-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding; and Laurel Walker of Dallas, Texas, with Biaggi, her 14-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, the \$3,500 Bainbridge Children's Team event served as their inaugural taste of team competition and their first stepping-stone toward their futures in the sport.

"[This is] a brand-new group coming on," said Youth Chef d'Equipe DiAnn Langer. "For them to step up and jump this height at this time in their career is amazing. I can't tell you how proud we are of them and how excited we are for the future with them."

Young Riders Repeat Performance

Demonstrating the same strength and depth as the junior team, the U.S. Young Rider teams claimed the top two spots in the \$10,000 Enviro Equine Young Riders Team competition.

Led by a double-clear round from Natalie Dean of Palo Alto, Calif., the winning team included Dean and Maestro Vica van de Ark, an eight-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by Marigold Sporthorses LLC; Isabella Russekoff of Greenwich, Conn., and Balou's Fly High, a 13-year-old Oldenburg stallion owned by Suave Pony LLC; Coco Fath of Fairfield, Conn., and Exotic Sitte, a 10-year-old Belgian Sport Horse gelding owned by Coco Fath & Hillside Farm LLC; and Sophie Gochman of New York, N.Y., and Carola BH, a 2007 KWPN mare owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC.

The second-place team included Emma Catherine Reichow of Menlo Park, Calif., and Forever Alve, her 10-year-old KWPN mare; Alexandra Pielet of Highland Park, Ill., and Helene VE, a 13-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare owned by Co-Pielet LLC; Alessandra Volpi of Woodside, Calif., and Taiwan du Landey, a 13-year-old Selle Francais gelding she co-owns with Michelangelo Volpi; and Daisy Farish of Versailles, Ky., and Great White, her 12-year-old Holsteiner gelding.

Junior Teams Go One-Two


Showing the strong depth of the U.S.'s junior show jumpers, the U.S. fielded two teams for the \$8,000 Junior Team Competition and, ultimately, topped four other teams to claim first and second.

Riding for the top-placing team were Virginia Bonnie of Upperville, Va., with Efodea, Nina Bonnie's 11-year-old KWPN mare; Mimi Gochman of New York, N.Y., with Street Hassle BH, Gochman Sport Horse LLC's 14-year-old Selle Francais gelding; Hallie Grimes of Houston, Texas, with Leasure Z, Can We Keep It? LLC's 13-year-old Zangersheide stallion; and Siena Vasan of Upperville, Va., with Tokyo d'Ellipse, Palm Ponies LLC's 13-year-old Selle Francais gelding.

Claiming second place was the team of Kathryn Hall of Versailles, Ky., with All In 9, her 12-year-old Holsteiner mare; Maggie Kehring of Woodside, Calif., with Cole Haan, the Kehring Family's 12-year-old Holsteiner gelding; Violet Lindemann Barnett of San Francisco, Calif., with It's Real Love vd Smis Z, Sloan Lindemann Barnett's 12-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare; and Madison Rauschenbach of Newburgh, N.Y., with Gillette B, her nine-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare.

"We were so privileged to be able to field two [junior] teams this year, and they are just extraordinary," said Langer. "They have a big future in front of them. The experience they are getting is priceless, and I look to see all of them on a senior team in the next few years."

"All of these riders have very bright futures and have the talent and drive to go as far as they want to go," said Assistant Chef d'Equipe Anne Kursinski.

– Emily Randolph 



Brooks Hull and Gorky, owned by Audrey Robison, with trainer Dustin Durham

Photo by US Equestrian



Natalie Dean and Maestro Vica vd Ark, owned by Marigold Sporthorses, with Anne Kursinski

Photo by Jump Media



Mimi Gochman and Street Hassle BH, owned by Gochman Sport Horses LLC

Photo by US Equestrian


U.S. JUMPING YOUNG RIDER

Natalie Dean



Spotlight

In the middle of the U.S. youth show jumping scene, one can find Natalie Dean. The 20-year-old from Palo Alto, Calif., jumped double clear in the Palm Beach Masters CSIOY young rider team competition in February with Maestro Vica van de Ark, an eight-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by Marigold Sporthorses LLC. She played a major role in the team gold-medal effort at the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Youth Final last fall, jumping double clear with Don's Diamant, the 12-year-old KWPN stallion she owns with Marigold Sporthorses LLC. In addition, the combination won individual bronze and team silver with Zone 10 at the 2019 Adequan® FEI North American Youth Championships (NAYC), presented by Gotham North.

She welcomed a new horse to her string in 2020, Jewel de Kwakenbeek, Marigold Sporthorses LLC's 11-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding, that she found through the help of her trainer, Ilan Ferder. Most recently, the evolving combination placed sixth in the \$100,000 Longines FEI World Cup™ Jumping Ocala. It's Dean's hope that Jewel de Kwakenbeek will advance her to four-and five-star classes. – Dana Riddlemoser 



Photos by Jump Media

Natalie Dean and Jewel de Kwakenbeek, owned by Marigold Sporthorses LLC

Q&A

Q: What do you like about your new horse, Jewel de Kwakenbeek?

A: "He's amazing, super careful, and brave. He's very forgiving and also really competitive. He's a great horse [to gain] experience and be competitive with. I am really lucky to be able to ride him as he has given me a lot of confidence with my other horses."

Q. What does it mean to have so much success this early in your career?

A: "I think it's great that the U.S. has these opportunities. Being able to compete at the NAYC, the [2019 FEI Jumping] Youth Nations Cup Final in Belgium, and the WEF [Winter Equestrian Festival] U25 series has been a great opportunity to have success against riders at my own level because it's such a competitive sport. It's nice to be able to do well with your horses and know that it's a little less competitive when you are not competing against pros all the time. I am really grateful for my parents, Ilan Ferder, Butch and Lu Thomas, and everyone else that has helped me so far in my riding career. I am also very fortunate to have a great string of horses right now, so I am looking forward to the future."

Q: What do you like most about the team competitions and working with Anne Kursinski?

A: "I love the team competitions. It is really exciting to be able to represent your country. Anne [Kursinski, U.S. assistant show jumping coach and development technical advisor] is a great chef [d'equipe], so to be able to work with her as well as my trainer is a huge opportunity that I'm really thankful for. Anne is amazing; she has so much experience. She does not try to take over or try to change your plan, but she will share advice. She believes in the system you have with your trainer. It's fun to cheer on your teammates and work together as a team because it's not often you get to feel that you're rooting for more than just yourself and your horse."



RISEING U.S. STARS CLAIM MASTERFUL TEAM WIN

at FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Wellington CSIO4*

Anything can happen during a FEI Nations Cup competition. With the pressure on to produce consistent clear rounds, riders know what is at stake. A single rail or a time fault can easily bump a team out of a top finish. But the young NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team competing in the FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ Wellington CSIO4* on February 29 rose to the challenge, besting the field of nine countries to end the night atop the podium.

The team consisting of Andy Kocher of Wellington, Fla.; Brian Moggre of Flower Mound, Texas; Lucas Porter of Wellington, Fla., and Adrienne Sternlicht of Greenwich, Conn., carried the leading scores in both rounds, finishing on just four faults for the win. Second place on 13 faults went to Ireland, while Australia rounded out the top three on 22 faults.

Senior FEI Nations Cup team first-timer, Moggre, riding MTM Vivre le Reve, an 11-year-old Westphalian gelding owned by Major Wager LLC, and Porter on his longtime partner C Hunter, a 13-year-old Zangersheide stallion owned by Sleepy P Ranch, each jumped double-clear rounds, as did the experienced Sternlicht and the 11-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare Just

A Gamble, owned by Starlight Farms 1 LLC. Kocher and Eye Candy Jumpers' 9-year-old Oldenburg gelding, Squirt Gun, picked up one time fault, serving as the drop score. Right off the bat, the U.S. team skyrocketed to the top of the leaderboard with zero faults heading into round two.

In the second round, Kocher, 36, delivered a vital clear aboard Squirt Gun. With another fault-free performance from Moggre, 18, and only four faults from Porter, 22, the team already secured the victory by the third rotation of riders, eliminating the need for Sternlicht, 26, to jump a second time.

"Everybody wants to jump clear their first time on the team, so for my horse to make that happen for me, I couldn't be more thankful," said Moggre. "It's quite a surreal feeling. To be on the team here really meant a lot."

"It's Saturday night with everything on the line, and nobody in the stands cares that this is their debut," said Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland. "They're rooting for the Americans. The American flag was everywhere, and it's a different kind of pressure at home. For these riders to experience that and to have the flag on the saddle pad for the first time, this is invaluable." - Emily Daily



Brian Moggre and MTM Vivre Le Reve, owned by Major Wager LLC



Adrienne Sternlicht and Just a Gamble, owned by Starlight Farms 1 LLC



Lucas Porter and C Hunter, owned by Sleepy P Ranch



Andrew Kocher and Squirt Gun, owned by Eye Candy Jumpers



Andy Kocher, Brian Moggre, Adrienne Sternlicht, Lucas Porter, and Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland

Photos by Jump Media



The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team **OPENS SEASON WITH WIN** at Stillpoint Farm FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ USA

U.S. Dressage had a monumental showing during the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival (AGDF) week 10, March 11-15. The Dutta Corp. U.S. Dressage Team kicked off their season with a strong start, winning the Stillpoint Farm FEI Dressage Nations Cup™ USA, the first leg of the FEI Dressage Nations Cup series. Following suit, the U.S. Under-25 teams took gold and silver in the FEI Nations Cup CDIO-U25, showcasing the future talent of the sport.

Chef d'Equipe and Technical Advisor Debbie McDonald led the team of Katherine Bateson Chandler of Wellington, Fla., with Alcazar, Jane Forbes Clark's 15-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding; Adrienne Lyle with Harmony's Duval, Duval Partner's LLC 12-year-old Hanoverian gelding; Anna Marek of Dunnellon, Fla., with Dee Clair, Diane Morrison's 12-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare; and Steffen Peters of San Diego, Calif., with Suppenkasper, Four Winds Farm's 12-year old KWPN gelding, who tallied a total score of 439.992. Team Canada followed the USA with a total score of 436.034 for silver, and Denmark took bronze with a 424.501.

"I was really happy with the way all four riders stepped up. They had a few [mistakes], but they all knew what they needed to do, and they delivered," said McDonald. "Having a Nations Cup [at AGDF] has been a great boost for us. It gives opportunities to others that may have not [existed]. It drives interest in the Nations Cups in general because everybody wants to get on a Nations Cup team."



Anna Marek, Katherine Bateson Chandler, Adrienne Lyle and Steffen Peters with Chef d'Equipe and Technical Advisor Debbie McDonald



Katherine Bateson Chandler and Alcazar, owned by Jane Forbes Clark

All photos by US Equestrian

Rising Stars Clinch Team Gold

In the FEI Nations Cup CDIO-25, presented by Diamante Farms, personal best FEI Intermediate II 16-25 Test scores from Benjamin Ebeling of Moorpark, Calif., with Illuster Van de Kampert, a 12-year-old Belgian Warmblood gelding owned by Nuvolari Holdings LLC and Amy Roberts, and Emma Asher of Greenwood Village, Colo., with Elegance N, Seeley Equestrian Ventures's 11-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, helped give the U.S. Stars and Stripes Team the gold-medal edge. Along with teammate Rosemary Julian-Simoes of Barrington, Ill., aboard Rankrado, Rankrado LLC's 16-year-old German Sport Horse gelding, and led by Chef d'Equipe George Williams, the team earned a total score of 139.559.

The U.S. Star Spangled Team, led by Chef d'Equipe Charlotte Bredahl, consisted of strong rides by Hope Cooper of Concord, Mass., with Hot Chocolate W, Mary Mansfield's 15-year-old Hanoverian gelding; Kerrigan Gluch of Wellington, Fla., with Vaquero HGF, Hampton Green Farm's 13-year-old Andalusian gelding; and Natalie Pai of Wellington, Fla., with Utopie d'Ouilly; Melanie Pai's 12-year-old Selle Français mare. They earned silver with a score of 137.911. Canada took bronze with a score of 134.000.

"This team did extremely well, but I was very proud of all the U.S. riders on both teams. I think it really reflects the programs we have and what we have been trying to do, what Charlotte Bredahl and our whole coaching program [has done], and the way we all work together," said Williams, the U.S. Dressage Youth Coach. "These riders are making tremendous strides in their ability to compete and ride, and they look very good, so it's wonderful to see. I think it is through programs like this, and the Discover Dressage USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program, we are really able to do things and move forward. These are exciting times."

– Dana Riddlemoser 



*Benjamin Ebeling and Illuster Van de Kampert,
owned by Nuvolari Holdings LLC and Amy Roberts Ebeling*



Steffen Peters and Suppenkasper, owned by Four Winds Farm



Natalie Pai and Utopie d'Ouilly, owned by Melanie Pai

Take Me To Tokyo



GALA RAISES \$1.5 MILLION

Thanks to the generous support of more than 500 guests and supporters, the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation marked the successful public launch of its \$40 million “Raising the Bar” campaign at the “Take Me To Tokyo” gala, held on January 17. This year’s edition of the popular annual event raised \$1.5 million to support the U.S. Equestrian Teams headed to the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

“We can’t say thank you enough to everyone who played a role in making ‘Take Me To Tokyo’ such a big success,” said USET Foundation Executive Director Bonnie Jenkins. “This country is fortunate to have some of the most talented and dedicated athletes, and the opportunity to represent the United States on an Olympic [and Paralympic] Team is the culmination of years of sacrifice and hard work. We are so grateful to the many friends and donors that help make these dreams come true and medals possible.”

“The funds raised at the ‘Take Me To Tokyo’ gala will directly benefit our U.S. teams and help bring us closer to meeting our funding goal necessary to ensure our teams are prepared and ready to reach the podium in Tokyo,” continued Jenkins.

The gala event was hosted by honorary Chairs Lou and Joan Jacobs at their Deeridge Farms in Wellington, Fla., and featured Chairs Bruce Springsteen and Patti Scialfa, each of whom was instrumental in the evening’s success.

continued on page 14



Akiko Yamazaki



Patti Scialfa and Bruce Springsteen

All photos by Jump Media



Bruce Springsteen



W. James McNerney, Jr.



Robin and Gerry Parsky and Jacqueline B. Mars



Lou and Joan Jacobs



Carol Hoffman and Anne Kursinski



Chrystine and George Tauber



Laura Kraut and Nick Skelton



Lillie Keenan, Adrienne Sternlicht, and Julie Sternlicht



Tim and Susie Dutta



Sarah Davis Kessler and Murray Kessler

All photos by Jump Media

Following dinner set amid exquisite décor reminiscent of Japan, the live auction stole the show, with Springsteen taking to the stage to help auction off an autographed Harley Davidson motorcycle and a signed FENDER guitar. With Springsteen inciting higher bids by offering to start singing if the value reached a certain point, the two items raised more than \$300,000 – enough for Springsteen to take over the microphone and bring the full-house crowd to its feet and onto the dance floor.

Now, following the successful public kick-off of the “Raising the Bar,” the USET Foundation looks to close in on its \$40 million fundraising goal with the help of its many supporters and fans of U.S. equestrian athletes. – Emily Randolph 

BRIAN MOGGRE, BOYD MARTIN, AND ABIGAIL WEXNER

Presented with Esteemed USET Foundation Awards

At this year's "Take Me To Tokyo" fundraiser gala, held in Wellington, Fla., on January 17, the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation presented the organization's three most prestigious awards to Brian Moggre, Boyd Martin, and Abigail Wexner.

As an up-and-coming show jumping athlete, Brian, 19, of Flower Mound, Texas, received the Lionel Guérand-Hermès Trophy. This award is given annually to a junior or young rider in one of the Olympic disciplines who best demonstrates the team's values of sportsmanship and horsemanship.



Brian Moggre

Moggre took the international show jumping world by storm after winning two legs of the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ North American League (in Lexington, Ky., and Ocala, Fla.) last year at only 18 years old. He was also a recent member of the NetJets® U.S. Jumping Team that claimed top honors at the \$150,000 Nations Cup™ CSIO4* in Wellington, Fla., this past February.

"I'd like to thank the Foundation for its unparalleled support of equestrians like myself," said Moggre. "It is an honor to represent American show jumping, and I am truly humbled by this award. Above all, I'd like to take a moment to celebrate my horses. These noble creatures are what inspire me to be the best horseman I can be every day."

Eventer Boyd Martin, of Cochranville, Penn., received the Whitney Stone Cup, presented to an active competitor who displays consistent excellence in international

competition as well as high standards of sportsmanlike conduct, while serving as an ambassador for the United States and equestrian sport.

"It's an absolute honor and privilege to win this year's Whitney Stone Cup," said Martin, who had a successful 2019 with Christine Turner's Tsetserleg, a 13-year-old Trakehner gelding, winning the Land Rover/United States Equestrian Federation CCI5*-L Eventing National Championship presented by MARS EQUESTRIAN as well as earning the individual and team gold medals at the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru. "Many of my idols have won this award in previous years, and I think it's one of my greatest achievements. The USET Foundation has helped me to develop into a top-class eventing rider, and I can't thank them enough for providing me with so many opportunities."

The R. Bruce Duchossois Distinguished Trustee Award went to Abigail Wexner in recognition of the leadership, generosity, and outstanding character that she has shown since joining the USET Foundation Board of Trustees 12 years ago.

Wexner is a long-time horse owner and has been partnered with top jumping athlete Bezie Madden for more than 15 years. Madden, who was on hand to accept the award on Wexner's behalf, has competed with Wexner's horses in numerous FEI Nations Cup teams, along with the 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016 Olympic Games and the 2006, 2010, and 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games™.

This partnership produced two gold, three silver, and three bronze medals across Olympic and World Championship competition as well as two FEI World Cup Final victories for the United States. In addition, they have been a part of 18 winning FEI Nations Cup teams.

—Emily Daily 

For more information on these historic awards, and to view the past recipients, visit USET.org.



Bezie Madden



William H. Weeks, Boyd Martin, and W. James Mc Nerney, Jr.

All photos by Jump Media

MARK LEONE *A Legacy Carried On*



About the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy

The award was created by Patrick Guerrand-Hermès, in memory of his son, Lionel, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident in 1981 at the age of 18. Lionel trained with the United States Equestrian Team and was talented enough to be considered an Olympic hopeful. The perpetual trophy, designed by Patrick, is inscribed annually with the winner's name and permanently displayed at the USET Foundation's headquarters in Gladstone, N.J. Previous winners include:

1983 – Mark Leone

- 1984 – Jeffrey Welles
- 1985 – Holly Mitten
- 1986 – Gregory Best
- 1987 – Susanne Owen
- 1988 – Christopher Kappler
- 1989 – Mollie Bliss
- 1990 – Kim Keenan
- 1991 – McLain Ward
- 1992 – Abigail Lufkin
- 1993 – Mark Combs
- 1994 – Gabriella Salick
- 1995 – Megan Johnstone
- 1996 – Jonathan Elliot
- 1997 – Alison Firestone
- 1998 – Bruce Davidson, Jr.
- 1999 – Chad Geeter
- 2000 – Elise Haas
- 2001 – Marilyn Little
- 2002 – Clark Montgomery
- 2003 – Will Faudree
- 2004 – Kristin Schmolze
- 2005 – Brianne Goutal
- 2006 – Katie Hamilton
- 2007 – Carolyn Kelly
- 2008 – Hillary Dobbs
- 2009 – Laura Noyes
- 2010 – Jennifer Waxman
- 2011 – Tiana Coudray
- 2012 – Lucy Davis
- 2013 – Reed Kessler
- 2014 – Katie Dinan
- 2015 – Lillie Keenan
- 2016 – Lucy Deslauriers
- 2017 – Chloe Reid
- 2018 – Jennifer Gates
- 2019 – Daisy Farish
- 2020 – Brian Moggre

In 1983, Mark Leone was the first-ever Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy recipient at the age of 20. The prestigious award is presented annually to a junior or young rider in one of the Olympic disciplines who demonstrates the team's values of sportsmanship and horsemanship.

Riders who are awarded the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy are identified as athletes with great potential, and the list of winners who have received the award is a "who's who" of the U.S. Equestrian Team in the Olympic disciplines. Leone, whose family name is steeped in the history of horse sport, went on to answer a calling and dedicated his life to the sport he loves.

During a decorated junior riding career, Leone had countless high points, including being named Best Child Rider at The Devon Horse Show and the Pennsylvania National Horse Show, where he also won the American Horse Sport Association (AHSA) Medal Finals.



Mark Leone

Mark is the youngest of the three Leone brothers, including Armand and Peter, who have also left their mark on show jumping, but he wasted no time carving his own path.

Leone has been coached by some of the most recognizable names in the industry, including Bert De Némethy, Frank Chapot, Michael Matz, Conrad Homfeld, and Rodney Jenkins. Their inspiration helped him embark on a career highlighted by top grand prix placings, training young athletes to notable victories, riding on 29 FEI Nations Cup™ teams, and competing in nine FEI World Cup™ Finals. Eventually, Leone formed his own Ri-Arm Farm in Oakland, N.J., on the same property where he and his brothers grew up riding.

Out of the tack, Leone has dedicated much of his time to giving back to the sport that has shaped his life. He has served as President of the North American Riders Group, the Zone 2 Jumper Chairman, an "athlete representative" for the United States Olympic Committee, and was a member of the 2010 FEI World Equestrian Games™ Show Jumping Team Selection Committee.

While developing a strong business alongside his two brothers and wife, Jane, Leone has inspired a passion for horses and horse sport in his two sons, Mark and James. It is rare that someone decides what they want to do with their life at five years old, but for Leone, that is exactly how it happened, quite fittingly from the back of a pony.

Today, watching his family enjoy the sport is one of Leone's biggest rewards. "Watching my son ride is such an experience," said Leone. "The future is strong for our sport. It's exciting to see the growth and the interest in horses in my family. I feel lucky to still do what I love after all these years."


As the inaugural winner of the Lionel Guerrand-Hermès Trophy decades ago, Leone's embodiment of everything the historic award stands for paved the way for dozens of talented and deserving equestrians who followed in his footsteps. – Lindsay Brock 

Photo courtesy USET Foundation Archive

VERDADES THE HORSE THAT COULD

The dressage world knows him as “Diddy,” the sport knows him as a fierce competitor, and Laura Graves knows him as her best friend and the partner of a lifetime.

Verdades (Florett As x Liwilarda), an 18-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding owned by Graves and Curt Maes, began his rise to the pinnacle of the sport at the 2014 U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, carrying Graves to the Grand Prix reserve national champion title. Although at the time they were a relatively unknown pair at the international level, this win set them on a path to medals at the Olympic Games, FEI World Equestrian Games™, and top placings in FEI World Cup™ Finals.

“This horse not only achieved every goal we ever set, but he fulfilled dreams that I never knew I had,” said Graves after deciding to retire Verdades from competition at the start of 2020. “Not always the easiest, it was his generous heart and incredible sense of loyalty that made him one of a kind.”

Verdades’ story is of the Cinderella variety that began when 14-year-old Graves imported him at six months old after falling in love with him while watching his video. Graves then began an uphill battle of schooling a quite difficult horse – both on the ground and in the tack – to the Olympic level.

After training him just over a decade with little results and a failed attempt to sell him, Graves worked tirelessly to prepare him for her dreams. As a result, the pair developed a bond that anyone could visibly see when they trotted down centerline. Graves was the only person to sit on Verdades, and after 18 years, she will likely be the last.

In 2018, Verdades won the US Equestrian Federation (USEF) International Horse of the Year. This served as a fitting bookend to a legendary career and the perfect conclusion to a tale of determination for Graves and the horse that she fell in love with as a young teen.

– Lindsay Brock 

VERDADES’ TROPHY CASE

Among Verdades’ lengthy list of international placings, the gelding’s notable accomplishments include:

- 2019 FEI World Cup™ Final individual silver medal – Göteborg, Sweden
- 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games™ individual and team silver medals – Tryon, North Carolina
- 2018 FEI World Cup™ Final individual silver medal – Paris, France
- 2017 FEI World Cup™ Final individual silver medal – Omaha, Nebraska
- 2016 Olympic team bronze medal – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2015 Pan American Games Individual silver and team gold medals – Toronto, Ontario



Laura Graves and Verdades, owned by Laura Graves and Curt Maes
Photo by SusanJStickle.com



USET GRANT WINNER

Doug Payne

As one of the top eventers in the country, Doug Payne celebrated a banner year in 2019. The 38-year-old from Aiken, S.C., kicked off the 2019 season with a fourth-place finish in the Carolina International CCI4*-S aboard his long-time partner, Vandiver, a Trakehner gelding that Payne and his wife, Jess, own in partnership with Debi Crowley. Later that spring, the pair claimed the Land Rover/USEF CCI5* Eventing Reserve National Championship presented by MARS EQUESTRIAN, at the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event CCI5*-L.

Victories with Starr Witness at The Fork CCI3*-S and the Jersey Fresh International CCI3*-L helped them earn a spot on the U.S. Eventing Team for the Lima 2019 Pan American Games. Payne, and the 8-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare he owns with Laurie McRee and Catherine Winter, helped guide the team to a gold medal, which ensured qualification for the U.S. Eventing Team at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

“For a championship like this, you show up with a vast amount of support from US Equestrian, the USET Foundation, the owners, all of the support staff,” said Payne after the Games. “We are really the top that’s visible, but we wouldn’t be here without their help, and of course the horses. They put forward a great effort and we’ll forever be appreciative.”

Following his 2019 success, the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation awarded Payne with the 2019 Karen Stives Endowment Fund Grant. Stives, who passed away in 2015, was an Olympic gold and silver medalist who established the program to offer financial assistance to up-and-coming event riders.

“The Karen Stives Grant is critical in our development process,” said Payne. “It is a very special award, especially being that we were good friends. It’s great that her memory [lives on] as she was one of the legendary riders and benefactors of the sport.”

The mission of the Karen Stives European Emerging Athlete Tour is to help event riders in the USEF’s Emerging Athlete program to prepare to represent the United States on an international stage in the future, strengthening the pipeline of qualified riders to create medal-winning teams.

The \$25,000 grant helped Payne travel to The Burghley International Three-Day Event in England last fall with Vandiver. Though he hoped for a better finish, the experience catapulted him to a new level.

Payne is also a frequent competitor in the jumper ring. In February, he and Jane Dudinsky’s Quintessence picked up a huge win in the \$100,000 HITS Ocala Grand Prix. A few weeks later, he guided Starr Witness to victory in the mare’s first Advanced event at Pine Top Horse Trials.


Payne is a member of U.S. Eventing’s Development Pre-Elite Training List. He is also on the United States Eventing



Doug Payne and Vandiver, owned by Debi Crowley with Doug and Jessica Payne

Association’s Board of Governors, serving as the Vice President of Active Athletes, and plays an active role on the Safety Committee. “These groups are working tirelessly to help improve the safety of our sport,” said Payne, who is spearheading a

fundraising campaign that will help make cross-country fences safer by utilizing frangible technology.

Whether riding, coaching, or volunteering, Payne always finds a way to help promote the sport he loves. – Emily Daily 

USET GRANT WINNER

Mia Farley



When California native Mia Farley traveled to Virginia to train with Olympic gold medalist David O'Connor in 2018, she thought it was a three-month commitment. However, three months has turned into two years, and she is not about to look back. Under his guidance and with the help of two extraordinary mares, she advanced to CCI3*-S, CCI3*-L, CCI4*-S, and CCI4*-L level events in 2019, achieving positive results.

"Not only has he taught me a lot about horses, but I am much more open minded than I used to be," said 19-year-old Farley, reflecting on O'Connor's guidance. "I used to think, 'It has to be this way and only this way,' but now I am more relaxed about things. He has also opened me up to the horsemanship side of the sport, and I really appreciate that."

Farley placed in the top 15 in eight of the 12 FEI competitions entered in 2019. Most notably, she placed second in The Dutta Corp. Fair Hill International Three-Day Event CCI4*-L with BGS Firecracker, the 10-year-old Irish Sport Horse mare she owns with Paddy Byrne. In their debut at the CCI4*-L level, they finished on their dressage score of 38.3. Earlier in the year, they jumped double clear, picking up only 4.4 time penalties to place fifth in the Jersey Fresh International CCI3*-S.

Her consistent results led the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation to award Farley the 2020 Amanda Pirie Warrington Grant. She will receive up to \$5,000 to help offset expenses associated with her training over the next year.

"It is an honor [to receive this grant]," said Farley, of San Clemente, Calif. "The fact that the [USET Foundation] recognized me and what [I accomplished] last year is huge. This is a big deal for me and really special. I have talked to a couple people,



Photo by US Equestrian

Mia Farley and BGS Firecracker

Mia Farley and BGS Firecracker
owned by Paddy Byrne and Mia Farley




Photo by Shannon Brinkman

and the most beneficial thing would be to possibly go overseas and get some experience and see how it all works."

US Equestrian named Farley to the Emerging Athlete Eventing 18 Program in 2014. She advanced to the Emerging Athlete Eventing 25 Program in 2019.


"The [US Equestrian Emerging Athlete 18 and 25] program opened me up to a new world. I grew up in a jumper barn and did not know much outside of it, so I know I wouldn't be where I am without the program," said Farley, who is in her second year of the Emerging Athlete Eventing 25 Program. "Some of my career decisions have been because of the program, and it has taught me a lot about being on a team and being a team player."

As the 2020 season gets underway, Farley hopes to continue where she left off. If everything goes as planned, she wants to add another first: competing at a five-star event at the end of the year.

– Dana Riddlemoser 

CATCHING UP WITH PARA DRESSAGE WORLD NUMBER ONE...

Roxie Trunnell

Roxanne “Roxie” Trunnell began her FEI para dressage career in 2013 after contracting a virus that produced swelling in her brain. This led to a coma, and as a result, she now uses a wheelchair. Her relentless dedication has resulted in several notable accolades, including being a Rio 2016 Paralympian, an FEI World Equestrian Games Grade I Freestyle bronze medalist, and a USEF National Champion. She is currently ranked FEI world number-one after receiving career high scores in January at the Adequan® Global Dressage Festival CPEDI3*. She is striving to make the Tokyo 2020 U.S. Paralympic Dressage Team with Dolton, an eight-year-old Hanoverian gelding owned by Flintwoode Farms LLC and Karin Flint. – Dana Riddlemoser 



Para Dressage Sponsor Rowan O’Riley with Roxanne Trunnell

Q&A

Q: What has your training regimen been like with Dolton over the past several months?

A: Our regimen remains the same. Dolton isn’t very happy when he’s not working, but we also know he needs a break from the shows and strictly para training. So, I ride him about four times a week in lessons. He gets one day off from riding and gets a good lunge where he can really kick up those heels. My trainer Andrea Woodard takes him on a trail ride or does dressage exercises one day a week.

To stay fit, I also ride my semi-retired mare Touché about five to six times a week. I work out once a week with a personal trainer, really concentrating on my core. I ride a stationary bicycle 10 miles three times a week.

Q: What was going through your mind when you heard your career high scores?

A: When I finished the first test where we scored [81.131 percent], I reached down to pat Dolton and told him he made his mom [Karin Flint] so happy. Then, when I heard the score, I just thought, ‘Yup, Karin is crying with joy for what her boy just did.’

Q: What do you love most about Dolton? Does anything surprise you anymore about him?

A: What I really love about Dolton is that despite how good he’s getting, he still acts like the goofy young horse I fell in love with before the 2018 WEG. How well behaved he is still surprises me. He’ll see something or something will happen during our ride that would totally upset another horse, but with him it’s like he’s sees it, thinks about it, and then decides it’s not going to eat him, so he might as well go back to work. This is a surprising reaction coming from an eight-year-old. Dolton really has a great mind!



Roxanne Trunnell and Dolton, owned by Flintwoode Farms LLC

Photos by Jump Media

DRIVING CHALLENGE

Offers Boost to Up-and-Coming Athletes

In 2017, Misdee Wrigley Miller, James Miller, Steve Wilson, and Laura Lee Brown initiated the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation Driving Challenge with a goal of raising \$1,200,000 for the US Equestrian High Performance Driving program. Today, these loyal supporters and active drivers remain committed to closing in on that goal.

Through the Driving Challenge, multi-year gift commitments of \$20,000 or more are matched dollar for dollar, up to \$500,000, by Misdee, James, Steve, and Laura Lee, who encourage fellow drivers, owners, and enthusiasts to help create a legacy for the High Performance Driving program by rising to the Driving Challenge.

"We created the Challenge because driving, historically, is such a small discipline, and it hasn't been able to be very well-funded," said Wrigley Miller. "Early on, we recognized that we not only needed to raise funds for our athletes traveling abroad, but most importantly, fund programs and drivers at home."

Funds are primarily allocated to hire coaches and run educational clinics across the country. There are also plans to develop



Misdee Wrigley Miller with Beau, Bravour 54, Bolino D, and Calipso 86, owned by Wrigley Miller

Photos by Phelps Media Group

an international working student program, so that drivers can gain valuable first-hand experience competing in Europe.

Nifty Hamilton, who was the highest placed U.S. combined driver at the 2018 FEI Driving World Championships for Singles, credits the program for her success.

"The High Performance Program has been the cornerstone to my development as a driver and the training of [my horse], Makari Design, up through the levels," said Hamilton. "The quality and variety of the clinicians, in both training and lectures, that

the USEF has offered, continue to move me forward toward my goals. I'm grateful for the contributions and efforts that have been made for this program."

Wrigley Miller hopes that the Driving Challenge program will build excitement for funding up-and-coming drivers. "It's training and developing and supporting drivers on their pathways from the grassroots all the way to 'pre-podium'," said Wrigley Miller. "If we realize our goals, we would raise over a million dollars for driving. That would be quite historic." – Emily Daily 



VERDURA

EST. 1939



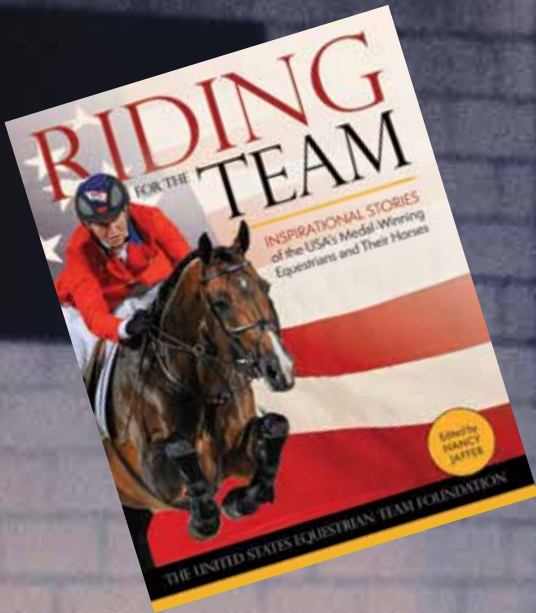

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Donations from equestrian-related sales will be made until the beginning of the Tokyo 2020 Games.
Please contact Jim Haag, Verdura's Managing Director, at jhaag@verdura.com or (212) 758-3388 and reference USET.

DEVON MAITOZO

STAYING IN THE GAME



Last year, the USET Foundation was proud to announce the launch of the new book, "Riding for the Team," which features a collection of inspirational stories from the United States' medal-winning equestrians. In this excerpt, we highlight vaulter Devon Maitozo and get a peek into what it takes to represent the U.S. Equestrian Team.

Riding for the Team: Book Excerpt

Most people assume vaulting is for kids and that eventually, they move on to something else, but a trend is developing where people stay in the sport longer. There's a broader spectrum of vaulters competing at a later age than there used to be, and I seem to be the extreme example of longevity for a vaulting career. The evolution of the rules has allowed for that. I've been told by a lot of people that they felt empowered to continue because they saw me remain successful at a high level into my mid-30s and beyond. I've never considered leaving the sport entirely, although I've been faced with the challenge of continuing as a competitor when it sometimes seemed beyond my grasp. Even then, I was always motivated to stay involved because it's such a huge part of my identity and I felt I wasn't finished yet. I figured that what I do for the sport might be even more rewarding as a leader and trainer than it has been as an individual competitor, so I stayed.

It's also why I transitioned from being an individual to being part of the team I was to coach for 2006 WEG. That was going to make the most of my experience and in turn, the value my role in the sport has for other people.

In 2010, after coaching and competing with the historic gold medal team at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Kentucky, my son was born. Being a father gave me a new perspective on how my role in vaulting could have an impact on others. I really believe the depth of value this sport can have on its participants is unmatched, and this is why I'm invested in it on multiple levels.



In 2006, I decided to co-coach a team with Emma Seely to represent the United States at the WEG in Aachen, Germany, and I vaulted on the team as well. We called ourselves FAME, an all-star composite of FACE and her Mount Eden club. It was a big year for Americans in vaulting. We were 0.002 of a point from winning the team gold at the World Equestrian Games, taking the silver. Megan Benjamin, who was still under 18 and eligible to vault individually and on the team, became only the second American and first female to win individual gold at the World Championships.

That year, the team project became a big focus for me as a coach, although I still competed as an individual in the U.S. and some international competitions. That carried over through the 2008 World Championships in Brno, Czech Republic, as well. My FACE team qualified, and I also vaulted on the team there. After leading the pack with compulsories, we ended up with a bronze medal due to a fall during one Freestyle round.

In 2010, we decided to continue with much of the same group. I really wanted to vault as an individual again, but because of this stubborn mission of ours, I vaulted on the team. It was the only way I felt we could seriously have a chance to finally reach the very top, and it worked. At the WEG in Kentucky, we became the first U.S. team to win the gold.



In 2012, I moved back to California and started over. I performed pas de deux with ex-teammate Rosalind Ross that year, and we managed to be a fraction of a point away from the bronze at the World Championships in Le Mans, France.

After that, I focused on rebuilding the FACE club in the Los Angeles area, and have come to be one of the few people in the United States to make vaulting training their main career. At the age of 41 in 2016, I won the CDI Pacific Cup on my new Irish draught, Maximillion, and after training and competing on the team that represented the United States at the 2016 World Championships, I joined forces with teammate, coach, and vaulter Kalyn Noah. I'm proud to have joined Kalyn and her daughter Phoenix, with my son Nico, as a family, and continue to dedicate my passion toward FACE and the sport.

Now my focus is on pas de deux with Kalyn. This partnered double routine is a perfect way for me to continue my competitive career while emphasizing my strengths and minimizing the risk of injury. As a 43-year-old dad, it isn't worth it to risk the big dismounts I used to perform. I have spent a lifetime reaching for artistry within this unique sport though, and I still feel fit! Being able to continue as a vaulter, and no doubt as a coach, for decades to come is still the greatest of honors.



Photo by Nancy Jaffer

Devon Maitozo

This excerpt has been reprinted with the permission of publisher Trafalgar Square Books. "Riding for the Team" is a beautifully produced, 302-page, hard-copy publication covering eight disciplines and 47

stories of riders, drivers, and vaulters along with their medal-winning horses. Copies can be purchased on USET.org, with proceeds benefiting the USET Foundation.



USET Foundation Remembers BROWNLEE O. CURREY JR.

The United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation was deeply saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Brownlee O. Currey Jr. An esteemed leader and ambassador of USET and equestrian sport for more than three decades, Currey, of Franklin, Tenn., served as chairman of the USET Board of Trustees from 2013 to 2019. A USET honorary life trustee, Currey passed away on March 18, 2020, at the age of 91, in Nashville, Tenn.

Currey's influence spanned the entire sport. In 2016, the USET Foundation awarded Currey the R. Bruce Duchossois Distinguished Trustee Award, which is presented annually to a USET Foundation trustee who exemplifies exceptional leadership, philanthropy, and character. In addition to his stewardship of the USET, he led several charitable efforts, including chairing a benefit for the American Horse Shows Association during the National Horse Show, co-chairing the Nashville Charity Horse Show in 1985, and hosting the Music City Grand Prix to benefit Easter Seals and the Saddle Up! therapeutic riding program. He and his wife, Agneta, were also long-time supporters of The Hampton Classic.

Among his many valued contributions to the sport, he and his wife were among the proud owners of a horse syndicate and experienced Olympic glory. Their off-the-track Thoroughbred mare, Touch of Class,



W. James McEnerney, Jr., Brownlee O. Currey Jr. and S. Tucker S. Johnson

Photo by Phelps Media Group

won individual gold with Joe Fargis aboard and contributed to team gold medal-honors for U.S. Jumping in the 1984 Los Angeles Games. In recognition of this achievement, Currey received the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce Bronze Seal of Honor in 1984. Additionally, Governor Lamar Alexander presented Currey with Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award.



Photo courtesy of the USET Foundation

Joe Fargis and Touch of Class, owned by a syndicate including Brownlee and Agneta Currey

Outside of equestrian sport, Currey was a successful businessman. After graduating from Vanderbilt University, where he earned a B.A. in business administration, he began working as a securities broker for Equitable Securities until 1957, when he transferred to the company's New York office. A year and a half later, he became a director and helped manage Equitable Securities' eastern division. After the firm was sold to American Express Company in 1968, he continued in the position of director, a senior vice president and a member of the executive committee of Equitable Securities Morton & Company, Inc., a subsidiary of American Express.

In 1970, he became vice chairman in New York of the Commerce Union Corporation, which subsequently became Bank of America. He resigned and went on to purchase the Nashville Banner, where he held, at varying times, the positions of chairman, chief executive officer and publisher between 1980 and 1998. In 1989, he co-founded Osborn Communications, a public radio company, and served as chairman until it was sold in 1997. His widely accomplished career took a hiatus early on when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving as a fighter pilot in the Korean conflict. Following active duty, Currey joined the Tennessee Air National Guard.

He served on numerous boards throughout his lifetime, including the United States Equestrian Team, the Show Jumping Hall of Fame and Museum, the Volunteer State Horseman's Association, Thomas Nelson Publishing Company, Watkins College of Art, Montgomery Bell Academy (MBA), International Tennis Hall of Fame, the Tennessee Tennis Association Hall of Fame, and Vanderbilt University's Board of Trust, eventually becoming a trustee emeritus.

He was an avid golfer and a nationally ranked senior tennis player, and he led the campaign for Vanderbilt's Tennis Center, which currently bears his name. He was also a founder and supporter of Currey Ingram Academy. In 2019, the Watkins College of Art awarded him with an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts.

Currey is survived by his wife Agneta, children Christian Brownlee Currey, Stephanie Currey Ingram, and Frances Currey Briggs, and 12 grandchildren.

USET extends its heartfelt condolences to Agneta and the entire Currey family. His many contributions to his community, his country, and equestrian sport will be greatly missed. – Dana Riddlemoser



IN MEMORY

of Patrick "Packy" McGaughan

The equestrian community grieved the sudden loss of Patrick "Packy" McGaughan, who passed away unexpectedly on March 12, 2020, at the age of 56. McGaughan was a beloved figure in the eventing world, devoting his life to the sport as a rider, competitor, and trainer.

McGaughan was destined to become a fixture in U.S. Eventing. Like many aspiring young equestrians, he competed in the 1970 North American Youth Championships. In 1984, U.S. Eventing Chef d'Equipe Jack Le Goff spotted the young rider's evident talent and invited him to train with him at the USET Center in South Hamilton.

Years later, after obtaining a degree in psychology from Duke University, he earned a second-place finish with his mother's 12-year-old gelding, Tanzer, at the 1987 Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. As a result, they earned a spot on the U.S. Eventing Team at the Pan American Games later that year. The pair produced clean cross-country and show jumping rounds to help the U.S. win team gold and win individual bronze. Following McGaughan's Pan American Games success, he earned a law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

In addition to McGaughan's competitive achievements, he was an esteemed coach and trainer in Area II, advancing horses and riders to the highest level of the sport. McGaughan ran Banbury Cross Farm in Clarksburg, Md., which grew into a leading training, breeding, and boarding facility for eventing, dressage, hunter, and equitation riders. One could often spot him at numerous events across the East Coast, instructing athletes across all levels of the sport.

The USET Foundation extends its condolences to McGaughan's



Photo by Leslie Mintz / U.S. Eventing Association

family, friends, and students, who were touched by his love, humor, and teaching. His presence will be greatly missed.

– Dana Riddlemoser



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Eventing Association

Patrick "Packy" McGaughan and Tanzer

Remembering Helen Gordon

Helen Gordon, a long-time supporter of the United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation, passed away peacefully on December 18, 2019. An avid equestrian, Gordon devoted her time to fundraising for the USET as well as the Somerset Hills Handicapped Riders, now known as Mane Stream.

Gordon grew up Montclair, N.J., and Pine Orchard, Conn., attending The Kimberley School in Upper Montclair. She graduated from Bennett College in Millbrook, N.Y.

Gordon was the great-great-granddaughter of Brevet Brigadier Gen. Archibald Henderson, the longest serving commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. She was also the great-great-granddaughter of Commodore Jacob Jones, the 11th commander of the U.S.S. Constitution. She was trustee emeritus for both the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass., and the USET Foundation.


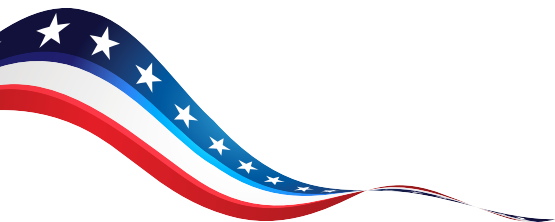
The USET extends its condolences to Gordon's family and friends. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the USET Foundation, 1040 Pottersville Road, Gladstone, N.J., 07934; please designate "The Gladstone Fund." 



Photo Courtesy of Helen Gordon's Family



Loss of Longtime Eventing Supporter Steve Blauner


The United States Equestrian Team (USET) Foundation mourned the sudden loss of Steve Blauner, a valued USET Foundation trustee and long-time owner for U.S. Eventing Team High Performance athletes Boyd Martin and Doug Payne.

A dedicated proponent of the syndicate ownership model, Blauner owned six horses through syndicates that represented the U.S. at the Olympic Games, World Equestrian Games, and Pan American Games. An amateur rider himself, Blauner also supported up-and-coming eventing athletes, both as an owner and through launching the MARS Bromont Rising Program, which provides training and educational opportunities for under-25 athletes.

Blauner was a motivated and engaged member of the equestrian community. He continually worked to enhance visibility

and exposure for eventing as well as ensured other owners and supporters of the sport were involved with the USET Foundation and its mission. He was also a cornerstone of the equestrian community in Millbrook, N.Y., and instrumental in running the Millbrook Horse Trials.

A true servant of equestrianism, Blauner was a member of the USEF Eventing Owners Task Force, the USET Foundation Raising the Bar Campaign Steering Committee, and he greatly contributed to the success of U.S. High Performance Teams.

The USET Foundation along with US Equestrian send their deepest condolences to Blauner's partner, Ken Shelley, and to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed. 

Donations may be made in Steve's memory to the USET Foundation, 104 Pottersville Road, Gladstone, NJ, 07934. Please designate "Stephen C. Blauner Challenge."



Photo by Amber Heintzberger



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