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## Para-Dressage Gets Underway at Alltech FEI Equestrian Games

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**Client:** United States Para-Equestrian Association

**Release Date:** 2010-10-05

Lexington, KY – October 5, 2010 - The unofficial results for the team Para-Dressage Championships indicate that the top three teams are Great Britain stands in first place on 214.98, with a slim advantage points over second-placed Germany on 212.88. The Netherlands follows in place on 211.91. The USA is eighth on 198.16. Please remember that these are provisional results. With any luck at all we'll have confirmation of official results by morning from the company doing the WEG scoring. Stay tuned.

The highest placed rider for the USA was first-time international competitor Goldman on Carlingford JD, the flashy black and white Irish Sporthorse owned by Trudy Phillips. Classified 1a (most severely disabled), Goldman netted a provisional score of 68.706 which put them in third. Courtney Anne Dunham and Teddy scored 71.294 to secure first place, followed by Sergio Froes Rieriro De Oliva and Reliquaia on second with 69.529.

"I thought the test was OK," said Goldman. "I trained to be very athletic and my coach taught us to be. I've got to tell you, I was scared. Now it's not so scary, I'm amazed at myself. It's because my horse is fantastic; without him I wouldn't be here. And my coach is really on the ball. I hope the sport grows in this country and we get as strong as the Europeans."

Goldman has only ridden Carlingford since the end of May – about a month before being told before coming to Kentucky for the Games. "I never thought I'd be on the stage. I had to fight to ride and to get people to work with me outside of my therapeutic classes," admitted Goldman. "A lot of people think we're just potatoes on a horse, but we're not. I've always, always wanted to be a professional, but I couldn't. I'm hoping my score will help our team and we'll move up the ranks."

Robin Brueckmann partnered with Elly Schobel's Raison d'Etre and Treabess did the honors aboard Moneypenny, owned by Katy Peters. The top three para-equestrians are classified Grade IV (least disabled). Brueckmann scored 65.750, netting sixth, Treabess earned 63.000 to stand 10th out of 15 para-equestrians in the division. Michelle George (BEL), fourth to go.

by earning the judges' approval and 70.687 percent. The next two respectable – 68.875 awarded to Frank Hosman (NED) and 68.500 Henrik Weber Sibbesen (DEN) with the remainder ranging from 66 down to the mid-50s.

All things considered, Brueckmann felt very pleased about their test riding the Lexington, KY bred three-quarter Thoroughbred gelding. "My trainer Elly Schobel showed him at Grand Prix and I started riding in October; he's a very nice horse and I think I maximized what I could get out of him," said Brueckmann. "He lights up with a crowd. If they'd applaud louder, he would have been even better."

Susan Treabess also thought it was a good test, not to mention that the FEI World Equestrian Games also happen to be her first time ever to compete in international competition.

"My goal was to have a clean test and a nice test and I did that," said Treabess. "We have a good harmony together because we have a really good horse and I thought this test was typical of that. I've been overwhelmed by the level of competition. It's been a goal of mine for five years, and I've been riding this horse for five years to get ready. I show Prix St. Georges/Intermediaire I in able-bodied divisions. The horses have to be about the same level to do this. Really, this is more competitive than Prix St. Georges in California. You have to have a really good horse to compete here."

That's a fact that became more apparent as the day continued. Lee (GBR) and Gentleman claimed the day's high score of 73.818 (Grand Prix Grade III) aboard Women of the West, while German Grade III leader Hannelore Brenner (GER) aboard Women of the West downed their necks on 73.556.

Jonathan Wentz (USA) found himself way down in the standings for the class, 15th out of 18 in the class, but his attitude reflected the spirit that day in spite of cool temperatures and a not quite warming sun.

"It was really solid! Quite an experience! My whole goal was to have a precise test, and I did that. For the future, we'd like to push the high score," said Wentz. "There was pressure being added to the team at the last minute, but my goal is to support the USA."

Para-Dressage competition continues with the Individual Champion on Wednesday and Thursday. Individual Freestyle will run on Friday and Saturday.

Photo Credit: Laura Goldman on Carlingford JD was the highest placed rider for the USA in Tuesday's para-dressage competition. Photo © 2010 Laurer Photo may be used free of charge only in relation to this press release.

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