

CANADIAN DRESSAGE RIDERS WIN FREESTYLE GOLD AND BRONZE AT THE 2010 NORTH AMERICAN JUNIOR AND YOUNG RIDERS' CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ottawa, ON—The success continued for the Canadian dressage riders as they captured one gold and two bronze medals on the final day of dressage competition at the 2010 North American Junior and Young Rider Championships, held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY July 28 – August 1st, 2010.

The Young Rider Freestyle was held under lights in the main ring Saturday evening, July 31. Jaimie Holland, 21, of Caledon, ON, and her 12-year-old Westphalian mare, Fleurina, won the class with a score of 72.700%, more than two per cent higher than the silver medalist, American Jhesika Wells from Region 5/6, who scored 70.550% riding Intrepid.

“I would like to thank my parents for their support and Tom and Ellen Dvorak for their help,” said Holland. “They have coached me since I was ten.”

Megan Lane, 19, of Collingwood, ON, riding her nine-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare, Caravella, earned the bronze medal in the Freestyle with 70.350%.

The medals were the third won by both Holland and Lane at this year's Championships. They were part of the Young Rider silver medal winning team on July 28, and earned individual silver (Lane) and bronze (Holland) on Friday, July 30.

“Caravella definitely pushed into a higher gear this week, and I suddenly have more from her than ever before,” said Lane, who was a triple Junior medalist at the Championships in 2009. “I would like to thank my new coach, Albrecht Heidemann, for his help, and Tina Irwin for her help previously.”

Lindsay Seidel-Wassenaar of Bluffton, AB, riding her horse Oslo, a 14-year-old Dutch Warmblood gelding, finished in fifth place with 69.600%. Erika Urrf of Langley, BC and her horse Focus, nine-year-old Oldenburg mare finished in ninth place.



In the Junior Freestyle, which was held earlier in the day, Esmee Ingham of West Vancouver, BC, riding Norseman, a 14-year-old Swedish Warmblood gelding owned by Esmee and Candie Ingham, won the bronze medal with a score of 70.900%. Ingham was a member of the British Columbia gold medal winning Junior team on July 28.

Exclusively for Junior riders, aged 14–18, and Young Riders, 16–21, the NAJYRC gives up-and-coming riders the opportunity to experience representing their country as a team, and prepares them for future international competition. The Championships, presented by Gotham North, are being hosted at the site of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games and feature the disciplines of dressage, eventing, jumping and reining. For more information and complete results for NAJYRC, please visit www.youngriders.org.

About Dressage Canada

Dressage Canada, as a committee of Equine Canada, is the National governing body for Dressage in Canada. Dressage Canada's objective is to foster the growth of Dressage and the pursuit of excellence in the sport at the local, national and international levels. Dressage Canada provides support and guidance to both amateur and professional through the following programs: coaching education and programs, officials' education and programs, rules & qualifying criteria, sport development, publications & awards. For more information about Dressage Canada, please visit the Dressage section of the Equine Canada site.

About Equine Canada

Equine Canada is Canada's national governing body for equestrianism. A member-driven, charitable institution, it is the executive branch of the Canadian Equestrian Team, and the national authority for equestrian competition; the national voice for recreational riders; and the national association for equine welfare, breeding, and industry. Equine Canada is recognised by the Government of Canada, the International Equestrian Federation (FEI), and the Canadian Olympic Committee as the national organisation representing equestrian sport and equine interests. For more information about Equine Canada, please visit www.equinecanada.ca.