

## Cäsar Memorial Cup

donated by Dr. and Mrs. David Goodman, Wonderland Farms, in memory of their stallion Cäsar by Donauschimmer, to be awarded to the approved Trakehner stallion with the year's highest score in eventing



## WINDFALL

**1992 brown/black approved stallion by Habicht,  
out of Wundermädel xx by Madruzzo xx,  
bred by Heinz Lembke, Kaufbeuren, FRG, owned by Timothy Holekamp, Columbia, MO,  
ridden by Darren Chiacchia, Springville, NY**

*By Tim Holekamp*

**F**resh out of a two-month importation quarantine, Windfall tried to hit the ground running last March and had several missteps as he and his new rider, Darren Chiacchia, worked to get their signals lined up correctly. Whereas all assumed his outstanding performance record in Germany and excellent training under Ingrid Klimke would assure that he could start right in impressing the western hemisphere, it turned out that he had some manners problems and some training issues in cross-country that needed attention. Nevertheless, in early April they scored big at the North Georgia Beaulieu CIC\*\*\*, finishing fourth and winning some prize money for his depleted new owners.

By early May the Foxhall CCI\*\*\* with its huge field of starters and even huger cash purse was looking like the right mountain to climb. Third after dressage, and already in second place by his turn at cross-country, Windfall was running fast and clean when he jumped down about six feet off a small island in



*Windfall and Darren Chiacchia in Stadium Jumping at the October 2001 Fair Hill CCI\*\*\**

Photo by Shannon K. Brinkman

the middle of the main water jump, misjudged the distance, went down onto his knees and left shoulder, lacerating both knees and flank severely on the knife-like rocks underneath. Despite widespread reports of the end of his career, he never was infected or lame, healed very quickly, and by the end of June he won a division of Preliminary at Groton House I and then had a run-out on cross-country at Advanced the next weekend after winning the dressage.

He was not considered for the unofficial USET team to go to Burghley and Blenheim, but since the short-listed riders — Darren among them —

had to compete at Over the Walls Horse Trials in Massachusetts as a selection trial, nearly everyone brought all their other Advanced horses to run as well. There were just under 100 starters, including only one stallion, a tag-along Trakehner. His dressage score was the best of them all, and he won his division

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with a final score that was beaten by only one American horse/rider combination: Kim Vinoski on Winsome Adante, who would go on to place first at the Blenheim CCI\*\*\* and become the US Event Horse of the Year.

Windfall was the best dressage competitor at Fair Hill CCI\*\*\*, too, and was looking like a winner on cross-country, past all the tough combinations, but had a moment of confusion and a cheap little run-out on the 25th jump, losing his concentration and ending up completing the three-day in the middle of the pack.

Many top event riders have commented on his great potential and, as he and Darren get a few more miles in together, we are hoping for greatness over

the next few years. His ground manners have dramatically improved and steering at the gallop remains his only issue. Hopes were raised in February 2002 when he won his division of Advanced at the Rocking Horse II Horse Trials, again with the best dressage score of all divisions and plenty of speed and accuracy in the jumping tests.

He remains sound and happy in his work. His first American foal was born in mid-January (quarantine breeding) from the Amethyst daughter, FREUDE (grand champion of the 1998 ATA Mare Show). The resultant filly, FREUDENFALL, is his mirror image, frisky and bold, correct and agile.

