

Rolex is back on time

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By Ruth Pearce

KENNETH DYRBY and Rolex are back on time, the pair leading the grand prix with 68.94% after raising their game from last week's Addington international.

"We had some problems with the piaffe at Addington and I had to get him back into the arena to get his confidence back," said the Saumur-bound American international rider. "He hadn't been out for a while because of slight injuries and at Addington I was very disappointed, but it made me realise I hadn't done my homework thoroughly when I brought him back into work."

"I've been much stricter with myself this week, making sure the submission was there, so when I asked him, he could perform the movement. I was much more organised in riding the test and correcting things so it didn't come as a big shock for him," said Kenneth. "It was more a question of sharpening up everything on myself, not my horse."

Nicky Barrett and Faberge 50 finished second to Kenneth on their grand prix debut — their first outing since winning the intermediaire II at the nationals last year.

Nicky has selectively competed the syndicate-owned breeding stallion, finishing small tour champions at Hickstead CDI in one of only three outings last year.

"It's early days," she said. "I hadn't intended to do our first grand prix at a premier league, but he now needs to go and compete a lot to gain experience, because he's never done that. We've got to put the building blocks in place and then we will get better."

Charlie Hutton and Aljano III finished third in



Having done his homework Kenneth Dyrby earns a winning score of 68.94% with Rolex in the grand prix

week and it's good to know we can string a few shows together and get the same feeling," he said. "He's a lovely, easy horse to ride, is really elevated and has great elasticity. It's just maintaining his concentration."

Carl Hester and Sarah Tyler-Evans' Movistar, a 10-year-old by Jazz, took both a prix st georges (PSG) and intermediaire I with over 72%.

"I brought him here to give him an outdoor run before we leave for Saumur (30 April-3 May) as he hasn't had one since last September," explained Carl. "He started covering mares two weeks ago and understandably is finding it difficult to stay attentive."

Amy Stovold and Macbrian stood second to Carl and Movistar at intermediaire I — with 71.14% — for the fifth time at small tour. Amy's mother Maggie owns the Swedish-bred 12-year-old with Julia Jacobs.

"I'm starting to ride him a bit more forward and it all flowed really well," said Amy, who is hoping to move up to big tour soon.

Kate Attlee and Corbiere headed Sunday's advanced 100 and PSG. It is the first season at the level for Anne Willetts's eight-year-old German-bred gelding.

"He's so rideable and really tried. He had more energy in the PSG and we had a clear round," said Kate.

HEARD IN THE STANDS

"Movistar had got pretty wild because he travelled here with a mare. I did a flying jump from the step to try and land in the saddle because he wouldn't stand still, but landed behind the saddle. I thought I'd been gelded. Then he took off and I slipped off. It caused a few laughs and a bit of scarping in the car park."
Fortunately the day improved for Carl Hester

"I wanted it cut shorter so had a number one and then I was persuaded to have it dyed blonde as well for a bit of a giggle."
Peter Storr caught the eye with a new-look haircut

the pair's second grand prix before winning at intermediaire II.

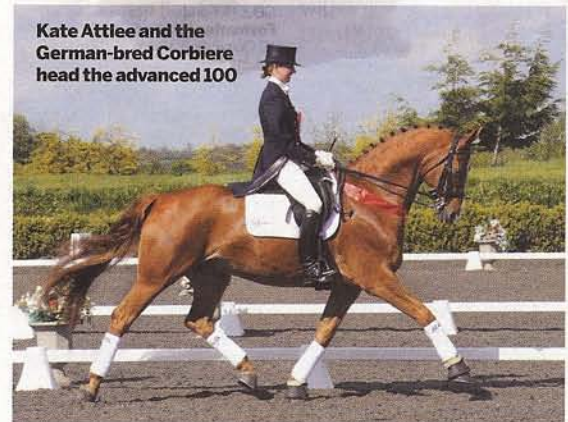
"We are still getting to know each other," said Charlie, who has had the ride on Penny Manning's 12-year-old Oldenburger for seven months. "With an older horse it takes time to form a partnership, rather than a young horse you bring on yourself."

Charlie also took the young rider team test with Lady Anne Evans' Merlin Nemorensis, with whom he had a triple success at Addington CDI.

"He felt exactly as last



Amy Stovold hopes to step up to big tour after a 'flowing' test with Macbrian



Kate Attlee and the German-bred Corbiere head the advanced 100