

Blood at the Top

– the Olympic Disciplines

by Judy Wardrope

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The World Cups for Dressage and Showjumping plus the Rolex Kentucky 3-day Event all happen this April and the Pan American Games run in July – all of them precursors to the Olympic Games in 2008.

With these top competitions on the not-too-distant horizon, it may be a good time to take a look at the bloodlines in the Olympic and Pan Am disciplines of dressage, eventing and showjumping. Which bloodlines are we likely to see in the top performers in these upcoming events? Which top horses have retired or are about to retire and who are the rising stars?

Note that year of birth, gender plus sires/broodmare sires are listed in parentheses. Horses retired from competition are in italics and those mentioned earlier in the article are underlined.



Salinero 1994, g, Salieri/Lungau, Current Olympic Gold Medalist & multiple World Cup Champion

The balance of the top 10 included:

Aramis 279 (1992, g, Akzent II/Furioso II)
Barclay II (1992, g, Brentano II/Lungau)
Briar 889 (1991, s, Magini 695/Krocket 651)
Cavan (1990, g, Cavalier/Damnatz I)
Escapado (1993, g, Ex Libris/Ikarus).
Kingston (1992, s, Voltaire/Burggraaf)

At the 2006 World Equestrian Games (WEG), the Thoroughbred influence was still strong. Familiar names were evident at the top, including Salinero who won the freestyle yet again, but a few newcomers raised eyebrows.

Throwing down the gauntlet were Matine (1997, m, Silver Moon/Matador), Elvis VA (1996, g, Espri/Garibaldi II), Max (1995, g, Master 850/Alpen Furst) and Sunrise (1994, m, Singular Joter/Werther).

The other 'regulars' included:

Aragon (1992, g, Abydos/Lorenz)
Briar 899 (1991, s, Magini 695/Krocket 651)
Floriano (1990, g, Florestan I/Weinberg)
Lancet (1993, s, Wenzel I/Shogun)
Lingh (1988, s, Flemmingh/Columbus)
Regent (1992, g, Resident/)
Salieri (1994, g, Sinclair/Lysander)
Satchmo (1994, g, Sao Paulo/Legat)
Vincent (1992, s, Weltmeyer/Absatz)

Dressage

Since the 2004 Olympics, top horses like Rusty (1988, g, Rebus/Aksent), the team gold medallist and individual bronze medallist, have retired and Salinero (1994, g, Salieri/Lungau) has proven virtually unbeatable.

At the 2004 Olympics, most of the top horses were:

Aragon (1992, g, Abydos/Lorenz)
Beauvalais (1987, g, Bolero/Grande)
Bonaparte (1993, g, Bon Bonaparte/)
Brentina (1991, m, Brentano II/Lungau)
Briar 899 (1991, s, Magini 695/Krocket 651)
Cavan (1990, g, Cavalier/Damnatz I)
Escapado (1993, g, Ex Libris/Ikarus)
FBW Kennedy (1989, g, Tiro/Karat)
Lancet (1993, s, Wenzel I/Shogun)
Relevant 005 (1991, s, Rubenstein I/Goldlowe)
Rusty (1988, g, Rebus/Aksent)
Salinero (1994, g, Salieri/Lungau)
Wansuela Suerte (1993, m, Warkant/Wachmann I)
Weltall VA (1993, g, Weltmeyer/Gelria)
Zancor (1991, g, Calimero/President).

At the 2005 World Cup, Salinero was again judged the best, but Lingh (1988, s, Flemmingh/Columbus) did challenge and Brentina was third ahead of RBW Kennedy.

Eventing

Much has been said about the shortened format with a higher emphasis on dressage and jumping and how warmbloods would begin to dominate the sport. So far, where warmbloods do appear near the top of the heap, they usually have a very high degree of Thoroughbred lineage.

The top 25 horses and those from the top 5 teams at the 2004 Olympics are listed alphabetically below.

(Note: xx denotes Thoroughbred and horses of unknown lineage are not mentioned.)

Air Jordan (1995, g, Amerigo Vespucci xx/Wittensee)
Carrick (1992, g, Cozy's Commander/Northern Mystic xx)
Debat d'Estruval (1991, g, Vorias xx/Ardale xx)
Drunken Disorderly (1990, g, Macrocket xx/Hard Study xx)
Espoir de la Mare (1992, g, What A Joy xx/Ukase)
Expo du Moulin (1992, g, Royalme/Air de Cour xx)
Fenicio (1992, g, Fines xx/
Fine Merveille (1993, m, Dress Parade xx/Pot d'Or xx)
Galan de Sauvagere (1994, g, Joly Jumper/Julius Caesar xx)
Glengarrick xx (1987, g, Beechcraft xx/Sharpen Up xx)
Gormley xx (1991, g, Sandalay xx/Monksfield xx)
Hunfer xx (1991, g, Abdoniski xx/Ti King xx)
Jacob Two Two xx (1988, g, Paper Soldier xx/
Keymaster xx (1993, g, Eighty Eight Keys xx/Stradivinsky xx)
King Solomon III (1988, g, Old Lucky xx/
Kyrenejennalas Boy (1991, g, Highland King/
Little Lemon (1991, g, Lemon xx/Pokal)
Lorgaine (1995, g, Ballinvella xx/
Marius (1994, g, Condrieu xx/Laurin)
Miss Ferrari (1995, m, Katies Pride/)



Windsome Adante 1993, g, Saunter xx/ Bohemond xx, Olympic Team Medalist & multiple Rolex 3 Day Event Winner.

Nova Top xx (1991, g, Ra Nova xx/
Oaklea Groover (1994, g, Nediym xx/
Over To You xx (1988, g, Over The River xx/Gala Performance xx)
Poggio II xx (1992, g, Polynesian Flyer xx/Twooverprime xx)
Primmore's Pride (1993, g, Fair Oak xx/ Ben Faerie xx)
Ready Teddy xx (1987, g, Brilliant Invader xx/Kwanza xx)
Revo xx (1991, g, Argonaut Style xx/Funny Fellow xx)
Ringwood Cockatoo (1991, g, Peacock xx/Skylark)
Shear L'Eau (1992, g, Stan The Man xx/Carnival Night xx)
Silence xx (1991, g, Silent Hunter xx/Umteen xx)
Windfall 2 (1992, s, Habicht/Madruzzo xx)
Windsome Adante (1993, g, Saunter xx/Bohemond xx)
Withcote Nellie xx (1989, m, Bohemond xx/ Bridge Of Sighs xx)

At the 2006 WEG, the Thoroughbred influence was still strong as evidenced by the pedigrees of the top 25 individual competitors below.

Air Jordan (1995, g, Amerigo Vespucci xx/Wittensee)
Antigua xx (1989, g, Match Winner xx/
Ben Along Time (1995, g, Cavalier Royale/Campaigner xx)
Blakring (1991, g, Kashmir Ring xx/
FRH Serve Well (1994, m, Sherlock Holmes/Warkant)
Call Again Cavalier (1992, g, Cavalier Royale/
Fifth Avenue Fame (1990, g, Star Pyramul xx/
Flint Curtis (1996, William Curtis/
Gazelle de la Brasserie (1994, m, Karacondo/Arlequin)
Glengarrick xx (1987, g, Beechcraft xx/Sharpen Up xx)
Keymaster xx (1993, g, Eighty Eight Keys xx/Stradivinsky xx)
Kirby Park Irish Jester (1993, g, Irish Enough/
Lord Killinghurst xx (1991, g, Sulaafah xx/Major Portion xx)
Make My Day (1996, g, Casino/Racing Ace xx)
Marius (1994, g, Condrieu xx/Laurin)
Master Monarch xx (1991, g, Just A Monarch xx/
Poggio II xx (1992, g, Polynesian Flyer xx/Twooverprime xx)
Ringwood Cockatoo (1991, g, Peacock xx/Skylark)
Tamarillo (1992, g, Tarnik/
Tankers Town (1994, g, Diamond Clover/King of Diamonds)
Who's Blitz (1994, g, Silver Wonder xx/Bulldozer xx)
Windsome Adante (1993, g, Saunter xx/Bohemond xx)

Showjumping

Although the Thoroughbred influence in showjumping is more evident (up close) than in dressage, it is not as evident as in eventing. Of particular interest is that the Thoroughbred as a broodmare sire appears with surprising regularity. The percentage of top competitive mares is increasing in this sport.

The 2004 Olympic results – after the controversies – included these top horses both individual and team:

Authentic (1995, g, Guidam/Katell xx)
Baloubet du Rouet (1989, s, Galoubet A/Starter)



Baloubet du Rouet, 1989, s, Galoubet A/Starter, Individual Olympic Gold Medalist & multiple World Cup Champion

- Butterfly Flip (1991, m, Robin I/Moderne xx)
- Cardento (1992, s, Capitol I/Lord)
- Carling King (1991, g, Clover Hill/Chair Lift xx)
- Cento (1989, s, Capitol I/Caletto II)
- Clinton (1993, s, Corrado I/Masetto)
- Coster (1993, g, Calato Z/Constant)
- Fein Cera (1991, m, Landadel/Cor de la Bryere)
- Fleche Rouge (1993, m, Papillon Rouge/Kissovo)
- Joel (1991, g, Ekstein/Ramiro)
- Mac Kinley (1994, g, Goodwill/Nimmerdor)
- Magic Bengtsson (1994, g, Landos/Lagretto)
- Monaco (1991, g, Lacoto/Romino)
- Montender (1994, s, Contender/Burggraaf)
- Montreal (1992, g, Athlet Z/Cor de la Bryere)
- Mr. Springfield (1993, g, Western Promise/Ballinahow Boy)
- Parco (1992, s, Darco/Atack Z)
- Royal Kalibur (1992, s, Ramiro/Voltaire)

Sapphire (1995, m, Darco/Hedjaz)

The top 10 from the 2005 World Cup in Las Vegas were:

- Baloubet du Rouet (1989, s, Galoubet A/Starter)
- Candy 195 (1992, m, Coriall/Latino)
- Cash 63 (1996, g, Carthago/Lavall II)
- Constantin 24 (1994, g, Contender/Marlon xx)
- Lucie 55 (1993, m, Landadel/Gralsritter)
- Marlou (1994, m, Jus de Pomme/Kaiserstern xx)
- Parco (1992, s, Darco/Atack Z)
- Pialotta (1992, s, Darco/Atack Z)
- Portofino 63 (1994, m, Habsburg/Orthos)
- Shutterfly (1993, g, Silvio I/Forrest xx)

The top individual competitors from the 2006 WEG were:

- Authentic (1995, g, Guidam/Katell xx)
- Berlin (1994, s, Cassini I/Carentino)
- Cantus (1995, g, Cantus/Lanzer)
- Cumano (1993, s, Cassini I/Landgraf)
- L'Espoir (1996, g, Landwind II/Feinschnitt I)
- Parco (1992, s, Darco/Atack Z)
- Pialotta (1991, m, Pilot/Akitos xx)
- Portofino 63 (1994, m, Habsburg/Orthos)
- Shutterfly (1993, g, Silvio I/Forrest xx)

Conclusion

We'll cheer some familiar horses while saying goodbye to others – Brentina, Baloubet du Rouet and Glengarrick come to mind as possible retirees. Salinero will not be at the World Cups due to his rider's pregnancy, but we likely witness newcomers ascending through the ranks in all three disciplines. We'll also be able to judge whether the Thoroughbred influence continues to be most evident in eventing, followed by showjumping and then dressage.

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