

Show jumping

Miller makes his a



Phillip Miller and Uniweau, who qualified for both HOYS and Lanaken

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QUANTON STUD ORIGINS QUANTON, BUCKS 19-22 May

By Suzanne Jones

DIRECT qualifiers for the World Breeding Championships in Belgium — a British first — were on offer at Quanton Stud last week, attracting lots of producers. But Phillip Miller had more reason to celebrate than most.

He headed both the Horse of the Year Show (HOYS) grade C qualifier and the seven-year-old Origins final with Pennie Cornish's Univeau.

Opting to skirt a fence to

a contentious wide, square oxer paid dividends when Phillip captured the 108-strong HOYS grade C.

Peter Gillespie's clever track saw faults spread across the 12 fences, although a water jump with solid wall filler caused particular problems and cut the jump-off number to 25.

"He's a trier, naturally careful and quick," said Pennie, thrilled the Numero Uno son has now qualified for both the HOYS seven-year-old and grade C finals. "These were only two classes he was eligible for."

Already with form at HOYS — the approved stallion was second in the newcomers and third in the

six-year-old finals — Univeau will also contend the Royal International grade B and C final this year.

His first foal is due in June to a Landadel mare, but Pennie is only aiming to use him in-house.

"We will just use our own mares this season and let Univeau concentrate on his jumping," said Pennie.

Henry Turrell took second on the Accorado-sired Ahorn Van De Zuuthoeve, a six-year-old who has just moved up to Foxhunter level.

"This was a big step up for him, we brought him for experience, so it's not a bad result," said Henry. "This track had a European feel

which suited him."

A few days after taking Unex Towerlands' HOYS seven-year-old qualifier, David McPherson claimed a ticket to a second Birmingham final by finishing third with the highly-rated Maxim Trijol, who is by Concorde.

William Funnell had three rides in the seven-strong Origins seven-year-old jump-off but his early competitive targets were obliterated by Phillip.

The winner was awarded a place at Zangersheide's World Breeding Championships in September in Lanaken.

"He has been going so well, we were hoping for

double



Scott Brash and Sauron ML, whom his rider says ups his game against the clock



Jessica Marshall takes the four-year-old title with Estee Van De Mispelaere



Michael Jones and Wender, who judges described as a 'typical international horse'

Results

125m.—1. Laetitia 56 (T Priest); 2. Norlentje (E Slater); 3. Calypso T (A Thompson). **HOYS grade C/7-y-o-q.**—1. Uriveau (P Miller); 2. Ahorn Van De Zuithove (H Tumell); 3. Maxim Trijol (D McPherson). **130m/7-y-o-q.**—1. Play Boy S (H Tumell); 2. Lorca Du Caryan (A Clutterbuck); 3. Halida Du Rouet (M Watson). **4-y-o-q.**—1. Estee Van De Mispelaere (J Marshall); 2. Delilah IV (T Davies); 3. El Thuder (L Pavitt). **20 May: 5-y-o-q.**—1. Lancelot Quinton (J Pethoek); 2. Cotswold Classic (A Thompson); 3. Wender (M Jones). **6-y-o-q.**—1. Ondine Du Logis (S Crippen); 2. Triple X (B Maher); 3. Fair Dinkum II (L Murphy). **7-y-o-q.**—1. Beaujolais V (S Brash); 2. Billy Congo (W Funnell); 3. U2 Grace (D McGlynn). **21 May: 4-y-o-q.**—1. Estee Van De Mispelaere; 2. Delilah IV; 3. Cobhams Zodyan (B Dalton). **5-y-o-q.**—1. Wembley III (S Crippen); 2. Lancelot Quinton; 3. Billy Laden (J Bonev). **6-y-o-q.**—1. Billy Bishop (W Funnell); 2. Triple X; 3. Fair Dinkum II. **22 May: 4-y-o-ch.**—1. Estee Van De Mispelaere; 2. Delilah IV; 3. Billy Be Cool (J Bonev). **Astwood Equine Osteopaths 5-y-o-ch.**—1. Wender; 2. Wilandra II (D McGlynn); 3. Lennon V Z. **6-y-o-ch.**—1. Sauron ML (S Brash); 2. Triple X; 3. Vedette II (G Plurney). **7-y-o-ch.**—1. Uriveau; 2. Billy Congo; 3. Larina III (W Funnell).

The last day always has the best money. If your horse jumps best on the last day, you have a champion

Andreas Kunneman four- and five-year-old judge

Triple X — a stallion by the Concorde son Namalus out of a Carthago Z mare.

"He's only done a handful of shows, this is just his second this year," said Ben.

Gemma Plumley's six-year-old Vedette by Arrezzo took third.

Piloted by Michael Jones, Wender took the World Breeding Championship ticket in the Astwood Equine Osteopaths five-year-old final.

By the increasingly popular stallion Hors La Loi, with bloodlines tracing back to Papillon Rouge and Le Gaat, Wender was talentspotted in the Netherlands by Nick Skelton and bought in October for Gary and Beverley Widdowson.

Produced from Nick's Warwickshire base, Michael has ridden the gelding from the beginning of the winter

"when he was bucking and farting and almost getting me off a couple of times," Michael joked.

"He's Jack The Lad but he's always careful and always clear. Despite the dark, miserable winter days, he managed to put a smile on Nick's face."

Judges Wolf Lahr, Norbert Freistecht and Andreas Kunnemann considered Wender to be a future star.

"He's a typical international horse," said Andreas. "The first day's track was not technical or high, it didn't test him, and he was placed third, but he developed and, over the last day's technicalities, his scope came through. The last day always has the best money. If your horse jumps best on the last day, you have a champion."

Two points behind, Danny McGlynn brought Rowena Gredley's Wilandra into second. A mare by Numero Uno with a Burggraaf mother, Wilandra came from Michael Whitaker.

At the request of the riders, all eight double-clear riders shared the prize money on offer.

"Any new format is bound to have teething problems, but with some discussion with competitors and judges,

these have been ironed out and the success of the show has been phenomenal," said secretary Fiona Haynes.

Jessica Marshall was deservedly handed the four-year-old title as her consistent Estee Van De Mispelaere topped every class.

Bought at Brightwells' November sale — for the syndicate of John and Marcine Marshall, and Jessica's farrier Phillip Martin and his wife Sam to mark their first venture into show jumping ownership — this mare by Forsyth, the son of For Pleasure, was broken-in in January.

This was the little mare's sixth show.

"She has been excellent over the four days, extremely careful, rideable and scopey, and is super in front and behind," said judge Andreas Kunnemann.

However, business is business.

"I'm excited to win but sad at the same time, as she was sold after her second win," said Jessica.

Tim Davies took second on the Chinook sired Delilah IV — a ride of just three weeks.

"She has the best brain and never gets uptight," said Tim, who bought the Dutch-bred mare from Neil Fiddes. H&H

Lanaken selection," said Pennie, referring to the long-standing system of horses being picked rather than winning a place. "Now he's won the right to be there."

William Funnell brought the homebred stallion Billy Congo — by Vechta out of an Animo mare — into second place ahead of his second ride, Carol Toliver's Larina III.

Super going gave horses an extra lift to see 18 reach a pacey six-year-old final jump-off, in which the lead changed regularly.

In the latter stages, Scott Brash netted the top slot and a Zangersheide ticket on Sauron ML.

The chestnut Belgian warmblood by Kashmir Van Schuttershof was bought from Brendon Stud last year and performed consistently in Portugal earlier in the year.

"He has his own style but is one for the future. Although, he felt tired today," said Scott. "He's usually energetic but three days' competition was hard work. However, he always ups his game against the clock."

A light year ahead is planned with Tri-Zone newcomers qualification the main target.

Ben Maher claimed second on his homebred