

Halliday-Sharp Tops Setter's Run Farm CIC3* at the Cloud 11~Gavilan North Carolina International

Fredericks ahead in CIC2, Law leads CIC**



Raeford, N.C. - March 23, 2018 - Blustery weather welcomed riders to the first day of competition at the 2018 Cloud 11~Gavilan North LLC Carolina International as CIC3*, CIC2* and CIC* competitors earned their first scores of the weekend in the dressage arena.

Liz Halliday-Sharp and Deborah Halliday's Fernhill By Night danced into the lead of the Setters' Run Farm CIC3*. She and the 15-year-old Irish Sport horse earned a score of 27, which ties them for lowest three-star dressage score ever achieved here at Carolina International. Jan Bynny was the first to earn this result in 2014 with Inmidair. *Halliday-Sharp pictured left. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.*

"Blackie felt great. He is notoriously a bit lazy, but to be fair to him he was still great. I think he is hitting his prime this year, he feels the best he has ever felt so hopefully 15 is going to be his year," Halliday-Sharp smiled.

Second-placed Buck Davidson isn't giving Halliday-Sharp much breathing room. He and the Carlevo Syndicate's Carlevo sit less than a point behind the leaders on a score of 27.6 points. *Davidson pictured right. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.*

"I was really happy with him. I feel like he's a stronger, better horse this year. He's always been very rideable and quiet, but he's got a bit more expression now, and he's much stronger carrying me through the test," Davidson commented on the 11-year-old Holsteiner.



Elinor MacPhail O'Neal took hold of the third place position aboard RF Eloquence, a 13-year-old Holsteiner owned by Sally Crane. This duo earned a personal best score of 27.7. *Macphail O'Neal pictured left. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.*

"We went a couple of weeks ago to Red Hills and he was a little fresh there, so today I was really happy with him," she said. "He kind of kept his cool in the ring and he has always been very good on the flat so it is kind of just showing off and getting the relaxation in the ring so I was really happy."

This year's three-star riders are a competitive bunch with the top 10 achieving a sub-30 dressage score, which is more than twice the number seen in past years. With these riders separated by less than three points, rails down in Friday's show jumping will be especially costly.

In the Attwood Equestrian Service's CIC2* division, Australia's Clayton Fredericks claimed the top spot on the leaderboard. Riding FE Bowman, Fredericks earned a 26.3 in the first phase. *Fredericks pictured right. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.*



"He hasn't really been out for a while. He was pretty on his toes through the morning, so I wasn't holding too much anticipation of a great score, but he really knows his job. He's a very intelligent horse," Fredericks commented.

Local rider Will Faudree earned second with Jennifer Mosing and Sterling Silver Stables' Caeleste. The 11-year-old Holsteiner earned a dressage score of 27.4. Third place belongs to Katherine Coleman and Billy Bandit on 28.5 points.



Olympic gold medalist Leslie Law took the day one lead of the Breezeway Sporthorse and Diagnostic Clinic and Friendship Mobile Veterinary Imaging and Sports Medicine CIC* aboard QC First Class. Beatrice Rey-Herme's 7-year-old Oldenburg carries 23.9 points into Friday's cross country. *Law pictured left. Photo by Brant Gamma Photography.*

"I was very pleased with him," Law said.

"He's been quite full of himself all week, so I

was a little nervous that he's be too up, but by the time he went in he settled just about the right amount, so I was able to ride a really forward flowing test and make the most of his talent and exuberance."

Faudree also sits in second in the CIC* class with Sarah Pyne's Quintessential on 25.6 penalty points. MacPhail O'Neal and Boyd Martin split a tie for third on a score of 25.7.

The remaining CIC3* competitors will perform their dressage tests Friday beginning at 8:00 a.m. Show jumping will follow for both the CIC3* and CIC2* classes at 10:00 a.m. The exciting cross country finale will conclude the international competition on Saturday.

Carolina International is also hosting Training through Advanced level horse trial divisions, which get underway Friday with dressage.

[Click here](#) for live scoring.

EQSportsNet is providing live streaming of all of the Settlers' Run CIC3* competition as well as the Attwood Equestrian Services CIC2* show jumping and cross country phases with insights from Nicole Brown and Equiratings. Use the promo code EQUSEA2018 for a 50% discount on subscriptions. To watch the live stream, visit www.eqsports.net.

General admission is free! Join us March 22-26 for a weekend of family fun. Spectators can get up close with world-class riders, enjoy the Kid's Zone on Saturday and Sunday, and shop 'till you drop in our sprawling vendor village.

Brant Gamma Photography is the official photographer for this weekend's competition. Brant and her team will be on site all weekend to cover all the action. Riders can visit their tent located beside the Sagmae Competitor's Lounge to purchase photos.

For more information about the event, visit www.carolinainternationalcic.com.

About Carolina International

The Carolina International Organizing Committee was formed to build a world class eventing competition in the Sandhills of North Carolina. Leveraging local and national expertise and leadership, we will deliver an outstanding weekend of horse sport and entertainment for riders, owners, grooms, spectators, patrons and sponsors alike.