

Unique Opportunity For Sara Rosewall and Dreamcatcher

By Janna Smith

Many Canadians have heard about the recent sale of Mark, the Dutch Warmblood gelding that was Leslie Reid's world class Dressage mount, to an American buyer. The Dutch Warmblood gelding is reportedly well-cared for at his new home, but many Canadians wish talented horses could stay in Canada and continue to represent our country.

Encouraging Dressage riders and horses to excel is essential for the future of the sport in Canada. Jill Giese of Dreamcatcher Meadows in Pemberton, B.C. is attempting to do just that by pairing up her nine-year-old Hanoverian Dressage mare with 18-year-old Sara Rosewall of Vancouver, B.C.

Dreamcatcher's extremely forgiving personality has provided Sara with the opportunity to learn and excel in a short time period.

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Sara Rosewall, riding Dreamcatcher. Photo: Greg Edmunson, Insight Photography

Originally invited to the riding facility as a two week working student, Sara's potential extended her duration, which has spanned over three months.

"The two of them are really forming a partnership and a real affection," explains Jill, Sara's trainer. "When you are in the limelight and are competing, there's a lot of pressure and I see now the two of them are forming a sort of bond."

Jill trained with top riders in England and Germany, and this knowledge she now imparts to Sara.

Dreamcatcher has been ridden by well-known dressage rider, Carl Hester. Her performance at the Elite Hanoverian Auction in Verden, Germany in 1999 prompted attendee Jill to purchase her. Success in the transfer of Dreamcatcher's embryos resulted in the birth of triplets, now two-year-olds: a filly and two stud colts all by the Hanoverian stallion DiMaggio.

In October, Sara will have the unique and exciting opportunity to travel to Florida with Dreamcatcher and train with four-time Olympic Dressage bronze medalist for America, Robert Dover. Her sights are set to qualify for the Canadian Young Rider Team, eventually to be chosen for the 2006 FEI North American Young Riders' Championship. These Championships provide 16-21 year old up-and-coming riders the opportunity to compete at an Olympic level. ■