

Bent Jensen & Rocky

Dressage stars sweep the Wellington circuits.

Photo Courtesy of Phelps Photo

If dressage were a betting sport, gamblers would place their money on the 6-year-old stallion, Rockefeller, which Olympian Bent Jensen purchased in Denmark as a weanling and imported four years ago. The strapping chestnut colt has the bloodlines of some of Europe's most sought after sires.

With the odds stacked in favor, Rockefeller started his winning streak at the National Horse Show last fall and stayed on top throughout the Wellington, Florida, Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) in 2004. At Dressage at the National, Rockefeller won the High Score Second Level Championship and the Reserve Champion High Score for First Level. He returned to the show ring in January for Gold Coast Dressage Opener CDI and scored a 71.842 percent in Second Level Test-1 and won the First Level Test-4 class with an impressive 72.222 percent.

Bent Jensen riding Rockefeller

Rockefeller returned to WEF February 5th and again captured the High Score Second Level Championship leading with a 71.622 percent in Second Level Test 2. Rockefeller also made his musical debut, winning the Musical Freestyle with a whopping 73.472 percent. Later that month he scored big at the Zada Florida Dressage Classic at WEF, winning the Musical Freestyle with a 70.069 percent and also earned a score of 70.392 percent at Second Level Test 4.

In March, Rockefeller and Bent Jensen completed their winning streak at the WEF Dressage classic, where the pair won the Reserve Champion High Score at Second Level and captured first place in Second Level Test 4 with a 70.784 percent, also winning the Musical Freestyle with a 74.514 percent.

"It has really been a great season for Rocky," said the ever-humble Bent Jensen about the young stallion's winning season. "But now we will take a break from the show ring and prepare for breeding season." Rockefeller, whom Jensen affectionately calls, "Rocky," is approved for breeding by the IRS/Oldenburger NA. He stood his first season last spring and his first foal crop is due this year. "He really seems to throw all his attributes," says proud papa, Jensen when asked about Rockefeller's offspring.

Jensen plans to return Rockefeller to the show ring next fall for the Region 3 Championships. If dressage were a gambler's sport, there is little doubt that Rockefeller would be the favorite!

About Bent Jensen

For more than 20 years, Bent Jensen's name has been synonymous with upper level dressage in Europe and the United States. He competed as an

Olympian on the Danish Team in Barcelona and has made his mark in the Grand Prix dressage world with a string of successes in CDIs from New England to Florida. His training has made many horses household names in the dressage community, including Ariston, Oliver Twist, Pilota, Alexander and countless other champions.

Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, Bent started his formal training at the age of 7. As an adult, he trained for more than five years with his mentor, Lis Hartel, two-time Olympic Silver Medalist and World Champion of Denmark.

In the United States, Bent is known for his no-nonsense approach to training both horses and riders. He works consistently on solid basics with the eventual goal of developing every horse and rider to their fullest potential, including two of his current star students, Suzanne and Trae LaPorte of Loxahatchee, Florida (see page 14 of the Winter 2003/2004 *ec* magazine for more about Suzanne LaPorte). Bent's champion horses thrive on Seminole and Spillers/Seminole Feed. Find out more at www.worldsbestfeed.com.