

# The New York Times

## Horse Show News

by ED CORRIGAN  
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### ***Macken, France rated best in the world***

Four years after he first attracted international attention, Eddie Macken of Ireland has been placed No. 1 in the world rating for show jumpers.

Along with Macken, France has been placed at the top of the world teams. The United States Equestrian Team has been ranked No. 3, and no United States jumper was rated in the top 10.

The world rankings have been made unofficially for almost a decade by Max Ammann, the 38-year-old editor of a Lucerne, Switzerland, newspaper. Ammann formerly lived in the United States and is one of the world's leading authorities on equestrian sports.

The 27-year-old Macken began a steady climb to the top when he competed in Europe in 1973 and caused many a lifted eyebrow among the leading professionals on the European circuit.

The next year, he finished a surprising second in the world championships at Hickstead, England, and he was on his way.

Trailing Macken were two familiar names—David Broome of Britain, No. 2, and Alwin Schockemöhle of West Germany, No. 3. Then came Hugo Simon of Austria, No. 4, Nelson Pessoa of Brazil, No. 5, and Hartwig Steeken of West Germany, No. 6.

The top 10 were rounded out, in order, by Debbie Johnsey of Britain, Kevin Bacon of Australia, Gerd Wiltfang of West Germany and Harvey Smith of Britain.

West Germany, the winner in 1975, was placed behind France and just ahead of the United States in the team 'standings. Italy, Ireland and Britain were ranked fourth, fifth and sixth. Canada was No. 7, Belgium, No. 8, the Netherlands, No. 9 and Switzerland, No. 10.

Macken was ranked No. 3 in 1974 after his second-place finish in the world championships. In 1975, he was advanced to No. 2.

Broome and Schockemöhle have been international riders for two decades. Broome was ranked No. 1 in 1970 for the first time. He also was second in 1969 and 1974. Schockemöhle was No. 1 in 1969, 1973 and 1975.

Only one, United States rider, Conrad Homfeld, made the first 20, and since Ammann does not rank the second 10 in order, Homfeld's exact spot was undetermined.

Last year two United States riders were placed in the top —Rod Jenkins, No. 5, and Buddy Brown, No. 10. Jenkins spent part of the season riding with the United States Equestrian Team. In 1976, he did not ride with the squad, so he did not compete in the Nation's Cup events on which the ratings are based.

Ammann said virtually the entire U.S.E.T. would have been placed in the 20 through 30 rankings, if he had made one. He included Brown, Frank Chapot, Mike Matz, Rob Ridland, and Dennis Murphy. Jenkins and Bernie Traurig, another professional, also would have made the top 30, he indicated.

“But,” he said in a statement, “they all had their ups and downs in 1976 and so none of them really merits making the top 20.

“Brown, for example, did well in shows during the European season, but was disappointing in the Olympics. Chapot, on the other hand, did well in the Olympics, but otherwise did not compete much on an international plane. ,

“Matz did quite well in the Grand Prix events around the United States, but did not score impressively on the European circuit or in the Olympics.”

Fifteen official international shows were held in 1976. Four were won by the United States-Lucerne, Washington, New York and Toronto. West Germany and Italy won three each.

Probably the most important Nations Cup of the year is held at the Aachen (West Germany) show. Italy won it, beating France, with West Germany and the United States finishing in a tie for fifth place.

France, which also had a long road back to the top, won the Olympic team gold medal, finishing ahead of West Germany, Belgium and the United States. Italy could do no better than ninth place.