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Horse Show News

by ED CORRIGAN
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West Germany rated no.1 riding squad in world standing

West Germany was the leading team in international horse show competition last year and Alwin Schockemöhle, a member of the squad, was the world's top rider.

These conclusions were reached by Max E. Ammann, a 31-year-old Swiss foreign correspondent who is stationed in New York. Ammann covers the cultural scene and writes political commentaries for newspapers in Switzerland, West Germany and Austria.

His main outside interest is horse shows and he reports on them for numerous European magazines. He also is writing a history of the equestrian events of the Olympic Games, which is scheduled for publication next year.

Ammann recently finished a thorough review of world show jumping in 1969. The results are scheduled for publication in most European and North American horse magazines in the next month or so.

"The review," he said "will contain the rating of the 10 most successful Nations Cup teams and a rating of the most successful 20 riders. I don't think anything like this ever has been done before."

He studied the results of about 80 international shows around the world for his ratings.

"I also took into consideration the results of the various national championships, the North American Grand Prix in Toronto, the Eastern Canadian championship and the Oak Brook (Ill.) and Cleveland Grand Prixes," he said.

After West Germany, his team ratings are: 2, Britain; 3, United States; 4, Italy; 5, Canada; 6, Switzerland; 7, France; 8, Poland; 9, Soviet Union; 10, Belgium.

Following Schockemöhle, Ammann's individual list includes: 2, David Broome, Britain; 3, Raimondo d'Inzeo, Italy; 4, Anneli Drummond Hay, Britain; 5, Janou Lefebvre, France; 6, Hans Günter Winkler, West Germany; 7, Lutz Merkel, West

Germany; 8, Nelson Pessoa, Brazil; 9, Hartwig Steenken, West Germany; 10, Graziano Mancinelli, Italy.

The remainders of the top 20 were not rated in order.

“This was a difficult year to rate the teams and individuals,” said Ammann, “because it was the first year of the traditional Olympic cycle. That meant, since it was the year after the games, no one wanted to travel much. The United States Equestrian Team stayed home and no Europeans came for the fall circuit here.”