

# Victoria Colvin Sees 96 on the Board in USHJA International Hunter Derby

Superstar junior rider turned consummate professional, Victoria Colvin and El Primero came out on top during WEF 9 with a winning ride in the \$25,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby, presented by Barnwalkers on Saturday.

Colvin and El Primero, a
14-year-old Dutch Warmblood
gelding by Numero Uno, owned
by Meralex Farm Inc., scored a
staggering 96 over the handy
course to seal the deal on their
victory. That winning number was
combined a first-round score of

89.25 for a total of 185.25 and the top spot without contention.

Andy Christiansen, Jr. built a stunning two-round track on the Derby Field at Equestrian Village for forty-four hopeful pairs. Second place went to Greg Crolick and Chappy, who combined a 91 and 93 for a 184 final score, and third went to Jennifer Hannan and Mindful on a 183 after tallying a pair of 91.5s.

Colvin and El Primero have an unwavering bond that's been developing now for several years. "The course was very flowing and

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### Daniel Bluman and Ladriano Z Double Down in \$425,000 Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix

Daniel Bluman (ISR)
experienced a pleasant
case of déjà vu in the \$425,000
Wellington Equestrian Realty
CSI5\* Grand Prix during WEF
9. He and his steady partner
Ladriano Z won the same event in
2019 and lead the victory gallop
once again during 'Saturday Night
Lights' in front of a packed house
at Wellington International.

The highly anticipated track from internationally renowned course designer Alan Wade (IRL) produced top sport from a stacked field. Bluman was last to punch a ticket to the jump-off after Egypt's Nayel Nassar, Ireland's Shane Sweetnam and Karl Cook (USA) paved the way.

If Bluman felt the pressure as he returned for the short course, he didn't show it while putting Ladriano Z's massive stride to good use over the expansive track. "I watched Shane's round and his horse and mine are both big and scopey, so I tried to do the same as him and edge him in a couple places," said Bluman of the

15-year-old Zangersheide gelding (Lawito x Baloubet Du Rouet) he owns with Blue Star Investments and Over The Top Stables.

When Bluman pushed Ladriano Z through the timers, the clock showed they were six tenths of a second ahead in 43.24. Sweetnam and the promising James Kann Cruz, a 10-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding (Kannan x Cruising) owned by Gizmo Partners, LLC settled for second after another strong showing in five-star competition at WEF.

"This time of the year you have some of the greatest riders in the world here for the season so it's very intense," said Bluman. "You have to really plan, and I think part of the reason you see this podium here is because we know how to make a plan. These are big jumps, very technical, high competition and you have to treat it that way. If you know how to manage the season it's a great tool for you, your clients, owners and your family."

Continued on page 11



## **Level Up** Your **Leg Care**

is that it is multipurpose. The boots lorses' legs are under a tremendous amount of pressure. On a day-to-day basis, these four limbs are carrying around 900-1800+ pounds of body weight. Natural factors how Ice-Vibe works and best contribute to creating issues for a horse's legs. Their confirmation and natural way of moving can questions about the product. create additional pressure and stress on tendons and ligaments. How do I properly use Additionally, the anatomy of a the Ice-Vibe Boots for horse's leg does not have a lot

#### Introduction of Ice-Vibe

legs and prevent leg injuries?

of protective muscle around the

bones, tendons, and ligaments

susceptible to injury. Again, what

can we do to protect our horses'

leaving them naturally more

In its simplest explanation. Ice-Vibe does what ice therapy alone cannot. Ice-Vibe uses cold packs around the horse's leg to reduce swelling and inflammation. However, the addition of vibrating massage panels that slide into a pocket inside the outer boot is what makes this product revolutionary in leg care. While ice alone restricts blood supply to the legs, the massage panels stimulate circulation allowing for healthy, oxygen-rich blood flow through the legs.

One unique benefit of Ice-Vibe

can be used on your horse's legs for a pre-ride warm-up, post-ride recovery, or rehabilitation of tendon damage. To share more about practices, we have teamed up with the innovator herself, Louisa, to answer some frequently asked

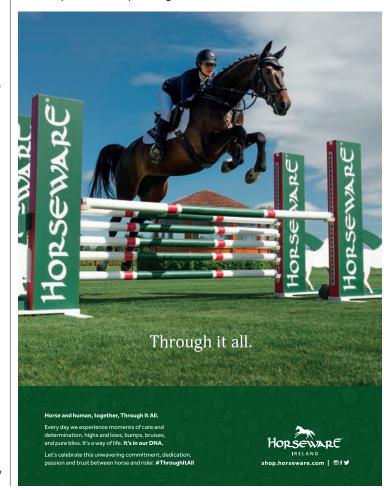
# maintenance and prevention?

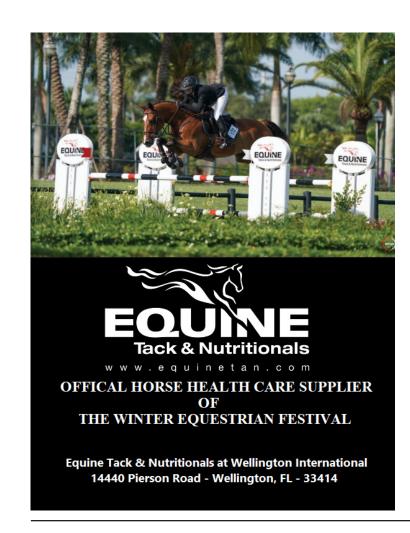
When using the boots for warmup or as a circulation treatment, use the massage panels and outer booth without the cold packs. Slide the vibration panel in the pocket that suits your horse's need best and set it to setting two. It's perfect to use Ice-Vibe before tacking up to allow enough time for the full cycle. This vibration before exercise can allow the ligaments and tendons to warm up and become more flexible before entering the ring, helping to avoid additional strain.

As part of post-workout leg care, if you have just completed a very strenuous exercise and you are concerned with tendons overheating, then use traditional ice boots for 10-minutes. Once the tendons are at a safe temperature, the ultimate recovery consists of circulation and good lymphatic fluid drainage. Use the Ice-Vibe on setting 2 with cold packs. The massage therapy from the vibrating panels will support healthy blood flow and prevent the legs from getting too cold, while the cold packs will help the legs

cool without freezing them.

Horseware Ice-Vibe is available in three options; Ice-Vibe Tendon Boots, Ice-Vibe Knee Boot, and the Ice-Vibe Hock Wrap all suit your horse's needs. Visit shop. horseware.com/blog/horse-legcare-ice-vibe to learn more.











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## Lövsta Future Challenge Supports Young Talented Horses in Dressage and Jumping

hat started off as a national tour in dressage for U25 riders and young Grand Prix-horses has now become one of the world's leading efforts in supporting young talents. Our tours are spreading all over the world and this is now our fourth year in USA. We brought Lövsta Future Challenge to Wellington, because Wellington has offered us, for over 10 years now, the most wonderful place to come and train and compete and is generous and hospitable. So, we said we wanted to give something back," says Antonia Ax:son Johnson, owner Lövsta Stuteri and founder of Lövsta Future Challenge.

Lövsta Future Challenge was established in 2011 by Tinne Vilhelmson Silfven and Louise Nathhorst with the support of Antonia Ax:son Johnson through Lövsta Stuteri. The project's stated mission: to help bring Sweden to the forefront of equestrian sport and become a role model for other aspiring equestrian nations.

A decade has passed since then and Lövsta Future Challenge now includes national tours for U25 riders and young horses in jumping and dressage, national tours in WEF and ADGF, as well as, international pop-up shows in both dressage and jumping, such as the international U25 competitions in jumping during Global Champions Tour in Stockholm. At the end of 2022 LFC also launched the world premiere of Lövsta Future Challenge International Tour, which is aimed at dressage U25 riders. This was made possible through a unique collaboration between Lövsta Future Challenge and FEI World Cup™ organizers Gothenburg Horse Show, Jumping Amsterdam, and World Cup Vilhelmsborg. The goal is to create opportunities for the stars of tomorrow to compete in the international arenas where FEI Dressage World Cup™ events are also held.

Lövsta Future Challenge Dressage – USA, the tour for young Grand Prix-horses is about to enter its fourth year. The tour hosts five qualifiers in Wellington, with first placed riders receiving a spot in the Finale during week 11. The qualifiers are ridden in Intermediate II, and the final is ridden in the Grand Prix for young horses. The total amount of prize money for the dressage tour is \$15,000.

#### Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping continues in 2023

Lövsta Future Challenge
Jumping is a development tour
for seven-year-old horses, with
a vision to provide the best
possible conditions for future
stars in jumping. The tour will
host seven qualifiers throughout
the Winter Equestrian Festival
circuit. At the end of the circuit, the
qualified horses will compete in a
prestigious final in the International
Arena at Wellington International,
with the total prize money of
\$25,000 being offered.

"We were thrilled with the outcome of last year's season. With over 200 entries from more than 10 nationalities throughout the season, one could really see how important it is to put our future stars into the spotlight. By giving them the opportunity to compete in an arena like Wellington International, we hope to give them valuable experience for the future," says Sophie Mörner, founder of Lövsta Future Challenge Jumping US and fifth generation of the owner family.

From the very beginning, Lövsta
Future Challenge has focused on
other aspects of competition
development, including sustainability
and more profound respect for
horses through our philosophy
of horsemanship. We share
our beliefs and commitment in
various forums in which we invite
riders and their trainers from
both dressage and jumping to
participate in and learn from.

Lövsta Future Challenge is about seeking knowledge and striving for perfection, embracing the joy of the partnership between the horse and rider, and leaving a sustainable footprint within equestrian sport.

Since the inception of Lövsta



Future Challenge US, a donation of 100 USD per entry has been made to a charitable organization. During the first two seasons' donations were made to Friends of Palm Beach, most recently during the 2022 season 22 400 USD was raised for Brooke USA.

For the 2023 season, Lövsta Future Challenge has partnered with Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center. Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center has been serving people with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities of all ages in Palm Beach County since 1982. Today, six programs are offered providing the benefits of equine assisted activities and therapies.

"For each participant in Lövsta Future Challenge, jumping and dressage, Lövsta is donating \$100 to the cause," concluded Ax:son Johnson.

## LÖVSTA FUTURE CHALLENGE FOR THE STARS OF TOMORROW



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# Moments from the WEF Photography Collective





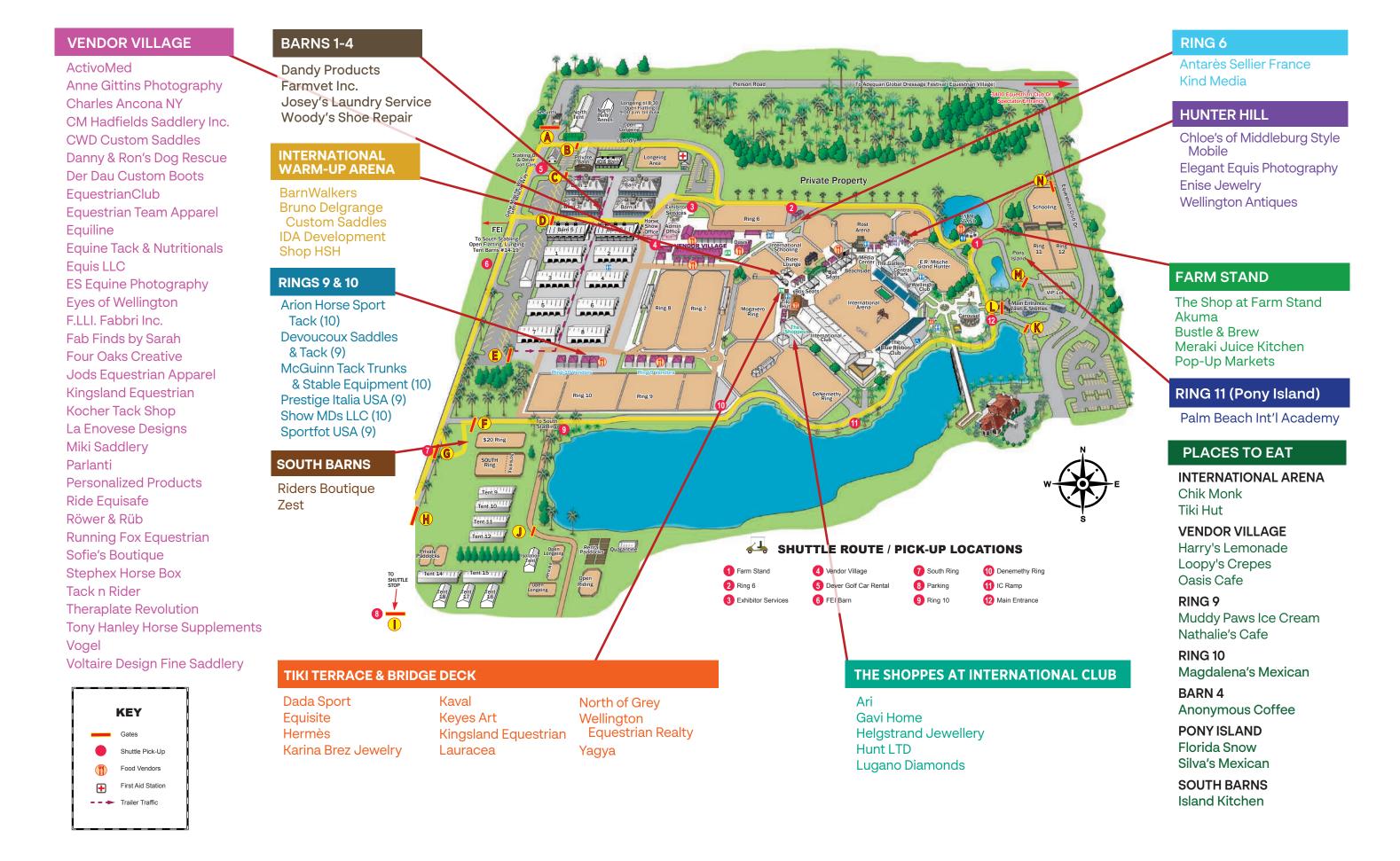








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## SPONSOR AWARDS



The Champion Equine Insurance Hunter Style Award was presented to Into The Sky OMHG, ridden by Laura Bowery and owned by Gregory Unis, after they took champion in the Equine Tack & Nutritionals Green Hunter 3'6".



Armani, ridden and owned by Laurel Walker, earned the Champion Equine Insurance Jumper Style Award after winning the \$10,000 SJHOF High Junior Jumper Classic, presented by Karlswood.



Congratulations to Petrie Show Stables and Scott Petrie from Medina, OH, on winning this week's Vita Flex Tack Room Award, Pictured left to right: Heli Vasquez Gordillo. Jenna Drago, owner Scott Petrie, Boston (dog), and Magnolia Labuda.



Winning groom and Ladriano Z's caretaker Phoebe Leger was honored with the \$500 Grooms Award, presented by Double H Farm, by Charlotte Boemeke from Wellington International, after the \$425,000 Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix during



As winners of the \$425,000 Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix, Daniel Bluman and Ladriano Z were presented with the Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan Perpetual Memorial Trophy.

## **Back on Track Supports Health and Wellness from** the Hoof Up at Kappy Kaplan Farrier Recognition Dinner

↑ highlight of WEF 9 is the annual nod to a group of people who make up the backbone of any equestrian discipline: farriers. The Kappy Kaplan Farrier Recognition Dinner, presented by Back on Track, took place Saturday evening during the \$425,000 Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix in memory of Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan.



Kaplan was a master farrier who made huge contributions to the equestrian industry in both South Florida and beyond. Each year. farriers from throughout the state come together to honor him and all that he taught them throughout his storied career. This year, Back on Track sponsored the event in their continued dedication to overall

> horse health and wellness across all disciplines. For James Ruder, Managing

Director for Back on Track USA, the cause was one near

personal experiences within the equine industry.

Growing up in a family of veterinarians. Ruder himself became a master farrier after working his way through the profession and mentoring the next generation at New England Farrier School.

"The farrier and the services they offer are the foundation of any horse's overall health and wellness," said Ruder, who joined the Back on Track team in the last year. "Back on Track could not be prouder to support such a wonderful event. Regardless of sport, farriers are the backbone of soundness for any horse."

"It was rather serendipitous that the opportunity for us to be involved in this event came up

because there was a need, but it's also a personal passion of mine," continued Ruder.

Back on Track spends a lot of time and money on technologies to advance health and wellness for horse, rider and pet, much like the time and dedication that farriers put into the soundness and overall wellness of their

The Herman 'Kappy' Kaplan Perpetual Memorial Trophy is presented each year to the winner of the WEF 9 grand prix, this year to Daniel Bluman and Ladriano Z, winners of the Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix. The trophy was established for Kappy with fondness by the Farriers of the 1995 WEF.

## WEEK 9 • PARADE OF CHAMPIONS



Alana Klein piloted Brighton Heartbreaker to a Section B championship in the Younger Cross Rail division during WEF 9.



Cleary Phillips and Ju-Ju B, champions of the Small Children's Pony Hunter division.



Elina Liebert guided Sugar Rush to a champion ribbon in the WEF 9 ProElite Low Child/Adult Amateur Training Jumper division.



Isabella Uhrig and Juan Bay earned three victories to take champion in the WEF 9 TRM Low Children's Jumper division



Something Blue, ridden by Harper Clark, took home a tricolor in Section A of the Younger Cross Rail division during WEF 9.



On Tour earned the champion title in the Large Green Pony Hunter division with Amira Kettaneh in the irons.



Caroline Fenkel took a tricolor in the BrainJuice Low Adult Amateur Jumper 18-35 division riding Bahia Mouche.

## CaptiveOne

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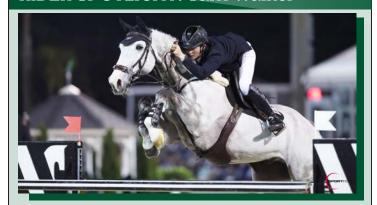
1.50M CHAMPIONSHIP **JUMPER CLASSIC SERIES** 

### **CURRENT STANDINGS**

1. Darragh Kenny (IRL)	307
2. McLain Ward (USA)	.278
3. Laura Kraut (USA)	.257
4. Richard Vogel (GER)	.252
5. Eduardo Menezes (BRA)	.245

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### RIDER SPOTLIGHT: Sam Walker



We went north for this week's rider spotlight. Born into an equestrian family, Sam Walker grew up on a farm in Canada about forty-five minutes north of Toronto, was in the saddle almost immediately and competed in his first grand prix at the age of thirteen. Walker has brought home several medals for Team Canada at the FEI North American Youth Championships. as well as solidified himself as one of the top riders in the U25 rankings. Learn more about Walker's start in the sport, his pride in representing the nation of Canada, and what advice has carried with him throughout his career.

### your nation, and one with so many passionate fans?

Canada has always been known as the "underdog" going into any Nations Cup or team event, but I think this past season we truly had a very, very strong team. I'm grateful to say that I was the fifth rider selected in such a strong group. To see my team go out there and produce a result with our brand-new Chef d'Équipe, Ian Millar, is quite an accomplishment. In terms of my experiences at the FEI North American Youth Championships, the past three times Team Canada has competed there, we've produced a medal; one of them being the gold that we had in 2019. It's been a great opportunity for me, and lots of other young riders to not only prepare for senior Nations Cups, but also a great opportunity to represent our nation early in our careers.

#### You've acquired quite the string of horses throughout your career. What are some of the most important qualities you look for in a horse?

I think a lot of people look for the same factors: being fast, careful, and with good scope as the jumps get quite large, especially when you start jumping the four- and five-star level. I think it really requires a horse with a lot of athletic ability to be able to produce results at that

What does it feel like to represent | height. So, for me, I definitely look for horses that are very scopey and careful and have nice rideability. I don't come from a family where I can go out and buy whatever horse I want, so all of mine are produced and I'm proud to say that. We have made horses that have been able to perform to their best ability, so at such a young age I'm proud to have such a great team behind.

#### You've added training to your job description in recent years. What piece of advice do you often give to your students?

I think that my biggest piece of advice pertains to the mental side of things. This sport is difficult; arguably one of the hardest sports in the world. A piece of advice that I give to everyone and constantly remind myself of is to manage your expectations and to remember that you do the sport because of your love for horses. Even the best riders in the world only win about eight percent of the time. If you win eight in every hundred classes that's very good and at the end of the day, I think that it takes somebody with a strong mind to do the sport and do it consistently.

## What is one of your goals for this

I would really, really love to jump the Rolex CSI5\* Grand Prix during WEF twelve. I think that's a big goal for a lot of the riders down here.

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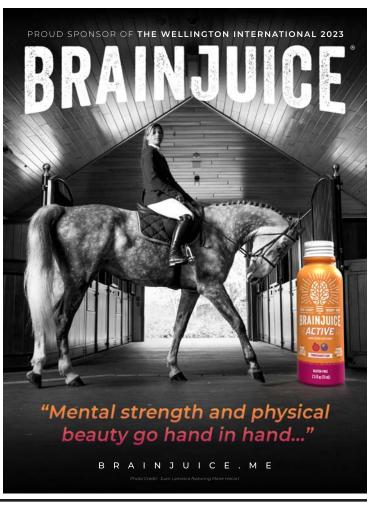




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#### **Wellington Equestrian Realty CSI5\* Grand Prix** continued from page 1

Also jumping double-clear on a much slighter but lightning-fast horse. Cook finished third for the home country riding Kalinka Van't Zorgvliet, a 13-year-old Belgian Warmblood mare (Thunder Vd Zuuthoeve x Flipper D'elle) owned by Helen Signe Ostby. Rounding out the jump-off field without a rail down, Nassar took fourth aboard Igor van de Wittemoere (Cooper Van De

Heffinck X Orlando) owned by Evergate Stables.

Looking back on the evening, Bluman recapped, "We live to have moments like this where you're competing against people you really admire and horses you really like. It was just the right group in the jump-off and I was really motivated to win it and when I crossed the timers I had a feeling I had."

#### **Colvin Tops USHJA International Hunter Derby** continued from page 1

beautiful," said Colvin, 26. "Primo started out great. He jumped the first high option wonderfully, as well the first half of the course. He felt fantastic in the handy portion and was very tidy."

Great partnerships aren't built overnight and when asked about Primo, Calvin was beaming, "I have been riding 'Primo' for almost five years now, so we obviously know each other quite well. He's the absolute best horse, never

spooks and you know he'll just go right into the arena, march around and try very hard to win. He always tries hard and gives it his all." She continued to say, "He is a great derby and one of the most fun horses to ride.

"I'm very thankful for 'Primo's' owner Bryan Baldwin and for everyone surrounding him," concluded Colvin. "We couldn't do it without a great team behind this



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