

Integrity of breeders, quality of breed make dressage ASB option

Full Circle Dressage, Pendleton, KY is one of the few full-service training facilities specializing in non-traditional dressage breeds, in particular the American Saddlebred. Currently three young horses are being readied for competition by trainer Chrissa Hoffmann.

Thanks to the inherent quality of the

Three young Saddlebreds being trained for competition.



Full Circle Dressage, Pendleton, KY

breed and the insistence of its breeders to meet high standards, Saddlebreds are well suited to the discipline, proving that show horses and dressage horses share many attributes: athleticism, trainability, soundness, good thinking, gameness, conformation, beauty, size, good gaits.

The differences? The show horse usually is more upheaded and hotter with more motion – but in many cases there are no differences at all. Not all Saddlebreds have what it takes to become top show horses, but most could be good dressage horses, especially if started in the discipline.

An example of such a horse is the young star Harry Callahan (Supreme Heir x Make My Day) who was started at Full Circle as a three-year-old. Now six and owned by Linda Cawthon of Louisville, KY, Harry will debut this spring at Second Level dressage and is already training upper level movements.

He is 15.3 hands, a perfect size for his amateur owner, has good gaits, rhythm, mind and is so athletic and trainable that he willingly accepts the rigors of hour-long, six-day riding. His talent for collection, such as flying lead changes, half pass and piaffe and passage, reflects the breed's



Harry Callahan and Full Circle trainer Chrissa Hoffmann.

suitability for the most sophisticated, difficult and demanding work – in the show ring or the dressage ring.

Proving the importance of giving a horse time to mature is Full Circle's 16.2-hand Heiramis Man (Supreme Heir x Georgia's Sweet Dreams). Once a leggy, gawky two year old with a brain to match, this now five year old has become a poised, talented performer with a serious competition future. He will show this spring with Full Circle rider Mary Jo Wicker.

Another Full Circle ASB project is the three-year-old Mega Thunder (Attache's Thunderbolt x High Heeled Shoes). Already amazing under saddle, he is showing all the talent and attitude to do his job well.

You can visit Full Circle Dressage and through video watch our horses work at www.fullcircledressage.com. Phone (800) 627-5273.