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**RIDER: KAREN O'CONNOR**

**HORSE:**

**97 MANDIBA**, dark bay gelding, 16.1 hh, 1998, s: Master Imp, d: High Dolly, *Breed: ISH, Country of Birth: Ireland Breeders: William & Sarah Micklem Owner: Joan I. Goswell, Pennsylvania, USA*

Karen (53) has been named US Female Equestrian Athlete of the Year ten times. Last year she was 20<sup>th</sup> in the FEI world rankings. In 1996 she received the team silver at the Atlanta Olympics, riding Biko, and in 2000 with Prince Panache was a member of the American team that won bronze at the Sydney Olympics. At the 2003 Pan American Games at Fair Hill, Karen and Joker's Wild earned the individual silver medal, and in 2007, Karen and the pony Theodore O'Connor won the individual gold in addition to leading the US to team gold at the Pan Am Games in Brazil. Karen again represented the United States in the 2008 Olympic Games with Mandiba.

She first came to Badminton in 1979 (nee Lende) and took tenth place

Karen and her husband leading American rider and trainer David, who she married in 1993, run the O'Connor Event Team from their base in Virginia, 50 miles west of Washington. David is currently short-listed for the position of 2013 Chef/Technical Advisor alongside the only other candidate, American based British rider Leslie Law. David is currently team trainer to the Canadian riders that won team silver at last years WEG and who are competing at Badminton this year.

Mandiba bred in Ireland by William and Sarah Micklem is by Master Imp out of an Irish Sport Horse mare by the Thoroughbred Chairlift. He is a full brother to High Kingdom who is ridden by Zara Phillips.

**Notable results**

- 2010 – WEG Lexington 19<sup>th</sup> Mandiba
- 2010 – Richland, MI CIC\*\*\* 3<sup>rd</sup> Mandiba
- 2010 – Lexington CCI\*\*\*\* 7<sup>th</sup> Mandiba
- 2009 – Burghley CCI\*\*\*\* El'd Mandiba
- 2008 – Olympic Games 45<sup>th</sup> Mandiba
- 2008 – Lexington CCI\*\*\*\* 6<sup>th</sup> Theodore O'Connor
- 2007 – Lexington CCI\*\*\*\* 3<sup>rd</sup> Theodore O'Connor, 15<sup>th</sup> Upstage

2006 – WEG Aachen, 42<sup>nd</sup> Upstage  
2005 – Lexington CCI\*\*\*\* 7<sup>th</sup> Upstage  
1999 – Lexington 1<sup>st</sup> Prince Panache  
1997 – Lexington 1<sup>st</sup> Worth The Trust  
1991 – Lexington, Kentucky 1<sup>st</sup> Mr Maxwell

### **Badminton**

1999 – 12<sup>th</sup> Biko  
1998 – 5<sup>th</sup> Prince Panache  
1995 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Biko  
1979 – 10<sup>th</sup> March Brown