



they tortured me a lot and I put everything into it – I even begged the physios to come into the clinic on Sundays.”

Felix kept up his goal of riding at Burghley, and he did manage to get into the saddle the weekend before.

“But I still couldn’t connect the brain with the arm,” he says. “I could hold the reins but not move my arm forward.”

The Blenheim Euros were only two weeks later, by which time Felix was back riding. He had an early run-out on

championship debutante Frieda, but a top-10 dressage and clear showjumping. Switzerland, as in Paris, finished fourth as a team.

COME Maryland in October, he was no also-ran: third after dressage, second after cross-country and the victor on the final day, adding just 0.4 of a showjumping time-fault to their dressage score.

“It sounds weird, but I had the feeling

before Maryland that something was different that week,” says Felix, currently sporting a buzz cut after a deal with this groom that she could cut his hair if he won. “I had the same feeling when I won Luhmühlen with Colero.

“As I’d lost all that time with injury, and missed Burghley, I really focused on Cartania – which I’d also done with Colero. I did everything with her, groomed her, tacked her up, took her to the field. I went out to Maryland three days before my