



These are the trophy winners in the junior classes for the Tara Saddle Club season. Left to right are Kathleen Hunt, Dianne White, Lois Underwood, Marty Gill, Donna White, Donelda Gowan, and Susan Walker, who won the high point trophy.

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Senior trophy winners are, left to right, Jean Legace, Keith Faust, Carrie Beckett, John Hope, Carolyn Walker, Dennis Kingston and Shannon Elliott, high point winner. Absent were Terry Mole and Dick Topham.

Prize-winning author writes another novel

By ANN KELLY

Family Living Editor

A winner of Canada's first novel award, Joan Barfoot, is at it again.

Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Barfoot of RR 2, Owen Sound, has completed the book *Dancing in the Dark*. The story deals with a housewife who has devoted her life to looking after her husband and house, finds a point of betrayal and kills him.

Her prize-winning first novel, *Abra*, also focussed on a wife and mother who gives up her home situation for a solitary life of simplicity. Unmarried, Joan finds marital situations fascinating and "exotic" and, although she doesn't choose that life for herself, books "are a way for a writer to have all sorts of different lives as you try to be in the role for a while."

A reporter with the London Free Press, Joan claims a trigger for her latest book was the police monitor in the newspaper office. Many of the calls are men beating up their wives. Her book is a domestic call for a woman who has just murdered her husband. "The book is about repression of yourself, and an-

ger. Instead of bits and pieces it comes out in one large disaster."

Joan, a graduate of West Hill Secondary School, worked at The Sun Times a couple of summers. She studied journalism at Western University and, after three years of a four-year course, took a job with the Windsor Star. She finished a degree in English while in Windsor. She has worked with papers in Toronto and has been at the Free Press since 1976.

Although Joan's books deal with marital situations, about her own life she says, "I very much like my independence. I'm a feminist, it seems to me that's self-interest for a woman now. If not a feminist, and a woman, you are cutting the ground beneath your own feet." Although some of her best friends are men, about marriage Joan says, "It's a matter of boundaries and restrictions that come with life style."

She certainly sees herself writing more books. "I can't imagine not writing but it's a question of whether or not they get published."

The book, *Dancing in the Dark* is on order locally at Coates and Best. The retail price is \$17.95.