

Betty Jean Hutton love story with horse

by Jennifer Barr

The horse is huge—over 17 hands high and packed with muscle. His rider is a petite brunette barely five-feet tall with bouncy curls. She sits her mount so quietly yet the horse dances. With all the grace of the classic dressage horse, he dances.

Betty Jean Hutton and Domenico, a very successful team, are currently leading Ontario in dressage show points even though Domenico has only been in training since last April.

At last week's Eastern Ontario Dressage Championships held at the farm of Miss Hutton's teacher, Olympic rider Lorraine Stubbs, the Campbellville-based rider came sixth in the novice class with another horse, Volarius. With Domenico she came sixth in the Medium I level sixth and third in Medium II.

Disappointed in her showing, Miss Hutton blamed the lack of time she had been able to spend with Domenico for her relatively low placings. As secretary of the event, she found her riding time very limited. When one takes into account the dreadful weather and the fact that

Domenico had a cold, it's clear that only a talented rider would have placed at all.

Chosen for Olympic training Miss Hutton is quick to praise the horse, owned by Graham Winter who lives just across from Miss Hutton's 25 Sideroad home. He has never been out of the ribbons in every show entered this summer and is headed for the National Championships in Ottawa in November. He's also been chosen to take part in the Olympic Training Clinics held between now and Moscow 1980. German coach, George Theodoresevic, saw Betty Jean and Domenico in spring trails at Rock Eden Farm, Miss Stubbs' centre north of Rockwood, and decided the big seal brown gelding had potential. The coach will be back to the National Championships to see how Domenico and other young Olympic hopefuls are progressing.

Proprietor of stable Even though she is a teacher at Burlington's Lord Elgin High School, Miss Hutton is also proprietor and trainer at her own Grey Stone Stables. The 100 acre farm

situated just off the Campbellville Road on 23 Sideroad is home for Betty Jean, her parents, and husband, Malno Adams, also a teacher at Lord Elgin.

The barn houses 17 box stalls for her own five school horses and 12 boarders. Some 50 students take classes in all phases of classical riding from Miss Hutton and student-teacher Pat Green.

Being able to teach half semesters at Burlington, leaves Miss Hutton the freedom and time to pursue her other career. At the moment, she is working one full semester to enable her to take six months off in February and further her equestrian education in Germany.

Enter the Gentleman Dressage is an expensive sport, often the pastime of the rich. Betty Jean wasn't born with a silver spoon in her mouth so she saved up her money and got her father to take her western riding on the weekends.

When she was able to have a pony, the family bought Gentleman Jim, a notorious junior show jumper with a reputation for being difficult. The young Betty Jean was by then interested in jumping and took a lot of time to bring the Gentleman back to peak show jumping training. The young junior rider and lively pony became a team to reckon with on the show circuit and they competed at the Royal Winter Fair for several years.

However, Betty Jean lost interest in jumping when she went to University and gave up riding completely. But, when she saw Christilot Boylen, Canada's foremost dressage rider, performing she thought, "That's what I really want to do."

Mrs. Boylen recommended a school in Germany and Miss Hutton went for two months. She only stayed two weeks, though, disliking the dictatorial methods of teaching. She ended up at the Fulmer Riding School in England and "enjoyed that."

She has now been studying dressage for ten years and presently is tutored by Lorraine Stubbs who, Miss Hutton says is the "most classical rider she knows."

"She rides so quietly and smoothly - that's the correct way," she says.

Domenico progresses Miss Hutton showed extensively until two years ago when her horse went lame. She gave up showing and concentrated on teaching until Domenico was offered to her.

The nine-year-old gelding had only pleasure horse training until last spring when he took up dressage in a serious way. He has progressed so fast he is already up to the Medium II level, the third level of dressage.

Betty Jean has great hope for him and considers him a well-balanced talented horse with a beautiful way of moving.

Her ambitions for herself are much more modest. She says she'd like to ride as well as possible and to be able to teach other people "the classical way to ride."

"There aren't many good teachers in dressage," she comments.

With Betty Jean Hutton so intent on training herself to the top levels of dressage riding in order to teach other keen enthusiasts, the art of dressage will be with us for some time yet.



BETTY JEAN HUTTON, of Campbellville, and Domenico at the Olympic clinic held in July at the farm of Christilot Boylen, foremost dressage rider in Canada. Domenico was selected for the Olympic clinics even though he has only been in training since last spring.

Photo by Mary Ann Hutton

Moscow horses stabled in Erin

A series of unlikely coincidences brought some members of the Moscow Circus and their performing animals to the Erin area for two days this week.

Twelve highly trained circus horses and their handlers spent Monday and Tuesday at the farm of Mary and John Thacker on Hwy. 24 midway between Erin and Caledon. Originally, all performers in the world famous circus, currently playing at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto, were to have moved directly into the Gardens on Monday following their Montreal performance. A rescheduled hockey game at the Toronto facility disrupted the plan and the coincidences which brought the troupe to the Thacker farm began.

Can-Tours, organizers on the Canadian side for the Moscow performers, weren't told until last Friday that they would be forced to find alternative accommodation for the horses. Thus began a frantic search for a nearby facility which eventually led Can-Tours to the Ontario Agricultural Society offices. By coincidence, Dr. B. Robb of Alton was visiting the OAS

offices and became aware of Can-Tours plight. A former horse breeder himself, Dr. Robb recalled that at one time he had used the Thacker facility to board his own animals.

Dr. Robb called the Thacker residence and without informing them of the nature of the problem, was told he'd have to find some other location for his friend's 12 horses. The Thackers decided more than a year ago to discontinue their horse boarding service. Someone else from the OAS office called back and was given the okay after explaining that these weren't any ordinary 12 horses and that all the Thackers had to do was provide a facility. Everything else would be taken care of on a 24-hour a day basis.

As it turned out, the Thackers' barn, the Round Barn featured in the new pen and ink drawing publication by Ken Grant, was made to measure for its internationally-famous guests. The 12 horses fit nicely into the 12 ground floor stalls and an abundance of fresh cut hay was on hand from the Thackers' own fields.—from the Erin Advocate.

Land group OKs 6th Line couple's bid

Regional Land Division Committee granted a severance to a Limehouse family because the application matches up with Halton's interim plan.

Douglas and Marlene Willisie, RRI Limehouse, appeared before the committee last week. They successfully split off about an acre from the west half of lot 31 on Line Six, north of Highway 7. They also keep about an acre.

"This is a very strong infill-

ing case," Des Morrow, a committee member said. Regional planning department reported the Willisie's bid complies with its policy on infilling.

Over a distance of 4.2 miles there are nine buildings, Willisie told the committee. Across the road there is a farm which is flanked by a house on either side, he said.

The Willisies are to drill a proven well, put in a drive-way and pay lot levies.



DOMENICO just loves to be brushed, especially by Betty Jean Hutton. He'll even stand without a halter, arching his neck with delight for his daily grooming. Domenico and Miss Hutton, both from Campbellville, are currently leading Ontario in dressage points.

Halton MP chairs pop. group

MP Dr. Frank Philbrook (Halton) was co-chairman of a group of Canadian and Japanese legislators who discussed support for an organization of a world-wide parliamentary efforts to deal with the unchecked growth of the world's population and other problems of development such as food, environment and "quality" of life.

In a statement the group said world population is predicted to increase to 6.25 billion by the year 2000 and claimed the increase jeopardizes a solution to many national and international problems which governments are trying to remedy such as fisheries, energy, environment, unemployment, housing, unplanned urban growth and clear water supplies.

The Japanese met with U.S. legislators of similar thought previously and the Canadian and Japanese meeting developed plans to meet with British, German and U.S. Parliamentarians to finalize an informal global network of leaders dedicated to working on problems they associate with population.

Walking tour of Limehouse

John McDonald will conduct a walking tour of the old part of Limehouse including the lime kilns, the old mill area and the Gowdy property. Sunday October 16.

The tour will start at the Limehouse Memorial Hall where slides will be shown of Limehouse as it was at the turn of the century when the kilns were in operation.

Mr. McDonald will outline the history of the hall, when it was a church, and the history of the old village.

Strollers will see where the

old hotel used to be, and visit the general store, before returning to the hall, where the Limehouse Women's Institute will serve refreshments.

The tour is part of Esqueping Historical Society's program to acquaint residents with the history of the area. Two walks through old Georgetown have attracted history buffs, and proved a big success. The Society plans to have similar walking tours through Glen Williams and Acton.

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TOWN OF HALTON HILLS NOTICE FOR SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

A) Acton Area
The need for permanent and/or stand-by School Crossing Guards in the Acton Urban Area, particularly at the Mill and Willow Street school crossing.

B) Georgetown Area
The need for permanent and/or stand-by School Crossing Guards at various school crossings in the central district of the Georgetown Urban Area.

C) Halton Hills at large
The position of Co-Ordinator of school crossing guards, must have own means of transportation. For detailed information, contact the Clerk Administrator.

G.D. Pritchard, Clerk-Administrator, TOWN OF HALTON HILLS, 36 Main Street South, GEORGETOWN, Ontario.

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This is what Ontario is doing to help you get the most for your car repair dollar.

- Ask for an estimate before proceeding with major repairs. Make sure all work is authorized by you and never sign a blank work order.
- Get full details on repair work warranties (parts and labour).

If you feel that you have been misled or deceived, you may appeal under The Business Practices Act. Your Provincial Government wants you to know what your rights are under The Business Practices Act.

For complete information, write for the free booklet: "Consumer Guide to The Ontario Business Practices Act," Consumer and Commercial Relations/Car Repair, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2H6

Repair complaints are the second-highest of all automobile-related complaints in Ontario.

To help motorists deal with car repair problems, your Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations has prepared special stickers giving tips on "How to get the most from your car repair dollar." Car manufacturers and dealers have been asked to distribute them to purchasers of new cars and the stickers are available from the Ministry.

Here are the car repair tips:

- If your car warranty still applies, review it carefully and determine exactly who pays for what.
- Check your Owner's Manual; you may find the solution to your problem right there.
- Be specific when describing the problem to your serviceman and don't be afraid to ask questions.

Larry Grossman, Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations
William Davis, Premier
Province of Ontario