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Holicka teams with Tiger for Canadian championship

Along with two major individual awards, local resident Caroline Holicka came away from the recent Canadian National Junior Handlers championships with an invitation to compete with her four-legged partner at the world's largest dog show next year.

Holicka, a grade 11 Christ the King Secondary School student, along with her show-ring performer Tiger, a smooth fox terrier, were awarded the Canadian Kennel Club's Junior Handler Conformation champion by a panel of five judges at the national competition held in Conception Bay, N.L.

Holicka was also named by her peers as the Wenrick Sportsmanship Award recipient, and the Ontario Zone 7 representative has earned a trip to compete against the top 120 juniors in the world at the Crufts event, slated for Birmingham, England in March.

"There is one thing I'll carry with me forever, even when I'm a little old lady standing ringside watching the Peewees grace the ring with exuberance and hope, and that is the knowledge that there is so much love in our sport," she said.

"Love for our dogs, love for the competition, love for the community members. And to me, there is nothing bigger than that."

The Junior Handling competition is organized in a similar manner to a conformation dog show. The juniors must move their dogs around the ring according to the instructions of the judge in predetermined pat-



Holicka family/photo

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The judge notes whether or not the human handler follows instructions correctly and presents the dog properly according to the dog's breed or type.

Judging is based on the execution of the ring procedures, the handler's understanding of the standard of the breed shown, knowledge of his or her dog's faults, and how well he or she disguises the faults through skilful handling so that "what a judge observes are animals at the top of their form". Juniors

must be familiar with many breed standards and their presentation as the Judge requests juniors to exchange their dogs during the competition, so a junior competing with a Doberman might need to present a tiny Chihuahua and vice versa.

Weekend wins vault Raiders into top spot

Defencemen accounted for all the goal scoring in the Georgetown Raiders' 3-2 comeback victory over the host North York Rangers Sunday afternoon as the team jumped into first place early on in the Ontario Junior Hockey League schedule.

Austin Cho, Zack Dybowski (short-handed) and Jake Payette had the winner with just under five minutes left in the third after the Rangers took a 2-1 lead into the final frame.

Coupled with a 5-1 dusting of the St. Michael's Buzzers at the Alcott Arena Saturday night at the Alcott Arena, the Raiders improved to 3-1-1 heading into their Governors' Showcase regularseason contests against Pickering on Tuesday and Newmarket Wednesday at the HarborCenter in Buffalo.

Second-year forward Jonathan Hampton of Toronto notched a hat trick against the Buzzers and is tied for the lead in league scoring with six goals and three assists.

Newcomer Jason Smith, a 20year-old forward from Brampton with three seasons of OHL experience with Mississauga and Barrie, had a goal and an assist in his debut Saturday, with Derek McVey netting the other.

Georgetown plays host to the 2-1-0-1 Burlington Cougars Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

COUNTDOWN TO THE COUNTD

Saturday Sept 23rd, 2017

7:30 pm at Mold-Masters SportsPlex

Georgetown Raiders vs.
Burlington Cougars

