Habid Did Edil

Flamingo Dance Studio award winners present recital

lamingo Dance Studio of Georgetown is holding its annual recital at the John Elliott Theatre on Sunday. Tickets for the 2 p.m. show are available at the JET Box Office (905-877-3700).

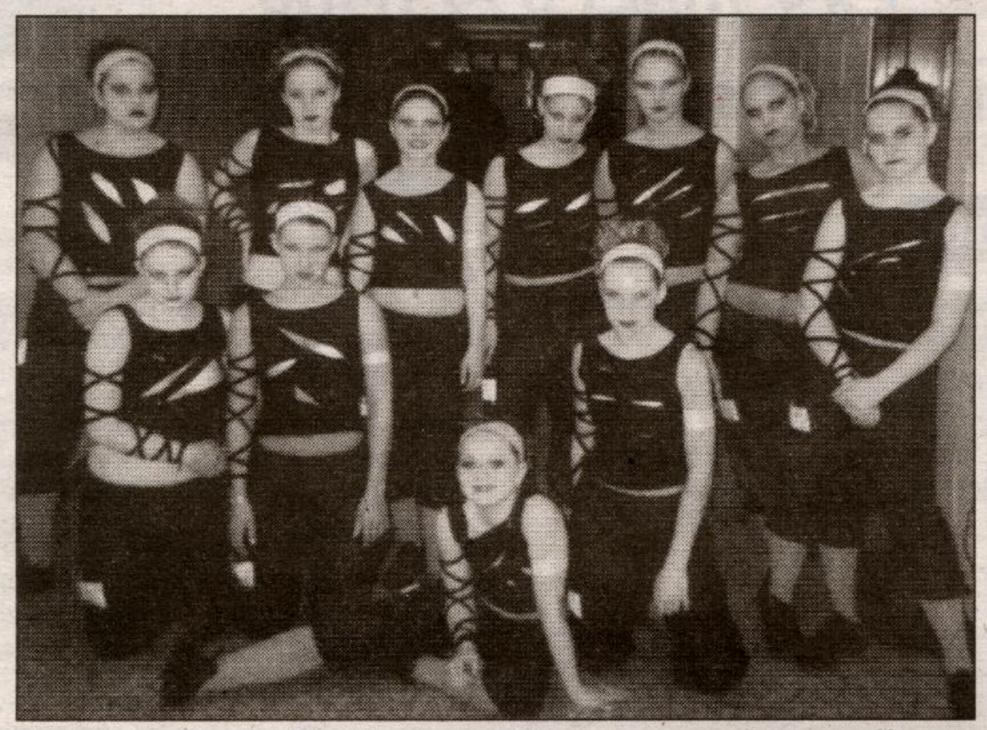
Led by owner Dorri L. Bland, the studio has been offering youth programs, including jazz, tap, ballet, acro, musical theatre, hip hop and lyrical, since 1998. Since then, awards have been piling up among the more than 110 dancers, from age 3-17.

"Dance is a great way to meet people with your same interest, keeps you in shape and it's just fun," said competitive dancer Julie Tulloch, who has won four silver medals.

The competitive season starts in the early spring and usually the studio teams compete in four to five competitions a year.

"The competitive team requires dedication and commitment," said Bland. "Tryouts are held the first week of September and dancers must be prepared to take jazz and ballet, and depending on what you are competing in, you may be asked to take acro as well."

Competitions this year were all local: Guelph, Hamilton, Aurora and Meadowvale, but the teams are aiming for "national competitions" this summer such as Footloose, held in Niagara Falls.



Flamingo Dance Studio competitive dancers include (front, from left) Laura McLeod, Colleen Hayes, Angelynn Bland, Ashley Donaldson. Back, Lainy Dalrumple, Ashley Graham, Katie Cunningham, Laura Grifferty, Adrienne Veltman, Robyn Watt, Julie Tulloch, and absent for the photo, Caitlin Garcia, Sara Shewaga and Brianna Didone.

So far the jazz team has earned four silver medals; the hip hop large group, four silver medals; hip hop small group, one gold and three silvers plus a special award for the Sharpest Isolations. Doing well in solo competition were:

Angelynn Bland who totaled eight gold medals, eight silvers and has been asked to attend the Footloose Extreme Team for the second year in the row. Extreme Team members are chosen by the judges at the competitions, not only for their standings, but on-stage presence as well.

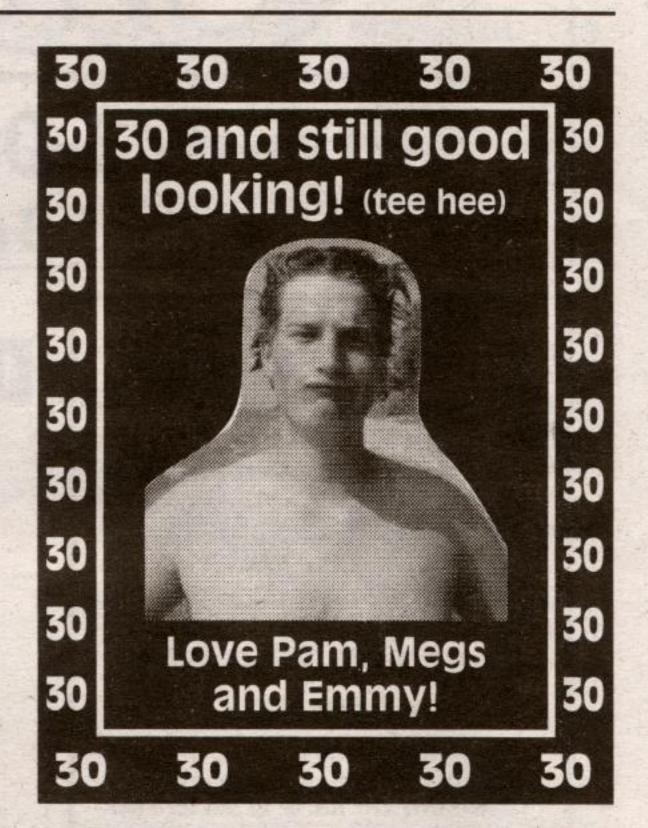
"I love everything about competitions," said Angelynn. "I was so excited to be picked to be on the Footloose Extreme Team for the second year in a row; last year's experience was awesome."

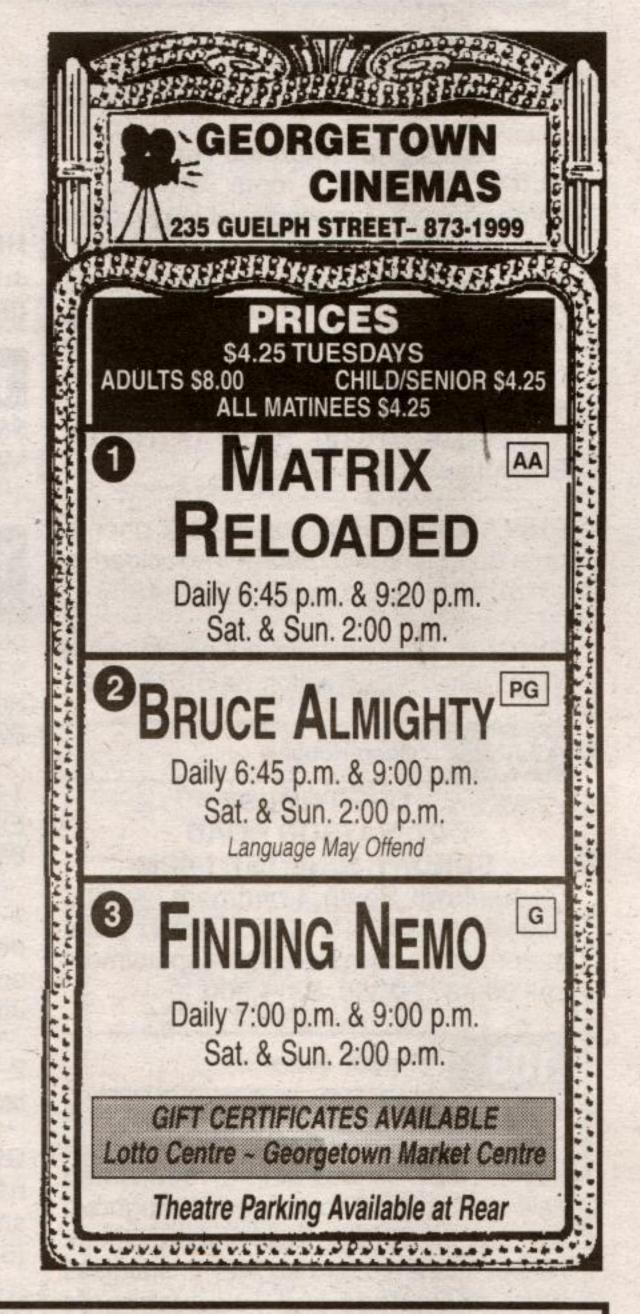
Brianna Didone in the Jazz solo category has earned one gold and three silvers. Caitlin Garcia also in Jazz solo has won three silvers and one gold and Sara Shewaga performing a song and dance solo and a jazz solo won five silvers and two golds. Sara and Caitlin also won four silver medals for lyrical duet.

"Competing is an avenue of dance I always wanted to try," said

Caitlin. "I joined the Flamingo Dance team in hopes of growing as a dancer and I feel I have accomplished that goal."

See DANCE, pg. 26



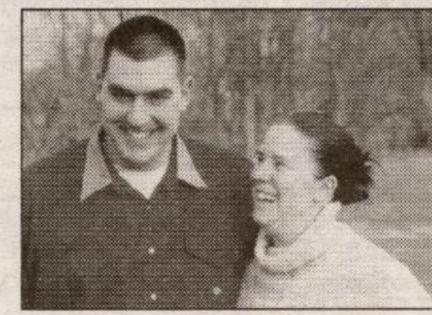




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Love from Lisa, Andrew, Jessica, Kyle & Kristina

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