

SPORTS

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

SWEET VICTORY: Above, Lis Mara — with driver Brian Sears at the reins — powers past Mister Big to successfully defend his title at Saturday's \$737,000 Canadian Pacing Derby at Mohawk. At right, Sears and trainer Ervin Miller (left) hoist the championship trophy, which no horse had captured back-to-back since the late '80s.



Bantam Mavs end season on high note

Stage huge comeback tie at 'C' provincials

By Steve LeBlanc
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Down 6-1 with just six minutes to play and a penalty box full of players, the bantam Mavericks' hopes of closing out their OLA 'C' round robin in victory were pretty much toast.

Problem is, someone forgot to tell them that.

Refusing to pack it in, Milton overcame a lengthy three-on-five disadvantage and completely wiped out the Whitby Warriors' seemingly insurmountable lead — scoring five unanswered goals to stave off defeat in St. Catharines Saturday afternoon.

Mitchell Rushton buried the equalizer with less than a minute remaining, not long after weekend call-up Colin Fraser sparked the comeback with a huge turnover deposit.

"It was just an amazing finish and really showed the guys what can happen when you don't give up," said head coach Jim Welsh, whose bantams claimed Zone 8 'C' championship honours last Tuesday with a 7-4 decision over the Kitchener-Waterloo Braves.

Goalie Cory Early was rock solid through the second half to give the Mavericks a shot at the tie, while

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Country Classic returns to Halton Place

\$75,000 FEI World Cup Qualifier to highlight annual event

There'll be plenty of horsing around — and a whole lot more — over the next two weeks at Halton Place.

The No. 15 Sideroad equestrian facility is set to host its annual Canadian Country Classic, starting tomorrow.

The two-week event will be highlighted by a \$75,000 FEI World Cup Qualifier — which hometown riders Mike Grinyer and Ainsley Vince finished second and third in respective-

ly last summer — which is slated for September 2 at 2 p.m.

A host of other hunter and jumper classes will fill out the annual showcase, including the chance for riders 12 to 14 years of age to earn a berth to the Children's International Jumping Final in Mexico later this year.

Visitors who want to try their hand at beach volleyball will have a chance to do so on two international-calibre courts, with

open play available this coming Saturday and Sunday for four-person teams. A round robin style tournament will be held September 1 and 2 for those who register in advance.

Classic car lovers can check out the region's premier vintage rides this Saturday, when there'll also be a fashion show.

A children's village and courtyard marketplace will round out the activities.

For information on admission prices or specific times for Canadian Country Classic events, call Jayne Huddleston at (905) 338-8328 or Megan Krueger at (905) 873-2316, ext. 30.



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Please complete registration form available on the website. More details on the website.

<http://mplhockey.com>

