

**SPORTS:** Preston-Lake resident sits tall in the saddle during dressage competitions

# Mintz corrals major honours

BY BRUCE STAPLEY  
CORRESPONDENT

Joanne Mintz believes in teaching by example.

The veteran dressage coach and rider recently completed a season that saw she and her partner, a seven-year-old Bavarian Warmblood named Lenz, go all the way to the top at the provincial and national levels.

The Preston Lake resident teamed up with her mount to win the medium four crown at the Ontario Dressage Championships in London in August.

The duo then proceeded to claim the title at the Eastern Canadian Championships held at the York Equestrian Centre over the Labour Day weekend.

The double successes resulted in Mintz being named Canadian Dressage Champion for the season at the medium four level, which is one step below the Olympic level.

While Mintz' prowess in the ring directed her to top level success this season, she has also been recognized for her coaching abilities.

Mintz, who coaches 30 students out of Mt. Albert's Blue Star Farm, was named Three M Coach of the Year for female individual



Joanne Mintz and her horse, Lenz, display the ribbons they captured at the recent Eastern Canadian Championships at the York Equestrian Centre during Labour Day weekend.

sports.

But for Mintz, the icing on the cake came when one of her students, Mt. Albert resident Lori Wolfe, won the title at the Eastern Canadian Championships at the medium two dressage level. The rider was named reserve Canadian champion.

"It felt great to win the championships that I won this season,

but to see one of my students win was really satisfying," said Mintz, who has been riding, coaching and competing in dressage for two decades.

Mintz has been receiving high level recognition since the late 1980's. She was a member of the Canadian Dressage Team that competed at the North American Dressage Championships in 1989,

and was with the Canadian Grand Prix team that travelled to Brazil for an international invitational meet last year.

With the spoils of 1998 season tucked in her trophy case, Mintz now has her sights set on making the Canadian team that will contest the dressage events at the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg.

## Special autumn rates offered on the links

Most Stouffville area public golf courses will be offering special rates beginning after Thanksgiving as a record 1998 season sets to wind down.

Discounts range from 10 to 20 per cent at the Bushwood, Maples of Ballantrae, 4 Seasons and Firefighters Gormley Green courses as club officials hope the good weather enables public players to stay on the course at least into early November.

"It's been our best season ever," said Maples pro Tom Aird. "We didn't lose one full day to rain. That's never happened in the 14 years I've been here."

Darren Stalteri of Siloam's Mill Run Golf Club calls it "a record year all around."

He said the good weather brought with it an increase in interest.

Jeff Knight of the Tenth Line Bushwood facility, formerly known as the John Evelyn

Golf Club, said play was "up substantially" due to the weather and the continuing popularity of the game.

Karen Simpson of the 4 Seasons club in Claremont said her course would remain open until the snow flies.

Darryl Keen of the Firefighters Gormley Green club agreed that a summer-like spring made for a successful season. "Obviously the early start benefited our season," he said.

## Boyd takes a Spirited stance

Ian Boyd hopes to make it to centre ice sometime before the Spirit of Stouffville's 1998-99 season is out.

Boyd is the owner-operator of Boyd's Source For Sports in Stouffville's west end.

The Source For Sports group of stores has agreed to sponsor a Player of the Month and Player of the Year for each league operating under the Ontario Hockey Association umbrella for the current season.

Boyd will be called upon to make the presentation should a member of the Spirit cop one of the awards.

Spirit players so recognized would also get a \$500 voucher at Boyd's sporting goods store.

"It's a grass roots program and we've all bought into it," noted Boyd, who looks forward to bestowing one of the awards upon a Spirit player.

### DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



#### CORAL FRASER

Coral Fraser has been figuring well on the ice in recent days. Competing at the recent Central Ontario Section Summer competition in Thornhill, the 11-year-old Unionville resident, along with her 14-year-old partner, Peter

Weinrauch of Scarborough skated their way to a first place finish in the juvenile competitive dance variation event. The pair also earned a first place tie in the juvenile competitive level in the compulsory dances. The success came on the heels of a second and third finish in the same dance events at the Kitchener Waterloo Summer Sizzle Competition. Fraser is a grade 7 student at Unionville Public School and trains at the Scarborough Figure Skating Club.

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