

Zemp hopes to help Canada ride off with World Cup title

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Sports Editor

When Andrea Zemp takes to her mount at the World Cup Saddleseat Equitation competition in Madison, Wis., which began Thursday and concludes today, she hopes to impress the judges in more ways than one.

As a member of the Canadian national team that will compete at this event, the 26-year-old Ballantrae resident hopes to get a favourable response from the judges when she makes her horse perform a series of manoeuvres.

At the same time, Zemp noted her appearance on the mount will be critical to her final outcome in this equestrian event.

Adding to that challenge, Zemp pointed out riders do not ride their own horses. But rather, they draw their mounts from a random draw.

"In an equitation event, the riders are supposed to be all equal," Zemp said, explaining what the competition is about. "Equitation is judged on the rider itself and how the rider makes a horse go under a proper command."

Introduced to riding horses when she was eight years old, Zemp is no stranger to this competition as she captained the Canadian team that claimed a bronze medal in the last World Cup two years ago in South Africa.

Unlike the last Canadian team, which was chosen through a list of potential candidates, Zemp noted members of this year's entry had to audition for a berth through qualifying trials held last year in Albany, N.Y. While favouring this format in selecting the team, Zemp acknowledged she was apprehensive during the trials.

"I was nervous. I'm a Morgan rider and the majority of other competitors there were saddlebred riders. I hadn't seen the other competitors ride before and I was out of the equitation circuit for a while. I was surprised to make the team," she revealed.

Being part of the five-member Canadian contingent that will face the challenge from four other countries, including the host United States, Great Britain, South Africa and Namibia, Zemp is excited with the prospects of making a return visit to this event. Having been there two years ago, she feels her experience along with two other members who



Ballantrae resident Andrea Zemp, shown here with her four-year-old Morgan mare, Hollowbrook Toy Story, is part of a five-member Canadian team contingent that is in Madison, Wis. this weekend to compete in the World Cup Saddleseat Equitation competition.

are making their second World Cup appearance will be a factor if Canada hopes to bring home the gold.

"I know what's expected of me. Previous to this you didn't know what you were up against. But now I have more of an idea the second time around."

"We definitely want to move up one position (from the bronze attained two years ago) or win the gold. I think we have an excellent team and one

Raiders, Outlaws to meet in playoffs

While disappointed in losing its final New York Football League regular season game to the visiting Buffalo Outlaws 14-8 last Sunday, Markham Raiders head coach Bill Ptolemy feels the lessons learned from that outcome could translate into something good when the two teams renew acquaintances in tomorrow's first-round playoff contest.

Two untimely miscues and an inability to cash in on good scoring opportunities hurt the Raiders.

"We could have won the game. It could have gone either way," lamented Ptolemy.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Outlaws picked off a Martin Lesmond pass and parlayed that into a touchdown and two-point convert to take an 8-0 halftime advantage.

Lesmond atoned for the early miscue in the fourth quarter when he completed a 65-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Adrian Thorne. The pair then hooked up for a two-point convert to



tie the game.

But with four minutes remaining, the Outlaws capitalized on a blown defensive coverage by the Raiders secondary to score the game-winning points.

"It was a little disheartening," Ptolemy said of the loss, which saw his club finish the season with a 3-5 mark. "But I thought we moved the ball well. Gifford (Rose, Raiders wide receiver) was open a couple of times and we had a tough time in getting him the ball."

"We should have scored more, but we stalled in the red zone and we missed two field goals," he pointed out.

In meeting the Outlaws for a second time in as many weeks, Ptolemy is hoping the notion of a team beating a team for the second time might work in his club's favour this time around despite the game being played in Buffalo.

"Buffalo's a good, quality team. But we feel we have a chance even though we're on the road."

Hurricanes edge Spirit in home opener

BY BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

A lack of fine-tuning, a selfish streak and a careless high stick cost the Spirit of Stouffville a win at the rec centre Thursday.

The Newmarket Hurricanes hung on to edge the Spirit 6-5 in the Stouffville team's Provincial Junior A Hockey League season opener.

The Spirit led 3-2 at the end of the first period on goals by newcomers Alain Duchesne and Nevin Hamilton, and a power-play marker by veteran defenceman Justin Graham.

But a flagrant five-minute high sticking penalty committed behind the play by Spirit winger Chris Sanginesi led to a pair of Hurricanes goals midway through the second.

"That was the nail in the coffin," said Spirit head coach Brian Perrin, who argued to no avail that the first goal was three feet offside. "If we get out of that with only one goal against we would have been all right."

The Spirit tied it on a tip-in by Anthony Minicucci five minutes into the third.

But the Hurricanes struck for two more before J.D. Smithson scored on the power play with rookie goalkeeper Thomas Lee on the bench in the game's dying seconds.

Perrin was willing to shoulder part of the blame for his team's less than stellar defensive effort.

"They outplayed us and outworked us. But we didn't prepare them well enough to play. We were outcoached."



BRIAN PERRIN Spirit head coach said his team was outplayed and outcoached by Hurricanes

Perrin said the Spirit might have earned a better result if so many players hadn't tried to make the big play by themselves.

"We played selfish hockey. If we play unselfish hockey there's not one team in the league that's going to beat us. Hopefully they'll learn from this game and move on."

Hamilton, who along with Duchesne came to the Spirit from Sturgeon Falls of the NOHA, agreed with Perrin.

"We definitely have a better team on paper (than the Hurricanes). They just played more as a team."

After last night's road game against the Aurora Tigers, the Spirit return home to host the Durham Huskies Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Sports get green light

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Sports Editor

It appears to be a go for most sports being offered at York Region high schools this fall.

Linda Hotrum, a spokesperson for the York Region Athletic Association, noted Thursday that of the eight sports traditionally offered during the fall session, convenors stepped up to the front to oversee seven activities.



Football, boys' volleyball, boys' soccer, girls' basketball, golf, tennis and cross country will take place. The only sport not being offered, she noted, was girls' field hockey.

Of the extracurricular activities taking place, it's expected the number of schools declaring teams will be reduced from past seasons. The reason being that teachers who might have coached in the past do not have the extra time due to their regular workload.

As an example, football will operate with just a seven-team senior league

comprised of Markham District High School, Brother Andre Catholic High School, Father Bressani, King City, Alexander Mackenzie, Woodbridge College and Newmarket. This is down from eight senior teams last year.

"It's positive because we didn't know if there would be a league," said Mike Feasby, head of physical education and head senior football coach at Markham District High School.

"At least we're not facing the same situation like two years ago," added Trevor Weir, football coach at Brother Andre. "It's great news. But the only disappointing thing is that we're only going varsity."

"People have spent a lot of time building their programs. It would have been horrible if we did what we did two years ago. It's good for us and for the kids."

At Stouffville District Secondary School, physical education head Jamie Hewitt noted cross-country is the only sport that will take place at the school.

Schedules for each of the sports could come out as early as next week once convenors have met with participating schools, Hotrum said.

DON'T PAY THAT TRAFFIC TICKET!!

Traffic Ticket Experts is staffed by ex-police officers who will act as your agent in court defending all traffic tickets (speeding, accidents, careless, impaired, etc.).

Call for FREE consultation.



Guaranteed Service

(905) 940-3000 4418 Hwy. 7 East, Unionville

WE WIN OR IT'S FREE