

## Equestrian victory for Canada

A quiet young rider and a strong young horse combined to startle the equestrian world recently to become the first Canadians to win the World Cup show-jumping title.

Mario Deslauriers, 19, of Bromont, Quebec, riding Aramis, a seven-year-old horse, took the title by beating the top jumpers in the world at Gothenburg, Sweden, and became an immediate favourite for an Olympic medal in Los Angeles this summer.

The fact that Mario Deslauriers, a relatively young and inexperienced horseman, is riding Aramis is part of a story straight out of Hollywood. When the syndicate of ten Quebec businessmen first saw the German-bred horse, they bought it specifically for Deslauriers, whose career they had been following since he was a boy.

The first step in the preparation was to send the horse and his young rider to the Pan American Games last summer as a spare, even though others had gained more points in the qualifying trials. He did not compete, but the experience was useful.

"We wanted him to live in the village, get the experience, see what competition



World Cup winner Mario Deslauriers riding Aramis at Toronto's Royal Winter Fair.

at that level was like," explained Moffat Dunlop, chairman of the Canadian jumping team. "As soon as the Games were over, we brought him back here and exposed him as much as we could to the international circuit in shows in Washington, New York, and the Winter Fair in Toronto. Then we sent them to Florida for a couple of months

this winter where the level of competition is very high."

"Winning the World Cup final is a dream come true," said Deslauriers, accepting the first prize of \$12 000 from Prince Philip, president of the International Equestrian Federation. "Winning the World Cup just before the Olympics is incredible."

## Alberta music festival celebrates Bach's birthday

A \$1.3-million world-class music festival, TRIBACH, will be held in Edmonton, Alberta from March 21 to April 6, 1985.

TRIBACH, the Bach Tercentenary Festival, a 17-day salute to Johann Sebastian Bach, has been organized as part of the world-wide celebration of Bach's three-hundredth birthday. Other Bach Festivals will be held in Toronto, West Germany, France, Australia, England and the United States.

"This major musical event is the largest ever undertaken in Alberta and will bring together over 350 Canadian and international artists. The festival is a real partnership between government and the private sector," said Lois Marshall, artistic director of the festival.

The program encompasses Bach's most acclaimed choral, piano, organ and orchestral works, including performances of the *Magnificat*, *B minor Mass*, *Goldberg Variations*, *Brandenburg Concerti*, and major cantatas, suites, and motets, and the rarely performed *St. Matthew Passion*, as well as more contemporary

interpretations of Bach, programming for children, and masterclasses.

Featured Canadian groups include the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, CBC Vancouver Orchestra, the Canadian Brass, the Elmer Iseler Singers, Tudor Singers of Montreal, Vancouver Chamber Choir, and Pro Coro Canada. Highlighting the international roster are the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, the Stockholm Chamber Choir, the Monteverdi Choir of London, England, and the New Swingle Singers from the United States.

Among the visiting artists scheduled to perform are pianists Rosalyn Tureck, one of the world's foremost interpreters of Bach's music, Paul Badura-Skoda, countertenor Paul Esswood, tenors Seth McCoy and Ian Partridge, baritone Douglas Lawrence, soprano Edith Mathis and organist Gillian Weir. Also, conductors Eric Ericson from Sweden, John Eliot Gardiner from England, and Anthony Rosmarevid from the Netherlands will take part.

Canadian artists will include mezzo-

sopranos Lois Marshall, Catherine Robbin and Janice Taylor, sopranos Nancy Argenta and Wendy Humphreys, tenor Mark Dubois, baritones Victor Braun and Gary Relyea, flautist Robert Aitken, guitarist Liona Boyd, and cellist Colin Ryan.

Another dimension of the TRIBACH Festival will be the *première* performance of a specially-commissioned ballet to Bach music, choreographed by Clinton Rothwell, former principal dancer with the National Ballet of Canada and now resident in Alberta.

It will be produced by the Alberta Ballet Company for the gala performance on March 22.

To officially open TRIBACH on March 21, 1985 the festival will celebrate Bach's three-hundredth birthday with a fireworks spectacular choreographed to the composer's greatest music. The festival will conclude on April 6 with the performance of Bach's powerful *St. Matthew Passion* with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, a 150-voice massed choir and soloists under the direction of Elmer Iseler.