

Melissa Bosma

I am 32 years old, I have been married since October 2005 and we had our first daughter in December 2007. I have the responsibility of managing our family farm with my parents and my husband. As a family we strive to breed quality jumping and dressage horses, and to run a first class horse care and training facility. My parents have been running this facility since 1977.

I started riding before I could walk, and was competing by the time I was 10. When I was 19 I became interested in dressage, I continued jumping but started taking dressage lessons. At 24 I began to focus on dressage completely. The last eight years have been spent training in Montreal, California and at my stable here in Winnipeg with various out of town trainers. Riding and horses are my true passion.

Currently I am riding and training 5 horses:

— Amber Rose is a 4 year old Dutch Warmblood mare imported from Holland as a yearling. She will be taken to the shows this year to be exposed and possibly by the end of the year to do a training level test.

— Winged Warrior is a 6 year old Dutch Warmblood we bred ourselves. He will be competing this year at training and first level.

— Vera Linda is a 7 year old Dutch warmblood we imported from Holland as a Two year old. She has competed successfully at Training level and this year will compete at first level and possibly second level by the end of the year.

— Simba is a 10 year old Dutch Warmblood imported as a three year old. He has competed successfully at 2nd level and will compete this year at third level.

— Abaraxis is a 17 year old Hanoverian whom I have trained from Third level up to Prix st. Georges. He will compete this year at Prix St. Georges and Intermediaire I.

I ride each horse for approximately 45 minutes - 1 hour – 5 days a week with the exception of Amber who is ridden 3 times a week. I also take extra lessons via out of town clinicians at least 1-2 weekends per month.

Achievements

I am a United States Dressage Federation Silver Medalist which is an achievement award for competing successfully at 4th level and Prix St. Georges. I have competed at a National level in California, Pennsylvania, Quebec and Manitoba all with great success at upper levels as well as lower levels with younger horses.

This year I intent to travel once again to compete at the Blainville CDI in Montreal, as well as to some competitions in the states and Alberta.

My long term goals are to compete or qualify for the 2011 Pan American Games with my horse Simba and to eventually have both Simba and Vera Linda competing at Grand Prix. I am not only a rider, but also a trainer and Teacher. This being said I also hope to achieve my coaching levels since I have already produced a student capable of 4th level dressage. It is my goal to continue in this direction with my own horses and students, and to promote and improve dressage in our province as a whole.

