

Gibson Wins, And Wins, And Wins

It's officially true—hard work pays off. American rider Michelle Gibson, who's been competing, training and making headlines in Germany for many months, has three more accomplishments to add to her roster: United States Olympic Committee (USOC) Female Equestrian Athlete for 1995, Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special winner at the Rolicnk Cup and inclusion in L'Année Hippique's top-20 best riders list for 1995.

Formally acknowledging Gibson's many achievements,

USOC officials, in conjunction with representatives of the AHSA and the United States Equestrian Team (USET), elected her this year's recipient of



Mary Phelps

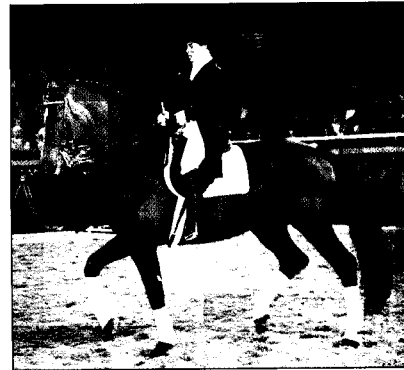
the USOC Female Equestrian Athlete award for 1995.

On the show circuit, Gibson demonstrated her consistent drive to excel and improve by winning the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Special at the Rolicnk Cup '96, held January 17-21 in Münster, Germany. Riding Dr. Carole Meyer-Webster's Trakehner stallion Peron, Gibson scored a 71 and 72 percent respectively, placing her in front of the World Equestrian Games champion, Isabell Werth, who placed fourth with Aurelius.

Russell Webster, justifiably proud of Gibson and Peron, says, "We were thrilled that they came back to the first show that they began at last year and won the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special." He noted that Gibson and Peron's scores were significantly higher this year than they were the first time they appeared at the Rolicnk Cup.

The third coup for Gibson is being listed as one of the top 20 in L'Année Hippique's 1995 dressage world rankings. She is the only American to break into the European-dom-

inated listing. L'Année Hippique, or the International Equestrian Year, is an annual volume chronicling the international show season. Established in 1969, the ratings are published annually and the results are based on scores obtained in Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special and the World Cup Freestyle. CDIOS, CDIs and various Championships and Games are tabulated and weighted according to international participation of



Werner Ernst

Gibson and Peron won the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Special at Münster.

top horses and riders. The number of Grand Prix wins doesn't matter, the selection criteria is who beats whom.