

# International Scene

## USOC Athletes Of The Year

### **Bruce Davidson, Michelle Gibson 1995 Olympic Equestrian Athletes of the Year**

Three-day event powerhouse Bruce Davidson and dressage sensation, Michelle Gibson have been named Equestrian Athletes of the Year by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

In 1972, Davidson made his Olympic debut by bringing home a silver medal in eventing. The now 45-year-old from Unionville, Pennsylvania, hasn't stopped since. In his remarkable twenty-five year career Davidson has ridden on two gold-medal winning Olympic teams (1976, 1984), and claimed nearly every competition and honorific title available, including Rolex, Fair Hill and USCTA Rider of the Year. In 1995, Davidson led the U.S. Three-Day Event squad to a gold medal at the Pan American Games (20 years after his last appearance at the Pan American Games where he won the team gold and individual silver medals) and became the first American ever to win Badminton. His recent rides at the USET Fall Three-Day Event Championship clinched his lead in the Land Rover/FEI Three-Day Event World Rankings earning him his second title in four years.



Photo by Michael Voudouris

An equestrian since childhood, Gibson began riding dressage at 16. The 26 year old from Georgia made her international debut in 1994 winning the Grand Prix Special at CDI Munster, Germany. In 1995, Gibson and her stallion, Peron, have continued to claim the international spotlight, winning the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special at CDN Darmstadt (Germany), taking top honors at CDI Donaueschingen (Germany), CHIO Rotterdam (the Netherlands), and CDI Dortmund (Germany) where she was named Best Foreign Rider.



Photo by Charlene Strickland