

Local Sports

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'Team Polak' ATV Racing; for the adrenaline rush and the family fun

By Mable Hastings
Record Correspondent
POTTON

Potton's Mike Mierzwinski "Mikey" has found a fun way to spend time with his family while enjoying his passion for a good adrenaline rush. Mikey has been a racing member of the "Federation des Motocyclistes de Sentiers du Quebec" (FMSQ), a non-profit organization for ATV and Motocross Endurocross racing enthusiasts for four years.

Endurocross racing consists of high speed racing through rugged natural wooded trails, over rocks, mud and grass tracks. This year he is ranked in the "expert" category along with 21 others. Mikey stresses that this is a high number of people in this grouping since they do not normally exceed 12-15 ranked as experts when they compete.

"It makes the races interesting," said Mikey.

Races take place in areas such as the Beauce, in Ontario and this year there will be one held in Granby. Races are attended by people from all over Quebec and parts of Ontario.

Saturdays the ATV races attract an average of 150 or more



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Mike Mierzwinski aka "Mikey."

participants and Sundays for Motocross racing, some 400 take part.

While some compete in mo-

tocross racing, Mikey earned his title riding in the ATV category on his Honda TRX 450R. Four years ago he began in the Junior

category where he placed third in the championships. Each year he has progressed taking first place in the 30+ category and then another third place last year in the intermediate.

"I'm happy that I have placed each year," says Mikey. "Although I am proud of my ranking, that's not the only reason that I do this however," he added. "I do it because I love the adrenaline rush but more than that, I really enjoy getting away with my family and extended family to enjoy something different."

There are approximately ten Provincial races each year between May and October with most located some two hours or more from Potton. Team Polak consists of Mikey's cousin's Eric Mierzwinski who races motocross and David Mierzwinski. Mikey's eight year old nephew, Zacharie Cote has been racing since he was five years old and placed first in 2012 in his age group. Adam (Zacharie's dad) also races sometimes so the group is a large one with parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles all attending the event and camping together."

"When we take off on a two-day race weekend with our

camper, it is a family affair," says Mikey.

Mikey and his wife, Jennifer have four children and the two older ones also compete. Andrea Marcoux who is 13 and Jonathan, 16, who placed third overall in 2012 in the ATV Junior class. Jasmine who is five will be racing ATV starting next year and Jaykob, four, can't wait to race in the dirtbike class.

Mikey is quick to acknowledge his sponsors which include an impressive list of both local and extended businesses. "I'm always happy to get more sponsors," said Mikey. "It's nice to have the support of the various businesses and I am proud to display their logo on my bike at each event."

When Mikey was seventeen or eighteen, he participated in a few races and he always looked up to racers like Danny Paige (aka: Crash), Alan Lachapelle and Paul Boivin. It makes him feel good to know that now; some of the youth are looking up to him as they develop an interest in the sport.

You can follow his season via his facebook page or follow via www.fmsq.net

Mikey can be contacted at 819-620-6543 or email at corome@axion.ca

Galt wins at Old Lenny



COURTESY

L-R: Liam Pankovitch, Jakob Laplante, Anthony Gosselin, Jayson Robillard and Matthew Littlejohn.

By Brandon Lister
(Media literacy class)

The Alexander Galt Golf Team won the ETIAC golf tournament at the Old Lennoxville Golf Club this past Tuesday.

Anthony Gosselin led the Pipers and the entire field with a low gross of 77. Jacob Laplante, Liam Pankovitch, Jayson Robillard, Matthew Littlejohn also played well with scores of 80, 81, 83 and 85 as the Pipers edged out Bishop's College School by three shots to take claim the second major tournament of the season.

BCS won the first major tournament of the year in Cowansville last week by nine shots. As a result the Pipers sit six shots behind the Bears from BCS in the team format. Stanstead College and Massey-Vanier round out the team play, but it looks to be a two-team race for the banner with two major tournaments left to play in the season.

Gosselin was also the low gross in Cowansville with an 81 in tough weather conditions last week. The ETIAC golf circuit continues next Wednesday at the Dufferin Heights Golf and Country Club. The final major of the year will be played at the Milby Golf Club on Friday, May 23.

Sk8teboarders clean their turf



COURTESY

On Saturday, May 10, the owners of the Balance Board store organized a spring cleaning of the Cowansville skate park. The young people invited to take part in the process turned up in large numbers for this worthy and worthwhile initiative.