



For immediate release

Province wide Horse Enthusiasts attend 4-H Horse Classic

With 78 members from 17 Alberta 4-H light horse clubs plus over 40 volunteer leaders on hand, the 2008 Provincial 4-H Horse Classic was a resounding success. Many new faces and clubs were evident at this year's event held July 30 – August 1 at Olds College. In its 14th year, the 4-H Horse Classic program attracted members from throughout the province.



"The way this program is run, it encourages participants to use their knowledge and experience as much as possible. We are able to have three industry/project clinics during the program because of generous support Apache Canada Ltd., Eqvalan, Gas Alberta, Lammle's Tack and Western Wear and Penn West Energy Trust. The programming at Horse Classic actively develops 4-H members' skills by testing horse knowledge and working on team and individual activities," says Ashley Eckel, 4-H Specialist.



Some contests are designed for individuals and others for teams. Everyone who registered for the event was automatically entered in the hippology contest, which tested members' equine knowledge through four phases - quizzes, judging, identification stations, and team problem.



The top four members—based on individual hippology points—qualified for the Denver Western 4-H Horse Classic Award Trip, January 8 – 11, 2009. Haley Scott from the Blindman 4-H Lighthorse, Shelby Crick from the Blindman 4-H Lighthorse, Jennifer Ruskowsky from the Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse and Luke Wrubleski from Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse are this year's trip recipients..



Haley Scott from Blindman 4-H Light Horse was the top category three member in the hippology contest. Top category two member was Katie Garber from the Milk



River Multi and Cassandra Crick of the Blindman 4-H Light Horse was tops in category one.

The top category two/three hippology team consisted of Haley Scott from Blindman 4-H Lighthorse, Hannah Smith from Lobstick 4-H Beef & Multi and Ambur Henderson from Midnight Express 4-H Light Horse.

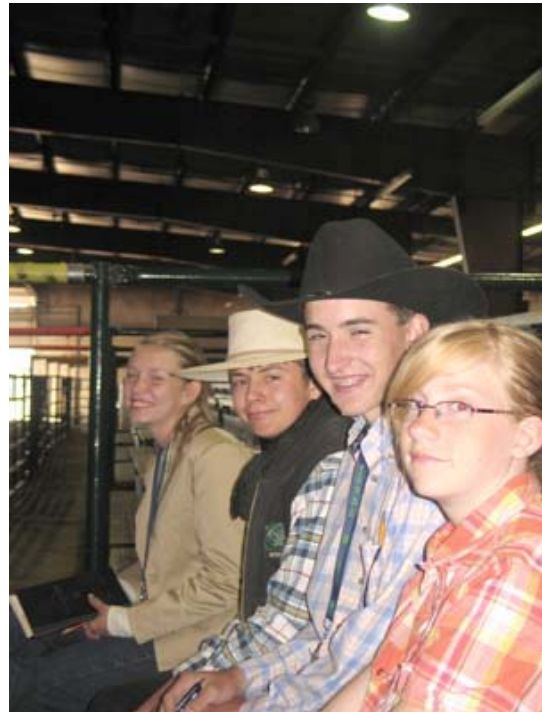
The top category one team included Cassandra Crick from the Blindman 4-H Lighthorse, Austin Perreault from Leslieville Trail Trotters, Taylor Scheidt from the Midnight Express 4-H Light Horse and Morgan Sorensen from Big Valley Rusty Spurs.



In the horse bowl team final, Jennifer Ruskowsky, Jennifer Wrubleski, Jonathan Wrubleski and Luke Wrubleski from the Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse Club placed first and Carson Blackhurst from the Bits N Spurs, Dalcyce Unruh from the Circle V 4-H Multi, Austin Perreault from the Leslieville Trail Trotters, and Katie Garber from Milk River Multi were runners up.

Print Marketing class winners were: Category One, Kayley Dueck of the Coaldale 4-H Equestrian Club, Category Two, Holly Hughes from Calmar Heart of the Country and Category Three, Janelle Cameron from the Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse.

Marketing competition winners were as follows: Category A was Isabella de Goeij from Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse, Category B was Jessica Perreault from Leslieville Trail Trotters, Category C was Megan Greenwood from Lobstick 4-H Beef & Multi, Category D was Matthew Paton from Leslieville Trail Trotters, Category E was Lindsey Grover from Big Valley Outriders and Category F was Brittany Kroening from Lakedell 4-H Lighthorse.



A new activity was piloted at this year's Classic. Winners of the Amazing Race were Jennifer Brehaut from the Willow Creek Wranglers, Kassity Lalonde from Lobstick 4-H Beef & Multi, Erica Henderson from Midnight Express Light Horse and Jerred Procee from the Coaldale 4-H Equestrian Club.

For more information, contact Ashley Eckel in Stettler at 403-742-7547 or visit the 4-H website at www.4h.ab.ca. Government numbers are toll-free by dialling 310-0000 to connect to a RITE operator.