



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brightest Horse Program Youth Achieve Top Honors at 26th Annual Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup

*By Jennifer Elwell
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(Louisville, KY) More than 330 of the nation's most knowledgeable 4-H Horse Program members competed November 5, 2011 in the 2010 Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup, an annual event hosted by the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. since 1985.

Many of the young people, ages 14-19, achieved top honors in one of six contests that test horse knowledge and communication skills: Public Speaking, Individual Presentation, Team Presentation, Horse Bowl, Hippology and Horse Judging. Contestants are awarded individually and as part of a team representing their state.

Each of the contests is challenging and being competitive necessitates months of preparation.

The speech and presentation contests require contestants to present factual, relevant information in a way that is entertaining and memorable.

Horse Bowl, a quiz bowl style contest in which all the questions pertain to the horse, requires extensive knowledge of horse physiology, nutrition, health, training techniques, and history. Contestants must answer questions quickly and correctly to earn points and beat out the opposing team.

Hippology also requires extensive horse knowledge—knowledge not often gained until one reaches upper level college coursework in an equine field—and the ability to solve problems and complete hands-on tasks.

The Horse Judging contest involves evaluating horse structure and performance and then ranking the classes of horses (1-2-3-4) most like the official judges. Contestants must then defend how they ranked the horses by giving oral reasons in front of an official judge.

Kristen Harvey, 4-H Horse Roundup management committee chair, said that each of the 4-H members competing should be extremely proud of their efforts and success.

“The Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup represents the final destination for these kids to showcase their talents and hard work,” said Harvey. “They earned the top award in their state to qualify, and then they had to amplify their level of knowledge and preparation to go up against the other top kids from across the country.”

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In the 2011 contest, 336 contestants from 31 states competed for one of seven \$500 scholarships provided by the American Quarter Horse Association and numerous trophies and awards provided by

NAILE and other contest sponsors. This was the first year that contestants from Alaska, Alabama, and West Virginia competed.

2011 Winners

- **Hippology Champion Individual** – Anna Meurer, Kentucky
- **Hippology Champion Team** – North Carolina – Allie Riddell, Mattie Thompson, Carson Kay, and Deana Curran.
- **Public Speaking** – Brian Edmonds, New Hampshire
- **Individual Presentation** – Lauren Crudup, Missouri
- **Team Presentation** – Megan Charrier & Nicole Jordan, Idaho
- **Communications Team** – Maryland: Shannon Scott, Hannah Nusbaum, Weber Stibolt, and Leah Berry
- **Horse Bowl Champion Individual** – Harlie Cope, North Carolina
- **Horse Bowl Champion Team** – North Carolina: Elizabeth Rhodes, Dale Bass, Bradley Kay, and Harlie Cope
- **Horse Judging Champion Individual** – Julia Foushee, North Carolina
- **Horse Judging Champion Team** – North Carolina: Kendall Wolford, Julia Foushee, Cayla Nugent, and Brittany Duquemin

Kristen Janicki, Kentucky 4-H volunteer, was the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Service Award. She was the 2010-2011 Roundup management committee chair and has been serving the 4-H Horse Roundup Management Committee for 10 years.

Additional results can be found at www.4hroundup.com. The top 10 individuals and teams are recognized in each contest where applicable. Hippology and Horse Judging also recognize the top 10 individuals and teams in each phase or portion of their contest.

The volunteer members of the 4-H Horse Roundup would like to thank the following sponsors that help make the event a memorable experience for our youth competitors: North American International Livestock Expo, American Quarter Horse Association, American Youth Horse Council, Arabian Horse Association, American Income Life Insurance (Bill Viar), American Saddlebred Horse Association, Kentucky 4-H Horse Program, Maryland 4-H Horse Program, Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Program Development Committee, Wisconsin 4-H Horse Association, Florida 4-H Horse Program, Indiana 4-H Horse Program, Michigan 4-H Horse Program, New York State 4-H Horse Program, Pinto Horse Association of America, Region 1 Southeast Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Council, Virginia 4-H Horse Program, and Zeecraft Technical.

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