

CSU Equine Connection

Equine Science Students Connecting with Equine Enthusiasts

Volume 2, Issue 4

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Goal: To strengthen relationships between faculty, staff, and industry professionals by providing CSU Equine Sciences students with a collection of information pertaining to the industry and undergraduate program.

The Super Bowl of Rodeo

By Erin Wolcott

A popular event on the minds of many equine enthusiasts in the beginning of December is the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Sponsored by Wrangler Jeans, this event began on December 6th, 2012, and continued through December 15th. The National Finals Rodeo is organized by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), and is the final event in the PRCA season. The PRCA first established the NFR in 1958 in order to determine the world champion in each of rodeo's main events. Since 1985 the NFR has been held in the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas. However, Oklahoma City, the host of the NFR from 1965 to 1984, is eager to return the event to Oklahoma when Las Vegas' current contract ends in 2014.

The finals consist of ten rounds of competition, with one round held each day. The events performed on each day of the rodeo include bareback riding, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, tie-down roping, barrel racing, and bull riding. The top fifteen money

earners in each event are invited to compete at the NFR for prize money and awards. World championship titles are awarded at the NFR to the individuals who earn the most money in his or her event. The "World All-Around Champion Cowboy" title is also awarded at the end of the NFR to the cowboy with the highest earnings who has regularly competed in more than one event during the year.

Tickets are hard to come by for this popular event, as the 17,500 seat Thomas & Mack Center sells out every year. Hotels and casinos around the city host special events in honor of the NFR, such as balls and mechanical bull riding contests, to appeal to the thousands of rodeo fans that flock to the city. This highly anticipated, legendary event is not your average weekend rodeo, but a chance to see the world's top competitors in each discipline, all of which require incredible skill and athleticism.

Source: nfrexperience.com

Disclaimer: Under Colorado law, no expression made by students in the exercise of free speech or freedom of the press shall be deemed to be an expression of school policy. No student, employee, or officer of CSU shall be held liable in any civil or criminal action for expression made or published by a student.

Educational Day Career Panel and Luncheon

By Katy Lippolis

Have you ever wanted to sit down and have lunch with Julie Goodnight? Maybe even wanted to ask advice from Terry Crofoot on managing a breeding and training program and cattle ranch? This month, you'll have the chance to do just that and more! On Friday, April 26th the Equine Science Stewards will be hosting the 2013 CSU Equine Sciences Career Panel and Luncheon where various equine industry professionals will be coming to campus to meet with students.

The program begins at 9:00am in the North Ballroom of the Lory Student Center with the introduction of the career panel. Panelists include: Roger Daly (Sale fitting), Terry Crofoot (Ranching), Julie Goodnight (Training), Jeff Tebow (Insurance), Mike Jerina (Nutrition), Melissa Syndergaard (Repro Vet), Joe Stricklin (Vet), and Adam Daurio (Attorney). They will answer various questions, both prepared

by the Stewards and those from the audience. Following the panel, the audience will be free to visit with the panelists until the end of the program at 11:00am. This allows the audience to personally meet with the panelists and ask questions that may not have been answered during the panel.

Following the completion of this session, a number of invited guests from the audience will join the panelists and additional luncheon guests to attend a catered lunch from 11:30am-1:00pm in the Cherokee Park Ballroom of the LSC. Over a lunch of sandwiches with meat and veggie options, students will be able to share further discussion in a more relaxed setting. There will be an estimated 16-17 industry professionals attending the luncheon, sharing lunch with 5-7 students each. Lunch wraps up at 1pm, allowing plenty of time for dialogue and networking! Because there are limited spaces available for the

luncheon, students are asked to fill out a brief application available on the Equine Science Stewards website. The application is short and simple, and allows students to be better paired with luncheon industry professionals. Applications are due April 5th and all students are encouraged to apply!

Scheduled for the day before the Legends of Ranching Performance Horse Sale, this event aims to use this unique opportunity to connect students with numerous leaders in the equine industry at one location. Students will not only be able to seek advice from these experienced individuals, but will also be able to make important contacts necessary for succeeding in the industry. Attendees are encouraged to read the online biographies on each guest to have a more thorough understanding of their professions and be better prepared for questions and conversation.

Spring Branding Banquet

By Sinead Collazo

Every spring, the department of Animal Sciences recognizes students, faculty, alumni, teams, and supporters of the program at the spring branding banquet. The event goes beyond awards with dinner, a silent action, and entertainment. This year's banquet will boast a live band and dance floor. The event will be held at the Hilton Fort Collins on Friday April 12th at 5:30pm.

Outstanding student awards are the highlight of the student awards segment. Outstanding students are nomi-

nated by faculty members and selected based on applications. Awards are given to one freshmen, sophomore, and junior in the equine sciences program and multiple seniors. Animal sciences students receive awards as well. There are awards given to graduate students, alumni and industry partners. Each year, seniors vote on faculty to award the Golden Boot to an outstanding professor.

Teams and clubs are recognized for a portion of the banquet with banners

presented and honors to members who have excelled. Last year, the Arabian horse judging team received a banner for their championship. Once all the teams have been recognized and awards are given out, there will be time to socialize and music.

Brandon Black – CSU 2012 Alumni

By Michele Kane



What is your equine background and what made you decide to major in Equine Sciences at CSU? My family has always had horses in their life so I grew up with them. When I was about 8 I showed my first cutting horse and continued to show off and on for about 10 years.

What aspect(s) of the curriculum most prepared you for getting a job in the industry after graduation? I think what best prepared me for the equine industry was the hands on classes like sales management, equine reproduction practicum, and judging. I really liked the classes that gave me hands on experience with the horses. I kick myself for not having enough time to do the colt breaking class.

How many internships did you do while at CSU, and where were they? What did you take away from each? When I was at CSU I did three internships: 1) Hagyard Equine Medicine Lexington, KY, 2) Claiborne Farm Paris, KY, and 3) Silver Spur Operating Co. LLC Encampment, WY. My goal from my internships was to learn different aspects of the equine industry which is why they were so diverse. When I lived in Kentucky I learned a lot about the thoroughbred breeds and the race horse industry as a whole. My internship at Silver Spur gave me a great experience on how to run and operate a cattle ranch that managed multiple ranches in different parts of the country and how they were all connected.

How did you find, then eventually get, your job at AQHA? The summer of 2011 I had come home from my internship at

Claiborne and Gary Carpenter invited me out to the Therapeutic Riding Summit. There I met the Vice President of AQHA Don Treadway and the Director of Marketing and Communications, Jim Bret Campbell. I talked to them about my experience in the equine world and what I had been doing at CSU. Don informed me that they were working on a new position that would be opening about the time I graduated. I applied and sent them a resume that fall and visited the AQHA office in Amarillo the fall of 2011 to tour and talk about the position more.

What do you do at AQHA? My official title is Manager of Special Programs. I currently coordinate and manage the Ranching Heritage Breeders group and the Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies Alliance. Ranching Heritage was developed by the Ranching Council as a new way to market and promote ranch horses. There are three different initiatives part of the program: 1) Ranching Heritage Breeder, 2) Ranching Heritage Challenge, and 3) Young Horse Development Project.

What is your favorite part of your current position? I really like the travel, going to new shows and meeting new people is always a bonus to working at AQHA. My favorite part though is working with Youth members in the Young Horse Development Project. As part of the program the Ranching Heritage members have donated weanlings to AQHYA members and they get to raise and train an AQHA horse. As part of the program we only track the youth for a year. They write me monthly reports on what they are doing with their horse, complete a project book, attend an AQHA, FFA, 4H or other introductory show in the first year, and they have to seek out an AQHA Professional Horseman to consult their training routine with them.

Where would you like to see yourself 5 years from now within the industry (or not)? In five years I am not sure where I will be but I know I want to continue to build the equine industry

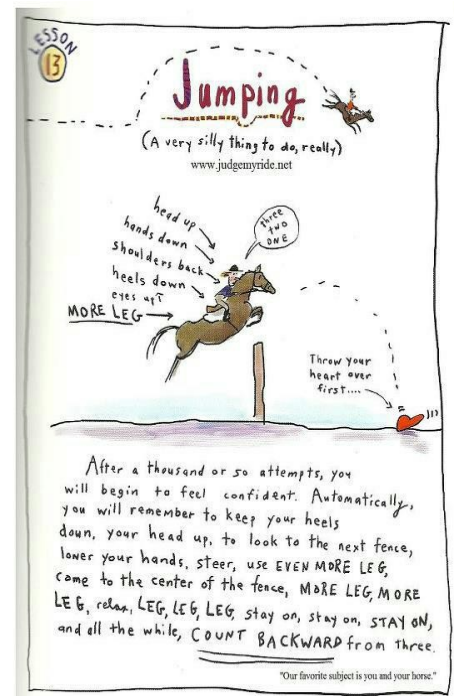
Looking back at your time at CSU, internships, and now working in the industry, what advice would you give to current Equine Sciences students that you wish you had (or actually did have and followed)? The best advice I can give all students is to diversify your experience as much as possible. Don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone and experiment with new adventures. It doesn't matter if you want to be a veterinarian, trainer, breeder, or farm manager you should always try something different.

What types of internships does AQHA offer to current students or graduates? I have attached a link to our internship programs and scholarship opportunities

<http://aqha.com/About/Content-Pages/About-the-Association/Internship-Opportunities.aspx>

<http://aqha.com/Foundation/Content-Pages/Scholarships/Application.aspx>

Cartoon Provided by Michele Kane and from judgemyride.net



Select Breeders Services

By Leah Reopke

Select Breeders Services has two main branches: one in Denton, TX and one in Chesapeake City, MD (headquarters). I did my summer internship at their Maryland facility, which neighbors reputable farms such as Hassler Dressage.

During my internship, I got to experience everything SBS had to offer. On the stallion side of things, I learned how to prepare artificial vaginas (AV's) and the phantom, how to palpate testicles to find abnormalities, how to collect a stallion, management of stallions with mares on property, and how to train a stallion to the phantom. In addition, I learned how to freeze semen, package cooled semen, and how to prepare semen shipments all over the

United States. The staff at SBS was extremely willing to teach me whatever I wanted to learn and they taught it well.

On the mare side of things, I was responsible for all mares that came to be bred. This included cleaning stalls, feeding, turning out and preparing mares for palpations and AI procedures. If the mares had to be checked multiple times during the day and/or night, I was the person who met the veterinarian and assisted him with anything he needed.

I knew I was going to learn a lot during my internship, but I had no idea I would learn as much as I did. Select Breeders Services gave me a strong foundation in the daily operations of a breeding business and thanks to them, I

know I can go anywhere in the reproductive industry and succeed.



KEMI

By Erin Pettigrew



Lauren Goedde, a senior in the Equine Science program, recently completed an internship for KEMI (Kentucky Equine Management Internship) this past December 2012. During her six months in the program, Lauren worked at Juddmonte Farms, a 2500 acre operation located in the Lexington, Kentucky area.

A typical day for Lauren included being to the barn by 6am to bring in the year-

lings for the morning feeding. Around 7:30am, Lauren would begin riding – assisting in breaking and training around eight of the farms up-and-coming race horses. Finishing up close to noon, she would head back to the barn to start cleaning stalls after lunch. The remainder of the day to be spent maintaining the barn and tack as well as helping with the evening feeding.

One of the special components to the KEMI program is the weekly classes that individuals are required to participate in. These classes are wonderful opportunities to learn about what is currently going on in the industry. Some of the topics included pasture management, acupuncture, and learning how to handicap races to name a few. Beyond this, they would have the chance to network with important play-

ers in the industry and discuss the issues.

Lauren's background growing up was mainly jumping and dressage, and in her college years has included polo, barrel racing and some work with Thoroughbreds. This prepared her to work with the yearlings at Juddmonte Farms and paved the way for her future schooling and career in the equine industry. With plans to attend the graduate program at the University of Kentucky, Lauren reports that, "[She] would not have been able to get into this scene without the internship." She highly recommends the KEMI program to any student working towards an equine science degree, and mentioned that everyone that she spoke to in KEMI was having a great experience. As she puts it, "This program opens a lot of doors."

ERL Re-opening

By Jessie Werner

On July 26, 2011 Colorado State University's Equine Reproduction Laboratory (ERL) offices were destroyed in a fire resulting in multi-million dollars' worth of damage. The rebuilding of these facilities came at an estimated cost of five million dollars, and a year and a half of construction, but our sacrifices have paid off, the new facilities have officially opened! After talking to the new director of the CSU Equine Reproduction Laboratory, Dr. Jerry Black, and the new associate director of the Equine Sciences undergraduate program, Dr. Jason Bruemmer, it seems the new facilities will be much improved from what we had before. The building is approximately 40% larger, and has state of the art technology and equipment. According to Dr. Bruemmer, the building was built with function in mind; some improvements include a molecular biology lab, a designated pharmacy, a designated wash/clean area, a collection shed attached to the semen lab, as well as separate palpation



facilities for resident and 'trailer-in' horses. This larger space will also allow for better teaching facilities. Students will be able to work with the latest technology in facilities that also have demonstration screens, observation windows, and even Whiteboard walls! These new facilities do not compare to any other facility around, the consensus among faculty is that it has become one of the best facilities in the world. If you want the chance to work in this new amazing facility, there are several opportunities for you! The Equine Reproduction Practicum (ANEQ 386B) is an 8 week course taught by Dr. Bruemmer in the spring and summer terms, where you are able to learn the practices of the

Reproduction Industry. Equine Foaling (ANEQ 445) is also taught by a collection of veterinarians and professors at the ERL and allows you to follow an individual mare through the foaling process. Internships are available for graduates, and volunteer/independent studies are available for undergraduates. In particular, Dr. McCue takes volunteers on two week rotations, where they are able to follow a mare to her vet appointments and check-ups. Dr. Bruemmer takes students as independent study, volunteer, or as Honor's thesis project students. These are some of the most exciting programs in the industry, so take advantage of them!

Meet Your Teacher

What is your favorite class to teach? **Any class dealing with nutrient metabolism in animals.**
What discipline in the horse industry would you most like to try? **Assist with therapeutic riding.**
What item could you NOT

live without? **Chalk and a chalkboard.**
Quote to live by: **"There is no substitute for hard work."**
Thomas A. Edison
What advice would you offer Equine Sciences Students? **Be honest, work hard, respect and help others, and never be**

afraid to get involved.
Why did you choose to get into the Animal/Equine Industry? **Agriculture is built on the foundation of honesty, hard work, and leadership.**
Who is your role model and why? **My wife - she is my hero!**

Dr. Engle



into the Equine Industry? My passion and love for the horse. I enjoy educating and helping others learn about the equine industry.
Who is your role model and why? There have been many influential people in my life that I couldn't just pick one; from family members to industry professionals, there are just so many people that have helped me along the way.

Ryan Brooks

Interviewed by Liz Canda



What is your favorite class to teach? In general reproduction, however I am currently teaching the ANEQ 102 Intro to Equine Sciences. I enjoy teaching this class because it's the students' first glimpse of the equine sciences degree program and there is a lot of opportunity to engage with students from various equine backgrounds.
What discipline in the horse industry would you most like

to try? Roping
What item could you NOT live without? My friends
Quote to live by: "When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on" -FDR
What advice would you offer Equine Sciences Students? Become as engaged and involved in the program as possible. Try to get the most out of your degree program through clubs, activities, research, etc.
Why did you choose to get

Classifieds

Dressage Gelding for Lease:

Remington is a 16-year-old Irish TB gelding that has been trained up to First Level Dressage and is working on Second Level movements. He would be best for an intermediate to advanced rider trained in Dressage. He is very sweet and has impeccable ground manners. However, he is in need of a rider who will make him work correctly and not be lazy. Leasing offer is for \$150 a month for two rides a week.

Contact Elise at 337-302-1810 if interested!



Hunter Jumper Gelding For Lease/Sale:

Maestro is an 11-year-old 16.3 HH TB gelding with an honest and sweet personality. He was shown in Children's Hunters and low-level jumpers. Will go anywhere and do anything, very easy guy!

Contact Emily Reams at (206) 963-0941 if you are interested!



Club Corner

English Riding Club:

English Riding Club is continuing its pattern of fun for all. In the month of April they are expecting clinics taught by trainer and USEF judge Beth Nielsen as well as Berthoud dressage trainer Verena Diaz. The club is also keeping busy participating in the Legends of Ranching colt sale and student competition working concessions, be sure to come out and show your support! (By Delani Miller)

Collegiate Horsemen's Association:

CHA has had a busy year! In the fall, we volunteered at the Jousting National Championships in Estes Park, and some of our members visited Rancho Corazon, a Holsteiner breeding and training farm in New Mexico. This semester, members attended the annual CHA National Convention where they had the opportunity to network with leaders across the horse industry. We also held our annual Spring Fling Horse Show at the Equine Center. CHA hosted a variety of demonstrations and speakers throughout the year, from mounted shooting, farrier work, and saddle fitting. Next year we look forward to new members with new ideas for trips, demonstrations, and clinicians ~ find us on Facebook and get



Project Equi is committed to maintaining the CSU Equine Sciences program as the number one program in the nation. Through a small contribution of as little as \$5, you can show your pride while supporting your program. All proceeds are going to the program in an effort to generate new opportunities for students that will further their education and enrich the future of our students. Let's all work together to make a difference! For more info:

projectequi@gmail.com

By Simon Czamanski

Right: Stickers
Below: Bumper Stickers
Bottom Left: License Plates

