Equine Science Students Attend the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo

by Kayla Lent

The 2019 Rocky Mountain Horse Expo provided education and entertainment for thousands of horse lovers. It was held from March 1-3 at the National Western Complex in Denver, CO. The expo hosted over 40 clinicians and included industry leaders from all breeds and disciplines. CSU’s own Chuck Peterson hosted a packing clinic at the event, and Dr. Temple Grandin spoke about “How Horses Think.” Other clinicians included Mustang Maddy, Dr. Bob Miller, and Cody Harrison. This was an amazing expo full of educational events, entertainment, and competitions. One of the more notable events was the Battle on the Rockies Show which is a show exclusively for rescue horses, with some classes specifically for horses who were available for adoption. These rescues came from various organizations including the Harmony Equine Center and Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance. The Equine Science Stewards were present to attend our Equine Sciences booth and talk to prospective students and those interested in the Temple Grandin Equine Center. The Stewards also organized a field trip for equine science students and drove a group to the expo on Saturday. This event is used as the largest fundraiser of the year for the Colorado Horse Council and I would definitely recommend it to any student interested in learning more about all the different parts of the equine industry.
Sales Management Class Provides Students with Hands-On Education

by Cassi Nichols

Time flies when you’re having fun and working hard! As April approaches, students in the Sales Management class are working diligently to prepare for the 2019 Legends of Ranching Sale. Being the largest outreach event hosted within Equine Sciences, the Legends of Ranching Program offers students the unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience while making valuable industry connections. Students in the Sales Management class learn first hand what it takes to put on horse sales, shows, and networking events.

Throughout the planning of these events, students are encouraged to take the lead on projects within the program that pertain to career interests they may have. With the support of professor Dr. David Denniston, the sky’s the limit to the experience that may be gained from participation in the Legends of Ranching Program.

Aside from being a prime example of why a Bachelor’s of Equine Science from CSU is a worthy investment for students, the LOR Sales Management class is an eye-opening experience for what students are capable of. Speaking from experience, I can say that I have ventured outside my comfort zone to explore new skills and speak with people I would have otherwise never had the opportunity to meet. I have strengthened my skills regarding marketing and professional communication as well as learned what it means to hold yourself to a higher standard.

Though I am grateful for all aspects of our Equine Sciences Program, I am incredibly thankful for the Legends of Ranching Program. I cannot imagine a better environment in which students have the opportunity for growth. I am incredibly proud to be a student participating in the Legends of Ranching Sale this year, and I cannot wait to see our hard work come to fruition in just a few weeks!

The 2019 Legends of Ranching Sale will be held on April 20th. Don’t miss out!
Legends of Ranching Overview

by Katie Feighner

Every year students in the horse training class and sales management class have the opportunity to put on the Legends of Ranching Performance Horse Sale. At the beginning of fall semester, students in the horse training class begin working with the young horses that are consigned from ranches all over the country. Under the teaching of Mr. John Snyder, the students start their young horses under saddle and teach them ground manners throughout two semesters. In the spring, the students learn how to prep horses for the sale. The students in the sales management class work directly with the horse training students formulating the catalog, communicating with consignors, and preparing for the sale. Under the direction of Dr. David Denniston, the sales students receive the necessary experience needed to put on the sale in April.

The Legends of Ranching program is comprised of three major events in April. Each event is unique and tailored to the program to benefit students, buyers, and consignors.

The Wagonhound Land & Livestock Student Competition is held Saturday, April 13th, which is the weekend before the horse sale. This event is for the students in the horse training class to showcase the work they have done with their horses over the course of the fall and spring semesters. This is also a great opportunity for potential buyers to view the young horses that will be in the sale.

The LOR Futurity and Maturity Horse Show will take place on Friday, April 19th, the day before the sale. This horse show is only open to horses who have been sold through the LOR program. The horse show is comprised of both ranch riding and cow horse classes with open and non-pro divisions.

Saturday, April 20th is the big event: the LOR Performance Horse Sale! The preview starts in the morning at 9:00 AM and the sale begins at 1:00 PM. Make sure to mark your calendars for these Legends of Ranching events!
Join the Stewards Team!
by Val Lindstrom

It’s that time of the year again! The Equine Science Stewards are looking for new applicants to join the team. A few weeks ago, we held an informal Meet and Greet session with students interested in joining the team. It was a fun opportunity to share stories about our experiences in Stewards and to pass along some more information about what it means to be a Steward. We also took the time to share more details about Stewards requirements such as volunteer opportunities, commitments, networking events, and professional development workshops. We are a busy group, but we still always make time to have a little fun. Being a Steward is truly one of the most rewarding and meaningful experiences I have had the pleasure of being a part of in this great program. If you didn’t get the chance to come to our informational session, you can always reach out to any of the Stewards with questions – we’re here to help and are excited to meet all of the applicants! Find applications on the CSU Equine Science Stewards Facebook Page.

Applications are due March 15th!
Julie Goodnight Visits CSU

by Morgan Offutt

One of the many advantages to being in the Equine Sciences program at CSU is the networking opportunities we have with industry professionals. Julie Goodnight is a respected trainer and clinician in the industry, who has hosted a how-to horse training show, Horse Master with Julie Goodnight, for 11 years. Julie has been on the Equine Sciences Advisory Committee for many years and is a big supporter of our program.

In February, Julie visited CSU to help teach the horse training class, applied equitation class, and the Right Horse class. Julie was able to provide valuable insight and instruction to the students in these classes. In the horse training class, the horses are being worked under saddle. Julie was able to help fix any issues the horses were having, and she talked to each student about what their short-term and long-term training goals were for their young horse. In the applied equitation class, Julie instructed students on posting technique and how to move in balance and rhythm with their horse’s body at all gaits. Finally, Julie watched the Right Horse class work with rescue horses from the Harmony Equine Center, and she helped analyze each horse and offer suggestions for their training program.

Julie’s visit was a valuable experience for the students and the horses, and we are grateful to have such an amazing industry partner supporting our program. Getting to learn from Julie is a once in a lifetime experience and being a student at CSU opens the doors for opportunities like this. Thank you, Julie!
National Western Stock Show:
The Best 16 Days in January

by Lillian Esterl-Byrne

One of the many perks of being an equine science student at CSU are the many exciting internship opportunities that come our way. I was fortunate to be a part of an internship with the 2019 National Western Stock Show. During this past winter break I was an intern with the Horse Show Office along with another one of our fantastic equine science students, Chloe Mercardante, and another student from Kansas State University. All of us spent winter break working long days filled with experience that I’m sure none of us would have traded for anything.

In the weeks leading up to the National Western Stock Show, there was a great deal of preparation work that needed to be done so that the many events we planned could run as smoothly as possible. Many of these preparation tasks were things such as inputting entries that had been sent in, creating jackets for all the exhibitors and staff, and anything else that we could get done ahead of time. When opening weekend finally rolled around it was time for the real fun to begin. The first event that was on the schedule was the inaugural Youth Ranch Horse Mentor Matchup. This event matched 10 youth competitors with 10 notable equine professionals who were responsible for coaching the youth competitors throughout the day. Some of these well-known professional included Cody Crow, Darren Miller, Matt Koch and several others. For this event I assisted with organizing entries as well as helped to write several blogs for social media about our dynamic duos that were a part of this event. This event had to be one of my favorites of the entire stock show because it was incredible to see the camaraderie between all the youth competitors as well as the commitment that all the mentors had to helping develop youth members like these in our industry. The event ended up being a huge success that participants and spectators alike were able to enjoy.

Another event that I greatly enjoyed being able to help with was the Ranch Rodeo. For this event, ranch hands from several well-known ranches competed in teams in events such as team penning, branding, and wild cow milking. Yes, you read that right, wild cow milking! And yes, it was just as wild as it might sound like. The events that these cowboys and cowgirls compete in are meant to match actual skills and tasks that these ranch hands would perform while working on their respective ranches. Take wild cow milking for example; this event mimics skills that cowboys would need to use if they needed to get milk from a cow for a calf that has lost its mother. This event also
featured several of our coaches from the Youth Ranch Horse Mentor Matchup such as Jessi Jolly, Sage Haythorn, and Buster Frierson. The Ranch Rodeo was an extremely exciting and, at times, comical event to watch that certainly kept you on the edge of your seat.

The event that I had the most participation with was the second annual Horseman’s Challenge. Competitors competed on an obstacle course, both individually and on a team. I was able to work with the judge and the superintendent of the event to help develop patterns for each division. The event was broken down into several divisions including beginner, intermediate, advanced, and a team challenge. Additionally, the top five in each individual division was eligible to compete in a speed challenge at the end of the three days of competition. I really enjoyed being a part of designing the courses for the different divisions because each course was unique, and it was a type of event that I had never seen before. Some of our obstacles include a teeter totter bridge, a water box, and several variations of bridges. This event certainly showcased the relationship between horse and rider, as the horses had to be extremely trusting of their riders to traverse the various obstacles. While helping orchestrate the event, I was extremely impressed by the willingness and trust of most of the horses and the bond that each of them shared with their respective riders. I feel very fortunate for being able to help put this together. The event helped showcase great horse and rider relationships that really showed what working with horses is all about.

Moving from the more western-focused events to the English ones, I was also able to help with several hunter jumper events. The Monarch Casino Gamblers Choice event was certainly my favorite. In this event, each jump is worth a certain number of points and the competitors are trying to wrack up as many points as possible in their allotted amount of time. The jumps these horses went over caused me to hold my breath on multiple occasions. It was certainly a showcase of the athletic talents of some of our remarkable equine partners.

I could go on and on about the different events that I was able to be a part of as an intern with the National Western Stock Show, but we might be here awhile. To wrap things up, it was an incredible experience to be an intern with the National Western Stock Show and there were many new things I was learned during my time there. Internships are a great way to discover what you are truly passionate about in the equine industry, as well as gain hands on experience that will help you in more ways than you can image later down the road. I encourage all of you to pursue as many internship opportunities as possible because you never know what kind of doors it may open or what kind of people you may get to meet.
Kerry Cogburn Quarter Horses Internship

by Bracy Groshko

This semester I have been very fortunate and was given the opportunity to intern with Kerry Cogburn Quarter Horses. Kerry and Cindie Cogburn run their horse training business out of Wellington. Their training program focuses on the reined cowhorse and stock horse events. These two disciplines focus on many aspects of the working ranch horse such as reining, cutting, roping, trail, and pleasure. I personally love this area of horsemanship, and I am very fortunate to be able to improve my skills in this area through my internship.

My responsibilities include riding and grooming horses and helping with chores and small tasks around the facility when needed. As an intern for the Cogburn’s, I have the opportunity to ride and work with varying levels of horses. I work with older, experienced show horses who need tuning up, some young and green horses, and even some colts that need to be started under saddle. I learn something new and different with every horse I encounter, and I enjoy the process of figuring out new horses all the time. My favorite part about this experience has definitely been seeing these horses improve and the satisfaction that comes from that. Along with working horses at their facility, I have had the opportunity to attend local horse shows with them and was able to connect with some great people in the industry.

Through my time at the Cogburn’s, I have learned many valuable skills that will help me in my future endeavors within the equine industry and have met amazing people along the way. I have truly been humbled and inspired to continue with my current career goals. I am so grateful for the opportunity!
Students Travel to Miller International
by Asia Arellano

Every spring semester, students have the incredible opportunity to visit Miller International at their Denver location and learn about the ins and outs of their clothing company and the Cinch brand. Cinch has been a valued sponsor of the Legends of Ranching program since 2006. They supply all the involved LOR program students and faculty with Cinch shirts and jeans, while also generously awarding students scholarships. Cinch graciously gives $10,000 in scholarship money to hardworking students who are actively participating in the respective year's Legends of Ranching program, whether that be in the Event and Sales Management class or in the Horse Training and Sales Preparation class. Cinch Scholarships are exclusively offered to those students who are currently enrolled into the program, and who are eligible to apply based on GPA.

During this tour at Miller International, students get to learn the different aspects that goes into the Cinch brand such as designing the clothing patterns, marketing, photography and media as well as product advertisement. This tour also allowed for students to make industry connections by talking with fellow CSU graduates who now are employees at Cinch or asking about possible internship opportunities. I have been on this tour two years in a row now, and I found each time to be rewarding and a great experience to learn and show our gratitude to Cinch as they have been a valued and continued sponsor of our amazing Legends of Ranching program.

Thank you Cinch!
ANEQ Spotlight: Values, Culture, and Food Animal Agriculture

by Ericka Gross

Are you looking for a unique class to add to next year’s schedule? As college students we get pretty used to the lecture halls filled with 300 students and a professor telling us what we need to know for the next exam. It is an awesome feeling when you walk into a class on the first day and realize you found a unique, out-of-the-box, class that will be a welcomed break in your typical routine. The hard part is finding those types of classes, but lucky for you, I found a great one and now I want to share it with you!

ANEQ 104 - Values, Culture, and Food Animal Agriculture is taught by Dr. Terry Engle and Dr. Bernie Rollin. The class size is small, around ten students. This allows for intellectual and challenging discussions to take place every class period. We mainly talk about food production animal welfare, but the students have the chance to take the class in different directions. As students in the College of Agriculture, its important that we stay informed on the practices of the present day industry. This class is eye-opening and thought provoking and would be great for anyone interested on having their thoughts challenged. This class has taught me so much about the Ag industry, and it has also taught me how to think for myself, think critically, and to stand up for what is right.
Upcoming Equine Center Events

March 15-17: Ranch Sorting
March 18-19: PATH International
March 20: USDA Class
March 25-29: Junior Practicum
April 3-7: Skyline Stampede Rodeo
April 8-12: JV Polo Tournament
April 13: Wagonhound Student Competition
April 19: Legends of Ranching Futurity and Maturity Horse Show
April 20: Legends of Ranching Performance Horse Sale
April 26-27: Alumni Polo Match
April 29: FFA Judging Competition
May 17: Animal and Equine Sciences Graduation Reception
Acknowledgements

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