

Equestrian Team News



5th Intercollegiate Horse Show at La Cense

By: Katy Wicks, Montana Western equestrian team historian

The University of Montana Western hosted its fifth annual IHSA Western Horse show on Saturday, Feb. 10 and Sunday Feb. 11 at the The weekend consisted of three western shows and was run by the UMW equestrian team members.

In addition to Montana Western, also competing were Utah State University, College of Southern Idaho, Montana State University- Bozeman, Rocky Mountain College, Montana State University- Billings, and University of Montana.

Montana Western was the Reserve High Point Team in Saturday's morning show, High Point Team in Saturday's afternoon show, and Reserve High Point Team in Sunday's morning show. Claïressa Kaler received two Reserve High Point Rider awards and Stephanie Russo received three first place ribbons. Team members Katy Wicks, Toni Henneman, Stephanie Russo, and Claïressa Kaler, all qualified for Regionals.

Montana Western individual results for the Saturday morning show:

Beginning Walk/Trot: Amanda Carlson, third; Fred Deffenbaugh, fourth; Alex Evans, fifth; Intermediate 2: Liz Allen, fourth, Amanda Stephanson, fifth, Katy Wicks, sixth; Novice Rail: Stephanie Russo, first; Toni Henneman, fourth; Amy Dellera, sixth; Advanced Flat: Kristen Gfoerer, second; Open Rail: Claïressa Kaler, second; Open Reining: Claïressa Kaler, second.

Montana Western individual results for the Saturday afternoon show:

Open Rein: Claïressa Kaler, sixth; Open Rail: Claïressa Kaler, second; Advanced Rail: Kristen Gfoerer, second; Novice Rail: Stephanie Russo, first; Amy Dellera, sixth; Intermediate 2: Amanda Stephanson, second; Katy Wicks, fourth; Liz Allen, fifth; Beginner Walk/Trot: Amanda Carlson, second; Alex Evans, third, Fred Deffenbaugh, fourth.

Montana Western individual results for the Sunday morning show:

Beginning Walk/Trot: Fred Deffenbaugh, fourth; Intermediate 2: Liz Allen, fourth; Amanda Stephanson, fifth; Novice Flat: Stephanie Russo, first, Toni Henneman, third, Katy Wicks, fourth, Amy Dellera, fifth; Advanced Flat: Kristen Gfoerer, first; Open Flat: Claïressa Kaler, fifth; Open Rein: Claïressa Kaler, second.

This show wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of the Montana Western team members and additional community support. The team would like to thank all who volunteered their time, horses, or encouragement; you are greatly appreciated.

Montana Western's next competition is at Rocky Mountain College on Saturday, Feb. 17 with the Western Regional competition on Sunday, Feb. 18.