Wildcat Canter

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY AG EQUINE PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER





UK Equestrian Team Develops Comaraderie Riding Skills- PAGE 12

The University of Kentucky Equestrian Team (UKET) is an important part of the many equine clubs and teams the University has to offer. The team is a part of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) in the Hunt Seat discipline. Training out of Olive Hill Sporthorses with Diana Conlon, the team competes in the English discipline with over fences and flat classes. Conlon is a UK alum herself, and was a member of the UK Equestrian team.



Kentucky at USPA Southeast Regional- PAGE 13

Recently, the University of Kentucky's Men and Women's Polo Team participated in the United States Polo Association's Southeast Regional Tournament at the University of Virginia.

On Saturday, March 3, the women played a tough game against the Michigan State women. Unfortunately, they were unable to hold off the strong Spartan team and did not advance in the tournament.



Wildcat Eventing is Ten Years Strong at the University of Kentucky-PAGE 14

The University of Kentucky Dressage and Eventing Team has been a club team for about 10 years now and was founded in 2008. Our team members consist of dressage riders and eventers ranging from noncompeting to the Intermediate/two-star level. The team has grown tremendously over the years. Currently, we have about 60 members.



Other Features

Alumni Spotlight-PAGE 10

Savannah Robin Named UK Ag Equine Programs Internship Coordiantor-PAGE 5

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- April 1, Scholarship deadline
- April 9, Mandatory Internship Meeting, 1 p.m.
- April 10, Mandatory Internship Meeting, 10 a.m.
- April 11, Mandatory Internship Meeting, 10 a.m.
- Aril 12, Mandatory Internship Meeting, 2 p.m.
- April 23-27, Equine Study Break Treats Week
- April 26-29, Land Rover Kentucky Three Day Event
- April 27, Last day of classes
- April 28, ESMA Alumni Tailgate, 9 a.m., Kentucky Horse Park
- April 28, Call to the Post Derby Bash, 6 p.m., Red Mile Round Barn

WELCOME

This is my farewell to the Equine Program, for I am retiring from UK at the end of May. But I leave knowing that I have had a small part in building what has become the finest multi-faceted equine program in the world.

When I first came to UK in 1976, I was surprised that a land-grant university in the heart of horse country did not have an identifiable undergraduate degree nor an extensive extension program in equine studies. Moreover, while the research of the faculty in the Gluck Center was path-breaking and internationally consequential for equine health, few within Kentucky or even at the University recognized its value. But in 2005, everything changed with the birth of the Equine Initiative (renamed UK Ag Equine Programs in 2012).

The process began with a series of community discussions with diverse groups around Kentucky (seven listening sessions with more than 70 participants, including one for equine veterinarians). What we learned was that members of Kentucky's equine industry wanted information that would enable them to be better - better managers



of their pastures, the health of their horses, their farms, the breeding and marketing of their horses. Moreover, even if such information was available, it was difficult to find and even harder to apply to their practical problems. People wanted the same level of attention from research and extension as was given to the other livestock sectors. They wanted public and policy recognition for the economic value of the equine industry to Kentucky's economy. And, they wanted an undergraduate degree that would prepare the next generation of equine business and political leaders.

Thirteen years ago, the horse-focused landscape at UK consisted of the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center and several faculty in different departments in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. But there was no vision for a holistic, integrated, multidisciplinary focus on the horse. Today, that landscape reflects our response to the concerns expressed in those community discussions.

- An Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree, one of only three stand-alone equine degree programs offered at a U.S. land-grant university.
- Expanded extension programs in support of the industry, such as the Horse College and the UK Horse Pasture Evaluation Program.
- New informational efforts such as Bluegrass Equine Digest, Wildcat Canter and UK Ag Equine News.
- The 2012 Kentucky Equine Survey, the first comprehensive analysis of the equine industry in Kentucky since 1977, which revealed an industry with all equine-related sales and income in 2011 of about \$1.1 billion from 35,000 equine operations home to 242,400 horses.
- New partnerships with other colleges (UK College of Medicine with Saddle Up Safely), other universities (Kentucky Equine Higher Education Consortium) and equine-related organizations (The Kentucky Equine Networking Association - KENA, a partnership with the Kentucky Horse Council).
- An annual Equine Career and Opportunity Fair providing internship and employment choices for college students from across Kentucky.
- Seven active and highly successful equine clubs (Dressage & Eventing Team, Equestrian Team, Horse Racing Club, Polo Team, R.E.A.D. Club, Rodeo Team, Saddle Seat Team), demonstrating the advantage of educational opportunities in the heart of horse country.

All this and so much more in just 13 years! I leave knowing that the future of UK Ag Equine Programs is boundless. The foundation is broad and strong. It is a future of endless possibilities and opportunities!

Lori Garkovich

Professor, Community and Leadership Development

Editorial note: UK Ag Equine Programs benefited greatly from Dr. Lori Garkovich's leadership over these past 13 years. She was part a core group of dedicated faculty and staff who created the program and helped ensure its success. Before there was an infrastructure and before the organization had the members of the faculty and staff it has now, Garkovich led the effort and helped create a framework for its future. The strategic planning efforts of a fledgling organization, as well strategic planning throughout the years, can be directly traced to her leadership. Additionally, the implementation of several marquee events, including the two Equine Summits held by UK and the Distinguished Industry Lecture Series, benefitted from her vision and input. She also helped articulate the framework for an "equine economic cluster" when describing the importance of horses for Kentucky's economy, comparing it to the importance of wine for Napa Valley and music for Nashville.

Perhaps more important than the organizational leadership exhibited by Garkovich over the years, are the many, many students she's impacted during her time here and the faculty and staff she's helped mentor. She is one of the kindest, most generous people our organization has had the benefit of knowing. Her mark on the organization and the college runs deep and we thank her for her council and vision all these years. Here's to a happy retirement. Thank you for all you've done for UK, the college and UK Ag Equine Programs!

MASTHEAD



Wildcat Canter Editorial Staff

Hailee Adams, contributing writer Alexandra Harper, MBA, managing editor, contributing writer, layout Maddie Regis, contributing writer Holly Wiemers, MA, APR, senior editor, contributing writer

Wildcat Canter Editorial Board

Camie Heleski, PhD, lecturer Danielle Jostes, equine philanthropy director Mick Peterson, PhD, equine programs director Kristine Urschel, PhD, director of undergraduate studies

Kristen Wilson, MS, academic program coordinator



Ag Equine Programs College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

N212 Ag Sciences Building North Lexington, KY 40546-0091 Office: (859) 257-2226 equine@uky.edu www.uky.edu/equine

Connect with us on Social Media





Savannah Robin Named UK Ag Equine Programs Internship Coordinator

By Holly Wiemers

Savannah Robin, an alumna of the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and one of the very first interns within UK Ag Equine Programs' office more than 10 years ago, has been named its new equine science and management internship coordinator. She will begin June 11.

In this role, Robin will administer internships for the large and dynamic equine degree program within the college, assist in academic advising for students within the equine major, support the teaching mission of the program and help plan student events.

"I am excited and honored to be stepping into this position and being able to serve the students of the college in this capacity," Robin said. "I feel like my professional passions have collided in this job, and I can't wait to see what it holds."

With close to 320 students enrolled in the equine undergraduate program, and an internship requirement being a requirement for graduation, Robin's role is pivotal to the program.

"The equine internship coordinator is a unique position which links some of the most talented students from around the country to an economically crucial industry, one that is a signature of the Bluegrass state," said Mick Peterson, director of UK Ag Equine Programs and faculty member in the college's Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering. "We are honored to have someone of Savannah's stature and experience as internship coordinator. She brings unique experience and talent to this role."

A native Kentuckian, Robin currently teaches at Harrison County High School, where she has been an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor since 2014. Prior to that, she was the advocacy coordinator and meeting planner for the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

She has also worked as an instructor within the college's Department of Community and Leadership Development since 2013, where she developed and taught a course focused on engaging students in policy and advocacy processes. Robin also served in the college as a research and teaching assistant in agricultural education, as an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor for Nelson County High School and as a communications and editorial assistant intern with UK Ag Equine Programs.

"I have loved being a high school ag teacher; it's been a true joy in my life," she said. "I have the best students and have learned so much in the past four years. But, when I read this job description, I felt my heart being pulled toward the things I feel that I am strongest at in my current job: mentorship of students, helping students map out their futures and being engaged in the industry and teaching others to do the same. I couldn't pass up the opportunity to return to the Big Blue Nation and serve the college and the equine industry in this way."

Robin earned two bachelor's degrees from UK, one in agricultural education and the other in agricultural

communications. She earned her master's degree from the college's Department of Community and Leadership Development. She is currently in the process of earning her doctorate from the UK College of Education in educational leadership.

Robin is a longtime member of the American Quarter Horse Association and Kentucky Quarter Horse Association and current president of the Bourbon County Farm Bureau as well as a member of the Kentucky Association of Agriculture Teachers, National Association of Agricultural Educators and Kentucky Cattlemen's Association.

"Besides helping our students grow and develop – which is one of my favorite things ever, one of the things I am really looking forward to is getting re-engaged in the equine industry," she said. "I was raised in the equine industry, and it has molded me into who I am today. Giving back to it is something I am really looking forward to doing."



STUDENT SHOWCASE

From our students...some of the pieces written in a provocative new course

By Holly Wiemers

An important part of the mission of our program includes undergraduate education, specifically with our Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program. A new class that piloted this spring – taught by Camie Heleski, a faculty member and lecturer within the program – is one designed to present provocative, often controversial issues that are current to the equine industry. In this course, EQM 300, "Horse Whispering," how to communicate with humans in the equine industry, students are introduced to topics, hear from speakers, research information and communicate about industry issues in written and oral formats. The course is designed to expose students to hotbutton issues in the industry and encourage them to research and formulate well-communicated opinions about those issues. One avenue made available to this pilot course was publishing some of those stories here. Over the next few months, we will showcase a few of the written pieces that emerged from students in this course. They are meant to be provocative and sometimes controversial. Here is one of two of those stories.

Carriage Horses – Big City Fairytale or Equine Abuse?

By Darby Cease, submitted as part of a EQM 300 pilot course ('Horse Whispering' – how to communicate with humans in the equine industry)

The big city fairytale. Every tourist has one. For most people, it includes that romantic Hollywood moment of a couple in a horse drawn carriage. Speaking as a life-long horse lover and admitted romantic, it has always been a dream of mine to take a horse drawn carriage ride through the streets of New York City at night.

While many people feel the same way, there are vocal opponents of the carriage horse industry operating in large cities. One of the most notable critics is Bill de Blasio, mayor of New York City since 2014. In fact, it was a major part of the platform that helped him win. It earned him the support of anti-carriage horse groups like NYClass. Throughout his campaign and his time in office, he has shared negative sentiments regarding the carriage horse industry in New York City, not all of which have been completely founded in equine reality.

"They're not humane. They're not appropriate to the year 2014," he said once.

Most of the horses pulling carriages in the city are draft breedss or draft-mixes. They were specifically bred to pull heavy objects and often show the desire to do so. The carriage carts have large, well-maintained and often padded wheels that the horse pulls on asphalt. This is not as strenuous for the horse as it may seem to passersby.

Those who are not personally involved with horses tend to have a more difficult time telling horse breeds apart than they would telling dog breeds apart. To understand why draft horses, like Percherons, Clydesdales and Belgians, are used to pull the carts in cities, there are a few key anatomical and behavioral points you should be aware of.

First, draft horses have a very thick boned, densely muscled frame which is designed to be able to pull heavy objects. Historically they were used to pull farm tools, drive carriages or carry heavily-armored soldiers into battle.

Second, draft breeds are known as gentle giants that have a very level head and even temperament. For the most part, they love attention, handle new situations with ease, prefer to go at a slow-but-steady pace and show a desire to pull objects. They were not bred to be the fastest horses for racing or the flashiest horses for the show ring. In terms of dog breeds, you could easily compare them to a St. Bernard.

"Carriage horses are abused until the day they break down," is one common argument.

It is true that not all carriage horses around the world are taken care of to the highest standard. As with any area within the equine industry, there are going to be barns that take good care of their horses and barns that take only semi-adequate care of their horses. However, this is not the case with the horses in New York City. They are taken care of by some of the best veterinarians and farriers in the business. Their handlers care deeply about their horses and want to ensure their care. To categorize all carriage horse workers as cruel would not be fair to those who treat their horses like the hard, deserving workers they are.

continued from page 6...

"They constantly breathe exhaust while dodging dangerous traffic... confined to the shafts of their carriage and their tiny stable stalls, with no access to green pastures," is another common argument against carriages in large cities, as is the cited concern about joint issues from the surfaces they walk upon.

It is true that there is a lot of concussive force on joints due to traveling on asphalt. With the larger boned breeds, the repetitive concussion could exacerbate problems they are already more susceptible to. This is comparable to how larger, thicker dogs are more prone to arthritis and other joint problems. In order to prevent issues, farriers have developed "rubber tire shoes" just for carriage horses. It gives them the same type of traction as the tires on a car, with additional cushioning to help their joints as they walk on concrete and or asphalt for seven to eight hours each day.

Carriage horses are also, arguably, one of the most regulated types of horses in the equine industry. They have a mandated minimum of five weeks off every year, which is more than most humans – and a lot of carriage companies will give their horses one week of just pasture turnout every month. In addition to those strict regulations, carriage horses get one 15-minute break every two hours and are offered water after either every or every other ride, depending on weather conditions.

There have only been three deaths of carriage horses in work in New York City in the last 30 years, which is lower than the number of pedestrians killed there each month.

I believe that carriage horses in New York City only help add a touch of romance to an otherwise bustling and daunting city-scape. While it can be traumatizing for onlookers to witness the rare occurrence of a carriage horse breaking down or crashing, a few bad apples should not ruin the reputation of an otherwise beautiful batch.



STUDENT SHOWCASE

From our students...some of the pieces written in a provocative new course

By Holly Wiemers

An important part of the mission of our program includes undergraduate education, specifically with our Equine Science and Management undergraduate degree program. A new class that piloted this spring – taught by Camie Heleski, a faculty member and lecturer within the program – is one designed to present provocative, often controversial issues that are current to the equine industry. In this course, EQM 300, "Horse Whispering," how to communicate with humans in the equine industry, students are introduced to topics, hear from speakers, research information and communicate about industry issues in written and oral formats. The course is designed to expose students to hotbutton issues in the industry and encourage them to research and formulate well-communicated opinions about those issues. One avenue made available to this pilot course was publishing some of those stories here. Over the next few months, we will showcase a few of the written pieces that emerged from students in this course. They are meant to be provocative and sometimes controversial. Here is the second of those two stories.

Rollkur: Training Technique? or Mistreatment?

By Aimee Collins, submitted as part of a EQM 300 pilot course ('Horse Whispering' – how to communicate with humans in the equine industry)

It's likely that the genesis of the equestrian sport was a love of horses, yet the welfare of the horse varies dramatically in each discipline.

One issue, known as "rollkur," has been a hot-button issue within the dressage and show jumping disciplines for some time. The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) banned the practice recently because of the poor welfare it is said to promote, but there has been no conclusive evidence produced to support this decision. So the question remains: Should rollkur be allowed at competitions?

Rollkur is defined as the over-flexion of the head and neck area through aggressive force. It is characterized as a coercive riding technique instead of a gradual flexion. The FEI banned the use of rollkur in 2012 after a video was released showing rider Patrik Kittel warming his horse up. The horse was bent in a visually uncomfortable position and the tongue was blue. The lack of oxygen to the horse's tongue was thought to be linked to the maneuver, thus causing the ban.

Many experienced horsemen say the practice goes against "the principals of classical dressage" and the "written rules of the FEI." Rollkur is thought to promote a mentality that the animal needs to be submissive instead of a partner. There are many things that can affect the well-being of the horse without causing long-term harm. For example, the horse's field of vision is greatly reduced. Because the nose is pulled into the chest and behind the vertical (when the head is perpendicular to the ground), the new field of vision is directly beneath the horse. The horse is now unable to see the track directly in front. This then forces the horse to trust its rider entirely.

The practice also has been shown in studies to compress the cervical and neck vertebrae. In one such study, horses walked and trotted on treadmills. Some subjects were put into rollkur positions and some were not. In the first round, saddles and riders were not used. The findings showed there was stress put on the cervical vertebrae, but nothing that suggested a long-term effect.

Many trainers have claimed using rollkur as a training technique for years and have never reported issues with their horses' conformation or soundness. Those trainers maintain that the practice is beneficial because of a restricted stride length, which in turn leads to an increase in tendon elasticity and a more flexible neck and back. Again, there is little evidence supported by biomechanical data to prove this to be beneficial.

continued on page 9...

continued from page 8...

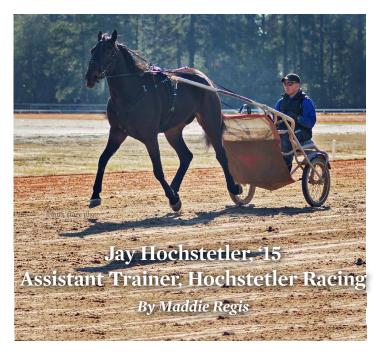
There is another argument that says the practice of rollkur can be psychologically detrimental to a horse's well-being. The inability to see or control the flexion of their own head has the potential to reduce confidence in their rider and could potentially lead to becoming a timid mount.

In a study conducted by the University of Guelph's Animal Care Committee, this was tested. Fifteen horses were studied; they were either privately owned or school horses and all were Warmblood-type horses. They were all dressage or show jumpers of varying upper levels. The experiment was carried out by constructing a Y-shaped maze. Each arm of the maze was assigned a color, and the color and type of flexion was constant throughout the experiment. This allowed each horse to learn which color matched with normal poll flexion versus rollkur flexion. Once conditioned, the horses were allowed to choose which arm of the maze they wanted to enter. After multiple trials for each horse, 93 percent of the horses preferred normal flexion over rollkur. One horse throughout the study seemed to prefer the rollkur position, and one horse was unable to contribute to the results, as he was afraid of the maze itself. Although this study showed results that suggest the preference of normal poll flexion, it doesn't suggest that the horses are mistreated for being used in a rollkur fashion.

So the question remains: Is using a rollkur training method maltreatment towards horses? Strictly speaking in reference to the experiments listed, rollkur is not physically or psychologically detrimental to the well-being of horses. On the other hand, many equestrians still believe it should be a banned practice. With growing awareness of equine welfare, rollkur has quickly become an issue that concerns a larger population. Further experimentation needs to be conducted to determine the true long- and short-term effects.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Where is home for you?

I spend the winter months training horses in Pinehurst, North Carolina, and I spend the racing season (April - October) in Vernon, New York.

How did you first become involved in the horse industry?

I was at a racetrack days after I was born, and I've been around the racing stable ever since. I'm a fourth-generation harness horsemen so I do not know life without horses.

What were your career goals before graduation?

My goal was to have my own Standardbred racing stable while also being involved in harness racing media and promotion.

Where are you currently employed?

I am currently an Assistant Trainer for my family's racing stable, Hochstetler Racing. I also do freelance writing for Midwest Harness Report and co-host a harness racing podcast called Trotcast: Revolution.

What are your current job responsibilities?

I oversee all of the stable operations. I sit behind 10-12 horses per day for training. I'm in charge of application of all medicine, supplements and special care for the 24 horses in our stable. During the racing season, I do the bulk of the transportation and preparation of horses on their race day. I'm also heavily involved in the decision-making process on buying, selling and entering horses for racing.

What led you to this position?

This has been a family business for several decades. I was not always sure I wanted to be in the business, but I decided during my time in college that it was what I wanted to do and I started the day after graduation full-time. I have to give a special acknowledgement to the late Professor Tim Capps. His Equine Marketing class inspired me to stay heavily involved in the marketing and media aspects of the entire sport.

How are you currently involved in the horse industry?

I currently own two racehorses myself while helping manage my father's stable of 24 horses. My weekly podcast covers all things harness racing as well as my monthly journalism work for Midwest Harness Report.

What advice do you have for current equine students?

If horses are truly your passion, stay with it. The whole industry is incredibly difficult to be successful in, but I'd rather be struggling while chasing my dream than stuck in a job that is not where my passion is.



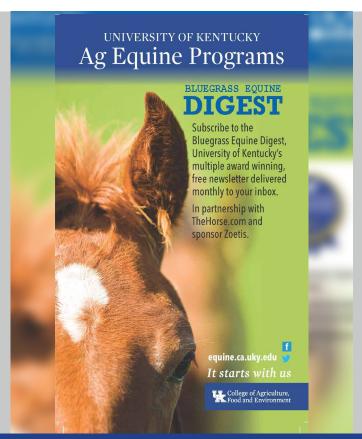
Ag Equine Programs
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Bluegrass Equine Digest

Check out the March issue of the Bluegrass Equine Digest, a free, monthly electronic newsletter dedicated to providing up-to-date information on equine research from the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment in collaboration with TheHorse.com and sponsored by Zoetis.

Click here to see this month's stories.

- A Closer Look at Racehorse Welfare
- Eastern Tent Caterpillar Egg Hatch
- Horse Genome Workshop
- Reducing Horse Racing Fatalaties: Where Do We Go From Here?



CLUBS AND TEAMS DIRECTORY

DRESSAGE AND EVENTING TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Jill Stowe, jill.stowe@uky.edu

President: Lexie Samuels, alexandra.samuels41@gmail.com

Facebook: UK Dressage and Eventing

HORSE RACING CLUB

Advisor: Dr. Laurie Lawrence, llawrenc@uky.edu President: Sidney Boots, ukhorseracingclub@gmail.com

Facebook: UKY Horse Racing Club

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Bob Coleman, rcoleman@uky.edu

HUNT SEAT TEAM

President: Mackenzie Mentzer, uk.equestrianteam@gmail.com

Facebook: UKY Equestrian Team

WESTERN TEAM

President: Sydney Hull, sydney.hull@uky.edu

Facebook: UKY Western IHSA Team

POLO TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Roger Brown, rogerbrown@uky.edu Dr. Jamie MacLeod, jnmacleod@uky.edu President: Ben Lynch, benjamin.lynch@uky.edu

Facebook: U of Kentucky Polo

R.E.A.D. CLUB

Advisor: Dr. Kristine Urschel, klur222@uky.edu President: Katie Simmons, kesi226@g.uky.edu

Facebook: READ Club

RODEO TEAM

Advisor: Monty Ott, monty.ott@uky.edu President: Shane Halbleib, spha227@uky.edu

Facebook: UKY Rodeo Team

SADDLE SEAT TEAM

Advisor: Dr. Mary Rossano, mary.rossano@uky.edu

President: Audrey Schneider, uksaddleseatteam@gmail.com

Facebook: UKY Saddleseat Team



CLUBS AND TEAMS FEATURE

UK Equestrian Team Develops Comaraderie, Riding Skills

By Maddie Regis

The University of Kentucky Equestrian Team (UKET) is an important part of the many equine clubs and teams the University has to offer. The team is a part of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) in the Hunt Seat discipline. Training out of Olive Hill Sporthorses with Diana Conlon, the team competes in the English discipline with over fences and flat classes. Conlon is a UK alum herself, and was a member of the UK Equestrian team.

One unique aspect of IHSA competition is that competitors do not compete on their own horses.

"In IHSA, you draw a number from a bingo machine, and that is the horse you ride in your class. It can sometimes be difficult because each horse is very different and it is not always the type of ride you are used to," said Makenzie Metnzer, UK Equestrian Team president.

Metzner, a junior elementary education major, enjoys the bonds she has formed with other riders while being on the team. She said Team members are very close, and she has made some of her best friends through the IHSA team.



Metzner said she also enjoys being on the team because of the opportunities it gives her as a rider.

"The IHSA program allows us to ride many different horses and helps us develop as riders," she said.

In terms of the team's overall goals and performance, it has had a successful season so far. The team earned high point team at most of its regular shows, and was the high point regional team as well, meaning it will be moving on to the Zones competition. Success at Zones could mean the team moves on to the national competition.

"We would love to make it to Nationals in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and to do that, we would have to be high point or reserve team at Zones," Metzner said.

Seven riders qualified for Zones individually, and Metzner said the entire team is hopeful that those individual riders will also qualify for Nationals.

It is clear that the hard work, dedication and close relationships of the UKET have allowed for a successful 2017-2018 competition year with potential for more success ahead.



Kentucky at USPA Southeast Regional

By Ben Lynch

Recently, the University of Kentucky's Men and Women's Polo Team participated in the United States Polo Association's Southeast Regional Tournament at the University of Virginia.

On Saturday, March 3, the women played a tough game against the Michigan State women. Unfortunately, they were unable to hold off the strong Spartan team and did not advance in the tournament.

Later that day, the Men's team had a great victory against Virginia Tech. After its strong performance, Kentucky was able to secure a spot in the finals against the top seed, University of Virginia. The final match was extremely close and hard-fought between the two teams. Unfortunately, UK did not have enough to edge ahead and lost, 12-15. Although the loss was close, it was not enough for the Kentucky Men to advance to the National Final Tournament held in Santa Barbara, California.

Despite the two losses, UK's Polo Club came home with great accolades. For the women, Molly Hosler was awarded the Sportsmanship Award. For the men, Ben Lynch and Tommy Huber were selected to the Intercollegiate All-Star Team.

The greatest achievements, and arguably the most important, went to the UK polo horses of. UK Polo brought eight horses who played in the tournament. Other teams rode the horses and were impressed with their athleticism. As a result, the UK polo horses won Best Playing String. Furthermore, two of the horses, Columbia and Willie, were tied for Best Play Pony for the entire tournament. This is a high achievement, as the student-run program puts a great deal of effort into the care of the horses.

Although the teams were unable to advance to the National Finals, they walked away with great honors, an amazing experience and pride in their horses. Just from last year to this year, there have been incredible improvements in the program. The club is excited to see further development of the program in the upcoming years.



CLUBS AND TEAMS FEATURE

Wildcat Eventing is Ten Years Strong at the University of Kentucky

By Lexie Samuels

The University of Kentucky Dressage and Eventing Team has been a club team for about 10 years now and was founded in 2008. Our team members consist of dressage riders and eventers ranging from noncompeting to the Intermediate/two-star level. The team has grown tremendously over the years. Currently, we have about 60 members.

We have members from all over the country from California to New Jersey. Our members are coached by whomever they wish to be coached by. Lexington is such an ideal place because we have so many great coaches in the area including Cathy Wieschhoff, Allie Knowles, and Clark Montgomery, just to name a few.

Continue to read this United States Eventing Association story <u>here.</u>



FEATURE STORY

UK Ag Equine Programs Career and Opportunity Fair Held March 6

More than 125 students from 14 universities attended the 10th Annual University of Kentucky Career & Opportunities Fair on March 6 at Spindletop Hall. The fair featured 27 exhibitors and three career-track speakers focused on the Thoroughbred industry, business and communications.



photos by Emma Tilghman and Emily Sklar





Hosted by The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Alumni Association

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

The Round Barn Stable of Memories at Red Mile

1200 Red Mile Road, Lexington, KY 40504

HAPPY HOUR - 6 PM

Join us to mix and mingle over complimentary drinks with fellow alums and friends of the college.

DINNER & DRINKS - 7 PM

Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Bayou Bluegrass Catering and complimentary drinks.

LIVE MUSIC - 8 PM

Superfecta will have you dancing throughout the night!

LIVE MUSIC - SILENT AUCTION - BOURBON PULL

DRESS IN YOUR BEST DERBY CLUBHOUSE ATTIRE!

A prize will be awarded to the ladies best derby hat and gentlemans best outfit!

*Register by April 13, 2018. Limited seating available, tables will go quickly!

-All proceeds support Area Chapter Scholarships-





Ag Equine Programs College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

N212 Ag Sciences Building North Lexington, KY 40546-0091 Office: (859) 257-2226 equine@uky.edu www.uky.edu/equine