

Dixie National brings out top scorers in Beef Cattle, Killebrew makes it to Sale of Dixie

By Betsy Padgett

Holmes Co. Ext./4-H Agent

The 2017 Mississippi Junior 4-H/FFA Roundup shown in Jackson at the fairgrounds as part of the Dixie National Livestock Show is now "in the record books" and Holmes County 4-H came away with its share of special moments.

Market hogs moved in late on Wednesday, February 1, and showed on Friday and Saturday, February 2 and 3. Highlights in the Swine Showmanship classes included Rayne Tate's 4th place showing, Grayson Marshall's 9th and Wes Melton's 12th in their respective age divisions. John Thomas Murtagh, however, had the most spectacular display of showmanship right up to the end - when the judge pressed him and his hog for space resulting in his fatal (in showmanship only) error of crossing between the judge and his hog. His hard fought battle for the win was traded for 2nd place to a not-so-spectacular showing by a Sunflower County rival who was never pressed for "the error." To John Thomas's credit he had "put on a clinic" as we say in the livestock show world and given all present a memorable demonstration of how to "drive a pig" and keep the judge's eye. (All his "buddy", Rayne, could do from her 4th place pen was sigh in dismay as he stepped across his pig. For she too had been in the running for the top spot just moments before.)

In the Market Barrow show Ana Claire Edwards placed 7th, Rayne Tate 11th and Hanna Hood 13th. In the Spot division, Colton Howell placed 1st, John Thomas Murtagh 2nd and Haley Hammons 7th. In the Chester division, John Thomas took 1st, Grayson Marshall 2nd, Rayne 7th and Lilly Word 9th. In the Duroc division, Rayne placed 7th, Ana Claire 10th and Pearce Edwards 11th.

As Saturday drew a bit long, our swine seemed to battle on. John Thomas placed second in his weight group of Hampshires and went on to win Mississippi Bred Reserve Champion of that breed. Grayson placed 4th, Bennett Word 5th, Wes Melton 6th, Natalie Winstead 8th, Drue Johnson 10th and Pearce 14th to round out the Hampshire competition.

Natalie Winstead showed the Mississippi Bred Reserve Champion Yorkshire while Lilly Word placed 5th and Nicole Winstead stood 14th. Fourteen weight divisions of Crossbred hogs, then, finished out the Swine show. Ana Claire Edwards stood 8th in the light-weight division. Drue Johnson came in a bit later to win the 6th weight division. Nicole followed with an 8th place showing. Ana Claire, then, brought back in her heavier Cross to win first place Mississippi bred. Pearce finished off the day with 10th place in the 11th weight division.

Livi Howell was our lone Lamb showman. She placed 3rd in showmanship and 7th with her lambs in Market classes.

The Beef Cattle show produced more winners, especially from Rebecca and Landon Hood's High Hope Farm (HHHF) in Ebenezer. Pearce Edwards showing two bulls

from HHHF won first in both of the age divisions that he showed, with United and Uproar. Uproar came back to take Reserve Champion of the Percentage Simmental Division. Both of these bulls placed 2nd and 3rd in the state's top five Percentage Simmental bulls overall (quite impressive for home grown stock). Livi Howell placed 5th with her Percentage Simmental heifer, Tyler Diffey 6th with Lady Grace and 8th with his red heifer, 56-D. In the Hereford Division, Davian "Bug" Powell placed 6th with his heifer, Della, and 3rd with his bull, Crisco. In the Simmental division, Sidney Sinclair took 4th with her heifer, High Class, and 5th with Reddy. Tyler Diffey placed 3rd with his bull, Destiny.

Market Goat showmen, Kylee Killebrew, Jordan Brooks and Tyler Branch, had a most successful goat show. Jordan Brooks set the bar high with his win in the 8-year-old Goat showmanship class. He was by far the most experienced and intense showmen of this age division, having been watching, learning and showing in the pee wee division for the past five or

six years. Kylee Killebrew took 3rd in her senior age division, with Tyler Branch standing 11th. Tyler made a comeback with his Commercial Doe winning Reserve Champion Light Mediumweight division. Kylee placed 3rd with her doe, Tyler 8th with another doe and Jordan 4th with his doe.

In the Market Goat Show, Kylee dominated each of her weight divisions taking first in all three. Her Light Medium-

weight wether took Reserve Champion and Mississippi Bred Champion. Tyler's wether, Milo, stood 7th in its weight class.

Kylee went on to earn a spot in the coveted Sale of Dixie National Champions, a fitting way to end her 4-H livestock showing career that spanned time from the summer of 2006 through this winter of 2017. This trip was Kylee's second to the Sale, the first coming in 2012, but she was NOT without numerous champions at multiple shows annually along the way.



Tyler Branch is pictured with his Champion Market Goat from the Delta District Livestock Show held in Greenwood, January 30 through February 1. Tyler is the son of Angela Love and Cedric Branch of Lexington. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Kylee Killebrew, at right, is pictured with Judge Brandon Morgan and her Reserve Champion/MS Bred Champion Light Mediumweight Market Goat at the 2017 Dixie National Junior Roundup Show in Jackson held February 2-19. Kylee capped her 11 years showing goats with her second Dixie National champion winning market goat. Kylee is the daughter of Tracy and Kenny Killebrew of Coxburg. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Pearce Edwards is pictured after having won Reserve Champion Mississippi Bred Percentage Simmental Bull. Pearce showed two bulls placing first with both and the two were chosen as 2nd and 3rd Top Mississippi bred bulls in their breed division. Rebecca and Landon Hood raised these bulls on their High Hopes Farm in Ebenezer. Pearce is the son of Randi and Steven Edwards of Ebenezer. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Jordan Brooks (holding goat) is pictured after winning 8-year-old Goat showmanship in the Dixie National Livestock Show, with his mentors, Angela Love and Tyler Branch (at right). Angela is Jordan's aunt and Tyler, his cousin, both who were instrumental in Jordan's success. Jordan is the son of Hillary Griffin of Lexington. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)

Card Of Thanks

We, the family of Mac Wigley, want to thank the coroner, sheriff department staff, Med Stat personnel, and Jeffie Alford with Southern Funeral Home for the empathetic and professional manner in which they performed their jobs. Thank you so much to those who were with our mother until we could get there. It means so much to know that she was encircled with love. We appreciate the outpouring of sympathy demonstrated by the many calls, visits, food, flowers and cards. These acts of kindness will always be cherished. Thank you to the ladies of the First Presbyterian Church who coordinated and served the meal after the funeral. A special thank you goes to the pallbearers, Debbie Kimbrough who so ably played the music and for Rev. Scott Huber and Nick Robison who delivered the message for the memorial service. Our hearts were blessed and renewed as we pondered God's provision of salvation to those who would trust in Jesus Christ, as Mac did. Please continue to pray for us as we go through this time of grieving. God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,
Myra Wigley and
children, Jennifer Deston
and Aden Wigley

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PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested public and private transit and paratransit operators within **Holmes County**, are hereby advised that **The City of Durant** is applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Jackson, Mississippi, for a grant under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program of the Federal Public Transportation Act, as amended, for the provision of elderly and disabled transportation services. **The City of Durant** will purchase transit services from **Mississippi Valley State University Mass Transit**, service (is being) (would be) provided within **Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Sunflower, Tallahatchie and Washington Counties**. MVSU - Mass Transit program consists of **31 (thirty-one) vehicles, buses and vans with a total capacity of 581 with 23 (twenty-three) of those vehicles being ADA accessible.**

The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested parties, including transit and paratransit operators, of the service being planned for providing transportation services for the elderly and disabled within the area as described above, and to ensure that such a program would not represent a duplication of current or of proposed services provided by existing transit or paratransit operators in the area.

Comments either for or against this service will be received at any time within ***fifteen (15) days** from the date of this notice. All comments should be addressed to **Tasha Davis, Mayor of The City of Durant, P.O. Box 272 Durant, MS 39063** or by calling **(662) 635-3314**.

More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the program criteria will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at **The City Hall, 253 W Mulberry Durant, MS 39063** on **February 24, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.**