



Tyler Branch dominated the Market Goat competition at the Delta District Show in Greenwood winning with both his market goats the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Goat honors. Tyler, also, won his age division of Goat Showmanship. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Holmes County's Junior Goat Judging Team won the District Judging competition in Greenwood at the recent Delta District Livestock Show. Pictured from left to right – Colton Howell, Jordan Brooks and John Hudson Word. Brooks, scored the High Individual Award in this competition. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Colton Howell is pictured at the Delta District Show in Greenwood after having won the 12 year old division of Beef Showmanship showing his Simmental Bull. He is the son of Tara and Scott Howell. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Carly Williams showed what the future holds for the Holmes County Beef Exhibit. Carly with a little assistance from her cousin, Davian Powell, won the Delta District Pee Wee Beef Showmanship class with Davian's heifer, Della, in Greenwood. (Photo by Betsy Padgett)



February 15 - Milton Parrish, Kaitlynn Geotes, Connie Dees Cheek, Kelly Donald Henley Patterson, Toni Lawshe, John Michael Hammett, Ella Bradlee Cothran, Edward Wong

February 16 - William Gilmore, Paul Padgett, Wade Self, John Hays, Don Barrett, Mary G. Hall, Beth Adcock, Marlin Lowrey, Katherine Cagle, Jan Webster, Patrick Thompson

February 17 - Joy Trehern, Maurice Benson, Shundrika Peterson, James Hughes, Jeffery Grayson, John Prince

February 18 - Lisa Williamson, Annice McCrory, Hallie Fancher, Glenda Bhangu, Tammy Higdon Carraway, Chris Adcock, Davis Dew

February 19 - Rhonda Spell Langford, Haley Blain, Juanita Barnes, Laura Ellis, Ouida McCrory, Walter Kirkwood, Truevane Gibson, Jr., Sue Lloyd

February 20 - Chris Cox, Elmira Gibson, Clara Sue Pierce, Lee Lee Powell Johnson, Helen Haffey Brock, Guy Marrone

February 21 - Austin Hager, Diane Adams, DSonny Russell, Phillip Wigginton, Cedaijah Alexander, Andrew Frank, Senora Jackson, Daphne Ingram, Brandon Reeves Killebrew, Diane Rothery, Al Larry Rule



February 15 - Buddy and Tina Bishop

February 17 - Bro. Jack and April Wooten

February 20 - Danny and Sondra Cain

February 21 - Donald and Judy Broyles

*Dixie National

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Thomas Murtagh, 5th, and Rayne Tate, 10th (17 yr. old).

The Barrow show followed with Mississippi bred and raised Barrow hogs shown by weight division. In the Lightweight divisions, Lilly/Bennett/Emma Word showed the 3rd place barrow, John Hudson/Chloe Word, 5th, Natalie & Nicole Winstead, 7th and 11th. In Middleweights, Rayne Tate showed the 5th place hog, Hanna Hood, 11th, and Anna Duke, 12th. In Heavyweights, Drue Johnson and John Franklin showed the 4th and 6th placing hogs with John Thomas Murtagh taking 7th. Chester White Market Hogs showed next with Lilly/Bennett/Emma Word placing 2nd with their lightweight. Grayson Marshall, then, placed 5th with his middleweight. Wes Melton and Alex Arnold, showing heavyweights placed 4th and 5th, respectively, to finish up the Friday part of the Market Hog show.

On Saturday, the final five breeds of the Market hogs were shown. In the Duroc breed division, Natalie and Nicole Winstead both placed 2nd in their separate weight class divisions. John/Chloe Word placed 11th and Hanna Hood 12th with their lightweights. Cailey McBride took 10th in middleweights, and Pearce Edwards stood 13th with his heavyweight. In the Yorkshire division, John Hudson/Chloe Word placed 3rd in the Mississippi Bred group. In the Hampshire division, John Thomas Murtagh placed 1st, Lilly Word 2nd, and Hanna Hood, 3rd, with MS Bred lightweights. In middleweights, Bennett/Lilly/Emma Word placed 2nd MS Bred and Cailey McBride took 12th. John Thomas Murtagh finished up the heavyweight division placing 1st with his MS Bred Hamp. In the Spotted hog division, Lilly/Bennett/Emma Word placed 7th and Chloe/John Hudson Word took 12th with their lightweights. Wes Melton placed 7th with his middleweight, and Rayne Tate placed 2nd with her light/heavyweight. In the 16 weight

divisions of Crossbred hogs, Natalie and Nicole Winstead took 1st and 5th in lightweights and Chloe/John Hudson Word, 12th. In the middleweights, Anna Duke placed 3rd MS bred with Grayson Marshall taking 7th and Pearce Edwards, 11th. In heavyweights, Pearce Edwards placed 5th.

Beef Cattle, Meat Goat, and Lamb shows were conducted Monday and Tuesday. Holmes 4-H Beef exhibitors did well in the Showmanship contest. Each showing in their own age divisions, Malachi Williams placed 6th, Davian Powell, 6th, Pearce Edwards, 8th, and Tyler Diffey 12th. (In most of these age divisions there were in excess of 50 youth vying for the win. Davian Powell placed 6th with his "homegrown" Commercial Heifer and 4th with his Hereford heifer, Della. Showing Percentage Simmental bulls, Tyler Diffey's Rockie reigned Supreme winning this overall honor in his breed division. Also, placing well with Percentage Simmental bulls were Maeson Jolley winning his class and Pearce Edwards placing 2nd. In the Simmental division, Tyler Diffey placed 5th with his heifer Extra Classy. Simmental bulls went Wes Jolley, 1st, Pearce Edwards, 2nd, and Colton Howell, 3rd. (This showing making a strong statement for the quality of Beef Cattle representing from Holmes County.) In the Lamb show, Lydia Killebrew was our only exhibitor, but she placed 3rd in Showmanship (her first statewide show) and 6th and 11th in the respective weight divisions.

Meat Goats were shown in two categories – Commercial Does and Market Goats along with Showmanship. Shining brightly in Goat showmanship were our two meat goat exhibitors – Jordan Brooks winning his age division and Tyler Branch taking 2nd in a hard fought display of excellent showmanship in his senior age group. Tuesday, the Commercial Does showed by weight division. Tyler Branch won 1st place and Mississippi Bred Reserve Champion Doe with his

doe. Jordan placed 5th and 7th with his two lightweight does. In the Market Goat Show, Tyler Branch placed 1st with both his Lightweight and Heavyweight entries. His lightweight goat went on to be named Reserve Champion and earned a coveted spot in the Dixie National Sale of Champions. Also, his heavyweight goat was named Mississippi Bred Reserve Champion for its weight division.

Another part of the Dixie National Show that tests the exhibitors' project knowledge, show ring skill, animal quality, resume, essay and interview against their peers are the Premier Exhibitor Contests.

Each species, beef, lamb, goat, and swine compete in their own category. Winning this year's Meat Goat Premier Exhibitor contest was Tyler Branch. Tyler is only the second Holmes County 4-Her to accomplish this since these contests were established – he follows Lane Spell's Premier Swine win in 2014. Winning this year's Swine Premier Exhibitor contest was Jayce Eldridge of Montgomery County 4-H and daughter of Tara Eldridge at the Holmes County hospital. Competing for Holmes County in the swine premier competition were Rayne Tate, Pearce Edwards and John Thomas Murtagh. Competing in the Beef Cattle Premier contest were Tyler Diffey, Davian Powell and Pearce Edwards.

Dixie National Sale of Champions held on Thursday, February 8, was another big day for Holmes County 4-H'ers – three were tapped for exhibitor scholarships. Rayne Tate, John Thomas Murtagh and Tyler Diffey received graduating senior exhibitor's scholarships at \$1500 each, and Tyler Branch having won the Meat Goat Premier Exhibitor contest, was awarded a \$2000 scholarship. Each of these youth were presented their scholarship plaques by Governor Phil Bryant and Commissioner of Agriculture Cindy Hyde-Smith.

Additionally, Tyler Branch sold his Reserve Champion Goat in the sale for a premium thanks to local 4-H supporters.

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