

4-H Horse Exhibitors Excel at State Championships



Livi Howell in sorting.

After a year’s hiatus from 4-H Horse shows, Holmes County youth showed they were ready for a comeback, and comeback they did at the 2021 State 4-H Horse Championships. Representing Holmes County were Sinatra Clayton, Brian Grisby, Colton, Livi, and Orin Howell. The show started last week in Jackson at the Fordice Equine Center on the Fairgrounds in Jackson, June 23 through 26.

Thursday’s events started with livestock-involved events. Colton Howell was the first to enter the arena, placing 4th in Goat Tying. Later in the day, Brian Grisby and Sinatra Clayton partnered to take 2nd place in the Ranch Sorting contest. Orin and Livi Howell, brother and sister duo, teamed up to place 6th in that same contest. Both teams displayed promising skills in working pens of cattle. Brian and Sinatra sorted 3 from their group of 10 in 59.474 seconds; Orin and Livi sorting 2 in 80 seconds.

Halter and pleasure classes made up most of the day for Friday’s event, but Saturday arrived with “speed” events the focus of the day. Pole bending classes divided in to age divisions started the day. Livi took 4th and Orin, 6th, in their respective age divisions. Next was Barrel rac-

ing. Livi took 3rd in her class while both Orin and Sinatra placed 11th and Brian, 13th, in their respective age divisions. Stake racing ended the day with Livi placing 5th. Livi’s placings coupled with the level of competition she faced on Saturday earned her the coveted Senior 4-H’er High Point Exhibitor in the Championship’s Speed events and qualified her to advance to the Regional 4-H Horse Championships in Perry, Georgia, July 28 through August 1. Also, representing Holmes County and the State of Mississippi at this multi-state horse show will be Sinatra Clayton and Brian Grisby. Both Brian and Sinatra will enter Breakaway Roping; Sinatra will, also, do Ranch Roping while Brian will run Poles.

Having the opportunity to represent the State of Mississippi at this Regional 4-H Championship is quite an honor befitting the exemplary character and hard work of our Holmes County 4-H Youth. Once again these youth will have their opportunity to shine on a larger stage and make memories that will last them a lifetime. Sinatra has been twice before and was awaiting his chance to make it again this year and share the fun with his friend and riding partner, Brian.



Orin Howell and Livi Howell placed 6th in sorting.



Livi Howell qualifies for Southern Regionals and won Senior High Point Speed Buckle.



Orin Howell in goat tying.



Colton Howell placed 4th in senior goat tying.



Sinatra Clayton and Brian Grisby with awards.



Brian Grisby, left, and Sinatra Clayton, right placed 2nd in ranch sorting.



Sinatra Clayton in sorting.



Brian Grisby in sorting.