



NEWS

NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth compete for Reserve Champion Market Hog

Kelli Fulkerson, Writer

LOUISVILLE, KY—November 17, 2011 – A record breaking 1,042 entries competing at The North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Junior Market Swine Show, vying for the ultimate title of Grand Champion Hog.

Grand and Reserve Champion market animals are sold at The Sale of Champions on November 17, 2011. The Sale of Champions is the highlight of the North American International; it's a night filled with drama, high adrenaline and high stakes. Bidders banter back and forth working to claim the finest market animals in the nation.

Elizabeth Hodges of Lebo, Kan., drove the 268-pound, crossbred market barrow [male], Reserve Champion Junior Market Hog. Elizabeth's animal sold for record breaking \$12,000. Buyers include; Crowne Plaza & Galt House Hotels, Agribusiness Industry Networks, and Clark Co. Livestock Producers & Agribusinesses.

Elizabeth and her brother began showing at the North American in 2010. "Being able to show the Reserve Champion hog out of more than 1,000 hogs is an extremely big honor," says Elizabeth, 15 years of age.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Jeff and Kristin Hodges. "My favorite part about showing hogs is being able to travel with family and friends across the country," says Elizabeth.

Money received from her animal will be put towards her college education. Elizabeth hopes to attend Kansas State University to pursue a degree in the medical field.

The NAILE is produced by the commonwealth of Kentucky at the Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, Ky., under the direction of the Kentucky State Fair Board. During the Expo's two-week run, the facility's entire 1,200,000 square feet of climate-controlled exhibit space is used. More than 200,000 visitors and exhibitors attend the event annually.

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