

# WESTERN TEAM REVIEW 2012 - 2013

## WESTERN TEAM IHSA RESERVE NATIONAL CHAMPIONS 2013!

### REGIONAL CHAMPIONS!

The St. Andrews Western Team started their season strong with their first Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Western show in the beginning of October. As they progressed through the season, they grew closer together especially during Regionals which St. Andrews hosted. The team worked hard earning the Regional Champion title.

### ZONE CHAMPIONS!

The next stop was Moorhead, Kentucky for Semi-Finals where they were the Semi-Final Champions, qualifying them for IHSA National Championships. The team riders that qualified for Nationals were Ella Brave, Michelle Hustad, Brittany Powell, Sami Cram, Logan Teeter, and Vickie Wiese. St. Andrews also had six individual students that qualified; the individuals were Michelle Hustad, Ella Brave, Kali Cram, Brittany Powell, Katie Mosca and Dugan McDermott. After Regionals, the team headed out on their next adventure to Nationals in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

### IHSA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012

Some of the weight was lifted off the riders at the 2013 IHSA National Championships because unlike 2012, St. Andrews was not the host school. IHSA Zone 4, Region 3 led by St. Andrews and Equestrian Program Director, Peggy McElveen hosted the 2012 IHSA National Championships at the Hunt Horse complex in Raleigh, NC. The Western Team still had to work hard and stay focused in 2013 but did not have to worry about preparing and shipping horses and the countless other related duties that came their way in 2012.

### TEAMMATES

Katie Mosca, an individual rider, placed 7th in Individual Intermediate Horsemanship. Even though she

wasn't riding for the team, she still loved the time she spent getting to really know her teammates. "Being with the team and being able to travel with them was a great experience...I helped them, they helped me and it was just a great atmosphere." This was not Katie's first year going to Nationals. She rode for the team the year before. Katie could not have been happier with the time she spent with teammates. In her own words, "The experience in itself is valuable."

A rider for the team, Logan Teeter, placed 3rd in Team Intermediate Horsemanship. She was thrilled to be riding for the team. She said she was happy to be under such a great coach. "Carla built me and my position," Logan said, "and she helped improve my riding ability." Logan also enjoyed the company of her fellow teammates and they all comforted each other especially if one of them was having a bad day. They took each other under their wings.

It was also a big weekend for team member, Dugan McDermott. Dugan came out with Reserve Champion in Individual Beginner Horsemanship. This





was another great accomplishment for Dugan as was his achievement of Champion of his class in the last show season. He worked hard and earned great results. Michelle Hustad was another member riding for the team. She was riding in the Team Open Horsemanship and came out in 4th place. "It was great year of showing" said Michelle, "I love spending time with my teammates; we really bonded as a team."

Other memorable placings at Nationals included Ella Brave 8th in Individual Reining and 4th in Team Reining. Ella who is a native of Sweden, met Carla Wennberg when Carla was on a judging trip to Scandinavia. Ella was intrigued to learn about the program at St. Andrews and came for a year as a student to learn more. During her year as a student in the United States she participated in a theater production at school, experienced Thanksgiving and Christmas and travelled with her friends.

Vicky Wiese rose to the occasion to place 3rd in Team Walk/Jog adding 4 points to the team's score. And last but not least, the St. Andrews Western Team had an amazing weekend with their seniors - Brittany Powell, Sami Cram and Kali Cram. Brittany placed 3rd in Team Advanced Horsemanship and placed 2nd in Individual Novice Horsemanship. Sami place 3rd in Team Intermediate and 2nd in Team Novice Horsemanship. Kali placed 8th in Individual Advanced Horsemanship. They all had the pleasure to ride with their teammates one last time.

## GRADUATION

St. Andrews has a tradition of performing a graduation ceremony for its Seniors at IHSA Nationals as the Championships almost always conflict with graduation. This year was no different. The Seniors donned caps and gowns, Rob organized bagpipe music on

the stereo, members of the equestrian staff who had travelled to work the show spoke and offered congratulations, parents (and most of the staff) cried tears of joy as the diplomas were handed out and the graduates recognized for their achievements. Every graduation ceremony is bitter/sweet at St. Andrews; we are sad to see them go but excited for them to start a new chapter in their lives.

The team really came together this year and worked hard. After placing 4th at the 2012 IHSA National Championships, the St. Andrews Western Team stepped up their game and took Reserve National Champions at the 2013 IHSA National Championships! Every member of the team placed in the top ten in their classes. Coach Carla Wennberg was especially proud of the team this year. "This group worked really hard," She said, "It's like life, you work hard to reap the benefits. This has truly been a team together." The St. Andrews Western Team ended the year with a terrific victory and everyone is excited for next year's show season. Go Knights!



Ella Brave

