



NEWS

NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

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Not Once but Twice in the Sale of Champions

Ryan Johnston, Writer

Louisville, KY – November 17, 2011- Samantha Raute of Carmel, Indiana sold her Reserve Champion Wether Lamb in the Sale of Champions at the 38th Annual North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE).

Samantha, 16, is the daughter of Tami Raute. Samantha has been showing sheep at the NAILE for the past three years. And two out of the three years she has been in the Sale of Champions. Just last year Samantha had sold her Grand Champion Wether Lamb. This year she is thrilled to be back.

Samantha said, “I am honored to be in the Sale of Champions once again. Winning it once is a big deal but being in the sale two years in a row is unheard of.” She has been raised around livestock all her life and it has been a family tradition to show sheep. Samantha’s aunt, Kristy Pigel, has been a big influence on her showing career. Samantha says that she will put her winnings towards her college fund. She aspires to go to a good college where she intends to study accounting and finance.

Samantha’s sheep, Captain, a 147 pound crossbreed, sold for \$11,500 in just a matter of minutes. That price was a record breaking amount for the Reserve Champion Wether Lamb.

Samantha enjoys the NAILE very much. Her favorite part about showing is traveling, meeting people, and building long lasting relationships. One new friend Samantha made at the show was with Brenden Kuesel, who had this year’s Grand Champion Wether Lamb.

Now that the NAILE is coming to a close, Samantha is looking forward to a few months off until March when she will begin again with her showing preparation.

Buyers of Samantha’s wether lamb were Coca Cola Refreshments, NAILE Country Store, Louisville Ag Club, Hampton Inn, Residence Inn, Springhill Suites, and Mic-Zee’s Ice Company.

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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