

Callie Jo Friedt & Paycos Bill

Prove to be Top Competitors in
Three Tough Events:
AQHYA World Championships, Indiana State Fair,
& National Pole Bending Championships

Callie Jo Friedt and her trusty horse Paycos Bill both of Decatur traveled about 3000 miles in the past 3 weekends. Making their first long haul, 15 hours in the intense heat to the AQHYA world championships in Oklahoma City at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Competing against other champions and qualifiers from this and other countries. Friedt was drawn to go first, not something you want to do in your first big competition. The pair ran well despite nerves to have the time to beat for most of the round one. The result was a third place in the preliminaries. The finals narrowed to the top 15 resulted in Friedt and Bill again getting third, 18/100ths of a second behind 1st place, the previous year winner and an Oklahoma local.

Four days later Friedt and Bill showed up at the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis for the 4-H contesting events. Disappointed in the third place at the AQHYA and that her grandfather could not watch her at the local 4-H due to an illness, Friedt wanted to take a chance and go all out in each event. Friedt and Bill were scheduled in the maximum allowed 3 events,



Key Hole race, Barrel racing and Pole bending. Upon arriving at the State Fair officials noted that this is one of the largest numbers of competitors ever 300+ scheduled just in senior horse class, Key Hole, Barrels, and Poles. With so many entries Pole Bending had to be postponed to the next day. Friedt up against a large and tough competition set out what she aimed to do. She won her class of Key Hole, Barrels, and Poles. Friedt and Bill returned to win The Championship round of each of those events against other class winners, going 6 for 6. It was noted by State Fair officials that until today no one has ever won 3 class events or 3 championships at 4-H horse and pony.

Five days later Friedt and Bill were on their way to the National Pole Bending championships in Murfreesboro, TN. Knowing the competition will be the best in the country because of the large awards offered. Friedt just hoped to place in the winnings. Friedt and her all-around horse Bill still riding high on the wins at State Fair,

again decide to go for it all or nothing.

Callie and Bill entered the open class running in the middle of the large pack of seasoned competitors, again went all out. Setting a personal best time of 19.724 seconds that held the entire day to win the Open event. A few hours later Friedt again ran and easily won the Youth 18 and under division. She placed second on the second day of youth and won the average. On day 2 of the open, Callie had the average until the last six riders. That's when Janis Wagner burned a 19.4 to win the average and the second day, Callie remained 2nd in the average. Callie Jo was rewarded with a large belt buckle and winnings. Paycos Bill was rewarded with a banana.

Callie Jo bought and has been training Bill for about 5 years



If you have questions call.
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