COLT SALE 05/08/2019 D.VHAA

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls recently hosted its 43rd annual Colt Sale. This year there were approximately 50 horses put up for auction. Destinie Vhaa (VAH) has the story.

MP3 R/T: 1:16 O/T: STD

DESTINIE VHAA: THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS’ COLT SALE THIS YEAR INCLUDED 50 HORSES. STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PRINCIPLE OF TRANING HORSES CLASS ARE ENROLLED BASE ON THEIR PRIOR PERFORMANCE DURING THEIR OTHER CLASSES, ALONG WITH THEIR HORSEMAN SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE. THE PROFESSOR THIS THESE CLASSES, NATHAN O’CONNOR, SAYS THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS HE LOOKS FOR IN STUDENTS WHEN DECIDING IF THEY ARE FIT FOR THE CLASS OR NOT.

NATHAN O’CONNOR: “THE STUDENTS ARE OUT AT THE LAB FARM FOR A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF HOURS, SO THEY WORK THEIR HORSE ABOUT FIVE DAYS A WEEK… SO THERE’S A TREMENDOUS COMMITMENT ON THE STUDENT’S PART TO BE APART OF THIS CLASS. IT TAKES A GREAT DEAL OF TALENT, AND A TREMENDOUS WORK ETHIC AS WELL BECAUSE THEY’RE NOT GETTING PAID TO DO THIS, THEY’RE GETTING THREE CREDITS.”

DESTINIE VHAA: ANIMAL SCIENCE SENIOR WITH AN EQUINE EMPHASIS, OLIVIA PARTLOW, SAYS THAT THIS EXPEREIENCE HAVE BEEN A WHIRLWIND OF EMOTIONS, BUT IS GRATEFUL FOR THE EXPERIENCE.

OLIVIA PARTLOW: YOU GET THIS HORSE, AND IT’S BARELY BEEN TOUCH, AND THEN BY THE END OF THE SEMSTER, IT LOVES YOU, IT COMES UP TO YOU, IT WANTS TO WORK, IT ENJOYS YOUR COMPANY, AND IT’S JUST REWARDING TO KNOW THAT YOU BUILT A BOND WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

DESTINIE VHAA: O’CONNOR SAYS THAT THE COLT SALES HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE HORSES ARE NOT BEING TRAINED FOR ANY PARTICULAR SKILL MAKING THEM TRAINABLE FOR ANY SKILL, OR ACTIVITY. FOR THE FALCON NEWS SERVICE, THIS IS DESTINIE VHAA.

According to an IBISWorld report, the demand for horses used in racing and recration has slowly been going up.

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