

Local handlers strut their stuff Saturday

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Phillips County Spring Fling Fun Match for dogs and their trainers was held at Holyoke City Park on Saturday, April 25. Originally scheduled for April 18, the match had to be postponed a week, due to inclement weather.

Open classes were available in Novice, Intermediate and Seniors, ages 14 and up, and included Obedience, Sub-novice A, B and C, Novice A and B and Rally-O Novice.

Adult classes were Showmanship and Sub-Novice A Obedience.

Showmanship classes are judged by how well the trainer is handling the dog, and if the two work together as a team. Rally Obedience, or Rally-O, is an obedience obstacle course that is scored by a judge who watches for a smooth performance, as well as skill in following the directions at each station.

High points award for the whole show was earned by Heidi Lengel of Burlington and her toy poodle. She received first place in the Sub-Novice Showmanship and Rally.

Showmanship first-place winners are as follows:

Megan Vieselmeyer of Holyoke with schnauzer, "Kipper"—Novice/Intermediate Showmanship.

Malika Frank of Wray with lab, "Butter"—Intermediate Showmanship.

Colleen Weaver of Haxtun with Australian Shepherd—Sub-Novice C and Senior Showmanship.

Rally-O results were based on a total 100 possible points. They are listed in order of placing with their scores:

Diane Webster of Holyoke, 97; Lengel, 88; Frank and Weaver (tie), 79; Vieselmeyer, 69.