

News Release

Junior Wyoming Air Rifle Shooter Makes Finals in the CMP Western Region 3P Air Rifle Championships

On April 6, 7, and 8th, five members of the Laramie County 4-H Shooters precision air rifle team competed in the Civilian Marksmanship Program's Western Region Junior Three Position Air Rifle Championship, held in Layton, Utah. Only qualified individuals and teams are invited to participate and competitors are from all western states; from Nebraska and Texas to Hawaii and Alaska.

The Laramie County 4-H Shooters were anchored by high school seniors Ashley Swearingen and Tana Eberhardt, with Josh Abegglen, Madison Merrell, and Kylie Schelhaas making up the rest of the team (all from Cheyenne). Shooting consisted of 2 days of match fire; 60 shots each day, consisting of 20 shots prone, 20 shots standing, and 20 shots in the kneeling position. The top 8 competitors after combining both day's scores participate in a final, 10 shot standing shoot-off to determine final overall winners.

Senior Ashley Swearingen shot an amazing 586/600 on day one and 589/600 on day two for a combined score of 1175, putting her in 6th place and garnering a spot in the finals. After finals, Ms. Swearingen finished 7th overall in the western region, marking the first time a Wyoming shooter has qualified for finals in the five years of this event. After combining results of the Western, Northeast, and Southeast Regional Championships, Ms. Swearingen placed 8th in the nation, a crowning achievement for herself and the Laramie County 4-H Shooting club. Ashley Swearingen has also earned an invitation to the CMP Junior Olympic National Championship air rifle matches in late June at Camp Perry, Ohio. She has recently enlisted in Wyoming Air National Guard and will unfortunately miss the National Championship Match as she will be in basic military training.

The rest of the team performed well and shot improved scores on second day of competition. Many other coaches and shooters were not aware of Wyoming's shooting teams until this regional match. The Laramie County 4-H Shooters club, and Wyoming junior shooters in general, have gained much deserved recognition on a national level. The skill level of the younger match shooters, and those from the rest of the club that did not attend the match, represent even greater things to come in the future for Laramie County 4-H Shooting.

For a complete list of results: thecmp.org < 3PAR Regional Championships < results (in the more info box)

For more information contact:

Ron Swearingen

Assistant rifle coach, Laramie county 4-H shooting sports

307-214-8494

ron.swearinge@yahoo.com



**Eight finalists,
Ashley Swearingen far right.**



Ashley in finals.



**Laramie County 4-H Shooters:
Tana, Ashley, Kylie, Josh and
Madison.**



Laramie County 4-H Shooters.