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**Navajo Nation Extreme Mustang Makeover Champion Crowned**

*Jed Austin Mayfield and EZ win the Navajo Nation Extreme Mustang Makeover.*

Georgetown, Texas, August 16, 2011 – For the past three months, more than twenty trainers have been working with wild Mustangs in preparation for the Navajo Nation Extreme Mustang Makeover in Tsaile, Arizona, August 12-14, the hard work was put to the test as the trainers displayed the talents of the Mustangs in classes designed to showcase the horses' intelligence and athletic ability. When the dust settled, Jed Austin Mayfield of Tucson, Arizona, and his Mustang EZ were named the champions of the first Extreme Mustang Makeover ever to be held in Arizona.

Mayfield and EZ, a 2008 black gelding gathered from the Cedar Mountain, Utah, amassed 34 points for their compulsory class and 60 points in the freestyle finals for a total score of 94 to win the event. Mayfield is a 27-year-old native of Tucson. He learned to ride from his father at the age of 4 and started training his own horses at 17. Mayfield and his wife, Amy, have two sons. He is a fourth generation farrier and is a certified performance horse trainer. Mayfield has been using EZ in his clinics to teach other riders, and was thrilled to adopt EZ for \$950 at the adoption on August 14. Mayfield and EZ earned a check for \$2,000 for their victory.

Frank Despain of Winslow, Arizona, trained Clyde, a 2008 bay gelding gathered from Cedar Mountain, Utah. Despain and Clyde were the reserve champions at the Navajo Nation Extreme Mustang Makeover. Clyde was the highest adopted horse at the August 14 adoption and was adopted for \$1,400.

The storied history shared by Mustangs and Native Americans was front and center when the Extreme Mustang Makeover stopped at the Navajo Nation and Diné College in Tsaile, Arizona. Horse songs and traditional prayers began each day's competitions. The breathtaking scenery made the experience even more unforgettable. Mustangs and their trainers got to explore the beautiful country while competing on a natural trail course designed by the Ultimate Ranch Cowboy Horse Competition.

In all, \$6,000 in prize money was awarded at the competition. In addition to the top-10 finals, other awards were also presented. Jennifer Earnest, who trained Claude, won the buckle for the Rookie Division. The Rookie Division recognizes the highest placing trainer after the preliminary classes. Earnest, who is from Silt, Colorado, and Claude finished third in the finals. Wesley Coates, who trained 44 Magnum, won the buckle for the Silver Bullet Division, which recognizes the highest placing trainer 50 years old or older. Coates is from Gunnison, Utah. Aaron Smith-Tayson, who trained Charger, won the buckle for the Young Gun Division. Smith-Tayson is from Twenty-Nine Palms, California. The Young Gun award is given to the top placing trainer aged 18-21.

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The Extreme Mustang Makeovers are made possible through the generous support of our partners – the [Bureau of Land Management](#), [Western Horseman](#), [Pfizer](#), [Ram Truck](#), [Vetericyn](#), [Smith Brothers](#), [Martin Saddlery](#), [Gist Silversmiths](#) and [ACTHA](#). Visit [www.extrememustangmakeover.com](http://www.extrememustangmakeover.com) or call (512) 869-3225 for the latest information on the Extreme Mustang Makeover events.

### **About the Mustang Heritage Foundation**

The mission of the Mustang Heritage Foundation and the goal of the Extreme Mustang Makeover events and programs are to increase the adoption of Mustangs across the country. The Mustang Heritage Foundation created the Extreme Mustang Makeover events to showcase the recognized value of Mustangs through a national training competition. For more information, visit [www.mustangheritagefoundation.org](http://www.mustangheritagefoundation.org).

### **About the Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for managing 258 million acres of public lands, located mostly in the West. Wild horses and burros roaming public rangelands are managed in a manner consistent with BLM's overall multiple-use mission, as set forth in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Visit [wildhorseandburro.blm.gov](http://wildhorseandburro.blm.gov) or call 1-866-468-7826.

### **About the Ultimate Ranch Cowboy Horse Competition**

The purpose of the Ultimate Ranch Cowboy Horse Competition (URCHC) is to raise funds for scholarships. Stanley Kedelty presented the idea to the family of the late Ross Begay Sr. The funds raised from the URCHC event are used solely for college scholarships for the Crystal, New Mexico, community. The Annual URCHC honors the late Ross Begay Sr., Alvin Begay and Grace Denetso who were well-known ranchers in Crystal. All three were among the first family in Crystal to advocate for infrastructure development and improving the quality of life for the community. Their support for improving Navajo life extended beyond their family and into the local community.