

TRACKER RADIO YOUTH ESSAY

Hi! My name is Mackenzie [REDACTED]. I'm 12 years old and live in Boone, Iowa. When I was three years old I went coon hunting for the first time with my dad and I absolutely loved it and have been hunting ever since.

Just last year I got my own pup. I have worked her on three caged coons and she did well. She is ready to start going to the woods. She is a treeing walker and her name is Lewis' Salt Creek Sadie Mae. She has been in three bench shows and has 80 points toward the UKC show champion. She is also qualified for the 2008 UKC World Bench Show. I worked around the house and yard doing extra chores to pay my dad back for her and her kennel.

When I hunt I hunt with my dad and his friends. We like to get out once a week, but we have not been lately because my dad's dog, Maggie, is about to have pups.

A few months ago I hunted my dad's dog in the Iowa State Youth Hunt. That was my first competition hunt. I did not win, but I got to hunt with some really good dogs and nice kids. I got the sportsmanship award for my cast. I did okay as I got fifth place overall and it was a good experience, I definitely learned a lot and had a lot of fun!

My mom and dad will not let me hunt on week nights during the school year. I am going into seventh grade. Last year I earned a four point grade average and received the President's Academic Award. I am also involved in dance, basketball, volleyball, and play the flute in band.

My dad has a Tracker Maxima Frequency 217, so it would be nice to have a collar that will work with the tracker so when we hunt we only have to have one tracker with us. This will help find all of the dogs with one tracker.

I enjoy hunting because I get to spend time with my dad and friends. I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to enter the essay contest and telling you my story.

Mackenzie [REDACTED]
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**HONORABLE
MENTION!**