Mckenna Holliday, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, for her project: *Geochemical characterization of clinker profiles in Custer National Forest, Montana.*

Mckenna Holliday is a second year PhD student in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Florida. Under Dr. Courtney Sprain, she is currently investigating the thermal behavior and subsequent mineralogical changes of clinker deposits during a burning event. Clinker deposits are defined as pyrometamorphic rocks, which are formed during combustion of an underlying coal seam. Maximum sustained temperature and overall thermal behavior is currently not well understood in these systems. Better characterization of these deposits can guide a better understanding of the potential for use as intercontinental magnetic recorders. Ultimately, this investigation should utilize whole rock and trace isotope geochemistry, geochronology, and paleomagnetic techniques to better characterize these systems, and justify their use as magnetic recorders.

McKenna grew up sharing her time between the Wasatch Range and the Teton Range. Though not initially realized, her love for rocks and igneous systems was inevitable. For McKenna, it was not until taking a petrology course at Westminster College that she appreciated her love for internal earth systems, particularly as it pertains to geochronology. During her undergraduate studies, she worked with Dr. Tiffany Rivera to constrain the ages of the Sevier and Markagunt Gravity Slides through $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ dating of bracketing stratigraphy. She graduated from Westminster College with a B.S. in Geology and a Chemistry minor. She hopes to pursue argon geochronology further under Dr. Sprain and apply it to new systems and technique collaboration.

In her free time, McKenna is a professional athlete, riding and competing her horse in dressage competitions throughout Florida and the greater United States.