

4-H Story

By Jasi Roberts

Roosevelt County

4-H Novice Story Winner

Oh dear! I didn't make a junior livestock sale, but I did well with all my projects. Before I get way ahead of myself, I would like to talk about my 4-H year in order of events since my last 4-H story. Even before I completed my record book last year, I was getting ready for this show season. I purchased a shorthair heifer last October to show this year. First order of business was to get her branded. She changed the most of all my projects, from start to finish.

I helped my club decorate for the Annual Awards Banquet in December. My year started with a **Bang!** I won the 2005 Outstanding Novice 4-H'er award at that banquet. As in years past (two previous), I went to an exciting quilt workshop during Spring Break and all my friends were there and we had a bunch of fun sewing and talking--talking more than sewing. The second day of the workshop we started making baby blankets to give to babies who didn't have much, but we kind of didn't finish that project this year, so I know what should be on our to do list for next year's workshop.

You know you are growing up when you are the baby-sitter, not the baby being sat. Our club watches small children while their parents conduct business of the electric coop. I enjoy entertaining the little ones. Order up! I also worked at the 4-H Rodeo concession stand, where I got to hang out with some of my closest friends while selling drinks.

To tell you the truth, my demonstration was the "boringest," but I say make a mistake, learn from a mistake. I did my demonstration on the different breeds of goats; I

had way too much stuff and just read it. A few people managed to stay awake. Now I know less information, more memorization of the material.

I think county contests are the most fun. You get to do things with your friends, win or lose, but this girl wanted to have fun. I also competed in three exciting and fun events, such as modeling, favorite foods and horse bowl. I won first with my modeling and favorite foods at county contests, but in horse bowl, instead of getting the A Team, I got on the B Team. I liked being on the B Team because all my friends were on that team. District contests, another great contest where I got first with my 100% cotton shirt. My horse bowl team placed second behind the A Team. I won fourth place with my chicken enchiladas.

Roosevelt County Fair celebrated its 100th year. I helped sell bottled water with the advertising of the fair dates at the Heritage Days in June. I also baked a cake to help make sure there would be plenty for everyone at the celebration.

Market lambs are my major project. Dad raises lambs, so I get to pick out my favorite ones. I purchased a lamb this year, but she got sick before County Fair. I only had two lambs to show at the County Fair. This was my first year to not place high enough to win premium money. But that the State Fair, my bought lamb got seventh place in the New Mexico Bred Lamb Show. I won a brush and my name was said over the intercom. That was very exciting to me. I showed my white lamb in the Zia Classic. I didn't stand last like I did at the county fair. The white lamb crossed the scales in the lamb show and placed ninth. I received a ribbon for a lamb at the State Fair! At the Eastern New Mexico State Fair, my western white face was classified Dorset and had to

be shown with the mutton crosses, so she really looked bad. But she went across the scales. Neither of my blacks made the cut.

My goat placed fifth at County, the gate at State and eighth at Eastern. My goat probably got the most attention of all my animal projects. The show goats run with the nannies, so they get feed in the milking crates and then my sister and I practice setting them up after they eat. I was so excited when I made the cut and got to cross the scales. My goat was about the last one picked before the rest went back to the barn. But then I started getting my goat set better and showed up to eighth place.

My poor little dairy heifer was picked on all summer long by the big fat beef heifers and my sister's bigger dairy heifer. She was the shortest in her class at the County Fair, but she placed second. This was the closest I made it to the junior livestock sale. She placed seventh at the State Fair and twelfth at Eastern. She was always a little skittish, trying to keep an eye on everything and everybody. She really didn't like the pigs squealing for their dinner, but I held on.

I tried to gentle down an angus heifer that we raised to show with my shorthorn heifer I purchased, but she was just too wild. My shorthorn's name is Cody Impact. Jalayna got first pick on the heifers, but I still beat one of her heifers at the County Fair and won Reserve Champion Shorthorn. My heifer is small framed, but I think she will be a good mama and raise lots of good calves.

I had half my sewing project done for county and district contests, so I made my apron and patchwork pillow just before fair time. I made my patchwork pillow to match the rag quilt I made last year. My apron I made out of denim. My capri pants, shirt, apron and pillow all placed first at the County Fair. I also entered my capri set in the

Cotton Extravaganza. I won the junior casual category and was in the running for the serger sewing machine. I didn't win it. I competed at the State Cotton Extravaganza, but didn't place in the top two. My shirt placed first, my capri pants second, and my apron placed third at the State Fair. None of my sewing placed at Roswell.

Baking was great for County Fair. Everything baked up beautiful and won first place. When I baked for the State Fair, it was cloudy and everything wanted to fall. I did place second with my cornbread and jam thumbprint cookies, and third with my brownies. When I baked for Roswell, everything but my brownies placed first. The brownies placed second.

I enjoy doing meals on wheels every year. This year, we even did it on the Fourth of July. I helped with the PBS telethon by running bids from the phones to the computer. I worked the concession stand at the County Fair.

I can't really feel bad about not making the junior livestock sale after the fun and exciting year I had. I am looking forward to another exciting and fun year.