

Wild horse sale brings few buyers

HAYS (AP) — A federal program to encourage adoption of wild horses and burros attracted more spectators than buyers in western Kansas.

The Bureau of Land Management held an auction at Fort Hays State University Pavilion that began with the arrival of a semitrailer full of horses and a few wild burros last week.

The program is aimed at managing the growing herds of wild horses on public lands. Adoptions start at \$125, and the BLM offers a \$500 care allowance with horses older than 4 years old, payable a year after the new owner receives title to the horse.

Despite a steady stream of spectators Thursday, only nine horses and burros were adopted during the auction, leaving about 50 animals available. Auctions also were scheduled Friday and Saturday.

Tony Krizek has been around horses all his life, and he had his eye on a couple of the horses. He came early to see what was there, and what he might be willing to

take home.

"Only thing is those 4-year-olds are hard to break," he told The Hays Daily News. "It would be kind of like adopting a teenager."

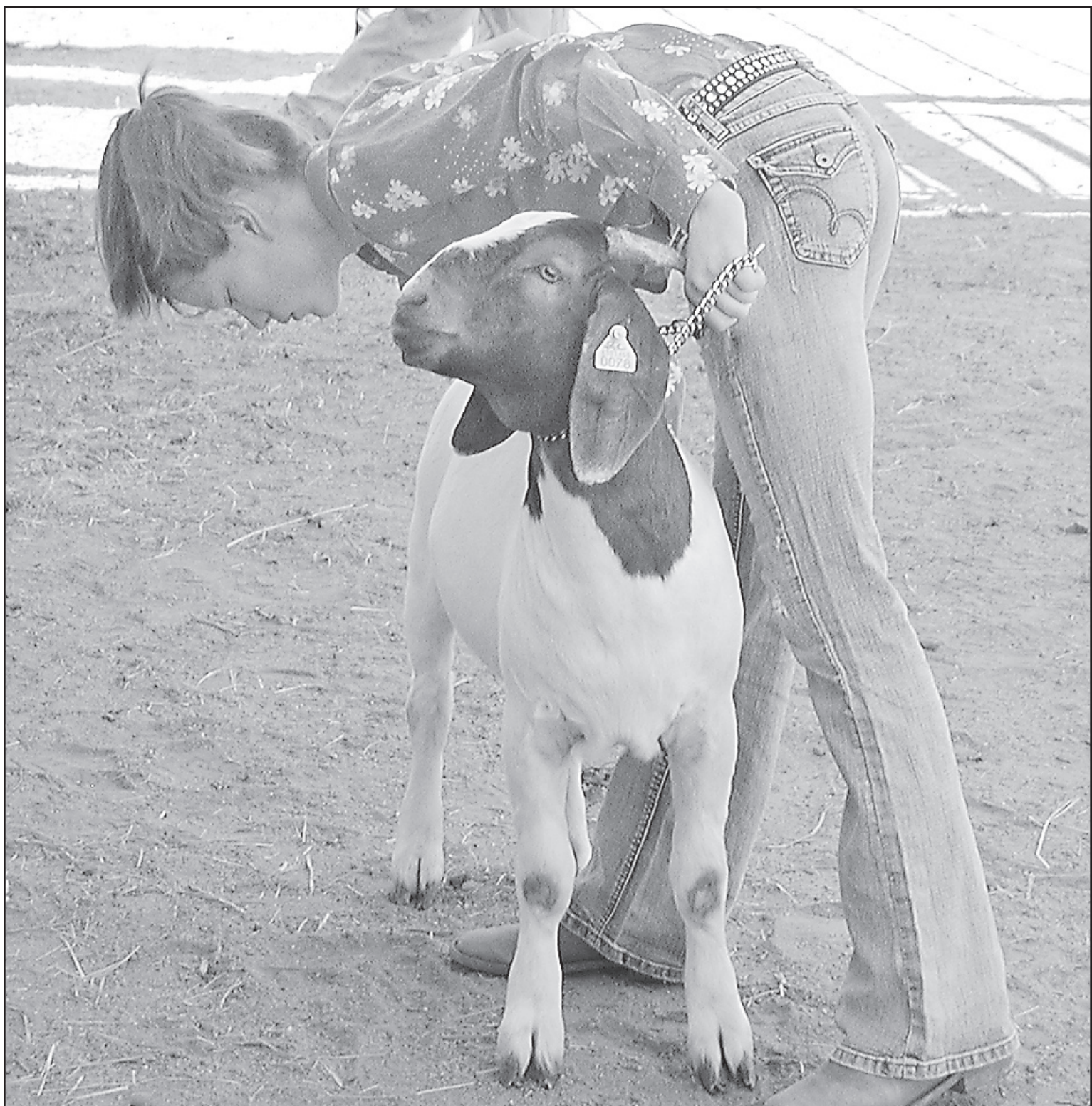
E. Jay "Frenchie" Newell took time out from his 64th wedding anniversary to look at the horses and burros, and he took several photos to show his daughter. He assured his wife, Lidia Francis, that he wouldn't bring anything home other than the photographs.

"I like to see them," he said of the horses. "I like to see them moving around. Instead of killing them, sending them to the slaughterhouse, this is what they ought to do."

One person who did walk away with a horse was 6-year-old Tori Kreutzer, who picked hers out early.

Her mother, Victoria Kreutzer, handled all the arrangements.

"That's the one that will come up to my daughter," Victoria Kreutzer said of the 2-year-old animal they planned to take home. "That's the one she fell in love with."



RACHEL BOMBA/Colby Free Press

A Thomas County 4-Her got ready to show a goat at the Round Robin on Friday, July 30, at the Thomas County Fairgrounds.

K-state website gets education award

For the past eight years, K-State agricultural economists have worked to combine their information into a comprehensive source of applied research and economic information.

"Their work was rewarded ... when the team received the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Outstanding Electronic Media Education Award for 2010 at that organization's national meeting in Denver ...," said Rich Llewellyn, K-State agricultural economist and manager of the site.

The site features livestock marketing, including weekly *In the Cattle Markets* updates; grain marketing, including biweekly *Grain Outlook* reports; crop insurance and government programs; and farm management information, including a large variety of Excel spreadsheets and web-based decision tools, such as crop

and livestock budgets, land/lease tools, and data sets.

AgManager.info has recently had some additions and upgrades, noted Llewellyn. "RSS feeds and web-browser dashboards for decision tools are complemented by more than 50 Excel spreadsheet tools that help crop and livestock producers manage risk and make decisions," he said.

Recent additions to the site of interest to the livestock industry include the *CLPER* (Connecting Livestock Producers with Recent Economic Research) quarterly newsletter, by Glynn Tonsor, Extension livestock marketing specialist; "Cattle Finishing Returns" a monthly newsletter by Michael Langemeier; and departmental theses and dissertations available from the front page or the News page.

AgManager.info also can be found on Facebook.

Champions tested at Round Robin

By Rachel Bomba

Colby Free Press
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4-H members met at 9 a.m. on Friday, July 30, at the livestock arena at the Thomas County Fairgrounds for their annual Round Robin contest during the fair.

Each contestant who had won grand or reserve champion designations with their own steer, pig, lamb or horse, had the chance to be judged on what kind of showmanship they had

with handling animal species other than their own.

The purpose of the round robin is for each contestant to be comfortable with showing other animals.

Members were grouped into junior, intermediate, and senior divisions.

After the 4-H members had taken their turn showing the animals, judges tallied the scores.

Winners for the junior division were Caitlyn Comfort as reserve champion and Madison

Haggard as grand reserve.

Intermediate division winners were Chandler Comfort as reserve champion and Taylor Todd as grand reserve.

Senior division winners were Case Rundel as reserve champion and Seth Bredemeier as grand reserve.

As winners received their prize ribbons, the judges from each animal group talked about their overall performance and answered any questions they had about future competitions. They thanked everyone for attending.

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