

Hey Neighbor



For The Love Of Horses

By Frank J. Buchman

Young Westmoreland Horsewoman Works Her Way To Multiple FFA Awards

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winner for her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program in equine science placement and was honored at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind.

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velop skills within a specific part of the industry," added Kane. Hood's program topped all of the other areas of agriculture in Kansas FFA this year.

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"I am really impressed with the FFA and the diversity of programs offered. It is a cool opportunity for young people," Kevin recognized.

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ed. "Since then, I have traveled all over God's country showing American Paint Horses."

For her work and learning at the training facility, Kally exchanges labor in order to be able to show horses. "I enjoy all aspect of the business from the broodmares and stallions, to the world champion halter horses, and all of the steps in between," she verified.

Working with her family is an advantage. "The four of us work closely together," Kally stated. "We each have something different to contribute in order to keep our horse business moving smoothly."

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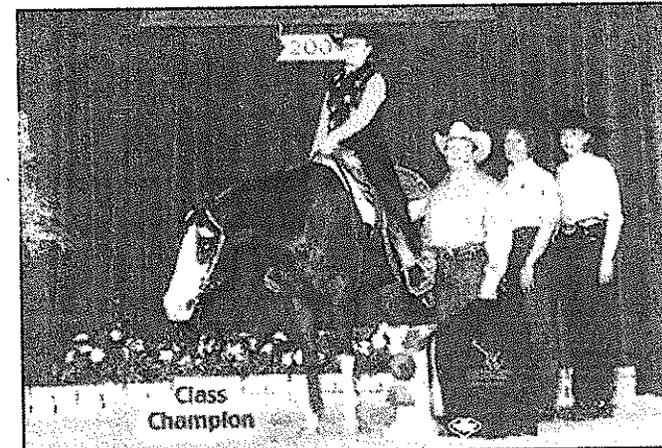
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"My responsibilities started out as just working with my own horse and taking care of him. I then began starting colts for my dad and training the halter horses," she continued.

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In addition, Kally is involved with the farm's reproduction work, collecting stallions for cooled and frozen semen, embryo transfer, artificial insemination, and monitoring mares for heat and during foaling.

Of all her skills, Kally's knowledge of horse hoof care and shoeing is perhaps most appreciated by her parents and even other trainers. "I've always had an interest in shoeing, so I started watching the farriers and asking them questions when

they would come to shoe our horses," she remembered.

"Bob Avery of Olsburg is the one who really got her started. Kally was just 10 years old, and he had her rasp a foot and drive nails in a shoe. All of the farriers have been so patient, offering her advice and letting her help them," Kevin Hood pointed out.

Now, Kally helps trim the feet on young horses and broodmares at the stable and is even called upon to shoe horses. "I don't shoe our show horses on a regular basis, but sometimes a horse will throw a shoe or needs one reset, and Dad has me do it," she admitted.

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Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson.

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Grass & Grain, July 17, 2007

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An addition to her national honors, Kally applied and was accepted for an FFA overseas trip to Costa Rica, which she participated in during June. It looked like the once-in-a-lifetime op-

portunity would conflict with her participation in the World Paint Horse Show, but she flew straight back from Costa Rica to Fort Worth, Texas, where her family had horses waiting for her to show in amateur classes.

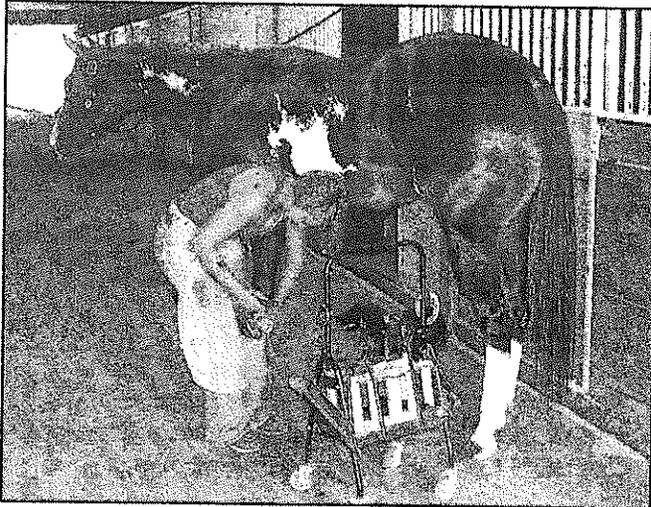
In that competition, Kally placed third in two-year-old amateur mares, with Imprinted Reward, and third in amateur aged stallions, with Intimidating.

A junior at Kansas State University in the fall, Kally is on the horse judging team. She was the third high individual in the APHA contest last spring in Fort Worth, where the team placed first.

Intending to get a degree in agribusiness, Kally is un-

certain of her career plans at this time. "My sister, Katelyn, wants to be a fulltime trainer, so I will probably have a profession away from the farm, but I'll always be involved in working with and showing horses," she assured.

Of all the exciting times Kally has had, she said there are some down sides, other than the hard work. "The most relevant disadvantage I have had to overcome is the pressure put on me. As a horse trainer's daughter, you are expected to be highly competitive. The reality is that even the horse trainer's daughter can have an off day or a rough situation to get through," she concluded.



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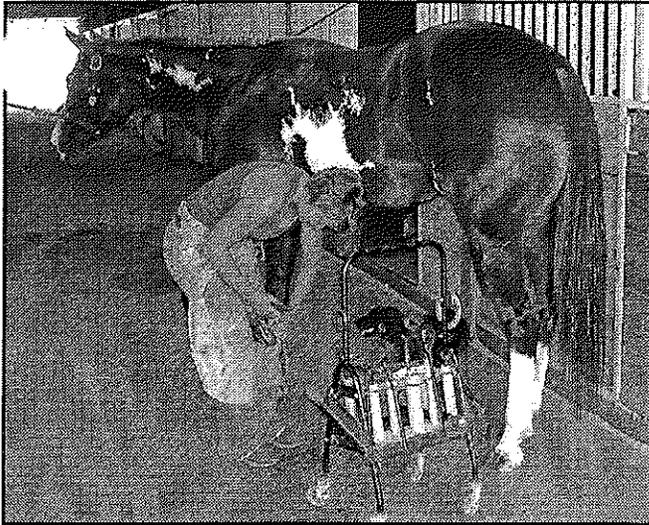
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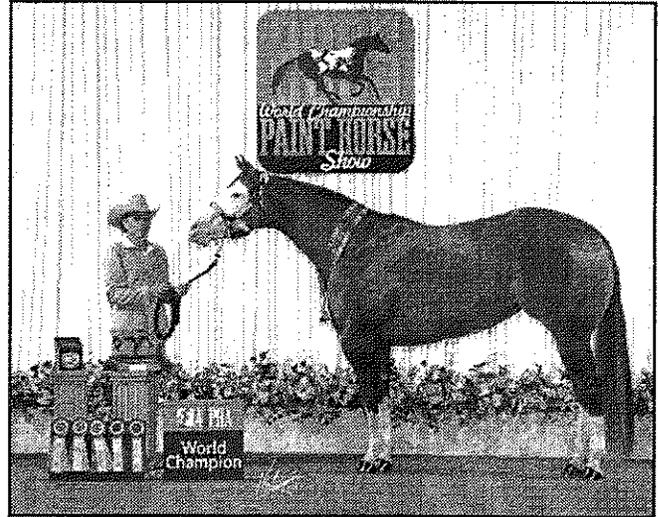
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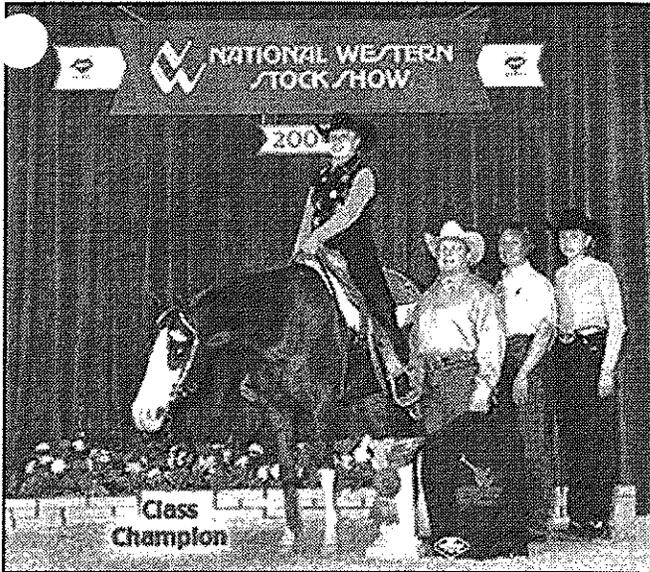
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