

“I won” from Rebekah Barthel

1. How long have you been riding and how old were you when you got your first horse?

I have been riding for five years now- since I was 11. I always wanted to ride horses since I was very young, and got the opportunity to in sixth grade. I was 12 when my sister and I got our first horse, Cocoa, who is still being shown on this circuit!

2. What disciplines do you ride and what is your favorite?

I have tried pretty much every discipline there is from trail to saddle seat, but I excel in showmanship, English/western riding, bareback, and horsemanship. I also compete in hunt seat equitation and pleasure, western pleasure, and reining. I also love jumping, but just do it for fun and have never competed.

3. Who and what was the biggest influence on your riding career and why?

It is very hard to pick the biggest influence on my riding career since there has been so many. Most recently, Lori and Kaity Arthur have had a big influence on my riding and showing career. But in the beginning, Cari Krabill and Kim Dittenber inspired me and taught me how to ride and show horses.

4. What is your job in the real world?

My "job" in the real world right now is being a sophomore at Freeland High School, although I may have a summer job this year.

5. Family information.

My family consists of my parents, Dennis and Julie, who are always running around at shows and helping me get ready and to my classes, and my little sister Caroline, who also shows horses with me.

6. What is the best part of showing MMOHSC?

The best part of showing at MMOHSC is hanging out with all of my show friends and having a good time.

7. Share with us one rewarding experience showing our circuit.

The most rewarding experience I had showing at MMOHSC was when I won my first weekend high point. It was my first year showing and I was competing in the novice rider division. I had gone to every show that summer, and at the very last one I finally got enough points to earn the big high point ribbon.

8. What was the coolest prize you won with MMOHSC?

My favorite prize that I won was my Reserve Champion 13-15 belt buckle at the end of this past show season. I worked very hard for that buckle and it was the first, and so far, only one that I have won.

9. What would you say to anyone considering joining MMOHSC?

I would say that they would definitely make the right choice by joining the MMOHSC circuit. There are so many friendly people at every show that are always willing to help you. It is also very organized and the shows are run well. Most of all it is always has friendly competition and is always FUN!