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OKEECHOBEE NEWS

Just Horsin' Around ...



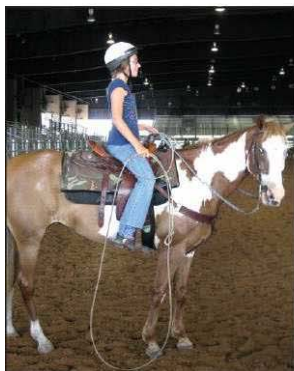
Okeechobee News/ **Katrina Elsken** Copyright © 2011 Okeechobee News 07/15/2011
Bailey Harden (left) tries to rope a metal "calf" pulled by Stephen Wojcieszak during rodeo week at the Okeechobee County Extension Office's "Just Horsin' Around" camp at the Okeechobee County Agri-Civic Center. For more on the camp, see page 12.

Campers enjoy rodeo week at annual horse camp



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

It's "rodeo week" at the 'Just Horsin' Around Camp at the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center. The annual camp included three different weeks of activities, providing young riders from beginners to experienced to learn new skills and more about horses. The camp participants must bring their own horses to camp. The horses can stay in the stalls at the facility, but the campers go home in the evenings. On Wednesday, local cowboys were on hand to teach calf roping skills. Taylor Doolittle (photo above, left to right) tried to rope a metal calf under the watchful eye of Shelby Carden and Stephen Wojcieszak. (Photo below left) Morgan Brandel eagerly waited her turn to try to rope the "calf." (Photo below right) Aubrey Homes and Jenna Brown relaxed with their horses while watching other campers work on their calf roping skills. Many of the campers are members of the local 4-H horse clubs, and earned scholarships to help offset the cost of the camp by participating in 4-H fundraisers during the school year. The camp was open to all children ages 8-18.



Okeechobee News/Katrina Elsen

Left to right, Bri Hancock, Jessie Burkhalter, Aubrey Wojcieszak and Laranda Southerland take a break on horseback to chat in the Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center. The girls are among the campers who have been enjoying the third week of the Just Horsin' Around Camp, sponsored by the Okeechobee County Extension Office.