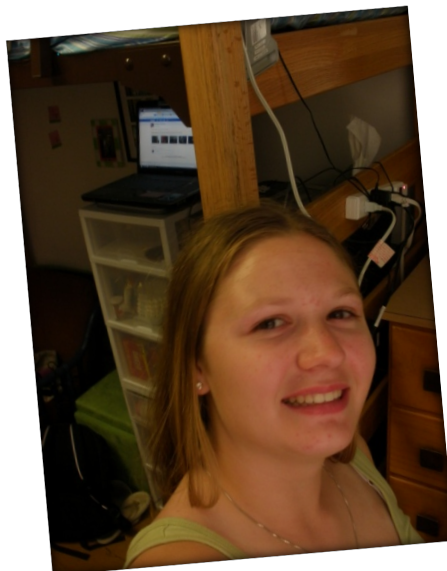


My Life in Rewind

Watch my life backwards, and see why I am who I am

October 2009 to December 2009

Updates will be done
on my lap top throughout this semester and re-posted every Sunday
No RSVP required, just sit back and read/watch what I've been up to!



WHAT GOT ME HERE AT K-STATE?

The whole reason I'm here at K-State is because of my high school Ag teacher. I wanted to go to Maine for college, but my parents wouldn't let me go that far away. My teacher was very supportive of my choice of going to Maine, but also thought that my parents were right in the fact that it was a very long ways away. After hounding me for a couple of months I took a tour of the college of Ag, just so that it would stop everybody from asking me about K-State. This didn't work the way I wanted it to, they just asked me more questions. My teacher saw that I was really struggling with where to go to school and hadn't applied anywhere by Christmas Break. She told me to really think hard over the break and come back to school in January with a decision, and added that K-State would be a great school to attend. After praying tons, not sleeping very much, and making countless pro's and con's lists I came to my decision that K-State was the best school for me to attend. When school started again Mrs. D asked me what my decision was and I told her K-State, and she told me that she already knew that that's where I was going.



Showing Sheep at the Tri-Rivers Fair



MY FIRST FEW WEEKS AT K-STATE

Although I love to travel and spend around 2 or 3 weeks a year away from home, it was still real hard to leave, knowing that I was not really going to be able to call where I have lived my entire life my home for much longer. The hardest part was that I had to leave my dog behind. My parents are realizing that they are sorry that he's stayed behind also. They continue to tell me he is a horrible dog and doesn't mind them, but when I come home he is a perfect angel. I believe this because I have spoiled him a lot, but he knows what he can and can't do and they just need to lay the law down with him. Anyway, my first few weeks here were not really what I expected. I didn't think that I would make as many friends as I did, because I am so shy. I hate to talk out during class and it takes a lot of courage for me to do so. After my first few attempts of getting to know a couple of people in some of my classes didn't go as good as I thought it would I knew that I needed to come out of my shell more. Luckily my roommate and I got along real well, and we are continuing to do so. Throughout high school I had some good friends that I had known forever, but I wanted to make a new beginning for myself here and I think that I have done a good job of it so far. I hope that I'm not known as the shy kid anymore, but I do know that I still have a lot to work on before I am as outgoing as some people.



My dog Bear and I after graduation

THIS LAST WEEK ON CAMPUS

This past week was a very busy one for me, even though it was only four days. On Tuesday I went to life group and had a blast getting to know girls in my dorm better. We also got prayer partners. All growing up I have been involved in a church, and coming to Manhattan I still have yet to find a church that I would like to attend. Church is one thing that I miss a bunch, but have found that Christian Challenge makes up for it. After coming from a old farming church where we would always sing old hymns it is nice to listen to music that is more for my generation. On Thursdays I have a very long day, and being able to go to Challenge gives me the time to relax and it's great to worship with people my own age. This last week was a stressful one with a test, and trying really hard to get my Microeconomics grade up, and it drained me. After Challenge I was ready to take on another stressful week.



GROWING UP IN THE CHURCH

My parents taught me from an early age to trust in the Lord. This is a huge part of who I am. I was baptized in the Kipp Presbyterian Church at a very young age.

My Grandpa Reese, after he became a Christian, made sure that we all were at church on Sunday's. When the Kipp Church closed we moved to the Mentor United Methodist Church, where I have been a member since the seventh grade. I was

very faithful going to Sunday school every Sunday, becoming an acolyte, and getting a Bible from the church when I entered third grade. I entered the Youth Group in seventh grade and went through confirmation to join the church. As our youth group started to get smaller I started to take over a little more. During my

Junior and Senior year I was the head of the youth group. This included me setting up and organizing events for us to do, and following through, and teaching the lessons on Sunday mornings. One of the hardest things for me to do was turn over the Youth notebook to the next oldest youth. Right away I knew that I wanted to get involved in a Christian organization when moving onto campus and Christian Challenge has worked out just right for me.



Pastor Christi, me and my mentor Shirley on the day I was confirmed to the church.

GROWING UP A COUNTRY GIRL

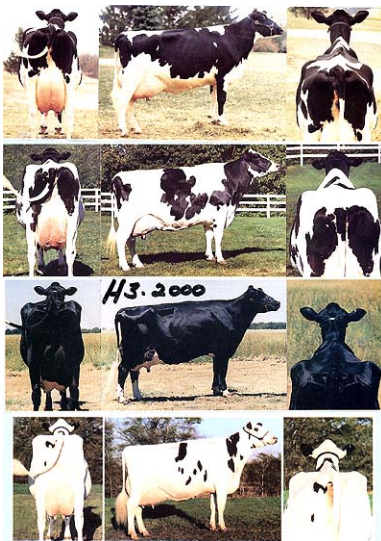
My first real food meal was what we call the harvest meal and it consists of meat, potatoes, and green beans. Ironically this was feed to me in the wheat field during harvest by my Grandpa Reese. I wasn't even a year old yet when I took my first combine ride, and I had on overalls that matched my grandpas. My three older cousins who are all boys made sure that I was in on everything from working cattle to going hunting with them, We were always finding trouble to get into. I still feel more comfortable outside than I do inside, and I can work cattle better than I can talk to a group of people even though I have been working on it. Many teens don't get the opportunity to drive until their fifteen, but I was able to start driving at age ten. I know how to drive small tractors, wheat trucks, pull a trailer, weld, work with wood, sew, cook, and can all because I grew up in a farming family. I wouldn't trade any one day of it at all. One of my favorite memories is when my Grandpa Reese taught me to drive his 1934 Twin M crank start tractor. It was his Christmas present to all of us grandkids (his toy for him). He made sure that everyone knew how to drive it, and it was his pride and joy. After he passed away my grandma had to sell it, and it was really hard to see it go.



Grandpa Reese and I driving the KTA

FFA/4-H

All through high school I was involved in FFA, Future Farmers of America, and my Sr. year I was able to participate in many events. Some included judging Dairy and Beef cattle, lambs, hogs, and going to a fake job interview. Being in FFA, and taking Ag classes throughout my four years of High School it was easier for me to get involved in the College of Agricultural Training Program. FFA paved the way for me to pick my major. Whenever my day was not going the way I thought it should, I could always count on being able to go down to the Ag room and Mrs. Disburger was always there to listen/cheer me up when I was down. Before I was able to join FFA I was involved in 4-H, and still am. I have been a member of the Gypsum Valley 4-H Club for eleven years. I have showed sheep for the past eight years, and raised rabbits for many years. FFA and 4-H have always been a huge part of my life.



Dairy Cattle judging class



Kansas Youth Leadership Fourm at Rock Springs.
What a crazy bunch!!!

FRIENDS OF RACHEL

Other than 4-H and FFA I was also involved in Friends of Rachel (FOR) during High School. This was an awesome club to be involved in, because of all the cool projects that we did not only for the student's and school but for our community. The high school that I graduated from is a small 3A school literally in the middle of a pasture, that has six different communities that all come together to one building for classes. My sophomore year we had a speaker bring Friends of Rachel to the school, and we set up a program. The next year we had the continuation speech. In the spring of my junior year we had one more speaker come and tell us the full dollar story. Every Tuesday or Wednesday morning at 7:45 we would meet and talk about what needed done in the community. The first year we kept the "mission's" in school, but we soon branched out. My second year we helped out a family with a seven year old girl who had a brain tumor. We called it Links For Chloe. During football season we sold paper links to help with her treatment, and our goal was to reach 100 yards by the end of our home season. It was great and we had other communities help us out with our goal, and we did get our 100 yards, but not before Chloe passed away. I was also able to help with Extreme Makeover Home Edition when they were in Chapman, and it was a amazing experience to be

able to be there and know that I was helping someone who really needed it.



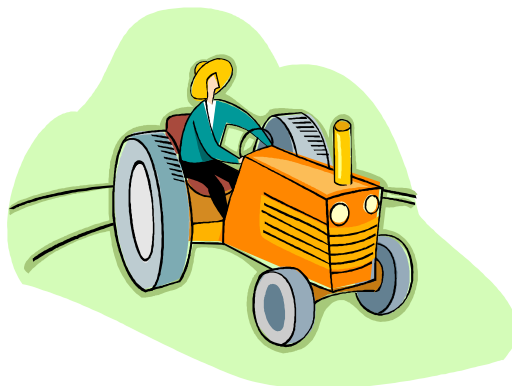
My Mom, me and my younger brother helping in the park

My mom and me cleaning up at the park



MY COMMUNITY

October means a busy month for me because a lot of my family was born around this time and we are always getting together for a birthday celebration. Not only this, but Gypsum has their annual October fest. When I was younger I was always in the parade and participated in the costume parade before calling it a day. My favorite part of the day though was the pedal tractor pull. I looked forward to this more than anything else. I was the champ for three years in a row beating most of the boys in my class. This made me real happy and I got the bragging right for many years. I was also eligible to participate at the State Fair. I didn't do so good at the State Fair, but just being able to beat the boys in my class made it all worth it. I have many hats and plaques from all my years participating. If there was a soccer game that morning I would beg my parents to talk to my coach to let me out of the game for the day or early so that I would be in Gypsum early enough to register and get my number. This last weekend was the fest in Gypsum and it was just like normal, I made it down there early enough to see the little kids competing, and watched the pedal pull and parade, and it brought back many memories of when I was younger.



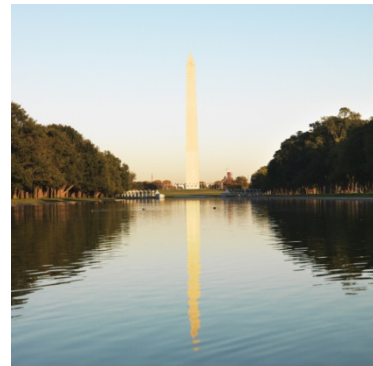
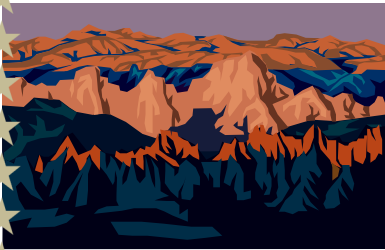
FAMILY GET TOGETHERS

My family doesn't need a excuse to have a dinner together, but we use any that we can. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and Birthdays we always have a dinner and tons of fun. Now that we are all older we trap shoot when we get all together, but when we were younger we would beg Grandpa Reese to get the sled out so that we could have some fun in the snow when there was some. I was around 10, but could have been a couple of years younger when there was actually snow on the ground for Christmas. All of us grandkids had finally wore down grandpa enough to where he said that we could get the three-wheeler and sled out to play with for an hour or so. My older cousin Kyle was driving so us younger four were fighting over who would ride first, when my mom told us to draw numbers. I got the last number so I had to wait until everybody else had had their fun before I could ride. While the other were riding we would chase after them and were having a good time, but when it came my turn everybody but Kyle went inside, and I could tell that Kyle really wanted to go inside to, but he stayed out and game me my ride. As we were rounding the house for the last time the three-wheeler went one way and the sled went the other. Before I fully knew what was happening I felt a pain in my right shoulder. This was because my shoulder and a fence post connected. Kyle felt horrible and I had to be tough around the boys so before I went inside I cried a little bit as my dad checked out my shoulder to make sure it wasn't broken. It wasn't but I found out later that I had dislocated it. My parents didn't take me to the emergency room, or a doctor, so it wasn't until about four years ago when my shoulder wasn't working right that I found this out. Nearly every get together results in someone getting hurt, but not badly.



MY TRAVELS

Many of our family get together's revolve around traveling. Every two years we have a family reunion that is hosted by some member of my family where ever it is that they live. 2008 happened to be our year to host the reunion here in Kansas. It was ok, but not as fun as if we were to travel to it. Normally we have a van and a motor home that we travel with. My great uncle drives the camper, and my dad and I take turns driving the van. We have a blast stopping at random places and exploring. Our next distention is New Mexico in 2010. We are already planning the route that we want to take. With family, 4-H, and FFA I have been to 22 states, this past summer going to 14 in 10 days for Citizenship Washington Focus with 4-H. It was a blast. I was able to see Gettysburg, Mount Vernon, The Capitol, and The White House, and a whole lot more.



MY MAJOR

While I was trying to decide what I wanted to do for the rest of my life many things came to mind. A vet because I love animals, but science and me don't get along. An Architect because I loved my drafting classes in high school, but I wouldn't of been able to survive all my math classes. Finally I came to the decision of going into Park Management, because I love animals, the outdoors, and there is some drafting involved in designing new parks. This is the perfect major for me. When I told my parents of my decision my mom told me that she kind of already knew that that's what I was going to go into. When we were in South Dakota at some of the wind caves up there and then in the Badlands she figured that that's where I belonged. I love National Parks, and camping, and I've been to quite a few parks, battlegrounds, and monuments.



GROUP PROJECTS

I am really excited to be able to help with the Drag Queens project, and I think that it's going really well. Most of the group has come together and worked fast to get this project off the ground. Hopefully it goes as well as we are expecting it to.

This is going to be a great opportunity for everyone in the class, and I hope that they take the time to show up and learn something. Not only are we getting the chance to step out of our comfort zone but we are also able to participate in a food drive to help out the community.

