

HUGO — Miss Rodeo Oklahoma 2009, Michaelle Kathleen Blake from Arcadia, will be here in Hugo for the rodeo parade and weekend celebrations.

She is the 24-year-old daughter of Steve and Kathleen Blake. Michaelle Blake graduated in December 2007 with an animal science degree with an equine production option.

She is currently a graduate student at Texas A&M University pursuing a Master's of Science degree in equine reproduction with an emphasis on equine nutrition, specializing in the mare and foal. She plans to graduate in August 2009.

Blake plans to continue her education after her reign by obtaining a Ph.D in equine exercise physiology. While in college, she was on the Texas A&M horse judging team where they crowned 2005 AQHA World Champions and 2005 Reserve Congress Champions. In her free time, Blake enjoys kickboxing and training for triathlons.

Blake was crowned Miss Rodeo Oklahoma on August 2, 2008 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum after a weeklong competition. She won the categories of appearance, personality, photogenic, speech, written test and horsemanship. Blake will spend the year traveling the state of Oklahoma and our nation promoting and supporting the sport of rodeo, western heritage and the western way of life.