



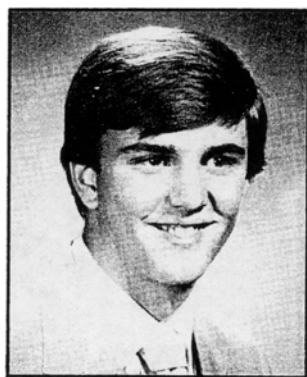
Trees...

Robert Frost celebrated them in "Birches" and "The Sound of Trees"

## Angus Juniors, Too, Seek

Those young Angus enthusiasts achieving the Association's silver award have climbed to an important branch ascending toward the coveted gold. They've demonstrated through their production skills, Association activities, sense of competition, record keeping ability, and marketing experience, that they've arrived at an enviable level, one where they can survey even loftier goals and reflect on how far up they've come since perhaps a timid beginning.

Points are assessed in the areas mentioned to qualify for the silver award. The bronze element of the National Junior Recognition Program is the first step. Any junior, regular or life member of the



Erskine Cash II  
Centre Hall, Pa.



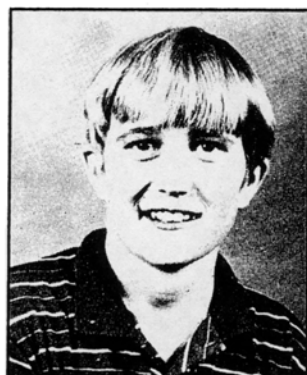
Elizabeth Cohron  
Stuarts Draft, Va.



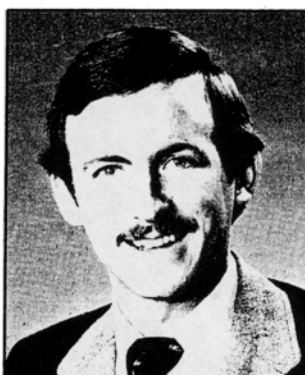
Joe Marshall Davis  
Blue Mountain, Miss.



James D. (Jimmy) Houck  
Bushong, Kan.



Jeff Houck  
Bushong, Kan.



R. Allen Jobs  
Stillwater, Okla.



Bruce D. Kiesewetter  
Farmington, Ill.



Kurt Olson  
Grand Mound, Iowa



Marilyn M. Rylaarsdam  
Grangeville, Idaho



Christine Simmons  
Williamston, Mich.



Mary Lynne Simpson  
Buchanan, Va.

# Greater Heights

American Angus Assn. who is 20 years of age or younger may be eligible to apply for the bronze or silver awards. Silver award winners apply for the gold award at the age of 20.

Each award winner receives a silver pin along with the respect earned for such national recognition. Continued best wishes in their future quests to those juniors listed here.

Photograph of Norman Bailey, recipient from Linn, W.Va. was not available.



Laura Brown  
Culpeper, Va.



Michael Carrico  
Lakeville, Fla.



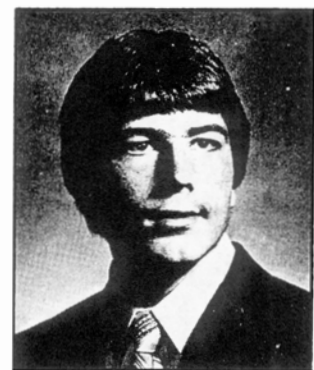
Christopher T. Friant  
Hayes, Va.



Cheryl Lynn Hampton  
Genoa, Ohio



Kevin Hampton  
Genoa, Ohio



Roy Allen Hedrick  
Petersburg, W.Va.



Trent Lovell  
Leamington, Utah



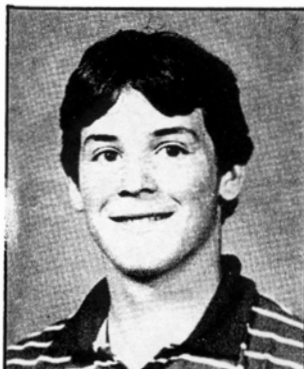
Laura Lugo  
El Centro, Calif.



Hilary Nemir  
Sweetwater, Texas



Karin Olson  
Grand Mound, Iowa



Douglas H. Spooner  
Evansville, Wis.



Cheramie L. Viator  
Jeanerette, La.



Pam Walter  
Groton, S.D.



Christopher Wood  
Stuyvesant, NY



It seems such a short time ago I could stretch out on a bale of straw and take a nap when weary from the work at a cattle show, but sadly this is the year that ends all the fun and excitement of being a member of the National Junior Angus Association.

I have searched for a fitting theme for my contribution as a member of the Junior Board of Directors, one that would reflect my feelings and perhaps be a challenge to some young member. I keep remembering that my first national junior show was in Kentucky and my last national junior show will be in Illinois. Ironically, the best calf we have produced on our farm was named Lincoln. Therefore, it seems appropriate to recall the great attributes of Abraham Lincoln.

Lincoln had all those qualities that make for greatness: faith and love of God, courage and common sense, humility and simplicity, fearlessness and steadfastness. Born of a poor family in the backwoods of Kentucky, through his integrity, his warmheartedness, and his sense of propriety, he ascended to the highest position in our land.

His biographies are full of accounts of his kindness. There was no hate in him—only a great love for humanity, a great pity when men went wrong, a great joy when they chose the right.

How much better our world would be if men today possessed these qualities. At the recent Youth Beef Industry Congress in Omaha, I was impressed by a speaker who extolled the qualities of honesty and integrity. These are qualities some, seemingly, in the competitive cattle business would just as soon not think about. Just because "everyone else does it,"

does not make a wrong right. Cheating is wrong wherever it takes place. Not many of us would want heart surgery done by a surgeon who cheated his way through medical school.

All young showmen want to win now and then. Most parents want their children to be winners and go to great lengths to see they have a project that can be a winner. When their efforts are stymied by the unethical methods of some, the youngster and his or her parents will become discouraged and give up. Who's been hurt? Everyone in the cattle business.

I had an excellent heifer a few years ago. I felt she could do well in the National Junior Angus Show. Tears of disappointment ran down my cheek when I led her from the ring second to a big heifer that went on to be reserve grand champion. Those were bitter tears a few weeks later when I learned my entry had been defeated by a heifer with nontraditional blood. Perhaps the lesson I learned about accepting defeat and learning to live with unfair competition was just as important as the glory and satisfaction of being a winner.

In addition to possessing honesty and integrity, I think Mr. Lincoln would have us respect each other. Again, we get so caught up in the desire to win we sometimes forget respect, understanding, and the rights of our fellow showmen. We watch adults and think it's "big time" to use some of their tactics.

It's only fair to our animals to show them to the very best of our ability but never at the expense of others in the show ring.

As youth, we need to establish a firm basis for proper attitudes of respect and understanding before

undesirable patterns of thinking and feeling have become an integral part of our characters.

My advice to all young showmen is to display the same manners in all show rings that you would if you were competing for the national showmanship title.

Another quality of Mr. Lincoln's that would make us better cattlemen is humility. Learn to win with humility and lose with dignity. Be happy over the good fortune of others. Respect their excellence. Have pride in your own cattle but don't let your own selfish pride rule you. The greatest regret in my junior cattle experiences is not that I didn't win the big one, but my foolish actions when the judge moved my steer from second to fifth place in Tulsa last summer. My pride was hurt and I reacted in an undesirable way. To any who may have noticed, I apologize. At age 20, I should have had control of my emotions, but this is hard on a "little fellow" in a "big show" and if at all possible, judges should try to avoid such big switches.

I have gained much from my 11 years of junior membership—more than I have contributed. For myself and those of my fellow juniors who will be ending their junior membership this year, I want to extend my appreciation to the many people who work endlessly to make the junior program so vital a part of the American Angus Assn. Above all, thank you, Angus breeders, for your friendship. This is something that no one will ever take from us.

It is the greatest trophy that we could have ever won—even greater than a national championship.

—Kenley Corne  
NJAA Board Member  
Buffalo, Kansas

## Western States Angus Queen shines in 4-H Spotlight, too

An 18-year-old Maddi Watje, who placed second in the nation in 1985 Angus showmanship competition and has twice been named a beef queen, is one of four national winners in the 4-H beef program.

Maddi, 862 River Road, Salinas, receives a \$1,000 scholarship from Friends of Thomas E. Wilson, the program sponsor, as part of her recognition.

Selected by the Cooperative Extension



sion Service, winners were presented their awards during the 64th National 4-H Congress in Chicago, Nov. 30-Dec. 5. Awards are arranged by National 4-H Council.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Watje, Maddi is a freshman at Hartwell College, Salinas, Calif., and plans a career in beef production management and public relations. She is a nine-year 4-H'er.

The Monterey County student said over the years her project evolved from "raising and showing a market steer per fair to raising many market steers, both registered and grade heifers, and a registered Angus bull."

She is the reigning Western States Angus Queen and earlier was named California State Queen and Central Section Junior Angus Association Princess. She will represent California and 11 Western states at Angus functions through the region next year as Western States Angus Queen.

When she attended the 1985 National Angus Junior Heifer Show in Tulsa, Okla., she represented California as a voting delegate on the national board. There, she also won na-



Maddi Watje, right, of Salinas, Calif., was one of four national 4-H beef program winners recently announced at the organization's 64th National Congress held in Chicago. Some 1,600 outstanding 4-H members were honored with 287 receiving scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500 in value.

More than 60 private corporations, foundations, and other organizations awarded a total of \$287,000 in educational scholarships. Pictured with Miss Watje are Susan Maiben of Indiana, Bruce Zollinger from Utah, and David Hanson, Nebraska, other national winners.

tional showmanship honors.

Her beef animals have placed well at major shows across the nation. Maddi says she's learned a lot by talking to breeders at various events.

She said one of the most rewarding experiences has been talking to young children about the beef project, in-

cluding youngsters attending a day camp last summer.

Maddi shares she's also learned a lot about financial matters in her project. "I became accountable for expenses and income, developing a balance sheet and a profit and loss statement."

*A junior livestock project is an exercise that tends to make youngsters grow up and keep parents young. If the right percentage of time, energy and decision making is done by youngsters and parents, the project is great and will really help develop better citizens throughout the state.*

*If the percentage of time gets out of balance, we see a bunch of spoiled brats emerging as house apes, belonging to sorehead parents who want to buy a champion, win by a rule book, or blame the judge because their child didn't win.*

*I would be the first to admit that very few livestock projects are economically sound. Neither is having young'uns, paying for band lessons, dancing lessons, bicycles and all the other fringes that go with raising kids.*

*However, if your goal is to raise a group of youngsters that show an added improvement over their parents and do this in the most sensible way, then the economics of junior projects look much better because of the heavy dividends they pay in the future.*

—Dr. Daniel

## Are Livestock Projects Fundamental?

by Dr. O'Dell G. Daniel

There will be shows as long as there are youngsters who have parents and grandparents. Let's not confuse the issue by saying we have steer shows, barrow shows, lamb shows, etc. We have kid shows where it is necessary to have an animal to be admitted through the gate.

Junior livestock projects are educational projects. They are the greatest teaching projects known to man. If so, what do they teach?

1. They teach youngsters to get along with people. Those of you who left jobs or got fired did so because you could not get along with people, not because you didn't know your job. Showing livestock, winning, getting beat, etc., helps youngsters to get along with others.

2. Feeding teaches responsibility. If we shoulder our responsibility like our

*Editor's note: Learning husbandry and showing one's efforts in the ring can certainly be important, says Dr. O'Dell G. Daniel. Dr. Daniel is Extension Animal Scientist and Division Chairman at the University of Georgia, Athens.*

*The wry observations, the color, and sage suggestions simply have to come from decades of experience around youth and tanbark. Our appreciation to The Purebred Picture and the American Berkshire & Poland China Record Association for permission to share these useful comments from a man who's obviously been there.*

top feeders, we would be doing our bit toward improving the world. I classify a top feeder as being one who hears and obeys their own alarm



clock, takes ingredients and mixes a fresh batch of feed each meal. Self-feeders may have done a lot to help livestock, but they haven't added much in teaching a youngster responsibility.

3. Attend to details. Everybody takes care of the big things like keeping the fence fixed and water available. It's the smaller things that build winners—like breaking animals to show early, keeping troughs and water tanks clean, bedding dry and parasites removed.

4. Decision making. Decision making is tough whether it is choosing the right flavor in a sucker or picking a herd sire. The toughness starts early and the pain never leaves. When decision making starts with youngsters, it becomes less painful as they become adults. Things don't "just happen"—somebody has to do something and make decisions to make them happen.

5. For every winner in a livestock show, there's a good plan—what to buy, when to buy, what to feed, how much to feed. Most successful people in life have been good planners. Good feeders will become good planners.

6. Somewhere along the line, we hope these junior feeders will learn something about the livestock business. Youngsters feed steers for many different reasons. Some feed for fun,

some for money, and some for their parents. I'll take the fun feeder any day of the week. They get up by themselves, do their own work and never yell "foul play" about the judge.

Their animals become a part of them. As you see them in a later life, they are the ones who can go out in life, take the hard knocks, pass on ideas and make every day a brighter spot in everyone's life.

Junior projects are family projects—at least the ones that are successful. Those that fail are because: 1) Parents aren't interested at all, 2) parents take over and won't let the youngster have any part other than go into the show ring and show. I think sometimes we need a show just for the "jocks" where they can get it out of their systems.

These kids in the ring where you are judging a show are the most important kids in town that day. Let them be the last person on earth that you mistreat. It may not be necessary for you to handle a steer to determine finish and placing.

However, most of the steers have been in the family 6-9 months, and it's all important that they get looked at, handled and talked about. Class discussion won't change an animal, but it will have a lasting effect on the exhibitor.

Are junior livestock projects important? They are a long way ahead of anything else that happens to be in second place.

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## 10 COMMANDMENTS

### For parents of youngsters showing livestock.

Submitted by Ken Pelster, Bartlett, Neb.

- I. Thou shalt not feed, train and care for the animal for thou are trying to teach the child responsibility.
- II. Thou shalt forgive a child for making mistakes in the show ring for thou hast made mistakes too.
- III. Thou shalt not get mad when thy child forgets items in the show box for one day thou may forget the show box.
- IV. Thou shalt help the show management for they are doing a job that thou would not want to do.
- V. Thou shalt see that thy child is on time for all show ring activities for thou should not want to wait on another.
- VI. Thou shalt be sure that thy child has the animals entered and the registration papers in order by the designated time.
- VII. Thou shalt teach the child that winning a blue ribbon is a desirable goal but making friends along the way is a more worthy goal.
- VIII. Thou shalt not complain about the judge, for it is his opinion that has been sought.
- IX. Thou shalt not forget that livestock projects are teaching projects, not necessarily money-making projects.
- X. Thou shalt remember that the livestock project is a family project that shall be enjoyed and supported by the entire family.

# What's going on here?

Some of the AJ's older readers may remember a photo feature one of the nation's major magazines used to run. The subject was usually a perplexing scene where first glance never quite told the whole story. One had to look twice, study, then even read the caption printed upside down explaining the story behind the picture.

Some of our junior activities portrayed here might lend themselves to that treatment. Sufficient to say, it's just routine in the land of the NJAA...



We understand black and white does little to capture the colorful costumes and accents, particularly the psychedelic hair—something to behold, we're told. Drew Uden, Layne Groseth, and Ty Uden performed.



Ty Uden of the Nebraska team demonstrates his technique stirring the makin's for "Critter Burgers."



Judges for the 1985 Beef Cookoff held during the National Junior Angus Show were, from left: David Cussack, sales manager for Cusak Wholesale Meat Co.; John McCartney of McCartneys, a CAB outlet in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City areas; and Tim Hussman, assistant director of CAB.



## ...At the NJAA cookoff, Tulsa



"Operation Beef" was the Iowa Junior's entry in the event.

Jennifer Cummings and Susan Quam, 1985's Miss American Angus, represented Wisconsin.



These juniors were honored during the Southeast Iowa Assn. banquet for exhibiting a champion or reserve champion Angus heifer at county fairs in the Southeast Iowa area. They are, front row from left: Sarah Beose, Lockridge; Chad Simmons, Mt. Pleasant; Valerie Fesler, Danville; and Aaron Eads, Milton. Second row from left: Chad Holtkamp, Salem, and Mike Jamison, Columbus Junction.



Karin Olson (right), Grand Mound, received the Scott Eichhorn trophy from Gary and Retha Eichhorn, Tipton, during the Eastern Iowa Assn. banquet.





**...Junior Highlight Days at the Thomas Ranch, Baker, Ore.**



*Tis a fitting crew, indeed!*



*Sharing with a senior Angus enthusiast.*



*Practicing showmanship skills. Junior members from Idaho and Washington attended as well.*



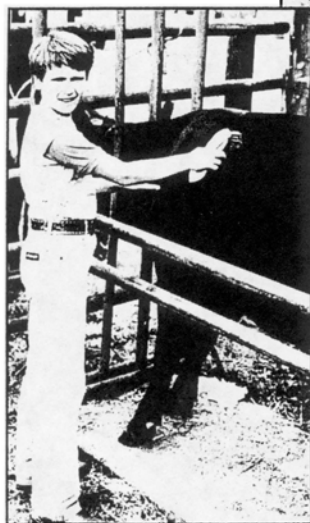
*Kellie Coonrad, is that a check you're getting (or giving)?*



**...At Idaho's Junior Field Day**



*Garvin Foote of Melba, Idaho.*



*Catrina Boehlke, Nampa, Idaho.*



*Pals...*



*See you in '86!*