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POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Avery Dull

## Association solution

*The Angus breed in America was essentially built on solutions.*

When George Grant brought over four Angus bulls to Victoria, Kan., in 1873, he had no idea the lasting legacy he would make on the breed.

Grant's problem was that the Texas Longhorns were not as profitable as he had hoped, nor were they able to withstand the harsh winters. His solution was to implement Angus genetics to create a heartier animal that could add more muscle to finished carcasses.

The seed of solutions was rooted in America after that year, as producers found new ways to implement Angus characteristics into their herd, and eventually, how to use expected progeny differences (EPDs) to produce cattle they desired.

Within the last 10 years, the American Angus Association has developed several innovative EPD solutions. Through Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), the American Angus Association has worked to create genetic tools to help producers deal with high-altitude disease (HAD) in cattle living in higher-elevated climates.

Producers in Colorado, Montana and other Plains states witnessed

many cattle having heart and lung issues, leading to heart failure and eventual death. AGI developed the Pulmonary Arterial Pressure (PAP) EPD that allows producers to select cattle against the gene and cull the cattle that are high-risk. With this new technology, the Association is able to continually improve the Angus gene pool and provide a more profitable cow prospect to producers.

Another solution that the Association has developed is the Hair Shedding (HS) EPD. Cattle typically shed their winter coats in early spring, however, issues with prolonged shedding can cost a producer as cattle use more energy to regulate body temperature rather than supplying energy to produce milk or meat. Hair shedding is moderately heritable, so it can be passed to offspring.

A specific string of progeny carrying poor HS EPDs is less environmentally adaptive and thus less productive than the rest of the herd. Through the use of the HS EPD, producers are able to evaluate their herd, identify cows that are poor shedders and make breeding

decisions accordingly for the betterment of the herd.

Finally, the Association produced an EPD to help solve a major problem for many Angus producers in the United States with the Foot Angle (Angle) and Claw Set (Claw) scores. The cattle we produce today are only as good as the hooves they stand on. If our cattle can't walk to the feedbunk or maintain their body weight during the heat of calving season, they are unable to perform to the best of their abilities, ultimately costing the producer time and money.

With this new EPD, producers are able to compare using the Association Foot Score Card and select against poor foot structure among their cattle when making breeding decisions.

As it's clear to see, the American Angus Association has not slowed down in the creation and development of solutions to better serve its producers and the cattle that they care for. Only time will tell what the next big solution will be in future years.

— Avery Dull

### Bronze and Silver Awards

Charles Parr, Mason City, Ill.; Grace Tekansik, Minden, Nev.; and Pecos Worrell, Harper, Texas, have earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and

Silver awards, according to Caitlyn Brandt, events and education director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo. Amanda Hoffmann, Schertz, Texas; Rosalind Kidwell, Gentryville, Ind.;

Kerrigan Mobley, Diagonal, Iowa; Macy Taylor, Nashville, Ga.; and Emma Vanhoy, Catawba, N.C.; have earned the NJAA's Silver award. Andrea Arnold, Esmond, N.D.; and Carlee Hoffmann, Schertz, Texas,

have earned the NJAA's Bronze award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd, and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

**Charles Parr** is 18 years old and from Mason City, Ill. Bret and Kirsten Parr's son attends Illini Central High School. Parr is a member of the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association, where he has filled the role of director.

Having shown at the local, state and national level, Parr has also attended the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). At the junior show, he has competed in the livestock judging contest.

Parr has also attended the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference and submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®).

Minden, Nev., native **Grace Tekansik** is the 17-year-old daughter of Becky and Travis Tekansik. She currently attends Douglas High School and is a member of both the NJAA and the California Junior Angus Association.

Tekansik has participated in state and regional shows. She has also attended the Angus Convention.

**Pecos Worrell** is 15 years old and is from Harper, Texas. He is the son of Casey and Erin Worrell and attends Harper High School. Worrell is a

member of the NJAA and the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA), where he has served as director.

He has shown at the local, state and national level. He has participated in the LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences.

From Schertz, Texas, **Amanda Hoffmann** is the 18-year-old daughter of Otis and Christine Hoffmann. She attends Samuel Clemens High School and is a member of the NJAA and the TJAA, where she has served as director.

Hoffmann has shown at the local, state and national level. At the NJAS, she has participated in the quiz bowl, photography and Skill-a-thon contests.

**Rosalind Kidwell** is the 16-year-old daughter of Jud and Carla Kidwell. She is from Gentryville, Ind., and is a member of the NJAA and the Indiana Junior Angus Association. Kidwell previously served as director.

Kidwell has shown at the state, regional and national level. At the NJAS, she has participated in the career development, quiz bowl, creative writing and Skill-a-thon contests and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef (CAB) Cook-off.

She previously attended the LEAD conference. Kidwell also has submitted weight data to the AHIR.

Eighteen-year-old Diagonal, Iowa, native, **Kerrigan Mobley**, attends Diagonal High School. Wyatt Mobley's daughter is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association.

She has shown at the local, state and national levels. Additionally, Mobley has submitted weight data to the AHIR.

**Macy Taylor** is 20 years old. The Nashville, Ga., native is the daughter

## Louisiana Junior Angus Ass'n Preview Show, May 14, Shreveport



Winning top honors in senior showmanship (from left) are Lani LeBeouf, Deridder, first; Ben Forbes, Zachary, second; Grant Dela Houssaye, New Iberia, third; Dave Wright Jr., Many, fourth; and Christian Corsentino, Denham Springs, fifth.



Winning top honors in intermediate showmanship (from left) are Rory Forbes, Zachary, first; Austin Johnson, Pitkin, second; Amalie Mabile, Brusly, third; Olivia Shirley, Deridder, fourth; and Lily Williams, Keithville, fifth.



Winning top honors in junior showmanship (from left) are Emma LeJeune, Elton, first; Wyatt Mabile, Brusly, second; Eleanor Straney, Thibodaux, third; and Tavin Symons, Pearl River, fourth.

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Winning top honors in peewee showmanship (from left) are Claire Williams, Keithville; and Fitz Straney and Amelia Straney, both of Thibodaux.



Crowned royalty are Jacey Leleune (left), Elton, Miss Louisiana Angus; and Camryn Greene, Slaughter, Louisiana Angus princess.

## Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, May 28-29, Salem, Ore.



Winning top honors in showmanship (from left) are Chyloh Billman, Rigby, Idaho, reserve junior champion; Tymber Billman, Rigby, Idaho, junior champion; Sydney Dodge, Pendleton, Ore., reserve intermediate champion; Fallon Gohr, Madras, Ore., intermediate champion; Jonwyn Ayres, Medford, Ore., senior champion; and Cole Page, judge.

of Dan and Jenny Taylor. She attends Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, where she is studying animal science.

In addition to the NJAS, Taylor is a member of the Georgia Junior Angus Association, where she has served as president and director. She has shown at all levels, and she has served as an NJAS voting delegate.

From Catawba, N.C., **Emma Vanhoy** is a member of the NJAA and the North Carolina Junior Angus Association. The 18-year-old has served her state as director, first vice president and royalty. She is the daughter of Nathan Vanhoy and attends Bandys High School.

Vanhoy has participated in shows at the local, regional and state level. She has previously participated in the

LEAD conference.

**Andrea Arnold** is the 18-year-old daughter of Lynn and Robin Arnold. The Esmond, N.D., local attends Maddock Public School. She is a member of the NJAA and the North Dakota Junior Angus Association, where she has served as royalty.

Arnold has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, she has entered the photography contest.

**Carlee Hoffmann** is Otis and Christine Hoffmann's 15-year-old daughter. The Schertz, Texas, resident attends Samuel Clemens High School.

She is a member of the NJAA and the TJAA, where she has served as director. Hoffmann has also shown at the local, state and national level.

## Atlantic National Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, May 28, Timonium, Md.

*Photos by Next Level Images, courtesy of American Angus Association.*



Winning top honors in senior showmanship (from left) are Marcie Harward, Richfield, N.C., champion; Mattie Harward, Richfield, N.C., reserve champion; and Amelia Miller, Gridley, Ill., third place champion.



Winning top honors in intermediate showmanship (from left) are Alexis Wright, Philippi, W.Va., champion, and Madison Bowen, Centre Hall, Pa., reserve champion.



Winning top honors in junior B showmanship (from left) are Kolton Grim, Thomasville, Pa., champion; Mercedes Ferree, Sullivan, Ind., reserve champion; and Rylee Stratton, Appomattox, Va., third place champion.



Winning top honors in junior A showmanship (from left) are Kinleigh Grim, Thomasville, Pa., champion; Sophie Salling, Orange, Va., reserve champion; and Adalyn Heineman, New Freedom, Pa., third place champion.



Marcie Harward, Richfield, N.C., was named supreme champion showman. Pictured (from left) are Zach McCall, surrogate judge, presenting; Jamie Nicholson, judge, presenting; Harward; Chris Wojciechowski and Scott Buchanan, judges, presenting.



Angus juniors awarded Atlantic National Merit Scholarships (front row from left) are Pam Velisek, presenting; Deanna Hofing, presenting; Suter Clark, Gretna, Va.; Morgan Hutchins, Charleston, Ill.; Kallie Knott, Laotto, Ind.; Allison Davis, Shelbyville, Tenn.; Amelia Miller, Gridley, Ill.; Ellie Kidwell, Walhonding, Ohio; Mary Wood, Willow Spring, N.C.; Mattie Harward, Richfield, N.C.; Marcie Harward, Richfield, N.C.; Kristina Scheurman, Warsaw, Ohio; J. Gordon Clark, Gretna, Va.; Justin Wood, Willow Spring, N.C.; Riley Wood, Willow Spring, N.C.; and Betsie Michael, presenting.

## Southwestern Wisconsin Angus Classic Show, May 29, Lancaster



Winning senior showmanship honors (from left) are Neleah Bobolz, Janesville, first; Hailey Jentz, Belmont, second; and Holly Marsh, Earlville, Ill., third.



Winning intermediate showmanship honors (from left) are Kaycee Lindner, Platteville, first; Gabe Mindemann, Watertown, second; and Maggie Mindemann, Watertown, third.



Winning junior showmanship honors (from left) are Makinley Pohlman, Barneveld, first; Brody Lindner, Platteville, second; and Layla Miller, Waterford, third.



Sydney Jentz, Verona, won peewee showmanship honors.



Hailey Jentz was awarded the Sue Finley scholarship.

## Central Illinois Angus Ass'n Preview Show, June 3, Bloomington

*Photo by Cindy Cagwin-Johnston, courtesy of American Angus Association.*



Kyle Eathington (center), Avon, was presented with the Beryl Rutledge Memorial Award. Also pictured presenting are Sam Brumleve (left) and Brook Rutledge.

## Tennessee Angus Ass'n Junior Preview Show, June 4, Lebanon



Winning top honors in showmanship (from left) are Gavin Kuhn, Manchester, junior B champion; Lona Sims, McEwen, reserve junior B champion; Grant Kuhn, Manchester, junior A champion; Jude Harr, Blountville, reserve junior A champion; Andrew Meier, Clinton, intermediate champion; Bracie Cagle, Pulaski, reserve intermediate champion; Alli Perry, Fayetteville, senior champion; Allison Davis, Shelbyville, reserve senior champion; and Cody Washam, judge.

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## Illinois Junior Angus Ass'n Field Day, June 4, Bloomington



Winning top honors in senior showmanship are Lizzie Schafer (left), Owaneco, champion, and Meghan Hadden, Jacksonville, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in intermediate B showmanship (from left) are Brooke Schiffbauer, Tonica, reserve champion; and Cody York, Palestine, champion.



Winning top honors in intermediate A showmanship (from left) are Lauren Wolter, Aviston, champion; and Reese Anderson, Chrisman, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in junior B showmanship are Charlee Jones (right), Gridley, champion; and Ella Eathington, Avon, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in junior A showmanship are Macie Bartlow (right), Macomb, champion; and Curtner Bergmann, Vienna, reserve champion.



Qualifying to represent Illinois at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest (from left) are Linda Prox, presenting; Paige Lemenager, Hudson, representative; Eric Schafer, Owaneco, representative; Emily Brooks, Phophetstown, alternate; and Jordan Oliver, Buncombe, alternate. Paige Lemenager also received the H. George Sperry Memorial Showmanship Award.



Ashlyn Mool (right), Lexington, was presented with the Troy Miller Memorial Award. Also pictured is Tracey Rawlings, presenting.



Jack Dameron (left), Towanda, received the Joseph Bessler Memorial Award. Also pictured is Audrey Curtin, Illinois Angus ebouette, presenting.



Crowned royalty (from left) are Macie Carroll, Mount Carroll, Illinois Angus princess; Madaline Bergmann, Vienna, Illinois Angus princess; Ella Brooks, Prophetstown, Illinois Angus ebouette; Lizzie Schafer, Owaneco, Miss Illinois Angus; Audrey Curtin, Blue Mound, Illinois Angus ebouette; and Chloe Grant, Owaneco, Illinois Angus ebouette.

## Wisconsin Junior Angus Preview Show, June 5, Jefferson

*Photos by Brodie Abney Photography, courtesy of American Angus Association.*



Winning top honors in senior showmanship are Emily Dahlke (left), Adams, champion, and Abby Meier, Glen Haven, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in intermediate showmanship. Pictured are Kelly Gaffney (left), Barneveld, champion, and Neleah Bobolz, Janesville, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in junior showmanship are Tucker Bayer (right), Ringle, champion, and Blake Brancel, Endeavor, reserve champion.



Sydney Jentz, Verona, won top honors in peewee showmanship.



Qualifying to represent Wisconsin at the NJAS are Jacob Krusemark, Burlington (left), and Bree Gaffney, Barneveld.

## Kansas Junior Angus Ass'n Preview Show, June 5, Hutchinson



Kelsey Theis (left), Leavenworth, received the Kansas Angus Auxiliary scholarship. Also pictured is Brenna Wulfkuhle, presenting.



Jayce Dickerson (right), Paradise, won premier exhibitor. Also pictured is Tonya Theis, presenting.



Kelsey Theis (left), and Lyle Perrier, Eureka, received the Kansas Angus Ass'n Endowment — Angus Foundation (LEAD) scholarships.



Winning won top honors in senior showmanship are Kady Figue (left), Onaga, champion, and Jayce Dickerson, reserve champion.



Winning won top honors in intermediate showmanship are Kelsey Theis (left), champion, and Addie Haverkamp, Paradise, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in junior showmanship are Kaelyn Schilling (left), Edson, champion, and Aubree McCurry, Hutchinson, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in novice showmanship are Eli Atkisson (left), Stockton, champion, and Hallie Mullen, Ulysses, reserve champion.



Baylee Wulfkuhle (left), Lawrence, and Lauren Frederick, Hutchinson, qualified to represent Kansas at the National Junior Angus Showmanship contest.

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## Alabama Angus Ass'n Junior Preview Show and Field Day, June 4, Union Springs



Winning top honors in senior showmanship are Curt Williams (left), Blountsville, champion, and Cheyenne Walker, Toney, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in intermediate showmanship (from left) are Wheeler Allen, Lexington, first; Makayla Walker, Toney, second; Amelia Thrower, Arab, third; Paycee Sewell, Midland City, fourth; and Kloee Sewell, Midland City, fifth.



Winning top honors in junior showmanship (from left) are Claire Smith, Jemison, first; Carson Fallin, Blountsville, second; Kynleigh Wood, Holly Pond, third; Laura Landers Franklin, Blountsville, fourth; and Camden Upchurch, Lineville, fifth.



Angus enthusiasts participated in pee-wee showmanship. Pictured (from left) are Bryson Upchurch, Lineville; Cooper Fallin, Blountsville; and Alex Wood, Holly Pond.



Junior Angus members qualified to represent Alabama at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Pictured (from left) are Wheeler Allen, representative; Makayla Walker, representative; and Cheyenne Walker, alternate.



Kynleigh Wood (right) was crowned Miss Alabama Angus. Also pictured is Craig Bryson, Alabama Angus Ass'n president.



Placing in the photography contest (from left) are Craig Bryson, presenting; Kynleigh Wood, first and second place in the around the farm division; Amelia Ivey, Webb, first, second and third place in the cattle division; and Shep Evans, Hope Hull, first place in the landscape division.



Elected to serve on the Alabama Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors (front row from left) are directors Laura Landers Franklin; Claire Smith; Kloee Sewell; Carson Fallin; Curt Williams; Amelia Thrower (back row from left), president; Wheeler Allen, vice president; Kynleigh Wood, treasurer; and Makayla Walker, secretary.