

LUNCH MONEY

Auxiliary awards 10 scholarships to NJAA members.

by Corinne Blender

College tuition has been made a little easier on the pocketbook for 10 National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members, thanks to \$8,700 in scholarship money awarded by the American Angus Auxiliary. Five young ladies and five young men were chosen from among 24 NJAA member applications representing 18 states. The scholarship program has been providing financial support to beginning college freshmen for 46 years.

Nancy Jo Sullivan, national scholarship co-chairwoman, presented the scholarships at the 2002 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Milwaukee, Wis. The following outstanding NJAA members are this year's Auxiliary scholarship recipients.

EMILY McCURRY, Burrton, Kan., won the \$1,050 first-place scholarship in the girls' division. Emily is the daughter of Andy and Mary McCurry. She is attending Hutchinson Community College in Kansas, majoring in premedicine.

Emily's involvement with the Angus breed extends her family's legacy. She represents the fifth generation to raise Angus cattle. The family operation has provided her with opportunities to raise Angus using Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR), as well as to participate in shows with her bred-and-owned entries and in many other competitions offered.

"Growing up, Angus cattle have offered me a wide spectrum of learning experiences, which equate to life experiences — learning to lose gracefully, the privilege of winning, an appreciation of the hard work and responsibility it takes to work with animals," she says.

She has put her life lessons to work by being a leader for 12 years in the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA). She is the current KJAA president-elect. Emily also has been a member of the NJAA for 16 years.

"The Angus legacy has provided me direction in my life," Emily says.

JOANNA OLSON, Hereford, Texas, received the \$900 second-place scholarship in the girls' division. She is the daughter of Steve and Ginger Olson. Joanna is majoring in animal science at Texas A&M University, College Station.

Joanna has been a member of both the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA) and the NJAA for 10 years. In that time, she has shown her cattle in various local, state and national shows. She has

been an active participant in the NJAS.

"Each step in my growing process has been about achievement, seeking new opportunities and learning more about the Angus breed and the great heritage it offers and the future it holds," she says.

Being an Angus breeder is more than just showing for Joanna. She also attends many state and national livestock events to promote the Angus breed. She represented her state as the 2001 Miss Texas Angus.

"These experiences, along with a foundation built from the day-to-day living and working with Angus cattle and Angus people, have helped to mold me into the person I am today," she says.

HOPE HERD, Fair Grove, Mo., is the \$850 third-place scholarship winner. Hope is the daughter of Mark and Kim Herd. She attends Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, majoring in agricultural education.

Hope has been a member of her state association for 14 years and a member of the NJAA for 17 years. She has been a leader in her state and regional associations by serving in several offices throughout. She also has been an active participant in the NJAS.

"Hard work is not done on its own; it takes cooperation to accomplish anything," Hope says. "You will have many life experiences while gaining so many friendships."

The fourth-place, \$800 scholarship recipient is **ALICIA KRAMER**, Farina, Ill. She is the daughter of Eugene and Marilyn Kramer. Alicia attends the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is majoring in animal science.

As Alicia's Angus herd has grown, so has her AHIR-keeping. In 1999, one of her cows was included in the Angus Pathfinder report.

"My family's history has revolved around building a herd with sound genetics and cattle that will be functional in the future," she says.

Keeping track of her production records has been just as important as her leadership roles during the past few years. She was president of the Southern Illinois Junior Angus Association in 2001-2002. She also represents her state as the 2002 Angus queen.

KRISTI WILSON, Orleans, Ind., is the fifth-place, \$750 scholarship winner. Kristi is the daughter of Loran and Kathy Wilson. She is attending Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., and is majoring in animal science.

Through her commitment to both her state association and the NJAA, Kristi has become a strong leader. She is the current third vice



JOANNA OLSON



HOPE HERD



EMILY McCURRY



ALICIA KRAMER



KRISTI WILSON

president of the Indiana Junior Angus Association (IJAA) and was Miss Indiana Angus in 2001. She has held many other leadership positions.

"I was born into an Angus operation, and Angus cattle have been a way of life for me as far back as I can remember," Kristi says. "The entire basis for responsibility, dedication and work ethic in my life has come from my foundation on our Angus farm."

Editor's note: *The five young ladies are eligible to compete for the 2003 Miss American Angus title. The competition will be conducted in November at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Super Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show in Louisville, Ky.*

Many years of dedication to Angus junior programs have been rewarded by a \$1,050 first-place scholarship in the boys' division to

JASON SCHROEDER, Clarence, Iowa. Jason is the son of Douglas and Glenda Schroeder.

He is currently attending Ellsworth Community College, Iowa Falls, Iowa, and plans to transfer to Iowa State University, Ames, to major in ag business.

Jason has spent his time as a junior focusing on improving his breeding program. His focus on his cows has rewarded him with three Pathfinder listings, one in 2002 and two in 1998.

"Showing cattle has given me a lot of recognition for the breeding lines we have produced and EPDs (expected progeny differences) we have developed," Jason says. "The new technology of building on good foundation females is very interesting to me."

His role as a junior has also meant becoming a leader in both his regional and state associations. He has filled many offices over the years and credits other leaders for his success.

"I have had many teachers and leaders in organizations who have helped me lay the groundwork by providing me with the right balance of knowledge and leadership," he says.

CASEY RUMP, Galva, Kan., is the \$900 second-place scholarship recipient. He is the son of Craig and Marci Rump. Casey attends Hutchinson Community College in Kansas, where he is majoring in agricultural diesel technology.

Casey's appreciation for Angus cattle has taught him that quality is worth more than quantity. His family's place may be small compared to some, but his love for Angus cattle isn't.

"When I first started, I thought raising and selling cattle would help pay for my college tuition," Casey remembers. "However, through the years I learned that raising and showing Angus cattle offered more than just income."

Casey has participated in many contests during his nine years in both the KJAA and the NJAA.

"My Angus projects and activities have taught me responsibility and work ethic," he says. "This has given me the knowledge to work for other breeders and ranchers, and to help younger members with their cattle projects."

The third-place, \$850 scholarship was awarded to **ERIC KING**, Tiffin, Ohio. He is the son of John and Mary King. Eric attends Ohio State University in Columbus and is majoring in animal science.

Eric has been a lifelong member of the NJAA and a member of the

Ohio Junior Angus Association for nine years. He serves as the 2002 president of the Black Swamp District Junior Association. He says Angus cattle will be an important part of his life in the future.

"Showing and raising Angus cattle has been a significant part of my life," Eric says. "I have been to many different shows across the country and have gotten to meet a lot of new and interesting people."

ROBBY SHOFNER, Bentonville, Ark., received the \$800 fourth-place scholarship. He is the son of Bob and Janice Shofner. Robby is attending the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and is majoring in animal science.

Robby has been a member of the Arkansas Junior Angus Association (AJAA) for seven years and a member of the NJAA for eight. He has participated in numerous events and has attended the NJAS for six consecutive years.

Leadership roles — including several state offices, contest participant and national voting delegate — have carried him through his junior career.

What he has gained from the AJAA and NJAA, he says, is invaluable.

"I have had the opportunity to learn so many life lessons that the average person will never get to learn," he adds. "These lessons, such as how to win without getting a 'big head' and how to lose without pouting, are things I feel every young person should learn."

The fifth-place, \$750 scholarship winner is **JAKE TIEDEMAN**, North Platte, Neb. Jake is the son of Bob and Becky Tiedeman. He is attending Colorado State University, Fort Collins, majoring in animal science and agricultural business.

Jake is proud to be a member of the Angus industry and has taken advantage of the many experiences the junior program has to offer.

"The opportunities that the Angus business has offered me are irreplaceable," he says. "I have attended numerous Angus sales, shows and conferences and have reaped the benefits of owning my own herd."

Even though the many contests and events have been important to Jake, he says it is the business side of working with the cattle that he has benefited from the most.

"These business practices and technology have allowed me to successfully show and sell many champions at the local, state and national levels," Jake says. "In 1999, a product of my bred-and-owned herd topped our annual production sale and sold to a fellow Angus breeder. Producing this herd sire was a highlight of my Angus career."

Those interested in applying for the Auxiliary's 2003 scholarship program should contact their state Auxiliary scholarship chairperson. A list of these state contacts can be found in the Auxiliary Yearbook published in the February issue of the *Angus Journal* or on the Auxiliary's Web site, accessible through www.angus.org.

