

Incredible!

'Angus Under the Big Top' provides countless memories at the 2002 NJAS.

Story by **James Fisher**;
photos by **Corinne Blender**

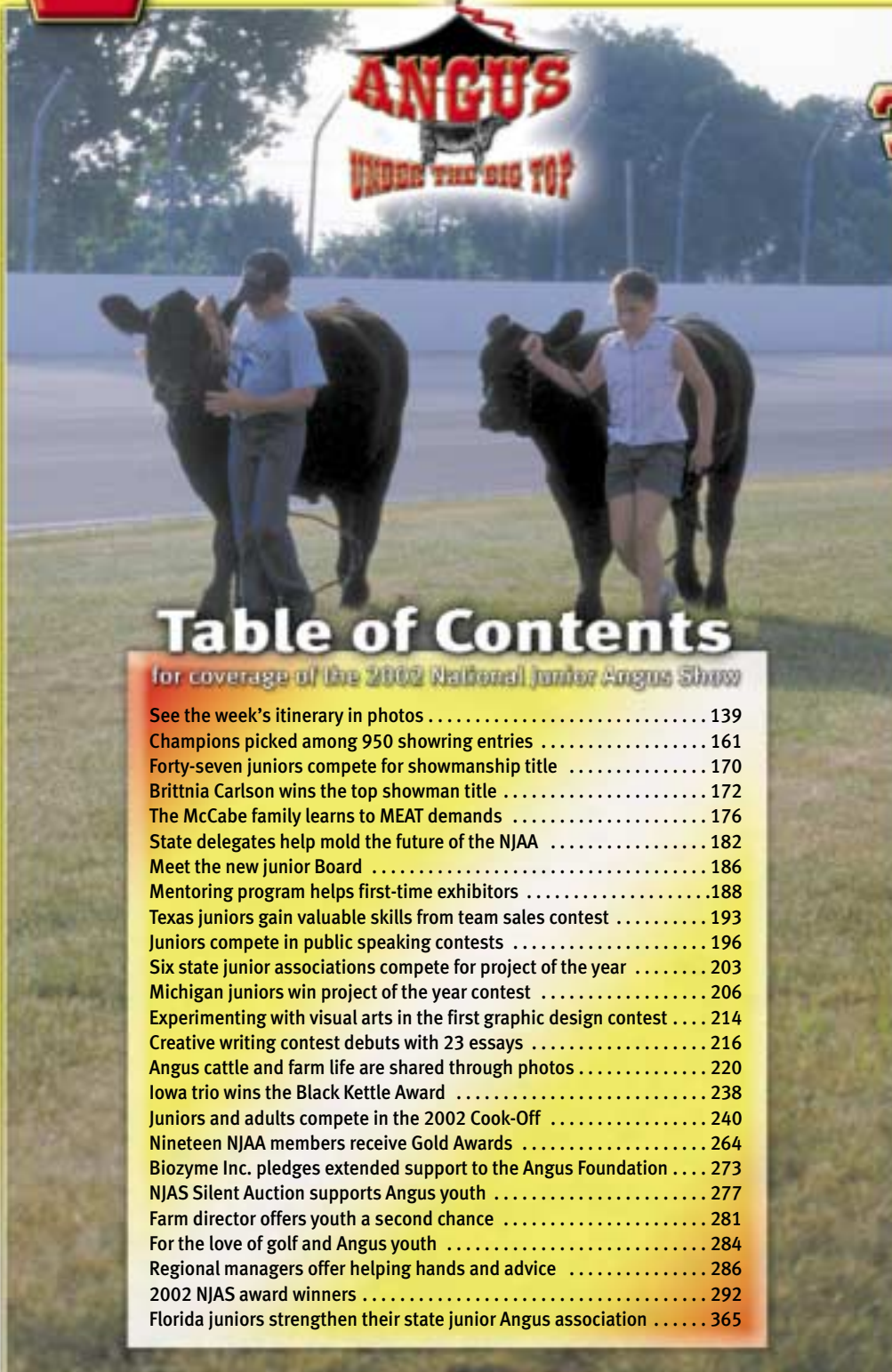


Table of Contents

for coverage of the 2002 National Junior Angus Show

See the week's itinerary in photos	139
Champions picked among 950 showing entries	161
Forty-seven juniors compete for showmanship title	170
Brittnia Carlson wins the top showman title	172
The McCabe family learns to MEAT demands	176
State delegates help mold the future of the NJAA	182
Meet the new junior Board	186
Mentoring program helps first-time exhibitors	188
Texas juniors gain valuable skills from team sales contest	193
Juniors compete in public speaking contests	196
Six state junior associations compete for project of the year	203
Michigan juniors win project of the year contest	206
Experimenting with visual arts in the first graphic design contest	214
Creative writing contest debuts with 23 essays	216
Angus cattle and farm life are shared through photos	220
Iowa trio wins the Black Kettle Award	238
Juniors and adults compete in the 2002 Cook-Off	240
Nineteen NJAA members receive Gold Awards	264
Biozyme Inc. pledges extended support to the Angus Foundation ...	273
NJAS Silent Auction supports Angus youth	277
Farm director offers youth a second chance	281
For the love of golf and Angus youth	284
Regional managers offer helping hands and advice	286
2002 NJAS award winners	292
Florida juniors strengthen their state junior Angus association	365

Think about three years of planning and preparation, volunteers, committees, promotion, phone calls, e-mail, and meetings. Visualize 950 head of Angus cattle, 300 stock trailers, numerous tractor-trailers, hundreds of extended-cab pickups, nearly a mile of tie-outs and a few thousand people gathered for the largest single-breed beef show in the world.

Add to the picture 13 contests and competitions, a silent auction, a golf tournament, an ice-skating party, a banana split feast and opening ceremonies that included a circus parade.

Continue with meetings for advisors, exhibitors and American Angus Auxiliary members, an annual meeting, a showmanship contest and an awards function that included the presentation of 28 college scholarships, contest prizes and awards to more than 240 junior Angus members.

Don't stop now because you still have a junior dance and a casino night for the parents to fit into the picture. Finally, add in the cattle show, which included a carcass steer contest, 87 on-hoof cattle classes, the naming of 17 division champions and reserve champions, the slapping of seven grand champions and reserve grand champions, and two state-group competitions.

While I can sum up in just a few words what three years of planning and an incredible weeklong event may look like from the outside, the experience gained from participating in the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) can't be summarized in any such fashion.

Common meeting grounds

The cattle show and competitions

CONTINUED ON PAGE 138

Incredible!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 137

bring together people from the far corners of the nation. Across the entire country, families load show cattle into their trailers, get in their pickups with trailers hooked on behind and travel over mountains, through valleys, across rivers and plains to come to this weeklong celebration we call the NJAS.

It is a celebration of young people.

It is a celebration of opportunities and possibilities.

It is a celebration of people, both young and old, who understand the importance of hard work, perseverance and pride in ones self and in what can be accomplished if you are willing to work for it.

It is a celebration of the Angus family, spanning state lines to bring people of similar interests and ideals together.

With the theme "Angus Under the Big Top," the 2002 NJAS was an incredible event. The hard work and dedication of the Wisconsin planning committee, the members of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association, their parents and grandparents, along with the Wisconsin Angus Association and Auxiliary are to be commended on an excellent show. The hospitality extended was exceptional, the functionality of the facility worked extremely well, and each detail was covered to allow the show to unfold in a grand fashion.

Endless support

A show of this size and grandeur would not be possible without the work and support of a multitude of individuals, corporations, farms and ranches. I thank each of you for making this event possible. Through this organization we work to provide positive experiences to encourage and develop these young people as the future leaders of their communities and the beef industry.

The following pages will



► Angus cattle circled the Milwaukee Mile racetrack at the 2002 National Junior Angus Show.

showcase the people who were the top individuals, states and exhibitors in the contests and cattle competitions. I ask that you look deeper than these pages as you examine the NJAS and discover that every young person at the event won by participating.

They may have conquered the fear of getting in front of a group to give a speech or to sell a heifer. They may have learned to take a

photograph or may have written an essay for the very first time. They may have helped first-time exhibitors discover more about themselves and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and shared with them some of their own experiences at the NJAS through the new mentoring program.

These pages just scratch the surface of the abundance of stories and opportunities that

you can discover by talking with the young men and women involved in the junior Angus programs and specifically the NJAS.

Carpe diem — seize the day!



Editor's note: James Fisher is the director of activities and junior activities for the American Angus Association.

ANGUS

UNDER THE BIG TOP

Checking In

Photo story by *Corinne Blender and Courtney Wimmer*



► Junior members line up with registration papers in hand to get checked in at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Milwaukee, Wis. Five hundred and fifty exhibitors went through the line during the two-day check-in process.



► Regional managers and National Junior Angus Association Board members check tattoo numbers before animals are allowed to exhibit in the 2002 NJAS. Junior Board members and regional managers had many responsibilities throughout the weeklong event.



► Don Laughlin (right), regional manager for Missouri and Iowa, inspects registration papers at check-in Monday morning.



► A junior member receives his exhibitor's gift as he finishes the check-in process. Each NJAS exhibitor received a black tote filled with coupons, candy and Wisconsin tourist information.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 140