



Sydnee Gerken

Find yourself in service

The 50th National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) has come and gone. This experience is one that most everyone will never forget. There were so many aspects making this show memorable.

Perhaps it was all the hype of moving in and attending the opening ceremonies, or being a part of the rich history, or the 50th birthday celebration! Whatever it was for you, there is no doubt that it was special.

For me it was the opportunity to be a part of a nationwide community service project. Gandhi once said, “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” This year, Jeans for Teens was the focus of service. You all, the juniors that make this organization, are such an inspiration to those kids you graciously helped. It’s a simple act,

retiring a pair of old show jeans that just don’t fit anymore. However, in the eyes of others that very action made toward improving their lives is seen as heroic.

I think it’s safe to say year after year we have lost ourselves in the service to others. Just as the brave men and women do in their everyday lives protecting our country, just like your parents do day in and out to make sure there’s food on the table and that you are showing the best breed of cattle.

It’s certainly an amazing feeling to be recognized for the service and

help you’ve given to others, but at the end of the day, what we should all strive for is a selfless servant’s heart. It is truly humbling to receive a thank you from a parent who was ring side as you helped their child. Being a part of the whole is better than being solely in the spotlight. Whether you are participating in a nationwide project, serving your community back home or helping your neighbor, be a part of the larger calling to help another in need. That is what service is all about.

— Sydnee Gerken, Oklahoma

Continued on page 310

High school students learn to lead the animal science industry

Students from across the country participated in an immersive livestock and leadership learning experience at Kansas State University (K-State).

Students gathered on the K-State campus June 6-9 to gain livestock industry knowledge and develop leadership skills. These participants comprised the tenth class of the annual K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) in Manhattan, Kan.

Hosted by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council, the academy’s goal is to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field.

This year’s class included the following NJAA members: Danika Gordon, Whitewood, S.D.; Abbie Schwab, Goddard; Lauren Terry, Nortonville; and Tray Zabokrtsky, Morrowville.

During their time at the KASLA, students participated in interactive leadership development and educational sessions led by faculty members from across the K-State campus. Participants completed the college experience by

dining at the K-State Student Union, completing the K-State Challenge Course and staying in Ford Hall.

The KASLA also included a half day of livestock industry tours throughout northeast Kansas, with stops including Hildebrand Farms Dairy, Junction City; Seaboard Foods, Shawnee; Bichelmeyer Meats, Kansas City; and the American Royal, Kansas City. They also enjoyed tours of university farms and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

For their final project, the students were divided into groups during the week to focus on current issues affecting the livestock industry. Faculty mentors from the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry assisted each group. Using the information they learned throughout the academy, the groups were asked to present their subject as part of the closing reception on the final day. About 75 family members, friends and members of the K-State community gathered for the closing reception to honor the graduates and hear their thoughts on these important livestock issues.

Scholarships

Canadian Junior Angus presents 2018 scholarships totaling \$4,500

Three young women have received scholarships totaling \$4,500. Meghan McGillivray of Kamloops, B.C., received the first-place scholarship of \$2,000; Halley Adams of Forestburg, Alta., received the second-place scholarship of \$1,500; and Heidi Tymko of St. Paul, Alta., received the third-place scholarship of \$1,000. The scholarships were presented at Showdown, the annual national Canadian Junior Angus (CJA) show.

Meghan McGillivray of McGillivray Livestock is a director on the CJA board. In 2017, she was selected as one of Canada's official youth representatives at the World Angus Forum in Scotland. Since joining the CJA six years ago, she has attended every Showdown and

Guiding Outstanding Angus Leaders (GOAL) conference. She is currently studying physiology at McGill University, and working towards her goal of becoming a sports medicine doctor. She coaches competitive gymnastics at McGill and is also a cheerleader there.

Halley Adams of Ter-Ron Farms has been contributing to CJA for 10 years. She currently serves as the president of the Alberta Junior Angus Association. She plans to pursue a career in veterinary medicine and is in her second year of pre-veterinary studies. She hopes to open her own clinic and pursue a career in embryo transfer. Outside of her studies and helping on the farm, Adams enjoys playing the clarinet,

running meetings and events as president of her 4-H Beef Club, and serving as the assistant captain for the Stettler Storm midget female hockey team.

Heidi Tymko of Crestview Angus is also a 10-year CJA member. In 2016 she joined the CJA board as an Alberta director. Tymko is interested in the sustainability and productivity of purebred cattle and ways to make beef cattle production more efficient for the world's increasing population. She is currently in her second year of agribusiness studies at the University of Saskatchewan.

Minnesota Jr. Angus Ass'n Field Day, June 8-9, Fairmont



Winning pee wee showmanship are (from left) Valentino Zito, La Crescent, champion; and Cora Mayer, Peterson, reserve champion.



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Miranda Nesler, La Crescent, champion; and Taylor Ford, Lake Wilson, reserve champion.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Dawson Johnson, Pipestone, champion; and Madelyn Ludwig, Richmond, reserve champion.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Jared Carlson, Pipestone, champion; Emily Altenburg, Arlington, reserve champion; presented by Pete Hunter, judge.



Left: Elected to serve on the Minnesota Jr. Angus Ass'n board of directors are (front row, from left) Miranda Nesler, La Crescent, communications director; Madelyn Ludwig, Richmond, membership director; Taylor Ford, Lake Wilson, historian; and Dawson Johnson, Pipestone, treasurer; (back row, from left) Allyson Stanek, Albert Lea, secretary; David Hassing, Wells, president; and MaKenna Ludwig, Richmond, vice president.

All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Jr. Show, June 17, Louisville, Ky.



Winning junior showmanship B are (from left) Kelsey Theis, Leavenworth, Kan., champion; and Bryanna Smith, Russell Springs, Ky., reserve champion.



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Blane Smith, Russell Springs, Ky., champion; and Blake Wolter, Aviston, Ill., reserve champion.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kan., reserve champion; and Lauryn Mool, Lexington, Ill., champion.

Right: Winning senior showmanship are (from left) John Henderson, East Troy, Wis., champion; and Cale Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kan., reserve champion.



Kelsey Theis won premier exhibitor.



Austin Nowatzke, Michigan City, Ind., won premier breeder.

Louisiana Jr. Angus Field Day, June 9, Saint Francisville



Winning peewee showmanship is Lain Thompson, Pineville.



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Luke Gisclair, Longville, first; Elise Meche, Morganza, second; and Jackson Baham, Loranger, third.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Lani LeBeouf, Deridder, first; Saylor Baham, Loranger, second; Mackenzie Triche, Saint Francisville, third; Raeann Faul, Jennings, fourth; and Carter Lougue, Saint James, fifth, presented by (far left) Elizabeth Benoit, Louisiana Angus princess; and (far right) Olivia Shepherd, Miss Louisiana Angus.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Payton Shepherd, Lake Charles, first; Kara LeBeouf, Deridder, second; Olivia Shepherd, Lake Charles, third; Morgan Fruge, Jennings, fourth; and Lexie Martin, Loranger, fifth.



Payton Shepherd (left) is the overall showmanship winner, presented by Cheramie Viator, judge.



Morgan Fruge, Jennings, (left) represented Louisiana in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest; presented by Viator.

Continued on page 313

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Next Generation *continued from page 311*

Montana Jr. Beef Expo Angus Show, June 16, Lewistown



Winning peewee showmanship are (from left) Wacee Simenson, Chinook; and Alyssa Vanek and Kade Vanek, both of Lewistown.



Winning top honors in showmanship are (from left) Sydney Cutler, Philipsburg, senior champion; Garrett Bromenshenk, Billings, reserve senior champion; Jonna McCullough, Fort Benton, intermediate champion; Nicole Stevenson, Joliet, reserve intermediate champion; Claire Murnin, Huntley, junior champion; and Connor Cook, Huntley, reserve junior champion.

Continued on page 318

Kentucky Jr. Angus Preview Show, June 15, Louisville



Left: Winning peewee showmanship are (front row, from left) Kyle Jeffries, Horse Cave.; Ellee Marksbury, Buffalo.; Emily Jeffries, Canmer.; and Jake Bishop, Coxs Creek; standing behind are judges Katie and Brian Bates.



Right: Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Lily Jeffries, Canmer, Ky., champion; Katie and Brian Bates, judges; and Blane Smith, Russell Springs, Ky., reserve champion.



Left: Winning top honors in intermediate and senior showmanship are (from left) Caroline Cowles, Rockfield, senior champion; Makayala Jeffries, Horse Cave, intermediate champion; and Katie and Brian Bates.



Right: Representing Kentucky at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest are (from left) Corbin Cowles, Rockfield; Katie and Brian Bates, judges; and Logan Boyd, May's Lick.

South Dakota Jr. Angus Ass'n Field Day, June 15, Watertown



Winning junior showmanship are (from left) Harlee Heim, Wessington Springs, first; Wyatt James, Raymond, second; Mason Schelske, Virgil, third; and Sawyer James, Raymond, fourth.



Winning intermediate showmanship are (from left) Cadee Schelske, Virgil, first; Mataya Geppert, Fort Pierre, second; Ty Mogck, Olivet, third; Sawyer Styles, Brentford, fourth; Tyanne Geppert, Fort Pierre, fifth; and Janae Deitemand, Ward, sixth.



Winning senior showmanship are (from left) Madison Styles, Brentford, first; Spencer Hovde, Willow Lake, second; Jacob Sievers, Wolsey, third; and Chase Mogck, Olivet, fourth.



Receiving their Bronze and Silver awards are (from left) Tyler Bush, Britton; Chase Mogck, Olivet; Rod Geppert, American Angus Ass'n regional manager, presenting; Ty Mogck, Olivet; Brianna Erdmann, Leola; and Madison Styles, Brentford.

Tennessee

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Tennessee Angus Ass'n Jr. Preview Show, June 9, Lebanon



Tyler Bush (left) receives the South Dakota Angus Auxiliary Scholarship from Jeana Hurlbut.



Showmanship winners are (front row, from left) Shelley Rowlett, Martin, senior champion; Juliann Fears, Fayetteville, reserve senior champion; Tristan Meier, Clinton, intermediate champion; Sophia Santini, Leoma, reserve intermediate champion; Lila Sims, McEwen, junior champion; and Avery Rowlett, Cypress Inn, reserve junior champion. Awards are presented by (back row, from left) Jon Davis, judge; Kenneth Armstrong and Jimmy Armstrong, sponsors; and Amy and Vince Santini, junior advisors.

