



## Three for Three

*In its third year, the stockman award is given to three Angus juniors for their well-rounded experience at the NJAS.*

*by Rachel Robinson, Angus Communications*

Showing is a huge part of the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) for obvious reasons, but there are also numerous contests taking place outside the show ring. The Overall Angus Stockman Award recognized three juniors who topped in three different contests during the 2019 NJAS, July 14-20 in Louisville, Ky.

Truman Byergo, Dearborn, Mo. took home top honors in the senior division. Eric Schafer, Owaneco, Ill., won the intermediate division; and Molly Hansen, Carrington, N.D., received the junior division award.

To be eligible for the award, National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members had to compete in the cattle judging, quiz bowl, written exam and skill-a-thon contests. The total scores of the contests were combined to select the winners.

“It’s a big honor, to start with, to be able to represent my state at the national level by winning the Stockman Award,” Byergo says. “I always tried in intermediate, and it was just a surprise when I realized I could be in the running for the senior division this year.”

The Stockman Award, sponsored by Nichols Farm, Dave Nichols, is aimed to help youth, at all age levels, expand their knowledge in all aspects of the cattle industry.

“I think it helps promote kids’ participating in the contests more,” Byergo says. “It’s a fun contest to be in and tests your knowledge of the Angus industry. Juniors should do it because it doesn’t take much time and it’s a very rewarding contest.”

Schafer agreed and adds that it’s also of great educational value.

“It’s a great way to get involved because you’re participating in three contests, and it gives you an opportunity to learn a lot not only about the Angus breed but also the



Truman Byergo (left), and Eric Schafer (right) were named top stockman at the 2019 NJAS. Byergo won the senior division while Schafer took intermediate top honors. Not pictured: Molly Hansen, junior division.

cattle industry in general,” Schafer says. “I know there’s a lot of competition, so I was extremely excited to have the opportunity to win. It means that you’re a well-rounded stockman.” **AJ**



The results of four contests are used to calculate the stockman award: cattle judging, quiz bowl, written exam and skill-a-thon.