

# A GOLDEN Opportunity

A total of 17 graduating junior members were presented NJAA Recognition Gold Awards for 1997.



Seventeen members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) have earned the coveted Gold Pin award in 1997. This is the most members to receive this award since 1989. It's been an educational opportunity which will lead them down the road to further opportunities in the beef industry.

We wish them success in future endeavors and hope to see them continue to take an active role in our industry as breeders and future leaders.

Outstanding NJAA members are recognized at several steps during their NJAA involvement. Gold Pins represent the culmination of several years, perhaps a decade, of work. Intermediate steps are the Bronze and Silver Pin awards.

Each level requires participation and achievement in leadership, show competition, performance testing, production and merchandising of Angus cattle. To qualify for the Gold Pin Award, NJAA members must have received Bronze and Silver recognition, then apply during their final year of eligibility as an NJAA member.

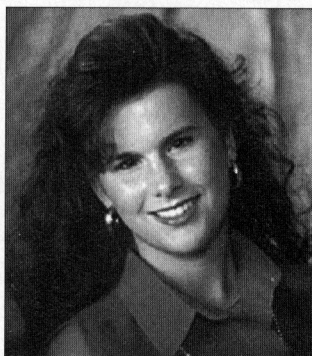
Complete and accurate records are vital when applying for any of these award programs. Contact the Junior Activities Department at the American Angus Association for further information on this program.



Angus enthusiast **CHRISTY BELL** is the daughter of Wayne and Ann Bell, Good Hope, Ga.

"The highlight of my junior career occurred when I was given the opportunity to serve the Angus breed as Miss American Angus," Christy says.

CHRISTY BELL



She served as president and secretary of the Georgia Junior Angus Association and was co-chairman of the 1997 National Junior Angus Show in Perry, Ga. Christy was the fourth place recipient of the 1994 Auxiliary scholarship and Miss American Angus in 1995.

Christy is currently a senior at the University of Georgia majoring in agricultural communications with a minor in animal science. With the knowledge and experience she has gained through the NJAA, showing cattle and four years of college, she hopes has prepared her to pursue a career with public relations in the livestock industry.



An NJAA member since 1980, **HEATHER BLACKMON** is the daughter of Paul and Doris Blackmon, Tigerville, S.C.

She has participated in state and national Angus shows and has competed in the team sales contest and cook-off.

HEATHER BLACKMON



An active member of the South Carolina Junior Angus Association she served as vice president and president both for two years. She was second place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1995.

She is currently attending Coastal Carolina University majoring in biology and chemistry. Upon graduation she plans to enter veterinary school.

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Junior Angus breeder **LISA BLOOM** has been an NJAA member since 1985. She is the daughter of Donald and Carol Bloom, Westville, Ind.

"Participating in state and national Angus shows has been the most valuable part of the NJAA. I have had the opportunity to meet and make many new Angus friends,"

LISA BLOOM



Lisa says.

An active member of 4-H, she was a member of the sixth place State 4-H Livestock Judging Team and named Outstanding Livestock Exhibitor.

She is attending Purdue University majoring in elementary education with plans to continue to raise her Angus cattle and support the junior Angus program.

Illinois junior Angus member **JOHN DICKINSON** has been an NJAA member since 1989. He is the son of Richard and Cynthia Dickinson, Congerville, Ill.

JOHN DICKINSON



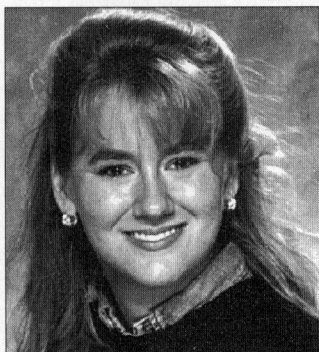
Active in the Illinois Junior Angus Association he has served as president for the past four years. In 1995 he was elected to the National Junior Board of Directors and served as chairman during his second year.

Showing has been an important part of his NJAA membership as well as participation in the LEAD conference.

Currently a senior at the University of Illinois-Champaign, John plans to graduate in May of 1998 with a bachelor's degree in animal science and plans to attend graduate school.

Arkansas Junior Angus member **TRACEY BOWEN** is the daughter of Bruce and Jeannie Bowen, Rogers, Ark.

TRACEY BOWEN

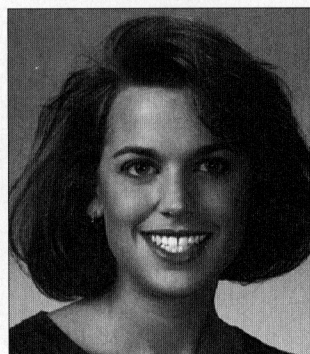


She has been an NJAA member since 1989. Tracey was a voting delegate to the National Junior Show and has participated in LEAD. She was also active in 4-H serving as a delegate to the National 4-H Conference and attended the National 4-H Congress.

Currently Tracey is attending University of Arkansas majoring in agricultural business with an emphasis in marketing.

**MONICA FEESER** is the 21-year-old daughter of Frank and Julie Feeser, Taneytown, Md. She has been an NJAA member since 1989.

MONICA FEESER



She enjoyed the traveling and opportunities she had in the NJAA and as a National Junior Angus Board member. She served as foundation director on the NJAA Board and chairman of the Atlantic National Junior Council in 1995. She was also third place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

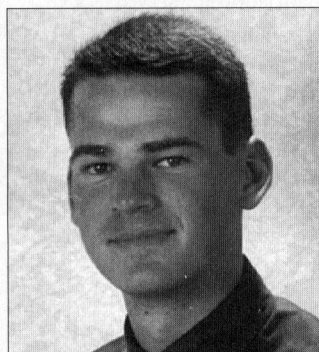
Monica was an active member of 4-H. She won the National 4-H Beef Award at the 1992 National 4-H Congress.

She is a senior at Kansas State University majoring in animal science and industry/ag economics and plans to graduate in May 1998.

**TYLER BYRD** has been an NJAA member since 1987. He is the 21-year-old son of Dan and Chris Byrd, Red Bluff, Calif.

"I have learned many valuable lessons as a result of my participation in the NJAA. I learned to accept adversity and to be humble," Tyler says.

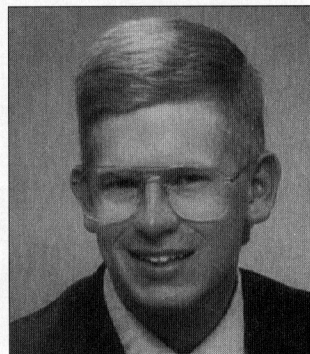
TYLER BYRD



He was active in the California Junior Angus Association serving as treasurer, vice president and president for three years. He has served as a voting delegate for two years and was third place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

Tyler currently is attending California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, majoring in agricultural business with concentrations in both animal science and agricultural journalism.

JARROD GILLIG



Angus enthusiast **JARROD GILLIG**, Odessa, Mo., is the 21-year-old son of Ron and Jean Gillig.

Although he has only been a member since 1992, he has given his heart and shared his enthusiasm with the NJAA.

"My greatest and most honorable achievement through the NJAA has come from being elected to the National Junior Board. This opportunity has given me the added enjoyment of meeting juniors nationwide and has also given me a larger appreciation for our entire Angus industry," Jarrod says.



Jarrold will continue his education this fall at Oklahoma State University where he is a senior majoring in agriculture economics.

Twelve-year member of the NJAA, **SHANNON GROTE** is the daughter of Glen and Pat Grote, Mason, Texas.

#### SHANNON GROTE



"Reflections of my years in the NJAA can be summed up with one word — friends," Shannon says.

Active in her state association, Shannon served as president, vice president, secretary, reporter and director. She was second place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

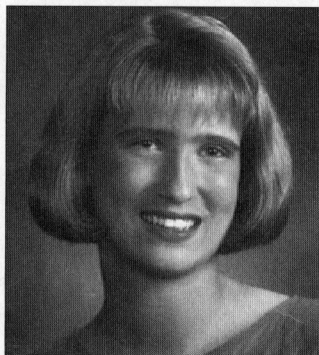
She participated in the team sales contest and the cook-off at the National Junior Angus Show and in the Junior Value Discovery Program.

Active in 4-H and FFA she served in many leadership roles including area vice president.

She currently is a senior at Texas A&M University majoring in agricultural development.

An NJAA member since 1980, **JENNIFER HAWKINS** has been active in many Angus junior programs. She is the daughter of David and Kathleen Hawkins, Mason, Mich.

#### JENNIFER HAWKINS



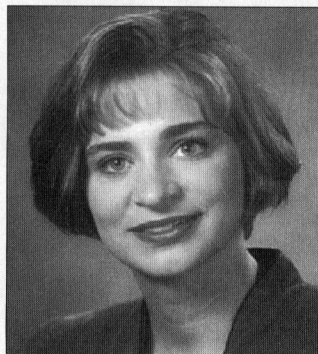
"I truly value all of my experiences and memories created through my involvement with NJAA and Angus cattle," Jennifer says.

Jennifer has been a strong Michigan Junior Angus member serving in every office and president in 1996. She recently retired from the NJAA Board of Directors where she served as leadership director. Jennifer was first place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

She currently attends Michigan State University and is majoring in biology and plans to graduate in May 1998 and enter medical school.

A 17-year member of the NJAA, **NEENAH HILL** is the daughter of Paul and Lynn Hill, Bidwell, Ohio.

#### NEENAH HILL



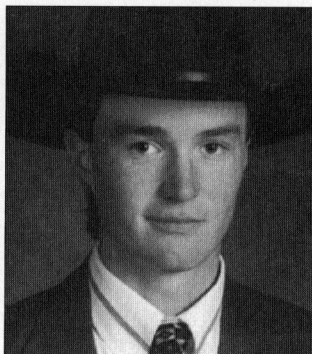
"To me showing cattle is not just a summer project but a way of life," Neenah says.

Neenah served as a director of the Ohio Junior Angus Association for two years. She was fifth place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

She is currently attending Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. She plans on graduating in May 1998 with a degree in accounting.

An NJAA member since 1981, **TY KREBS** is the son of Eldon and Louisa Krebs, Gordon, Neb.

#### TY KREBS



Ty served as a director of the Nebraska Junior Angus Association and as first and second vice president.

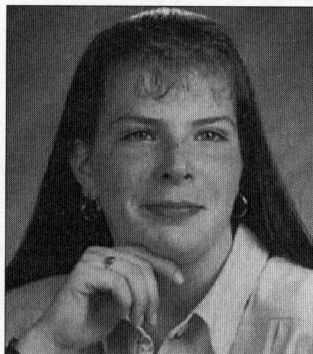
Ty's favorite experiences as an NJAA member were when his two heifers were named bred-and-owned champions at the National Junior Angus Show, and winning the 1996 National Showmanship Contest.

He has attended Colby Community College, Colby, Kan., for two years and is attending Oklahoma State

University this fall, pursuing a degree in agricultural business. He plans to continue his Angus breeding program that got its start through his NJAA projects.

Enthusiastic NJAA member **ROBIN MCCALL**, Waterford, Va., is the 21-year-old daughter of Thomas and Jane McCall.

#### ROBIN MCCALL



Robin has been an active member of the Virginia Junior Angus Association. She served as president, vice president, treasurer, director and most recently she served as chairman of the 1997 Eastern Regional.

Robin will graduate from Virginia Tech in 1998 with a degree in horticulture. She plans to own a greenhouse/nursery business and have a profitable herd of quality Angus cows.

"My main goal for my future is to give something back by working with the younger junior Angus members who are just beginning their membership," Robin says.

Ohio junior Angus member **MELISSA SANDERS** is the daughter of Joe and Sharon Sanders, Harrod, Ohio.

#### MELISSA SANDERS

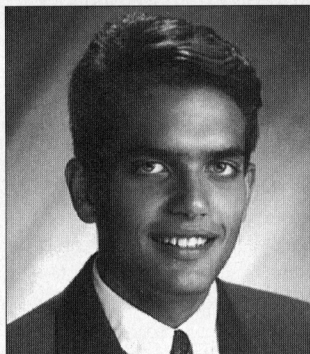


She is currently serving as president of the Ohio Junior Angus Association and the Black Swamp Angus Association.

On the national level she has participated in the cook-off contest and the public speaking contest.

Melissa is currently a senior at Ohio State University (OSU) majoring in agricultural communications with a dual minor in agribusiness and animal science with an emphasis in foreign language. Upon graduation from OSU, Melissa would like to work for either the agricultural industry or the government in international relations.

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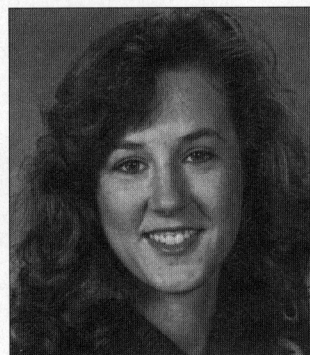


served as a director for three years and a voting delegate in 1992. He was the second place recipient of the Auxiliary scholarship in 1994.

He is attending Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., majoring in biology with a minor in chemistry and English. After medical school he hopes to specialize as a cardiovascular pulmonary surgeon.



Tennessee Junior Angus member **JAMIE SMITH** is the daughter of Quintin and Vicki Smith, Lebanon, Tenn.



She has been an NJAA member since 1985. Jamie has participated in the cook-off at the National Junior Show.

Jamie was a scholarship recipient of the Tennessee Angus Scholarship in 1994.

She currently attends Cumberland University majoring in social science with a minor in English. Upon graduation she plans to enter law school.



An NJAA member since 1988, **BRENT SCARLETT** is the son of James and Elaine Scarlett, Snow Camp, N.C.



He says participating in the state and national Angus shows has been the most valuable part of his membership, as he has had the opportunity to meet and make many new Angus friends.

An active member of the North Carolina Junior Angus Association he served as secretary, vice president and president two years and he is currently serving on the NJAA Board of Directors.

Nationally Brent has competed in the team sales and cook-off contest.

He is currently attending North Carolina State University majoring in biochemistry. Upon graduation, Brent plans to enter veterinary school.



Junior Angus breeder **SEAN SHARMA** has been an NJAA member since 1985. He is the son of Om and Rita Sharma, Williamsport, Ind.

An active member of the Indiana Junior Angus Association he



NJAA Gold Pin winners at the National Junior Angus Show in Perry, Ga., pictured front row (l to r) are: Robin McCall, Christy Bell, Neenah Hill, Lisa Bloom, Monica Feeser and Shannon Grote. Pictured back row (l to r) are: Melissa Sanders, Heather Blackmon, Jennifer Hawkins, Brent Scarlett, Jarrod Gillig, Tyler Byrd, John Dickinson. Gold Pin winners not pictured are: Tracey Bowen, Ty Krebs, Sean Sharma and Jamie Smith.