



# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## Leap of faith

*When you come to the edge of all the light you know, and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing one of two things will happen: There will be something solid to stand on, or you will be taught to fly.*

— Barbara J. Winter



Jennifer Beck

When my parents brought me into this world 22 years ago, I became a member of the American Angus Association. After nine years of trailing behind my parents at Angus events across the country, I became an active member of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA).

Since that time, I have exhibited at every National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and seized countless opportunities provided by the NJAA. The Angus business is what I have known all of my life. As I write this postcard to you, however, my time as a member of the No. 1 junior breed association in the world is drawing to a close.

For me, and so many other junior Angus members, the programs of the NJAA have provided some of the most formative experiences of my life. The reality that this experience will soon be over has brought me to the limit of what I know, and I am poised to leap into the rest of my life.

For many years people have asked me what I plan to be when I grow up. My answer to this question has changed countless times as my dreams and passions have evolved. Ten years ago, perhaps I could answer this question with little thought. Today, however, the answer seems much more difficult to produce.

Although I have come to the end of what I know, and as I face the darkness that lies ahead, I am as certain as I have ever been about one thing. I want to be involved in the Angus business for the rest of my life, and someday I want to raise my own family in this outstanding industry that exists because of outstanding people. I am confident that my faith and conviction will lead me down the path that is right for me.

All of us will face challenging situations — whether about education, career or Angus involvement — many times throughout life. I do not know what exists in the darkness for me, but I always remember the words of a close friend, spoken as my own family looked into the unknown. When I did not know what tomorrow might bring, my friend reminded me that it is only on the darkest nights that you can see the stars. I challenge each of you to face the uncertainty that you encounter throughout life with confidence that the proper path will be illuminated at the perfect moment.

— Jennifer Beck, North Carolina

## ► Bronze and Silver awards



► **Billy and Redden Lewis**, both of Walstonburg, N.C., receive their Bronze and Silver awards from the NJAA. The awards are the first two levels of recognition from the NJAA and are awarded after an application is filled out and points are earned in the areas of leadership, participation and cattle production. Pictured are (from left) Callie Birdsell, North Carolina Junior Angus Ass'n president; Billy and Redden Lewis; and Neil Bowman, North Carolina Junior Angus advisor.

## Angus internships offered

The American Angus Association and Angus Productions Inc. (API) will offer three summer internships to college students who want to learn more about breed association work. The paid internships begin approximately June 1 and conclude in mid-August. The application deadline is Feb. 15.

**Junior activities.** The Junior Activities Department employs a college sophomore, junior or senior to assist in the planning and execution of junior Angus shows and leadership events. The intern will have the opportunity to travel and assist with the NJAS and Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference. The intern is expected to perform daily in-office preparation for various junior activities, which includes correspondence and communication with others, including the NJAA Board of Directors.

Applicants for the junior activities internship should have an agriculture-related major. They need to be detail-oriented, outgoing, have the ability to work well with all types of people and be a self-starter. Applicants who can begin the internship around May 20 will be given

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### NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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preference. Any student interested in the junior activities internship should send a résumé to James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities.

**Public relations (PR).** The Association's Public Relations (PR) and Communications Department is looking for a junior or senior-level student majoring in ag journalism or ag communications who has an interest in the livestock industry. Primary responsibilities of the position include publicizing Angus shows and activities, which includes writing

news releases and photo cutlines, feature articles, and working with black-and-white, color, and digital photography. The intern will have the opportunity to travel to various shows and events.

Students who are interested in the PR internship should have completed course work in news and feature writing, as well as editing and photography. The applicants should be detail-oriented, and have some experience with livestock shows. Send a résumé, cover letter and writing samples to

Shelia Stannard, assistant director of communications and public relations.

**Angus Productions Inc.** API, publisher of the *Angus Journal* and the *Angus Beef Bulletin*, offers an editorial internship to a college junior or senior pursuing a degree in ag journalism or ag communications. The intern works with the editorial staff and other API and Association staff members. The intern will assist with feature and news writing, conduct on-farm interviews, report Angus events and beef industry seminars, and have the opportunity to enhance his or her photography skills.

Applicants should have experience with livestock and should have completed the following courses: Reporting I and II, editing, magazine writing or creative writing, and photography or photojournalism. Knowledge and experience in Microsoft Word and/or QuarkXPress™ computer programs are also helpful. Interested students should send a résumé and writing samples to Shauna Rose Hermel, editor.

Any students wanting more information can contact Fisher, Stannard or Hermel at (816) 383-5100.

### Robinson claims top judging title

Former NJAA leadership director Lacey Robinson, Wellsville, Mo., won the overall individual title at the 2003 National Collegiate Livestock Judging Competition. The contest was held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. Her top placing was the sum of individual scores in sheep, swine, beef cattle and oral reasons.

Robinson was second in sheep, third in cattle and high individual in reasons. She judged on the Kansas State University (K-State) team, which placed second out of 29 teams.

Other Angus members that placed include Josh Mavencamp, Bliss, Idaho, who was second in cattle. He judges for Oregon State University (OSU). K-State team member John McCurry, Burrton, Kan., was seventh in beef.

In the junior collegiate livestock judging contest at the NAILE, Kent Nelson, Ansley, Neb., placed seventh in sheep. He judged on the Colby Community College team.

Several Angus juniors placed in the 4-H division of the NAILE livestock judging contest.



▶ The number one overall individual in the 98th Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest is **Lacey Robinson** from Kansas State University. She had a total score of 966 points out of 1,000.

Blake Bloomberg, Berwick, Ill., was high individual. He placed second in sheep, beef, and beef performance, and he was third in reasons.

Lucas Neumayr, New Richmond, Ind., was the 10th individual. He was fifth in swine.

Colorado Angus junior Jeff Sterkel, Erie, was first in beef, sixth in beef performance and ninth in reasons.

Illinois Angus junior Jon DeClerck, Aledo, was sixth in reasons. Davena Norris, Cliff, N.M., was eighth in beef and first in beef performance. Mazon, Ill., junior member Megan Quaka placed fifth in sheep.



▶ High individuals in beef performance at the NAILE 4-H livestock judging contest are (from left) **Davena Norris**, New Mexico, first; **Blake Bloomberg**, Illinois, second; Cheyanne Coggins, Georgia, third; Amy Waddell, Illinois, fourth; and Kory Kuenning, Nebraska, fifth.

▶ High individuals in the NAILE 4-H livestock judging contest are (seated, from left) **Blake Bloomberg**, Illinois, first; Jarrod Chester, Ohio, second; Cheyanne Coggins, Georgia, third; Donald Sunday, Pennsylvania, fourth; Chandra Waddell, Oregon, fifth; (standing, from left) Eric Conklen, sponsor; Emily Schmeidler, Kansas, sixth; Adam Gardner, North Carolina, seventh; Shannon Wade, Kentucky, eighth; Justin Johnson, Texas, ninth; and **Lucas Neumayr**, Indiana, tenth.



### Note these junior deadlines

Feb. 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for juniors planning to participate in the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) regional preview show set for March 13-14 in Harrisonburg, Va.

Feb. 15 is the ownership deadline and March 1 is the entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show, which will be April 23-25 in Reno, Nev.

### Accelerated scholarships

Accelerated Genetics awards four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors planning to major in agriculture at a short course, vocational technical college or four-year university.

Any high school senior who has participated in high school agricultural education, 4-H or any agricultural organization is eligible to apply. Applicants or their parents must be currently purchasing semen or products from an authorized Accelerated Genetics representative.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Accelerated Genetics Web site at [www.accelgen.com](http://www.accelgen.com) under the "Future Leaders" option in the "Contact Us" section or by calling 1-800-451-9275 Ext. 222. Scholarship applications should be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2004. This scholarship program is managed solely by Accelerated Genetics.

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Two \$1,000-collegiate scholarships are also available.

The collegiate scholarship program is for individuals who have completed freshman, sophomore or junior years majoring in dairy, beef or an ag-related area. Applicants or their parents must be currently purchasing semen or products from an authorized Accelerated Genetics representative.

Application forms can be downloaded from the National FFA Foundation Web site at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) or by contacting the National FFA Foundation at (317) 802-4416 or [scholarships@ffa.org](mailto:scholarships@ffa.org). Applications should be postmarked by Feb. 15 and sent to: National Scholarship Office, National FFA Center, PO Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268. This scholarship program is managed by Accelerated Genetics and the National FFA Foundation.



## American Royal judging winners

NJAA members placed in the top 10 at the 2003 American Royal in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 25. John McCurry, Burrton, Kan., was the 10th individual in the intercollegiate contest. He attends Kansas State University (K-State), Manhattan. K-State placed third as a team.

Other Angus members from K-State placing in the top 10 included Lacey Robinson, Wellsville, Mo., who was second in sheep and oral reasons. Shane Bedwell, Lake City, Kan., was first in sheep and fifth in oral reasons.

Josh Mavencamp, Bliss, Idaho, was third in swine. He judges for Oregon State University (OSU).

In the junior college contest, Chase Groves, Garland City, Ark., was the fifth individual. Groves judged for Eastern Oklahoma State College.

Angus member Andrea Yelek, Clarendon, Texas, was fourth in sheep and oral reasons in the junior college contest. She judges for Clarendon College, which placed second as a team.

## Beartooth heifer headlines Angus Foundation Heifer Package



Beartooth Ranch, Columbus, Mont., will donate one of its outstanding heifers to headline the 2004 Angus Foundation Heifer Package. The package will sell at the 2004 National Western Stock Show (NWSS), and all proceeds from the sale go directly to the Angus Foundation, which supports youth, education and research.

The sale of the package will begin the 2004 National Western Angus Bull Sale, set for 2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15 in the Beef Palace Auction Arena at the National Western Complex in Denver, Colo.

The package includes BT Everelda Entense 51N, a January 2003 daughter of Twin Valley Precision E161.

In addition to the heifer, the buyer receives 30 days of free insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.; free transportation to the buyer's farm or ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; a flush and three embryo implants into the buyer's recipient cows from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa; Ivomec® provided by Merial; an Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) Package from the American Angus Association AIMS Department; and a banner ad from the Angus Productions Inc. (API) Web Marketing Department. Other items, to be announced later, may be added to the package.

"The generosity of Beartooth Ranch is greatly appreciated," says James Fisher, American Angus Association director of activities and junior activities. "Beartooth Ranch is donating a very complete heifer with outstanding genetics."

For more information about the Angus Foundation Heifer Package or other ways you can contribute to the Angus Foundation, visit [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org), contact the Association at (816) 383-5100 or visit any regional manager.



### BT Everelda Entense 51N

#GAR Precision 1680	#Tehama Bando 155
Twin Valley Precision E161	9J9 GAR 856
+WCC Blackcap C9	#SS Traveler 6T6
	Premier Blackcap 6276A
	#N Bar Emulation EXT
#+Leachman Right Time	Leachman Erica 0025
+BT Everelda Entense 65J	#Traveler 124 GDAR
Sitz Everelda Entense 1905	#Sitz Everelda Entense 1791