

# A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

*Presenting NJAA Recognition Program Gold Awards for 1993*

**T**welve members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) earned the coveted Gold Pin award in 1993. We would like to congratulate these young achievers. It's been an educational opportunity sure to 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.

— Jerilyn Johnson



## LARA ANTHONY

The 21-year-old daughter of Bill and Deanne Anthony, Poteau, Okla., Lara is studying agricultural education at Oklahoma State University. She expects to graduate in December 1994 and then go to graduate school at OSU.

An active NJAA member since 1989, when she began showing Angus cattle, she has been active in the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association, serving as president, district director and queen. Lara has also been an active member of the Poteau FFA, serving as reporter and queen. She has earned the FFA Beef Proficiency, Dina Fisher Hamlin Scholarship and Star Chapter Farmer awards.

Before transferring to OSU, Lara attended Connors State College, Warner, Okla., for two years. She was a member of the livestock judging team and was involved in student senate and the Aggie Club.

This past summer Lara completed an internship in ag communications on OSU's daily agricultural television show, "Sun Up." She plans to complete another internship in ag education working with an Extension office in Oklahoma, Texas or Kansas.

## BRIAN FINNESTAD

An active NJAA member since 1984, Brian is the 21-year-old son of David Finnestad, Belvidere, Ill. Brian is majoring in animal sciences at the University of Illinois and plans to graduate in May 1994. He currently works as an assistant herdsman at Rockdale Shorthorn Farm, Belvidere.

Leadership skills have been important to Brian. He has served as a director for the Illinois Junior Angus Association and as vice president for the Northern Illinois Junior Angus Association.

Brian earned first place senior showman at the Illinois State Angus Show and went on to win top showman honors at the National Junior Angus Showmanship contest in 1991. That same year he was named "Outstanding Junior Member" of the Illinois Junior Angus Association.

"I can look back now and realize how fortunate I was to be able to be a part of such a super organization," Brian says. "I'm happy for the fact that my younger sister, Angella, is interested in the Angus business and has many years left as a junior member, so I will be able to continue to live my dreams through her."

## DOUG FLESHER

An enthusiastic NJAA member from the Buckeye State, Doug is the 21-year-old son of William and Joyce Flesher, Waterford, Ohio. He is majoring in economics, with a specialization in money and banking, at Ohio State University and plans to graduate in September 1994. After graduation Doug plans to pursue a career in banking and continue raising Angus cattle.

An active NJAA member since 1981, Doug has enjoyed breeding and exhibiting Angus cattle. He successfully marketed cattle at regional and state sales, including the Harvest Moon Cow Classic and Ohio Beef Expo.

An active member of the Ohio Junior Angus Association, Doug served as a director, voting delegate and vice president. He also served as president of the Eastern Ohio Junior Angus Association. Doug earned a first place Ohio Auxiliary Scholarship and second place American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship in 1990.

"As I look back over my childhood, I see it completely evolved around raising and showing Angus cattle," Doug says. "These experiences were great learning exercises. My family and I have met so many

interesting people at Angus functions and have shared so many experiences that they all seem to be family. They've had a great influence on me. Without this influence, I wouldn't be attending Ohio State or majoring in economics.

"I will remember the 1992 National Junior Angus Show in Columbus, as the highlight of my NJAA experiences."

### JIM HAMPTON

*(photo not available)*

An active NJAA member since 1986, Jim is the 21-year-old son of Robert and Nancy Hampton, Bridgeton, N.J. He is majoring in animal science at Virginia Tech and plans to graduate in May 1994.

Jim has served as 1992-93 president of the New Jersey Junior Angus Association and was an NJAA voting delegate in 1992. He earned an Atlantic National Junior Angus Show Scholarship in 1992.

As an active 4-H member, Jim earned the state 4-H Beef Award and served as a National 4-H Club Congress representative in 1989.

Jim is current president of the Virginia chapter of Alpha Zeta and an active member of the Virginia Tech Block & Bridle Club.

"In the fall of 1985 my father pulled into the driveway with three commercial Angus heifers and one Angus steer calf," Jim reminisces. "Since my father is an extreme impulse buyer, my family and I thought, 'Oh boy, here's another one of Dad's great ideas!'"

"Well the steer became my first 4-H beef project. It wasn't long after that I joined NJAA and received my box full of Angus information. I soon began to realize the size and scope of the organization of which I had become a member. Dad's whim became part of my life."

Today Jim's herd has grown to include 15 cows. "I'm more than ready to take my herd to the next level and develop a reputable and reliable herd. Looking back, it's hard to imagine my life if that first steer wasn't an Angus; lucky for me, it was."



### SHANDELL KINNETT

An active NJAA and American Angus Association member since 1979, Shandell is the 21-year-old son of Darryl and Mattie Kinnett, Meeker, Okla. He currently works as a herd consultant at Lee Cattle Company and hopes to pursue a degree in ag education.

Shandell was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors in 1992. He currently serves as NJAA Board information director. He has been active in the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association, serving as a director, first vice president and voting delegate. In 1990 Shandell earned first place scholarships from the Oklahoma and American Angus Auxiliaries.

He represented Oklahoma at the 1987 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and was a top 15 finalist. Other NJAA activities he has competed in include public speaking and photography.

Shandell has emphasized performance pedigrees in his breeding program and has consigned two bulls to the Oklahoma Beef Improvement (OBI) test station, Stillwater.

"I started my beef project at the age of six with the purchase of my first registered Angus heifer," Shandell says. "It took me two years of hard work to pay my bank loan of \$385. I soon learned the full responsibility of caring for a beef animal and developed a deep interest in the beef industry, especially in Angus."

Shandell says his main objective has been to develop an efficient, productive and profitable beef enterprise.

"With the support of the Lord, my parents, family and friends, and my Angus, I live the good life," he says.



### KEVIN MAAS

A 20-year NJAA member from Iowa, Kevin is the 21-year-old son of Gene and Ardie Maas, Casey, Iowa. He is majoring in animal science at Iowa State University and plans to graduate in May 1995. Kevin is a working partner on his family farm, assisting his dad in their row crop, cow-calf and feeder operations.

An NJAA member since 1973, Kevin enjoys raising and exhibiting Angus cattle. He has competed successfully at state and national Angus shows. In 1990 an Angus steer he bred earned Iowa Angus Steer of the Year. His herd is enrolled in the Association's Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) program. Two Pathfinder Cows, Maas Blackbird 509 and Mass Blackbird 640, have been produced by this young breeder.

Kevin has served as a director, membership chairman and voting delegate for the Iowa Junior Angus Association. He earned first place scholarships from the Iowa and American Angus Auxiliaries in 1991.

Other accomplishments include winning Iowa's 1992 4-H State Beef Award and earning his American FFA Degree in 1993 and a National FFA Scholarship in 1991. Kevin is a member of Iowa State University's meats judging team and is a charter member and secretary of ISU's Collegiate FFA Chapter.

"The best part of being an NJAA member for 20 years has been the friends I have made — the caring, sharing and fun we've had together."

Kevin's on the executive committee for the 1994 National Junior Angus Show to be held in Des Moines, Iowa.

Serving as a spokesman or fieldman for a beef organization is a top goal of Kevin's. "I want to keep communications open between ag producers and consumers. Someday I'll go back home to farm and raise a family and Angus cattle . . . close to God and the soil."



### SHAWNA NEW

A born leader, Shawna is the 20-year-old daughter of Bill and Loris New, Leavenworth, Kan. She has been an active NJAA member since 1984. She earned an associates degree in business administration from Fort Scott Community College in May and hopes to pursue a degree in finance.

Active in the Kansas and Northeast Kansas Junior Angus Associations, Shawna held all offices, including president. She also served as an ambassador and voting delegate.

In 1991 she earned scholarships from the Kansas and American Angus Auxiliaries. She has attended National 4-H Congress where she was a national winner in achievement.

Shawna enjoys raising and exhibiting Angus cattle and has successfully competed at state and national level. She has also participated in team sales contests.

Performance records are important to this young breeder and her herd is enrolled in the Association's AHIR program. Two of Shawna's bulls have been consigned to the Kansas Bull Test Station in Beloit.

"Meeting other Angus breeders and making Angus friends has been an enjoyable part of my involvement. Most of all, it has been rewarding to watch my Angus herd improve over the years."



### CARA PASCALAR

A talented NJAA member from Oregon, Cara is the 21-year-old daughter of Bob and Erma Pascalar, Sweet Home, Ore. She is studying animal science at Oregon State University and plans to graduate in 1994. She is student herdsman at OSU and works in Clark Meat Science Lab.

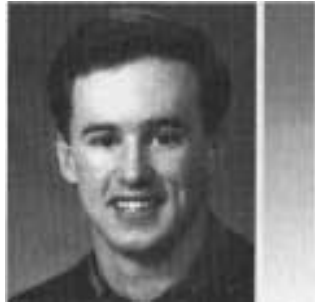
Cara was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors in 1991 and served as vice chairman in 1992. Other leadership roles include president, vice president and voting delegate of the Oregon Junior Angus Association, and secretary-treasurer of the Northwest Junior Angus Association.

Cara served as Oregon's Angus queen in 1989, Western States Angus queen in 1990 and as Miss American Angus in 1991. She earned first place scholarships from Western States and American Angus Auxiliaries.

Other accomplishments include earning fifth place in the National Junior Angus Showmanship contest in 1992. She has also competed in the National Angus Beef Cook-Off.

Cara enjoys raising and exhibiting Angus cattle. She has competed successfully at state, regional and national shows.

"My career as an NJAA member has been the most rewarding and enjoyable part of my life," Cara says. "These are gifts that no one can ever take from me — self confidence, communication and leadership skills, and physical and financial responsibilities."



### CHAD ROTENBERGER

A new NJAA Board member, Chad is the 21-year-old son of William and Patricia Rotenberger, Bismarck, N.D. He is studying pre-veterinary medicine at North Dakota State University and hopes to enter veterinary school in the future.

Chad was active in the North Dakota Junior Angus Association, serving as president in 1991-92 and as a voting delegate (1990-93). He enjoys raising and exhibiting Angus cattle and has successfully competed at state, regional and national shows. His show ring highlight was exhibiting champion bred and owned female at the 1991 NILE Show in Billings, Mont. In 1992 he represented North Dakota at the National Junior Angus Showmanship as a top 15 finalist.

Chad's herd is enrolled in the Association's AHIR Program. His breeding management skills earned him second place in the 1989 NJAA Computer Cow-Calf Game. He has participated and consigned cattle to North Dakota's Select Sale and to the Agri-International Sale.



### MICHAEL SCHNEIDER

An active NJAA member from the Show-Me state, Michael is the 21-year-old son of Barbara Schneider, California, Mo. He is studying criminal justice/law at Lincoln University Jefferson City, Mo., and

will graduate in May 1995.

Michael has enjoyed raising and exhibiting Angus cattle since joining NJAA in 1982. A highlight of his show career was exhibiting the grand champion heifer and winning showmanship at the Missouri State Fair in 1986.

Active in the Missouri Junior Angus Association, Michael served as vice president in 1990-92. He participated in a National Leadership Conference in 1987.

Michael's herd is enrolled in the Association's AHIR Program. He started an AI program when he entered vocational agriculture. He has consigned cattle to the Central Missouri Angus Association Sale since 1987.

"I remember the first year I showed a steer at the county fair I was so nervous, I could hardly think. But a special person, my dad, helped to give me encouragement and confidence," Michael reminisces.

"The best choice I made was to continue in NJAA after my father passed away," he says.



### RISCHI SHARMA

An inspirational NJAA member from Indiana, Rischi is the 20-year-old son of Dr. Om and Rita Sharma, Williamsport, Ind. He is studying pre-law at Wabash College in Indiana and plans to graduate in May 1995.

Rischi joined NJAA in 1982 and became active in the Indiana Junior Angus Association. He served as president in 1992. In 1992 Rischi won scholarships from Indiana and American Angus Auxiliaries.

In 1992 he represented Indiana in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Other NJAA activities include public speaking, poster contest and computer cow-calf game.

Other accomplishments include State 4-H Beef Achievement winner, National 4-H Congress, 1989 Outstanding 4 H Beef Member, and Wabash College Student Senate.

"NJAA has provided me with the opportunity to achieve my best," Rischi says.



### SUZANNE SMITH

Another outstanding NJAA member from the Buckeye state, Suzanne is the 21-year-old daughter of Roger and Lynne Smith, Newark, Ohio. She is studying agriculture at Ohio State University and plans to graduate in 1996.

After joining NJAA in 1980, she became an active member of the Ohio and Heart of Ohio Junior Angus Associations.

Suzanne served as Miss Ohio Angus in 1991. She placed in the American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship program in 1990. She won first place in the NJAA Public Speaking Contest in 1989 and 1991.

Suzanne's Angus herd is enrolled in the Association's AHIR Program and she maintains performance pedigrees.

Also active in FFA and 4-H Suzanne earned her American FFA Degree in 1991 and earned a National FFA Foundation Scholarship in 1990. She received the State 4-H, Beef Proficiency Award in 1991. At Ohio State University she is a member of the Saddle & Sirloin Club and was inducted into Towers, an ag honorary organization, in May 1993.

Future goals include receiving a degree in ag education and teaching others the positives of agriculture. "We have a challenge ahead to convey to the American public where our food comes from and that we are doing an excellent job producing it."

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