

NEXT GENERATION

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POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Garrett Schuering

Break down or break through

Time and time again, you find yourself faced with a conflict or a place in life that you don't know how to get past. This can be a time where you feel like breaking down and don't know where in life to go.

This also can be a time where you decide to break through and find a way to make your way through the hard times. Though often you think of breaking down as turning to friends or even just taking time to think to yourself. This is never a bad idea, but sometimes what builds you most as a person is breaking through the problem and finding your own way.

Three things that can help you build yourself are self-confidence, problem-solving and logical thinking.

If you really want to know what pushes you forward, believing in yourself and finding a way to persevere through hard times can make you as a person stronger. Putting yourself out there and making yourself confident in your actions will allow you to be stronger and have faith in pushing through.

Secondly, if you have a clear, open mind and think logically, the outcome

will be stronger and more structured. If you think of things in a logical order, then you know the ins and outs of every situation you could be put into. Taking that extra half a second to clear your head and think can be all the difference between breaking through and breaking down.

Finally, to tie the other two steps together, is problem-solving — the ability to choose the best reaction to the action that has been dealt. There will be times your reaction to an action is the wrong one, but making sure you have the right reaction and problem-solving are key to successfully breaking through.

Now that we have connected these three items into breaking through, how does this affect your time in the Angus industry? Will you be the one who breaks through and always finds a way to push yourself forward and make yourself known? Or will you sit

back, break down and settle for where you are, thinking that is enough?

Whatever you do in life, always do your best to break through and not break down. Challenge yourself to be better as a person and be the change that you want to see in the future. Be inspiring to younger people, and make them want to achieve the status you have, not only with livestock but as a person.

There is a phrase that is not said often enough and can be the difference between breaking through and breaking down:

“Remember who you are, where you're from, and that that means.”

If you follow your heart and listen to yourself, you will find yourself breaking through and not breaking down.

— Garrett Schuering

Bronze and Silver Awards

Klayton Lorentz, Woodville, Wis., has earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Upperman, events and education director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo. Blake Long, Big Cabin, Okla., has also

earned the NJAA's Bronze award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are

evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd, and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

Jeff and Kelli Lorentz's son, **Klayton Lorentz**, is a member of the

NJAA and the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association. He is 18 years old and currently attends Baldwin Woodville High School.

In addition to serving his state association as treasurer, Lorentz has show at the local, state and national levels. He has also attended the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), where he previously competed in the team fitting contest.

Blake Long is the 18-year-old son of Johnna Long. He currently attends Adair High School and is a member of both the NJAA and the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association.

Long has competed at the local and national levels. At the NJAS, he has participated in the mentoring program.

He has also attended the Raising the Bar conference.

2021 Oregon State Fair Junior Angus Show, Sept. 1, Salem



Juniors receiving top honors in showmanship (from left) are Ellie Turley, La Grande, junior champion; Taylor Olson, Madras, intermediate champion; Jonwyn Ayres, Rogue River, senior champion; Jaden Stewart, Canby, reserve senior champion; and Fallon Gohr, Madras, reserve intermediate champion. Photo by Katelyn McCoy.

2021 Washington State Fair Junior Angus Show, Sept. 11, Puyallup



Juniors receiving top honors in showmanship (from left) are Dalton Chambers, Tenino, Wash., senior champion; Nicholas Sheridan, Terrebonne, Ore., reserve senior champion; Taylor Olson, Madras, Ore., intermediate champion; Rowdy Berry, Port Orchard, Wash., junior champion; Ellie Turley, La Grande, Ore., reserve junior champion; and Radley Berry, Port Orchard, Wash., peewee champion.

2021 Mississippi State Fair Junior Angus Show, Oct. 11, Jackson



Mary-Katherine Stratton, Crystal Springs, was crowned Miss Mississippi Angus.