



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

The Possibilities

Another year has come to a close, and 2004 is well underway. It seems like only months ago people were worried about Y2K, and now we are already into the fourth year of the 21st century. It's amazing how fast time can fly, especially when we are doing the things we love.



Trever Kuipers

This summer I will be retiring my green jacket and completing the final chapter of my National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) career. Although I have tried to live my life with no regrets, I now realize that I did not take full advantage of the opportunities the NJAA had to offer. I was 16 years old before I attended my first National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), but once I got there, I was hooked. I realized that this was more than just a cattle show; it was an opportunity for me to better develop myself as a leader and as a person.

My favorite thing about the NJAA is that, regardless of how many cattle you own or how successful you are in the showing, everyone has an opportunity to succeed. Even though my family only has a small, 20-head cow herd, I have been able to attain many

goals I set with the NJAA. I have had an unbelievable time attending cattle events across the country and making countless friends along the way.

When other junior members ask me for advice on how they can succeed, I simply tell them, "Be yourself." It doesn't matter if you have 100 head of cattle or one Angus show heifer, there is a place for you in the NJAA. You cannot obtain your goals by trying to be someone else; you can only achieve success by being yourself. It is the only way in life to truly gain respect.

As I finish my time with the NJAA, I want to thank everyone who has made my term possible and made it so special to me. I look forward to watching younger junior members grow up and create their own paths in life. I know that no matter where your road in life may lead, the NJAA will help take you there.

— Trever Kuipers, Illinois

Ken Troutt Memorial Scholarship

Applications are now being taken for the Ninth Annual Ken Troutt Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship fund has been established in memory of Ken Troutt, renowned auctioneer for the Northwest and the Cowman's Classic All-Breed Bull Sale. Scholarship winners will be announced at the Feb. 24 Cowman's Classic All-Breed Bull Sale in Spokane, Wash.

Last year's recipient was Jay Bennett of

Connell, Wash. To be eligible, a youth 1) must be an incoming freshman in fall 2004, enrolled in a college or technical school, and 2) be an individual or son/daughter of an individual who has consigned or purchased bulls in the Cowman's Classic within the last three years.

Applications are due prior to Feb. 15 and can be requested from Kendall Cattle Sales at 1040 Kendall Rd., Potlatch, ID 83855, or by calling (208) 858-2163.

Junior places in judging contest

Ethan McCabe, Elk City, Kan., placed fourth in the non-reasons division of the Kansas Beef Expo Judging Contest Dec. 12, 2003, in Hutchinson. His team, Wilson County FFA, placed second overall in the division.

Juniors should note Western Regional deadlines

Juniors planning to show cattle at the Western Regional Junior Angus Show need to act now to meet show deadlines. The ownership deadline is Feb. 15, and the entry deadline is March 1. Remember, these are the dates that applications for transfer and entries must be postmarked. Absolutely no late entries will be accepted for any reason.

Entry forms for the Western Regional were included in the 2004 junior information packet. The Western Regional is set for April 23-25 in Reno, Nev., in conjunction with the Western National Angus Futurity.

Association can help with junior transfer

If you know of, or if you are, a junior member who has purchased a heifer to show and who has not received the transferred registration paper, the Association can help. Contact the American Angus Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, however, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.



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