



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

One day can make all the difference

*“At the end of the day,
Did I really push myself or was I too afraid to give my heart away ...
To never forget what matters most
To never have to answer no. ...”*

—from “At the End of the Day” by Kellie Coffey

Each day we awaken to a new beginning and a chance to accomplish our goals. Some days are turning points in our lives and allow us to go down improved paths. Other days offer us hardships that are necessary for us to go through in order to become stronger individuals. I have experienced both good and bad days throughout my National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) career. Two of these days were instrumental in how I got to be where I am now.

My parents took me as an 8-year-old kid to see the local fair livestock show. While watching the cattle show, I immediately fell in love with those black cows and, with the help of a relative, I was able later to show my very own Angus heifer. That heifer, whom I named Lady, taught me a lot about hard work, dedication and sportsmanship, as well as just how much I loved showing Angus cattle. As I look back on that day at the fair, I am thankful that I chose “the black cows” and not another breed.

Many years down the line, as my junior career was coming to an end, I knew that I

wanted to do more for this association. I ran for the NJAA Board of Directors not fully knowing what to expect. I thought that I knew a lot about the beef industry and the Angus breed, but I was wrong. After I lost my bid to wear the green jacket, I was heartbroken, but at the same time, that day made me stop and see what I needed to improve on to reach that next level. I worked hard on my weaknesses and that next year I heard my name called as an NJAA Board member.



Lana Myers

When I started my term, I vowed to myself to make the NJAA a priority in my life and to show juniors that their dreams can come true. The formula is simple, really. Find that one thing that you really love, give it all you’ve got, and never tell yourself that it cannot be done. For me, my love has been the NJAA and Angus cattle. Who would have known it would have all started one day all those years ago at my local fair? I guess one day can make all the difference.

—Lana Myers, Louisiana

Scholarship money increased

The Angus Foundation will increase the amount of scholarship money it awards in 2003. The Angus Foundation Board of Directors voted unanimously to increase the amount of scholarship monies awarded from \$20,000 to \$25,000, and to increase the number of scholarships given to NJAA members by three.

The top two scholarship recipients will receive \$3,500. Eighteen recipients will receive \$1,000 scholarships.

“Each year we have so many deserving applicants apply for the Angus Foundation scholarships,” says James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities for the American Angus Association. “With the decision of the Angus Foundation Board, we will be able to award more of these youth scholarships to help them with their college education.”

Angus Foundation scholarships are awarded at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) each summer. An application is due to the Junior Activities Department with a postmark date no later than May 15, 2003. A committee of qualified individuals will review the applications and decide on the scholarship recipients.

Tennessee on the Web

The Tennessee Junior Angus Association has developed a new Web site to keep members up-to-date and allow others to see

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► Indiana Junior Angus Ass’n 2002 annual meeting, Dec. 30, Indianapolis

► Elected to lead the Indiana Junior Angus Ass’n are (seated, from left) **Kara Wilson**, Orleans, president; **Lucas Neumayr**, New Richmond, first vice president; **Ashlyn Carter**, Upland, second vice president; **Christen Cartmell**, Monticello, Ind., third vice president; (standing, from left) **Whitney Carr**, Elwood, secretary; **Kylee Carr**, Elwood, reporter; **Christina Harp**, Crawfordsville, communications director; **Kallie Kovert**, Crothersville, treasurer; **Jenna Langley**, Walton, adult board representative; and **Cameron Ward**, Lagrange, assistant reporter.



► Serving as Indiana Angus royalty are (from left) **Kallie Kovert**, Crothersville, queen; **Christen Cartmell**, Monticello, princess; and **Heather Lamb**, Fishers, past queen.



► **Chad Haag** (left), Plymouth, and **Eric Ramsey**, Frankfort, received scholarships at the IJAA annual meeting.

what their organization is doing. View www.tnjrangus.com on the Web for more information about their program.

Let your photography skills shine

It's not too early to start taking pictures for the 2003 NJAA/Angus Journal Photography Contest. The contest is part of the NJAS, but the deadline for entries is June 1, 2003. All entries must be postmarked by this date and should have the entry form attached to the back of the black poster board. Please include your member code, select the correct age group and category, and provide a title for your photo(s).

If you are a first-time photographer, or if you'd just like to brush up on your skills and learn new things, there are several Web sites that may offer some assistance. Kodak™ has created a Web site dedicated to helping individuals take better pictures. It offers tips and techniques, and explains the function of a camera. It also walks step by step through picking the right speed of film and many more important lessons for photographers to learn. To learn more go to www.kodak.com/global/en/consumer/pictureTaking/index.shtml.

Another site, "Take Better Photos" by Philip Grosset, may be useful. It can be found at <http://homepage.mac.com/philipgrosset/yourphotos119.html>. Grosset talks about picking the best viewpoint and selecting the best photo. It also discusses photos sent in by others.

See page 78 for the contest rules and for an entry form.



Renée Thelen

Correction

The *Angus Journal* misidentified Renée Thelen, Saline, Mich., in the coverage of the Miss American Angus contest in Louisville, Ky. Thelen competed in the contest, not Alicia Kramer, Farina, Ill., whom Thelen was identified as. Thelen is the daughter of Steven and Nancy Thelen.

Junior wins carcass competition

Lacy Gillespie, Kevin, Mont., was the first-place winner in the "Steer of Merit" program during the Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA) 118th Annual Convention Dec. 12-14 in Billings. Her steer was harvested at low Choice with a yield grade (YG) of 0.36. The breeder was Butch Gillespie of Kevin.

Judging honors won at NWSS

Several NJAA members placed in the top five at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest Jan. 17 and 18.

Sharon Glaenger, Waterloo, Ill., was on Kansas State University's (K-State's) senior college team. Her top-five placings include third overall in the senior division, fourth in beef reasons, high individual in swine reasons and third individual in total swine. Fellow K-State team members John McCurry, Burrton, Kan., and Lacey Robinson, Montgomery City, Mo., were high individual and third individual in beef reasons, respectively. McCurry was second individual in total beef. K-State placed fifth as a team.

Josh Mavencamp, Bliss, Idaho, placed

third in beef placings, second in swine placings and fifth in total beef. He is a team member at Oregon State University. Arturo Pacheco, an NJAA member from Moriarty, N.M., was second in sheep reasons. He attends Texas Tech University. Darin Alwardt, a University of Illinois team member from Altamont, was high individual in swine placings.

Texas A&M won high team overall in the senior competition. NJAA member Jeff Thayne, Seguin, Texas, was a member of that team.

Harlan Yocham, a judge at Butler County Community College (BCCC) and a native of Sapulpa, Okla., was high individual in the junior division of the contest. He placed in the top five in swine placings (first), beef reasons (fifth), sheep reasons (fifth) and swine reasons (fourth). Yocham was high individual in total swine and second high individual in reasons. Dustin Wiley, Saint Francis, Kan., is also a member of the BCCC team and placed first in individual swine reasons. BCCC team member Kyle Perez, Nara Visa, N.M., placed fifth in individual swine reasons. The BCCC team placed fourth overall.

Wrex Phipps, a junior college judge from Kearney, Neb., was fourth individual in swine placings and fifth high in total beef. He is a member of Clarendon State College's team. Amanda Stuart, Ashdown, Ark., placed second in total sheep. She attends Northeastern Oklahoma A&M (NEO).

In the senior competition at the NWSS Carload Judging Contest, K-State claimed second place. NJAA members on the team were McCurry, and Shane Werk, Herman, Minn. In the junior college division, the BCCC team claimed top honors. Angus junior team members included Wiley, Yocham, Perez and Kyle Conley, Clarksdale, Mo.

For a complete listing of judging results at the NWSS view www.nationalwestern.com/nwss/home/index.asp on the Web.



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