



Angus Stakes

► by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

It was so kool

After working nearly six years at Angus Productions Inc. (API), I finally tore myself away from magazine production long enough to attend a couple days of the 2003 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). What an event! "Kentucky ... Kool as Can Be in 2003" was certainly all it was cracked up to be.

Quite a switch

The NJAS has come a long way since the national junior Angus heifer shows my family attended when my brother and I were junior members. We did get in on some neat groundbreaking opportunities, including the formation of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), the start of what has become the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off, and the addition of the bred-and-owned and cow-calf divisions.

In 1980, the year the first NJAA Board of Directors was elected, the event featured 419 entries, including owned and bred-and-owned heifers and cow-calf pairs; the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest; the Angus Bowl; and a talent show. The September 1980 *Angus Journal* covered what it called "one of the strongest shows in the junior national's 12-year history" in eight pages.

This year, the *Angus Journal's* coverage of the event spans 93 pages. With nine pages still devoted to the cattle competitions, the remaining 84 pages stand testimony to the programs created by the NJAA Board, the

Junior Activities Department and the American Angus Auxiliary to develop junior members' leadership abilities and to spotlight their talents.

The event outgrew its "heifer show" designation. With competitions ranging from public speaking to poster design to team sales, maybe it has outgrown its designation as a "show."

Hosted by the Missouri Junior Angus Association and the Missouri Angus Association, the 2004 National Junior Angus Show will be in Kansas City, Mo., July 12-17. It is appropriately themed "Angus & All That Jazz."

Range Beef Cow Symposium

This winter, API will provide real-time coverage of the Range Beef Cow Symposium at www.rangebeefcow.com. The symposium, held every two years, is slated for Dec. 9-11, 2003, at the Scotts Bluff County Events Center, Scottsbluff, Neb. The four-state symposium is co-sponsored by the departments of animal science and the Cooperative Extension Services of the universities of Nebraska and Wyoming and

Colorado State and South Dakota State universities.

The meeting will feature a number of speakers on topics of interest to cow-calf producers, including nutrition, health, reproduction, genetics and forages. Environmental challenges, country-of-origin labeling (often referred to as COOL or COL), outbreak of tragic disease and other timely issues will also be discussed.

The meeting's popular evening "bullpen sessions" offer opportunity for participants to visit with the speakers and explore issues more in-depth.

More details will be available in mid-September. Watch www.angusjournal.com for notification of when we activate www.rangebeefcow.com. As it becomes available, we will post registration information, the schedule, and summaries and audios of the presentations.

Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc., is sponsoring API's coverage of the Range Beef Cow Symposium as well as coverage of:

- the 2003 National Angus Conference (www.angusjournal.com/nationalconference);
- the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) meeting (www.bifconference.com); and
- the Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show (www.4cattlemen.com).

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