

Here today, history tomorrow

“Some people believe that without history, our lives amount to nothing. At some point we all have to choose: Do we fall back on what we know, or do we step forward into something new? It’s hard not to be haunted by our past. Our history is what shapes us ... what guides us. Our history resurfaces time after time after time. But we have to remember that sometimes the most important history is the history we’re making today.”

— Meredith Grey, *Grey’s Anatomy*

Making history

It’s 8 o’clock, Thursday night. Don’t call me, don’t interrupt me, and do not try to talk to me! Yes, I know, I’m addicted. I am addicted to this little phenomenon called *Grey’s Anatomy*. Every Thursday night my world stops for an hour, and I exist within the realm of Seattle Grace Hospital.



Kristen Oaks

But *Grey’s Anatomy* isn’t just a television show about a hospital and doctors; it’s a show about life, love and friends. As I watched this particular episode, an episode themed

around histories, I realized that in a few short weeks, Zeb, Kindra, Tracee, Alex, Amanda and I will be just that — history.

It doesn’t seem that long ago we were pacing around the hotel lobby in Denver waiting to give our speeches and answer those all-important questions. Two years have come and gone, and I have stories upon

stories that would easily fill books about our travels together.

Six acquaintances from diverse parts of the country with diverse interests have become friends — have created a “history” that no one else can share. Others will know that we wore green jackets together, but no one will remember the silly jokes that we told. No one will remember what Alex looked like when we dressed him as a girl. No one but us will remember the odd quirks each of us had that got on each other’s nerves from time to time.

History is made from experiences. From my own experiences on the NJAA Board, I have learned I should have studied for that Spanish final during the flight to Reno, because I certainly did not want to do so while I was there! My history has taught me that relationships make us who we are. Those same relationships, while not always permanent, are life-altering. We gained confidence, we worked as a team, and we achieved success.

Who could have guessed 12 kids would sell a heifer for \$250,000, or put on a leadership

conference that more than 200 junior members will remember for a lifetime? We thought we were too young to do it, but ironically we were not.

Now it’s July; our tenure on the board is almost over. For once in my life, I’m feeling old. I look at all of these young juniors and remember the joy junior nationals brought: the eager searching for the faces of friends you haven’t seen in a year, the friendly competition, the excitement of opening ceremonies and the bittersweet feeling of the final awards. All good memories. All part of my history. All part of your present.

History, I’ve learned, is a bit of a paradox: It’s the past, but it’s also the future. It’s the next minute and also the last. We look forward; we look back. As Meredith said, we’ll fall back on what we know. But most of all, now at this time, we won’t be “haunted by the past” but rather, we’ll step forward into the future ready to make our own special histories.

— Kristen Oaks, Louisiana

► Oklahoma Angus Ass’n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Stillwater, April 27



► Kassandra Pfeiffer (right), Orlando, receives the junior award for her bred-and-owned heifer shown at the Oklahoma Youth Expo from Oklahoma Angus Queen Allison Bond.



► Kelsey Pfeiffer (right), Orlando, receives the junior scholarship from Jamae Frey.

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► **Florida Junior Angus Ass'n Field Day, High Springs, April 28**



► Angus members winning showmanship honors are (from left) **Richelle Miller**, Brandon, champion senior showman; **Katie Quincey**, High Springs, champion intermediate showman; and **Erin Jones**, Trenton, champion junior showman.



► New Florida Angus royalty are (from left) **Whitney Hines**, High Springs, queen, and **Katlynn Lawrence**, Okeechobee, princess.



► **Whitney Hines** (right), High Springs, receives Bronze and Silver awards from Robert Demaree, Florida Junior Angus Ass'n adviser.

► **Alabama Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Cullman, April 20**

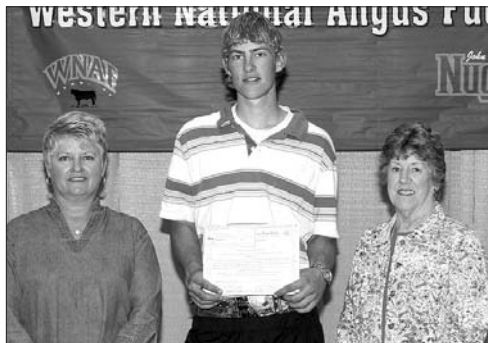


► **Kindra Wood** (right), Holly Pond, receives Bronze and Silver awards from Gregg Blythe.

► **Western National ROV Show, Reno, Nev., April 29-30**



► **Nicole Jorgensen** (second from left), Culver, Ore., receives the Western States Angus Auxiliary Scholarship from Kathleen Buchanan (left), Elsie Covey and Carla Malson, members of the Western States Angus Auxiliary.



► **David Wiseman** (center), Filer, Idaho, receives the Western States Angus Auxiliary Perpetuating Memorial Scholarship from Buchanan (left) and Covey.



► **Marilyn Schmidlin** (center), Vernonia, Ore., receives the Western States Angus Auxiliary John Ascuaga Scholarship from Covey and Malson.



► **Elizabeth Gavette** (center), Everson, Wash., is the 2007 Western States Angus queen. Also pictured are Miss American Angus Emily Tennant (left) and the 2006 Western States Angus queen, Nicole Jorgensen, Culver, Ore.

► **Minnesota Ass'n Annual Banquet, Rochester, March 21**



► Officers of the Minnesota Junior Angus Ass'n are (from left) **Chelsey Drysdale**, Wabasha, secretary; **Lindsay Waugh**, Goodhue, president; **Aaron Waugh**, Goodhue, treasurer; and **Alisha Nord**, Wolverton, vice president.



► **Ryan Mitteness** (left), Ada, receives the Minnesota Show Steer of the Year award from Tom Rooney.



► Minnesota Angus royalty include (from left) **Alisha Nord**, Wolverton, 2006 Miss Minnesota Angus; **Chelsey Drysdale**, Wabasha, 2007 Miss Minnesota Angus; **Betsy Hansen**, Marshall, 2007 Miss Minnesota Angus; and **Lindsay Waugh**, Goodhue, 2006 Miss Minnesota Angus.



► **Cullen Walser** (center), Minnesota Lake, receives the Minnesota Show Heifer of the Year award from Bruce and LeAnn Waugh.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 54

▶ NEXT GENERATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53

▶ Minnesota Ass'n Annual Banquet, continued



▶ **Kayla Nelson**, Mabel, receives the Educational Scholarship.



▶ **Lindsay Waugh**, Goodhue, receives the Outstanding Leadership Award.

▶ Atlantic National Super-Point Roll of Victory Angus Show, Timonium, Md., May 27



▶ Nine young Angus enthusiasts earned Atlantic National Merit Awards and were awarded scholarships. Pictured are (from left) Wynn Herbers, committee member; Andrea Fitzgerald, committee member; **Kristen Oaks**, Calhoun, La.; **Kayla Alexander**, Sabina, Ohio; **Kyle Grim**, East Berlin, Pa.; **Christina Egner**, Shelby, Ohio; **Jennifer Ringwelski**, Marengo, Ill.; **Callie Smith**, Lebanon, Tenn.; **Ashlyn Carter**, Upland, Ind.; **Amanda Lickey**, Middleburg, Va.; **Justin Brosey**, Hamilton, Ohio; and Erin Krueger, committee member.



▶ **Jennifer Ringwelski** (left), Marengo, Ill., receives the Greg Krueger Memorial Merit Scholarship from Erin Krueger.

Accelerated Genetics awards scholarships

Every year Accelerated Genetics awards scholarships to youth pursuing college educations in an agricultural field. Two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to students enrolled in ag studies.

This year's winners include **Cody Dix**, Stockton, Kan., and Londa Johnson, La Crescent, Minn. Dix is attending Colby Community College in Kansas and is majoring in animal nutrition. Johnson is a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and is majoring in dairy science.

Eligible candidates or their parents must be customers of Accelerated Genetics and be pursuing a degree in an agricultural field. Applicants are evaluated on their leadership, scholarship and involvement in agriculture.