



# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## Lyrics to Live By

*You better watch out,  
You better not cry,  
Better not pout  
I'm telling you why  
Santa Claus is coming to town.*

*He's making a list,  
And checking it twice;  
Gonna find out who's naughty and nice.  
Santa Claus is coming to town.*

*He sees you when you're sleeping  
He knows when you're awake  
He knows if you've been bad or good  
So be good for goodness sake!*

— "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town,"  
J. Fred Coots, Henry Gillespie ©1934

By now we're all sick of hearing songs like this one on the radio nonstop since Thanksgiving. When it came time to write my final postcard as a member of the National Junior Angus Board of Directors, I felt these simple lyrics had a powerful message — one that we could all learn from.

The question I pose to you, juniors, is: In looking at this last year, have you been good or bad? Too often in today's world our morals are challenged, and we have to make up our minds whether we are going to uphold those morals we have been taught, or are we going to take the quick way out?

I can tell you that it's not always going to be easy to stick to your beliefs, but if you turn down the road of dishonesty to find successes in whatever it is you're doing,



**Justin Brosey**

whether it's showing cows, at school or anywhere else, the joys and highs you get from winning will only last you so long. Trophies collect dust, break and eventually all that we are left with are the memories of how we earned them. If you accomplished these goals through hard work and dedication, then these memories are ones to look back on and be proud of, but what will you feel like if those memories weren't a product of hard work?

Parents, advisors and other members: We have a moral obligation to the youth of our great organization to make sure we are setting an example of what we want them to follow. We need to focus on the future and also the future of the Angus organization's reputation. As the role models of tomorrow's youth and the youth of the Angus Association we must uphold our morals and "our good name" in the cattle industry. So, as Santa is checking his list, are

you going to be getting the gifts you want or a lump of coal? Lastly, I leave everyone with this quote by Frank Outlaw:

*Watch your thoughts; they become words.  
Watch your words; they become actions.  
Watch your actions; they become habits.  
Watch your habits; they become character.  
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

— by Justin Brosey, Ohio

## Texas Beef Ambassador Speech Competition

The chance to compete for \$3,000 and the title of Texas Beef Ambassador is in store for the 2008 Texas Beef Ambassador Competition, March 15, 2008, in Corpus Christi.

Open to Texas youth between the ages of 17 and 20, but not older than 20 as of Jan. 1, 2009, contestants are asked to deliver a 5- to 8-minute speech pertaining to the positive aspects of beef consumption and the beef industry to promote the nutritional, economic, environmental and versatile uses of beef.

Top winners will receive prize money, while the first-place winner will also represent the state at various speaking engagements during the year and at the national contest in fall 2008.

## NJAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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► **Haley Rieff**, Bentonville, Ark., was named first runner-up for the queen title at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M's (NEO) Homecoming festivities. Thirty-one young ladies competed for the title. She made some new girlfriends; had a special evening of pampering "fit for a queen;" and participated in the parade, homecoming dance, pep rally, hall-decorating contest, and queen's luncheon.



► Mississippi Angus royalty are (from left) **Ashlyn Haughton**, 2008 Delta princess, and **Megan Donahoe**, 2008 Mississippi queen, both of Indianola; and **Emma Collins**, 2007 Mississippi queen, and **Lexi Overby**, 2007 Mississippi princess, both of Morton.



The deadline to enter is Feb. 1, 2008. For more information about the Texas Beef Ambassador Program, visit the Texas CattleWomen web site at [www.texasattlewomen.org](http://www.texasattlewomen.org), or contact Melissa Muegge at 713-819-4603 or [m\\_muegge2000@hotmail.com](mailto:m_muegge2000@hotmail.com) or Rosemary Gambino at 281-375-8836 or [rgambino@consolidated.net](mailto:rgambino@consolidated.net).

### **USDA Announces Annual FFA Writing Contest**

Undersecretary of Agriculture Tom Dorr Oct. 26 reminded FFA students about the annual Risk Management Agency (RMA)-FFA essay-writing contest.

“By participating in the FFA contest, students will gain valuable experience in considering the use of risk management strategies on a farm enterprise,” Dorr says. “This is a wonderful opportunity for FFA students, working with their advisors, to gain valuable experience applying risk management techniques to their own situations.”

The contest, “Risk Management Strategies for My Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program,” is sponsored by RMA in cooperation with the National FFA Organization, as a means of making the nation’s future farmers aware of ways of managing various risks associated with farming. This is the 11th year of the contest.

Students will select a risk management strategy relative to their supervised program, analyze the risk, indicate tools used to minimize risk, and explain their application of these tools in an essay of no less than 1,000 words and three to seven pages in length.

Ten winning essays will be selected on the criteria of content, adherence to the assigned topic, grammar, organization, originality and creativity. Each of the 10 winners and their advisors will travel to Washington, D.C., all expenses paid, for a special U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) RMA/FFA Day in April/May 2008. Students and advisors will meet with USDA officials and members of Congress and be recognized in a special ceremony.

The contest is open to current FFA students in good standing. A list of top 10

winners will appear in FFA’s “Making a Difference” newsletter and on the organization’s web site at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org).

Entries must be postmarked by Jan. 31, 2008, and should be sent to: Risk Management Essay Contest, National FFA Organization, PO Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960. Contest rules of entry are online at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org).

### **Zach Kinne Named 2007-2008 National FFA President**

While serving as an FFA member, Zach Kinne took a look around at his fellow members and recognized the potential they all had to make a positive impact in the world of agriculture and beyond. This inspired him to develop himself as a leader and positive role model for his peers. For the next year, the North Harrison FFA chapter member from Eagleville, Mo., will lead and inspire more than 500,000 fellow FFA members as 2007-2008 National FFA president. He was elected to that office Oct. 27 at the 80th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. He was among six individuals selected from a field of 40 to hold a national office. He is the son of Keith and Shelly Kinne. His FFA advisor is Brandon Craig.

As an FFA member, Kinne participated in an SAE, producing and selling registered Angus seedstock bulls. He was selected as a state winner and national semi-finalist in prepared public speaking, was high-scoring individual in his district’s dairy judging contest, and was named State Star in Agricultural Placement.

Fulfilling his position will require traveling more than 100,000 miles; meeting top leaders in business, government and education; visiting approximately 40 states; and participating in an international experience tour to Japan. His responsibilities will include providing personal growth and leadership training for students, setting policies that shape the future of the organization and promoting agricultural literacy.

A student at the University of Missouri (MU), Columbia, Kinne is involved in the College of Agriculture Student Development

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Board, MU Alumni Association Student Board, Agriculture Economics Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau, College of Agriculture Learning Improvement Committee, and the Missouri Department of Education College Preparatory Task Force.

“I believe it is the purpose of a national officer to plant the seeds of knowledge, hope and inspiration in others,” Kinne says. “There is nothing I would rather do than to have this opportunity to commit myself to the betterment and growth of FFA, its

members and the American agriculture industry.”

Visit [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) for more information.



### ▶ Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE), Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 29-Oct. 7



▶ **Lacey Murray**, Garrett, receives a Pennsylvania Livestock Association (PLA) scholarship given to outstanding livestock participants. Winners were chosen for outstanding leadership skills, a keen interest in the livestock industry, involvement in KILE and support of PLA.



▶ **Katie Nolt**, New Holland, receives a PLA scholarship given to outstanding livestock participants.



▶ **Katrina Frey**, Quarryville, receives a PLA outstanding FFA and 4-H scholarship.



▶ **Jeremy Mock**, Williamsburg, receives a PLA outstanding FFA and 4-H scholarship.

▶ **WINNER NOT PICTURED:** Junior beef exhibitors were awarded the first-ever KILE Junior Beef Scholarships. **Ben Warfield**, Marriottsville, Md., receives the \$1,000 scholarship. Warfield is pursuing a degree in business administration with a minor in agribusiness at Texas A&M University.



▶ **Brandy Cleveland**, Mount Pleasant, N.C., took home the silver plate, \$75 and the title, “Keystone Junior Stockman of the Year.”