We All Scream for Ice Cream

Banana splits are a special treat at the National Junior Angus Show.

Story & photos by **Shelby Axtell**

Angus & All That JAZZ

►Chocolate syrup anyone? Hannah Uden, Franklin, serves the chocolate, which was just one of the toppings to choose from this year.

The Nebraska Junior Angus Association has hosted and sponsored in part the annual ice cream social after opening ceremonies at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) for the past five years. The tradition started in 1992 at a field day hosted by TC Ranch, owned by Vance and Connie Uden, Franklin, Neb. Connie served ice cream sundaes out of a rain gutter.

"I made thousands of ice cream balls and we all ate together," Connie said. "Luckily no one got sick and everyone had a good time!"

The Nebraska juniors enjoyed it so much that they continued it at the regional show, which eventually led to the national show. This year they purchased ice cream scoops for the event, because in the past, everyone had brought their own scoops, says Nebraska junior Samantha Harl, Hastings.

"We have a fun time, and all the juniors look forward to it," says Nebraska junior Emily Pohlman, Norfolk.

Connie made jean aprons with the letter "N" on the front at the 2001 NJAS, for the servers to wear. At the 2002 NJAS in Wisconsin, Bob and Becky Tiedeman, North Platte, dressed as clowns to promote the social. The ice cream social has become an event that is well known and looked forward to by all.
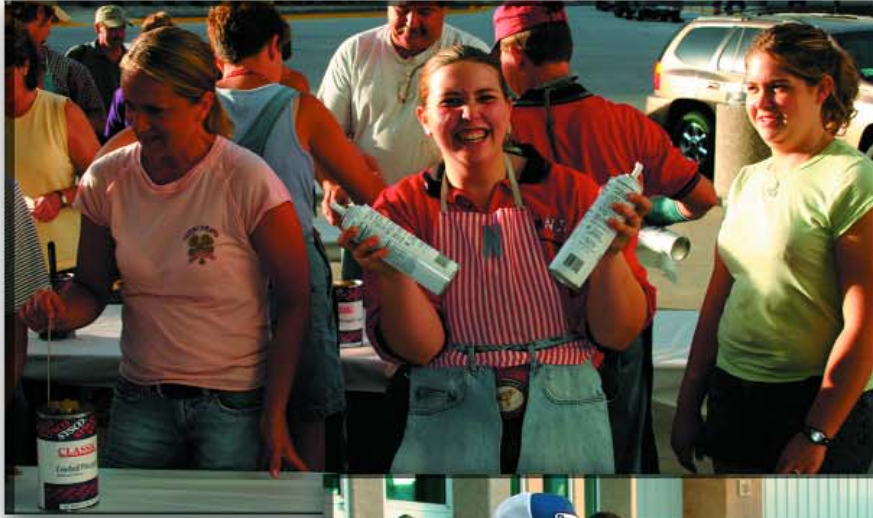

►**Left:** There is a lot to get ready in just a few minutes before opening ceremonies close. Nebraska parents help assemble the serving tables. Ice cream and toppings are usually donated by area businesses.

►**Above:** Connie Uden (right), Franklin, gives last-minute advice to the servers before beginning. On average, they will serve more than 80 gallons of ice cream. They served more than 1,000 banana splits this year.

►**Left:** NJAS exhibitors and their families have enjoyed the ice cream social for the past five years. Toppings and bananas depend on where the NJAS is hosted each year and what is readily available.

►**Above:** Ashley Wagner, Genoa, is double-fisted with whipped cream.

►**Right:** Blaine Clowser (left), Milford, and Linda Pohlman, Norfolk, enjoy a few laughs during a short break. The social has become an event that is looked forward to by all Nebraska junior Angus members.

►Missouri juniors enjoy their banana splits made just like they like them.

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