



# Are You Smarter than an Angus Junior?

NJAA members put their knowledge of the Angus breed and the beef industry to the test in quiz bowl.

Story & photos by **Bridget Beran**, editorial intern

Identifying National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) junior board members and American Angus Association staff, defining bovine illnesses or explaining management practices are just a few of the topics fired at NJAA members during the quiz bowl competition at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). While all in good fun, the contest brings out a competitive streak in the Angus youth.

"I've been participating in quiz bowl since I was 9. It's a lot of fun to compete with your friends," says Nicholas "Nick" Pohlman, Prairie Grove, Ark. Nick and his team from Arkansas won the intermediate division of the quiz bowl.

Teams are formed of four members, generally from the same state. After taking a rigorous written exam, the top eight

teams are selected from each age division. From there, they go head-to-head in three rounds of competition, trying to buzz in and display their beef industry knowledge first. Preparation is key to coming out on top of the bracket.

"We started out at our state contest because we had so many kids that wanted to

participate," says Cutter Pohlman, Hereford, Texas. "We qualified and then when we got to NJAS as a team we practiced for the buzzers. We tried to go over the questions as much as we could."

Team Texas, including Cutter, took home the top spot for the junior division. Corbin Cowles, Rockfield, Ky., was on a composite

► **Above:** Juniors had to gain top scores on a written test in order to compete in the buzzer rounds.

► **Right:** National Junior Angus Board members check in juniors for the written portion of the quiz bowl.





team that included Michaela Clowser, Milford, Neb., Will Pohlman, Prairie Grove, Ark., and Sydni Lienemann, Princeton, Neb., that came out on top of the senior bracket. He credits studying with his teammates as his preparation method. For Nick, however, preparation was more rushed.

“My method of preparing for quiz bowl is the ‘study-at-the-last-minute’ method. We have all of the old study guides, so my team spent three hours looking through them on the day we competed,” Nick says.

Regardless of their prep work, each member of a quiz bowl team came away with a little more knowledge of the beef industry and Angus cattle.

“After participating in the quiz bowl, I’ve expanded my knowledge of beef cattle production,” Corbin says. “It allows me to more intelligently talk about topics I didn’t have a clue about beforehand.”

For Cutter, the quiz bowl helped him to expand his knowledge of cattle maintenance, the history of the Angus breed and so much more. Considering it is a part of his day-to-day life, he said it was important to learn all about the industry as early as he could. While many questions featured in the quiz bowl competition span the entire beef industry, from medicinal to grazing patterns, there were a plethora of questions that centered on the Angus breed.



“It’s a great way to gain a lot of knowledge about so many aspects of the industry. If people ask about *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®), I know to tell them about its 10 standards and all the hoops an animal has to go through to be considered for the CAB program,” Nick says.

While it could be seen as all fun and games, the quiz bowl contest prepares the next generation of Angus leaders and beef advocates to speak on the issues of their industry. Juniors can walk away from the quiz bowl with an invaluable knowledge base, as well as a win.



► The knowledge of NJAA members was put to the test before they could compete for the Quiz Bowl title.



## ► QUIZ BOWL



► Winning the junior division, representing Texas, are (from left) **Cailynn Aragon**, Moulton; **Jeremiah Steph**, Tatum; and **Cutter Pohlman** and **Colter Pohlman**, both of Hereford.



► Placing second in the junior division, representing Colorado and Missouri, are (from left) **Brock Miller**, Deer Trail, Colo.; **Madalyn Rohr** and **Maguire Rohr**, both of Elbert, Colo.; and **Alexis Koelling**, Laddonia, Mo.



► Winning the intermediate division, representing Arkansas, are (from left) **Hailey Roye**, Fayetteville; **Allyson Sellers**, Vilonia; **Nicholas Pohlman**, Prairie Grove; and **Ross Wingert**, Rose Bud.



► Placing second in the intermediate division, representing Missouri, are (from left) **Truman Byergo**, Dearborn; **Cailey Beavers**, West Plains; **Holly Sinning**, Norwood; and **Tommy Otte**, Saint Mary.



► Winning the senior division, representing Arkansas, Kentucky and Nebraska, are (from left) **Sydni Lienemann**, Princeton, Neb.; **Will Pohlman**, Prairie Grove, Ark.; **Michaela Clowser**, Milford, Neb.; and **Corbin Cowles**, Rockfield, Ky.



► Placing second in the senior division, representing Missouri, are (from left) **Cooper Sadowsky**, Eagleville; **Reba Colin**, Butler; **Elizabeth Otte**, Saint Mary; and **Chris Kahlenbeck**, Union.

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