

PHOTOS BY MORGAN MARLEY



STOCKMAN AWARD PRESENTED AT NJAS

All-new Stockman Award offered during the 2017 National Junior Angus Show.

by *Morgan Marley, communications intern*

The first-ever overall Stockman Award was presented at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) hosted July 9-15 in Des Moines, Iowa.

To be eligible for the award, National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members

had to compete in the cattle judging, quiz bowl written exam and skill-a-thon contests. The top stockmen were selected from each age category — junior, intermediate and senior.

Winning inaugural honors were Ryan

Borer, Buchanan, Va., junior division; Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kan., intermediate division; and Jayne Bannister, Kent, N.Y., senior division.

“I knew I did well in the judging contest, then when I got second in skill-a-thon I was really hoping I’d be up there for the Stockman Award,” Hinrichsen said. “Since it’s a new contest, being the first intermediate winner is a real honor.”

Showing cattle and being involved in the NJAA is more than knowing how to present your calf in the showring. It is intended to teach youth about all aspects of cattle production. The Stockman Award aims to encourage juniors to apply the information they have learned about the entire industry.

“It’s just really neat to see all of my experiences coming together,” Bannister said. “The different classes I have taken at college, meats judging, the numerous people who have guided and taught me, as well as various other agricultural opportunities have culminated in this one award.”

Dave Nichols of Nichols Farms, Bridgewater, Iowa, sponsored the first-ever Stockman Contest. He said he wanted to award those juniors who are the future leaders of the industry.

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► Winning top honors in the first-ever Stockman Contest at the 2017 NJAS are (from left) **Jayne Bannister**, senior champion; **Eva Hinrichsen**, intermediate champion; and **Ryan Borer**, junior champion. Also pictured is Dave Nichols, sponsor of the award, presenting.

WINNING WITH THE ANGUS TEAM



PHOTO BY KASEY BROWN



PHOTO BY LEANN SCHLEICHER

► The first-ever overall Stockman Award was presented at the National Junior Angus Show in Des Moines, Iowa. Juniors participated in several events to earn points toward the award.

“I think those young people who excel in academia and have a strong work ethic sometimes take a backseat to those who make the winning touchdown and play in athletic events,” Nichols said. “This award is for those juniors who have the skills that are often

overlooked. It’s an honor for Nichols Farms to recognize them in this capacity.”

NJAA members are the future of the industry. It is important for them to be involved and participate in contests at the NJAS.

“I was moved beyond belief at how the young leaders appreciated that award,” Nichols said. “They will be valuable assets to our industry, and they have the skill set and motivation to succeed.”

