

As Good as Gold

Twenty NJAA members win top honors.

by Abby White

Since 1981, the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) has given Gold Awards to its qualifying members during their last year of junior eligibility. The award is based on the junior member's entire career and is only given to those who have met all of the criteria, symbolizing years of dedication, commitment and achievement.

Members must first earn the Bronze and Silver awards to be considered for the Gold Award. They must also be active in the four areas in which the application is scored. Points are received for Association activities, competitive activities, performance testing activities and producing and merchandising of Angus cattle.

The award is given through the National Junior Recognition Program (NJRP) and is the highest honor a junior can receive. Members are honored with a specially designed pin, cast in gold. The award is made possible from the generous donors and supporters of the Angus Foundation.

The following members received Gold Awards in 2006.

Evan Boehmer

Serving in 2003 and 2004 as the Michigan Junior Angus Association (MJAA) President, Evan Boehmer knows how to be a leader. He also served as treasurer, junior livestock representative and director.



The son of Earl and Kris Boehmer, Evan is a Kellogg Community College student from Olivet, Mich., majoring in accounting. He is the herd and show cattle manager for EMB Angus, his family's Angus operation. He plans on becoming a veterinarian.

"My original plan was to become a doctor," Evan says. "But with my involvement in cattle, I changed my mind a few years ago and decided I wanted to become a vet. Being an NJAA member significantly influenced my decision."

Evan is a scholarship winner from both the MJAA and the NJAA. He has

successfully shown Angus cattle and was a finalist at the NJAS Showmanship Contest in 2005. He has also participated in the public speaking, team sales, quiz bowl and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off contests.

"My most favorite memories are from the Cook-Off contests," Evan says. "I have great memories from competing and watching other kids compete."

Being a member of the NJAA has made him more outgoing and harder working, Evan says. "When I was younger, I was real timid. I've learned about hard work — staying true to the end — so that you come up with something you're proud of."

Ashley Gillig

Serving as a host for the 2004 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Kansas City, Mo., and competing in the 2005 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest are two of Ashley Gillig's most memorable moments.



The Missouri State University (MSU) student will graduate in May 2008 with a double major in agricultural business, marketing and sales; and agriculture enterprise management, with an emphasis in animal science. Angus cattle are in her future, she says. "I would like to work for the USDA in marketing and continue to raise a herd of registered Angus cattle."

Ashley is active in many college activities. She is a founding member of the MSU Meats Judging Team, and is Collegiate FFA president. She's also a member of Sigma Alpha, Collegiate Farm Bureau and Block & Bridle. She is currently employed by the MSU Agriculture Department as an office assistant.

Ashley is the daughter of Ken and Elizabeth Gillig of Aurora, Mo. She has received scholarships from both the NJAA and the Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA). She is an accomplished showman, winning

first place at the Missouri Futurity, in addition to being a finalist in the 2005 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Additionally, she has been president and secretary of the Southwest Missouri Junior Angus Association as well as secretary of the MJAA.

"Some of my favorite memories of being a member of the NJAA are meeting new people, traveling across the country and competing out of the showing in the contests at junior nationals," Ashley says.

Brittany Gillig

Brittany Gillig was raised on a purebred Angus cow-calf operation. She received her first cow from her grandfather when she was very young, and that cow has been the foundation female for her growing herd.

"At the age of 9, I attended my first show and, since that day, I have been hooked," Brittany says. "Showing has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life."

Brittany, the daughter of Ken and Elizabeth Gillig of Aurora, Mo., is currently enrolled at MSU, studying agriculture business, marketing and sales; and animal science. She is employed with the MSU Darr Agricultural Center as the show/sale cattle manager.

Brittany has been involved in the Southwest Missouri Junior Angus Association, serving as secretary and treasurer. She was also the Missouri Junior Angus Association treasurer, as well as the Missouri Angus Queen. She is a member of the Southwest Missouri Beef Cattle Improvement Association and performance tests her bulls and sells them through the association's spring and fall sales.

"My involvement has opened so many doors to me and allowed me to make lifelong friends," Gillig says. "From each [leadership] role, I gained skills that you can't get from reading a textbook. The real-life experience and people skills



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you achieve are infinite.”

At MSU, Gillig is also involved in Collegiate FFA, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Sigma Alpha, Block & Bridle, the Meats Judging Team and Agriculture Ambassadors.

Mark Gleason

In 2001, Mark Gleason won first place showing Angus cattle at the NJAS in Denver, Colo. But that accomplishment didn't mean nearly as much as the people he has met as a member of the NJAA.

“I placed well at livestock shows — a couple grands and even firsts and seconds at the NJAS,”

Mark says. “Those experiences taught me how hard you've got to work to get on top, but they never meant as much to me as the relationships that I've had with fellow members and mentors in the NJAA.”

The son of Mike and Kerri Gleason of Midlothian, Texas, Mark is a student at Texas A&M University, majoring in agriculture leadership and development, and history. After graduation, he hopes to attend a law school in Texas and study constitutional law.

“No matter where my career takes me, I will always be an Angus breeder and supporter of the Angus breed and the junior programs they offer,” Mark says.

Mark has participated in several contests through both the NJAS and the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA), including project of the year, sales talk, photography, team sales and quiz bowl. He has also been TJAA president, first vice president and second vice president. Additionally, Mark has attended the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, and he has won scholarships from the TJAA and the NJAA.

“I will be defined by who I am and what I do for others,” Mark says. “It is my duty to pass on to the next generation the gifts I have received.”

Zebadiah Gray

Currently serving on the NJAA Board of Directors, Zeb Gray takes pride in being a member of the NJAA. The son of Terry and Julie Gray of Toledo, Iowa, Zeb is studying animal science at Iowa State University (ISU).

“My experiences garnered as a member of multiple junior Angus associations have dramatically impacted my life,” Zeb

says. “I have developed an appreciation and understanding of the challenges faced by my fellow Americans and Angus breeders.”

Zeb was a member of the 2003 and 2004 NJAS senior quiz bowl championship teams and attended the 2003, 2004 and 2005 LEAD conferences. He was also a director of the Iowa Junior Angus Association and was active in both 4-H and FFA. He is currently part of the ISU Honors Program, ISU Beef Team, and ISU Block & Bridle. Additionally, he is an accomplished meat judge, was a member of the 2004 ISU Meat Judging Team and currently serves as the assistant coach.

“I have never avoided challenges,” Zeb says. “I have experienced numerous financial and personal challenges firsthand from growing up on a family farm. However, I will never stop raising cattle. It is my first love.”

Zeb's future goals are to establish himself as a respected doctor and premier Angus producer. He says he has broadened both his visual and mental horizons as a member of the NJAA and is confident that those experiences will make a definite contribution to his future goals.

Chad Hahn

As a junior member, Chad Hahn has met some exceptional people who have taught him a great deal and helped him very much. He says the years he has spent showing cattle will always be a special time that nobody can take away.

Chad is the son of Patricia Kerns and the stepson of Chester Kerns Jr. He hails from Rocky Ridge, Md., and is currently employed by his grandfather as a diesel mechanic at Keilholtz Trucking Service Inc.

Chad was a member of the Maryland Junior Angus Association and has shown heifers at many Eastern Regional shows and NJASs. He won the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest in 2005. Additionally, he has competed in the photography, poster, team sales and quiz bowl contests, winning first in quiz bowl in 2005 on the state level.

“As I turned older, showmanship was

where I set my goal,” Chad says. “Being selected the winner of the showmanship contest in 2005 was a great honor and a moment in time I nor my family will forget.”

Besides raising and showing cattle, Chad also loves the outdoors. He likes to bow and rifle hunt and spend time with his friends, riding four-wheelers. Chad's future plans are to settle down, have a family and continue to raise his herd of Angus cattle.

Joshua Jackson

“Being a member of the NJAA has taught me about responsibility,” Joshua Jackson says. “It's about going out there and working with the calf every day. It's discipline and hard work that has taught me about the various aspects of the industry that you need to know for a future career in agriculture.”

Joshua, the son of James and Elda Jackson of Salvisa, Ky., is currently enrolled at the University of Kentucky, majoring in animal science. He plans to have a career working in the cattle industry, possibly in nutrition or reproductive physiology, or maybe taking over the family farm.

“I've had a lot of accomplishments, and there are some hurdles I've had to overcome,” Joshua says. “I've seen a gradual development of myself and my herd as a member of the NJAA.”

Joshua started with one Angus calf, and his herd now includes about 20 head. He has served in many Kentucky Junior Angus Association and Central Kentucky Angus Association officer positions. Additionally, he has attended LEAD conferences on both the national and state level.

“I've realized, through years of development, that it just takes time to accomplish your goals,” Joshua says.

He has been an active participant in NJAS contests, participating in photography, team sales, and both prepared and extemporaneous speaking. He has also been successful in the showing.

Justin Jackson

With a future in agricultural engineering, Justin Jackson says the NJAA has helped him prepare for a career in the agricultural industry.

“The NJAA has given me leadership



abilities and taught me about devotion and hard work,” Justin says. “I’ve learned to get tasks done and just stick with it, not giving up on things.”

Justin is the son of James and Elda Jackson and hails from Salvisa, Ky. He is currently a senior at the University of Kentucky, majoring in biosystems and agricultural engineering. He is also employed at the Center for Visualizations and Virtual Environments and maintains a herd of Angus cattle.

“Through the years, I’ve worked hard and taken some extra steps to make myself better,” Justin says. “I also wanted to make a difference in my state and encourage more participation in contests.”

Justin is currently serving as president of the Kentucky Junior Angus Association, and with his leadership, more juniors participated in contests at the NJAS. He has also attended LEAD conferences on both the state and national level and is an Angus Foundation Scholarship recipient. Justin has shown cattle at many levels and has also participated in the photography, team sales, prepared public speaking and extemporaneous speaking contests at the NJAS.

Bethany Johnson

Bethany Johnson purchased her first registered Angus cow-calf pair from the Northern Virginia Angus Sale.

“When the auctioneer said ‘sold,’” Bethany says, “my addiction to Angus cattle began.”

Bethany is currently enrolled at Virginia Tech and will graduate in May 2007 with an associate’s degree in animal agriculture. She recently received her artificial insemination (AI) certification in March 2006 and has successfully implemented AI in her own herd.

“Because of the impression the Angus breed has instilled in my heart, I plan on staying very active within the Angus business and the Association,” Johnson



says. She hopes to expand her herd to around 150 registered Angus cows and 50-75 Angus-based commercial cows, some to be used as replacements for her embryo transfer (ET) program. She is also considering becoming a certified ultrasound technician, scanning cattle for carcass data.

Bethany is the daughter of Chris and Kim Johnson and hails from Nokesville, Va. She is currently employed at CFC Farm and Home. She has served as president of the Northern Virginia Junior Angus Association and reporter of the Virginia Junior Angus Association. She also showed in the 2006 NJAS showmanship contest. She was active in the Fauquier County 4-H program and is currently the committee junior chair for entertainment and activities for the 2006 Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show.

“I give credit and many thanks to my family and friends for all their support through the good times and not so good times,” Bethany says. “I would not be the person I am today, or be where I am today, without them.”

Katy Kemp

“Growing up around cattle blessed me with many gifts,” Katy Kemp says. “God granted me a natural sense of judgment for livestock and animals. If not for all the experiences in 4-H and the Angus Association, I might not have sharpened these skills, much less even discovered I had a gift.”

Katy is a third-generation Angus breeder, and says she realizes the significance of not only the beef industry, but also the livestock industry as a whole and its effect on billions of people around the world. She is the daughter of Thomas and Evie Kemp and hails from Bridgeport, Texas.

Katy is studying animal science, communications and meat science at Texas A&M University. She is a member of the Sigma Alpha Agricultural Sorority and Saddle & Sirloin. She also completed an AI course.

“My true love has always been animals,” Katy says. “While attending



Texas A&M University, my passion for beef cattle has only increased. I now intend to pursue a master’s in reproductive physiology for embryo transfer in cattle.”

Katy is a Texas Angus Auxiliary, Texas Junior Angus Association and Mid-Texas Angus Association scholarship recipient. She attended the 2003 LEAD Conference and was also Miss Texas Angus in 2003. She has competed in many contests at both the state and national levels.

“I am very thankful to be blessed with the life I was given and my choices along the way that have led me to where I am today,” Katy says.

Garrett Lampe

“Angus. The word to many people represents a breed of cattle, but to me, the definition is much broader,” Garrett Lampe says. “It means a way of life, friendships and opportunities.”

His grandfather paid Garrett’s NJAA dues when he was 7 days old, which Garrett says is probably the best gift he has ever been given. He is a fifth-generation Angus breeder and, along with his brother, owns about 60 registered Angus cattle. In addition, his family owns and manages a registered Angus herd.

Garrett is the son of Mark and Anne Lampe and hails from Scott City, Kan. He attended Butler Community College, studying animal science and marketing, and is enrolled at Kansas State University for fall 2006. He was a member of the Butler Community College livestock judging team and the agriculture club. He was a member of both 4-H and FFA, participating on many livestock judging teams.

Garrett says his involvement in the Kansas Junior Angus Association and the NJAA has taught him a lot about Angus and the beef industry. He is a winner of the NJAA Outstanding Leadership Award, a four-time winner of the Crystal Award, a first-place winner in the American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship competition and

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a winner of the Richard L. Spader Angus Foundation Scholarship.

"Each contest I have participated in, from the showing to the Cook-Off to team sales to photography, has broadened my knowledge and understanding of the industry," he says.

Garrett will continue to be involved in the Angus industry. His goal is to run a sale management and consultation business while owning and maintaining his own herd of registered Angus cattle.

Dana May

"My years in the Angus Association have been the most rewarding of my life," Dana May says. "I feel that through my involvement at both the state and national level, I have grown into the person I am today."



Dana is majoring in psychology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (UWM), and plans to graduate in 2008. She is the daughter of Gregg May and Cathryn Kaiser and hails from Mineral Point, Wis. She was elected to the NJAA Board of Directors and also serves as president of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association (WJAA). She is an NJAA scholarship winner as well as a WJAA scholarship winner. She has also served as the Wisconsin Angus Queen.

She has been successful in the showing, with many champions at the Wisconsin Junior Angus Show and the Wisconsin State Fair. Furthermore, she has competed successfully in showmanship and received honorable mention at the 2006 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest.

Dana says she plans to continue her involvement in the American Angus Association, as well as the beef industry. "I know I can take what I have learned from my past experiences and build on it to accomplish all of my dreams," she says. She plans on pursuing a medical or counseling career in the field of child development.

"I have learned the values of hard work, dedication, teamwork, leadership and loyalty, as well as the importance of friends and family," Dana says.

Ryan Mitteness

One of Ryan Mitteness's favorite memories is when he won the bred-and-owned heifer division at the Minnesota State Fair. He says that being a member of the NJAA has taught him about hard work and dedication.



"I've learned skills that I'll need through the rest of my life, such as communication skills, work ethic skills and being able to meet new people," Ryan says.

The son of Randy and Karen Mitteness, Ryan is currently attending North Dakota State University, majoring in animal science. He will graduate in 2008 and plans to get a job in the agricultural field, and more specifically in ag lending. He also plans to continue to raise Angus cattle.

"I've learned a lot about career opportunities as a member of the NJAA," Ryan says.

Hailing from Ada, Minn., Ryan has served as a Minnesota Junior Angus Association officer and is also a scholarship winner. He

has competed in photography and quiz bowl contests on the national level.

"Looking back, I see a lot of growth, both personally and in showing cattle," Ryan says. "I've grown a lot as a person, and am more outgoing and harder working."

Chelsea Moffitt

Chelsea Moffitt has a lot of great memories from being a member of the NJAA. She says being a member has provided her with a foundation for her college career.



"I've learned about leadership, work ethic, how to become involved and make the most out of my experiences and my time," Chelsea says.

Chelsea hails from Kirksville, Mo., and is a senior at the University of Missouri, Columbia, majoring in elementary education. She will be a student teacher during the next school year and eventually plans on getting a master's degree before teaching in a public school. The daughter of John and Deena Moffitt, Chelsea has been a three-time treasurer of the Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA). She has also won scholarships from the NJAA and the MJAA and attended LEAD conferences on the national level.

"The NJAA has taught me a lot," Chelsea says. "It has shaped my work ethic and has taught me to be dedicated to something so it will pay off in the end."

Chelsea has participated in many NJAA contests, including the Cook-Off, quiz bowl, extemporaneous public speaking, team sales, photography and poster contests.

NJAA members earn Bronze and Silver awards*

Bronze and Silver awards

Holly Bellis, 17, Orrick, Mo. She is the daughter of Kirk and Amy Bellis.

Jessica Clowser, 17, Milford, Neb. She is the daughter of Blaine and Sharon Clowser.

James Devore, 13, Mulberry Grove, Ill. He is the son of Kevin and Lori Devore.

Brianna Gray, 18, Toledo, Iowa. She is the daughter of Terry and Julie Gray.

Mark Mitteness, 16, Ada, Minn. He is the son of Randy and Karen Mitteness.

Fred Pohlman, 11, Prairie Grove, Ark. He is the son of Fred and Tami Pohlman.

Andrew Rogen, 17, Brandon, S.D. He is the son of Dick and Shally Rogen.

Travis Winters, 16, Joliet, Mont. He is the son of Bodie and Julie Winters.

Silver awards

Ricka Boehmer, 20, Williamston, Mich.

She is the daughter of Merle and Janel Horrocks-Boehmer.

Lindsey Brown, 18, Federalsburg, Md. She is the daughter of Michael and Charlotte Brown.

Nikki Bugg, 16, Burgin, Ky. She is the daughter of Glenn and Pam Bugg.

Shane Clary, 16, Brodnax, Va. He is the son of Randy and Susan Clary.

Trevor Whiteside, 17, Queenstown, Md. He is the son of Mike and Julie Whiteside.

Bronze awards

Frederick Frey II, 13, Quarryville, Pa. He is the son of Fritz and Nancy Frey.

Ethan Whiteside, 14, Queenstown, Md. He is the son of Mike and Julie Whiteside.

*National Junior Angus Association members receiving Bronze and/or Silver awards since the date of last publication, that being the May 2006 *Angus Journal*.

"I have a lot of great memories with friends, and the contests have been some of my favorite things to be involved in," she says. "I've enjoyed showing cattle, but I know that it's about a lot more than what goes on in the showring. The beef industry has a lot more to offer. We have great *Certified Angus Beef*, and we're making progress both with genetics and with technology. It's been really great to be a part of something like that — something so big that affects everyone in the world."

Ryan Nelson

As a fifth-generation Angus breeder, Ryan Nelson says his genetics are very loyal to the breed. His great-great grandfather imported some of the first Angus cattle to the United States from Scotland. The first time Ryan was in the showring was at Cow Palace in San Francisco, Calif. He was 3 years old and showed his sister's bull calf in peewee showmanship.



"That day changed my life forever," Ryan says. "There was never any doubt in my mind that my Angus heritage would be a big part in my life."

Ryan is the son of Mark and Abbie Nelson of Wilton, Calif. He is majoring in agricultural management and rangeland resources at the University of California, Davis. He has served twice as both president and vice president of the California Junior Angus Association. He has attended many LEAD conferences and was an Angus Foundation Scholarship recipient. He has also been successful in the showring, winning champion bred-and-owned heifer at the 2000 NJAS.

"When judge Dameron slapped my heifer champion at the bred-and-owned show, it didn't really hit me until we were on our way home and the beautiful trophy was comfortably in the back seat," Ryan says. "I was literally in shock that such an honor had been presented to me."

Ryan plans to pursue law school, specializing in environmental law. He also has an interest in real estate. He would like to eventually take over the family operation, Five Star Land and Livestock.

"I have learned responsibility for the care of my animals and respect for people and hard work," Ryan says. "I don't view it as the end of a career, but rather the next step for

me, and with the knowledge and skills that I have learned, I hope to pass them down to the next generation."

Keela Retallick

The NJAS has helped Keela Retallick learn who she is and what she wants to do. Keela has been an active member of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association, serving as both president (twice) and historian.



She hails from Glen Haven, Wis., and is currently attending college at UWM. She is employed by 2K Cattle Ent. as a herdsman.

Keela, the daughter of Kevin and Keri Retallick, will apply for veterinary school in the fall and hopes to continue studying at UWM with an emphasis on bovine reproduction. She says the NJAA has helped her make life decisions.

"It's definitely given me a perspective to be able to go out and do what I want to do," Keela says. "It's such a good place to learn, make mistakes and learn from what you do. You're always around people who are constantly supporting you."

Keela won the 2006 Outstanding Leadership Award and says the NJAA has also helped her grow into a young adult.

"It's really helped me come out of my shell, become more talkative, meet more people," she says. "It's really opened up my horizons within the Angus industry."

Drew Schroeder

Drew Schroeder says having opportunities within the NJAA has helped him gain confidence in helping other juniors get more involved to help them achieve their goals. The Western Illinois University ag business student plans to graduate in May 2008.



Drew has been involved in the Eastern Iowa Junior Angus Association and the Iowa Junior Angus Association (IJAA), serving as president of both organizations. He is also a scholarship winner from the NJAA and the IJAA and attended the 2003 LEAD Conference. He was a finalist at the 2005

National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest and has also participated in the photography, Cook-Off, quiz bowl and poster contests.

"By being a part of the NJAA, I have learned a lot about showing cattle and communicating with people," Drew says. "Communication and leadership skills are a major part of my accomplishments with the associations."

Drew says that being a member of teams such as quiz bowl, team sales and Cook-Off has helped him develop those skills. He has also put on workshops each year, which helped younger juniors get involved. He has enjoyed working with them and helping them with different contests.

Drew is the son of Doug and Glenda Schroeder and has been active in 4-H and FFA. He has received many honors at the Cedar County Fair for showing sheep, hogs and cattle. He has participated in judging contests and received top team and individual honors. He also helped organize the North Cedar FFA-sanctioned cattle show. He received awards from FFA for Greenhand, beef and pork projects.

Chelsey Warfield

Currently enrolled at the University of Tennessee, Chelsey Warfield will graduate in 2008 with a degree in food science. She plans to attend graduate school and eventually become a plant manager for a food company.



"Being a member of the junior association has taught me how to better communicate and how to work better with others," Chelsey says.

Chelsey is the daughter of Phillip and Darla Warfield and hails from Andersonville, Tenn. Her favorite memory of being a member of the NJAA is attending her first NJAS in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1998.

"Being a junior member has helped me have a stronger work ethic and appreciate a hard day's work, knowing what it takes to get where you want to be," Chelsey says. "I've met so many people that I'll be friends with for the rest of my life. The connections I've made and the people I've met have really made it an awesome experience."

Chelsey served as a Tennessee Junior Angus Association officer and was the 2005 Miss American Angus. She also won an Auxiliary scholarship and has attended the

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LEAD Conference. She has participated in the photography, prepared public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, team sales, poster and graphic design contests on the national level.

“All the accomplishments I’ve had and the help I’ve received from people in the association has really prepared me for the future,” Chelsey says. “I appreciate all the people who have helped me along the way.”

Cody Washam

“Whether it’s in the barn, at the show or in the pasture, I have many fond memories,” Cody Washam says about his involvement in the Angus industry. The Oklahoma State University (OSU) junior is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in animal science and is interested in beef genetics and embryology.



Cody, the son of Rick and Mary Jo Washam of Pierce City, Mo., has served as the Southwest Missouri Junior Angus Association president (twice), vice president and secretary. He has also attended LEAD conferences and participated in the NJAS Mentoring Program.

“Most important to me has been the enjoyment and lifetime friendships that I have made from being involved with the NJAA,” Washam says. “Raising and exhibiting Angus cattle has taught me that responsibility, dedication and persistence pay off, not only in the Angus industry, but in all areas of life.”

In 2001, Cody became self-employed and started CMW Cattle Services, where he clips and fits show and sale cattle and also works cattle. Additionally, he has worked for Hillside Angus Farm, Express Ranches and Perry Co-op. He was also active on Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College’s livestock judging team, as well as the livestock judging team at OSU. Washam has been successful showing his cattle as well.

“My goal is to develop and market my registered Angus in a way that will create an adequate profit margin,” Cody says. “Along with my background, the knowledge and experience that I have gained by being part of the NJAA will help me influence the Angus industry of tomorrow.”

Chelsea Wieben

One of Chelsea Wiebens’s favorite memories as a junior member came when she was only 10 years old. She was sitting on a showbox with a friend, enjoying a great game of “war” and out of nowhere, a green jacket appeared. One of the NJAA Board members came

over and asked Chelsea and her friend how to play. She couldn’t believe an older kid was asking her a question.

“That was so awesome to me,” Chelsea says. “It just shows how friendly the juniors are and how well we interact in the National Junior Angus Association.”



Chelsea is the daughter of Mike and Wendy Wieben. She hails from Waterford, Va., and is currently attending Northern Virginia Community College, majoring in business administration. She is also employed with Tractor Supply Co.

Chelsea has been president of the Virginia Junior Angus Association and has also participated in the quiz bowl, photography and Cook-Off contests at the NJAS. Furthermore, she placed fifth in the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest in 2005.

“Just being a part of an association like this one has brought so much into my life,” Chelsea says. “It has motivated me into the strong-willed and eager person I am today.”

Chelsea’s plans are to return to her hometown of Dysart, Iowa, and work on her family farm. She says that no matter what, she will always be involved with Angus cattle and agriculture.



PHOTO BY SHELLA STANNARD

► Earning Gold Awards are (from left) **Katy Kemp**, Bridgeport, Texas; **Chelsey Warfield**, Andersonville, Tenn; **Cody Washam**, Pierce City, Mo.; **Brittany Gillig**, Aurora, Mo.; **Ryan Mitteness**, Ada, Minn.; **Chelsea Moffitt**, Kirksville, Mo.; **Drew Schroeder**, Clarence, Iowa; **Ashley Gillig**, Aurora, Mo.; **Evan Boehmer**, Charlotte, Mich.; **Keela Retallick**, Glen Haven, Wis.; **Garrett Lampe**, Scott City, Kan.; **Justin Jackson**, Salvisa, Ky.; **Dana May**, Mineral Point, Wis.; **Joshua Jackson**, Salvisa, Ky.; **Chelsea Wieben**, Waterford, Va.; **Zebadiah Gray**, Toledo, Iowa; **Bethany Johnson**, Nokesville, Va.; and **Ryan Nelson**, Wilton, Calif. Not pictured are **Mark Gleason**, Midlothian, Texas; and **Chad Hahn**, Rocky Ridge, Md.