

Records Set at 2012 NWSS

Angus events draw big crowds of exhibitors and spectators.

Story & photos by **Kasey Miller**

A week of Angus events brought Angus enthusiasts from across the nation to the 2012 National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo., Jan. 9-14. An exhibitor's social Monday night kicked off an action-packed week. Wednesday featured the super-point Roll of Victory (ROV) bull show, the sale bull show, the Angus Foundation heifer sale, the bull sale, and "Angus Night on the Mountain." The junior heifer show Thursday, ROV female show Friday, and carload and pen show Saturday rounded out a busy week.

While Angus events lasted for six days,

the 106th NWSS was a 16-day event and drew in 636,662 spectators, placing 2012 in the top 10 for all-time attendance. More than 44,000 people attended opening day, which was the second-largest in NWSS history. The Yards hosted more than 16,000 head of livestock, which is a top-five record.

More records fell at the Junior Livestock Auction, where 98 animals were sold for a record \$611,200 — \$20,000 more than the previous year. Funds from the auction, the Citizen of the West Dinner and the Coors Western Art Exhibit go to fund 75 scholarships in the National Western

Scholarship Trust, which benefits students in Colorado and Wyoming studying agriculture or rural medicine.

The ROV Angus show exhibitors led 326 animals through the ring — 242 females, 81 bulls and three cow-calf pairs. Doug Worthington, Modesto, Calif., judged the entries Wednesday and Friday. See coverage on page 94. Just before the grand drive of the bull show on Wednesday, the 2012 American Angus Association Herdsman of the Year was named. Find out more on page 128.

An unusual type of show, the bull sale

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►Above: Exhibitors brought 81 bulls to the ring in Wednesday's ROV bull show, which was judged by Doug Worthington, Modesto, Calif.



►Above: A bull in the Gamble showstring is primed in the stalls for the ROV bull show Wednesday.

►Below: Worthington evaluates a bull in a tough ROV bull class.





► **Left:** Garrett Lampe exhibits a heifer in the ROV female show Friday.

► **Right:** Doug Worthington signals a calf into position during the ROV show.



► **Left:** Amanda Schnoor perks the ears of her heifer during the ROV female show on Friday.



► **Above:** A few minutes in the ring requires hours of effort in the stall.



► **Above:** Miss American Angus Brooke Harward waits to hand out class ribbons during the ROV bull show Wednesday.

► **Below:** JEM-Summit High Regard 05X was named the reserve junior champion bull during the Bull Sale Show on Wednesday.

► **Right:** Spectators and prospective bull buyers were allowed into the ring to evaluate bulls before the sale.



show took place after the ROV bull show on Wednesday. The 27 consigned bulls were evaluated by a panel of judges consisting of Paul Bennett, Red House, Va.; Bill Davis, Sidney, Mont.; and Matt Perrier, Eureka, Kan. After the show, spectators were allowed into the ring to view the bulls. The bull sale that afternoon — the only sale managed by the American Angus Association — grossed more than \$200,000 and averaged \$8,606. Read more on page 108.

Junior Angus Association members took the Hill by storm, exhibiting 192 females on Thursday. Brett Barber, Channing, Texas, evaluated the entries. Full coverage of the junior show begins on page 100.

The only show with a pen and carload show, the Yards took center stage Saturday morning. Three carloads and 34 pens of three were evaluated by a panel of three judges: Rick Blanchard, Firebaugh, Calif.; Jonathan Perry, Fayetteville, Tenn.; and Jeff Gooden,

Iberia, Mo. To read more about this unique show, see page 124.

The Angus Foundation hosted two successful fundraising events in Denver. The Foundation Heifer Package sold for \$65,000, and Angus Night on the Mountain raised nearly \$48,000. More information on these two events can be found beginning on page 116 and 131, respectively.



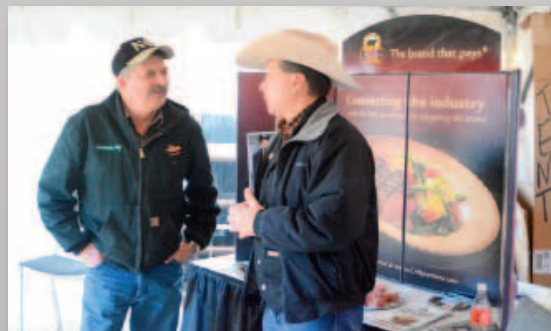
► **Above:** Brett Barber, Channing, Texas, judges a stacked class during the Junior Angus Show on Thursday



► **Right:** Harward was assisted by state and regional Angus royalty during the week.



► **Above:** Courtney Young, Ventura, Iowa, and Logan Wright, Philippi, W.Va., line up their heifers before being placed.



► **Above:** Certified Angus Beef LLC's Gary Fike (right) talks with a producer about Angus cattle at the American Angus Association's Listening Post in the Yards.

► **Left:** Many resources were available at the trade show on the Hill. Select Sires representatives wait to answer questions.



►Above: There was a full house to see the unique-to-NWSS pen and carload show in the Yards on Saturday morning.



►Above: Express Angus Ranches, Yukon, Okla., exhibited the grand champion carload Saturday morning.



►Left: Bulls in the pen of three classes are shown without halters so the panel of judges can see all aspects of the bulls.



►Above: Regional Manager Andy Rest takes bids for the Angus Foundation Heifer Package prior to the National Western Angus Bull Sale.



►Above: More than 500 people attended the Angus Night on the Mountain at Spruce Mountain Ranch.

►Below: Spruce Mountain Ranch offered 12 lots for sale.

►Right: Producers shared ideas at the Angus Night on the Mountain Angus Foundation event at Spruce Mountain Ranch Wednesday night.

