Give it your all

"Oh, the places you'll go! And will you succeed? Yes! You will, indeed! (98 and ¾ percent guaranteed.) Kid you'll move mountains! So ... be your name Buxbaum or Bixby, or Bray or Mordecai Al Van Allen O'Shea, you're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So ... get on your way!" — Dr. Seuss

This quote is from one of the greatest books ever written, *Oh, the Places You'll Go*,



Kindra Wood

by Dr. Seuss. Oh, the Places You'll Go addresses the message of life itself, with all its ups and downs, while also encouraging us to find the prosperity that lies within us. This message motivates us to push

forward in life. It demonstrates that hard work helps us to accomplish great things when we strive for the best. We must not let setbacks, or "bang-ups and hang-ups," as Dr. Seuss calls them, get us down. We must get back on track and keep pushing ahead.

When I think about this book, it brings to mind the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). The NJAA provides juniors with so many opportunities to literally go places.

In one particular experience, I learned that things don't always go as I expect them to. In July of 1998, my family and I traveled to Indianapolis, Ind., to the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). I was very excited because I was showing the best heifer I had ever owned.

With expectations high, we arrived early. I participated in the contests and visited with my friends. Saturday finally arrived and, after we spent two hours getting my heifer ready, it was finally my time to show.

Everything was great until we left the blocking chute area. My heifer was spooked, and from the moment we walked into the showring, things grew progressively worse. She could run faster than I could, and she got loose. My heifer and I repeated this process three times. Finally, by hanging on to the halter, I was able to hold on halfway around the ring, all while lying on my stomach. This didn't last long though.

You know what happened next — we were disqualified. I blamed it all on those green shavings. That experience was

definitely a character-builder. However, I refused to let it get me down. That was not going to be my last NJAS, and it wasn't.

This year, I am looking forward to another unique experience in Indianapolis at the NJAS. The friendships and leadership skills I have attained are the greatest assets the NJAA has given me. It is a great feeling to place first in class, but is it really so terrible to be last? Valuable lessons are learned from every experience. Just think about all the places the NJAA has taken you.

"Oh, the places you'll go!" Soon, we will all be busy preparing for the NJAS. The experiences and friendships that you have made and that you will continue to make as you go along your way will help you grow as individuals and prepare you for success. Remember that there will be hang-ups and bang-ups along life's way, but these bang-ups and hang-ups make us what we are today.

The NJAA offers many places to go, and there is no end in sight!

Oh the places you'll go. And will you succeed? Yes, you will indeed: The National Junior Angus Association makes that a guarantee! Congratulations! You're off to great places. Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So ... get on your way! See you at the shows, my friends!

-Kindra Wood, NJAA Director

NJAS is happening this month

Angus youth across the country are gearing up for the 2006 NJAS scheduled for July 9-15 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

The event will kick off Tuesday morning, July 11, with the Angus Foundation golf tournament. The American Angus Auxiliary All-American *Certified Angus Beef®* (CAB®) Cook-Off will be that afternoon.

The show begins Wednesday with steers, cow-calf pairs and bred-and-owned bulls. Exhibitors will show bred-and-owned females Thursday. The first divisions of owned heifers will show Friday, with the

remaining owned heifer divisions concluding the show on Saturday.

The National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest is a highlight of the event. Juniors also will participate in educational competitions throughout the week. An awards program Friday evening will recognize contest winners and six new NJAA directors.

If you can't attend this year's event, you can track the event daily at www.angusjournal.com/njas.

Register now for LEAD

The Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference is next month in Oklahoma City, Okla. Junior Angus members 14-21 years old are encouraged to attend this event, Aug. 3-6.

The early registration deadline has passed, but if space is available, you can still sign up. Registration fees are \$200. Space is limited, so

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

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■ NEXT GENERATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 49

act now. For more information or to register, contact the Junior Activities Department.

Junior deadlines for American Royal, NAILE

The ownership deadline is Aug. 1 for the Angus junior shows at the American Royal in Kansas City, Mo., and at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. The junior exhibitor must be the sole owner of the animal by Aug. 1, as listed on the certificate. To be eligible to show, issue dates on the certificates must be Aug. 1 or earlier.

The entry deadline for the American Royal is Sept. 1. The NAILE deadline is Oct. 1. No late entries will be accepted.

Original registration paper required at check-in

Don't forget to bring your original registration papers and your health papers to the show for check-in. Electronic registrations and copies will not be accepted. Bring the original registration document.

Atlantic National Super-Point Roll of Victory Angus Show, Timonium, Md., May 28



► Six young Angus enthusiasts earned Atlantic National Merit Awards and were presented scholarships. Pictured at the awards presentation are (from left) Wynn Herbers, Richmond, Va., committee member; Andrea Fitzgerald, West Grove, Pa., committee member; Amanda Lickey, Middleburg, Va.; Kristen Oaks, Calhoun, La.; Justin Brosey, Hamilton, Ohio; Hope Long, Airville, Pa.; Kyle Grim, East Berlin, Pa., and recipient of the Greg Krueger memorial; Jennifer Hower, Bethlehem, Pa.; and Erin Krueger, Coatesville, Pa., committee member.

□ California Junior Angus Preview Show, Turlock, May 29-30



- ► Right: California Angus royalty are (from left) Sierra Meyers, Madera, Angus senior princess; Cassandra Silveira, Sanger, Angus queen; and Mikinzi Meyers, Madera, Angus junior princess.
- ► Left: Officers of the California Junior Angus Ass'n are (from left) Austin Perry, Prather, president; Sierra Meyers, Madera, vice president; Ashley Judge, San Luis Obispo, secretary; Macy Perry, Prather, treasurer; Alexis Leage, San Luis Obispo, historian; and Garrett Blanchard, Firebaugh, reporter.



☑ Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Stillwater, April 28



► Kelsey (left) and Karisa Pfeiffer accept the Outstanding Junior Member Traveling Trophy Award for **Kassandra Pfeiffer**, Orlando. The award is presented by the Oklahoma Junior Angus Ass'n.



► Allison Bond (left), Inola, and Cody Barrington, Lawton, receive the Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Junior Scholarship. Bond is also the new Oklahoma Angus Oueen.



► Left: Oklahoma juniors recognized for their heifers at the Oklahoma Youth Expo include (from left) Karisa Pfeiffer, Orlando, accepting the champion award for Kassandra Pfeiffer; Whitney White, Frederick, reserve heifer; and Cody Barrington, Lawton, third place.

■ Mississippi Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Raymond, May 5



► Left: Marsha Magee (left), Mississippi Angus Auxiliary, presents the Mississippi Angus Auxiliary Scholarship to Britt Magee, Mendenhall.

Florida Junior Angus Ass'n Field Day, High Springs, April 29

► Right: Representing Florida as Angus royalty are (from left) Richelle Miller, Brandon, queen; and Erin Jones, Trenton, princess.

