

2008

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW

Angus Invade Mile High City

Angus enthusiasts brave cool temperatures as competition heats up the Hill and the Yards.

Story & photos by *Mathew Elliott*



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The 2008 National Western Stock Show (NWSS) featured 18 breeds of cattle during its 16 days in Denver. Angus activities began on the Hill Sunday, Jan. 13, and ended Saturday, Jan. 19, in the Yards. With an attendance this year of 673,449 people, the NWSS once again proved to be a premier location to exhibit Angus cattle.

Angus activities began Sunday with check-in for the junior show and super-point Roll-of-Victory (ROV) shows on the Hill.

Monday evening Angus herdsmen gathered at the National Western Club for

the Herdsmen's Banquet. The banquet recognizes Angus exhibitors for the work they do throughout the year showing Angus cattle. Each year, exhibitors at the NWSS vote one of their own to win the Herdsman of the Year Award in acknowledgement of their hard work. This year R.D. and Guy Laflin of Laflin Angus, Olsburg, Kan., were named winners (see page 183).

Monday also offered participants of the International Livestock Congress-USA (ILC-USA) two tours that went to either JBS Swift and Co. and Five Rivers Ranch Cattle Feeding LLC, or to Safeway retail grocery,

Whole Foods retail market and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) headquarters.

Global beef opportunities

The NWSS, International Stockmen's Education Foundation (ISEF) and National Cattlemen's Foundation (NCF) welcomed attendees to the 2008 ILC-USA Tuesday morning, Jan. 14, at the Renaissance Denver Hotel.

The 2008 ILC was themed "Global Beef Opportunities: Blazing New Trails." Co-chairs Clint Peck, Montana State



► Saturday was the first day for the Angus booth on the Hill. From the booth, American Angus Association staff distributed literature and answered questions.



► R.D. (center) and Guy Laflin (left) are awarded the Herdsmen of the Year Award.



► Judge Doug Satree, Montague, Texas, evaluated the 184 females, 59 bulls and three cow-calf pairs.

PHOTO BY SCOTT JOHNSON

University, and Mark Gustafson, vice president of international sales for JBS Swift and Co., welcomed the crowd. "It's the committee's goal to provide you with pertinent and useful take-home information about the opportunities within the global marketplace," Gustafson said.

The highlights from the morning included a panel featuring representatives speaking about demand in the beef industry from Asia, Europe/Middle East, North America and Mexico. Following the morning discussion was a panel featuring a response to the demand and focusing on producing

for the global market, with speakers from Australia, South America, North America and Canada.

Two afternoon breakout tracks allowed attendees to choose four of the six different sessions to attend. Topics in these sessions ranged from the impact of biofuels to traceability to challenges from other proteins.

John Paterson, Extension beef specialist from Montana State University, wrapped up the day with a quick overview. Attendees were then invited to the Flavor of Beef reception and had the option of going to the

Professional Bull Riders Denver Chute Out competition.

Showtime

Tuesday was also the beginning of the Angus showing activities in Denver, with the junior Angus heifer show taking center stage. Juniors led 136 entries into the ring on the Hill. Cody Sankey, Lansing, Mich., evaluated the females before selecting the champion.

Kristen Oaks, Calhoun, La., led the grand champion female, OBAR Gamble's Lady

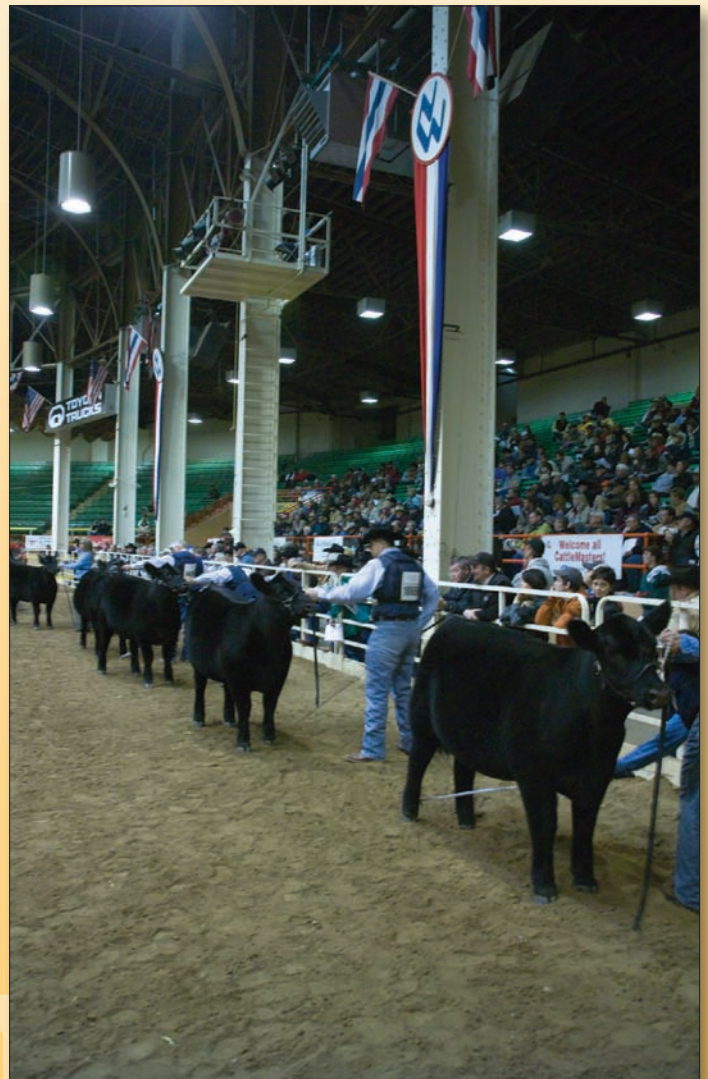
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► Presenters from around the world spoke at the International Livestock Congress-USA Tuesday, Jan. 14.



► Casey Worrell joins regional managers (from left) Andy Rest and Matt Caldwell as they help check exhibitors in before they exhibit.



► Competitors lined up during the ROV show on the Hill.

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1056, a January 2006 daughter of BC Marathon. Vince Untied, Granville, Ohio, led the reserve grand champion female, SCC Echo Dell Nellie 6005, a March 2006 daughter of PVF New Horizon 001. See page 157 for a complete list of junior show winners.

The super-point ROV Angus Show, designated the National Angus Show, began Wednesday, Jan. 16, with the female show. Doug Satrie of Montague, Texas, evaluated 184 females and three cow-calf pairs.

Satrie selected SCR Miss Pride 60537 as grand champion female. Lance Rice of Scottsbluff, Neb., and Cherry Knoll Farm Inc. of West Grove, Pa., own the January

2006 daughter of BT Crossover 785N. Reserve grand champion went to SCC Echo Dell Nellie 6005, who was reserve grand champion of the junior show the day before.

Grand champion cow-calf pair went to Ayres Eline B54. Amber Barker of Sparks, Nev., and Cara and Thomas Ayres of Stevensville, Mont., own the March 2004 daughter of Famous 7001. Her calf is a May 2007 son of Krone Midland 4400.

Reserve grand cow-calf pair went to EXAR Blackbird 5377. Clinton Laflin of Olsburg, Kan., owns the February 2005 daughter of KG Dakota. Her calf is a May 2007 son of Laflin's Warm Front 5115. See page 145 for a complete list of ROV show winners.

Sale bulls take stadium stage

A panel of judges including Mike Jones, Folsom, La.; Mike McGuire, Waverly, Ala.; Rick Blanchard, Firebaugh, Calif.; Scott Bush, Britton, S.D.; and Cheramie Viator, Franklin, Texas, evaluated the 23 sale bulls Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Boyd Heritage 6078 was named grand champion sale bull. The April 2006 son of CA Future Direction 5321 was consigned by Boyd Beef Cattle and Blake Boyd, both of Mays Lick, Ky. The champion was one of two high-selling lots that sold for \$55,000. He was purchased by a large syndicate of producers named in the story beginning on page 163.



► The super-point ROV show began on Wednesday with the female show.



► 136 entries were evaluated by Judge Cody Sankey, Lansing, Mich., during the junior Angus heifer show on Tuesday.

Reserve grand champion sale bull went to WCC Adventure S212. The October 2006 son of SAV 8180 Traveler 004 was consigned by Wilson Cattle Co., Cloverdale, Ind., and purchased by Hugh Ross, Innisfail, Alta., Canada, for \$16,000.

The other top-selling lot was Werner Ultimate 1596, consigned by Werner Angus, Cordova, Ill. Another syndicate of producers purchased the bull for \$55,000.

The National Western Angus Bull Sale is the only sale managed by the American Angus Association. The 23 lots in the sale averaged \$10,857. For complete show and sale results, see page 163.

Foundation heifer

MJB Ranch from Weatherford, Texas, purchased the 2008 Angus Foundation Heifer Package Thursday, Jan. 17. The package sold for \$60,000. Baldrige Blackcap S813 was donated by Jeff and Jud Baldrige of Baldrige Bros., North Platte, Neb. The Baldriges are continuing the legacy started by their father in supporting the Angus Foundation through the Foundation Heifer Package.

Baldrige Blackcap S813 is an August 2006 daughter of Rito 112 of 2536 Rito 616, a son of GAR Precision 2536. Her dam is the renowned VT 1407 New Design Z38.

In addition to the heifer, the MJB Ranch

received 30 days of free insurance on the heifer from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.; free transportation to the buyer's ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and an Advanced Reproductive Technology Package from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa.

All proceeds resulting from the sale of the Foundation Heifer Package benefit the Angus Foundation, the not-for-profit affiliate of the American Angus Association that funds and supports education, youth and research in the Angus breed and the beef industry. For more information see page 172.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION



► MJB Ranch, Weatherford, Texas, purchased the 2008 Angus Foundation Heifer Package.



► After Thursday's Bull Sale Show, everyone had an opportunity to get a closer look at the bulls and visit with consignors.

PHOTO BY CRYSTAL YOUNG



► Miss American Angus, Danielle Foster, and state Angus royalty prepare to award the NWSS ROV Champion.

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Toast to 125

The Denver Marriott City Center Hotel was the headquarters for Angus enthusiasts during the 2008 NWSS. It was also the host of the Angus Reception. This year there was extra reason to celebrate, considering that 2008 marks 125 years of the American Angus Association's serving the U.S. cattle industry.

At the reception, guests were presented commemorative 125-year lapel pins. After socializing and hors d'oeuvres, the Iowa Angus Association conducted an auction with proceeds going to the 2008 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Des Moines, Iowa. "Christmas in July" will be the theme of the July 13-19 event.

Auctioneer Al Conover, Conover Auction Services, took the podium and regional managers worked "the ring" taking bids as a

heifer pregnancy donated by Gardiner Angus Ranch of Ashland, Kan., was purchased for \$5,000 by Hinkle's Prime Cut Angus, Nevada, Mo.

An original watercolor painting by C.J. Brown of Lindenwood, Ill., was donated for auction. The picture was auctioned unfinished so that Brown could insert one of the winning bulls or females into the picture and personalize it by inserting the winner's ranch or farm name on the barn in the background of the picture. The picture was purchased for \$7,500 by Werner Angus, Cordova, Ill.

Next on the auction block were advertising pages in the NJAS show program. To the highest bidders went their choice of page location:

► Lot 1, \$5,000, to Hinkle's Prime Cut, Angus, Missouri

- Back cover, \$10,000, to Cherry Knoll Farms, Pennsylvania
- Inside front cover, \$6,500, to Da-Es-Ro Angus Farms, Iowa
- Page 1, \$5,000, to Werner Angus, Illinois
- Center spread, \$5,000, to Stevenson-Basin Inc., Montana
- Inside back cover, \$3,500, to Gamble Angus, Tennessee
- Page 2, \$2,000, to Collision Embryo
- Page 3, \$2,000, to the Angus Booster Club
- Page 4, \$1,500, to Weaver Angus, Illinois
- Page 5, \$1,600, Express Angus Ranches, Oklahoma
- Across from Index, \$1,500, to Schroeder Angus, Iowa



PHOTO BY CRYSTAL YOUNG

► NJAA Board Members (from left) Kara Wilson and Bridget Driscoll wait for the unfinished C.J. Brown painting to be auctioned.



PHOTO BY CRYSTAL YOUNG

► Paintings were auctioned off in support of the 2008 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Iowa.



► The Angus Reception celebrated 125 years of the American Angus Association's involvement in the U.S. cattle industry.

Throughout the NWSS, several other packages were offered with contributions going to the NJAS. The Iowa organizers continue to sell tickets to the embryo lottery, which will take place at the NJAS.

Yard show

Angus producers showcased six carloads and 37 pens of three during the 2008 NWSS Angus Carload and Pen Show Jan. 19 in the Yards. Brian Barragree, Absarokee, Mont.; Rance Long, Baker City, Ore.; and Matt Perrier, Eureka, Kan.; evaluated the groups of bulls before selecting champions.

Express Angus Ranches, Yukon, Okla., captured the grand champion carload banner. Whitestone-Krebs, Gordon, Neb., captured the reserve grand champion carload of bulls.

Rolling RRR Ranch LLC, Wellston, Okla., showcased the grand champion pen of three bulls. Limestone LLC, Stillwater, Okla., captured reserve grand champion pen of three. See page 175 for complete results.

Around the NWSS

While at the NWSS, Angus enthusiasts had many opportunities to see other exhibitors showcase their abilities and animals. From professional rodeo and bull riders to working horse contests to stunt dogs, the NWSS offered entertainment for everyone. The Coors Western Art Exhibit featured artists whose art features the West and Western lifestyle.

One of the goals of the NWSS is to educate youth about agriculture and Western heritage, dedicating the entire third floor of

Expo Hall to educating audiences. Exhibits included a petting zoo and interactive displays with agricultural and animal facts.

Another crowd favorite was the NWSS Trade Show. Exhibitors and guests alike could shop for Western wear, hot tubs, trailers and jewelry, or stop by the Angus booth to get the latest information from Association staff or National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board Members.

The Association was also set up in the Yards with the Listening Post tent. A handful of peanuts, a warm cup of coffee and good conversation greeted anyone who stopped by the Listening Post. Association staff bundled up and braved a few cold days to pass out literature, answer questions and talk Angus cattle in the Yards.

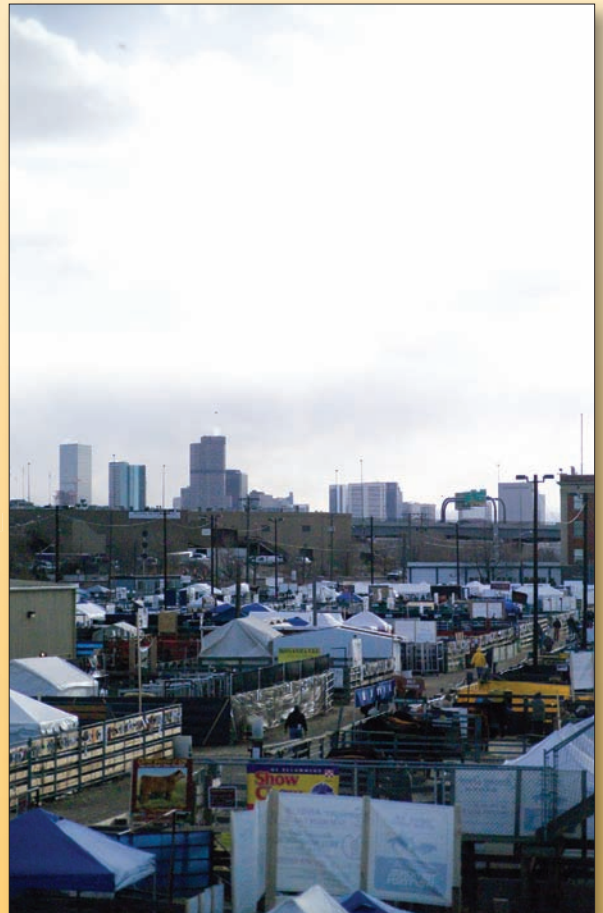
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► Cold temperatures didn't stop cattlemen from enjoying the competition in the Yards.



► From handbags to hats, there was something for everyone at the NWSS Trade Show.



► See you next year in Denver.