

Hereford Youth Win Awards and Scholarships

During the 2007 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Denver more than \$10,000 was awarded in scholarships to National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members. Most of the scholarship and award winners were announced at the awards ceremony July 13 except the Joe and Walter Lewis Scholarship Award winners, who were announced at the conclusion of the owned female show July 14.

The scholarship and award winners are listed below. Information about the recipients, in alphabetical order, follows the listing. Congratulations to all the winners.

National Junior Merit Scholarship

The junior merit scholarships recognize outstanding NJHA members. The scholarship program is designed to encourage individual and cooperative effort, enthusiasm, excellence, leadership and achievement among youth in order to develop reputable breeders for the good of the Hereford business and beef industry.

First place — Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., \$1,500 plus trip

Second place — Nicole Starr, Manawa, Wis., \$1,500

Third place — Margeaux Firestine, Womelsdorf, Pa., \$1,500

John Wayne Memorial Scholarship

John Wayne Memorial Scholarships are awarded to juniors in recognition of their contributions to agriculture and the Hereford industry, as well as their moral character. The scholarships are sponsored annually by the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and the American Hereford Women (AHW).

Jessie Berry, Cheyenne, Wyo., \$1,000

Ashley Middleswarth, Torrington, Wyo., \$1,000

Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship

The Ed Bible Memorial Scholarships are presented by the National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) and HYFA. The scholarships are designed to help finance higher education for NJHA members who excel in communication, leadership, and Hereford and ag-related activities. Bible joined the American Polled Hereford Association staff in 1973 and for 25 years supported the senior, junior and Poll-ette associations. He positively influenced the Hereford breed and industry. Therefore, NOP and HYFA offer four annual scholarships in his honor.

First place — Heather Thomas, Gold Creek, Mont., \$1,000

Second place — Ashley Steckel-Stryker, Pawnee Rock, Kan., \$750

Third place — Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., \$500

Fourth place — Seth Going, Lyons, Neb., \$250

NATIONAL JUNIOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



Pictured (l to r) are: Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., first place; Nicole Starr, Manawa, Wis., second place; Margeaux Firestine, Womelsdorf, Pa., third place; and Jerry Gay, Harding and Harding Insurance.

JOHN WAYNE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Pictured (l to r) are: Gail Blagg, Grass Valley, Calif., AHW director; Jessie Berry, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Ashley Middleswarth, Torrington, Wyo.; and Kay Morgan, Burwell, Neb., AHW director.

ED BIBLE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Pictured (l to r) are: Anna Rhodes, NOP director; Jason Ewing, Fordland, Mo., 07-08 NJHA president; Heather Thomas, Gold Creek, Mont., first place; Ashley Steckel-Stryker, Taylor, Neb., second place; Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., third place; Seth Going, Lyons, Neb., fourth place; Jessica Slone, W. Manchester, Ohio, 07-08 NJHA secretary; Starr Whaley, Dalton, Ga., NOP chairman; and Martene Firestine, Womelsdorf, Pa., NOP director.

Joe and Walter Lewis Memorial Scholarship

The Lewis scholarships recognize junior members for overall achievement in leadership, teamwork, skills and competition. The selection of winners is based on a point system for NJHA programs and activities.

First place — Jessica Lester, Covington, La., \$750

Second place — Melanie Snavely, Minneapolis, Kan., \$750

Hereford Herdsman Scholarship

Administered by the HYFA in cooperation with Hereford herdsman, these scholarships honor NJHA members who take great pride in exhibiting and presenting their Hereford cattle.

Jessica Lester, Covington, La., \$1,000

Mason McClintock, Ft. McKavett, Texas, \$1,000

Poll-ette Founders Scholarship

The scholarships are funded through the HYFA and managed by the NOP. They recognize one male and one female who have made great contributions to the NJHA. The scholarships also honor the women who laid the foundation for the NOP, which was first organized in 1965.

Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., \$1,000

Nicole Rosencutter, Topeka, Kan., \$1,000

Prospect and Junior Golden Bull Awards

Young people are recognized with the Prospect and Junior Golden Bull awards each year for their involvement in the Hereford industry, agriculture and their communities. The awards are sponsored annually by AHW and NJHA. Prospect awards go to students in third through eighth grade and Junior Golden Bull

JOE AND WALTER LEWIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP POLL-ETTE FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP



Pictured (l to r) are: Chris Stephens, AHA director of youth activities; Jessica Lester, Covington, La., first place; and Melanie Snavely, Minneapolis, Kan., second place.



Pictured (l to r) are: Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb.; Nicole Rosencutter, Topeka, Kan.; and Betsy Beck, Bainbridge, Ind., NOP director.

Awards to students in ninth through 12th grade.

Prospect Award

Third grade — Rylee Barber, Channing, Texas

Fourth grade — Emilee Holt, Caldwell, Idaho

Fifth grade — Koby Rogers, Hamilton, Texas

Seventh grade — Amanda Bacon, Prairie Grove, Ark.

Junior Golden Bull Award

Ninth grade — Jacob Fleischmann, Osceola, Neb.

10th grade — Mark Sims, Elgin, Okla.

11th grade — Heather Bradford, St. Marys, Ohio

JUNIOR GOLDEN BULL AWARD



Pictured (l to r) are: Jacob Fleischmann, Osceola, Neb., ninth grade; Mark Sims, Elgin, Okla., 10th grade; Heather Bradford, St. Marys, Ohio, 11th grade; and Gail Blagg, Grass Valley, Calif., AHW director.

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PROSPECT AWARD



Front row (l to r) are: Rylee Barber, Channing, Texas, third grade; Emilee Holt, Caldwell, Idaho, fourth grade; Koby Rogers, Hamilton, Texas, fifth grade; and Amanda Bacon, Prairie Grove, Ark., seventh grade. Back row (l to r) are: Jason Ewing, Fordland, Mo., 07-08 NJHA president, Kay Morgan, Burwell, Neb., AHW director; Gail Blagg, Grass Valley, Calif., AHW director; and Jessica Slone, W. Manchester, Ohio, 07-08 NJHA secretary.



HEREFORD HERDSMAN SCHOLARSHIP
Jessica Lester, Covington, La.



Award recipients

Amanda Bacon, Prairie Grove, Ark., was awarded the seventh-grade Prospect Award. Bacon has been a member of NJHA for 12 years and of the Arkansas Junior Hereford Association (AJHA) for nine years. She has served in numerous leadership roles within AJHA since 2001. She has also shown at the JNHE since 2001. In 2005 she was reserve champion junior showman at JNHE. Bacon is also an active member of the Viney Grove 4-H Club and the Washington County Livestock 4-H Club.

Rylee Barber, Channing, Texas, was awarded the third-grade Prospect Award. Barber has been a NJHA member for seven years, and she is also a member of the Texas Junior Hereford Association (TJHA) and the Texas Junior Polled Hereford Association (TJPHA). She has participated in numerous leadership activities through 4-H and NJHA and showed the grand champion horned Hereford heifer at the 2006 JNHE and the grand champion bred-and-owned bull and grand champion polled heifer at this year's JNHE.

Jessie Berry, Cheyenne Wyo., was given a \$1,000 John Wayne Memorial Scholarship. Berry is a junior at the University of Wyoming majoring in agriculture communications and has been a member of the Wyoming Junior Hereford Association (WJHA) for 17 years. She was WJHA queen, president, vice president, second vice president, director and treasurer during her junior years. She has been involved in 4-H and FFA with numerous leadership roles in both. In fact, she was a national FFA officer candidate in 2006. She participated in the All-American Hereford Expo as early as 1996 and in 1999 won her cow-calf class.

Heather Bradford, St. Marys, Ohio, was awarded the 11th-grade Junior Golden Bull Award.

Bradford has been a member of NJHA for 13 years and is a member of three state Hereford organizations — Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana. She showed the 2005 Ohio Show Heifer of the Year. She won at least one division in the Ohio and the JNHE speaking contests from 2003-2005. Bradford has also served in various leadership positions including president and vice president of the Ohio Buckeye Junior Hereford Association.

Margeaux Firestine, Womelsdorf, Pa., was given the third-place National Junior Merit Scholarship, \$1,500. She was the 2003 National Polled Hereford Queen. She was also the 2002 Pennsylvania Junior Hereford Association (PJHA) queen and served as director and secretary/treasurer of the organization. Firestine has also been active in 4-H, FFA and the local Lutheran church. She is a senior at Towson University, Towson, Md., majoring in biology. She plans to be a veterinarian to help animals and ensure a safe food supply.

Jacob Fleischmann, Osceola, Neb., was chosen as the ninth-grade Junior Golden Bull Award winner. Fleischmann has been a member of NJHA and the Nebraska Junior Hereford Association for eight years. He has competed in showmanship the past five years at the JNHE. He also participates in 4-H and is currently the parliamentarian of the Osceola FFA chapter. Fleischmann was awarded the Star Greenhand Award for his involvement in FFA.

Seth Going, Lyons, Neb., was given the \$250 fourth-place Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship. He has participated in many JNHE contests including showmanship, beef bowl, team marketing, livestock judging, speech and photo. He is currently a sophomore at Southeast Community College, Beatrice, Neb. Going is

majoring in livestock management and production and is also on the livestock judging team. He is considering continuing his education at a four-year university and ultimately wants to work in livestock production, possibly as a manager for a cattle breeder.

Emilee Holt, Caldwell, Idaho, was awarded the fourth-grade Prospect Award. Holt has been a member of the NJHA and the Idaho Junior Hereford Association for four years. She is also a member of the Cowpokes 4-H Beef Club in Canyon County, Idaho. She earned reserve champion in showmanship at the 2007 Caldwell Junior Hereford Classic. When Holt is not showing cattle, she also enjoys playing soccer and is an active Sunday school member.

Jessica Lester, Covington, La., received one of the \$1,000 Hereford Herdsman Scholarships and the first-place \$750 Joe and Walter Lewis Memorial Scholarship. Lester has been a member of NJHA for nine years and the Louisiana Junior Polled Hereford Association (LJPHA) for 10 years. She has been president, secretary/treasurer and youth advisor for LJPHA. She was also the association's queen from 2002-05. Lester is now a senior at McNeese State University, where she is working toward a degree in animal science. She wants to work in the cattle industry as a reproductive physiology specialist and raise Hereford cattle for juniors to show.

Mason McClintock, Ft. McKavett, Texas, received a \$1,000 Hereford Herdsman Scholarship. McClintock was a parliamentarian, director and committee chairman for the TJHA. One highlight of his showing career was at the JNHE in Mississippi, where he won the showmanship contest. In high school he served as president and vice president of his FFA chapter. He also participated in livestock judging



where his team earned first place at the San Antonio Stock Show. He now attends Texas Tech University and is majoring in natural resource management and pre-med. In the future, he hopes to pursue his dream of owning a Hereford cattle ranch.

Ashley Middleswarth, Torrington, Wyo., received a \$1,000 John Wayne Memorial Scholarship. Middleswarth is a senior at Oklahoma State University (OSU) majoring in agricultural education with an animal science minor, and has been showing Hereford cattle for 10 years. Middleswarth has been a member of the WJHA for 11 years and served as president, secretary and director during her junior years. She has also served as a NJHA director. She was in the top 10 at two JNHE showmanship contests.

Roger Morgan, Burwell, Neb., received the first-place National Junior Merit Award, which includes a \$1,500 scholarship and a trip to any Hereford operation in the continental U.S., made possible by long-time sponsor, Harding & Harding Insurance. Morgan was also awarded the third-place \$500 Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship and one of the \$1,000 Poll-ette Founders Scholarships. He was recently elected vice president of the NJHA board. He has also been a director and is currently vice president of the Nebraska Junior Hereford Association. He served in various leadership roles in his 4-H club, including president, and was also active in FFA. Morgan received his associate of arts degree from Northeast Community College, Norfolk, Neb., and was named the 2007 outstanding livestock judging team member. He is now attending Northwest Missouri State University majoring in agriculture business. He plans to work in the animal electronic identification industry and continue raising Herefords.

Koby Rogers, Hamilton, Texas, was given the fifth-grade Prospect Award. Rogers has been a member

of NJHA for eight years and is also a member of the TJHA and the TJPFA. At the JNHE he has been involved in the showmanship, peewee speech, livestock judging, poster and photo contests. He is also a member of the 4-H Stars club where he competes in numerous projects. In addition he has won awards for his basketball, soccer and football involvement.

Nicole Rosencutter, Topeka, Kan., was awarded a \$1,000 Poll-ette Founders Scholarship. Rosencutter was the Kansas Polled Hereford Queen for three years. She is currently on the Kansas Junior Polled Hereford Association board of directors. She won the 2006 JNHE senior speech contest. She also served as the Kansas Beef Ambassador for two years. In high school, she was involved in FFA, FCCLA, cheerleading and track, among others. Rosencutter is now attending Kansas State University (K-State), where she is involved in Bible study, Pre-vet Club, Block & Bridle, Collegiate 4-H, College of Agriculture Ambassadors and Alpha of Clovia.

Mark Sims, Elgin, Okla., was given the 10th-grade Junior Golden Bull Award. Sims has been a member of NJHA since he was 2 years old. He has been a member of the Oklahoma Junior Hereford Association since age 7 and is currently serving his second consecutive term as secretary. He won the intermediate showmanship at the 2005 JNHE and was seventh in senior showmanship in 2006. Also at the 2006 JNHE he showed the grand champion owned polled heifer. This past year, he showed the grand champion polled Hereford heifer at the 2007 National Western Junior Show in Denver.

Melanie Snavely, Minneapolis, Kan., was awarded the second-place \$750 Joe and Walter Lewis Memorial Scholarship. Snavely is currently vice president of the Kansas Junior Hereford Association. She graduated in May with her bachelor's degree in

animal sciences and industry with a business emphasis from K-State. She plans to start nursing school in the fall at Manhattan Technical College. Ultimately, she says, she wants to be a nurse and raise Hereford cattle.

Nicole Starr, Manawa, Wis., received the second-place \$1,500 National Junior Merit Scholarship. She is currently NJHA treasurer and has previously been reporter. She is also active in the Wisconsin Junior Hereford Association where she has served as president, vice president, secretary, reporter and director. Starr has also been active in FFA and 4-H. She is a sophomore at Michigan State University majoring in animal science and marketing. She plans to work as a pharmaceutical sales representative and raise Hereford cattle.

Ashley Steckel-Stryker, Pawnee Rock, Kan., was chosen as the \$750 second-place winner of the Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship. She has been a member of the Nebraska Junior Hereford Association since birth and the NJHA since age 7. At PRIDE Convention she won senior extemporaneous speaking both times she competed. Steckel-Stryker has already received her associate of science degree from Casper College in Casper, Wyo. She plans to attend K-State and study agricultural communications and journalism. Afterward, she wants to return to the family-owned ranch in Nebraska.

Heather Thomas, Gold Creek, Mont., was awarded the first-place \$1,000 Ed Bible Memorial Scholarship. She has been NJHA president, reporter and director. She also served as director for the Montana Junior Hereford Association. One of her proudest moments was winning champion horned female at JNHE. She is currently attending a school of ministry and wants to help others. She plans to use her agriculture and music training to help those in need. **HW**

