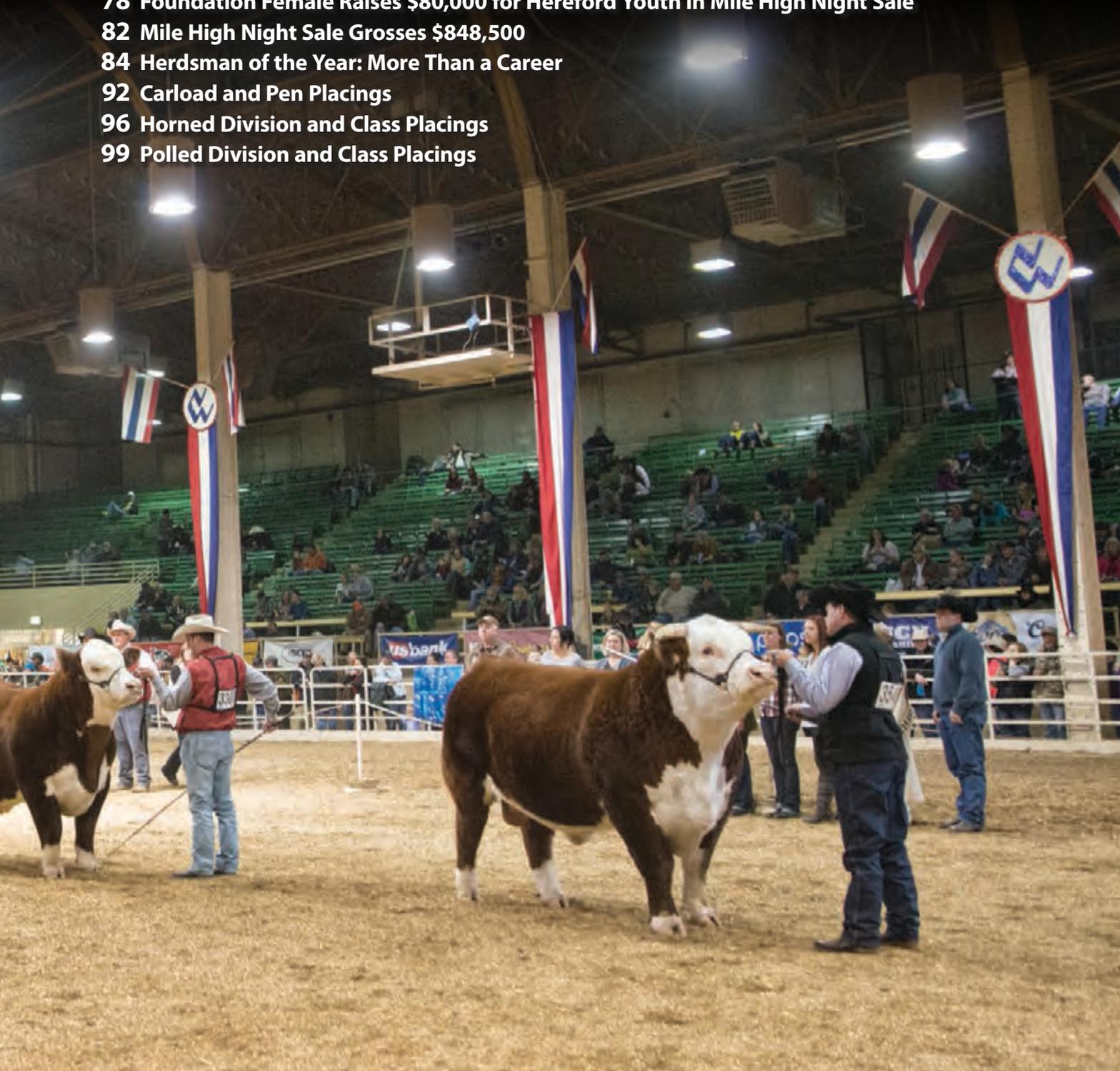


National Western Highlights



- 62 Herefords Set Records at Mile High City**
- 70 BR Nitro Aventus Named Supreme Hereford at 2016 National Western**
- 73 Junior Show Results**
- 76 Hoffman, Coyote Ridge and Rafter J Cattle Take Top Honors in Hereford Yard Show**
- 78 Foundation Female Raises \$80,000 for Hereford Youth in Mile High Night Sale**
- 82 Mile High Night Sale Grosses \$848,500**
- 84 Herdsman of the Year: More Than a Career**
- 92 Carload and Pen Placings**
- 96 Horned Division and Class Placings**
- 99 Polled Division and Class Placings**



Herefords Set Records at Mile High City

The Hereford breed made its mark this year at the National Western Stock Show.

Excitement was in the brisk Colorado air as Hereford breeders and enthusiasts broke records in the Yards and on the Hill at the National Western Stock Show Jan. 14-16 in Denver. A total of 802 Herefords were exhibited throughout the three-day event, which is an increase of 24 head compared to 2015. There were 349 head in the open show, 151 in the junior show, 43 pens of bulls, 29 heifer pens and nine carloads.

Hereford activities got underway in the Stadium Arena on the Hill with the bull show on Thursday, Jan. 14, judged by Tyler Cates and Brian

Cates, Modoc, Ind. Hill champions are pictured on Pages 70-72, and Hill class placings can be found on Pages 76-77.

Following the bull show, Josh Taylor, Perkins, Okla., evaluated the junior show. For results of the junior show, see Page 73, or for complete results of both the open and junior shows, visit Hereford.org and under "Favorites" select "National Show Results."

Friday, Jan. 15, was the pen and carload show. Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, Neb., took home champion carload honors. Coyote Ridge Ranch, LaSalle, Colo., topped the pen-of-three bull show, and Rafter J Cattle, Abilene,



Juniors exhibited 151 head in the NWSS.



LCC FBF Time Traveler 480 was selected grand champion polled bull. He is owned by Lowderman Cattle Co., Macomb, Ill.; Buck Cattle Co., Madill, Okla.; David Schrammel, Orlando, Okla.; and Beckleys Herefords, Ravenna, Ky.



Junior show judge Josh Taylor selects Cole Moore's heifer, BK Comical 573C ET, as champion horned female.

Texas, won the pen-of-three female show in the Denver Yards.

Ronny Morgan, Burwell, Neb.; Travis Pembrook, Fairview, Okla.; and Ryan Rathman, Stanton, Texas, teamed up to evaluate the Yard shows, which included nine carloads, 43 bull pens and 29 heifer pens. A total of 302 Herefords competed in the Yards. Compared to 2015, this number is an increase of 24 head. For Yard show champion photos, see Pages 76-77, and for class placings, visit Page 92.

continued on page 64...



The Shop Hereford booth in the Hereford suite had something for everyone looking to represent the breed.



Hoffman Ranch, Theford, Neb., was presented a bronze trophy after their carload of junior bull calves were named champion carload.



For the second year in a row Coyote Ridge Ranch, LaSalle, Colo., exhibited the grand champion pen of bulls. Pictured are Jane Evans Cornelius of Coyote Ridge, National Hereford Queen Taylor Belle Matheny and Texas Hereford Queen Stephanie Golightly.



A large crowd gathered to watch the pen and carload show on Friday.



Mile High Night Sale

Completing the day was the Mile High Night National Hereford Sale in the Stadium Arena that grossed \$848,500. An estimated 5,000 attended the sale on the stadium floor.

“It was another solid Mile High Night Sale for the Hereford breed in Denver,” says Joe Rickabaugh, American Hereford Association (AHA) director of seedstock marketing. “The sale atmosphere and layout once again created enormous excitement and momentum for the Hereford breed.”

The Hereford offering was elite, and the bidding proved it. When auctioneers Eddie Burks and Matt Sims silenced the gavel for the final time, \$848,500 had been spent. The 47 live lots grossed \$771,000 with an average of \$16,404. The three embryo lots averaged \$7,583. One flush commanded \$12,000, and 10 semen lots averaged \$4,275. For more on the Mile High Night Sale, see Page 82.

It was an exciting evening at the Mile High Night Sale as the event grossed a strong \$848,500.



More than 5,000 attended the Mile High Night National Hereford Sale on the stadium floor.

Kicking off the sale was the Lot 1 Foundation Female, selling for \$80,000. She was purchased by Jonny and Toni Harris, Winton Jr. Harris and Oscar I. Harris from Screven, Ga., in memory of Winton C. and Emily Harris; C&L Ranch, the Steve and Jill Folkman family, Ixonia, Wis.; and RGR Cattle, Carlinville, Ill. All proceeds will benefit the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) and the “Growing a Lasting Legacy” campaign, supporting leadership and education for the next generation of Hereford youth.

The Foundation Female, KJ BJ DWE 686Z Salsa 364C ET, was donated by Kevin, Sheila, Brady, Brooke and Ben Jensen, Courtland, Kan., and Dylan and Chelsea Evans, Lebo, Kan. She is a March 29, 2015, daughter of CRR 719 Catapult 109 and out of KJ 968R Zsa Zsa 686Z ET by MSU TCF Revolution 4R. For more on the Foundation lot, see Page 78.

continued on page 67...



The Lot 1 Foundation Female raised \$80,000 to benefit Hereford youth, thanks to buyers Jonny and Toni Harris, Winton Jr. Harris and Oscar I. Harris from Screven, Ga., in memory of Winton C. and Emily Harris; C&L Ranch, the Steve and Jill Folkman family, Ixonia, Wis.; and RGR Cattle, Carlinville, Ill. The female was donated by Kevin, Sheila, Brady, Brooke and Ben Jensen, Courtland, Kan., and Dylan and Chelsea Evans, Lebo, Kan.

Lowell Atwood Honored with Innovator Award

Lowell Atwood, Stanford, Ky., was presented an American Hereford Association (AHA) Innovator Award during the National Western Stock Show Hereford Carload and Pen Show Jan. 15 in Denver. Atwood was chosen because of his contribution to the Hereford industry.

Atwood has coordinated the Kentucky Hereford-Influenced Feeder Calf sale since the program's inception in 2009. From the beginning, the bi-annual sale has been a great success, in large part due to Atwood's commitment. The first sale drew a large crowd and it has continued to do so each May and December since.

AHA Field Representative John Meents says, “Lowell Atwood is the backbone of the success of the Kentucky Hereford-Influenced Feeder Calf Sale. Cattle feeders that are looking for Hereford cattle that can go directly in the Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) program purchase these cattle with confidence.

“Since the inception of this sale, the demand for Hereford genetics in the state of Kentucky has increased greatly. The price structure for Hereford bulls and females is at an all-time high in Kentucky. There have been cattle consigned to this sale from at least five states. Lowell has put his heart and soul into the Kentucky Hereford Influenced Feeder Calf Sale, and his effort has made a huge impact on the Hereford economy in that state,” Meents says.

Atwood is also a longtime Hereford breeder and he and his wife, Barbara, daughter, Beth, and grandsons Caleb and Luke Epling, operate Peyton Well Polled Herefords, which is the breeder of one of the great maternal sires in the breed — PW Victor Boomer P606. HW



Lowell Atwood, Stanford, Ky., was presented the American Hereford Association Innovator Award during the 2016 National Western Stock Show in Denver on Jan. 15. Pictured (l to r) are: 2016 AHA President Sam Shaw, Caldwell, Idaho; 2015-16 National Hereford Queen Taylor Belle Matheny, Mays Lick, Ky.; and Barbara and Lowell Atwood.





National Junior Hereford Association director Mason Blinson sang the National Anthem prior to the female show on Saturday.



National Hereford Queen Taylor Belle Matheny and Texas Hereford Queen Stephanie Golightly lead in a class during the female show.



Judge Brian Cates, Modoc, Ind., selects LCC TG Be My Merry Time 7B as champion polled female, owned by Melissa Grimmel, Jarrettsville, Md.



2016 Herdsman of the Year Geoff Andras shows in the bull show.



Pictured is the polled female grand drive.



Judge Tyler Cates, Modoc, Ind., selects BR Nitro Aventus 3116 ET as supreme champion. The bull is owned by Hirschfeld Group, Galesburg, Ill.; Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas; and Rylee and Bryden Barber, Channing Texas.

Supreme and herdsman named

Saturday brought the crowd back to the Hill, where Tyler and Brian Cates judged the female show. Following the female show, the Cates team selected the supreme champion BR Nitro Aventus. First named grand champion horned bull, BR Nitro Aventus is owned by the Hirschfeld Group, Galesburg, Ill.; Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas; and Rylee and Bryden Barber, Channing Texas.

Prior to the selection of the supreme champion, Geoff Andras, Okmulgee, Okla., was selected as the 2016 Hereford Herdsman of the Year. To learn more about Andras, see Page 84.

Innovator award and OXO scholarship presented

On Friday during the carload and pen show, the AHA presented Lowell Atwood, Stanford, Ky., the AHA Innovator Award. Atwood was chosen

continued on page 68...

Tom Lane Sr. Memorial Trophy presented by granddaughters

The supreme champion Hereford award is presented in memory of Tom Lane Sr. to celebrate the spirit of competition, camaraderie and business opportunities that this great breed of cattle represents. Lane was a man of strongly held opinions. Among them were those that Hereford owners are the best you will ever find as friends and to do business with, that Herefords are the best bulls in the

industry, and that the National Western Stock Show is the finest stock show on earth.

This year, Lane's six grandchildren were in attendance to present the supreme champion award to the Hirschfeld Group, Galesburg, Ill.; Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas; and Rylee and Bryden Barber, Channing Texas, owners of the winning bull, BR Nitro Aventus.



BR Nitro Aventus was selected the 2016 supreme champion Hereford and won the Tom Lane Sr. Memorial Trophy, which includes \$2,000 endowed prize money. Pictured (l to r) are: American Hereford Association (AHA) Board member Curtis Curry; AHA President Sam Shaw; judges Tyler Cates and Brian Cates; National Hereford Queen Taylor Belle Matheny; Brett Barber; and Lane's six grandchildren, Cindy Lane Fazio, Tracey Lane Russo, Kady Lane, Leslie Lane Allen, Christy Lane Plummer and Lyndsey Lane.

because of his contribution to the Hereford industry.

During the show on Saturday, Miranda Stotz, Skiatook, Okla., was presented the opportunity to attend the World Hereford Conference in Uruguay thanks to the OXO World Traveler Scholarship. The late Marilyn Matasovic made this scholarship possible in memory of her parents Estelle and John Matasovic of OXO Herefords in southwestern Colorado.

Hereford General Store and Lounge

Throughout the week, Hereford enthusiasts enjoyed catching up with Hereford friends and shopping the latest Hereford apparel at the Hereford General Store and Lounge in the Livestock Exchange Building in the Yards. **HW**



Miranda Stotz Awarded OXO World Traveler Scholarship

The opportunity to attend a World Hereford Conference is one that Miranda Stotz, Skiatook, Okla., will now have, thanks to the OXO World Traveler Scholarship.

Stotz was presented the scholarship during the National Western Stock Show National Hereford Show Jan. 16 in Denver. The late Marilyn Matasovic made this scholarship possible in memory of her parents, Estelle and John Matasovic of OXO Herefords in southwestern Colorado.

The scholarship provides \$4,500 in travel funds for Stotz to attend the 2016 World Hereford Conference in Montevideo, Uruguay, in April.

The Matasovics loved Herefords and travel. They attended nine World Hereford Conferences and enjoyed the wonders of faraway countries and customs. This inspired Matasovic to create the scholarship to honor her parents.

"On behalf of the Matasovics, we are pleased to present this award to Miranda," says John Swiercinsky, grandson of Estelle and John Matasovic. "What differentiated her was that she saw how this conference is going to be able to change her life. This is what our family wanted to make possible. We are grateful for the opportunities provided and what this breed has meant to our family."

Stotz, 20, is the daughter of Max and Karen Stotz. She is a junior at Tarleton State University, working toward a degree in animal science. She plans to earn her master's degree in genetics.

She has been a National Junior Hereford Association and Junior Hereford Association of Oklahoma member for 13 years. She's been showing cattle all her life and was the champion intermediate showman at the 2013 Junior National Hereford Expo. **HW**



Miranda Stotz, Skiatook, Okla., was presented the OXO World Traveler Scholarship during the 2016 National Western Stock Show in Denver. Pictured (l to r) are: Taylor Belle Matheny, 2015-16 National Hereford Queen Stotz; and John Swiercinsky, grandson of Estelle and John Matasovic, in whose honor the award is given.

Thank you Hereford General Store and Lounge sponsors



BioZyme Inc., St. Joseph, Mo.

Colyer Herefords, Bruneau, Idaho

Coyote Ridge Ranch, LaSalle, Colo.

Gene Source, Schulenburg, Texas

Jensen Bros., Courtland, Kan.

Maple Edge Herefords, Bloomfield, Conn.

Mill Creek Ranch, Alma, Kan.

Ned and Jan Ward Polled Herefords, Sheridan, Wyo.

Rausch Herefords, Hoven, S.D.

Topp Herefords, Grace City, N.D.

Youth raise and show Hereford steers in NWSS Catch-A-Calf program

The longstanding Catch-A-Calf program at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver provides an avenue for youth to gain life skills learned while preparing a calf for the showing.

This year, the 80th of the program, 40 Hereford steers were shown by 40 youth on Jan. 10 to complete their yearlong participation in the program.

"The way Catch-A-Calf works is at the NWSS in January each year, there are kids who have applied for the program," says Catch-A-Calf superintendent Molly Keil. "They are in 4-H and ages 12-19 from Wyoming, Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska."

The kids selected to participate attend various rodeo performances where they are divided up into smaller groups to "catch a calf." Molly says, "The calves are released and the kids are then challenged with attempting to catch a calf, which is just rodeo stock. They have to catch them with their hands — they cannot halter them or rope them."

Molly says the calves they catch during the rodeo are not the ones they care for the rest of the year. "In May those kids return to Denver and are given a calf," she explains. "We have a breakfast and introductory meeting for them to have a chance to meet their calf sponsor who can be an individual, families or businesses."

The calves are then distributed and given to the participants at random. "Generally the calves are all from the same herd," she says. "Last year we used Herefords and each year it varies." The 2015 program used Hereford steers from Morgan Herefords, Burwell, Neb.

"Those kids return home with their steer to raise them for the next eight months until they bring it back to the following NWSS to exhibit," Molly explains.

During those eight months, the youth are required to maintain a record book and write monthly letters to their sponsor. They are allowed to show their calves during that time, but Molly says the goal of the program is to bring them back to the NWSS the following January to exhibit, turn in their record book and participate in an interview.

"They'll give a speech on a certain topic and answer questions from judges," she says. "They participate in the show where they are judged on live placing and showmanship."

The Catch-A-Calf show at the NWSS is a terminal show. Two winners are selected and the remainder go to slaughter.



Louise Wiseman, Hershey, Neb., and Jessica Wiechman, Littleton, Colo., won this year's Catch-A-Calf contest. Pictured are Louise and her Hereford steer.

"Winners of the program participate in the NWSS Junior Livestock Sale," Molly says. "Those calves are not necessarily ones that place first in their class. We use a points system from all the aspects of the program to determine the top two. The only requirement is they must place in the top four in the live class."

Molly says that not many of the 2015 participants had experience showing Hereford cattle and it was a good learning experience. In fact, most of the kids had never exhibited cattle before. "It's to see if they are even interested in it," she explains. "Most do continue on to exhibit cattle and purchase new calves. And a few have decided it's not their thing. Some have exhibited cattle before but this is there to maybe show at the NWSS at a national show."

What it all comes down to she says, is for the youth to gain life skills through recordkeeping, communications, public speaking and writing, etc.

"It's more about the opportunities provided, the lessons learned and the relationships built through showing cattle," she says. "We use the raising of a steer to accomplish all those things but in the end that's a very small part of the project in terms of the lessons able to be learned. **HW**

Editor's note: For more information on the Catch-A-Calf program, contact Molly Keil, superintendent, at 970-222-1728 or nwsscac@gmail.com.

