



Mile High Night Sale Is Solid

The Mile High Night National Hereford Sale in Denver annually sets the pace for the Hereford industry, and this year the sale proved to be solid and strong. As the gavel fell silent for the final time in front of a standing-room-only packed house, total gross on 42 lots tallied \$391,550. The sale posted the following averages: 17.5 females averaged \$10,937, 10.85 bulls averaged \$15,346 — making 28.35 lots gross \$357,900 for a solid average of \$6,633. Also included in the sale were three flushes averaging \$12,624 and 31 embryos averaging \$444.

Leading the high sellers at \$57,500 for half interest was Lot 37, DBLL 4002 Patton 8018 ET, a Jan. 3, 2008, son of BR Moler ET, consigned by Double L Cattle, Hearne, Texas. Purchasing the bull were T-Bone Ranch Co., Antonito, Colo.; Jenkins Family Cattle, Jonescreek, Texas; OJJ Ranch, Shelley, Idaho; Stuber Ranch, Bowman, N.D.; K7 Herefords, Lockridge, Iowa; Churchill Cattle Co., Manhattan, Mont.; and River Ridge Ranch, Durand, Ill.

The pick of Colyer Herefords' 2008 fall heifer calves, Lot 15, was the second high-selling lot at \$21,000. Taylor Schrick, Sayre, Okla., bought the choice. Schrick also bought the pick last year and the purchase has proven to be a wise investment.

Hat Creek Ranch, Lone Oak, Texas, placed the bid of \$20,200 to obtain the pick of two pregnant recipients carrying heifer calves from Star Lake Cattle Ranch. Lot 34 A & B featured the mating of Remitall Online 122 L and Gerber 8020 Rosy Lane 308N or Gerber 774 Rosy Lane 623S.

Boyd Beef Cattle, Mays Lick, Ky., stepped to the plate and bid \$20,000 for Lot 20, the pick of Ned and Jan Ward's 2009 heifer calf crop. This same lot, which featured the pick of the 2008 heifer calf crop from Ned and Jan Ward, Sheridan, Wyo., earned the high bid in the 2008 Mile High Night Sale.

Pick of heifers was popular again, as the pick of the 2009 heifer calf crop from Holden Herefords, Valier, Mont., commanded \$18,000. Shafer Ranch, Sherman, Texas, knows the value of this lot as it has purchased the right to the Holden pick for several years.

NJW 57G 139J Skyline 87S ET, Lot 19A, a Feb. 27, 2006, daughter of RU 20X Boulder 57G, consigned by Ned and Jan Ward, claimed a bid of \$17,000. Jiri Buck, Madill, Okla., teamed up with Al Swanson, Royal, Iowa, to own this future donor female.

The next three high selling lots — 27, 35 and 38 — each gathered \$15,000 per lot.

Lot 27, BR DM Socorro 8079, a May 2, 2008, heifer calf, sired by BR Lansing 3060 and consigned by Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas, and Don Moler, Cheyenne, Okla., was selected by the Wicker Family of Canadian, Texas.

Lot 35, Churchill Yankee 861U, a Jan. 22, 2008, son of Churchill Yankee ET, who sold a couple of years ago in the Mile High Night Sale, was the consignment of Churchill Cattle Co. Lone Star Hereford Ranch, Henrietta, Texas, selected this upcoming herd sire prospect.

Lot 38, CC Franchise 39T, a May 2, 2007, son of SB 122L Git-R-Done 19R ET, was a popular consignment of Cache Cattle, Wellsville, Utah. The Franchise Group composed of Downing Cattle Co., Terrebone, Ore.; Micheli Hereford Ranch, Ft. Bridger, Wyo.; CX River Ranch, Burley, Idaho; OT Cattle Co., Kenedy, Texas; Wynn Dewsnup, Alamo, Idaho; and Prairie Creek Cattle Co., Worthington, Iowa, purchased the lot. K&B Punch 8110U, a March 11, 2008, son of UPS Kootenay 3251 1ET, consigned by K&B Herefords, Onida, S.D., rounded out the high sellers at \$12,700. Star Lake Cattle Ranch placed the winning bid on this upcoming herd sire.

The Mile High Night Sale was managed by National Cattle Services, Elgin, Okla., with Eddie and Matt Sims serving as auctioneers for this successful event.

— **Joe Rickabaugh**, American Hereford Association director of field management and seedstock marketing



Herefords top all-breed commercial bull sale

Two Hereford bulls consigned by Ernst Herefords, Windsor, Colo., topped the Western Heritage All-Breed Bull Sale, Jan. 21, at the National Western Stock Show in Denver.

Of the 31 bulls sold, the high-seller was a Hereford yearling bull, which sold for \$4,250 to JC Feagin of Blue Ridge, Texas. Also consigned by Ernst Herefords, was the second high-seller at \$3,000, a 2-year-old bull that sold to 7D Ranch, Cheyenne Wells, Colo.

Marshall Ernst, owner of Ernst Herefords, says, "There has been more enthusiasm and more interest from producers about Hereford bulls than I've seen in a long time, as more cattlemen realize the value of the baldie cow as well as the advantage of the black baldie in the feedyard."

He adds, "I think our bulls were in the right condition, with the right muscling and structure to attract buyers' attention."

The first-ever Western Heritage All-Breed Bull Sale was targeted toward commercial cattlemen with the goal of adding more activities to the second week of the National Western, according to Ernst. HW