



# \$18,250 in Scholarships Awarded to Hereford Youth



Kristi Bishop, Basehor, Kan., received a Bill and Jo Ellard, EE Ranches Inc. Scholarship. Pictured with Bishop are Jo and Bill Ellard, Dallas, Texas.



Catie Sims, Elgin, Okla., received the Bob and Dolores Call Scholarship. Pictured with Sims are Bob and Dolores Call, CBY Polled Herefords, Cushing, Okla.



Ben Barkow, Conklin, Mich., received a Gary Bishop Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with Conklin is Vickie Bishop, Basehor, Kan., Gary's wife.



Brandy Valek, Agenda, Kan., received the B.C. "Bud" Snidow Award. Pictured with Valek (l to r) are: Bonnie Coley-Malir, Dublin, Ohio, AHW president-elect; Snidow, Kansas City, Mo.; and Terrill Spencer, Brewster, Neb., AHW president.

National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members Kristi Bishop, Margeaux Firestine, Catie Sims, Emilie Miller, Amy Berry, Cassie Bacon, Ben Barkow and Brandy Valek were awarded scholarships totaling \$18,250 at Hereford events in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 21-22. All but Valek were recognized at the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) Casino Magic Fundraiser Saturday night. Valek received her award at the American Royal National Hereford Show on Sunday.

Bishop, Basehor, Kan., and Firestine, Womelsdorf, Pa., won big, receiving \$5,000 Bill and Jo Ellard, EE Ranches Inc. scholarships from the HYFA.

Bishop served on the NJHA board of directors from 2002-04. She is a senior at Oklahoma State University (OSU), majoring in animal science with a minor in agricultural leadership. After completing her undergraduate studies, Bishop intends to apply for the agricultural education and leadership graduate program at OSU. She eventually wishes to work in youth development within the cattle industry.

Firestine served as the 2003 National Polled Hereford Queen and also was the Pennsylvania Junior Hereford Association secretary/treasurer from 1999-2002. She is a senior at Towson

University, majoring in biology/pre-medicine. After Firestine receives her undergraduate degree, she plans to attend Pennsylvania State University Medical College. Her aspiration is to become a dermatologist, while maintaining her herd of Hereford cattle.

Sims, Elgin, Okla., was awarded the \$1,250 Bob and Dolores Call Scholarship from the HYFA. She is the 2006-07 NJHA president and has served on the NJHA board since 2004. She is a nutritional sciences/pre-nurse practitioner junior at OSU. After she graduates, Sims plans to attend nursing school at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. She desires to work in an Oklahoma hospital as a pediatric nurse practitioner and to also have a family Hereford ranch.

Miller, Womelsdorf, Pa., received the \$1,250 Hudson Memorial Scholarship from the HYFA. The scholarship is in memory of Richard Hudson, past American Hereford Association (AHA) president, and recognizes his family's heifer donation to the 2005 HYFA Foundation Female auction.

Miller is a past NJHA director (2002-05) and secretary (2003-04). She is a senior at Kansas State University (KSU), majoring in animal science and industry with a production management option. Ultimately Miller hopes to be a regional sales manager for a



Emilie Miller, Womelsdorf, Pa., received the Hudson Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with Miller is Wes Hudson, AHA director and son of the late Richard Hudson, past AHA president.



Cassie Bacon, Prairie Grove, Ark., received a HYFA Scholarship. Pictured with Bacon is Ray Ramsey, Greenfield, Ind., HYFA president.

livestock pharmaceutical company. To gain experience, she worked as the livestock sales and marketing intern for Fort Dodge Animal Health this past summer.

Berry, Cheyenne, Wyo., and Bacon, Prairie Grove, Ark., received \$1,250 HYFA scholarships.

Berry has served on the Wyoming Junior Hereford Association board of directors since 1997. She has been treasurer since 2001 and was also queen in 2003-04. A freshman at the University of Wyoming, she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in animal science with a pre-vet option. She then plans to attend veterinary school at Colorado State University to become a large animal veterinarian.

Bacon will complete her three-year term as a NJHA director next summer. In 2005-06 she was the NJHA reporter and is now the National Polled Hereford Queen. She is a sophomore at OSU, double majoring in animal science and agricultural communications.

She intends to use these degrees to research and develop food products, and then market them to consumers.

Winning \$1,000 Gary Bishop Memorial scholarships were Barkow, Conklin, Mich., and Berry. This scholarship was established in 2003 and is designed to recognize those youth who demonstrate many of the same qualities that Gary, a former AHA employee and Hereford breeder, demonstrated.

Barkow has been a member of the NJHA since 1993. He graduated from the Western College of Auctioneering, Billings, Mont., in 2004, and has sold and served as ringman at many sales. Barkow is a junior now at Michigan State University, majoring in animal science. He hopes to eventually own his own livestock marketing firm.

The B.C. "Bud" Snidow Award is sponsored by the American Hereford Women (AHW) and is given annually to a deserving NJHA member who exemplifies

the qualities most admired by Snidow, including honesty, fairness, hard work, enthusiasm and dedication to the Hereford breed and its breeders.

Snidow and AHW members presented Valek, Agenda, Kan., with a belt buckle at the American Royal National Hereford Show, recognizing her as this year's winner. She also receives a \$1,250 scholarship and a custom painting created by Snidow.

Valek has been president of the Kansas Junior Polled Hereford Association since 2002 and was state queen from 2003-05. She graduated from Hutchinson Community College with an agribusiness associate's degree and is now attending KSU, majoring in agricultural economics with a specialty in animal science. Upon graduation she hopes to work as an Extension agent in the River Valley District in north-central Kansas and to also start her own cattle business. **HW**