Ladies of the Royal Averages $3,043

The Ladies of the Royal attracted a standing-room-only crowd Oct. 21 at the American Royal sale facility. This year's sale proved to be solid with 14 Hereford heifers averaging $3,043 and nine steers averaging $1,867. Seven embryos gathered $496 per embryo and one pregnant recipient rounded out the sale at $2,500. The heifer average was up $421 compared to last year.

The auctioning of the street sign, which is displayed in front of the American Hereford Association (AHA) headquarters, always kicks off the sale. The sign sold for $950 to the PTP Alliance with proceeds going to the National Junior Hereford Association. Members of the PTP Alliance include: Gustafson Herefords, Junction City, Kan.; Granzow Herefords, Herington, Kan.; KEG Herefords, Valentine, Neb.; Hills Galore Stock Farm, Abbey, Sask., Canada; Dvorak Herefords, Lake Andes, S.D.; Oleen Bros., Dwight, Kan.; Bookcliff Herefords, Russell, Kan.; Frank Hug & Sons, Scranton, Kan.; Charing Cross Ranch Ltd., Harrison, Ark.; and Craig Herefords, Phillipsburg, Colo.

Another sale attraction was a donation to the 2007 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) by Cooper Herefords, Willow Creek, Mont. They donated a flush of CL 1 Dominette 8184H. Hidden Oaks Ranch, Keith and Cindy Rogers, Hamilton, Texas, purchased the flush for $4,500.

GKB Cattle, Gary and Kathy Buchholz, Bardwell, Texas, continued their high-selling tradition. This year GKB Miss Moler B628, a March 23, 2006, heifer, sold for $9,000 to Sarah Stream, Chariton, Iowa.

The Lowell Fisher Family, Spencer, Neb., longtime consignors, consigned a real stout daughter of GH Neon 17N. The March 3, 2006, heifer commanded $3,750 and will see the showring with Jody and April Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., at the halter.

Another longtime consignor, JC Cattle Co., Junction City, Kan., consigned a super heifer prospect. JC Dominette 618, an April 2006 daughter of DB Grand Slam, was purchased for $3,500 by the Geuther Family of Volin, S.D.

The Ladies of the Royal sale is known for producing state fair winning Hereford steers and this year's consignments should hit the winner's circle. Topping the steer sale were a pair of steers consigned by Fawcett's Elm Creek Ranch, Ree Heights, S.D. The high seller at $3,300 was a DB Grand Slam steer selected by Kelsi Retallick, Glen Haven, Wis. Another Fawcett steer sired by LaGrand Reload 80P walked out of the ring at $2,900 purchased by John Adams, Springfield, Ohio.

In honor of the late Stanley Stout, longtime auctioneer of the sale, 1% of the sale proceeds were donated to the Stout Marketing Center, which will be constructed in his honor at Kansas State University, Manhattan. This year Monte Lowderman, Macomb, Ill., served as auctioneer.

— ***Joe Rickabaugh,*** *AHA director of field management and seedstock marketing*