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Editorial Comments... Jill Bayers Hotchkiss



The 2021-2022 season is almost over. It's been a great run for us with lots of successful bull and female sales,

Jill Hotchkiss

meeting new people and renewing

old friendships. In my bull sale travels this past season, once again I've observed many things and learned a great

deal. The quality of Hereford cattle is incredible across our region and I feel blessed to see many of them and interact with breeders from across the nation.

As I have either attended sales or watched from afar, the three big take aways for me this year are the increased value and importance of customer service, promotion and public relations. These are seemingly basic principles of selling any product but in this day and age of increasingly virtual everything, it seems that good old fashioned customer contact can make a big difference in getting your product sold and sold well, even if the product is cattle.

We aren't just in the cattle business we are also in the people business. Customer contact, even small things, can make a big difference in getting your product sold or not. One breeder recently told me, "if we can't take the time to show you our cattle, we shouldn't be in the business." I really liked that.

So many times we (I include myself in this) are in a rush and forget to slow down, pay attention and talk to people. We've gotten so accus-*(continued on page 5)*

Topp Herefords: Pushing for Excellence

by Ruth Wiechmann

Topp Herefords, Grace City, ND, has an incredible passion for their Hereford cattle, for their customers, and for the beef industry. Ryan, Prairie and their three children, Lauren, Mariah, and Logan, have put time, effort, and a lot of thought into son. Ryan and his two brothers, Mark and Paul, grew up helping their mother and Larry with the farming and the commercial cattle.

Ryan knew at an early age that he wanted to revive the registered Hereford operation, so he began purchasing regis-



Pairs at Topp Herefords, Grace City, ND, run on large acreage native pastures.

building their breeding program with the seedstock industry and the commercial cattleman in mind.

Along with the family, a strong team of employees keeps Topp Herefords running smoothly. Day to day outside management is headed by Keith Herberg, Seedstock Manager and Riley Ehlers, Operations Manager. Marlen Ehlers currently helps with feeding cattle and ranch maintenance.

Ryan's grandparents, Woodrow and Anne Topp started Topp Polled Hereford Ranch in 1945. Their son, Merlin, took over the operation in the early '70s, but the registered herd was converted to commercial cattle after his untimely death when Ryan was seven years old. Ryan's mother, Kathy, kept the ranch going and several years later married Larry Ericktered Herefords when he was about 16.

"Ryan has always made it his goal to cull his herd ruthlessly, to eliminate any genetics he was not proud to rep-

resent," Prairie said. "He wanted to progress from where his Dad left off. I think that's why he was so committed to the Hereford breed and so diligent about creating a quality herd."

Prairie grew up on a small commercial cow/calf operation, and spent 15 years in international sales in the grain industry before returning to the ranch to help in the office. The couple has been married for 23 years now. Ryan's push for excellence in his herd has not changed. While Topp Herefords used to raise horned and polled Herefords, the demand from their customers for polled cattle directed their program to focus solely on Polled Herefords. "The switch was customer driven," Ryan said. Just about everything in the Topp Here-

April/May 2022

fords program is customer driven.

As Topp Herefords developed, Ryan and Prairie started to ask themselves what they could do to make the operation viable long term.

"People can follow a lot of fads in the seedstock industry," Prairie said. "Neither one of us felt comfortable structuring the future of our business on an industry that can be somewhat inconsistent. We asked ourselves, 'What can we build on?' and 'What parts of the process do we have more control over?' and concluded that we needed to shift our primary focus to commercial cattlemen."

"Commercial producers are the backbone of the beef industry," Ryan said. "While our main goal is to produce deep, uniform, superior genetics, the more we listened to our bull customers in the commercial beef segment of our industry, the more ways we found to



Bull calves must wean off at a high percentage of their dam's body weight to make the cut.

keep our operation and our customers' operations sustainable over the long term."

Topp Herefords started working with a local feedlot in their area of North Dakota due to how well Hereford-influenced cattle performed in the feedlot. As crossbred cattle started regaining popularity and more feeders were looking for cattle with hybrid vigor, they continued to place *(continued on page 3)*

March

- **Dakitch Production Sale** 26 Ada, MN
- 26 Sandhill Farms Production Sale Haviland, KS 28 **Copeland Herefords Bull Sale**
- Nara Visa, NM 28 Snowshoe Cattle Co. Bull Sale
- Arthur, NE Oleen Bros. "Best of Both 28
- Worlds" Sale Dwight, KS

April

- Knoll Crest Farms
- Spring Bull & Female q Thorstenson Herefords
- **Bull & Female Sale**
- Selby, SD McClun's Lazy JM Ranch Sale 14
- Torrington, WY Stuber Ranch 16
- Bull & Female Sale Bowman, ND

Sandrock Ranch Bull Sale 16 with C&L Herefords Benton, WI

Mav

ales & Exerte

28-29 Kansas Jr. Hereford Show Manhattan, KS

June

Δ

- Nebraska Junior Hereford 3-5 Association Show Kearney, NE
- Shaw Cattle Co. Spring Cowherd Dispersal Caldwell, ID
- 9-11 Southeastern Regional Jr. Expo Cookeville, TN
- 10-11 South Dakota Junior Hereford Association Field Day Watertown, SD
- 17-18 Georgia Hereford Field Day Comer. GA



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Commercial Breeder Registered Hereford	Breeder Polled
Registered Breeder, Other Breed Other	Horned Both
Signature	April/May 2022

- 17-19 Illinois Jr. Hereford **Preview Show** Altamont. IL 18-19 Minnesota Classic
- Pipestone, MN

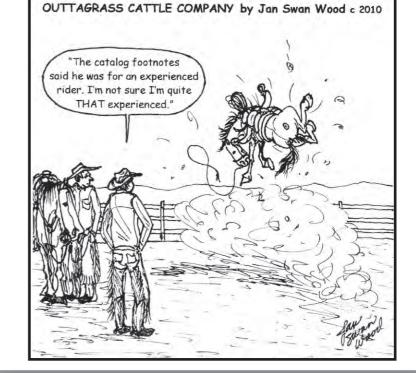
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- 16-22 Junior National Hereford Expo Louisville, KY
- Summer Spotlight Show 27-30 Huron, SD
- 31 SD Jr. Special & Futurity Shows Huron, SD



August

- 3-6 Faces of Leadership (Juniors) Billings, MT
- 5 Hereford America ad deadline for September issue
- 16-18 DakotaFest and SDHA Ribeye Steak Sandwich Booth Mitchell, SD
 - Have a great summer!



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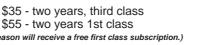
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Topp Herefords...

(continued from page 1) their customers' Topp Herefords-sired calves in more and more feed yards. This was the beginning of helping their customers make marketing connections for their cattle.

"Some of our producers like to sell their calves at their local sale barn, and we support that," Ryan said. "We ask for a two-week notice, so that we can let buyers interested in these cattle know so that they can be there to bid on them. We don't buy the feeder calves ourselves; we help to make the connection between our customers and buyers looking for calves with our genetics."

The rest of Topp Herefords customers' feeder cattle are placed directly with feedlots in the upper Midwest directly off the ranch. This is a service Topp Herefords bull customers can capitalize on as soon as they purchase their first bull. Topp Herefords views building these relationships with cow/calf producers and feeders as a vital part of their operation.

"It's a win/win for everyone involved," Ryan said. "Our customers can benefit from our marketing programs and feedlots keep coming back because they like getting consistent genetics."

Topp Herefords offers a portfolio of options including forward contracts and spot bids and have developed relationships with feeder cattle buyers that offer retained ownership for their customers. These options apply for both natural and conventional cattle.

"Producers can choose what works best for their operations," said Prairie.

"Traditional marketing plans run something like this," Ryan said. "Do your best to have good genetics, work hard to raise good cattle, then take them to the sale barn and hope that they sell well. But when you do that, you don't really know how well your cattle are performing. Producers who are ready to take ownership of their genetics further down the food chain can manage that risk and capture more of the profits."

As part of their marketing programs, Topp Herefords buys back replacement quality F-1 heifers sired by Topp Herefords bulls to market as bred heifers every year.

"This part of our program is definitely growing," Ryan explained. "Heifers are bred based on their age and maturity to calve between February 1 and May 1. The bred heifers are ultra-sounded and sold by calving dates with a guaranteed calving window. They are preg-tested twice and guaranteed bred when they leave the ranch. Because the heifers come from our bull customers year in and year out, they are consistent. Buyers like this level of dependability."

"We go to the ranch and sort the heifers so we have some quality control at the outset," Ryan said. "A small percentage will be culled prior to breeding for various reasons, and then a few more are culled when we preg test. We're looking for soundness, good udders, efficiency and overall quality. We definitely see how important it is to keep putting out high quality genetics when we have to turn around and stand behind them as bred cattle."

Topp Herefords will buy back approximately 1,500 heifers this year with partner Bill Pitz of Iowa and will place another 1,000 open heifers in other heifer development programs.

Topp Herefords has also partnered with Ellingson Angus, St. Anthony, ND, to source quality, Ellingson Angus-sired heifers bred to Topp Herefords bulls. This way producers who want to maintain a straight Angus cow herd can get firstcut, Ellingson Angus-sired replacements without giving up the benefits of hybrid vigor in a portion of their calf crop or utilizing feed and pasture to raise their own.

"We realized that our customers were getting no premium on a certain percentage of their

(cont. on page 4)

Topp Family from Left to Right: Mariah, Ryan, Prairie, Lauren and Logan Topp.



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Topp Herefords...

(continued from page 3)

herd that they had to breed black to produce Angus females for replacements." Ryan continued, "This partnership with Ellingson Angus ensures that our customers can capitalize on heterosis on all of their steer calves. Some of our customers are now able to run 8% to 10% more cow/calf pairs and utilize more of their resources for production rather than raising their own replacement heifers."

Customer service takes up a huge part of the focus at Topp Herefords, but it all starts with the cattle.

The first group of calves are born starting January 1, while the Topp Herefords team is simultaneously prepping for their upcoming bull sale. Bulls are sold the second Friday in February at the ranch. Topp Herefords plans to market 200 yearling and 18-month-old bulls in their 2022 sale and will be up to 280-300 bulls by 2023. Currently the bulls sold run approximately 60% yearlings and 40% older bulls but the number of 18-month-old bulls is growing.

April and May find them busy delivering bulls and Aling heifers and cows prior to turnout on summer pasture. A May calving group was added a few years ago to meet the demand for more bulls without adding to the January calving load. This group includes many embryo



Topp Herefords annually markets approximately one hundred registered open heifers every fall starting September 1st.

transfer bulls from top donor cows. Topp Herefords takes time to visit with customers and look at their cattle throughout the summer and into the fall, in between haying, managing the commercial heifer program and helping Ryan's parents with farm work. Heifers and cows are ultrasounded in August. Other summer projects include taking pictures of cows and flushing embryos, both of which are done every other year.

Fall brings the cattle back home. Calves



Topp Herefords management from left to right: Logan and Ryan Topp, Keith Herberg, Cord LaPlant and Riley Ehlers.



are weaned the last week of August or first week in September. Open registered heifer calves, registered bred heifers and the bred F-1 baldy heifers are marketed and sold private treaty throughout the fall. A new crop of baldy heifer calves are selected and delivered to the Topp Herefords. Bulls are selected for the sale and photographed in November. The catalog goes to print in December, and then it's time to start sorting off the heavy bred cows before they start calving again, and another year has rolled around.

Ryan and Prairie's children are all involved to some degree on the ranch, although school is taking up a good bit of their time these days. Lauren, 22, and Mariah, 20, are both in college and work on the ranch between school commitments. Both own their own cattle. Logan, 17, is a senior in high school. He is steadily growing his own herd and is involved in the daily operations on the ranch.

"I try to do as much as I can in all the different jobs on the ranch," Logan said, "so that I can learn the ropes in each area. I am also starting to learn more of the business side of things like listening to customers and building relationships with people. I'm only a senior in high school so I still have four years of college. I'm excited to bring back what I learn about Ag Business that can help improve our systems on the ranch. I'm just excited to grow the business alongside my Dad and all of our hardworking employees."

There's never a dull moment, and through every season, Ryan keeps his customers' needs and the pursuit of quality breeding stock as high priorities.

"Our genetics are centered around our customers' needs and driven by results," Ryan said. "Instead of telling our customers 'This is what you need,' we take a substantially different approach. We look to our bull buyers to see what they need from us. It's not fool proof, and we've made mistakes along the way as we learn how to improve the systems, but it has made a big difference. We hear what they want, we can follow our customers' Topp Hereford-sired cattle to the feedlot and, in some cases all the way to the packer. We see what works and what doesn't. And it's the same with the heifers: we know their fertility, fleshing ease and disposition."

Customer and results focused, Topp Herefords continues to evolve. They've worked diligently to connect the dots, establish systems that better position their clients in the marketplace and help start to create a flow that feeds the betterment of the whole.

"When both the buyers and the sellers are better off because they are working together, and the system is powered by Topp Herefords genetics, we know we've done our job as a seedstock supplier," Ryan said.



A large crowd in attendance of the Topp Herefords Cattleman's banquet the night prior to their annual sale. Several of the Topp Herefords feeders are in attendance to address the TH clients that sell their feeder cattle direct.

Jill's Editorial...

(continued from page 1)

tomed to a quick text or message.

There are some incredible marketers in our business and it's so interesting to interact with these people and see them in action. They go the extra mile to have satisfied customers and ones that will return and do business with them.

From incredible photos, to daily social media posts, and text messages, to feeder cattle buy-back programs and a simple call to each and every customer, these simple gestures seem to make a difference.

Here is a great quote from Jeffrey Gilomer, "All things being equal, people want to do business with their friends. All things being not quite so equal, people STILL want to do business with their friends."

Well friends, thank you for doing business with us.

My sincere wish and prayer is for all of us in drought-stricken areas to get an abundance of rain this spring and that the fires in Texas are soon extinguished.

Have a great spring and summer. -JBH



Marc visiting with Howard Moss from Whitehall, MT at the Holden Herefords sale in Valier, MT.



Ryan Hermann (left), manager/owner of Hermann Ranch, Lemmon, SD visiting with Doug Branch manager of Buford Ranches, Hominy, OK, at the Cooper Sale, Willow Creek, MT. The Cooper bull pens are a great place to get caught up with people while enjoying the scenery.



Barclay Kreth, Kreth Cattle of Mt. Vernon, SD visiting with a buyer and looking at bulls before their sale.



Courtney Schuette with her parents Kathy and Jerry Schuette, excited about getting a heifer at the K&B Sale, Onida, SD.

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P44270278 • Sire: Pyramid Hometown 7030 BW: 78 lbs. • WW: 577 lbs. • BW 2.8 WW 57 YW 93 M 28 M&G 56 REA .43 MARB .22 CHB\$ 122



4/2/21 • Sire: JLS Renown 0520 BW: 85 lbs. • WW: 800 lbs. Ratio 125

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Byron's Classics

Continued from the March issue

Not too long after that, maybe two years, Scar called me and asked how I was doing. I told him that we were raising registered Hereford cattle, doing a lot of things in the cattle business and I was flying around the country frequently. Scar told me he was now located in Arizona and would like to have me stop and visit him if I ever came down that way. I told him that I was scheduled to judge the Arizona National Hereford show in Phoenix in January and would like to see him and his wife, who also went to college with us. He said it would be wonderful if I could stop by and I asked him since we were flying, could we fly into where he was located. He told me to call him when we knew we were leaving for sure and he would give us detailed instructions about where we were to land and what the procedure would be.

After I had finished the judging job at the Arizona National, I called Scar and we made plans for us to come south and visit them the next day. Scar said he would call me back with the code which I would need to land at Marana Airbase. At the international airport in Phoenix we were assigned to take off on parallel runways with a Boeing 747, and after takeoff we were assigned by the tower to fly right over the top of the 747 when at 300 feet, on his takeoff runway, and take a heading of 180 degrees. The 747 was assigned a heading of 090 degrees. Phoenix is an incredibly busy airport and you have to know that I was a little nervous with all of the big heavy traffic.

After maneuvering around more air traffic, it took us only about 30 minutes to get over into the Marana approach control area, I called Marana approach and said this is Bonanza 11 Victor, ten north, landing Marana. After a long pause, came the reply, Bonanza 11 Victor, Marana approach, do you have a clearance number? I answered affirmative and relayed my clearance number, and was cleared to tower frequency. After calling the tower we were cleared to land but told to follow the security



Older photo of Marana Air Base, now Pinal Air Park north of Tucson, AZ.

trucks at the end of the runway to the terminal.

Scar was waiting for us with two more security people. Security was told by Scar to take our plane to Hangar 3 and then we were taken into the building where Scar's wife was waiting to greet us. She was a great gal, went to the U with us and was a Montana champion tennis player in high school. After a great night of food and stories, but nothing about what Scar was doing, we retired for the night, knowing that this was a one night stay and we must leave at first light. I was told that night that Tiger lost his flying edge for the big birds, retired, and was flying for UPS in Tucson and Scar gave me his phone number. At 0700 we launched and headed for Tucson International Airport and hoped for a reunion with Tiger. The mystery with Scar still remained but I was quite sure I knew who he worked for all these years.

We met at the airport cafe and it was great to see Tiger again. He looked a lot older, kind of worn, but the same

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old smile. We had a good old time, talking about family and different things, finished breakfast, then I said, "Tiger, I monitored you on the school bus when you were in grade school, went to church with you and your family, your sister was my sister's best friend, I vouched for you with Scar, on your big job, and for the past 20 years, and you and Scar could tell me nothing! What in the hell is going on !?" Tiger said, "Let's go outside and talk in private. "Byron, when I got the job with Scar to fly I knew it was a "spook" job, you know Air America, Intermountain Air, CIA and all that good stuff. I can tell you about it now because it has been declassified. Scar won't talk about it because he is still working for the airline. We flew all over Southeast Asia and back and forth to the U.S., hauling people and cargo. Again, I was just the pilot and was told where to go and what to do, I never did know about who or what I was hauling. I was paid monthly, if I went down nobody knew me or claimed me, I was on my own that way. The money was sent home from a U.S. account. Even my wife knew very little about what I was doing. Don't say too much about this for a while but the whole story will come out soon. My wife is very sick with cancer and won't last long now."

That was the end of the visit as Tiger was scheduled on another flight. Tiger's wife died about a month later and ironically Tiger was killed in an unusual accident about a year later when the nose landing gear on a large airliner malfunctioned while Tiger was working on it?? His family asked me to speak at his funeral. At Tiger's funeral I spoke of his young life, his family, and what I knew about his service to his country and of course a short bit of what I knew about Air America and Intermountain Aviation, the CIA cover airline. There were about six big, young guys, all nicely dressed, and unknown to anybody at the funeral?? During my talk they all sat stoic and expressionless and departed immediately after the service. Nobody knew them!

After the service was over Tiger's two daughters came up to me and said to me as they were crying, "We did not know where Dad was all those years, and Mom said she could not tell us. We knew he flew a lot of planes, but he was gone so much, few letters, checks were mailed to Mom and when he did come home he looked old and tired. At last we have some closure, know what he was doing, and as you said he and those who worked with him were heroes!" Scar did not attend the funeral!

When I piece this saga all together it is amazing how it rolled around my life. Scar who knew me well, knew I had a Secret Clearance with the military, Montana raised and educated and operating a Montana business, managed security operations in the Air Force, worked with the FBI on several flight operations, and was a commercial pilot. They had me well scoped. I learned Scar was being dropped into China by parachute in covert operations and then walked out, during college years. That is why he was gone from college about one quarter a year and why he could not tell anyone where he had been. Because of my background he arranged for me, with him, to buy Johnson Flying Service, and had the money behind him. I guess I liked the ranch and family too much. Johnson was sold shortly after to Evergreen Aviation, who immediately began to use the air carrier permit to fly people and unknown cargo around the world. It was released 20 years later that Evergreen was part of Air America and a CIA operative? Scar was CEO of Intermountain, one of probably six airlines funded and operated by the SPOOKS.

These were brave men and women, not unlike many Special Forces units that have unbelievable missions today. For all the people who have answered the call to service in all the wars in my life time, I salute you. Was I a SPOOK? No, but I sure had some good friends who were, and I know I was used, but to good use.

Scar retired and with his wife lives in a small town in mountains in the northwest part of the U.S.

Scar never did tell me anything! — BB

* * *

Editor's Note: Dad finally wrote this article after I had quizzed him several times about Evergreen Airlines which we kept seeing at various airports such as Billings and Rapid City.

In searching for photos to go with this article I found an interesting article in the Arizona Daily Star about Jim Kelly who had a similar job. It's an interesting read.

Final Farewell...

Bruce Jerry Larson

Age 58, passed away unexpectedly in his home on Sunday, Feb. 27,2022.

Bruce was born on September 29, 1963, the second of three children of Jerry & Joyce Larson. He was raised

on the family farm, growing up doing daily chores- milking cows and baling hay. As a Spring Valley (WI) High School Cardinal, he lettered, won all-conference honors and was



part of the Div. 5 1978 State Champion football team. He was also an outstanding heavyweight wrestler and competed in the state tournament twice. Being coached by the legendary Bob Thomas, Bruce's love for sports and coaching took root. He graduated from Spring Valley H.S. in 1982 and moved on to UW- River Falls. He continued his football and wrestling career there and earned his degree in Physical Education. It was there that he met his sister's college roommate, Kelly Christopherson. After they both graduated, they married on July 25, 1987. They moved to Somerset and began to raise their children and their football centered family.

Bruce was hired in 1987 by Somerset (WI) High School. His Spartan coaching career included Girls Basketball (87-88), Wrestling (88-99) and Football as an assistant to his longtime friend. Brad Nemec from 87-1998 and took over as head coach in 1999 after Brad retired. He remained in this position through the 2021 season. As head football coach, his teams claimed nine Middle Border conference championships, and went on to win state titles in 2002, 2012 & 2014, as well as state runner-ups in 2004, 2005 & 2011. In 2013 he was inducted into the UWRF Sports Hall of Fame. He was awarded the Wisconsin High School Coach of the Year in 2014 and the Don Shula National High School Coach of the Year in 2015. Most recently, he was honored with the inaugural Wisconsin Bell Cow Leadership award in 2021. Under Bruce's guidance, Somerset H.S. has had several players reach the NFL. Bruce's greatest accomplishment was all of the students he impacted daily at Somerset High school for the past 36 years. He affirmed this in a quote he shared: "I think we have made many good fathers [and mothers], some great employees, people that will look you in the eye and will do what is right and honest.'

Bruce also founded and owned the Bumper to Bumper School of Driving and has trained thousands of drivers over the past 10+ years. He loved to cook- especially grilling meat to everyone's delight. Bruce's wardrobe color selection was small, black and red, and green and yellow, but growing. In recent years he added in blue and orange, but he would have never ever added in purple. Bruce was a dedicated Packer fan and could be found every Sunday cheering them on. After a 40 year wait, this Bruce finally got his Packer season tickets.

He is survived by his wife, Kelly; sons, Rocky (Richell), granddaughter, Lettie, Mayville, ND, Reggie (fiancé', Bailey Walz), New Richmond, WI. and daughter, McKell, Somerset. Gaelin (Micaela) and daughter, Laniah Elmore are also part of the Larson's cherished extended family. Bruce and Kelly's influence on education and coaching impacted their children's future careers. Rocky is currently the Head Football Coach at Mayville State University, ND. Reggie is a Physical Education Teacher and Head Football Coach at New Richmond High School, WI. McKell is an 8th-grade Social Studies Teacher at Osceola Middle School, WI, and was at her dad's side during every single game. Gaelin advocates for youth and foster care improvement. Parents, Jerry & Joyce Larson, Spring Valley (who rarely missed any Spartan games), brother, Fred (Lori), Spring Valley, and sister, Beth Carlson (Ross), Murdock. Nieces and nephews, Justin, Easten Larson and Mallory (Ryan Vos, fiancé), Regan Carlson. Mother-in-law, Kathy Christopherson, Ridgeland, WI. Brother-in-law, Jeff (Diana) Christopherson. Nieces and nephews; Austin, Lee, Beau and Veda.

Bruce was preceded in death by his grandparents, Fred & Grace Larson, Spring Valley, and Walter & Verna Larson, Minneapolis, MN; and his father-in-law, Larry Christopherson, Ridgeland, WI.

None of us will ever forget that small spark of mischief in his eyes, infectious smile, and quick-witted one-liners.

Nancy Jo Wichman

Nancy Jo Wichman made her final stitch in the beautiful quilt of life and our angel got her wings on February 26, 2022, surrounded by her family after a short battle with cancer.

Nancy was born on January 4, 1955 in Lewistown, MT to Charles and

Ethel (Bowen) Lelek. She attended Fergus High School and was part of the Eaglettes and baton team. She graduated in 1973. She grew up in a tight knit

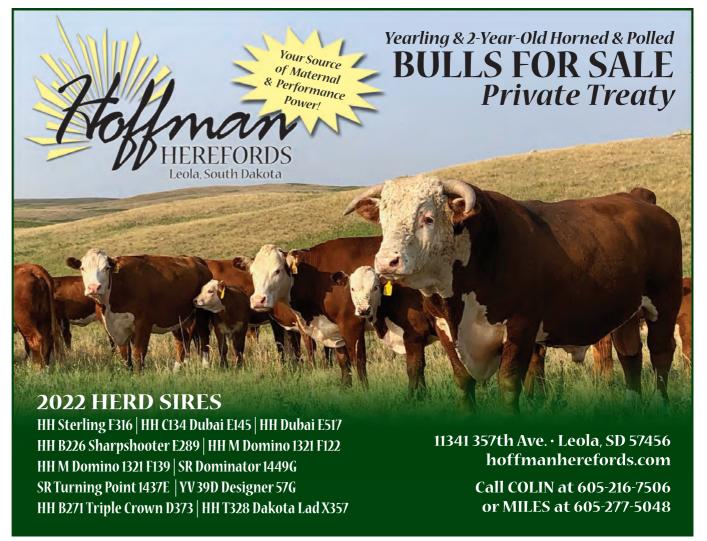
community where she had many close friends that lived within blocks of each other. Unbeknownst to Nancy, she would meet the love of her life, Herb Wichman, at a house party and later married August 2, 1975. They moved to Helena in 1979. They had three beautiful children Justin, Jared, and Jodi. Nancy was a faith-filled woman who was a rock-solid companion and partner with Herb for 46 years. She was a great mother who provided a well-rounded foundation for her kids.

Nancy was very active in her community and held various jobs throughout her lifetime. She started at the hospital in medical coding. After having her children, she stayed home raising her children but put her many talents to work. When Jodi started school, she got a job at Ben Franklin Crafts working for a few years. She later purchased Deal's and remodeled it into her dream of owning a craft store, CottonWood Treasures, where she worked side by side with her dad, Charlie, and created many new friendships. She later closed the store after 8 years. She loved children and taught many years of church school at St. Mathias in Moore. Nancy was a teacher's aide in Moore for one year. She then went on to be a teller at Fergus Federal Credit Union, eventually moving to members' representative. Her career at FFCU lasted 20 years, retiring in October 2021. She was also a Norwex consultant and sold at many shows.

Nancy loved arts and crafts. She was extremely artistic and loved to tole paint. She would drag her kids to many craft shows and craft bazaars. Nancy shared her many talents with those around her by teaching painting classes through the adult education and teaching her grandchildren to sew. She spent countless hours tole painting, basket weaving, sewing, and crocheting and was always excited to share her talents with anyone and everyone.

Nancy was involved in several clubs and was one of the founding members of the Wild Rose Extension club and

(continued on page 8)



Final Farewell...

(continued from page 7)

was a lifelong member. She loved to play cards and games. Herb and Nancy used to play cards once a month with five other couples for several years. She was part of two bunco groups meeting many new friends and making new memories. Nancy was very proud of inventing Quilter's Strip Poker and sold many copies of the game to her quilting community. She was a member of St. Mathias parish and the Alter Society there, and later a member of St. Leo's parish.

Nancy traveled all over with her parents growing up. She loved to travel any chance she got. She would go on one or two annual quilting trips, which she always looked forward to. One of the highlights of her life was going to Czech Republic and Prague where her family was from. Her goal was to travel to all 50 states and she was shy of nine. She went on many trips with her dear friends, which she enjoyed more than anything.

Above all else, Nancy loved her family. Her children and her grandchildren were the joys of her life. She didn't miss an opportunity to watch any of their activities or school programs. She was their biggest fan and biggest supporter and loved to teach them her talents of painting, crafts, and sewing, helping them with their 4H and school projects. She loved being a part of the big Wichman family and loved each and every one of them. She jumped in and always helped plan the reunions.

Nancy was one very special lady. She was a wonderful spouse, mother, grandmother, relative, and friend. She was everyone's friend and was always welcoming, loving, giving, and always greeted everyone with her beautiful smile and a sparkle in her eye. She loved helping people above all else. She was continually performing a task and many times multiple tasks simultaneously, or maybe just helping others with theirs. Nancy had the biggest heart. She was always giving gifts, thinking of others and putting others first. She was so upbeat and positive. She was a radiant beam of light that shined on everyone she met. Nancy had a contagious laugh that made everyone around her feel warm and like a friend.

She was preceded in death by her dear grandfather, Blazej Lelek; parents, Charles and Ethel (Bowen) Lelek; parents-in-law, Joe and Vesta (Howard) Wichman; brothers-in-law, Joe Wichman, John Strait; sisters-in-law, Marilyn Merchen, Margaret Strait; niece, Julie Merchen; nephew, Rodney Wichman.

Nancy is survived by her husband of 46 years, Herb; children, Justin (Carmen) Wichman, Jared (Jackie) Wichman, Jodi (Shaun) Ruckman; grandchildren, Lexie Wichman, Charlotte Wichman, Wyatt Wichman [Justin] Lani Ruckman, Kalli Ruckman, Miles Ruckman, Rhett Ruckman [Jodi]; Brother, Wayne (Jonette) Lelek; and numerous brothers-in-law, sisters-inlaw, nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Nell Feddes

Nell Feddes entered the joyous presence of Jesus on March 5, 2022, at the age of 91.

Born March 26, 1930, to Marcus and Lena Izenbaard, Nell grew up in a Christ-centered home in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and became a devout disciple of Jesus. Gifted with musical talent, she

became a pianist in junior high and a church organist by age 19. Gifted with a brilliant mind, she was valedictorian of her class. For a few years she worked for the



Upjohn pharmaceutical company.

Nell was engaged to Marvin Feddes in 1950, but their wedding was delayed for three years while he was in Germany with the United States Army. Marv and Nell were married on August 14, 1953. They settled on a ranch near Manhattan, Montana. Their loving union lasted until Marv died in 2017.

God blessed Marv and Nell with six children. They learned the Bible at home, saw the life of Christ at work in their parents, and were educated at Manhattan Christian School. Nell nourished her family with delicious meals but also fed their minds by reading aloud with them and offering wise, often funny sayings. When grandchildren came, they



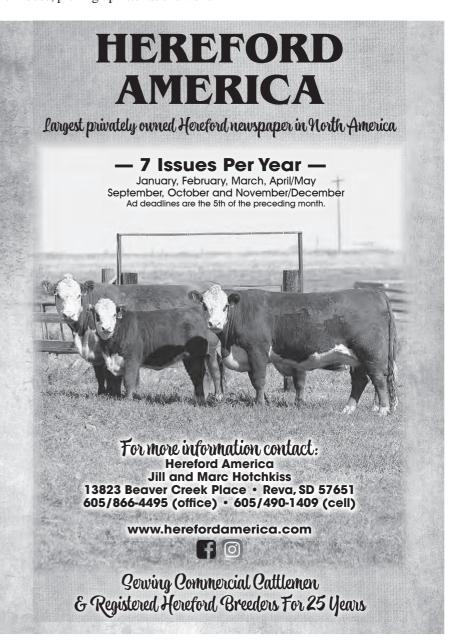
relished Grandma's homemade bread, Grandpa's candy, and lots of hugs from both. Marv and Nell also drove many thousands of miles each year to visit children and grandchildren who lived far from Montana.

Nell's love and kindness reached far beyond her family. She was a charter member of Bethel Christian Reformed Church. She served as church secretary for many years and as organist until age 80. Nell was a founder and volunteer at the pregnancy care center (now ZoeCare), helping women in difficult situations. She taught correspondence Bible lessons to students in prison and encouraged them with countless personal letters. She served on the board of Reformed Bible College and in the leadership of Christian Women's Club. A lover of God's creation, Nell could often be seen walking along the roads near her house, picking up litter as she went.

Because she experienced God's forgiveness and peace, she loved to share the gospel of Jesus so that others could have eternal life. Her favorite hymn was, "It Is Well With My Soul." Her favorite verse was Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Nell is survived by her children, Michael (Rene'), Dan (Robyn), Tim (Tami), Marvanne (Dwight) Logterman, David (Wendy), and Paul (Deb); 27 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren. Nell was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Marv; brothers John, Don, and Marv Izenbaard; and granddaughter, Rebekah Feddes.

Memorial gifts may be sent to Zoe-Care (2251 W. Kagy Suite #2, Bozeman, MT 59718) or Crossroads Prison Ministries (2480 44th St SE, Kentwood, MI 49512).





Sale Results Shaw Cattle Co. **Top Bulls:**

Bull Sale Caldwell, ID Feb. 16, 2022 **Auctioneers: Butch Booker and Trent Stewart**

172 Hereford Bulls — \$4,790 162 Angus Bulls — \$7,074 26 Red Angus Bulls — \$5,010 90 Commercial Pairs — \$1,990 52 Commercial Open Heifers -\$1,450

Top Hereford Bulls:

Lot 105, /S Perfecto 00572, 8/20 by BG LCC 11B Perfecto 84F to Tennessee River Music, AL, \$17,500. Lot 28, /S Perfecto 00594, 9/20 by BG LCC 11B Perfecto 84F, \$15,000. Lot 3, /S Perfecto 00679, 9/20 by BG LCC 11B Perfecto 84F, to a Montana Commercial buyer, \$12,500.

Top Angus Bulls:

Lot 204, Shaw Profile 00528, 8/20 by Sitz Profile 1160 to Desert View Ranch, Melba, ID, \$14,500.

Lot 200, Shaw Tahoe 00450, 8/20 by Tehama Tahoe B767 to Desert View Ranch, \$13,000.

Lot 202, Shaw Tahoe 00448, 8/20 by Tehama Tahoe B767, to GJ Ranch, McDermitt, NV, \$12,000.



Shaw Sale Topper - Lot 105, /S Perfecto 00572, 8/20 by BG LCC 11B Perfecto 84F sold to Tennessee River Music, AL for \$17.500.

64th Annual **Rausch Bull and Female Sale** Feb. 21, 2022 Hoven, SD **Auctioneer: Joe Goggins**

146 Bulls - \$5.187 77 2-Year-Old Bulls — \$5,198 69 Yearling Bulls — \$5,174 30 Reg. Hereford Heifers — \$2,980 **192 Registerable Hereford Heifers** - \$1,657 **34 Commercial Hereford Heifers — \$1,623**

The smallest crowd in years braved the bitter cold & snow on sale day and the record number of bidders on the internet rewarded us with a higher market and one of our best annual sales. 19 states were represented in the buyer list.

Lot 74, R Entrust 6180, 2-year-old bull to Ade Polled Herefords, \$17,000. Lot 91, GR Home Run 4470, 2-year-old bull to Liam McManus, SD, \$11,500. Lot 73, R Excel 6100, 2-year-old bull to Ingle & Son, AZ, \$11,000. Lot 3, R Entrust 4071, Yearling Bull to Midway Polled Herefords, \$10,000. Lot 24, GR Entrust 3111, Yearling Bull to Upstream Ranch, \$10,000. Lot 112, R New York 4200, 2-year-old bull to Goebel Farms, \$10,000. Lot 1, R Entrust 4161, Yearling Bull to Brad Robison, NE, \$8,000. Lot 18, R Entrust 6971, Yearling Bull to Douglas Larson, SD \$8,000. Lot 20, GR New York 3091, Yearling Bull to Goebel Farms, SD \$8,000. Lot 45, R Addition 5841, Yearling Bull to Ross Litsey, ND, \$8,000.

Top Females:

Lot 171, R Miss Valor 711 to Guy and Jennifer Hammond, NY, \$7,000. Lot 175, R Miss Entrust 1361 to Bayers Hereford Ranch, SD, \$5,000.



Rausch Sale Topper - Lot 74, R Entrust 6180 topped the Rausch offering going to Ade Polled Herefords for \$17,000.



It was a cold, snowy day at Rausch Herefords in Hoven, SD



Jacob Rausch visiting with Dale and Lee Goebel before the sale.

FOR SALE BY **PRIVATE TREATY**

Selling: Two-Year-Old Bulls plus Registered Hereford Yearling Heifers available in Feb.

Also BWF and Black Yearling Heifers

Looking for some extra size, length and muscle? All these traits and more in outcross genetics that thrive in real world conditions. Big, rugged, two-year old bulls for sale private treaty.

TOP-OUALITY WORKING CATTLE BRED AND FED WITH THE COMMERCIAL CATTLEMAN IN MIND.

746H 44210226 • 4/8/2020 BW: 97 • 205 WT: 568 Scrotal: 40 cm Everything about this bull is big, big top and really big butt end. Exceptionally deep and long. One of our top bulls this year. Really quiet too. BW 3.0 WW 64 YW 102 M 24 REA .29



44210236 • 4/18/2020 BW: 106 • 205 WT: 596 Heaviest bull in the pen A big outlined bull with tons of muscle, really deep, with a big rear end. High growth and milk EPDs. A true herd bull. BW 6.8 WW 69 YW 112 M 30 REA .37

794H

811H 44210244 • 4/20/2020 BW: 97 • 205 WT: 592 A really tame bull with a ton of muscle. A smooth made bull with a great profile. Sire bred until 11 years old. Good pigment and really deep bodied. BW 4.6 WW 57 YW 92 M 28 REA .29

WJS MIDWAY

YORK 833H 44210252 • 4/24/2020 BW: 102 • 205 WT: 591 This bull has it all, depth, thickness, length and goggles. Smooth made with great butt end. A crowd favorite or the tour last fall. Dam is a power cow with lots of volume BW 4.5 WW 66 YW 103 M 22 REA .61



G

(2.5 miles south and 5.5 miles east of Sheyenne) Bill and Karen Smith: (701) 996-3300 cell: (701) 302-0254 Jake and Whitney Burkhardsmeier: cell: (701) 650-8906 • home: (701) 996-3600 **POLLED HEREFORDS SINCE 1953** Visitors always welcome.

Sale Results

(continued from page 9)

Bar JZ Ranches 73rd Annual Production Sale Don & Peg Zilverberg Seth & Bridget Zilverberg Holabird, South Dakota

Tuesday, February 22, 2022 Bar JZ South Ranch Sale Barn Auctioneer: Sonny Booth

42 Polled Hereford Bulls — \$5,305 40 Limousin and LimFlex Bulls — \$4,220

Top Hereford Lots:

Lot 4, Bar JZ Vagabond 304J, a homozygous polled, 2/28/21 son of RV Valor 9444G ET to Hansmeier & Son, Inc., SD. \$11,000.

Lot 20, Bar JZ Insight 334J, a homozygous polled, 3/11/21 son of Innisfail WHR X651/723 4013 ET to Sam Smith, SD, \$11,000.

Lot 18, Bar JZ Vanquish 329J, a homozygous polled 3/8/21 son of RV Valor 9444G ET to Gant Polled Herefords, SD, \$9,500.

Lot 2, Bar JZ Valiant 301J, homozygous polled, 2/27/21 son of RV Valor 9444G ET to Coffin Butte Farm, ND, \$9,000.

Lot 51, Bar JZ Indeed 426J, a homozygous polled, 3/29/21 son of Innisfail WHR X651/723 4013 ET to Rachel Parsons, SD, \$8,750.

Lot 10, Bar JZ Veracity 315J, a homozygous polled 3/6/21 son of RV Valor 9444G ET to Tracy Mader, MN, \$8,500.

Top Limousin:

Lot 102, Bar JZ Durham 312J, a homozygous polled, homozygous black, 52% LimFlex, 3/4/21 son of DANH Durham to Opheim Limousin, SD, \$6,500.

Lot 119, Bar JZ Dartmouth 384J, a homozygous polled, homozygous black, 65% LimFlex 3/21/21 son of TMCK Dartmouth to Kleinschmidt Ranch, SD, \$6,500.

In addition to South Dakota, bulls sold into North Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Texas.



Derek McCloud, Holabird, SD, purchased three Polled Hereford bulls in the Bar JZ sale.



Don Zilverberg (left) with Victor Nemec who purchased three Polled Hereford bulls in the Bar JZ sale.



Full and maternal brothers to the 2022 National Champion Polled bull, PCC Maverick 0183, topped the Perez sale.



Part of the Hereford offering at Perez Cattle Co., Nara Visa, NM.

Perez Cattle Company Spring 2022 Bull Sale Feb. 22, 2022 Nara Visa, NM

Auctioneer: Dustin Layton 52 Hereford Bulls — \$6,802 37 Angus Bulls — \$5,445 7 Registered Bred Heifers — \$4,965

66 Commercial Heifers — \$1,301

Top Lots:

Lot 1, PCC 7009 173D Endure 0364 to C&W Herefords, Manhattan, KS, \$25,000.

Lot 38, PCC 754E 16G Standout 1140 ET to Milano Livestock, Milano, TX, \$13,250.

Lot 2, PCC 7009 173D Endure 0365, Pieper Land & Cattle, Zurich, KS, \$12,000.

Lot 3, PCC 5102 173D Endure 0319 ET to Christopher Grotegut—Dawn, TX, \$12,000.

134E

Lot 57, PCC 8832 316 Capitalist 0802 to V4 Land & Cattle, Logan, NM, \$12,000. Lot 12, PCC 6036 134E Partner 0333 ET, Doug Davis -Dryer, TN, \$11,000. Lot 13, PCC 6036 134E Partner 0322 to Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, NE, \$11,000. Lot 18, PCC 6020

Roadrunner

0356 to T4 Cattle Co., Tucumcari, NM, \$10,000.

Lot 80, PCC 81A 6848 Rainfall 1517 to Bar S Ranch, Russell, KS, \$10,000. Lot 56, PCC 4280 316 Capitalist 0815 to Triple D Family, Stratfort, TX, \$9,000.

Lot 27, PCC 2043 628 Advance 0325 ET to Justin Dauer, Panhandle, TX, \$8,500.

Lot 36, PCC 6036 16G Standout 1099 ET to Bob Walters, Henderson, TX, \$8,000.

Lot 40, PCC 7028 308F Dominate 1106 ET to Chapman Herefords, Seneca, IL, \$8,000.

Ulrich Herefords Annual Bull & Heifer Sale February 22, 2022 Lethbridge, AB Auctioneer: Bob Balog

25 Hereford Bulls — \$5,120 25 Reg. Bred Hereford Heifers — \$2,992

Top Yearling Bull:

Lot 4, AGA 43K Stanmore High-Tech 4H, 3/30/20 by Stanmore 43K to C.O. Johnson and Sons, Scandia, AB, \$8,000, 3/4 interest.

Top Two-Year-Old Bull:

Lot 67, AGA 110C MO LE Chuck Hunky 67H, 4/22/20 by AGA 137A MO LE Brit Chuck 110C to Douglas Lake Cattle Co., Douglas Lake, BC, \$8,000, 3/4 interest.



Bar JZ Sale — On the block are Seth Zilverberg (left), Auctioneer Sonny Booth and Don Zilverberg. Zilverbergs had a challenging winter weather situation on their sale day.



Perez Sale — High winds and a brutal wind chill forced the auction to the historic Nara Visa school.

HEREFORD AMERICA • April/May 2022



AGA 43K Stanmore High-Tech 4H was the top seller for Ulrich Herefords going to C.O. Johnson and Sons, Scandia, AB for \$8,000, 3/4 interest.

Gant Hereford & Angus Sale Feb. 25, 2022 Geddes, SD **Auctioneer: Chisum Peterson**

23 Hereford Bulls — \$4,220 23 Angus Bulls — \$4,520 **11 Commercial Bred Hereford** Heifers — \$1,909 **11 Commercial Bred** Angus Heifers — \$2,027

Top Herefords:

Lot 1, Gant NJW Decorby 060 by NJW 135 10W Decorby 27F ET to Backes Ranch, Platte, SD, \$8,000.

Lot 15, Gant Hometown 056 by MPH 10Y Hometown E10 ET to Davidson Bros., Gregory, SD, \$7,750.

Lot 2, Gant NJW Decorby 055 by NJW 135 10W Decorby 27F ET to Mike Robertson, Wagner, SD, \$5,250.

Lot 5, Gant Decorby 057 by NJW 135 10W Decorby 27F ET to Davidson Bros., Gregory, SD, \$5,250. Lot 4, Gant Decorby 042 by NJW 135 10W Decorby 27F ET to Jonathan Bartscher, Emery, SD, \$5,000.

Top Angus:

Lot 26, Gant Payweight 641 by A&B Payweight 7198 to Ray Hermanek, Lake Andes, SD, \$8,000.

Lot 49, Gant Cowboy 671 by A&B Cowboy Up 8116 to Kaydon Jons, Bonesteel, SD, \$7,750.

Lot 33, Gant Payweight 582 by A&B Payweight 7198 to Kevin Lindwurm, Colome, SD, \$5,500.

Lot 46, Gant Enhance 714 by Mogck Enhance 1928 to Jay Wynia, Dante, SD. \$5.250.

Lot 51, Gant Cowboy 675 by A&B Cowboy Up 8115 to Todd Strand, Platte, SD, \$5,250.



Gant high seller was Gant NJW Decorby. He sold to Backes Ranch, Geddes, SD for \$8,000.

Jamison Herefords Bull Sale Feb. 25, 2022 Quinter, KS

Auctioneer: Lynn Weishaar

95 2-Year-Old Bulls — \$6,289 5 Yearling Bulls — \$5,400

Top Two-Year-Old Bulls:

Lot 51, JA L1 Domino 0632, 2/25/20 by CL 1 Domino 6163D to Teri Harper, Dufur, Caddo, OK, \$10,000. Lot 30, JA L1 Domino 0254H 3/1/20, by JA L1 Domino 6212D to Weeks Family, Brownell, KS, \$9,500. Lot 31, JA L1 Domino 0255H, 3/12/20 by JA L1 Domino 6212D to Weeks Family, \$9,000.

Lot 42, JAL1 Domino 0531H, 4/25/20 by CL 1 Domino 6163D to Chuck Walker, Brownell, KS, \$9,000. Lot 45, JA L1 Domino 0611H, 2/1/20 by CL 1 Domino 6163D to Currie Smith, Amarillo, TX, \$9,000.

Top Yearling Bulls:

Lot 91, CO L1 Domino 170J, 4/1/21 by HH ADVANCE 9033G to Ken Whitehair, Terra Alta, WV, \$7,500. Lot 89, CO L1 Domino 122J, 3/13/21 by FS Advance 8044F to Spring Water Ranch, Osceola, MO, \$6,500. Lot 90, CO L1 Domino 142J, 3/17/21 by FS Advance 8044F to Harmony Herefords, Quinter, KS, \$5,500.

Tegtmeier Polled Herefords Annual Production Sale Burchard, NE Feb. 26, 2022

Auctioneer: Joel Birdwell

30 Bulls — \$4,492 29 Bred Heifers — \$3,027 10 Open Heifers — \$3,235 69 Total Head — \$3,694

Top Bulls:

Lot 1, CT Sunshine 2J ET, 2/1/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 ET to Union Center Genetics, Blue Springs, NE, \$8,000.

Lot 2, CT Sunrise 1J ET, 2/3/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 ET to Meyer Polled Herefords, Hebron, NE, \$8,000. Lot 13, CT Test 116H, 9/28/20 by F Final Test 722 to Ron and Regan Raub, Frankfort, KS, \$5,500.

Lot 21, CT Cowboy 54H by Loewen MHF Cowboy 2E to Tim Tegtmeier, Burchard, NE, \$5,250.

Top Females:

Lot 58, CT Miss Dylan 86H, 2/24/20 by SHF Dylan A191 D35 to TWJ Farms, Carroll, NE, \$5,000. Lot 68, CT Miss Trudy 87J, 3/5/21 by Loewen MHF 167Y 20A 40F ET

to Cody McDowell, Prairie City, IA, \$4,900. Lot 63, CT Miss Gail 81J, 2/28/21 by Loewen 4B Garfield B42 G24 ET to

(continued on page 12)



SandRock Ranch Herefords 4th Annual Production Sale April 16, 2022 | 1p.m. CST

Consignor: C&L Herefords

40 Yearling Bulls 20 Baldy Yearling Heifers 5 Registered Yearling Heifers 3 Commercial Cow/Calf Pairs 4 18-Month Old Bulls (Selling Choice)



Bid Online with www.liveauctions.tv

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12 • www.herefordamerica.com

(continued from page 11) McDonald Farm, Grand Rapids, MI, \$4,750.



Tegtmeier — Top seller in the Tegtmeier sale was Lot 1, CT Sunshine 2J ET a Feb. 1, 2021 son of Loewen Genesis G16 ET. He sold to Union Center Genetics from Blue Springs, NE for \$8,000.

Kreth Hereford and Angus Production Sale February 26, 2022 Mt. Vernon, SD Auctioneer: Joe Goggins

20 Hereford Bulls — \$4,688 39 Angus Bulls — \$5,142 9 Reg. Hereford Heifers — \$2,650

Top Hereford Bulls:

Lot 55, K Dominator 1118 J, 2/3/21 by BCC Dominator 619D to Jeff Mezger, Marble Falls, TX, \$8,500.

Lot 50, K Sir Ridge 163J by NJW 79Z 103C Ridge 311F ET to Brian Riessen, IA, \$7,500 Lot 54, K Historic 1106J by NJW 160B



Bulls on display at the Tegtmeier Polled Herefords sale, Burchard, NE.



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For over a century, we've committed ourselves to develop high-quality Hereford genetics for the betterment of the commercial cattle industry. We invite you to the ranch to view first hand our easy doin' and uniform set of range bulls and replacement heifers. Our goal is your success, so let us help you find the right genetics for your program that'll surely add profit to your bottom line.

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Kreth Herefords had an impressive display of Hereford and Angus bulls and Hereford females on display.

028X Historic 81E ET to Johnson Hereford Farm, IA, \$7,250. Lot 49, K Sir Ridge 142J, by NJW 79Z 103C Ridge 311F ET to Aaron Baker, SD, \$7,000.

Top Angus Bulls:

Lot 15, K Growth Fund 169J, by Deer Valley Growth Fund to G&E Livestock, WI, \$14,000. Lot 18, K Big Valley 165J, by Connealy Big Valley to JK Angus, SD, \$12,000. Lot 3, K King Air 129K by, Connealy King Air to James Hornig, SD, \$8,750.

Top Females:

Lot 66, K Lady Historic 1117 J, 2/3/21, NJW 160B 028X Historic 81E ET by Roy Mingus, Perry, KS, \$3,750. Lot 64, K Lady Dominator 123J by BCC Dominator 619D to Zens Herefords, SD, \$3,500. Lot 63, K Lady Long Range 116J by NYW 76S 27A Long Range 203D ET to Roudabush Herefords, SD, \$3,500.

Colyer Herefords and Angus Sale March 1, 2022 Bruneau, ID Auctioneers: C.D. "Butch" Booker and Kyle Colyer

Cattle went to 23 states and Mexico 134 Hereford Bulls — \$7,693 77 Angus Bulls — \$6,629 25 Hereford Heifers — \$4,034 14 Angus Heifers — \$3,413 1 Choice Flush — \$12,500 6 Pregnancies — \$8,633

Top Hereford Bulls:

C 8086 Sancho 1084 ET, 1/7/21 by ECR 628 Ivys Advance 8923 ET for ³/₄



Colyer sale top at \$45,000 for 3/4 interest was Lot 34, C 8086 Sancho 1084 ET by ECR 628 Ivys Advance 8923 ET. He sold to Bowling Ranch, OK and Bill King, NM, \$45,000. interest to Bowling Ranch, OK and Bill King, NM, \$45,000.

C Special Advance 0264 ET, 8/25/20 by ECR 628 Ivys Advance 8923 ET to Waibel Ranch, OR, \$52,500.

C 8105 Genesis 1024 ET, 1/2/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 to Waibel Ranch, \$40,000.

C 8108 Belle Air 1092, 1/8/21 by C 4038 Belle Air 8108 ET to Waibel Ranch, \$35,000.

C 5355C Belle Air 1085, 1/8/21 by BR Belle Air 6011 to a Nevada buyer, \$27,500.

C BAR 1 8108 Bell Air 1113, 1/9/21 by C 4038 Bell Air 1113 to a California buyer, \$17,500.

C Genesis 1123, 1/11/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 to TI Ranch, NV, \$11,000. C 7057 BLACK HAWK 0276 08/28/2020 BY C 4212 Black Hawk 7057 ET to Davis Farms, SD \$11,000. C SULL G16 Genesis 1221 ET, 2/20/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 ET to Knox, TX, \$11,000.

C Miles Validate 0315 ET, 9/5/20 by EF BEEF BR Validated B413 to Mark Mackenzie, OR, \$10,500.

C 4038 G16 Genesis 1086 ET, 1/8/21 by Loewen Genesis G16 to W3 Livestock, ID, \$10,000.

C 88X GENESIS 1137 01/13/2021 by Loewen Genesis G16 to Capon Ranch, OR \$10,000.

C Validated 0245 ET, 8/21/20 by EF BEEF BR Validated B413 to Rancho Puert de Nieto, Mexico, \$10,000. C 1313 Endure 2099 ET, 9/1/20 by NJW 79Z Z311 Endure 173D ET to El Regladero, Mexico, \$10,000.

Top Hereford Females:

C SULL Olivia 1047, 1/5/21 by ECR 628 Ivys Advance 8923 ET to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, \$15,000. C 8108 Bell Air 1021, 1/3/2021 by C 4038 Bell Air 8108 ET to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, \$10,000.

Top Pregnant Recip:

Heifer calf pregnancy by C GKB Guardian 1015 AND C Black Hawk Lass 8019 to Jennings Land and Livestock, IL, \$14,000.

1 Flush to an Idaho buyer, \$12,500.

Top Angus Bulls:

C C316 Capitalist 1028, 1/2/21 by LC

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Capitalist 316 to Wakely Ranch, NV, \$18,000.

C 558H Treasure 1008, 12/30/21 by Connealy Treasure 558H to Ira Brackett, ID, \$17,500.

C Exclusive 1038, 1/3/21 by Musgrave 316 Exclusive to Ira Brackett, ID, \$17,500.

C 558H Treasure 1092, 1/10/21 Cy Connealy Treasure 558H to Wilson and Wilson, \$13,500.

C Joanie True North, 1/22/21 by Square B True North1108 ET to Elk Angus, WY, \$13,000.

C Cadillac 1055, 1/5/21 by KR Cadillac Ranch to Wilson and Wilson, \$12,500. C 16 Exclusive 1005, 12/29/21 by Musgrave 316 Exclusive to Rees Bros., UT, \$10,000.

Top Angus Female:

C Know How Heiress 1076, 1/8/21 by Hoover Know How to Triple L, ID \$7,000.

Perks Ranch Online Bull Sale March 1. 2022 **Rockford**, IL

13 Bulls — \$4.412 54 Semen Units — \$64

Top Selling Yearling Bull —

Lot 1, PERKS 9104 Perfecto 1077, 3/13/21 by BG LCC 11B Perfecto 84F to Terry Lietschuh, Marine, IL, \$9.850.

Top Selling 18-Month-Old Bull: Lot 17, MMK PERKS Diverse 2034, 9/12/20 by C 5280 Diversified 6121 ET, to Patrick Ryan, Bernard, IA, \$2.500.

Top Frozen Lot:

UPS He Delivers 0290 ET for \$175.

Jensen Bros. Bull Sale March 3. 2022 Courtland, KS

Auctioneer: Dustin Layton

61 Bulls — \$6,463

Top Selling 18-Month Old Bull: Lot 60, KJ TWJ 907E Hudson 173H

ET, 9/3/20 by KJ BJ 309C Leader 182F to Jeff Lyne, Lincoln, KS, \$9,500.



Top selling yearling bull in the Jensen Bros. sale went to Schutte & Sons, Guide Rock. NE for \$15,000.

Top Yearling Bull:

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Lot 28, KJ 58Z Whit J29 ET, 1/28/21 by NJW 160Z 10W Whit 33B to Schutte & Sons, Guide Rock, NE, \$15,000.



The Kevin Jensen Family - Ben, Brooke and husband Kalen Cromwell, Sheila, Kevin and Kelly Jo, Allie and Brady Jensen.

(continued on page 16)



Guy Colver recognized and thanked Adan Juarez who has worked for Colyers for 45 years.

S&S Polled Herefords Guide Rock, NE Feb. 28, 2022 **Auctioneer: Joel Birdwell**

35 Bulls — \$4,234 42 Females — \$2,364

Top Bull:

Lot 22, S&S Buckeye 37H, 3/20/20 by SHF Buckeye 20Z B262 to Bill Stevens, Polk, NE, \$7,500

Top Bred Heifer:

Lot 64, S&S Lady Lamp 715H, 3/25/20 by S&S Stud 56D bred to Behm 100W Cuda 504C to Bluechip Herefords, Oxford, NE, \$7,000.



Top selling bull in the S&S Sale, Guide Rock, NE at \$7,500 to Bill Stevens.



Georgia and Tennessee.

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[DLF,HYF,IEF]

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Selling: 100 Fall and Spring Yearling Bulls, including 8 Polled and 5 Fall 7 ET SONS FROM BAKKEN'S MOTHER – 2 FULL BROTHERS—3 ET'S BY 1162-DOMINATES MOTHER 22 SONS BY 619 & 308 PLUS SONS BY NEW SIRES: BELMAR 8082-DOMINO 942 & 993-REVERE-EXPEDTION-SIERRA-STARDANCE

65 Top-End Quality Registered Heifers

135 Home-Raised Commercial Females, *including 90 Hereford and 45 BWF* FEMALES SELLING ARE SOME OF OUR BEST, IT IS DRY AND WE HAVE TO REDUCE NUMBERS



LOT 71 — SR PROCEED 711J — 44265680 SON OF C LI DOMINO 942G SMOOTH MADE, MUSCLE, PROFILE, REAL OUTSTANDING SIRE GROUP. CED 6.7 BW 0.7 WW 56 YW 90 M 35 REA .64 MRB .30 CHB\$ 150



LOT 20 — SR STELLER 201J — 44268743 SON ON STARDANCE M8086 CARCASS NUMBERS-EYE APPEAL-BW. SIRE GROUP OF MERIT. CED 5.2 BW 2.2 WW 61 YW 105 M 34 REA .52 MRB .41 CHB\$ 149

LOT 63 — SR DOMINATOR 631J — 44265771 SON OF BCC DOMINATOR 619D FULL BROTHER TO DOMINATE 308. CED 0.5 BW 3.8 WW 64 YW 109 M 25 REA .74 MRB .13 CHB\$ 144



LOT 2 — SR EXPEDITION 21J — 44265617 POLLED SR EXPEDITION 619G THIS GUY IS STOUT. LOW BW, VOLUME MADE SIRE GROUP. CED 4.0 BW 2.5 WW 69 YW 111 M 35 REA .75 MRB .11 CHB\$ 134

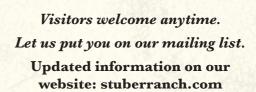
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N. C. C. C. Martin Mark St. 20 Martin Mark Mark St. St.

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- SR NAVARRO 301J ET — 44266008 SON OF UPS NAVARRO LOT 30 -ET FULL BROTHER TO BAKKEN 62Z. FULL BROTHER AND SISTER SELL. CED 3.6 BW 3.1 WW 45 YW 86 M 38 REA .30 MRB .21 CHB\$ 126



LOT 62 - SR DOMINATOR 631J ET - 44265771 SON OF BCC DOMINATOR 619D LONG, THICK, MUSCLE, BONE. EXCITING SIRE GROUP OF BULLS-FEMALES. CED -0.5 BW 3.8 WW 64 YW 109 M 25 REA .74 MRB .13 CHB\$ 144



LOT 83 - SR AURA 831J - 44265666 SON OF CHURCHILL MARK DOM 697D CHECK HIS NUMBERS-GREAT MOM. SIRE GROUP OF BW AND CARCASS. CED 4.3 BW 1.6 WW 55 YW 100 M 36 REA .49 MRB .43 CHB\$ 155



- SR DOMINATE 561J ET -**LOT 56** 44265769 POLLED DOMINATE 308 5 ET BROTHERS SELL. MUSCLE, FULL BODY, CORRECT. CED 2.8 BW 2.6 WW 67 YW 107 M 28 REA .62 MRB .06 CHB\$ 120



3 — SR WS TREK 731J — 44265699 SON 0F UU BELMAR 8082F LOT 73 MUSCLE, VOLUME, PROFILE. NEW, SUPER SIRE GROUP. CED 3.2 BW 3.0 WW 60 YW 99 M 39 REA .43 MRB .20 CHB\$ 139



LOT 79 — SR REVERE 791J — 44265689 SON OF MH REVERE 830 THICK, DEEP AND WIDE. NEW SIRE GROUP-NEW LOOK. CED 3.4 BW 3.8 WW 55 YW 92 M 33 REA .53 MRB .14 CHB\$ 125



LOT 1085 — SR DOMINA 1085J — 44265725 DAUGHTER OF DOMINATOR 619D CED 6.3 BW 0.8 WW 55 YW 97 M 33 REA .62 MRB .33 CHB\$ 158

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Sale Results

(continued from page 13)

Harrell Herefords and **Mackenzie Quarter Horses Annual Production Sale** March 7, 2022 **Baker City, OR**

Auctioneers: C.D. Butch Booker and **Rick Machado**

132 Bulls — \$5,676 28 Registered Females — \$4,279 75 Commercial Heifers — \$1,452 22 Horses (Geldings & Mares) -\$11,943

Top Yearling Bulls:

Lot 58, H5 9241 Advance 1174, 2/18/21 by H5 5019 Advance 9241 to Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE, \$23,000

Lot 43, H5 8232 Domino 1133, 2/12/21 by CL 1 Domino 8232F to Strawberry Hill Farm, LLC, Richmond, VA, \$14,000

Lot 79, H5 8193 Domino 1204, 2/20/21 by H5 6128 Domino 8193 to Dan L. Forsea & Sons, Inc and the Hill Trust, Richland, OR, \$12,500.

Lot 48, H5 7167 Domino 1148, 2/15/21 by H5 0945 Domino 7167 to Salmon Falls Land & Livestock, Hagerman, ID, \$12,000.

Lot 73, H5 3297 Advance 1413, 2/20/21 by HH Advance 3297A to SK Ranch, Ellensburg, WA, \$10,000.

Lot 49, H5 9241 Advance 1149, 2/15/21 by H5 5019 Advance 9241 to Mackenzie Ranch, LLC, Baker City, OR, \$9,500.

Lot 17, H5 8232 Domino 161, 2/3/21 by CL 1 Domino 8232F to Doyle Hereford Ranch; Brymer Ranch Herefords, Wolfe City, TX, \$9,000.

Lot 20, H5 9241 Advance 181, 2/6/21 by H5 5019 Advance 9241 to Columbia River Ranch and Cattle Co., Cathlamet, OR, \$9,000.

Lot 33, H5 906 Domino 1107, 2/09/21 by H5 81E Domino 906 to Matt Copeland, Nara Visa, NM, \$9,000.

Top Two-Year-Old Bulls:

Lot 144, H5 5019 Advance 0362, 4/12/20 by HH Advance 5019C to Paine Taylor, Morganville, KS, \$8,000. Lot 133, H5 5019 Advance 0314, 3/11/20 by HH Advance 5019C to Holloway Livestock Vale, OR, \$7,500.

Top Registered Heifers:

Lot 160, H5 MS 988 ADVANCE 1138, 2/13/21 by H5 5019C Advance 988 to Brymer Ranch Herefords, Caldwell, TX, \$11,000.

Lot 174, H5 MS 9241 Domet 1308, 3/7/21 by H5 5019 Advance 9241 to England Ranch, Powell Butte, OR, \$9,500.



5019 Advance 9241 BW 1.1 WW 59 YW 95 MILK 36 REA .39 MARB .39 CHB\$ 134 ED 3.9 Top seller in the Harrell Sale was Lot 58, H5 9241 Advance 1174, going to Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE for \$23,000.

Top Geldings:

Lot 15H, HR Irish Traveler, 5/4/20 to Parks Ranch Inc., Adin, CA, \$16,750.

Lot 8H. HR Sixes Booker, 4/16/20 to Dan Vogt, Eagle, ID, \$15,750.

Top Mares:

Lot 13H, Six Starlike Poppys, 5/1/20 to Dan Vogt, \$15,750. Lot 19H, French Like Sophie, 5/25/20 to Bell Ranch, Paradise Valley, NV, \$12,500. Lot 22H, HR Sixes Demi, 6/6/20 to Nate Moore, Hereford, OR, \$12,500.

Ravine Creek Ranch Production Sale March 9, 2022 Huron, SD **Auctioneer: Chisum Peterson**

26 Yearling Bulls — \$3,942 12 Two-Year-Old Bulls — \$4,417 19 Reg. Hereford Heifers -\$2,289 7 Commercial Heifers — \$1,400 65 Black Baldy Heifers — \$1,462

Top Bulls:

Lot 2, RV Cuda 1410J, 4/1/21 by Behm 100W Cuda 504C to Rausch Herefords, Hoven, SD, \$7,500.

Lot 28, RV Endurance 1480J, 3/29/21 by NJW 79Z Z311 Endure 173D ET to Tricky's Herefords, Winfred, SD, \$7.250

Lot 4, RV Valor Lad 1962, 2/25/21 by RV Valor 9444G ET to Tricky's Herefords, \$6,500.

Lot 3, RV Standout 1544J, 4/4/21 by JDH AH Standout 16G ET to Stahly Ranch, Cavour, SD, \$6,250.

Top Heifers:

Lot 62, RV Cuda Lass 1602J, 3/26/21 by Behm 100W Cuda 504C to Engelhaupt Herefords, Butte, NE, \$3,300. Lot 66, RV Dakota Gal 1552J, 4/2/21 by SHF Dakota A191 D157 to Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, NE, \$2,900.



Vern Rausch, Hoven, SD, purchased Lot 2 for Rausch Herefords at the Ravine Creek Ranch sale.



Mike Stahly bought one of the

Braun Herefords Bull Sale Simmie, Sask. March 11, 2022

17 Two-Year-Old Bulls — \$11,044 28.5 Yearling Bulls — \$9,254 6 Purebred Open Heifers — \$5,000

Top Yearling Bull: BR 234F Forty Creek 103J to Lock Farms, Macklin, SK, \$22,000.

Top Two-Year-Old Bull: BR 16E Express ET 19H to MN Herefords and Eureka Herefords, \$22,000.



The top pen of bulls at the Ravine Creek Ranch sale had a lot of natural thickness.



Judy Stahly (left) and sister-in-law Louise Bauman.

L Bar W Ranch **6th Annual Producion Sale** March 11, 2022 Absarokee, MT

Auctioneer: Justin Stout

57 Bulls - \$5,263 10 Reg. Open Heifer Calves — \$2,460 3 Reg. First Calf Heifer Pairs — \$4,167

Top Yearling Bull:

Lot 1001, LW 901 Domino 1001J, 12/30/20 by LW 6128 Domino 901G ET to Fawcetts Elm Creek, Ree Heights, SD, \$42,000 for 3/4 interest. Lot 1103, LW 7131 Domino 1103JET,



Horned Hereford sale bulls at Braun Herefords, Simmie, Sask.

top sellers at Ravine Creek's sale

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2/11/21, CL 1 Domino 7131E 1ET to Fawcetts Elm Creek Ranch, Ree Heights, SD, \$25,000.

Lot 0202, LW 4126 Advance 0202H ET, 9/1/20 by HH Advance 4126B to Brymer Ranch Herefords, Caldwell, TX, \$12,500.

Lot 1026, LW 6128 Domino 1026J ET, 1/1/21, CL 1 Domino 6128D 1ET to Fawcetts Elm Creek Ranch, Ree Heights, SD, \$10,000.

Lot 1007 at, LW 8138 Domino 1007J ET, 1/5/21, CL 1 Domino 8138F 1ET to Harper Herefords, Roundup, MT, \$9,000.

Top Spring Cow/Calf Pair:

Lot 020, LW 776 Dominette 020H ET, 1/13/20 by CL 1 DOMINO 776E 1ET to Baker Herefords, Summerset, SD, \$5,500.



It's sale day at L Bar W!



Rodney and Riney Jabs



Clyde and Sonja Windecker, Absarokee, MT and Merrill Ostrum, Absarokee, MT at the L Bar W sale.



Fred McMurry, McMurry Cattle, Billings, MT visiting with Denise Loyning of L Bar W before their sale.

I-29 Bull Run Annual Sale March 12, 2022 Sioux Falls, SD

Auctioneer: Chisum Peterson

35 Yearling Hereford Bulls — \$5,286

3 Fall Hereford Bulls — \$4,333 4 Fall Angus Bulls — \$5,875

13 Yearling Angus Bulls — \$5,000 1 2-Year-Old Angus Bull — \$5,000

- 15 Yearling Simmental Bulls \$4,600
- 6 Hereford Females \$1,917 7 Yearling Angus Heifers — \$1,800

25 Commercial Heifers — \$1,366 14 Bred Commercial Heifers — \$1,800

Top Lots:

Lot 83, Sleepy Long Road 115, \$14,500.

Lot 67, Sleepy Architect 122, \$12,000. Lot 88, Sleepy MCBR Cuda, \$11,500. Lot 82, Sleepy Out of Hiding, \$10,500. Lot 33, S16 157G G904 230J, \$9,000. Lot 58, MBAL S16 Revenant, \$8,000. Lot 75, Sleepy Pass Go 123, \$8,000. Lot 37, S16 CB4 153G 84E 256J, \$7,500.

Lot 86, Sleepy 33Z 145, \$7,500. Lot 91, Slpy Believer 153J, \$7,500. (continued on page 18)



Troy Rasmussen welcomed the crowd to the I-29 Bull Run Sale in Sioux Falls, SD. Also on the block are Auctioneer Chisum Peterson and Aaron Friedt with The Livestock Link.

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(continued from page 17) Holden Herefords Production Sale March 14, 2022 Valier, MT

Auctioneer: Joe Goggins

24.5 Fall Yearling Bulls — \$11,694
94 Yearling Bulls — \$11,155
119 TOTAL BULLS — \$11,263
26 Registered Yearling Heifers — \$5,971
29 Commercial Yearling Baldy Heifers — \$1,748

Top Bulls:

Lot 0270H, HH Advance 0120H, 8/4/20 by CL 1 Domino 883F 1 ET to Coates Ranch, Mertzon, TX, \$95,000 for 1/2 interest.

Lot 1023J, HH Advance 1023J, 1/1/21 by CL 1 Domino 8232F to Cooper Hereford Ranch, Willow Creek, MT & Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE, \$80,000.

Lot 1128J, HH Advance 1128J, 1/11/21 by HH Advance 1045L to Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE, \$65,000.

Lot 1069J, HH Advance 1069J ET, 1/5/21 by HH Advance 1045L to Flying S Herefords, Paluxy, TX, \$40,000. Lot 1028J, HH Advance 1028J, 1/1/21 by CL 1 Domino 883F 1ET to Fawcett's Elm Creek Ranch, Ree Heights, SD, \$28,000.

Lot 1242J, HH Advance 1242J ET, 1/29/21 by CL 1 Domino 883F 1ET to Mrnak Hereford Ranch, Bowman, ND, \$25,000.

Lot 1054J, HH Advance 1054J, 1/4/21 by HH Advance 8010F ET to Bill Wilhelm, Sundance, WY, \$25,000.

Lot 1112J, HH Advance 1112J ET, 1/9/21 by HH Advance 5018C ET to Three Hills Ranch, Bernard, IA, \$25,000.

Top Registered Yearling Heifers:

Lot 1121J, HH Miss Advance 1121J ET, 1/10/21 by CL 1 Domino 917G to Steve Bodner, Raynesford, MT, \$28,000.

Lot 1035J, HH Miss Advance 1035J ET, 1/2/21 by HH Advance 8132F to Diamond Bit Ranch, Libby, MT, \$12,000. Cooper Hereford Ranch Production Sale March 15, 2022 Willow Creek, MT

Auctioneer: Joe Goggins

86 Yearling Bulls — \$12,552 7 Bred Cows — \$15,500 23 Registered Yearling Heifers — \$6,261

Top Bulls:

Lot 1115J, CL 1 Domino 1115J 1ET, 1/12/21 by CL 1 Domino 9108G 1ET to Holden Herefords, Valier, MT, Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE and Hermann Ranch, Lemmon, SD \$90,000, 1/2 poss. and 3/4 semen int. Lot 175J, CL 1 Domino 175J 1ET, 1/9/21 by CL 1 Domino 942G to Van Newkirk Herefords & Pedretti Here-

fords, El Nido, CA, \$50,000. Lot 1176J, CL 1 Domino 1176J 1ET, 1/24/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET to Oleen Bros., Dwight, KS & Ken Coleman, Westcliffe, CO, \$50,000.

Lot 1190J, CL 1 Domino 1190J 1ET, 1/26/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET to L Bar W Cattle Company, Absarokee, MT, \$50,000.

Lot 1195J, CL 1 Domino 1195J 1ET, 1/27/21 by HH Advance 8392F ET to Perez Cattle Company, Nara Visa, NM & Barber Ranch, Channing, TX, \$45,000.

Lot 1235J, CL 1 Domino 1235J, 2/13/21 by CL 1 Domino 7131E 1ET to Lowell Fischer Herefords, Spencer, NE & The Berrys, Cheyenne, WY, \$40,000.

Top Bred Cows:

Lot 850F, CL 1 Dominette 850F, 1/7/18 by CL 1 Domino 215Z to Churchill Cattle Company, Manhattan, MT & Buford Ranches, Hominy, OK, \$30,000. Lot 701E, CL 1 Dominette 701E 1ET, 1/3/17 by CL 1 Domino 215Z to Tony Lasseter, Moultrie, IA, \$26,000.

Top Yearling Heifer:

Lot 1136J, CL 1 Dominette 1136J, 1/14/21 by CL 1 Domino 7131E 1 ET to Buford Ranches, Hominy, OK, \$22,000.



Jack Engelhaupt from Butte, NE bought his first polled female at the Ravine Creek sale.



Stephen Coates (left) of Coates Ranch, Mertzon, TX and Fred Helbling, Helbling Herefords, Mandan, ND looking through cattle at Holdens. Coates purchased the top seller.



Roger Stuber (left), Stuber Ranch, Bowman, ND and Joe Van Newkirk, Van Newkirk Ranch, Oshkosh, NE visiting before Cooper's sale.



Jerry Bischoff, Ravine Creek Ranch, Huron visiting with Dick Wettlaufer, Tricky's Herefords after the Ravine Creek sale.



Mike Walen (left) and Carl Loyning of L Bar W, Absarokee, MT at the Holden sale.



Neil Turnbull (left), Brockton, MT with Ron Behm, Burlington, ND and his grandson Mason Kraft at the Cooper sale.



Auctioneer Joe Goggins and Mark Cooper getting ready to start the sale.



Keith Fawcett (left), Fawcett's Elm Creek Ranch, Ree Heights, SD and Dale Venhuizen, Churchill Cattle Co., Manhattan, MT looking at bulls at Holdens.



Holden Sale Top — HH Advance 0120H by CL 1 Domino 883F 1 ET sold to Coates Ranch, Mertzon, TX for \$95,000 for half int.



Tresha Holden with grandson Bravton.



Cooper Sale Top — *CL* 1 Domino 1115J 1ET by *CL* 1 Domino 9108G 1ET sold to Holden Herefords, Valier, MT, Van Newkirk Herefords, Oshkosh, NE and Hermann Ranch, Lemmon, SD for \$90,000 for half possession and 3/4 semen interest.

Sounds of Scotland in the Sandhills of Nebraska

Reprinted with permission BY MONA WEATHERLY Managing Editor, Custer County Chief

THEDFORD — It's said that golf courses such as Sandhills Golf Course and Prairie Club are in the Sandhills because the rolling hills of north central Nebraska are like the hills of Scotland, the birthplace of golf. Scotland is also the home of bagpipes.

Just as the golf courses bring the sport of Scotland to the Sandhills, Haxton Hoffman, a fifth grader at Thedford (NE) Public Schools, brings the music of Scotland to those same rolling hills.

Haxton is a bagpiper. Or, as he is quick to point out, "I'm still a bagpiper learner."

The 11 year old's interest in bagpipes was sparked by a video he saw on YouTube "I've just kind of liked them since I was really little," he said.

Mom Kaycee Hoffman said she and husband Jason thought the pre-school interest would fade. However, when Haxton was a second grader, they realized the interest was here to stay. "We said we'll have to find somebody to teach him," she said.

While talking with friends, Hoffman learned of John Bergquist who lives in Estes Park, CO and travels to Alliance twice a month to maintain dialysis machines at Box Butte General Hospital. He's also a bagpiper.

"It was a complete God thing," Hoffman said. "I called him."

For two and a half years, the family



Haxton and his sisters, Kennedy (left) and Hayden

traveled to Alliance so Haxton could learn from Bergquist. Not long ago, however, Bergquist said Haxton needed more instruction than he could give him. Haxton now studies with Gary Guth, a professional bagpiper in Holland, PA, via Skype.

Asked what is the hardest thing to learn, Haxton said, "You need to blow hard." He said practice includes learning how to "breathe deep and blow as hard as you can." He explained that it took almost two years of practice to learn how to produce a recognizable sound.

A set of bagpipes is essentially a bag of air. The bagpiper blows air into the bag via the mouth piece. The notes are played on the "chanter," a tube played



Haxton Hoffman and his original instructor John Bergquist.

with finger movements similar to a clarinet or flute. The sound emits from the "drones," pipes extended from the bag. On Haxton's set of pipes, two of the three drones are plugged as he produces enough air for only one drone.

Bagpipes are in three sizes, small, medium and large. Right now, Haxton is learning on a small set. They were purchased in Denver, a Christmas present from his mother and father. The instrument weighs about 5 pounds. No strap is used to hold it in place; he holds it against himself with hands and his arm on the bag.

Right now Haxton plays mainly for family which includes his parents and two sisters, Kennedy, a third grader, and Hayden, a first grader. One of his two public performances to date include playing "God Bless America" at the November, 2021 Thedford Veterans Day program. "They told me I did a good job and they clapped," Haxton said of the audience.

Haxton also plays the guitar and recorder. Both Hayden and Kennedy play piano and Kennedy also plays the recorder. They play their music on the ranch where the family raises Hereford, Angus and Sim-Angus cattle. The Hoffman family moved to Thedford 12 years ago from northern California. "We needed to be more centrally located for what we do in the cattle business," Hoffman said. She is from Colorado but she has deep Nebraska roots. Her family from Ireland settled in the Lewellyn area as immigrants. "I'm the seventh generation raised on a ranch," she said.

The eighth generation – Haxton, Hayden and Kennedy – help out on the ranch with chores, help feed cattle and ride horses. They also show heifers in 4-H. Haxton says the bagpipes do not scare the cattle because he doesn't play outside but rather practices inside the



Haxton is the son of Kasey and Jason Hoffman of Hoffman Ranch.

house. "It's loud," Kennedy said. "I plug my ears."

"My sister's dog started barking once," Haxton added.

Haxton plays three songs by memory - "God Bless America," "Happy Birthday" and "Taps." He is learning to play others by reading music. The music for the bagpipes is written like any other instrument, though the notes are limited to one octave.

For his public performances, he wears a dress shirt and a tie. He learned that a long tie can "get kind of caught up and it chokes me," so a bow tie is in order. He also wears a golfing hat. If it were up to him, however, he said, "I'd wear a t-shirt." Asked about traditional Scottish clothing, he answered, "I don't want to wear a kilt."

Right now, Haxton may be the only bagpiper in the Sandhills. A bagpiper does fly in and play at the 18th hole



Haxton Hoffman with his bagpipes.

at the Prairie Golf Club near Valentine on occasion. "The bag pipes have taken him places," Hoffman said of the player. "He has played for the Queen of England."

Travel may be in Haxton's future. He says he would like to see Scotland someday. For now, however, he will continue to do chores on the ranch, go to school and continue to learn and bring the sound of Scotland to the Sandhills of Nebraska.

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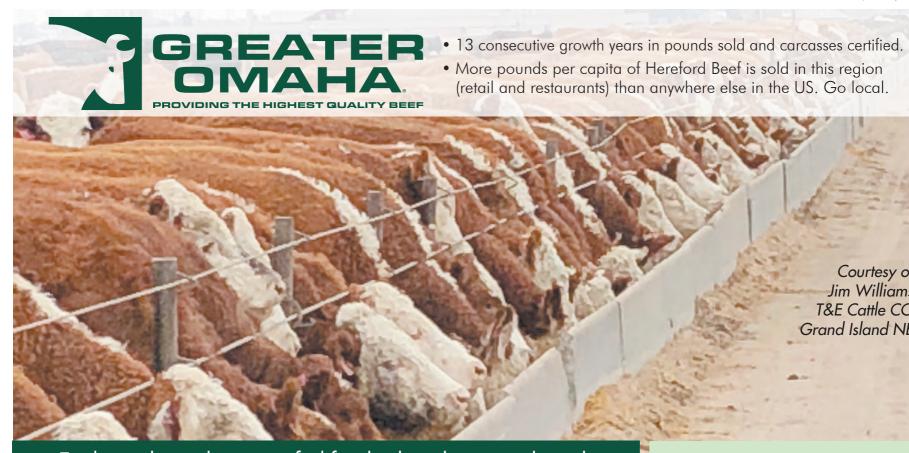




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