

HEREFORD America

The Largest Privately Owned Hereford Newspaper in North America

Serving Commercial Cattlemen & Registered Hereford Breeders

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September 2025

Editorial Comments...



Jill Hotchkiss

In May the American Hereford Association (AHA) announced it was switching DNA labs effective June 5. Formerly all of the AHA's official

DNA work was processed at Neogen.

The AHA stated in their letter to members, "The AHA Board of Directors recently voted unanimously to transition to Weatherby's Scientific as the AHA official DNA laboratory and not renew our current agreement with Neogen that ends Dec. 31, 2025. Weatherby's Scientific is one of the most renowned laboratories in the world and we are excited about the transition."

Many of us have complained for years about the lack of speed in getting DNA results back especially leading up to sale season. I am hopeful that turnaround time will be much better with Weatherbys.

AHA President Chad Breeding stated in a July HW article, "This unanimous Board decision was based on AHA member input over time, thoughtful research, long consideration and recommendations developed by the DNA policy taskforce, which were subsequently and unanimously adopted by the Board in calendar year 2024."

Breeding went on to say, "AHA Board members appreciate the partnership with Neogen as its previous office laboratory. However we confidently believe transitioning to Weatherbys Scientific provides members with enhanced immediate value along with broader latitude as genomic discovery continues to unfold and genomic tools evolve."

Lower prices are a welcome change too. AHA told us last year they were

(continued on page 6)

2025 Junior National Hereford Expo



Grand Champion Bred and Owned Bull — Hudson and Grady Carter, Stratford, OK, and Buck Cattle Co., Madill, OK, with GHC BK Maverick 400M a March 20, 2024, son of SR Dominate 308F ET.



Reserve Grand Champion Bred and Owned Bull — Haxton Hoffman, Thedford, NE, and Vanderwork Herefords, Taloga, OK, with Hoffman Hacksaw ET, a Jan. 29, 2024, son of SR Dominate 308F ET.



Grand Champion Owned Horned Female — Hayden Hoffman, Thedford, NE, with BK Lavish Points 3045L ET, an Oct. 6, 2023, daughter of H The Profit 8426 ET.



Reserve Champion Owned Horned Female — Maddie Jenkins, Athens, TX, with ECR SQCF D87 Luna 424 ET, an April 8, 2024, daughter of KLD RW Marksman D87 ET.



Grand Champion Owned Polled Female — Marlyn Pecha, Meno, OK, with BK Ella Mamacita 464M ET, an April 3, 2024, daughter of SR Dominate 308F ET.



Reserve Champion Owned Polled Female — Haxton Hoffman, Thedford, NE, with Hoffman Debbie 4370 ET, a March 17, 2024, daughter of Bar JZ On Demand.

Bull Show • July 16, 2025

Judge: Chan Phillips, Maysville, KY
81 head • **Sponsor:** Cattlemen's Congress

Owned Females • July 18, 2025

Judges: Cody Sankey, Economy, IN, and John McCurry, Burton, KS
180 horned • 555 polled

Polled Show Sponsor: Stellpflug Cattle Co.
Horned Show Sponsors: Hoffman Ranch, Thedford, NE and TIR Cattle Co.

(continued on page 3)

CALENDAR OF Sales & Events

September

- 5 Walker Herefords
Foundation for the Future '25
Frozen Genetics Sale
- 6 Walker Herefords
Foundation for the Future '25
Live Cattle Sale
Morrison, TN
- 6-7 Tennessee Hereford Assn.
State Show
Nashville, TN
- 12 Kansas State Fair
Hutchinson, KS
- 14 Holden Herefords Private
Treaty Female Sale begins
Valier, MT
- 14-17 Montana Hereford Tour
Eastern Montana/Western ND
- 16 Mitchell Livestock Auction
Fall Hereford Feeder
Calf Special
Mitchell, SD

- 18-19 Churchill Cattle Co.
Complete Dispersion
Manhattan, MT
- 20 Ehlike Herefords
Montana Made Sale
Townsend, MT
- 20 Minnesota Hereford Tour
- 27 Delaney Herefords and
Atkins Herefords
Genetic Opportunity Sale
Lake Benton, MN

October

- 4 Colyer Herefords
Fall Female Sale
Bruneau, ID
- 9 Jamison Quarter Horse Sale
Quinter, KS
- 11 Fawcett's Elm Creek Ranch
Fall Female Sale
Ree Heights, SD

- 13 Indian Mound Ranch Bull Sale
Canadian, TX
- 18 White Hawk Ranch Georgia's
Big Fall Event
Buchanan, GA
- 22-24 World Hereford Conference
Kansas City, MO
- 23 Jensen Bros.
The Chosen Sale
Louisburg, KS
- 25 AHA Annual Meeting
Kansas City, MO
- 25 American Royal Show
Kansas City, MO
- 27 Hoffman Ranch Female Sale
Thedford, NE

November

- 13 Hoffman Ranch Fall Bull Sale
Thedford, NE
- 14 SDHA Annual Meeting &
Banquet
Brookings, SD
- 15 SD Excellence Sale
Brookings, SD
- 20 Largent & Sons Bull Sale
Kaycee, WY
- 24 The Berry's Bull Sale
Cheyenne, WY

December

- 5 Knoll Crest Farm Total
Performance Bull Sale
Red House, VA
- 6 Frederickson Ranch Sale

- Spearfish, SD
- 11 Hereford Influence Feeder
Calf Sale
Pipestone, MN
- 12 Minnesota Hereford Breeders
Annual Meeting and Banquet
Hutchinson, MN
- 13 GoPher the Purple Sale
Hutchinson, MN

SEPTEMBER 5

Is the ad deadline for the October issue of Hereford America

Contact Jill Hotchkiss for more information
605/866-4495 • jbh@herefordamerica.com

World Hereford Conference
October 22-24, 2025
AHA Annual Meeting, Oct. 25
& American Royal, Oct. 25; Sale Oct. 25
Kansas City, MO



Oct. 16-21: Pre-tour Herefords in Big Sky Country
Oct. 19-24: Young Breeders Competition
Oct. 27-29: Post-tour, Sandhills Sights and
Mountain Views plus Post-tour | Southbound to Cowtown
www.worldherefordconference.com

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Commercial Breeder Registered Hereford Breeder
Registered Breeder, Other Breed Other
Polled
Horned
Both

Signature September 2025

(Required for Post Office Regulations)

The official Hereford publication for the states of South Dakota, North Dakota and Wyoming

HEREFORD AMERICA

605/866-4495

WWW.HEREFORDAMERICA.COM

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In memory of Byron Bayers


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2025 Junior National Hereford Expo



Bred & Owned Female Show • July 16, 2025
Judge: Charlie and Blake Boyd, Mays Lick, KY • 300 head
Sponsors: GKB Cattle, Desdemona, TX



Grand Champion Bred and Owned Female — Landry Allan, Nocona, TX, with BACC 241 Haley 472, a Nov. 17, 2024, daughter of UPS Sensation 2296 ET.



Reserve Champion Bred and Owned Female — Saylor Norvell, Tuttle, OK, with NCC Saylor 3019 ET, a Dec. 4, 2023, daughter of CH High Roller 756 ET.

Hereford Juniors Recognized with Special Awards in Louisville

LOUISVILLE, KY —The National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) presented members with special awards during the final awards ceremony on July 18 at the VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE), “Live From Louisville,” Louisville, Ky.

Landry Allan (pictured above), Nocona, TX, was named Junior Premier Breeder and Buck Cattle Co., Madill, OK, was awarded the Adult Premier Breeder award. Peyton Perez, Nara Visa, NM, took home the Junior Premier Exhibitor banner.

The GKB Super States contest, sponsored by GKB Cattle, Desdemona, TX, recognizes the two states with the most participation in their division — small states (less than 25 head of cattle shown at the JNHE) and large states (more than 25 head shown). During the JNHE, members earn points for their state via contest placings and showing standings. Idaho was named the small states division winner, and Texas won the large states award.

Each year, the Golden Pitchfork award honors a state group for their dedication to stall maintenance and cleanliness throughout the week. The state association that consistently presented a clean, uniform and uniquely decorated stall area took home the title. This year, the Golden Pitchfork was awarded to the Kentucky youth exhibitors.

25 bred females for sale at feddes.com



BW	0.0
WW	64
YW	97
M	31
M+G	63
REA	.48
Marb	.35

F Ms Authority 330 NJW 57G x Cuda
Polled. Bred March 29 to F Impact 401. Lots of pigment on both eyes, like many of our cattle. See more at feddes.com.



BW	1.8
WW	70
YW	114
M	28
M+G	63
REA	.50
Marb	.58

F Ms Final Test 445 Final Test x 183F
Polled. CHB \$176. Bred April 15 to L Monarch 3229.
See all females and bull calves for sale at feddes.com.



BW	2.0
WW	72
YW	113
M	32
M+G	68
REA	.97
Marb	.18

F Ms Houston 427 Houston x 84F
Polled. Bred April 15 to F Impact 401.

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BW	2.6
WW	69
YW	110
M	25
M+G	60
REA	.53
Marb	.44

F Ms Masterplan 464 183F x C776
Polled. Bred March 28 to L Monarch 3229.



2025 Junior National Hereford Expo

Steers • July 16, 2025

Judge: Chan Phillips, Maysville, KY • 72-head



Grand Champion Steer and Grand Champion Bred and Owned Steer — Troy Heath, Cookeville, MD, with Heaths Ace 2424, a 1,395-pound son of KLD RW Marksman D87 ET.



Reserve Grand Steer — Lane Cady, New Windsor, MD, with SILO H18 Bubba 2405 ET, a 1,375-pound son of BK Red River H18 ET.



Reserve Bred and Owned Steer — Ethan Harfst, Battle Creek, MI, with HC Electric 403, a 1,398-pound son of SCG Showtime No Limit 111ET.

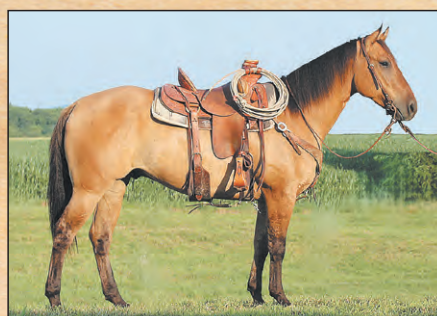
Susan and Jeff Rhode, Stewartsville, MO, were honored as Advisor of the Year, during the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) Scholarship, Awards and Maroon Jacket Ceremony held during the 2025 VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Louisville, KY, July 17. The couple served as the MJHA advisor for six consecutive years; retiring last year. While serving as the advisor, they significantly contributed to the advancement, achievements and strength of the association.



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Sunfrost/Wilywood/Leo Hancock Hayes
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JA Peppy Tuffwood

2022 Dun Gelding 15.0H

Sunfrost/DVA Maxi Driftwood
Outstanding Driftwood Roping Prospect!



JA Wades Rooster

2022 Bay Gelding 14.3H

Captain Courage/Docs Oaks Sugar/Gallo Del Cielo
Smart, Athletic, Trainable Big League Prospect!



JA Frostem Frosty

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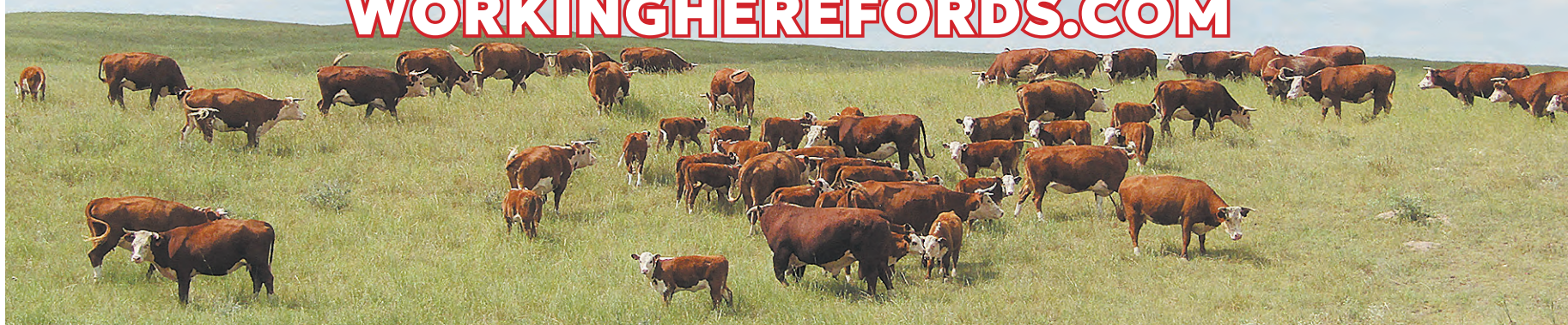
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Editorial...

(continued from page 1)

working on getting costs down and they delivered. The DNA price changes start with an age-based formula with considerable cost savings and has a combination package which includes genomic profile, parentage and abnormalities (known). It includes the MD/DB in the pricing. If you get the horned/poll test at the same time it is only an additional \$8. Get on the website and study this to keep track of the changes or check out the published prices in *Hereford World* or on the AHA website. Personally, it is easier, more straight-forward and more affordable.

The lab AHA is now using for DNA processing, Weatherby's Scientific, is based in Kildare, Ireland and is a family owned, world renowned company. They have served breeders across Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and further afield with pioneering DNA services.

In order to vet the company and its services, AHA conducted three different Proof-of-Concept trials in order to evaluate accuracy of identifying SNP-based markers used in genetic evaluation as well as accuracy of identifying genetic abnormalities and the horned/poll gene.

"Weatherbys Scientific merges our 18th century heritage with 21st century innovation to be a trusted, versatile and cost-effective DNA laboratory partner," states the company.

They offer a variety of testing services which include bovine, ovine, equine, canine, aquaculture and seafood, camelid (yes, camels), plants and crops and consulting. The laboratory facilities are internationally recognized and accredited. With only 55 employees they claim to be "one of the highest throughput laboratories in Europe."

Weatherby's press release stated the following: Through a new agreement with the American Hereford Association (AHA), Weatherbys Scientific will become AHA's exclusive DNA testing partner, bringing more than 30 years of expertise in animal genomics to the market.

"This collaboration marks a pivotal moment in our mission to bring world-class, reliable, and cost-effective DNA testing solutions to U.S. beef producers," said Romy Morrin O'Donnell, International Sales Director at Weatherbys Scientific.

She added, "We're not just entering the U.S. market, we're here to help producers make smarter, faster, and more profitable breeding decisions."

The partnership will bring rapid turnaround times and seamless data integration between laboratory and AHA systems....The U.S. expansion brings our advanced genotyping technologies and customer-led approach to one of the most progressive livestock associations in the U.S."

Shane Bedwell, AHA's Chief Operating Officer and Director of Breed Im-

provement, answers common questions about the lab change and procedures on pages 12-13 of the July *Hereford World*.

Amazingly, I don't think there are many procedural changes for producers. New samples are sent to the Massachusetts address on the forms sent in with DNA samples.

One of the questions Bedwell addresses is tests sent to Neogen prior to the announcement. He says, "You can still submit your samples to Neogen if you would like, or you can contact AHA customer service to get new kits re-issued for Weatherbys and take advantage of the price savings. The question of whether Neogen still has the data of pre-

vious tests is a frequently asked question, they said. Bedwell's answer is, "Results from all animals tested through Neogen exist at the AHA genomic pipeline and will be utilized for necessary parentage discovery of future animals that will be tested at Weatherbys."

To me this all sounds very promising and I think this is an exciting change that will benefit the Hereford breeders and the breed. Hopefully it will be a smooth transition.

My calves' DNA samples were sent on August 12th to Easthampton, Massachusetts. I'll let you know how long it takes to get the results back.

—JBH

American Hereford Association Breed Improvement Adopted Changes, Initiatives

The Board reviewed suggestions presented by the DNA policy task force (Dave Bielema, Sam Shaw, Mark Cooper, Mark Squires and Charlie Boyd) and unanimously supported the following:

1. In addition to AI sires, all embryo transfer (ET) donor dams and walking sires born after Jan. 1, 2026, will be required to have a genomic profile completed at the AHA official lab and be fully parent verified and tested for all recognized genetic conditions.
2. The Board voted unanimously to purge all DNA samples starting Jan. 1, 2026, after the requested testing is complete.
3. In addition to labeling clones and gene-edited animals, descendants from founder animals will also be labeled. Progeny of cloned animals will be labeled Cloned Progeny (CLP) and progeny of gene-edited animals will be labeled as Precision Breeding Progeny (PBP).
4. Upon the release of a new genetic abnormality to the membership, the AHA will publish the affected animals and available parents. Additionally, the AHA will publish the genetic abnormality results of all animals involved in the research and discovery of a new genetic condition.
5. The AHA will whole-genome sequence sires when they achieve a weaning weight accuracy of .80 and include them in a genomic reference library for research and breed improvement objectives. If available, the results of these sires will be published when a new genetic abnormality is released.
6. Terms and conditions of DNA sample submission: these changes and additions can be found at Hereford.org/Hereford-Handbook.
7. A \$10 DNA sample pull fee will be added to any sample pull requests.

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Donors and Donor Prospects Included

March and April calving dates — Bred to HH Advance 2123K and CL 1 Domino 241K

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Backed by a line breeding program that enhances, predictability and uniformity.**



HH MISS ADVANCE 0183H

Powerhouse donor out of the 8008F sire that ranks in the top 2% of the breed on WW and YW EPDs and boasts an avg. NR of 116. Volume, length, power and eye appeal. She sells!



HH MISS ADVANCE 1119J ET

Beautiful uddered, big hiped, freckle faced donor cow. Dam is an elite 12 year old donor cow that will have some of the very best Sherman sons selling in Topp Herefords 2026 Sale. 1119J boasts an average NR of 107.5 and ranks in the top 5% of the breed on TEAT and UDDR EPDs. She sells!



HH MISS ADVANCE 3025L

This daughter of CL 1 Domino 1115J is picture perfect. She is complete in her makeup, perfect uddered, well marked, and backed by a great cow family. Top 5% on TEAT, UDDR, and BMI\$ and top 10% on CED. Big time donor prospect! One of 10 coming 3 year olds selling.



HH MISS ADVANCE 4032M ET

Look at the volume, hip, and rib shape in this curve bending bred heifer. 4032M is a maternal sister to our 2116K sire and two maternal brothers averaged \$41,000 in our 2025 sale. Top 5% on MARB and \$CHB and top 15% on WW and YW. One of 15 elite bred heifers selling.

- Bred females will be split into age and price groups and penned accordingly.
- They will be available in groups or individually.
- All final breeding data will be available to interested parties by September 1.
- Visitors are welcome to stop by anytime to preview the offering.

**Go to
www.holdenherefords.com
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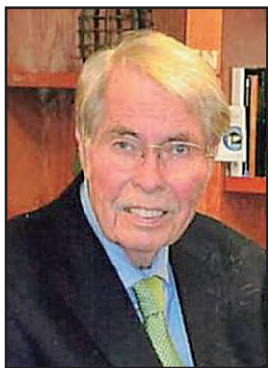
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Obituaries

James W. Kuhlman

James W. Kuhlman, 88, of Mason City, IA, passed away Friday, July 11, 2025, at Village Cooperative of Mason City surrounded by family. Per Jim's

wishes, he graciously donated his body to Mayo Clinic. Memorials may be directed to Central Gardens of North Iowa PO Box 735 Clear Lake, IA



50428, First Presbyterian 100 S. Pierce Street Mason City, IA 50401, or the Hospice Support Foundation, 7755 3rd St. N Suite 200., Oakdale, MN 55128.

James Weldon Kuhlman, born February 13, 1937, in Amarillo, TX, to parents Herman and Alma Marie Kuhlman. He graduated from Canyon High School in Canyon, TX in 1955. After graduation, Jim went on to receive his BS from West Texas State University in 1959 and in 1961, Jim graduated with his MS from the University of Nebraska. Jim was a member of the Nebraska National Guard from 1961-1967 and served in the US Army at Fort Leonard Wood, MO and Fort Sheridan, IL.

Jim was united in marriage to Ann

Davis on December 23, 1967, in Kearney, NE, and the couple were blessed with two daughters, Lisa and Jennifer. Jim began his career with the USDA Extension Service on September 10, 1962, in Buffalo County, NE. Jim later joined the Iowa State University Extension Service on February 15, 1972, as County Extension Director of Worth County, Iowa and on April 1, 1981, he became the Cerro Gordo County Extension Director. Jim retired on May 2, 1997, after 35 years with the USDA Extension Service.

Jim was actively involved in the Noon Rotary Club, serving as President in 2008-2009. He also served as president of the Central Iowa Genealogical Society, National Association of Retired Federal Employees – Chapter 170, North Iowa Figure Skating Club, Sertoma International at Kearney, NE, Lions International Club in Northwood, IA, Meals on Wheels in Northwood, the Chamber of Commerce in Northwood and Epsilon Sigma Phi retirees. He served as Vice President of the Nebraska State Extension Agricultural Agents Association, Treasurer of Central Gardens of North Iowa for 17 years, River City Trees in Mason City, Nebraska State Extension Association, Iowa OPEDA (USDA retirees) Chapter, and North Iowa Figure Skating Club. Jim served

as secretary of the Village Co-op Property Committee, he was a member of the board of directors: Iowa Hereford Breeders Association, National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Iowa and Nebraska, Epsilon Sigma Phi, North Iowa Fair Association for 25 years, Mason City Noon Rotary Club, Chair of the Rotary Service Above Self Committee for 22 successive years, member of the Advisory Board for KIMT-TV, Sertoma Club and Lions Club.

Jim was a past member of 4-H and FFA and National Honor Society of Canyon High School in Canyon, Texas, named member of Alpha Chi Honorary Society at West Texas State University, member of the First Presbyterian Church of Mason City, served as ordained Elder and was a long time Chair of the Personnel Committee at First Presbyterian.

Jim was highly recognized for his efforts, as a Graduate of Distinction from WT A&M University in Agricultural Sciences in 2019, Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame in 2005, Iowa Hereford Hall of Fame in 2009, 4-H Alumni Award for Worth County and Honorary 4-H Member in Cerro Gordo County Iowa, the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County and Agricultural Agents, was an Iowa State Delegate twice in the National County Agents Convention, the R.K. Bliss Extension Citation, received a special medallion as a 50 Year Breeder of Registered Cattle from the American Hereford Association, he served as a National Delegate to the Annual Meeting of the American Hereford Association for two years, in 1966, Jim was the youngest of 31 presidents in the world to receive the Distinguished President Award and the engraved gold watch from Sertoma International. The Lions International District Presidents Award, Rotary International District 5970 2009 Leadership Excellence Award, named Who's Who of America, Who's Who of the World, Who's Who Distinguished Humanitarian, Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award and the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. Thirty-five trees were planted for the 23 years of Extension Service at the North Iowa Fairgrounds, the Kuhlman Grove to honor his career of 35 years at his retirement, and the Calvin B. Martin Award from the North Iowa Figure Skating Club.

Jim was an author to eight books: Holstein Queens - This is Your Life, History of the Nance Hereford Ranch, The Block Pasture, From Kirchatten (Germany) to Canyon (Texas), Reflections Through a Milk Bottle - The Nebraska Years, The 100 Year History of Kuhlman Farms, 77 and Going..., Herman Kuhlman – the Legendary Immigrant Pioneer Farmer.

Jim was an author of numerous articles in *The Holstein World*, *Hoard's Dairyman*, *American Hereford World*, *Hereford America*, *The Journal of Dairy Science* and *Panhandle-Plains Historical Review* as well as many newspaper articles in Texas, Nebraska, and Iowa. He was honored to have one of his Hereford pictures on the cover of the American Hereford Journal.

Jim was the guest speaker on March 8, 2008, for the dedication of the 100-year-old C.O. Keiser home in Canyon, TX, by the Texas State Historical Society. He

judged many County Fairs in Nebraska and Iowa and was a well-known announcer at the Iowa State Fair, the North Iowa Fair, and the Clay County Fair.

In his free time, he enjoyed raising registered Hereford and Holstein cattle. He was a Hereford Historian, enjoyed gardening, and having part in developing Central Gardens of North Iowa, genealogy, photography, art and painting. He enjoyed watching Iowa State University basketball and football and University of Iowa's Caitlin Clark.

Jim will be forever remembered for his love for his family, his wife, two daughters, and his grandchildren. He will be deeply missed.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Ann Kuhlman, daughters, Lisa Ann Jenison and Jennifer (Cy) Held; grandchildren, Cody Nathaniel Jenison and Cassidy Ann Jenison; brother, Alvin (Lisa) Kuhlman; nephews, Mike (Donna) Kuhlman, Gary (Debbie) Kuhlman and Dr. Marty Kuhlman; niece, Cindi (Phil) Ortiz; and brother-in-law, Paul Henneman.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Alma Kuhlman; brother, Herbert F. (Jeannie) Kuhlman; sister, Juanita Kuhlman; his in-laws, Paul and Mary Henneman, Sr.; nieces, Deborah and Bernice Kuhlman and Monika (Kuhlman) McGibboney; and great nephew, C.M. Kuhlman.

"We volunteer to give back for those that gave to us." – Jim Kuhlman

Wyley Paul Good

Wyley Paul Good was born on January 23, 1941, in Shelby, MT to N. Paul and Mary Dornblaser Good. His early years were spent in Oilmont, MT while his father worked in the oil industry.

The family later moved to Great Falls, MT where Wyley began school and lived until his father took an opportunity to farm in Teton Bench. The family then moved and became residents of the area.

Wyley began his education at the O'Reilly School, attending through the 8th grade. He later enrolled at Fort Benton High School, where he was class president and graduated with the class of 1959. He went on to attend The University of Montana (then MSU), where he earned a degree in liberal arts and joined the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, forming many lifelong friendships.

It was during his time at the university that he met Gail Paige. They began dating and were married in the spring of 1962. Their marriage spanned 63 years, filled with love, family and hard work. Together they raised three daughters—Becky (born in 1962), Paula (1964), and Jennifer (1966) — who grew up helping on the family farm.

(continued on page 10)



World Hereford Conference attendees while in Kansas City please join us for a evening of Hereford cattle and fellowship

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COLYER HEREFORDS
24th Annual Fall Female Sale

Saturday, October 4, 2025

3 p.m. MST ~ at the ranch Bruneau, Idaho

**Open heifers, bred heifers, spring heifer
 calf pair splits, young donors,
 embryos and semen**



LOT 29

C 2157K SYLVIA 4205 ET

P44559425 - 01/08/2024 — What a way to lead off the bred heifer part of the sale with a full sister to Patton. He was the lead bull in our Denver Grand Champion Pen of 3 in Denver. This female stems from a long line of popular cattle by 8019 and sired by Sherman that has sired top sellers nationwide. 4205 has a very balanced EPD profile being in the top 10% for IMF, Teat, 15% for SBMI and SCHB. 20% for Stayability. A heifer calf by Legion will be a great breeding piece going forward. Selling 1/2 embryo interest. AI Bred 04/03/2025 to SHF LEGION H315 L060, due 01/11/2026. Checked safe.



LOT 30

C 2157K AMBER 4185 ET

P44559408 - 01/01/2024 — Here is a real breeding piece with some of the freshest genetics in the breed. She is a full sister to our top selling bull at \$70,000 in our February sale to Bowling Ranch. He was also a member of our Grand Champion Denver pen. We feel she is ideal phenotypically and already shows that she will have an awesome udder just like her mother. Top 5% WEPD, %IMF, 15% YEPD, 10% Stayability, 1% CWT and Ribeye, 3% SBMI and 2% SCHB. Selling 1/2 embryo interest. AI Bred 04/06/2025 to NJW 98S R117 RIBEYE 88X ET, due 01/14/2026. Checked safe.



LOT 31

C 88X GEMINI 4123

P44559355 - 02/01/2024 — One of the top maternal pedigrees in the entire sale with a WWR of 117 and YWR of 104. Sired by the grand old 88X bull that continues to crank out some of the best females in the breed. When you study the hind leg and hip on this female combined with her early udder development, you know she has the makings of a great female. Top 20% WEPD, 10% Milk, 25% Teat, 15% IMF. Selling 1/2 embryo interest. AI Bred 04/03/2025 to C REIGN MAKER 3210 ET, due 01/11/2026. Checked safe.

Special attraction at our fall sale — Your opportunity to pick.

Selling half interest in our young donor cows on the ranch.



Lot 1A

C 1086 LEANNE 3063



Lot 2B

C 9010 0069 LASS 3031 ET



LOT 5

C SULL 210 MERCY ME 5217 ET

P44650466 - 01/06/2025 — We feel these 3 sisters are some of the top show prospects we have ever offered. Who Makers out of D83 who is a full sister to Marksman. They are all unique in their build and have extreme pieces and quality. Lot 5 is a longer spined female with a great hip and hind leg. We have lots of discussion on which of these is the best but bottom line these females will hunt.



Lot 3

C SULL 210 MERCY ME 5048 ET
 P44650322 - 01/10/2025

We feel these 3 sisters are some of the top show prospects we have ever offered. Who Makers out of D83 who is a full sister to Marksman. They are all unique in their build and have extreme pieces and quality. Lot 3 has the neck and features of a modern show heifer with the body and bone to match. We have lots of discussion on which of these is the best but bottom line these females will hunt.



Lot 7

C 159H BAILEE 5209 ET
 P44650459 - 01/07/2025

These Liberty sisters are very much alike at this stage, and it is easy to tell they are related. Both have lots of look and extension with extra bone and power. Most impressive is the way they move and glide around the pasture. They are dead level topped and up headed as they go demanding attention. Donor dam 8105 was a top selling female for \$99,000 and is still one impressive beast to look at.



Lot 50

CCC 1564 Tess 5002 ET
 +21236992 - 12/29/2024

We lead the Angus ET heifers with a daughter from last year's high selling donor to Barber Ranch in Texas. This heifer ranks in the top 25% among her contemporaries across 13 traits. Phenomenal phenotype that tops all of our lists and that can have show ring success in the hands of any junior. She has the added extras that can progress your herd quickly and on multiple levels. Watch her video and you will want to be all in on sale day.



Lot 8

C D87 DIANA 5211 ET
 44650461 - 01/13/2025

This one is so unique and different in her design and build. She is extreme bodied and deep sided. Great hipped with the look of a show heifer from the side. She is so easy fleshing we had to wean her earlier to keep her fresh. We look for her to be one of the top choices this fall.



Lot 22A

C 3210 NOTICE ME NOW 5178
 44650434 - 01/09/2025

We feel this heifer calf is one of the sale features and one that will compete at a high level not only this season but more importantly as a bred. She is so well built at the ground but still has style and presence that demands attention. She is fancy marked and still has the EPD profile to build a herd around with extra calving ease, low birth, and carcass traits.

Sale will be broadcast on
LiveAuctions.TV



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 guy@hereford.com • sherry@hereford.com
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(continued from page 8)

After graduating, Wyley and Gail returned to the farm, where Wyley worked alongside his father. Following his father's passing, Wyley took over as the sole manager. Their journey as farmers deepened when Tom and Bertha Brock asked them to purchase their farm, opening a new and exciting chapter in their lives.

On July 22, 1975, their son Charles was born, becoming Wyley's right-hand man on the farm and in life.

Wyley was deeply involved in the Fort Benton community. He served as chairman of the Fort Benton School Board for 15 years. He was a Master Mason, a Scottish Rite Mason and an Algeria Shriner. As a member of the Chouteau County Honda Patrol, he participated in parades across the region.

Wyley and Gail cherished time with their children and grandchildren, seldom missing a sporting event, band concert, or school play. They were among the founding members of the Signal Point Golf Club in Fort Benton and were early contributors to the development of the Crystal Lakes Golf Club in northwestern Montana.

Wyley also served for many years as a partner and board member of the First State Bank of Fort Benton. For over a decade, he devoted his time organizing and cooking for the annual Pheasants Forever banquet. He was active on the National Advisory Board for Grizzly Athletics (NABGA) and the Board of Directors of The University of Montana Alumni Association. He and Gail were honored with an award in 2003 for their support of the Grizzlies — Wyley's beloved team.

An outdoorsman at heart, Wyley loved hunting and fishing. In 1996, he and Gail purchased a cabin on Holter Lake, where they made countless memories with family and friends. Some of his fondest moments were hunting trips with his son, sons-in-law, and grandson. The stories from those adventures

were shared for many years.

Wyley passed away on July 23, 2025, after a long battle with colon cancer. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Anna Mae, and her husband Gene McKeever; his brother Kent; and his in-laws, Boynton and Helen Bayers Paige.

He is survived by his beloved wife Gail; daughters Becky (Mike) Agame-noni, Paula (Brent) Pease, and Jennifer (Mike) Doney; and son Charles (Tami) Good. He leaves behind nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Those who knew Wyley will agree — he was one of a kind. A natural storyteller with a sharp wit. His 'tales' affectionately known sometimes as 'Wyley-isms' will long be remembered. Whether you heard them once or a dozen times, his stories will echo in our memories for years to come.

Memorials may be made in Wyley's name to The University of Montana Foundation, Fort Benton Ambulance, or the Chouteau County Cancer Support Group.

LeRoy Helbling

LeRoy P. Helbling, age 63, a lifelong Mandan resident, passed away unexpectedly on July 31, 2025, at his beloved ranch southwest of Mandan, doing chores with his wife, Rosemary, by his side.

LeRoy was born September 3, 1961, the

seventh of eight children to Jacob A. & Rose (Boehm) Helbling. He attended Rural School No. 1 southwest of Mandan, Christ the King School, and Mandan High School. After school, he worked for a short time at Trinity Builders and Zora, Inc.



Helbling Hereford Ranch was established by LeRoy's grandparents, Peter V. & Rose Helbling, in 1914. LeRoy's parents purchased it in the late 1950's, after Peter & Rose moved into town. In 1985, LeRoy purchased the ranch from his parents. On October 3, 1986, LeRoy married the love of his life, Rosemary Graner in Mandan. They worked side by side as a team for over 38 years, raising Hereford cattle, alfalfa, hay, corn, and oats and kept a well-maintained farm. LeRoy loved tinkering and restoring machinery. He was mechanically inclined from a young age and loved restoring International Harvester trucks, tractors, and other equipment. He was happiest when working with his trucks, machinery, cattle, and crops. He took great pride in his vehicles, always driving a red pickup. Articles on LeRoy and Rosemary's International Harvester equipment were featured in AgWeek and published in various newspapers.

LeRoy was known for his sense of humor, and one of his many trademarks was passing out Tootsie Rolls to his family and friends. He knew hundreds of people and had a great wealth of knowledge and historical information about the Morton County community.

LeRoy was a loyal friend to many people. Following the death of his first cousin, Tim Johnson, in January 2025, LeRoy kept a big promise he'd made to Tim by helping with his ranching operation west of Mandan after his passing. LeRoy would drive to Tim's farm twice a day to help and check on things and then go home and take care of his own operation. Along with the help of other friends and neighbors, they sold Tim's cattle and were in the process of getting the ranch and equipment ready for sale.

Blessed to have shared in his life is his wife of 38 years, Rosemary Helbling, Mandan; four sisters, Sonja (Michael) Wiser, Bismarck, Marlys (Don) Rychlik, Mandan, Jackie (Rey) Castillo, Sacramento, CA, and Gloria

Fox, Vancouver, WA; his sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Claudia (Ron) Bell, Louaine (Greg) Wetch, Roger (Becky) Graner, and Virginia Mehlhoff (Dan Kraft), all of Mandan; his beloved dog, Axel; as well as numerous nieces and nephews and countless friends.

LeRoy was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Yvonne (Jim) Hurkes, Charmaine Helbling, and Juliana Helbling; brother-in-law, William Fox; in-laws, Leland and Angela Graner; and nephews, Jesse Wetch and Rowdy Graner.

The family would like to thank Weigel Funeral Home, St. Joseph Catholic Church, and the Mandan Eagles for their help and support. Special thanks to Barber Mike and Bev Klostreich who are considered part of our family. Also, to all of our family and friends who've already offered and showed up to help with the farm, we appreciate you so much.

In November 2022, articles on LeRoy & Rosemary's International Harvester equipment were featured in AgWeek.

James 'Jim' Harrison Ekker

James "Jim" Harrison Ekker, loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle and friend, passed

away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family, on Aug. 2 at the age of 82. He was born on Dec. 18, 1942, in Springville, UT, the youngest



of four children of John Gerrit (Jack) Ekker Sr and Florence Harrison Ekker. He was raised on the Ekker Ranch on the south side of the Sheepprock Mountains in Tooele County and in Springville, UT, where he attended school. The ranch and his dad's homestead in the west desert were his favorite place to be.

Jim spent his entire life in the ranching business. He and his brother, Gary, worked full-time alongside their dad for many years, and later he consolidated his own operations in Vernon, UT. In addition to his commercial herd, Jim established Ekker Herefords, where he raised and sold some of the best registered Hereford cattle in the state. Jim worked tirelessly to make his ranch the best it could be. He was very knowledgeable about every aspect of the cattle business, as well as many other topics. He continued ranching until the end of his life, one of the very few people who earn a living solely from ranching and farming.

Jim met Linda Lee Pehrson, from Vernon, in 1969, and they were married on June 5, 1971, in Vernon. Their

(continued on page 12)

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Carlson Families - Murdock

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Robert and Rochelle Orsten Family - Willmar

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Junior Geislinger Family - Watkins
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JDH AH ND RITA PRINT 46N ET | 44663810
Final Print \times Rita 18J

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
11.6	-1.6	61	95	35	0.30	0.29	\$404	\$119



homozygous polled
JDH 11E H086 MERCEDES 24N ET | 44668503
Houston \times Mercedes

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
7.2	1.6	74	123	32	1.17	0.14	\$484	\$182



homozygous polled
JDH AH 19Z MS SHERMAN 119N ET | 44668500
Sherman \times 19Z

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
0.1	3.0	67	105	24	0.74	0.38	\$412	\$161



JDH AH 125L MS SHERMAN 120N ET | 44668501
Sherman \times Lincoln 125L

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
4.9	-0.6	70	110	31	0.85	0.42	523	\$172



Selling full possession and in-herd semen use!

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
6.1	-0.7	82	122	41	0.79	0.19	\$472	\$160



homozygous polled
AH VACA LADY 910G | P44021892
Hometown 73C \times 610D
Sells with her Final Print calf at side!

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
7.5	2.0	74	117	35	0.51	0.03	\$356	\$133



homozygous polled
JDH AH 19Z MS RUMBLER 34J ET | P44242708
33Z \times 19Z
safe to Final Print

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
5.7	-0.2	62	93	28	0.36	0.42	\$518	\$146

RST FINAL PRINT 0016 | P44178105

saturday
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1 p.m. 27

Heifer calves, cows,
bred heifers and more
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Delaney Herefords,
Lake Benton, MN.

Dustin Layton, Auctioneer
LiveAuctionsTV 2.0



homozygous polled
JDH AH 45C 36E RITA 1J ET | P44260269
Long Haul \times 45C
safe to Final Print

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
8.8	0.1	65	103	37	0.40	0.32	\$536	\$158

She sells along with her Dam and sisters!



homozygous polled
AH MISS VACA QUEEN 021H | P44146358
Hometown 73C \times 19Z
Sells with her
On Demand calf at side!

CED	BW	WW	YW	M	REA	MARB	BMI	CHB
8.9	0.5	56	85	28	0.01	0.31	\$353	\$129

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Byron's Classics

Another classic from Byron Bayers' editorials. This one is from October 2014.

On a beautiful September morning I looked out our living room window which faces north and viewed the beautiful Table Top Mountain that rises 10,223 feet above sea level. I was thinking this is the day Lynn & Rick Terry and I are motoring to Idaho to the annual steer sale of the Singleton Ranch, and that this undoubtedly will be a beautiful trip because it takes us through some very scenic country and by several mountain ranges.

As we headed out of Twin Bridges on Highway 41 we go by the Jefferson River which is the combination of the Big Hole, Beaverhead and Ruby Rivers. As we travel south toward Dillon we view the great Tobacco Root Mountains to the east, the intriguing Pioneer Range to the west. As we reach Dillon we get on the major north/south interstate through Montana, Interstate 15, we head in a general southerly direction on I-15 as we go by the Beaverhead Mountains to the west and the BlackTail Mountains to the east. We whip by Clark Canyon Reservoir at our cruising speed of about 80 miles per hour, where we go through some big cattle operations, where haying has come to a stop because of heavy rains

that have hit the area in the last week.

Then we go by the emergency airport at Dell, which was constructed

In the distance we can see 18 Mile Peak, which rises to 11,115 feet above sea level. For many years, I flew be-

of a third cutting of alfalfa that is now nearly a foot high, which will create a real problem for the farmers.



Table Top Mountain as viewed from the Bayers Ranch near Twin Bridges, MT.

in World War Two, as an emergency airport for planes being ferried from the US, up through Canada and on to Russia. This runway is 8,000 feet long, hard surfaced and was used by both the men and women pilots of the ferrying command and now it is the home of two corporate jets whose owners have large ranching interests in the area.

tween this peak and Scott Peak which is at an altitude of 11,393 feet when I was journeying south on my varied flights into Idaho, Utah and Arizona. But today we get a different view than we got in our flying days because the view from about 11,000 feet high, to being on the ground over this beautiful scenery, is very different.

After our wonderful breakfast at the small town of Lima, we journeyed on over the Continental Divide at Monida Pass. Just north of Monida Pass is the famous Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, this is the home of probably the most populous Trumpeter Swan population in the United States.

Monida Pass is one of the toughest traveling passes on the interstate system between Idaho and Montana, many times I have needed to chain up with trucks and wander through the blizzards, hoping that oncoming traffic would be seen. In many cases each winter the pass is closed for two or three days for snow removal.

Many pilots have been killed trying to fly over the highway at Monida Pass and have been unsuccessful because of the various changes in terrain and visibility.

One of our largest grazing associations for 5,000 cows is located here, called the Monida. To the east of us as we go over Monida Pass is one of the extremely good cattle summer ranges that I have seen and it is called the "Modock country" by the locals.

As we motor on towards Idaho Falls to the east is the Targhee National Forest and as we start getting into the rich farming country north of Idaho Falls we go by the intensive barley country in northern Idaho where most of the grain goes to the breweries for the production of beer. Because of the heavy rains in the area the past week, the farming has come to a halt and the brown burned bales of hay lay on top

We arrive in Idaho Falls a city of nearly 100,000 people, in about 2 1/2 hours of driving time. (Rick really rolls) The stockyards are in the middle of town on the railroad tracks and has been there for probably 70 years. The yards are owned by a man who has been very influential in the area and who has probably sold hundreds of thousands of cattle. The old yards are getting very dated but yet are still very functional, however it is getting to be a bigger problem for the ranchers and trucks to get into the city through the heavy traffic to merchandise their cattle.

The Singleton Ranch has been in existence for approximately 100 years and has always been a Hereford operation. The Singleton family has had to endure a flood caused by the severing of a large dam that laid to the north and east of them. Some of the ranch operation is still run in an area where the devastation of the dam's flooding is still evident. Laverl Singleton has been a true Hereford man all of his life and the quality of his cows' offspring is a true testament to his beliefs and his life-long occupation. Laverl has marketed his Hereford calves at the Idaho Falls market each year for the last 30 years and on this day in September we meet with Laverl and his wife Patsy, friends Rick and Shelly Blanchard, who were also lifelong Hereford breeders, until their dispersion a few years ago.

It is interesting when you go into a sale ring as strangers the reception you get, it's not very different from the reception you get when you go into a small town bar where you are unknown. Everyone looks at you and you can see they are wondering who you are and why you are there. Are they cattle buyers or are they from a paper as Lynn is busy taking pictures up near the rafters, of the activities below.

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 10)

marriage was later solemnized May 28, 1977, in the Manti Utah Temple. They worked their ranch together in Vernon, where they raised five children and spent the rest of their lives. Jim was very devoted to his family and loved them fiercely. He taught them all to work hard, to care for the land and animals, to be honest and generous, and to help each other. He was proud of his heritage and shared that pride with his family. He loved the cattle industry and served for many years on the board of the Utah Cattlemen's Association, including as president from 2005-07. He also loved rodeos (especially the Ute Stampede in Nephi, UT), deer hunt-

ing, a good horse, a good steak, Diet Pepsi, playing the guitar and spending time with family and friends. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many positions during his life.

Jim is survived by his five children: Matthew John (Debbie) Ekker of Taylorsville, UT; Michelle (Tony) Adams of Tooele, UT; Mary Lou Ekker of Tooele, UT; Melinda (Brady) Johnson of Vernon, UT; and Holly Christina (Nate) Sorensen of Payson, UT; 16 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 50 years, and his siblings, Leta Bartholomew, John Gerrit Ekker Jr. and Louise Schouten.

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Byron's Classics

(continued from page 12)

Before the sale starts the cow buyers are huddled in the front row undoubtedly talking about where the market is going and possibly what their actives have been in the last week buying cattle. There are many small dairies in the area and many of those owners bring stock that they need to market. Usually these auctions are a pretty solemn affair and there are not too many laughs to be had because it's all business to most of these people.

But in the beginning of this sale we got a few laughs.

An old Red Angus cow came into the ring and she was MAD! Normally, there are three to four different people working in the ring, and this old cow immediately put every one of them behind the barriers for protection and she tried to come up into the crowd, but luckily the barrier was too high for her.

She pawed and bawled and ran around the ring just looking for someone to get at, but this was to no avail. The auctioneer sold the cow and then because everyone was behind the barriers, they could not get her out of the ring. They got the door open to the scale and then each of the workers tried "shushing" her and yelling, but she wasn't going to go out and no one wanted to get away from their protection to get behind her.

After about 15 minutes of this and no one volunteering to go in and get her out, a man in the crowd, of obviously Spanish descent stood up and verbally volunteered, "I will try and get her out" and he walked across the seating area of the arena and following him was his little Australian Shepherd. He did not go into the ring, but sent his little dog into the ring with the cow.

The "little dog" got the cow's attention right away and the dog knowing the danger in the area, retreated through

the scale area, but the cow didn't follow. The cow dog came back once, twice, three times and barked right at the cow's face, and the cow would chase for about 10 feet and then quit, it looked like a real stand off because the dog-hero knew enough not to get where it could be cornered and the cow didn't want to leave the ring, but finally in the last try the brave dog barked right in the cow's face, the cow "bellered", the dog turned, and ran to the scale area with the cow charging after her.

By that time the gate keeper in the ring successfully got the gate slammed shut behind the cow and the circus was over, in the ring, then the dog's owner went around behind the yards to get his dog, and we never saw them again, so we assumed everything was successfully finalized with the little hero dog.

The crowd in the sale ring was laughing about the whole nature of the circus and then the beautiful set of yearling Hereford steers of Singleton's came into the ring, and after the display of temperament from the cow, it was nice to see the good disposition of the steers that filled the ring and scales. The steers are a tribute to Laverl and his many years of a dedicated breeding program.

The steers topped the sale for Laverl and his wife Patsy, the steers also topped the feeder market that day, and brought 50 cents more a pound than they did one



Singleton's Hereford steers often topped the market at Idaho Falls Livestock Auction. They sold there for over 30 years.

year ago. The steers were summered on high desert pasture and trucked 50 miles the morning of the sale, their selling weight was 968 pounds. Laverl and Patsy Singleton were happy people that afternoon. After a fine meal, and an hour or so of visiting with Singletons and Blanchards, the Terrys and I headed for home. It was a very scenic and enjoyable travel trip and it was

good to see good Hereford people and friends have a successful day marketing their Hereford steers. As we arrived home the sun was starting to set over the beautiful Pioneer Mountains and it had to be regarded as a successful and interesting trip.

— BB



Dog-hero of the sale barn, dealing with the mad cow, daring to go where no man would and accomplishing the task.

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American Hereford Association 2025 Board of Directors Candidate Slate

The American Hereford Association (AHA) board of directors nominating committee is pleased to announce the six candidates nominated for election to the AHA Board of Directors. The candidates are as follows:

2025 Nominating Committee for AHA Board of Directors:

Kevin Schultz (chairman)
Haviland, KS
620-546-4570
kevin@sandhillfarms.com

Wyatt Agar
Northwest region
Thermopolis, WY
307-921-8825
durbincreek ranch@yahoo.com

Curtis Curry
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918-521-4629
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Whitey Hunt
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Ross Carlson
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Joe Ellis
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McGuffee Polled Herefords,
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Bryan Blinson
Blinson Polled Hereford Farm,
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Chris Beck
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Genoa, NV
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chris.genoalivestock@gmail.com

Joe Dan Ledbetter
Ledbetter Cattle Co.,
Wheeler, TX
806-236-0958
joedanledbetter@yahoo.com

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E H121 MS MATERNAL L98 • 44514484 • 09/17/2023
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DAM: MOHICAN MATTIE 122D
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UDDR 1.30 TEAT 1.10 REA 0.64 MRB 0.16 CHB 142



E 35K MARIE M39 • 44671982 • 08/08/2024
SIRE: JDH MRD 54E 8G BENTON 35K ET
DAM: E 252F WHITNEY J68
BW 2.6 WW 65 YW 109 MM 30 MG 62
UDDR 1.20 TEAT 1.30 REA 0.82 MRB 0.20 CHB 156



E 2135 HIGH COUNTRY 5007ET • 44671509 • 02/17/2025
SIRE: C ARLO 2135 ET
DAM: E 337U DIVA Y37
BW 4.7 WW 63 YW 99 MM 29 MG 61
UDDR 1.40 TEAT 1.40 REA 0.62 MRB 0.15 CHB 138

EMBRYOS



JDH MRD 54E 86 BENTON 35K ET x
C 8037 GENESIS GAL 1049 ET

CHURCHILL VANGUARD 360L ET x
C 8037 GENESIS GAL 1049 ET



CHURCHILL JACK FROST 458M ET x
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LOWEN SANDHILL L70 ET x
ILR 16 W LADY BETH 835 ET



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Thomas Herefords Selected To Receive 2025 Montana Leopold Conservation Award

August 11, 2025 • Northern Ag Network

Thomas Herefords, owned by Bruce and Tammy Thomas, and Richard and Shirley Thomas, Gold Creek, MT, will be presented with the award at the Montana Farm Bureau Annual Convention in November. They receive \$10,000 for being selected.

Sand County Foundation will present Leopold Conservation Awards to landowners in 28 states this year. In Montana the award is presented annually with the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and the Montana Rangeland Resources Program. The award honors ranchers, farmers, and forestland owners who go above and beyond in the management of soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat on working land.

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the award recognizes farmers and forestland owners who inspire others with their dedication to environmental improvement. In his influential 1949 book, *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold advocated for “a land ethic,” an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage.

Montana landowners were encouraged to apply, or be nominated, for the award last year. Applications were reviewed by an independent panel of Montana agriculture and conservation leaders. Among the many outstanding landowners nominated for the award were finalists: Franck and Kari Groeneweg’s Living Sky Grains of Three Forks, and Bart and Wendy Morris’ Oxbow Cattle Company of Missoula.

ABOUT THOMAS HEREFORDS

Bruce Thomas is as passionate about conservation as he is about Hereford beef cattle, and that’s saying a lot.

Bruce grew up showing and fitting world-class Hereford cattle on the ranch his parents Richard and Shirley Thomas established in 1957.

His career as a sawmill’s environ-

mental manager proved to be influential. Interacting with governmental agencies and becoming well-versed with environmental regulations led him to see how doing things differently could make the ranch environmentally and economically resilient.

“I wanted to demonstrate to both the agricultural and environmental communities that a win-win solution could be achieved,” Bruce said.

Bruce and his wife Tammy prioritized conservation practices that could improve biodiversity and water quality, leading to healthier cattle, fish, and wildlife. Their vision was set into motion in the early 2000s by enrolling land into an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) contract and collaborating with several public agencies and private non-profits.

Gold Creek is a Clark Fork River tributary that runs through the ranch. Like other ranchers, ancestors built their first corrals next to the creek to easily water their cattle. Overgrazed riparian areas led to soil compaction and degradation, and creek contamination. Loss of riparian vegetation led to warmer water, impacting native fish populations and reducing wildlife habitat.

With EQIP’s financial and technical assistance new cattle pens were designed to direct runoff into filtration areas on the ranch’s uplands. Grazing was ceased along the creek’s riparian area for five years to allow native vegetation to recover. As a result, the creek was cleaner thanks to a reduction in runoff of manure nitrates. The herd’s daily weight gain also improved from a new watering system.

Converting from flood irrigation to pivot irrigation also benefitted Gold Creek by diverting 50 percent less water. Other environmental benefits like enhanced in-stream flow, cooler water temperatures, and drought mitigation are being studied at Thomas Herefords by the Montana Department of Natural



Richard, Shirley, Tammy and Bruce Thomas

Resources and Conservation and other local and state organizations and agencies.

Located in western Montana’s Flint Creek Mountain Range, the ranch sits at 4,250 feet, with summer pastures up to 6,500 feet in elevation. Replacing woven and barbed wire with three-wire electric high-tension fencing is wildlife-friendly while proving a more secure fence for cattle.

Rotational grazing has improved the quality and quantity of grasses. Likewise, investment in rangeland water development has helped triple the carrying capacity of the ranch’s pastures. The Thomases prioritize soil health principles by utilizing annual soil analysis, reducing chemical fertilizer use, and managing for drought by building organic matter to improve moisture retention.

While the Thomases are best known as a renowned international seedstock producer of red and white Hereford cattle, their holistic approach to ranching is just as noteworthy.

Bruce’s mother Shirley recalls a time when she would go to a hilltop overlooking the ranch and privately wonder how she was going to pay the next month’s bills. Bruce says embracing his conservation ethic is why those fears no longer exist.

As for the future, Bruce and Tammy are proud their children, Kurt, Amber, Heather, and their families, are involved in the ranch and own cattle. Along with the kids, the ranch’s succession plan includes a continuation of the conservation ideals that have brought them this far.

ACCOLADES

“Montana’s farmers and ranchers are dedicated stewards of our land and water resources,” said Governor Greg Gianforte. “Thomas Herefords has set the standard for stewarding their land and Gold Creek, showing the impor-

tance and impact of caring for working landscapes.”

“The Leopold Conservation Award provides an excellent opportunity to recognize the innovation of Montana’s farmers, ranchers and forested landowners,” said DNRC Director Amanda Kaster. “Two decades of conservation efforts have served well to improve the land and build environmental and economic resilience. Congratulations to Thomas Herefords on this deserved recognition.”

“These award recipients are examples of how Aldo Leopold’s land ethic is alive and well today,” said Kevin McAleese, Sand County Foundation President and CEO. “Their dedication to conservation is both an inspiration to their peers as well as a reminder to all how important thoughtful agriculture is to clean water, healthy soil, and wildlife habitat.”

“As the national sponsor for Sand County Foundation’s Leopold Conservation Award, American Farmland Trust celebrates the hard work and dedication of the award recipients,” said John Piotti, AFT President and CEO. “At AFT we believe that exemplary conservation involves the land itself, the practices employed on the land, and the people who steward it. This award recognizes the integral role of all three.”

The Montana Leopold Conservation Award is made possible through the generous support of American Farmland Trust, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Rangeland Resources Program, Sand County Foundation, AgWest Farm Credit, Montana Grazing Lands Coalition, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Montana Farm Bureau Federation, Ranchers Stewardship Alliance, Soil and Water Conservation Society, Western Landowners Alliance, Western Sustainability Exchange, and World Wildlife Fund.





2025 South Dakota Hereford Futurity & Special Shows

Huron, SD

~ Futurity Show ~



Grand Champion Futurity Heifer — Ivy Fawcett with TB Miss Jackie M386, 2/24/24 by Stellpflug Domino 9329 2106, bred by Ty Bergh.



Reserve Champion Futurity Heifer — Chance Blum with LP Melanie M421 ET, 4/28/24 by CH High Roller 756 ET bred by LP Cattle Co.



Grand Champion Futurity Steer — Kenton Timmons with CGH Simon 401 ET 1535 lbs. bred by C Grace Herefords.



Reserve Champion Futurity Steer — Holden Tostenson, with GH K Joe 13M bred by Grace Herefords.

(continued on page 22)



Futurity Steers and Heifers were purchased from the South Dakota Excellence Sale or Watertown Hereford Sale

South Dakota Excellence Sale
November 15, 2025 • Brookings, SD

Watertown Winter Farm Show Hereford Sale
February 2026 • Watertown, SD

Spotlight Hereford and Hereford Special Shows



Grand Champion Special Heifer and Grand Champion Hereford Heifer Spotlight Show — Kyla Peskey with ECR SQCF D87 Leila 431 ET, 4/16/24 by KLD RW Marksman D87 ET.



Reserve Champion Special Heifer Show — Kendall McAreavey with ECR Memory 406, 4/27/24 by KLD RW Marksman D87 ET.



Grand Champion Special Steer and Reserve Spotlight Steer — Chisum Blum



Reserve Champion Special Steer — Weston Grace



Grand Champion Spotlight Hereford Steer — Shaelee Jensen



Reserve Champion Spotlight Hereford Heifer — Rett Blume

Champion Heifer - Kyla Peskey, sponsored by Covey Cattle and Creatives by Calah

Reserve Champion Heifer - Rett Blume, sponsored by Hansmeiers and Sons Inc.

Champion Steer - Shaelee Jensen, sponsored by Springwater Herefords

Reserve Champion Steer - Chisum Blum, sponsored by Gerlach Herefords

Champion Futurity Heifer - Ivy Fawcett, bred by Ty Bergh

Reserve Champion Futurity Heifer - Chance Blum, bred by LP Cattle Co

Champion Futurity Steer - Kenton Timmons, bred by C Grace Herefords

Reserve Champion Futurity Steer - Holden Tostenson, bred by Grace Herefords

Champion Special Heifer - Kyla Peskey

Reserve Champion Special Heifer - Kendall McAreavey

Champion Special Steer - Chisum Blum

Reserve Champion Special Steer - Weston Grace

Source: SD Hereford Assn.

SDJHA Showmanship Winners



Senior Showmen - Top 5

Champion Senior - Hollis Fawcett, sponsored by Marshall Built
Reserve Senior - Kyla Peskey, sponsored by Ollerich Brothers Herefords
Third Overall Senior - Chance Blum, sponsored by RCR Polled Herefords
Fourth Overall Senior - Kane Grace, sponsored by Section 16 Cattle
Fifth Overall Senior - Natalie Marshall, sponsored by The Den Drive Up



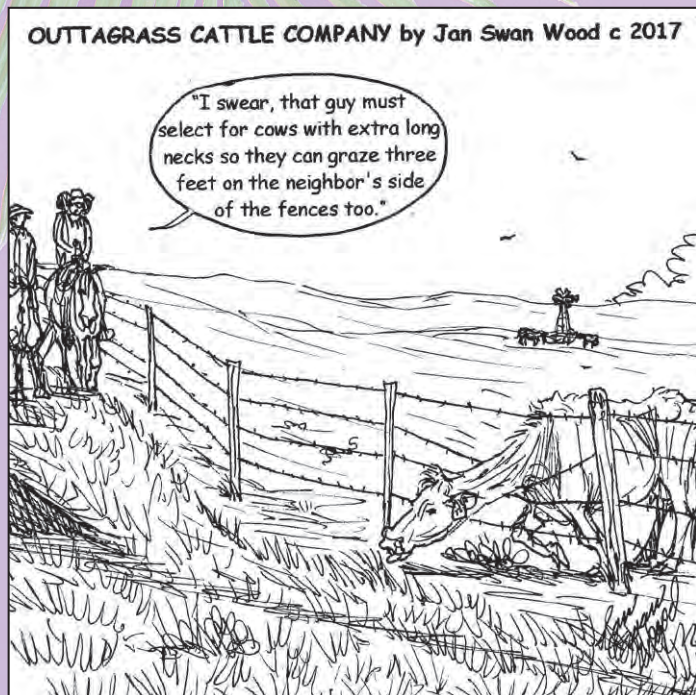
Junior Showmen - Top 5

Champion Junior - Ivy Fawcett, sponsored by Blacktop Farms
Reserve Junior - Brock Sime, sponsored by Starmak Herefords
Third Overall Junior - Rett Blume, sponsored by Dakota Border Cattle Co
Fourth Overall Junior - Brooklyn Marshall, sponsored by Ravine Creek Ranch
Fifth Overall Junior - Macey Josephsen, sponsored by the SDJHA



Beginner Showmen - Top 5

Champion Beginner - Xavier Grace, sponsored by Focus Marketing Group
Reserve Beginner - Rielle Knock, sponsored by the McAreavey Family
Third Overall - Shaelee Jensen, sponsored by Rausch Herefords
Fourth Overall - Charlotte Olawsky, sponsored by Eichler Livestock
Fifth Overall - Jacob Harms, sponsored by KH Cattle



2025 Livestock Marketeers Hall of Fame Honor Hedrick and Clifton



Pictured (l to r) are Doak Lambert, Jack Ficken, Greg Clifton, Jack Hedrick, Eddie Burks and Matt Sims.

The Livestock Marketeers hosted their 60th Annual Hall of Fame Banquet on May 29, 2025. This year's event was held at the American-International Charolais Association in Kansas City, MO.

The 2025 inductees were Jack Hedrick, Signal Mountain, TN, and Greg Clifton, North Richland Hills, TX. Jack grew up on two notable Hereford Ranches, Circle M Ranch, Senatobia, MS, and Col. E. Brooke Lee's Silver Springs Farms, Damascus, MD and Columbus, MS.

While in Columbus, Jack met his wife of 44 years, Mary Helen Hedrick. From 1975-1978 Jack worked with Bill Maerli, from Cuba, MO, fitting sale and show cattle nationwide. In the fall of 1978, Jack joined National Cattle Services, Elgin, OK. In the fall of 1988, Jack started his own company, JDH Marketing Services, LLC., providing sale management, consulting and ring service across North America.

Jack and Mary Helen have one son, Dustin and his wife Carleigh and two grandsons, Thom and Monte.

Greg Clifton was born in Clarence, MO, and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1980. Soon after graduation, Greg went to work for the American Yorkshire Club through 1985. From 1985 until 1989, Greg served as a fieldman for the *Weekly Livestock Reporter* based in Fort Worth, TX. In 1989 he began his career as a purebred livestock auctioneer and sale manager, a career that he is still passionate about to this day. Greg has provided professional auctioneer services for elite operations across the nation. Greg and his wife Tina are blessed with three children and two grandchildren.

The Livestock Marketeers is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the history and advancement of the livestock marketing profession. The Livestock Marketeers Banquet is held each summer in conjunction with the Marketeers Classic Golf Tournament. The group established a scholarship in 2024 and has given four awards since its inception.

Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame Announces 2025 Inductees

The Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame (WCHF) has announced its Class of 2025 inductees, recognizing individuals who have made significant contributions to the state's working cowboy and ranching history. The inductees include Dave Graham from Moorcroft, Earl "Tut" Camblin from Gillette, Samuel "Sammy" Everett Sewell from Newcastle, and A.D. Flores Kruse from Lusk. The ceremony will take place at the Ramkota Hotel in Casper, September 26 and 27, and is open to the public. The WCHF aims to preserve and document Wyoming's working cowboy and ranching history through research, profiling, and honoring these individuals.

A.D. Flores Kruse was born in 1918 in the log homestead house with no attending doctors or mid wives. His father, 2015 WCHF Inductee William (Bill) Kruse, had left home at an early age to cowboy in the Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming. His mother, Jennie Flores Kruse, was the daughter of the body guard to the man who founded Amarillo, TX and later became a noted lawman.

A.D. was an only child and there were no other children around to play with, so he rode to other homesteads to visit the mostly bachelor neighbors and help them for entertainment. Sometimes he would be gone for several days, but he always had a good horse so his parents didn't worry. The closest school was near Lance Creek, so he rode 12 miles there for the school week, and returned on weekends. His parents had a small house where A.D. and his mother stayed during school. His first two years of high school were spent in Lance Creek. The last two years of high school, he boarded with a family in Lusk and graduated in 1936.



A.D. Kruse's son Jim and grandson Joe Kruse posing by the original corral. They still ranch on the same family land near Lance Creek, WY. While Jim raised Herefords only, Joe has some Herefords and baldies.



A.D. Kruse on Sunny, December of 1953.

During those years, the Kruse cattle were trailed 45 miles to Lusk, WY and loaded on the train to be sold in Omaha, Nebraska. A.D. said those two and half to three days of trailing cattle every year was the most boring job he ever had.

A.D. was the first person in the family to attend college at the University of Wyoming, graduating with a Bachelors degree of Animal Science/Animal Husbandry. After graduation, he worked for the Soil Conservation Service before being drafted during WWII. He was commissioned as an officer and fought in the European theatre from D-Day until the German surrender. His unit, the 133rd Combat Engineers built bridges, roads, and cleared land mines so General Patton's tanks could attack. He attained the rank of Captain and was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star with V for Valor, and a Purple Heart.

After his discharge, he was assigned to work in Dubois, WY for the SCS and spent his free time riding in the mountains, hunting and fishing.

In the fall of 1948, A.D. returned to the family ranch north of Lance Creek. There, with his wife Hazel and children Kathy, Jim, and Paul, he spent his time riding

and checking cows. Because of the lack of water on the ranch, the cattle were widely dispersed and 30-40 mile days in the saddle were the norm. He would also ride the Joss Ranch 20 Mile Creek pasture, which at that time was 30,000 acres. A.D. would ride up 20 Mile Creek and its tributaries, spending the night with Art and Peg Joss. Returning the next day, he would cover the 20 Mile Gulch and as far east as the Lance Creek and 20 Mile divide. He gathered his strays as well as the other neighbors, returning them on his way home.

The ranch headquarters are on the east side of the ranch, so cattle that needed doctoring were roped and treated in the pasture, generally just by himself. A.D. always tied hard and fast and in the winter he put sharp shoes on his horses. A.D. believed if it was too cold to do anything else, it was a good day to ride! In addition to his saddle horses, he always had a team of horses and used them to rake hay and feed. He never owned anything but Hereford cattle in his lifetime.

A.D. bought most of his horses as colts, first from Bob Dixon and then from Bill Grey at Orin Junction, both WCHF inductees. One time he

bought a broke horse at the big horse sale in Edgemont, South Dakota. After the sale, he was asked why he bought that outlaw named "Satan." The horse was bad news, but A.D. took him home and got along with him, except for the one time when Satan bucked him off and shattered his collar bone, broke all his ribs in front, and half of the ribs behind! He was laid up for a short time after that spill.

He broke all of his own horses until he was about 60 years old, then he let his son Jim break them. While not a great bronc rider, A.D. was not afraid of any horse and could usually find a way to get along with them enough to get the job done.

His last ride was when he was about 80 years old, helping his son Jim cut cull cows out of the herd, in November. After that, he hung his saddle up.

A.D. never owned a horse trailer and rode from the ranch headquarters to all corners of the place. He was the happiest when he was horseback, but he did every job on the ranch, from meticulous record keeping to building and maintaining excellent fences. He is remembered for wearing custom made Blucher boots and ox-bow stirrups while riding horses that you could do most anything on. He always loved horses and had a corral full, even when he passed in 2006, at 88 years old.



A.D. Kruse



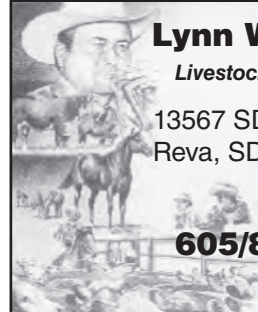
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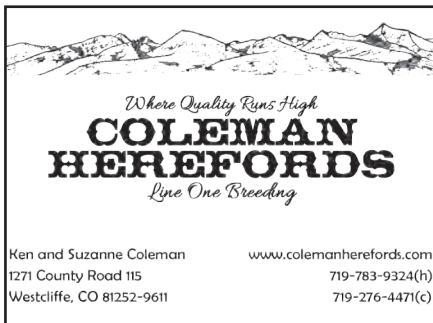
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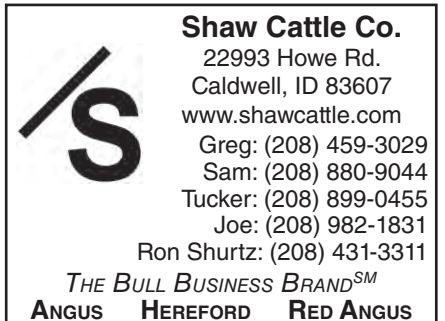
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Halle cell: 320-444-7914
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South Dakota Hereford Carcass Show Results - Top 10

from the Spotlight Show and Hereford Shows

Name	ID	SEX	RIB FAT	REA	%IMF	WEIGHT	HCW	%KPH	Y.G.	Q.G.	Carcass Prices		Weight	Final Price	Payout	Rank
											Base	QG				
Lyla Bothe	17	S	0.61	11.9	3.39	1100	699	3.5	3.57	High Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,368.82	1
Nolan Stahly	4	S	0.51	12.4	3.43	1350	857	3.5	3.76	High Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,907.19	2
Nolan Stahly	5	S	0.77	11.2	3.32	1290	819	3.5	4.65	High Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,777.98	3
Aida Anderson	8	S	0.68	9.6	3.05	1245	791	3.5	4.83	High Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,681.08	4
James Jensen	18	S	0.47	12.8	2.94	1220	775	3.5	3.22	Low Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,627.24	5
Holden Tostenson	15	S	0.4	12.1	2.04	1215	772	3.5	3.26	Low Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,616.47	6
Chisum Blum	3	S	0.44	12.6	2.85	1270	806	3.5	3.33	Low Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,734.91	7
Skylar Stiefvater	12	S	0.82	12	2.96	1350	857	3.5	4.67	Low Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26		\$339.13	\$2,907.19	8
Makayla Simmermon	13	S	0.68	14	3.05	1465	930	3.5	3.96	High Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26	-\$2.38	\$336.75	\$3,132.70	9
Kenton Timmons	14	S	0.37	12.1	2.27	1535	975	3.5	3.96	Low Select	\$359.39	-\$20.26	-\$2.38	\$336.75	\$3,282.39	10

Prodell Joins Certified Hereford Beef

KANSAS CITY, MO — Certified Hereford Beef® (CHB) recently named Marie Prodell account executive for retail and food service. She will play an integral support role in CHB customer communications, accounts and program management, as well as sales and education support across national retail and foodservice channels.

“Marie represents the next generation of leadership in the beef business — smart, passionate, and grounded in the values that make Certified Hereford Beef a truly unique brand,” says

Ernie Davis, CHB president and CEO. “Her firsthand experience in cattle production, wealth of industry experience and her talent for telling the story of Hereford cattle make her an incredible asset as we expand our reach and strengthen our rancher-owned brand across the U.S.”

Prodell recently earned dual bachelor's degrees in agricultural business and animal and meat science from the University of Wisconsin–River Falls (UWRF). Her leadership roles with the UWRF Beef Management Team, Block and Bridle Club and other or-

ganizations reflect her communications and leadership skills. As a first-generation Hereford breeder, and former member of the National Junior Hereford Association, she is a passionate advocate of Hereford and CHB.

“I'm excited to work with the American Hereford Association and CHB to grow this leading premium branded beef program,” Prodell says. “The unique product and service attributes that Certified Hereford Beef provides partners and consumers is second to none.”



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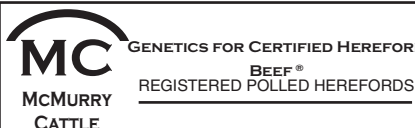
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IMR 0270H ADVANCE 4021M {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: HH ADVANCE 0270H • MGS: HH ADVANCE 3297A ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
12.1	-0.3	54	75	0.3	0.3	26.1	32	59	5.0			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
76	1.30	1.40	71	0.062	0.50	0.32	502	593	128			



IMR 0117H DOMINO 4092M {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: IMR 710E DOMINO 0117H ET • MGS: HH ADVANCE 5047C ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
-3.8	4.9	76	116	0.8	1.3	17.5	33	71	6.7			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
91	1.40	1.50	99	0.072	0.42	0.12	383	478	135			



IMR 0117H DOMINO 4116M {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: IMR 710E DOMINO 0117H ET • MGS: HH ADVANCE 5095C ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
13.1	0.0	56	85	0.6	1.0	23.2	31	59	8.3			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
60	1.40	1.50	81	0.012	0.80	0.03	455	524	118			



IMR 66589 MANDATE 4058M {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: /S MANDATE 66589 ET • MGS: INNISFAIL WHR X651/723 4013 ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
3.4	2.6	83	135	0.3	1.3	19.1	26	67	0.8			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
156	1.20	1.20	81	0.042	0.56	0.36	436	553	163			



IMR 9084G VICTOR 4081M {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: IMR 33Z VICTOR 9084G ET • MGS: CMF 59Z CONFIDENCE 204C												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
-2.8	4.2	69	102	0.1	0.1	21.9	24	58	-2.7			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
97	1.30	1.30	63	0.072	0.38	0.18	432	527	109			



IMR H086 EARL 4132M ET {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: SHF HOUSTON D287 H086 • MGS: IMR 408 HARLAND 9038W ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
4.4	2.7	73	118	0.3	1.3	22.5	29	66	4.8			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
96	1.30	1.30	98	0.042	0.84	0.32	495	601	178			



IMR 710E DOMINETTE 9016G												
SIRE: CL 1 DOMINO 710E 1ET • MGS: SR SPOT ON 1214B ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
0.1	4.0	61	97	0.5	0.8	24.2	25	55	3.0			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
96	1.50	1.70	72	0.012	0.21	-0.01	453	529	102			



IMR 0022H MISS ADVANCE 2016K												
SIRE: HH ADVANCE 0022H ET • MGS: HH ADVANCE 3297A ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
8.0	1.8	62	92	0.5	1.2	22.7	35	66	4.0			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
37	1.30	1.30	88	0.062	0.41	0.27	457	551	143			



IMR 8099F MS ADVANCE 2092K ET {DLF,HYF,IEF,MSUDF}												
SIRE: IMR L1 5047C ADVANCE 8099F ET • MGS: IMR 408 HARLAND 9038W ET												
CE	BW	WW	YW	DMI	SC	SCF	MM	M&G	MCE			
11.1	1.0	52	67	0.1	0.6	22.1	23	49	4.5			
MCW	UDDR	TEAT	CW	FAT	REA	MARB	BMIS	BIIS	CHBS			
50	1.50	1.70	88	0.022	0.72	0.30	466	549	155			



CONTACT: Lee and Jacqui Haygood

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