

# MONT VUE AD WILL COME WITH SHERPAS

## JRA 2007 Scholarship Winners



### **Amber Boyles**

*\$500 Red Angus Association of America  
Scholarship*

Amber Boyles, Raleigh, N.C., has just completed her second year at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C., with a major in Agriculture Education and minors in Animal Science and Extension Education. She is the daughter of Beth Tucker and Terry Boyles and has one brother, Tanner.

Amber is the current JRA Public Relations Director in the Southeast Region. She has attended eight RoundUps and three National Conventions. She has entered several National Contests over the years including photography, Merit Award Program, and last summer she traveled to Sussex, New Brunswick for the American/Canadian Exchange Program.

She is currently serving as the president of the NC Junior Beef Round-Up Committee, the second largest junior show behind the state fair. She is also president of the NC State's Animal Science Club and vice-president of the Wolfpack Clogging Team.

Amber would like to pursue a Master's degree at a college out of state. She has always enjoyed traveling and would like a view of agriculture outside of North Carolina. After graduate school, she hopes to find a teaching position and help educate future generations about agriculture. This is the third Red Angus Scholarship Amber has received and she is grateful for all that Red Angus has done for her.



### **Megan Johnson**

*\$500 Red Angus Association of America  
Scholarship*

Megan Johnson, daughter of Brent and Patti Johnson, Nunn, Colo., is a recent graduate of Highland High School. She is planning on attending Aims Community College, Greeley, Colo., in the fall.

Megan was given a Red Angus cow when she was seven. She fell in love with the breed and now owns six registered Red Angus. She also influenced her dad to get started with Red Angus. She has been a member of the JRA for nine years, attended Red Angus RoundUp for five years and is currently the leadership director for the national JRA.

Megan joined 4-H when she was eight years old. At first she only did cake decorating, photography and a few other little projects. When she was 13, she decided to show a breeding heifer at the fair. Part of her decision was due to participating in the Stockgrower's Contest, and she has taken a breeding heifer every year since. Through 4-H, she participated in the Citizenship Washington Focus program. It was a two week long trip starting in Washington D.C. and ending up in New York city - a once in a lifetime opportunity!

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Megan is a Sunday school teacher and helps serve lunch at the Salvation Army every couple months. During High School, she was active in the Drama club, senior class president, co-president of the student council, and vice president of the National Honor Society. She was also active in volleyball, a wrestling manager, a cheerleader and a member of the Family and Community Career Leaders of America.

Megan plans to major in agricultural education and will use the cattle that she raises to help pay her college expenses.



### **James Deist**

*\$500 Red Angus Association of America Scholarship*

James Deist is the son of Darryl and Rhonda Deist, Fayetteville, Tenn. James recently graduated from Lincoln County High School and plans to attend Middle Tennessee State, Murfreesboro, Tenn., in the fall.

James attended his first Junior Red Angus RoundUp at the age of five when his grandparents, Howard and Charlotte Bobbitt, hosted a farm day in 1994. He has attended the past six Junior RoundUps and been a member of the first place team for the team sales competition for the past two years.

He has been an active participant in local, state and national Red Angus shows since he was five years old. The show season begins in May, and by September he has shown in almost all the fairs in Middle Tennessee including the State Fair. He had a past Grand Champion Heifer at the Tennessee State and Mid-South fairs with his bred and owned heifer SWCR Ember.

As a direct result of his involvement with Red Angus, he was selected as the Lincoln County Junior Livestock Producer of the Year for 2006 by the Lincoln County Livestock Association. He is an active member of the FFA Livestock Judging team, and has received his Greenhand and Chapter degrees as well as his State degree in FFA. During High School, he was an Honor Roll student and qualified for the National Junior Beta Club. He was a member of the Thespian Society and participated in many theatrical presentations. James is active in his church where he serves as an usher, a Youth leader and teaches bible study classes.

James hopes to major in Agri-Business and is also interested in Economics. He also plans on keeping his Red Angus herd and Show String throughout college.



### **Matthew Deist**

*\$500 Red Angus Association of America Scholarship*

Matthew recently graduated from Lincoln County High School and plans on attending Middle Tennessee State in the fall. He is the son of Darryl and Rhonda Deist, Petersburg, Tenn.

Matthew has been showing cattle and working with

cattle since he was five. He is responsible for feeding and halter breaking his own heifers and really enjoys it. He has shown cattle all over the Southeast and parts of the midwest.

He has been involved with Red Angus at local, state and national Red Angus shows, sales and field days. When he was 11 years old, he went to Iowa for the National Red Angus show and his favorite heifer won Reserve Champion Bred by Exhibitor in the Junior show.

He is a member of the Southeast Red Angus Association Juniors, and the National Junior Red Angus Association, and past officer of the Kentucky-Tennessee Juniors. He has attended the last five Junior RoundUps; an experience that has allowed him to see other parts of the country, visit with other kids and adults with Red Angus cattle and participate in exciting activities.

In 2004, he received a federal youth agriculture loan through FSA and has begun to build his own Red Angus herd which is up to nine head. He is currently looking for some land to rent so he can build up his herd.

Matthew is a member of the Lincoln County Cattlemen Association and the State Cattlemen Association. He was an honor roll student in high school and is active in the Beech Grove United Methodist Church.

His goals include going to college, graduating and finding a job involving cattle care or herd management.



### **Amanda Rackel**

*\$500 Red Angus Association of America Scholarship*

Amanda recently graduated from Lexington High School and plans on attending Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. She is the daughter of Steven and Margaret Rackel, Lincoln, Texas.

Amanda was in third grade and seven years old when she showed her first Red Angus heifer. Since then, she has shown Red Angus heifers at the Fort Worth Livestock Show, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, San Antonio Livestock Show and State Fair of Texas, and received many blue ribbons. In 2005, she placed in the top twenty at the Houston Livestock Judging Contest and received a \$1,000 scramble certificate; then she scrambled at the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo in Austin and received another \$1,000 scramble certificate. She purchased a Red Angus heifer with the certificates for \$2,000.

She has attended Red Angus Texas Field Days since the third grade and participated in the sales talk contest, photography contest, baking contest and the Red Angus Heifer show. She was the Texas Red Angus Queen for three years and served as an officer at the meetings and assisted in the showring. She attended the Junior RoundUps in Montana and Texas, and won first place and the Crowd's Choice in the National Photography contest.

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Amanda is currently the Lexington 4-H President, an office she has held for four years. She has received state recognition at the 4-H Texas Roundup in clothing and textiles, photography, method demonstration, Food Quiz Bowl and livestock judging. She is also the current Lexington FFA President. She has participated in the district, area and state conventions. She is on the Skills Team that has won District for four years and placed at Area and State, she also is on the Livestock Judging Team.

Amanda plans to attain a doctoral degree in Veterinary Medicine and open her own practice or teach on the college level. She also plans to continue to choose AI sires for her heifers and her family's cattle to try and improve the quality of the herd.



### **Marianne Mendoza**

*\$500 Roy McPhee Scholarship*

Marianne Mendoza, Valley Springs, Calif., was the recipient of the Leonard Lorenzen Scholarship last year. She recently completed her first year at California State University, Chico, Calif., majoring in Animal Science. She is the daughter of Laurence and Sheila Mendoza.

In the Red Angus Breeders of California/Nevada Association, Marianne was President for the Juniors. She has won multiple awards with her Red Angus at the Calaveras County Fair. In the national association, she has attended four RoundUps, participated in the Junior Stockgrower's Contest for two years, and attended this year's Red Angus Convention and National Show.

Marianne has been helping a lot with the Collegiate FFA at Chico State, with judging FFA contests for the local chapters and with the Chico FA Field Day. She is also a member of the Chico Cattlemen's Association and the California Cattlemen's Association.

Marianne would like to complete her Animal Science degree at CSU Chico, and then be accepted into a Veterinary school, focusing on Meat Animals. She loves working with the Red Angus breed and would like to keep her herd to help support her financially in college.



### **Megan Minten**

*\$500 Dee Sonstegard Scholarship*

Megan Minten is a repeat recipient of the Dee Sonstegard Scholarship. The daughter of Stephen and Jenette Minten, New York Mills, N.Y., has just completed her third year at North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D.

She is currently serving as the Minnesota Junior President and was the Minnesota Red Angus Ambassador last year. Through her involvement with the JRA, she has received the Sal Forbes Traveling Female in 2003, the 2006 Minnesota Red Angus Ambassador, 2006 Dee Sonstegard Memorial Scholarship, 2006 RoundUp All Around/High Senior as well as the 2006 Outstanding Junior. She is humbled to receive these awards and to associate herself with such a

great breed of cattle and producers.

In college, she is involved in the North Dakota State University Saddle and Sirloin Club, Bison Dairy Club, Ceres Women's Fraternity, Mortar Board, and the College of Agriculture Student Activities Council (CASAC). She is the treasurer and house manager for Ceres Women's Fraternity which is an agricultural based sorority, Vice President for the Bison Dairy Club and Secretary/Treasurer of CASAC. Church is a major component of her life, and through Ceres Women's Fraternity, her philanthropic projects have included Relay for Life, Farm Safety for Just Kids, RDO Caters for Tators and the Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell Run/Walk.

Megan's ambitions include attaining a degree in Animal and Range Sciences with a minor in Biotechnology. Her ultimate goal is to be Dr. Megan, working with cattle and assisted reproductive technique, to be in the forefront of her peers in the career she has chosen. And, of course, have a herd of Red Angus which she can actively be a part of and raise superior seedstock.



### **Cassi Jo Schriefer**

*\$500 Leonard Lorenzen Scholarship*

Cassi Jo Schriefer, Golden Valley, N.D., is the daughter of Marc and Jodi Schriefer. She has completed her first year at North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D., with a major in Agricultural Communications and International Studies.

She is very active in the Saddle and Sirloin Club at North Dakota State University. She was the Publicity Co-Chairmen for the 81st Little International, and wrote press releases and feature stories about the event. She also showed a pig and was the 3rd place Duroc Swine showmen at this year's 81st Little International.

Cassie has always been very active in the beef industry especially with Red Angus. On a local level, she has shown Red Angus cattle for eight years at county and state fairs and beef expos. Her state involvement includes being on the North Dakota Junior Red Angus board for seven years. She served as the first North Dakota Red Angus Queen, and worked to increase membership and represented the Red Angus breed at fairs and livestock shows.

Cassie was a Sunday School teacher at Concordia Lutheran Church for three years and taught first grade, Kindergarten and preschool. During last July/August, she spent two weeks in Trinidad on a mission trip. It was a very rewarding and humbling experience. She plans to continue to do mission work and service projects throughout our country and the world.

In the fall, Cassie will be spending a semester in Granada, Spain where she will be studying Spanish culture and language. She will also do a project on the differences of ranching in Spain compared to America's style of ranching. Her experience with raising Red Angus cattle will be very helpful with this project. ■