



A Sweet Family Tradition

It's never too late or too early to start a new family tradition, as 194 first-time exhibitors discovered at the the 2014 VitaFerm Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE). July 5-12 was filled with showing, contest participation and new experiences. Hosted by Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and West Virginia, 610 juniors were welcomed to Harrisburg, Pa., from 36 different states.

This was the farthest east the JNHE has ever been, and the location provided the opportunity for many new juniors from eastern states to attend the JNHE for the first time. New and experienced members alike were gathered for a week packed with cattle, contests and fun.

Hereford youth exhibited 1,128 entries, including 553 polled owned females, 138 horned owned females, 244 bred-and-owned females, 76 bred-and-owned bulls, 30 cow-calf pairs and 87 steers.

Throughout the week, outstanding juniors were awarded nearly \$25,000 in scholarships. They were also able to participate in 24 contests outside the showing.

New to JNHE's traditional contests was the individual sales competition. Juniors attempted to sell an animal, semen or embryos to a panel of judges with pedigree information, performance data and visual characteristics.

One particularly sweet part of the 2014 JNHE was the "Sweet Meal Deal" ticket. Host states worked hard to ensure their hospitality was top-notch and their guests were well fed. Featuring traditional meals from the Northeast, the Sweet Meal Deal provided 13 meals for visiting families for just \$50.

The JNHE would not be possible without the incredible support from title sponsor Biozyme Inc., St. Joseph, Mo., as well as a multitude of corporate and breeder sponsors. Thank you to all the sponsors for your continued support of the JNHE.

Whether this was a family's first year or 50th year, juniors joined together as a Hereford family for "A Sweet Family Tradition." On the pages that follow, check out the highlights from this year's JNHE. **HW**



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Day by Day Highlights — Saturday/Sunday



JNHE attendees were greeted as they arrived at the farm show complex. Pictured here are JNHE ambassadors (red shirts) along with the JNHE welcome committee members from New Jersey and NJHA intern Rachael Carlson.



NJHA board candidates assisted throughout the week.



Hereford youth and their families arrived in Harrisburg on Saturday and Sunday.

It takes a small army to pull off an event like the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE). Since 2012 a talented group of individuals has been selected each year to serve as JNHE ambassadors.

Ambassadors help with everything from checking-in cattle and people to organizing contests, taking photos, updating social media and working in the show office. "I don't know what we'd do without the ambassadors," says Amy Cowan, AHA director of youth activities and foundation. "The ambassador program has been an awesome addition to the JNHE. I appreciate all their hard work and how well they work together and their enthusiasm for being here and helping us have a great event."

This year's ambassador team included Andrea Paulson, Brookings, S.D.; Bailey Core, Pleasantville, Iowa; Caleigh Moyer, Lincoln, Ark.; and Chandler Steele, Midland, Mich.



Sunday was cattle processing day.





Saturday/Sunday



Board candidates receive instructions prior to the delegate roundtable discussions.



Sunday night, board candidates participated in roundtable discussions with state delegates.



Throughout the week, 18 state Hereford queens assisted National Hereford Queen Brooke Jensen by leading in classes and presenting awards.



Taylor Belle Matheny, Mays Lick, Ky., participated in the illustrated speech contest on Sunday.



Mason Blinson, Buies Creek, N.C., participated in the first individual sales competition.



First-time JNHE exhibitor Kendall Boatman, Rockford, Ill., won the junior division of the Hereford Idol competition.



Sunday afternoon, state advisors met to discuss JNHE activities.



Herefords filled the Weis Expo Hall at the Pennsylvania Farm Show complex.

Monday



Dakota Gillig, Jessica Jensen and Tobi Wilber were members of Kansas' winning grill-off team.



JNHE attendees enjoyed a tour of the historic Gettysburg Battlefield on Monday.



Monday afternoon, current and future Hereford royalty participated in the annual princess tea.



Singing the national anthem during opening ceremonies was NJHA member Troy Longenecker, Annville, Pa.



Each year Hereford youth trade in brushes for basketballs for a few hours and compete in the annual 3-on-3 basketball contest.



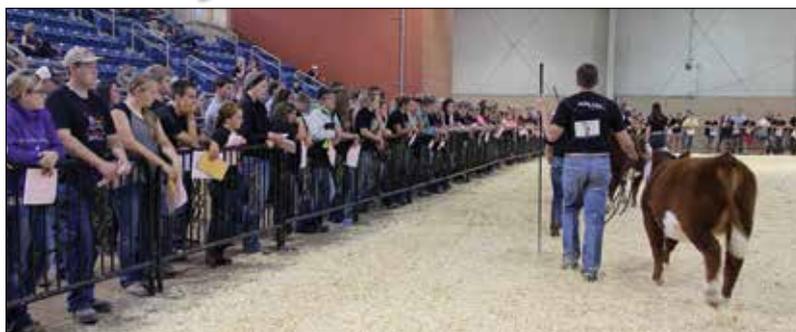
A highlight of the opening ceremonies was a re-enactment of the battle at Gettysburg with calvary and cannons that ended with Abe Lincoln's famous "Gettysburg Address."





A total of 36 NJHA members ended their careers at the 2014 JNHE.

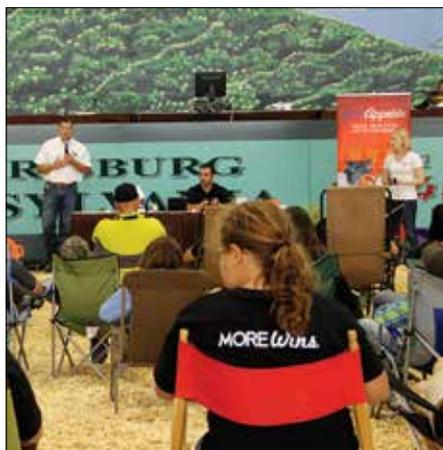
Tuesday



Tuesday morning kicked off with the judging contest.



Sullivan Supply sponsored a Stock Show University where JNHE attendees and their family could choose among three tracks — team fitting strategies, showmanship demo or Hereford hair care.



Tuesday afternoon, Sure Champ hosted a nutrition clinic for attendees.



A total of 18 teams participated in the Sullivan Supply/Stock Show University team fitting contest.



Tuesday morning, 15 teams participated in the HYFA golf tournament at the Hershey Country Club. Members of the winning team included Austin Howe, Nigel Howe, Craig Howe and Dale Lafferty.





Wednesday



In the final minutes of senior showmanship, the judges worked their way down to naming Sara Beanblossom and Cole Moore as champion and reserve.



Emma and Addison Heeter, Saltsburg, Pa., won a showbox full of supplies from Sullivan Supply.



Judge Jared Boyert shares tips with Kessler Collins after finals of peewee showmanship.



Victoria Chapman, Mannsville, Okla., was named champion intermediate showman.



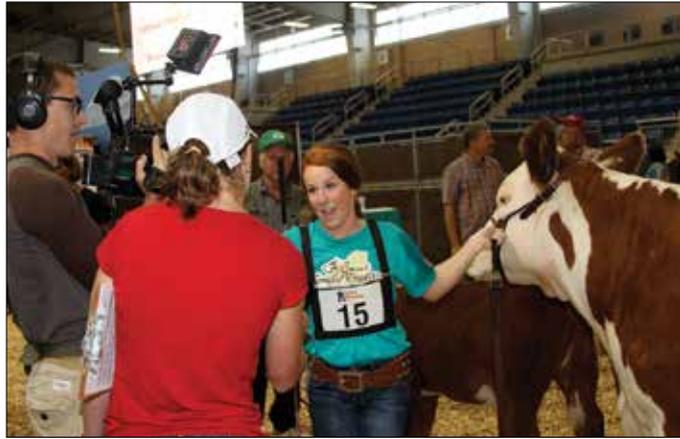
Audrey Nolan, Gilmer, Texas, was selected reserve champion junior showman.



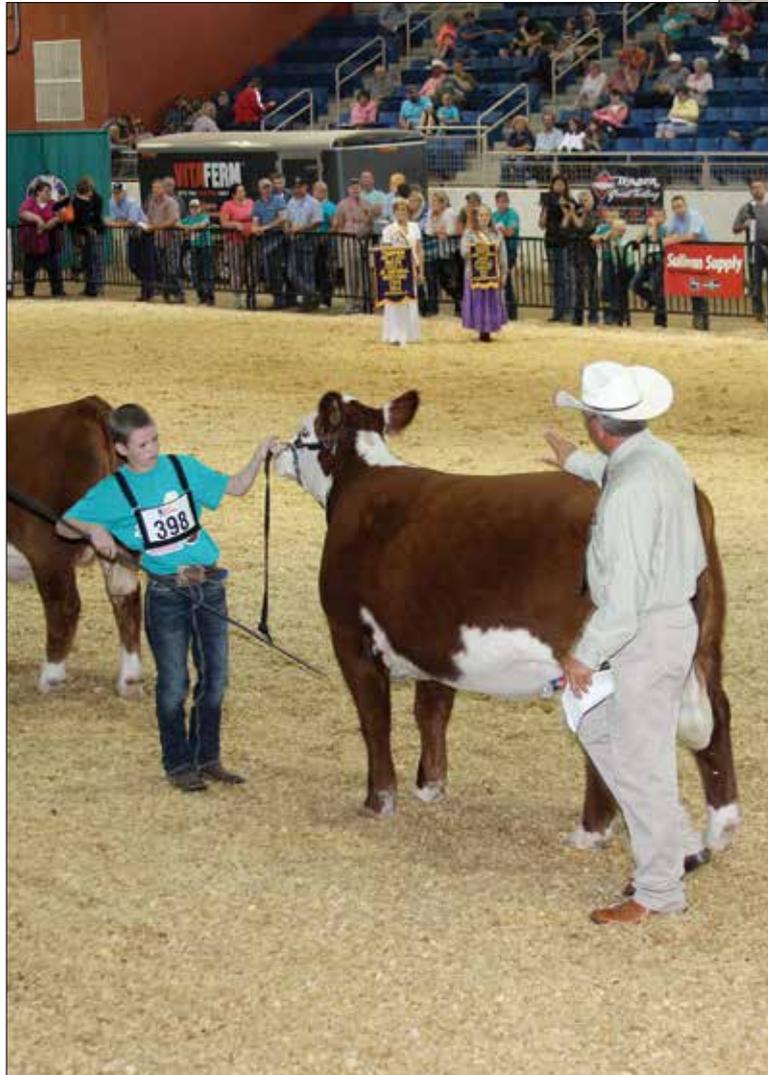
Pre-peewees captured the hearts of those watching showmanship on Wednesday afternoon. More than 20 youth, ages 5 to 7, participated in this year's pre-peewee parade. Judge Boyert talked to each showman before they received their rosette and had their picture taken with the National Hereford Queen.



Thursday



Following the selection of the grand champion cow-calf pair, Melissa Grimmel was interviewed for the "Maryland Farm & Harvest" TV show.



Judge Thomas select Bryden Barber's heifer as division IV champion bred-and-owned female. She went on to be named grand champion bred-and-owned.



Kaylie Shelton's steer was named grand champion progress steer and reserve champion carcass steer.



Friday



Friday, owned heifers took to the ring in Harrisburg.



Bob Norton, president and chief operating officer of Biozyme Inc., shared his thoughts of family during the awards night. Biozyme has been the JNHE title sponsor since 2007.



Six young ladies were selected to serve as "junior princesses." The 2014 junior princesses pictured with National Hereford Queen Brooke Jensen are: Emma Nichols, Alton, Kan.; Fallon Gohr, Madras, Ore.; Kaylie Shelton, Frederick, Md.; Alex Harris, Eudora, Kan.; and Rianna and Sheridan Chaney, Elwood, Neb.



Saturday



NJHA Directors Jason May and Cody Jensen present 2014 JNHE show committee chairmen Doug and Jenny Howe, Wagontown, Pa., with a set of director chairs for their hard work and dedication to this year's event.



Horned division winners vying for grand champion horned female.



Herdsman of the Year finalists were Jacqueline Rosson, Milford, Texas; Joel Butler, Republic, Mo.; Cole Kaufman, Mt. Sidney, Va.; and Matt Johnson, Cambridge, Ill.



Polled division winners vying for grand champion polled female.