

# THE OUTRIDER



*Presented by*

North Dakota State University



# SADDLE AND SIRLOIN



# AGRICULTURALIST OF THE YEAR



Julie Ellingson is an avid advocate for agriculture. Where she expresses how agriculture set the foundation for her life. She was raised on her family's 4<sup>th</sup> generation cattle operation near St. Anthony, ND. Growing up she gained a strong passion for agriculture, natural resources and stewardship of God's creations. She was the 4<sup>th</sup> oldest out of six children. As she grew up, she was involved with daily ranch operations, FFA and 4-H. She showed cattle growing up and judged livestock in both organizations. She was elected ND FFA Sweetheart and was a ND State FFA Officer.

She attended North Dakota State University in Mass Communications. She found a love for journalism and editing papers. While on campus she was a student she was in Saddle and Sirloin, on the dairy judging team, and communication groups.

After College, she returned home married her husband Chad. They now have five children together and run Ellingson Angus together. Ellingson Angus is a successful Registered Angus herd, which has been family ran since the time it was founded. Julie works alongside her husband and children and also is the Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Stockman's Association (NDSA).

Julie started at NDSA as their communications director in 1998. She become executive VP eleven years ago. This position has allowed her to advocate for agriculture every day. She is one of the most respected women at the capital when she goes to bat for our producer's way of life. She is responsible to make sure that the association is ran smoothly and has a great representation of the cattle industry. On top of this when she first came to NDSA as the communications director she started the NDSA magazine which hits the mailbox of over 1500 members each month. Most of her board members will tell you they do not know how she has the time in her day to get everything done and do it to uphold the industry in the highest regard. She credits all of her success to hard work and the people who pushed her to believe in herself to unseen her full potential.

Beyond, the ranch and NDSA Julie is very involved in organizations she holds dear to her heart. She is very involved in her church as she is a woman of faith. She gives her time and dedication to youth, from 4-H, FFA and NDSA mentoring program. She believes that the next generation will take us to new and extraordinary places. She believes in the importance to speak our truth in order to close the gap between producers, consumers and industry leaders. She believes it is her responsibility to inspire the next generation of agriculturists and help guide them on to their path.

Julie has led by example what it means to speak our truth. She is one of the most passionate, caring, selfless, dedicated woman I know. She truly put the story and news of agriculture first. I believe she is well deserving of this honor and will make a great addition to the hall of fame in Sheppard Arena.

# A VIEW FROM THE FRONT ROW

Greetings S/S Alumni,

So... what else is new?

That's my opening line when the usual small talk has been analyzed, discussed, presented, debated, discourses, conversed, conferred, and just plain talked to death where it all becomes (like the Grinch said) "noise, noise, noise!" During times like this, mental health experts advise us to focus on something that we are passionate about; put your mental energy into your passion.

Thus, this year's theme for the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International, "Pursuing Our Passion" is quite fitting. Despite social distancing and close-contact quarantines, the student members of the Saddle and Sirloin Club have been pursuing their passion and have been just as (if not more) active than ever. These students understand the tradition of this event and how maintaining these traditions during difficult times can boost the moral of all who hold fond memories of Little I's past. We are so optimistic for this year's Little International that we are expecting record attendance! The club has contracted Walton Webcasting to broadcast the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International. Of course, our intent is to have a live arena audience, but this addition is extremely positive! Now anyone can watch every minute of the action in real-time from anywhere on the globe! That is awesome!

Julie Ellingson, this year's agriculturalist of the year, is definitely a living example of the 95<sup>th</sup> Little I theme. As it states in her Ag of the Year bio, "*Growing up (Ellingson) gained a strong passion for agriculture, natural resources and stewardship of God's creations.*" There have been many times that Ms. Ellingson has attended S/S meetings to provide a motivational speech to fire up the students to be advocates of animal agriculture by being good stewards of livestock and good community members. We are looking forward to honoring Julie at the Agriculturalist of the Year banquet to be held at the Sanctuary Event Center in Fargo on Friday evening, Feb 12. Until then, you can read all about Julie in her official biographical sketch in this Outrider.

At this writing, we are positive for the future. We hold hope that we will be able to share conversation with many of you in person the second week in February. Until then, be well physically and mentally and keep pursuing your passion!

Eric Berg



Skip Anderson



Jim Kirsch



Kendall Swanson



# MANAGERS ADDRESS

Hello Saddle and Sirloin alumni!

My name is Kadey Holm and I am privileged to be the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International Manager. As 2020 finally draws to a close, we are staying busy planning the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International. The COVID-19 plan has been established, members have their animal assignments, and the voting has concluded!

The 95<sup>th</sup> Little International will be held February 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>. The Hall of Fame Banquet will be on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The social will start at 5:00 p.m. and the banquet starts at 6:00 at the new location, The Sanctuary Events Center. This year, the Saddle & Sirloin club has the privilege of honoring Julie Ellingson. Julie is no stranger to the agriculture industry in North Dakota and is an exceptional recipient of this award. Our theme for this year's Little "I" is "Pursuing our Passion", Julie is a prime example of this. Congratulations Julie Ellingson!



Our members are excited to be "Pursuing our Passion" on February 13<sup>th</sup>! The Morning Show will commence at 8:00am. Following the morning show, the Alumni Luncheon will take place. We will begin the Night Show promptly at 5:30pm.

A new change we are doing this year is having Walton's Webcasting broadcast our event. Although we want an audience to attend, we must follow COVID-19 protocols. For an audience to attend, we must be at least an orange level. Please stay tuned to our Facebook page for the most up to date information and protocols. We would love to see you attend!

I am the most excited for the new members and contestants to get the opportunity to make memories and friends in Shepperd Arena. Throughout the year, I wasn't sure if they were going to have that opportunity. I am sure those memories and friends hold near to your heart like they do mine.

Rather it will be virtual or in-person, we hope you tune into the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International on February 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>. I promise you are not going to want to miss it!

Kadey Holm, 95<sup>th</sup> Little International Manager

## *Schedule of Events*

### **FRIDAY/FEB. 12**

**8 am • 4-H/FFA Judging Contest**

**Agriculturalist of the Year Banquet  
Honoring Julie Ellingson  
(Sanctuary Events Center - Great Hall)**

**5 pm • Social / 6 pm • Banquet**

### **SATURDAY/FEB. 13**

**8 am • Showmanship Prelims  
(Featuring Beef, Sheep, Swine and Dairy  
Showmanship Classes)**

**5:30 pm • Showmanship Finals  
(Plus a Ham Curing Auction, 50/50 Raffle and  
Silent Auction)**

# STATE OF THE UNION

Wishing you a blessed New Year on behalf of NDSU Saddle and Sirloin!

I am Jacy Hauge, serving as the 2020-2021 Saddle and Sirloin Club President. I believe everyone has the same thought right now, 2020 is FINALLY coming to an end. This year has been filled with a lot of uncertainty, yet small victories have happened throughout 2020. Back in April, when Travis Binde, lead our club through the COVID shutdown of spring semester, I was praying that it would end once school got started back up. The beginning of the semester looked quite normal, just spaced out six feet and of course the new fashionable masks. As fall progressed, we got pushed into the online format again. I am so proud of how our members have handled this unprecedented time and have been in strong attendance for Wednesday night zoom calls.

The light of 2020 has been the planning of the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International. Our theme this year is "Pursuing Our Passion." The 95<sup>th</sup> management team (Kadey Holm and Ashlyn Dilley) have been outstanding. Their dedication and passion towards our members, alumni and show has been incredible. I commend them for everything they have done through this pandemic to ensure a successful Little International. Our members enthusiasm, dedication and willingness to move forward is what has kept the club strong through this tough time. We were scared what membership could look like in an online platform, but I am happy to say we have only grown from what 2020 has thrown at us.

I hope come February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> we can shake hands and come together to celebrate our members dedication, and accomplishments through this unprecedented time. This year we will be honoring Julie Ellingson as our Agriculturist of the year. I am excited for her to share how she pursues her passion with our members, guests and alumni. I hope to see you all in February, as we kick off the 95<sup>th</sup> Little International.

God Bless,

Jacy Hauge

President



# MEET YOUR ROYALTY

The 95th Little International Royalty are Princess Madeline Patterson (left), Queen Samantha Pernsteiner (middle) and Princess Annabelle Hardwick (right).



Queen Samantha Pernsteiner is a senior majoring in Agricultural Economics with a minor in Animal Science. She is the daughter of Jim and Lisa Pernsteiner and is from Monango, ND. Samantha is currently serving as the Banquet Chair for Little "I" and is currently the Vice President of the club. Along with her involvement in Saddle and Sirloin, she is also involved with the Collegiate Cattlewomen, CAFSNR Agriculture Ambassador and President of the Agribusiness Club.

Princess Annabelle Hardwick is a senior majoring in University Studies with a emphasizes in Ag Business, Animal Science and History. Annabelle is the daughter of Mike and Jane Hardwick and is from Mantorville, MN. Along with her involvement in Saddle and Sirloin, she is involved in Collegiate Farm Bureau, Secretary for the Agribusiness Club, Dairy Club and is a volunteer firefighter.

Princess Maddie Patterson is from Kenyon, MN and is the daughter of Mike and Rebekah Patterson. She is a senior majoring in Agricultural Communications with a minor in Animal Science. Maddie is currently serving as the club's reporter. Along with her involvement in Saddle and Sirloin, she is the Vice President for the Judging Club, President of Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, CAFSNR Agriculture Ambassador and a part of the NDSU Livestock Judging team.

# MISS NDSU

In the beginning of December, Saddle and Sirloin's Kendra Klosterman was crowned Miss NDSU! Miss NDSU is a mock pageant put on by the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity (ATO) with the primary goal of fundraising for a local charitable organization. It's their annual fall philanthropy event that celebrates the young women of NDSU and all that they do for the community. Kendra Klosterman was Saddle and Sirloin's nomination to run in the competition against 10 other candidates from various clubs/organizations on NDSU campus. Kendra is from Mooreton, ND and is currently a graduate student at NDSU in the Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program. She completed her undergraduate degree in Agricultural Economics this past spring but decided to set aside time to continue to be involved with Saddle and Sirloin as she is serving as the Student Relations Chair. Due to COVID-19, the Miss NDSU competition was held virtually this year on Instagram. It ran throughout the week of November 30<sup>th</sup> - December 4<sup>th</sup>. The competition included an introductory post about each of the candidates, a talent video, a bison pride post, and a formal-wear post.



In addition to the pictures posted and questions answered in the posts, the candidates were to raise money for Down Home. Down Home serves families in Cass and Clay Counties, who are transitioning from homelessness into housing. Down Home's official mission is to provide furnishings and décor for families and individuals transitioning from homelessness into permanent housing. Their deeper purpose is to transform an empty space into a place to embrace, breath, feel safe and secure, and empower families and individuals to build connections, be determined to succeed, be involved in community, and ultimately break the cycle of homelessness. According to a report made by The FM Coalition to End Homelessness in collaboration with United Way of Cass-Clay, at any given time in the FM area there are 468 people experiencing homelessness in shelters, 52 homeless people going unsheltered, and 555 homeless people staying with friends or family. As of May 2019, 581 students were identified as homeless in the metro school districts. On any given night, there are 1,075 individuals estimated to be experiencing homelessness in the FM metro.

ATO's goal for the pageant was to raise \$5,000 for Down Home. They were able to raise a total of \$4,613, with Kendra raising \$2,255 of that amount! Kendra said that she reached out to family, friends, and local businesses to make this happen. "I know the Agriculture industry to be extremely generous towards good causes, and I reached out knowing this was one of those situations where they would want to help. We have such a great community, and I was certain that if they knew about the event, they would want to help out!" As a result of Kendra's successful fundraising, in addition to Miss NDSU, she was given the title of "Miss Money Bags" – a title given to the contestant that raises the most money.

When crowned Miss NDSU, ATO wrote, "Kendra did an absolutely breathtaking job promoting the event, raising donations for Down Home, and shared some great facts about herself and how she will represent the community! Kendra was nominated by Saddle and Sirloin and has become the second consecutive contestant from this organization to win the Miss Money Bags Award! It's a true testament to the quality members of that organization! Kendra, the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and Down Home are so grateful of your enthusiasm for this event, thank you! Ladies and gentlemen, your Miss NDSU 2020 winner of Miss Money Bags and the Miss NDSU, Kendra Klosterman!!" Saddle and Sirloin is so grateful to have Kendra as an active member of the club where she represents Saddle and Sirloin and NDSU so well! Although the competition is over, if you would like to see the full competition and each candidates' responses, check out the Instagram page [ato\\_miss\\_ndsu](#) or the Facebook page [Miss NDSU 2020](#)!

# JUDGING TEAMS

**DAIRY** This year, the Bison Dairy Judging Team consists of Brooke Kunz, New Salem, ND; Madeliene Nichols, Sykeston, ND; Sean Nichols, Sykeston, ND; and Gus Peterson; Hallock, MN. Team coach is Todd Molden. Brooke, Madeliene, and Sean competed in a virtual contest in November with recordings posted on Livestockjudging.com and reasons presented over Zoom. The team placed 6<sup>th</sup> for Brown Swiss and 9<sup>th</sup> overall. The team has not had much success in being able to compete in contests this year as many shows and expos are canceling the judging competition.



**MEATS** The NDSU Meats Team consists of Iris Dukart of Manning, ND and Rachel Johnson of Zap, ND. The team recently competed in the Mountain West Contest in Laramie, WY; where Johnson was 42<sup>nd</sup> and Dukart placed 43<sup>rd</sup>. The team plans to compete at Creekstone Cattleman's Classic in Arkansas City, KS; Iowa State Meat Evaluation Contest in Ames, IA; and Southeastern Virtual Contest hosted by Ohio State and University of Kentucky later this year.



**LIVESTOCK** NDUS's Livestock Evaluation team this year consisted of Kaitlyn Peterson, Madeline Patterson, Will Rupnow, Jacob Hauk, and Cierra Dockter. The team competed at the National Western, Sioux Empire, The Royal, Flint Hills Classic, The Upgrade Contest, and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Highlights include Kaitlyn Peterson placing 8<sup>th</sup> in the sheep and goat division at The Royal and Madeline Patterson being selected to the All-American team.



# ANIMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## SUPPORTS JUDGING

The newly formed Animal Science Education Foundation (ASEF) is working to raise funds and awareness to enhance the North Dakota State University judging programs. The lack of judging coaches for both livestock and meats teams have resulted in a decline in numbers of judging team members over the years. ASEF wants to change both.

Through fundraising efforts ASEF's mission is to provide support for production animal agriculture curriculum and activities within the animal science department; provide competitive judging scholarships; offer recruitment scholarships; supplement team travel; and augment judging coach salaries. While the goal is lofty, support has already started pouring in.

ASEF has received 20 steers donated from former judging team members. The steers are being fed at Alsager Feedlot near Walcott. The livestock and meats judging teams will be able to judge classes to gain judging expertise. When finished, the steers will be marketed with the proceeds going to the ASEF. The goal is to have 20 steers on feed each semester.

Another fundraising effort in the works is receiving funds from a designated lot from production sales. And cash donations are always welcome.

The drive to resurrect the judging programs at NDSU began the fall of 2019 when former NDSU meats judging coach Dr. Paul Berg contacted some former NDSU judging team members to get the ball going. Currently, there are 19 board members and more than 350 supporters of the vision of ASEF.

ASEF board members include Dr. Paul Berg, President; Travis Maddock, Vice President; Truman Kingsley, Treasurer; Jackie Buckley, Secretary; John Anderson, Jerry Buckley, Scott Dau, Tim Faller, Ben Hawkins, J. Ben Kaehler, Ralph Kaehler, Erika Kenner, Dale Patten, Gary Martens, Jeff Schafer, Leann Schafer, and Bryan Strommen, along with advisors Ray Erbele and Rick Vannett.

If you are interested in supporting the NDSU judging program, contact Paul Berg at 701-526-8370 or send your donations to Animal Science Education Foundation, 911 8th St S, Fargo, ND 58103. ASEF is a 501(c)3 foundation.