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*Promoting excellence in agriculture awareness and education.*

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Tony Nicoletti Memorial Jackpot Let Kids Shine!**

**YREKA** – The Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds hosted the 2019 Tony Nicoletti Memorial Jackpot Cattle Show and junior exhibitors from across the west came to Yreka to compete at the annual Mother’s Day weekend event.

The Mechanics Bank fitting contest started off the weekend with Jade Lassaga and Clayton Cox, both from Tehama County taking home first place. Second was Seth Cox, Eagle Point Oregon and Carly Wheeler, Paso Robles, California and Third was won by Jackson Duchi, Gazelle and Blakely Hittson, Yreka. The competition was extremely close in 2019 and the members of all the competing teams received show supplies from Sullivan Supply and prize money. The golden jackpot started in 2010 and was renamed in honor of Tony Nicoletti in 2013. Tony Nicoletti was instrumental in getting the jackpot established in Yreka and was a firm believer that livestock kids need events where they can compete and build lifelong relationships with others in the industry. “Our jackpot show is one of the premier shows on the west coast,” stated CEO, Cliff Munson, “and it is our partners that keep it that way.”

Saturday morning, it was a pleasure to welcome Texas Tech livestock judging team coach Dr. Jon DeClerk from Lubbock, Texas as the official judge for 2019. Dr. DeClerck has been involved in the cattle industry all his life and competed on a National 4-H, National Jr. College, and a National University Livestock Judging Team and has been coach of two National Champion Teams. The steer show was very competitive with several steers showing up in Yreka with jackpot victories in other shows. DeClerk sorted two steer divisions Black/Black Cross and All Other Colors with Carly Wheeler taking the honor in the Black/Black Cross Division and Hailey Bare, Culver Oregon winning the All Other Colors. Carly Wheeler walked away with the trophy halter and the \$1000.00 added purse. Reserve was won by Seth Cox with the reserve black/black cross steer. Seth was awarded the halter and \$500.00 added purse. The reserve steers in division were; Seth Cox in the Black/ Black Cross and Chase Comingore, Madras Oregon with his AOC steer.

Judge Jon DeClerk was impressed with the quality in the heifer show. The Angus division champion was shown by Seth Cox and the reserve was Jade Lassaga. The Hereford division champion was won by Hadley Harrison of Big Springs and sister Hannah Harrison was

reserve. The All Other Breeds division was won by Jade Lassaga followed by Joseph Martinez, Yuba City, California with the division reserve.

In the Commercial division Seth Cox won the division and Hanna Harrison was reserve. The highly competitive heifer show culminated with Seth Cox winning Grand Champion with his division winning Angus female and Reserve Champion was Jade Lassaga with her AOC heifer purchased from the Mercier Family in Montague. Both Champions received a trophy halter and the added prize monies. Showmanship winners were Blakely Hittson for the 16 and older, Jade Lassaga was the 13 -15 winner and Chase Comingore won the 9-12 division. The overall buckle was won by Jade Lassaga. In the Pee Wee division Hadley Harrison, Montague repeated as the 2019 Champion.

In the local show on Mother's Day, the Mother's Day class was won by Jennifer Harrison. The local steer show was won by Jackkson Duchi, Gazelle and Jackson Wood, Yreka was reserve. The Heifer Champions were the top quality Hereford females shown by the Harrison sisters, Hadley and Hannah, from Montague.