

# Bids hit \$20,000 for JAD bull

BY MARK GRIGGS

THE momentum behind the Speckle Park breed showed no signs of slowing last Friday as buyers from four states converged on Yeoval.

JAD Speckle Park bulls topped at \$20,000 and pregnancy-tested in-calf (PTIC) heifers to \$10,000 at Justin and Amy Dickens' eighth annual sale held at Greenvale.

A total of 38 bulls sold from 46 to average \$8842, while 22 PTIC stud heifers sold from 34 offered to top at \$10,000 and average \$6727.

More than three-quarters of the passed-in heifers sold after the sale.

The 25 buyers hailed from Queensland, NSW, Victoria and South Australia.

Andrew and Murray Van der Drift, Black Diamond Stud, Macorna, Vic, paid the \$20,000 sale top price for JAD Venomous V160 (ET), sired by the \$55,000 top bull of the 2023 JAD sale, JAD Sizzler S50, out of JAD L260 Unique Q42.

The 753-kilogram 20-month-old bull sat in the top 5 to 25 per cent of the Speckle Park breed for all



The \$20,000 sale-topper of the 8th annual JAD Speckle Park bull and female sale at Yeoval, JAD Venomous V160 (ET) with auctioneer Brian Leslie, Shepparton, Vic, buyers Andrew and Murray van de Drift, Black Diamond Speckle Park stud, Macorna, Vic, and JAD principals Amy and Justin Dickens. Picture by Mark Griggs.

four of its selection indexes, and was in the top 15pc of the breed for 200-day weight and intramuscular fat (IMF).

The Van der Drifts outlaid \$39,000 to buy two bulls and two heifers.

Murray Van der Drift set up his stud in 2014 on Kanimbla blood, with Waratah blood also a big influence.

The sale-topper will be joined to Speckle Park stud females from June 1.

A JAD client since the inaugural stud sale in 2019, WV James and Son, Lucindale, SA, returned determined to secure JAD bulls for their 2100 commercial Angus and Angus-cross

herd, purchasing eight bulls to a top of \$18,000 and a \$10,000 average.

Their draft top was the equal second top-priced bull, JAD Village Cowboy V245 (ET), sired by River Hill 60W Excalibur 345E and from JAD 300X Niome S127.

Village Cowboy V245 featured in the top 2pc of the breed for retail beef yield, and top 9pc for carcass weight.

Attending the sale were Wendy James-Ross with her son, Alec Ross, and their Elders Lucindale agent, Ronnie Dix.

Alec Ross said their Speckle Park enterprise began 10 years ago.

They kept the best of their heifers as breeders, while all other progeny was sold through the annual Naracorte December weaner sales.

"The herd calves in March and is weaned towards the end of November, prior to the December sales where the best go to lotfeeders," Mr Ross said.

The bulls they bought will be joined mainly to Angus females for first-cross calf production.

Repeat clients the Wathen family of Golden Pastoral Holdings, Yuleba, Qld, secured three bulls via AuctionsPlus to average \$9667.

Their draft included the \$18,000 equal second top-priced JAD Velocity V171, sired by Te Mooi Schwarzenager S61 and from JAD 5E Northern Star S80.

This bull featured in the top 1-5pc of the breed for all four selection indexes.

Sixteen of the 34 heifers offered scanned 8pc for IMF or higher in the week prior to sale day.

Helen Golden, Yuleba, Qld, paid \$10,000 for the top-priced heifer, JAD S50 Unique V243 - a full ET-bred sister to the top-priced bull.

JAD Speckle Park principal Justin Dickens was pleased with the support from new and repeat buyers.

"We received feedback around the consistency of the cattle from several people on sale day, so that was really good to hear," he said.

The sale was conducted by Bowyer and Livermore, Bathurst, with Brian Leslie, Shepparton, Vic, as the guest auctioneer.

# Ben Nevis Angus 'motherhood' fetches \$54k

BY SIMON CHAMBERLAIN

A SOUTHERN NSW Angus breeder has bought the top-priced lot at the Ben Nevis Angus mature cow dispersal, Walcha, which posted an outstanding result for the Halliday family.

With a top price of \$54,000, 92 of 96 females sold for an average of \$12,246 to buyers from Western Australia, South Australia, NSW and Victoria. All four embryo packages offered sold, averaging \$2100.

The top price was achieved by Ben Nevis Jean P303,

bought by Fred Geard, Premier Livestock, Mangoplah.

Jean P303 sold with a bull calf at-foot, sired by BN Rambo R230, the sire of Banquet Tom Cruise, which sold for \$230,000 in 2024.

Ben Nevis co-principal Erica Halliday said the stud was proud of Jean P303, described in the catalogue as "the motherhood", with nine lots from the wonder female.

Mr Geard said he bought Jean P303 for the genetics from Premier Guardian and the renowned Premier Jestress H66 cow in its pedigree.

"She was the pick of the cows in my mind," Mr Geard said.

"She's a deep-bodied female with outstanding rib shape and volume. Structurally very sound with exceptional feet and udder quality. Carries a massive hip and overall power. A top-end breeding piece, evidenced by the bull calf at her side."

The female was bought in partnership with Braeden Donnelly, from Tenterfield's Niaroo Angus and Charolais stud.

Mick and Jen Pratt, Ballawinna Angus, Albany,

WA, bought the second top-priced lot, Ben Nevis Jean N238, for \$42,000.

Mr Pratt was delighted with the result and said they had acquired a marquee Angus gene cow and proven performer.

Jean N238 made headlines at last year's World Angus Forum when a package of her embryos was sold for a record price of \$6000 each.

Mr Pratt said he and his partners in Ballawinna Angus, Doug and Cheryl Johnston, have secured semen rights to Banquet Tom Cruise T220.

Ballawinna Angus also paid \$134,000 for Banquet Dream V005, at the World Angus Forum Elite female sale in Tamworth, in May 2025.

Mr Pratt said that buying Jean N238 added important genetics to the Ballawinna breeding program.

"This ties in with a couple of the lines there that we've already got, and it also just gives us an absolute marquee animal in the N238," he said.

He said there were two standout, proven-performer cows in the catalogue - N238

and Jean P303. "The only reason I didn't bid on Jean P303 is that I actually have a 303 daughter."

Ballawinna also bought Ben Nevis Dormist Q236 for \$18,000. Q236 was sired by Millwillah Proceed L117 out of Ben Nevis Denmist M59.

Volume buyers were Glencorrie Angus, South Australia, with 26 head and E and S Fogarty, Palmer Valley Station, with six head.

The selling agents were Nutrien Boulon's Walcha, with Paul Dooley the auctioneer. AuctionsPlus provided the online interface.

## AYR PARK ANGUS

578 Goodacre Drive, Woodstock NSW 2793

Helmsman Sale commencing at  
12pm Friday 1st of May.

Finishing Monday 4th of May 6pm



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