

*Presenting the 2020*

# STAR OF THE BREED



## **EASTRIVER GOLDWYN DEB 176 • EX-94 2E**

5-09 • 2X • 296D • 39,060M • 3.5%F • 1,353F • 3.2%P • 1,241P

**2nd 150,000 Lb. Lifetime Milk Production cow - 2020 Midwest Fall National Holstein Show**

**OWNED BY:** Andy Stuewe & Corey Feltmann, Norwood Young America, Minnesota

### **ABOUT THE AWARD**

The Star of the Breed recognition is given annually to one Registered Holstein® cow that exemplifies outstanding production combined with exceptional type. To be eligible for the Star of the Breed award, a cow must place in the top five in her class at a National Show, be in a herd enrolled in the TriStar<sup>SM</sup> program and have an official classification score.

Once the eligible cows are determined, the following calculation is used to determine the award recipient: Combined Mature Equivalent (ME) Fat and Protein + Age Adjusted Classification Score X (Breed Average ME CFP/Breed Average Age Adjusted Score.)

**“A** cow that you would take a hundred of.” These words were how Corey Feltmann and Andy Stuewe described their cow Eastriver Goldwyn Deb 176. Deb is a cow who provides the complete package of outstanding type and production, and one many Registered Holstein® breeders would love to have an entire herd of in their barn.

Holstein Association USA is delighted to present Eastriver Goldwyn Deb 176 with the 2020 Star of the Breed. The highest honor presented to a Registered Holstein cow, the Star of the Breed recognizes a cow who excels at the show and on the farm.

“She can hold her own in the showring, and I would put her up against anyone in the milking parlor,” Corey said. “She produces really easy it seems and is low maintenance,” Andy added.

Deb is scored EX-94 2E and has over 175,000 pounds of lifetime milk. She is owned in a partnership by Andy Stuewe and Corey Feltmann in Minnesota and was bred at Eastriver Farms in Prince Edward Island, Canada.

## SURPASSING EXPECTATIONS

Andy and Corey purchased Deb at the Best of Triple-T and Heath Sale in 2017. Originally, the friends planned on buying another cow who exceeded their price point. Corey was still on the phone with Michael Heath when bidding on Deb began. Although she was not looking her best after the long trip from Prince Edward Island, Michael convinced Corey to take a chance on her, and Andy agreed to go in on half.

The night Corey and Andy went to pick Deb up is still memorable for them both. “Andy came back to the truck and said, ‘what did you get me into here,’” Corey recalled. It didn’t take long for Deb to adjust. “I was really impressed once we got her here, and she just kept getting better and better,” Andy said.

A month and a half later, Deb proved she was worth taking a chance on when she was named Reserve Intermediate Champion at the Minnesota State Show. From there, she was the Intermediate Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Cow at the Midwest Fall National in 2017.

In 2018, Deb was named Senior Champion and Grand Champion of the Midwest Fall National. She has done well at shows since then and was recently named the 2020 Cow of the Year by the Minnesota Holstein Association.

## TROUBLE-FREE TRANSMITTER

Both Andy and Corey have housed Deb at their farms, and say she is a trouble-free cow who transmits well. “I’ve been impressed by her offspring so far,” Andy said. Deb’s three oldest daughters are two-year-olds, and two of them are scored VG-86.

“As of now we are just going to keep IVFing her here,” Corey says about plans for Deb’s future. She has already been flushed to sires such as Doc, Lambda, and Master and is currently pregnant to Jaeger.

Deb also has an impressive pedigree. Her dam is Homestead Astronomical Deb EX-95 3E, and she has several full sisters also from Eastriver Farms. Corey and his family owned Eastriver Gold Deb 851 EX-93 3E, a full sister to Deb.

## FRIENDS WITH SAME FOCUS

With farms located just five minutes apart, Deb is one of many cows Andy and Corey have owned together over the past decade. They also breed and exhibit cows under the Stu-Felt prefix and have successful dairy operations of their own.

Corey farms with his father Dennis and brothers Chad and Chris at Feltmann Dairy LLC. They milk 160 cows on the home farm, and 45 cows on a neighboring site. The Feltmanns focus on breeding problem-free cows that put milk in the tank, breed back, and last, and use bulls with extreme type on their show cows.

A few miles down the road, Andy milks 90 cows at Flower-Brook Registered Holsteins. “I breed for long-lasting cows with a lot of type, good udders, and good strength,” he said. The herd has a BAA of 111.4 and has been home to many impressive cows over the years, including the Holstein Association’s 2008 Star of the Breed, Stuewes FB Giddy-ET EX-94 (EEEEEE).

When buying cows together, Andy and Corey look for cows who will fit their breeding program “Don’t just add a cow to add a cow, add a cow that can develop your genetic potential,” Corey said. The longtime friends then work together to make mating decisions they believe will improve the cow.

“We’ve got the same eye, and we’ve always been friends and had respect for each other,” Andy says. With past success and a cow like Deb to help pave the way forward, it’s clear the future is bright for these longtime friends and Registered Holstein breeders.

**“She can hold her own in the showring, and I would put her up against anyone in the milking parlor.”**

— Corey Feltmann