NATIONAL SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST



Kerry Bedell Roeser of Mammoth Lakes, Calif., winner of the 1979 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest, is shown receiving her American Angus Auxiliary silver bowl award from past auxiliary President Gyra Wagner of Harlan, Kan.

The Contest

Kerry Bedell Roeser, Mammoth Lakes, Calif., was chosen the winner from among 72 contestants during the 13th National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest held in conjunction with the National Junior Angus Heifer Show July 19-20 in Indianapolis, Ind.

Judges Frank Bramwell, Afton, Okla., Glen Klippenstein, Maysville, Mo., and Dave Zehr, Flanagan, III., then named Carrie Worthington, Bridgewater, Conn., second and her brother Doug third. Their parents are Mr. & Mrs. Roger Worthington. Tom Sheridan, Fowlerville, Mich., placed fourth; and a second Californian, Cheryl LaFranchi, was fifth.

In the final phase of the national contest, these top five showmen competed against 10 others, all 15 of them finalists from the previous day's contest. The 15, listed in alphabetical order, were Lowell Baumgarn, Lake Park, Iowa (representing Minnesota); Sherrie Bruhn, Manning, Iowa; Murray Corbin III, Ada, Okla.; Burdell Gauger, Clear Lake, S.D.; Raymond Gardner, Arlee, Mont.; Sue Grabouski, Beatrice, Neb.; Byron Haas, LeRoy, Ill.; Cheryl LaFranchi. Calistoga, Calif.; Becky MacIntosh, Appomattox, Va.; Dale Rains, Mercer, Pa.; Kerry Bedell Roeser; Tom Sheridan; Scott Sloan, Cameron, Mo.; Carrie Worthington; and Doug Worthington.

Given honorable mention after the first day's contest were Mark Baker, Arlington, Texas: Donald Callison, Blackfoot, Idaho: Ronald Callison, Blackfoot, Idaho; Shirley Ely, Slater, Colo. (representing Wyoming); Teri Gardner, Arlee, Mont.; Malcolm Landry, Jeanerette, La.; LaRoyce Leonard, Perry, Iowa; Connie Reeser, LeRoy, III.; Debbie Sowers, Winchester, Va.; Jennifer Uhrig, Hemingford, Neb.; David Wilson, Franklin, Tenn.

The national showmanship contest is sponsored by the American Angus Assn. The association supplies prize money, while the American Angus Auxiliary donates silver bowls to the top five showmen each vear.

The contest is open to junior or life

members of the association who are no younger than 13 or older than 20. Contestants must have been selected by their respective state or provincial associations, with only two showmen from each state allowed to compete at the national level. And once a junior has participated in the national contest, he or she cannot compete in subsequent national contests.

Animals used in the contest are made available by juniors exhibiting at the national heifer show. Contestants draw for animals and none are allowed to use animals they have groomed or shown previously.

Before the winners were announced this year, Glen Klippenstein, spokesman for the three judges, reminded participants of the importance of competition in building character. He outlined judging criteria, explaining that each showman had been evaluated for being courteous and pleasant, alert and attentive, smooth and poised, confident and eager, and in constant control of assigned heifers.