

Angus Youth Have Strong

Youth contests provide beef industry skills.

by *Kasey Miller, associate editor*

The Cattle Industry Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show is one of the largest gatherings in the beef industry. It's an event where cattlemen can exchange ideas and form policy for the future. It also gives more opportunities for the future in its youth contests, including public speaking, team marketing, beef quiz bowl and cattle judging for those younger than 10 all the way to college-aged youth.

Angus juniors did well in these contests. You'll recognize several names among the following winners.

Prepared speaking

In the prepared public speaking contests, Bailey Schiefelbein, Kimball, Minn.; Josh McAdams, Seguin, Texas; and Rianna Chaney, Thurmont, Md., won first, second and third, respectively, in the age division for youth age 10 and under.

The age division 11-14 was won by Nathan Gullatt, Salem, Ala., first; Colt Papy, Ocala, Fla., second; and Christian Rodriguez, Live Oak, Fla., third.

The 15-19 division honors went to Callahan Grund, Easton, Kan., first; Shelby Schiefelbein, Kimball, Minn., second; and Caroline Dailey, Ocala, Fla., third.

Team marketing

The collegiate team marketing contest was won by the Clemson University team, consisting of Cory Wyatt, Drake Yon and Corbin Yon. The second-place team was the Colorado State University (CSU) team of Wyatt Taylor and Weston Charles; and third place was the CSU team of Mindy Jo Watterman and Halla Phift.

In the senior division, the first-place team was the Lake County Florida Jr. Cattlemen team, consisting of Karah Bradley, Clay Cravey and Luke Ramey.

The second-place team was the Kansas Cattlemen Juniors Team #2, composed of Callahan Grund and Grace Hammer. The third-place team was the Kansas Cattlemen Juniors Team #1, consisting of Lauren Geis and Taylor Ohlde.

Quiz bowl

The youth beef quiz bowl was won by the Minnesota Shorthorn group of Connor Bollum, Austin, Minn.; Cole Herrera, Cologne, Minn.; John Morrison, Belle Plaine, Minn.; and Tyler Pierson, Watertown, Minn. The second-place team was the Jr. Florida Cattlemen's Association team of Courtney Wingate, Ocala, Fla.; Anna Conrad, Dover, Fla.; and Blake Harrell and Lane Harrell, both of Riverview, Fla.

Judging contest

The judging contest drew 140 contestants. In the novice division Lakin Williamson, Progressive 4-H, was first; Reagan Rowe, Marion Co Jr. Cattlemen, took second; Aubrey Pearce, Okeechobee Jr. Cattlemen, was third; and Katie Roberts, Marion Co. Jr. Cattlemen, was fourth. The top 10 in the junior division, in ranked order, are Allie Burns, Marion, Texas FFA; Chloe Bunyak, 4-H; Rebecca Urbenas, Pine View Middle School; Casey Wingate, Florida Jr. Cattlemen's Association; Chandler Pearce, Okeechobee Jr. Cattlemen; Austin Efirid, Deland, Miss.; Madison Nobles, Pine View Middle School; Tierrani Johnson, Pine View Middle School; Taylynn Williamson, Progressive 4-H; and Kaylee Carroll, Marion County Jr. Cattlemen.

The top 10 in the senior division in the livestock judging contest were, in order of



► **Above:** Mindy Jo Watterman (left) and Halla Phift, both of Colorado State University, market their bred-heifer sale in the collegiate team marketing contest. They earned third place.

► **Right:** The quiz bowl team from Arkansas earned third place and included Angus juniors Katy Tunstill (second from right) and Will Pohlman (right). The quiz bowl competition was hosted in the trade show area so convention attendees could watch.



Showing at 2013 CIC



►Shelby Shiefelbein, Kimball, Minn., won second place in the 15-19 division of the prepared public speaking contest.



►Josh McAdams, Seguin, Texas, won second place in the 10-and-younger division of the prepared public speaking contest.



►Abby Schiefelbein, Kimball, Minn., participated in the 11-14 division of the prepared public speaking contest.

placing, Jessica Humphrey, Viva La Florida; Taylor Ohlde, Kansas Cattle Juniors; Grace Hammer, Kansas Cattle Juniors; Blake Holtzower, Pasco 4-H; Gage Wolford, Volusia Co. Jr. Cattlemen; Lauren Geis, Kansas Cattle Juniors; Erin Jones, Cowpokes; Courtney Wingate, Viva La Florida; Caleigh

Mayer, Arkansas 4-H; and Kara Varnadore, Manatee County 4-H.

The collegiate division was won by Whitney Darr, Colorado State University (Un.); Sloan Witherow, Un. of Georgia; Chris Campbell, Un. of Georgia; Drake Yon, Clemson Un.; Noah Bishop, Un. of Georgia;

Lawson Mozley, Un. of Florida-Blue Team; Kaley Dees, Un. of Florida-Blue Team; Kelsey Maloney, Volusia Co. Jr. Cattlemen; Matthew McQuagge, Un. of Florida-Blue Team; and Sally Yon, Clemson Un.



Cattle Marketing & International Trade

by Troy Smith, field editor

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Cattle Marketing & International Trade Committee met during the 2013 Cattle Industry Convention in Tampa, Fla. The committee's new chairman, Nebraska cattle feeder Todd Schroeder reminded attendees how the 2012 convention included much discussion regarding bankruptcy of the commodity brokerage firm MF Global and subsequent financial impacts to cattlemen. At that time, Bryan Durkin, chief operating officer for the Chicago-based CME Group, had spoken to cattlemen about plans for enhancing CME Group's oversight of brokerage firms. Present for this year's meeting, Durkin said again that every effort is being made to renew confidence in the marketplace.

"I assure you; it is our first priority," stated Durkin. "I'm pleased to report, one year later, we have made significant strides."

According to Durkin, CME Group now requires frequent reports on brokerage firms' "segregated accounts," which include deposits by cattlemen customers. Frequent spot-checks or audits are conducted and CME Group is advocating for changes to the bankruptcy code that would protect customers.

"Our markets are safer today than before the MF Global failure," affirmed Durkin.

Also on the committee's agenda was Iowa cattleman Ed Greiman, who heads an NCBA working group investigating the decline in numbers of cattle sold on the cash market and the consequences for price discovery.

"We've been looking at whether the cash market is viable, but we're

recommending continued research. The cash market is growing thin, but we need to know how thin is too thin," said Greiman. "We can't tell [cattlemen] how to market cattle, but we need to know what could happen if we continue down this path."

Colorado State University (CSU) economist Stephen Koontz presented a proposal to conduct research on price discovery in fed-cattle markets, suggesting a cooperative research agreement between CSU and NCBA. Greiman added that costs for the study would probably have to be covered by donations from NCBA members.

Shifting discussion to international trade issues, NCBA Trade Advisor Gary Horlick said a new trade agreement with Japan means that market will now accept beef coming from animals younger than 30 months of age. Previously, Japan had restricted the animal age to less than 20 months. The agreement should allow for additional U.S. beef sales worth \$600 million.

Horlick said the United States is close to gaining additional beef export access to Europe and Taiwan. Access to Russia and China is less forthcoming, with negotiations hindered for political reasons.

"Trade agreements typically result in more beef sales," stated Horlick. "They give us leverage to open more markets. We gain an edge over countries still paying high tariffs, when we pay lower tariffs or none at all."



Editor's Note: This article is part of the Angus Journal's online coverage of the 2013 Cattle Industry Convention and NCBA Trade Show available online in the newsroom at www.4cattlemen.com.