

# Making the Grade at NJAS

The carcass steer contest helps Angus juniors see a bigger picture of the beef industry.

by Jena McRell, digital editor

One contest at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) reminds youth that, ultimately, they are in the business of producing beef. The carcass steer contest gives National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members a chance to see how their animals rank for carcass merit, and just what it takes to produce high-quality beef.

At the 2014 NJAS July 7-12 in Indianapolis, Ind., nearly 30 carcass steers were entered from about 15 different states.

“The carcass steer competition gives juniors such a more rounded view of the industry, not just from a showing perspective,” says David Gazda, American Angus Association regional manager, who helps coordinate the contest each year. “It gives them the opportunity to then be involved in all segments of production, from conception to the end product, and really know what they are producing.”

After arriving at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, the steers were weighed, tagged

► **Right:** Curtis Long (right) of Briarwood Angus Farms presents top honors in the NJAA Carcass Steer Contest to **Cortney Bromenshenk** (left), Billings, Mont., reserve grand champion; and **Chase Monte** (center), Mexico, Mo., grand champion. Bromenshenk’s 1,156-lb. steer sired by BEB Juneau 104 graded low-Prime, YG 3.6. Monte’s 1,317-lb. steer sired by SydGen Dealer 9883 graded low-Prime, YG 2.4.

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and loaded on a truck to travel to an area processing plant. This year, that was the Tyson plant in Joslin, Ill. Within days, carcass data were reported back on each of the animals, and they were ranked according to carcass merit. The top steers were announced as part of the NJAS award ceremony July 11.

Exhibitor premiums are paid based on *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) brand

qualifications, as well as cattle that have been enrolled in Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®). Premium funds are made possible through an Angus Foundation endowment established by Curtis and Ann Long of Briarwood Angus Farms of Butler, Mo.

This year, Chase Monte, Mexico, Mo., exhibited the grand champion carcass steer. His steer sired by SydGen Dealer 9883 had a 2.4 yield grade (YG) and a low-Prime quality grade. Monte received a \$1,000 prize for his top-performing animal.



PHOTOS COURTESY AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

► Long (center) presents top B&O carcass steer honors to **Esther McCabe** (left), Elk City, Kan., reserve grand champion, and **Bromenshenk** (right), grand champion. McCabe’s 1,310-lb. steer sired by McCabe PVF Providence 0020 graded low-Choice, YG 3.2. Bromenshenk’s 1,156-lb. steer sired by BEB Juneau 104 graded low-Prime, YG 3.6.

### 2014 NJAS Carcass Contest Results

Rank	Name	State group	Entry #	Live wt. (lb.)	Dressing %	HCW (lb.)	Fat (in.)	REA (sq. in.)	Marb score (400 = Small <sup>00</sup> )	% KPH	QG
1	Chase Monte		31	1,317	60.4%	796	0.35	13.5	730	2.0	PR <sup>-</sup>
2	Courtney Bromenshenk	MT	15	1,156	63.3%	732	0.65	11.3	760	2.0	PR <sup>-</sup>
3	Dale Eastin	VA	33	1,377	60.5%	833	0.40	14.4	520	2.0	CH <sup>0</sup>
4	Abbie Ring	IL	14	1,316	62.2%	818	0.45	13.9	570	2.0	CH <sup>0</sup>
5	Allison Davis		25	1,339	60.5%	810	0.90	12.4	780	2.0	PR <sup>-</sup>
6	Sam Stewart		13	1,229	65.1%	800	0.80	11.8	720	2.0	PR <sup>-</sup>
7	Esther McCabe		29	1,366	62.6%	855	0.40	14.6	420	2.0	CH <sup>-</sup>
8	Suter Clark	VA	26	1,400	59.1%	828	0.45	13.8	470	2.0	CH <sup>-</sup>
9	Catherine Cowles		23	1,264	59.8%	756	0.40	12.9	460	2.0	CH <sup>-</sup>
10	Chase Mogck		9	1,167	60.8%	710	0.65	12.1	540	2.0	CH <sup>0</sup>

Cortney Bromenshenk, Billings, Mont., had the grand champion bred-and-owned (B&O) carcass steer and reserve grand champion carcass steer. Her steer, sired by BEB Juneau 104, graded low-Prime, YG 3.6. Bromenshenk was awarded \$750.

Esther McCabe, Elk City, Kan., exhibited the reserve grand champion B&O carcass steer. Her steer sired by McCabe PVF Providence 0020 graded low-Choice, YG 3.2. McCabe was awarded \$250.

Others in the top 10 ranking were, in order: Dale Eastin, Gretna, Va.; Abbie Ring, Oregon, Ill.; Allison Davis, Shelbyville, Tenn.; Sam Stewart, Eaton, Ohio; Esther McCabe, Elk City, Kan.; Suter Clark, Gretna, Va.; Catherine Cowles, Rockfield, Ky.; and Chase Mogck, Olivet, S.D.

Juniors can also compete in the carcass contest as part of a state group, which consists of three steers consigned by at least two exhibitors. In the state group division, the team from Virginia won overall. Team members were Dale Eastin, Suter Clark and Callie Eastin, all of Gretna, Va.

Additional NJAS contest placings, awards and scholarships can be found on [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org) and in this issue of the *Angus Journal*. Coverage is also available on the NJAA Facebook page, including videos, show results and photos. Backdrop and candid photos are available for purchase online.

For video highlights from the carcass steer contest on *The Angus Report*, visit <http://bit.ly/1o0b7RP>.



► Virginia junior Angus members won champion state carcass group. Pictured are (from left) **Callie Eastin, Dale Eastin** and **Suter Clark**, all of Gretna.



► Montana junior Angus members won reserve champion state carcass group. Pictured are (from left) **Garrett** and **Cortney Bromenshenk**, both of Billings.



► Juniors entering steers that ranked in the top 10 in the Carcass Steer Contest include (from left) **Chase Mogck**, Olivet, S.D., tenth; **Catherine Cowles**, Rockfield, Ky., ninth; **Suter Clark**, Gretna, Va., eighth; **Esther McCabe**, Elk City, Kan., seventh; **Allison Davis**, Shelbyville, Tenn., fifth; **Sam Stewart**, Eaton, Ohio, sixth; **Dale Eastin**, Gretna, Va., third; **Cortney Bromenshenk**, Billings, Mont., second; and **Chase Monte**, Mexico, Mo., first. Long presents the awards. Not pictured is **Sam Stewart**, Eaton, Ohio, sixth, and **Abbie Ring**, Oregon, Ill., fourth..

**2014 NJAS Carcass Contest state group results**

Rank	Team	Name	Entry #	Prem. (\$/hd.)	State Avg.
1	VA	Dale Eastin	33	\$158.27	
1	VA	Suter Clark	26	\$115.92	
1	VA	Callie Eastin	34	\$89.52	<b>\$121.24</b>
2	MT	Cortney Bromenshenk	15	\$175.68	
2	MT	Cortney Bromenshenk	12	\$59.04	
2	MT	Garrett Bromenshenk	18	\$58.80	<b>\$97.84</b>
3	KS	Esther McCabe	29	\$119.70	
3	KS	Esther McCabe	16	\$83.80	
3	KS	Anna Carpenter	11	\$55.44	<b>\$86.31</b>
4	IL	Abbie Ring	14	\$155.42	
4	IL	Casey Martin	24	\$17.84	
4	IL	Olivia Wilson	2	\$(157.50)	<b>\$5.25</b>

YG	CAB®	Grid prem. (\$/cwt.)	Carcass prem. (\$/hd.)
2.4	Yes	32.00	\$254.72
3.6	Yes	24.00	\$175.68
2.4	Yes	19.00	\$158.27
2.6	Yes	19.00	\$155.42
4.2	Yes	18.00	\$145.80
4.1	Yes	18.00	\$144.00
2.4		14.00	\$119.70
2.7		14.00	\$115.92
2.6		14.00	\$105.84
3.3	Yes	13.00	\$92.30