



NEWS

For Immediate Release

July 17, 2009

Contact: Dana Stewart, danas@gelbvieh.org
Jennifer Scharpe, jennifers@gelbvieh.org
303-465-2333

Gelbvieh Juniors Develop Life Skills in Educational Contests

The American Gelbvieh Junior Association (AGJA) members tested their knowledge and skills through several education contests during the 2009 Pride of the Heartland Classic, held July 6-11 in Des Moines, Iowa. AGJA members developed valuable life skills while competing for recognition and awards throughout the week of the Junior Classic. The following is a list of award winners from each contest.

Carcass Evaluation

The Carcass Evaluation contest serves as an education platform as contestants are asked to evaluate four market animals on yield grade, quality grade, fat thickness and ribeye area. In addition, contestants identify the animal with the highest dollar value and the lowest dollar value. The market animals are harvested after the live evaluation contest and actual carcass data is collected and presented to the juniors for a unique learning opportunity. Contestants are scored on the ability to estimate actual carcass results.

Junior Division: Champion Chisum Grund, Kansas; Reserve Haley Ringkob, South Dakota

Intermediate Division: Champion Cody Welke, Wisconsin; Reserve Rylee Owen, Texas

Senior Division: Champion Kaisha Jurgens, Nebraska; Dustin Aherin, Kansas

Poster Contest

The Poster Contest encourages members to use their imagination and creativity to promote Gelbvieh and Balancer cattle.

Junior Division: Champion Alyssa Beenken, Iowa; Reserve Champion Justin Ringkob, South Dakota; Third Adam Ackerman, Iowa; Fourth Haley Ringkob, South Dakota; Fifth Reece Riebel, Minnesota; Sixth Seth Beying, Kansas; Seventh Mitch Garcia, Colorado; Eighth Sam Riebel, Minnesota; Ninth Grady Hammer, Kansas; and Tenth Danielle Riley, Kansas.

Intermediate Division: Champion Kendrah Schafer, Minnesota; Reserve Champion Emma McDonald, Missouri; Third Kyle Vehige, Missouri; Fourth Amy Mowry, Michigan; Fifth Jackson Riebel, Minnesota; Sixth Tiana Garcia, Colorado; Seventh Tricia Goes, Tennessee; Eighth Lucas Waters, Tennessee; Ninth Madison Schafer, Minnesota; and Tenth Kirstin Winchester, Missouri.

Senior Division: Champion Tahanee Embry, Texas; Reserve Champion Kaycie Shearer, Kansas; Third Katlynn Sullivan, Alabama; Fourth Amanda Kriegh, Minnesota; Fifth Ashley Skeels, Texas; Sixth Kyle Herink, Iowa; Seventh Seth Arp, Wisconsin; Eighth Britney Volek, South Dakota; Ninth Kali Myers, Missouri; and Tenth Emily Hayek, Iowa.

Advertising Contest

For the Advertising Contest, contestants are given a scenario from which they must design an advertisement. The ads are judged on neatness, completeness of information, overall design, creativity and layout.

Junior Division: Champion Grant Powell, Missouri; Reserve Champion Kaeden Schlake, Nebraska; Third Morgan Winchester, Missouri; Fourth Nicole Welke, Wisconsin; Fifth Clayton Ruter, Illinois; Sixth Anna Ring, Illinois; Seventh Sam Riebel, Minnesota; Eighth Gracy Vehige, Missouri; Ninth Chisum Grund, Kansas; and Tenth Austin Teeter, North Carolina.

Intermediate Division: Champion Emily Knapp, Kansas; Reserve Champion Jana Thorstenson, South Dakota; Third Michael Ring, Illinois; Fourth Lucas Waters, Tennessee; Fifth Courtney Spencer, Missouri; Sixth Jackson Riebel, Minnesota; Seventh Meredith Clark, Kansas; Eighth Tanner Aherin, Kansas; Ninth Kendrah Schafer, Minnesota; and Tenth Lydia Russell, Wisconsin.

Senior Division: Champion Sarah Hixson, Missouri; Reserve Champion Kale Kendrick, Missouri; Third Velista Martin, Iowa; Fourth Ashley Skeels, Texas; Fifth Hailey Robertson, Missouri; Sixth Hillary Schlake, Nebraska; Seventh Austin Rash, Missouri; Eighth Kyle Herink, Iowa; Ninth Gatlin Schlake, Nebraska; and Tenth Janelle Hayek, Iowa.

Sales Talk

The Sales Talk utilizes a live setting complete with an animal and the potential buyers (two judges). This contest evaluates an actual sales talk given to the potential buyers by the junior contestants.

Junior Division: Champion Grace Vehige, Missouri; Reserve Champion Devin Aherin, Illinois; Third Braxton Oldenburg, Oklahoma; Fourth Mitch Garcia, Colorado; Fifth Dylan Enyart, Oklahoma; Sixth Grant Powell, Missouri; Seventh (tie) Chisum Grund, Kansas and Grady Hammer, Kansas; Eighth Quentin Clark, Kansas; Ninth Haley Ringkob, South Dakota; and Tenth Austin Teeter, North Carolina.

Intermediate Division: Champion Meredith Clark, Kansas; Reserve Champion Grace Hammer, Kansas; Third Justin Vehige, Missouri; Fourth Jackson Riebel, Minnesota; Fifth Tanner Aherin, Kansas; Sixth Callahan Grund, Kansas; Seventh Tanner Taubenheim, Nebraska; Eighth Justin Teeter, North Carolina; Ninth Torrie Brownlee, Iowa; and Tenth Madison Shafer, Minnesota.

Senior Division: Champion Dustin Aherin, Kansas; Reserve Champion, Garrett Teeter, North Carolina; Third Justin Taubenheim, Nebraska; Fourth Kaycie Shearer, Kansas; Fifth Jeremy Griesbaum, Missouri; Sixth Kaisha Jurgens, Nebraska; Seventh Amanda Kriegh, Minnesota; Eighth Janelle Hayek, Iowa; Ninth Ashley Skeels, Texas; and Tenth CJ Brickey, Tennessee.

Quiz Bowl

This contest allows teams of four to compare their knowledge of the Gelbvieh breed and the beef industry against other teams.

Junior Division: The Champion Team is from Minnesota. Team members include: Sam Riebel, Sam Vogl, Kallie Mattison and Max Schafer. Reserve Champion Junior Team has a three state representation. Team members are Mitch Garcia from Colorado, Austin Teeter from North Carolina, and Kaeden Schlake and Kacie Jurgens from Nebraska.

Intermediate Division: The Champion is from Colorado and North Carolina. Team members from Colorado include Tiana Garcia and Ariana De La Garza. North Carolina team members are Justin Teeter and Carson Hall. The Reserve Champion team includes: Sydney and Ethan Bigger and Michael and Joseph Ring, all from Illinois.

Senior Division: Champion honors go to a team from Texas, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Team members include Ashley Skeels and Tahanee Embry from Texas, Garrett Teeter from North Carolina and Matthew Davidson from South Carolina. Reserve Champion is the team from Nebraska with Hilliary Schlake, Gatlin Schlake, Kaisha Jurgens, and Justin Taubenheim.

Photo Contest

The Photography Contest allows AGJA members to become familiar with the art of photography and to experiment with different lighting, angles and subjects. Junior members are allowed to enter up to three photos.

Junior Division: Champion Alyssa Beenken, Iowa; Reserve Champion Brandon Oldenburg, Oklahoma; Third Brandon Oldenburg, Oklahoma; Fourth Sam Riebel, Minnesota; Fifth Bailey Gaydo, Iowa; Sixth Braxton Oldenburg, Oklahoma; Seventh Kacie Jurgens, Nebraska; Eighth Kajal Jurgens, Nebraska; Ninth Colton Spencer, Missouri; and Tenth Grant Powell, Missouri.

Intermediate Division: Champion Collin Berkley, Kansas; Reserve Champion Grace Hammer, Kansas; Third Mark Welle, Iowa; Fourth Kendra Thorstenson, South Dakota; Fifth Ariana De La Garza, Colorado; Sixth Courtney Spencer, Missouri; Seventh Kendrah Schafer, Minnesota; Eighth Mark Welle, Iowa; Ninth Rylee Owen Texas; and Tenth Emma McDonald, Missouri.

Senior Division: Champion John Shearer, Kansas; Reserve Champion Katlynn Sullivan, Alabama; Third Britney Volek, South Dakota; Fourth Kassidy Formanek, Iowa; Fifth and Sixth Sara Mowry, Michigan; Seventh Tahanee Embry, Texas; Eighth Katlynn Sullivan, Alabama; Ninth Cole Buffo, Kansas; and Tenth Shellina Hayek, Iowa.

Creative Writing

This year's Creative Writing contest challenged AGJA members to write about current beef industry topics.

Junior Division: Champion Kacie Jurgen, Nebraska; Reserve Champion Braxton Oldenburg, Oklahoma.

Intermediate Division: Champion Grace Hammer, Kansas; Reserve Champion Callahan Grund, Kansas.

Senior Division: Champion Kaisha Jurgens, Nebraska; Reserve Champion Shellina Hayek, Iowa.

Judging Contest

In the Judging Contest, teams comprised of four members evaluate classes of Gelbvieh and Balancer animals. Awards are given to the top teams and high individuals in each age division.

Junior Division: The Champion Team comes from South Dakota and North Carolina. The team consists of South Dakota members Justin and Haley Ringkob and Kara Thorstenson and North Carolina team member Austin Teeter. The Reserve Champion Team was from Kansas. Team members are Chisum Grund, Grady Hammer, Courtney Larson, and Danielle Riley.

Top Junior Individuals: Champion Chisum Grund, Kansas; Reserve Champion Anna Ring, Illinois; Third Kallie Mattison, Minnesota; Fourth Devin Aherin, Illinois; Fifth Grady Hammer, Kansas; Sixth Austin Teeter, North Carolina; Seventh Haley Ringkob, South Dakota; Eighth Mitch Garcia, Colorado; Ninth Nicole Welke, Wisconsin; and Tenth Morgan Winchester, Missouri.

Intermediate Division: The Champion Team is from Kansas with team members Tanner Aherin, Meredith Clark, Callahan Grund, and Grace Hammer. Missouri won the Reserve Champion honors. Team members are Courtney Spencer, Justin and Kyle Vehige, and Kirstin Winchester.

Top Intermediate Individuals: Champion Justin Teeter, North Carolina; Reserve Champion Kirstin Winchester, Missouri; Third Sydney Taubenheim, Nebraska; Fourth Madison Schafer, Minnesota; Fifth Torrie Brownlee, Iowa; Sixth Jackson Riebel, Minnesota; Seventh Callahan Grund, Kansas; Eighth Tiana Garcia, Colorado; Ninth Amy Mowry, Mississippi; and Tenth Justin Vehige, Missouri.

Senior Division: The Champion Team Award goes to a mixed team with Texas members Tahanee Embry and Ashley Skeels, North Carolina member Garrett Teeter, and South Carolina

Member Matthew Davidson. The Reserve Team is Kaisha Jurgens, Brian Krajewski and Justin Taubenheim from Nebraska with Michael Rea from Colorado

Top Senior Individuals: Champion Tahanee Embry, Texas; Reserve Champion Zachary Butler, Tennessee; Third Kyle Kendrick, Missouri; Fourth Michael Rea, Colorado; Fifth Justin Taubenheim, Nebraska; Sixth Britney Volek, South Dakota; Seventh Janelle Hayek, Iowa; Eighth Christian Hojer, South Dakota; Ninth Kevin Hightower, Kansas; and Tenth Kaycie Shearer, Kansas.

Team Fitting

The Team Fitting contest showcases cattle fitting skills of AGJA members. The teams are evaluated on their teamwork, the effective use of fitting products and the overall final presentation of the animal.

Junior/Intermediate Division: Teams from Kansas swept both awards. The Champion Team members are Callhan Grund, Grace Hammer, Grady Hammer, and Chisum Grund. The Reserve Champion Team was composed of Meredith Clark, Quentin Clark, Collin Berkley, and Seth Beying.

Senior Division: Champion Team members are Britney Volek of South Dakota and Zack Butler of Tennessee. The Reserve Champion Team was from Nebraska with team members Kaisha Jurgens and Taylor Lueking.

2009-2010 Ambassador

This individual represents the AGJA at shows and events throughout the year. They carry the Gelbvieh message to others and spread the word about junior programs.

Junior Ambassador: Sydney Bigger from Illinois.

Junior Herdsman of the Year

The Junior Herdsman of the Year award is given to the individual voted by their peers as the best all-around for caring for their animals and sportsmanship during the Classic.

Winner: Kyle Vehige from Missouri.

State Herdsmanship Winner: Missouri

Rookie of the Year

The Rookie of the Year award honors the first-time Junior Classic participant that earns the most points in competition.

2009 Rookie of the Year: Grant Powell, Missouri

All-Around Competition

The All-Around Competition recognizes those juniors that earn the most points from participation in contests during the Classic.

First Grant Powell, Missouri; Second Chisum Grund, Kansas; Third Justin Teeter, North Carolina; Fourth Ashley Skeels, Texas; Fifth Grace Vehige, Missouri; Sixth Tahanee Embry, Texas; Seventh Grace Hammer, Kansas; Eighth Meredith Clark, Kansas; Ninth Jackson Rieble, Minnesota; and Tenth Janelle Hayek, Iowa.

State Scrapbook

The State Scrapbook contest was created to give states an opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas.

State Scrapbook Champion: Kansas
State Scrapbook Runner Up: Iowa

State Challenge Cup

The State Challenge Cup rewards the state that has the most member participation in events throughout the week of the Junior Classic

State Challenge Cup Champion: Kansas
State Challenge Cup Runner-Up: Iowa

For complete coverage of the AGJA 2009 Pride of the Heartland Classic, including full results from the Gelbvieh, Balancer and Market Steer Shows, contest winners, showmanship results, scholarship recipients and photos of all winners, visit www.gelbvieh.org.

The AGJA 2010 Lone Star Classic will be held in College Station, Texas, July 4 – 9. Check out a special invitation from the Texas Gelbvieh Junior Association to attend the 2010 Lone Star Classic at www.gelbvieh.org/mainjr2.html.