

Minnesota Barbeque Society

www.mnbbqsociety.com

Dave Londeen, President • Ross Bowen, Vice President • Randy Appelgren, Chairman



Smokin' in Steele

By Lyle Coleman
Smokin in Steele

June 1st and 2nd was a smokin' perfect weekend in Owatonna, Minnesota, for the 5th annual Smokin' in Steele, organized by the Knights of Columbus to benefit Special Olympics. A total of 58 teams registered for this KCBS sanctioned state championship event. Ten thousand dollars in prize money was divided between 10 places in each of the four categories plus reserve and grand champion.

KCBS Reps Don Harwell and David and Virginia Londeen oversaw both the teams and the judging to insure that everything ran smoothly and according to rules. Their good natured and relaxed attitude contributed greatly to an atmosphere of fun within the framework of serious competition.

Once scores were tabulated, the results looked like this:

GRAND CHAMP: Big Tz Q Cru
RESERVE GRAND CHAMP: Grills Gone Wild Iowa
ANYTHING BUTT: Hogline

CHICKEN
1) Big Tz Q Cru
2) Smokin the Bone
3) Big Chain BBQ Gang

RIBS
1) Pigskin BBQ
2) Smoke Syndicate
3) Monkey's Uncle

PORK
1) Sons of Butchers
2) Big Tz Q Cru
3) Morning Wood BBQ

BRISKET
1) Grills Gone Wild Iowa
2) Big Tz Q Cru

Ancillary category 3) Shiggin' and Grinnin' of "Anything Butt" produced our very first perfect 180 for team Hogline in their very first pro contest!

Smokin in Steele is not just a BBQ contest. We have a lot of activities going on for the whole family. 31 children ages 7 – 14 had their own Kids Q with grills donat-



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LYLE COLEMAN

Grand Champs and Reserve Grand Champs.



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Group photo of Special Olympians with Steele and Stella with bean bag board.

ed by EZ Grill. As spectators gathered to watch aspiring cooks, there was also a Pro vs. Pro throw down featuring Tippi Canoe vs. Shiggin' and Grinnin'. The feature ingredient was beef tongue to be cooked on an EZ Grill with a 1 hour time limit. The entries were judged by our Reps. The verdict? Tippi nosed out a victory by the tip of his tongue! Our world-class blues

fest attracted a large hungry and thirsty crowd of music lovers who enjoyed a total of 10 bands over the 2 days. Blues 4 Kids gave over a dozen children free blues harmonica lessons and they got to keep the harmonica.

The quiet spring air was pierced by the scream of exhaust and the aroma of burnt rubber from spinning tires compet-

ed with the smell of BBQ as the modified garden tractors put on a show for a large appreciative crowd. Black streaks of rubber on asphalt gave mute testimony to the power of these mighty mites as they pull the weight sled as far as they are able.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LYLE COLEMAN

This "Anything Butt" entry scored a perfect 180 to win the category.

Our ACO bean bag competition returned for a second year. Special Olympians take over the court over lunch time and were joined by "Steely" and "Stella" the Steele County Fair mascots.

New this year was a 5K run that attracted over 150 runners who were enthusiastic about the event. Next year will be bigger.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LYLE COLEMAN

TV media interviews a vendor.

We fed over 200 sponsors and families a VIP dinner complete with all 4 meat categories prepared by our vendors who are also contestants.

Orchestrating the weekend were over 140 KC's and their families. In addition 60 Boy Scouts and leaders parked cars, sold water, pop, and popcorn. Plus our KC breakfast crew fixed a free cooks breakfast Saturday morning and returned to feed over 400 with a pancake breakfast on Sunday.

Already our committee is meeting to critique this year's event and to begin to plan for next year. Mark May 31 and June 1, 2013 on your calendar. Because in Owatonna on those days it won't be hot – it will be SMOKIN'!



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Kids Q recognition at the awards ceremony.