

Martin

COUNTY

Friday, July 15, 2011 » MC

Page B01

Auctioneer makes bid for world title

■ **Stuart's K.C. Daniel, 33, takes on international champions in Orlando**

By Kim Hughes

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

STUART — How did K.C. Daniel, the current Florida State Bid Calling champion, intend to prepare for the International Auctioneer Championship in Orlando on Friday? He ran an estate auction Thursday evening in Stuart's North River Shores, that's how.

The contest, organized as part of the National Auctioneers Association multiday 62nd annual

International Auctioneer Conference, will crown a male and a female champion, awarding each a \$5,000 cash prize, a trophy and a ring.

The preliminary round, during which contestants have to sell three items provided by the association, kicks off at 8:30 a.m. Friday. Interviews will follow the preliminary round with the final round held at 6 p.m. Winners are expected to be announced at 9 p.m.

During the bid-calling portion, contestants will be judged on presentation, chant/voice and effective auctioneering. The interview portion will test their presentation skills, responses and

ability to be an effective ambassador for the organization.

Owner of Associate Auctions in Stuart, Daniel, 33, comes to the business naturally. His father, Karlin Daniel, founder and president of Karlin Daniel and Associates in Palm City, has been in the auction and appraisal business for more than three decades.

"I was born into it," Daniel said, but it's his passion for the history and integrity of the profession that has kept him in it.

Going up against the country's best male auctioneers, Daniel said he plans to draw on his decade of experience in the field.

His auctioneering skills are

complemented by a degree from Florida Atlantic University in finance and real estate and a law degree from Shepard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University.

Daniel admits he's a bit of a ham, a character trait that dovetails well with his chosen career.

"I like being in front of people. It fits my personality," he said.

Although Daniel said he would be honored to win Friday's championship, he also sees the event as an opportunity to introduce himself and gain exposure for his company, which is only about a year old.

With the average age of auctioneers coming in at 60-plus, Daniel said, "I'm quite an anomaly being a young auctioneer."



K.C. Daniel