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MISSOURI 4-H DAIRY JUDGING COMPETES AT ALL-AMERICAN DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING CONTEST

Missouri 4-H had a quality outing at the 2023 of the All-American Invitational Youth Dairy Cattle Judging Contest held September 17 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, according to Karla Deaver, Field Specialist in 4-H Youth Development. The team finished 7th overall in the 13 team field.

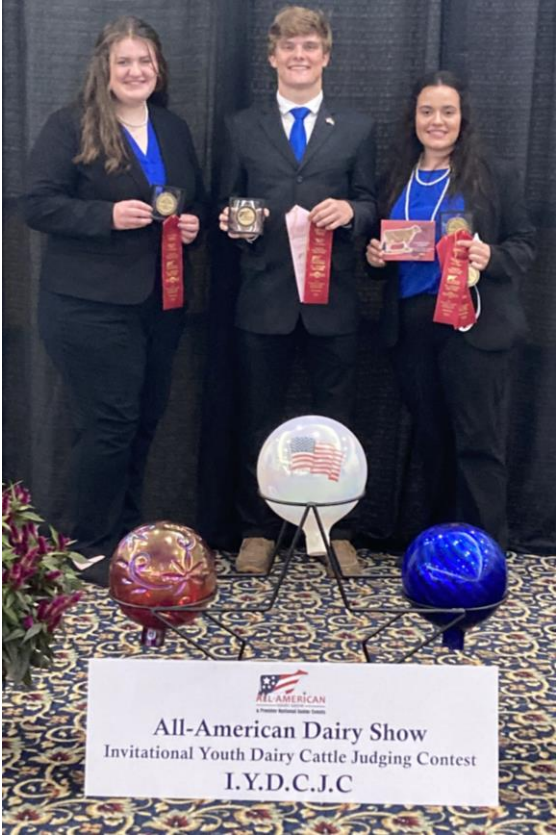
The team of Molly Archer, Case Melzer and Libby Shaver finished second overall in oral reasons, 4th in Jerseys, and 5th in Guernseys. “This was a super high scoring contest. Our team averaged 46 points on placings and reasons combined. We are looking forward to competing in our national contest in early October,” said Karla Deaver, Field Specialist in 4-H Youth Development and co-coach of the team. “The team was second in oral reasons. We believe this is the highest team placing in oral reasons in recent history.”

Leading the way for the Missouri team was Libby Shaver. Shaver, daughter of Shane and Denise Shaver of Grovespring, had a very consistent contest, finishing as 6th high individual overall. Shaver was high individual in Jerseys, 2nd high individual in oral reasons, and 5th in Holsteins. Melzer, son of Matt and Kelly Melzer of Harrisonville, was 6th high individual in oral reasons and finished as 14th high individual overall. Melzer talked a 50 on Holstein reasons. Archer, daughter of Robert and Jamey Archer of Falcon, finished 34th.

Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging team alumnus Whitney Yerina was high individual overall in the junior college division of the contest. Yerina, now judging for SUNY-Cobleskill in New York, was also high individual in oral reasons, Brown Swiss, and Guernseys. In addition, she was 3rd in Jerseys and Ayrshires and 4th in Holsteins. Yerina also won the Big E Judging contest just the day before the All-American. “We couldn’t be more proud of Whitney and all she has accomplished at the collegiate level,” said Deaver. “Whitney is having an incredible fall judging season, winning two contests in two days. We are excited for her and her team moving into the national contest in Madison.”

Contestants placed ten classes and gave four sets of reasons. The team is coached by Karla Deaver, Field Specialist in 4-H Youth Development, and Ted Probert, retired Extension Dairy Specialist.

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Pictured left to right: Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging Team members Molly Archer, Case Melzer, and Libby Shaver show their awards from the All-American Dairy Show Invitational Youth Dairy Cattle Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania