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April 5, 2017

**K-State Crowned National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Team**

***K-State Animal Sciences and Industry students win back-to-back national titles, Gleason named high individual.***

**MANHATTAN, Kan.** – The Kansas State University Meat Animal Evaluation Team won National Champion honors in the 2017 Collegiate Meat Animal Evaluation Contest in Manhattan, Kan. The team was recognized Tuesday, April 4 at the Stanley Stout Center following the three-day competition.

The event, previously known as the AKSARBEN contest, now rotates between host institutions across the country. The competition includes live market animal carcass predictions and pricing, breeding animal evaluation and meat judging competition and truly serves as a capstone judging experience for students with its incorporation of so many industry applicable concepts.

The team first won the market animal, breeding, swine and communication divisions of the contest. Individually K-State had three place in the top five overall. Chase Gleason, Uniontown, Kansas, won the high individual title. Shelby Teague, Fort Morgan, Colorado, placed third overall and Brooke Jensen, Courtland, Kansas, was fourth overall. (See complete individual and team results below.)

“We are proud of our students and coaches for their hard work and accomplishments,” says Ken Odde, K-State Animal Sciences and Industry department head. “This is a challenging contest that not only tests a student’s ability in meat and livestock evaluation, but also requires that they understand pricing, which is particularly important in today’s value-based marketing system.”

The team is coached by Dr. Travis O’Quinn and Chris Mullinix and assisted by graduate students Austin Langemeier and Lauren Prill.

Team Results:  
Champion Team – Market Animal Division

Champion Team – Breeding Division  
Champion Team – Swine Division  
Champion Team — Communications Division  
Reserve Champion Team – Meats Division  
Reserve Champion Team – Beef Division  
Third Place Team – Sheep Division

Individual Results:

Chase Gleason, Uniontown, Kansas – High Individual Overall, 1<sup>st</sup> Market Animal, 1<sup>st</sup> Swine, 3<sup>rd</sup> Breeding, 4<sup>th</sup> Beef and 5<sup>th</sup> Meats  
Shelby Teague, Fort Morgan, Colorado — 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall, 1<sup>st</sup> Beef, 3<sup>rd</sup> Market Animal, 4<sup>th</sup> Meats, 7<sup>th</sup> Swine and 8<sup>th</sup> Breeding  
Brooke Jensen, Courtland, Kansas — 4<sup>th</sup> Overall, 1<sup>st</sup> Breeding, 5<sup>th</sup> Beef, 9<sup>th</sup> Meats, 9<sup>th</sup> Swine and 10<sup>th</sup> Sheep  
Jessie Vallejo, Gridley, California — 7<sup>th</sup> Breeding  
Matt Marion, Terre Haute, Indiana — 10<sup>th</sup> Breeding  
Lauren Ivy, Montpelier, Virginia — 10<sup>th</sup> Swine

Team Members:

Trevor Birky, Strang, Nebraska  
Dakota Ferguson, Williamsburg, Kansas  
Chase Gleason, Uniontown, Kansas  
Callahan Grund, Wallace, Kansas  
Lauren Ivey, Montpelier, Virginia  
Brooke Jensen, Courtland, Kansas  
Matt Marion, Terre Haute, Indiana  
Austin Matheny, Mayslick, Kentucky  
Cole Renner, Norton, Kansas  
Leah Scholz, Lancaster, Kansas  
Maggie Smith, Lewistown, Illinois  
Shelby Teague, Fort Morgan, Colorado  
Jessie Vallejo, Gridley, California  
Emily Voris, Atwater, California  
Jake Wagner, Erie, Colorado

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*The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry serves students, livestock producers and the animal and food industries through teaching, research and education. The K-State ASI department prepares students for careers in the animal and food industries. The curriculum includes the study of nutrition, reproduction, genetics, behavior, meat science and food science with production, management, and agribusiness skills. For more about the K-State's ASI department visit [asi.ksu.edu](http://asi.ksu.edu).*

Photo available upon request email [angiedenton@ksu.edu](mailto:angiedenton@ksu.edu) or call 785-562-6197.

Suggested outline:

Members of the National Champion Meat Animal Evaluation Team from Kansas State University (pictured seated, l to r) are: Shelby Teague, Fort Morgan, Colorado; Brooke Jensen, Courtland, Kansas; Lauren Ivey, Montpelier, Virginia; Leah Scholz, Lancaster, Kansas; Emily Voris, Atwater, California; and Maggie Smith, Lewistown, Illinois. Back row (standing, l to r) are: Chris Mullinix, Manhattan, Kan., coach; Lauren Prill, Wichita, Kan., assistant coach; Jessie Vallejo, Gridley, California; Matt Marion, Terre Haute, Indiana; Dakota Ferguson, Williamsburg, Kansas; Austin Matheny, Mayslick, Kentucky; Callahan Grund, Wallace, Kansas; Trevor Birky, Strang, Nebraska; Cole Renner, Norton, Kansas; Jake Wagner, Erie, Colorado;

Chase Gleason, Uniontown, Kansas; Ken Odde, Manhattan, Kan., ASI department head; and Travis O'Quinn, Manhattan, Kan., coach; and Austin Langemeier, Manhattan, Kan., assistant coach.