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Gretchen Kirchmann
Director of Public Relations
kirchmann@aksarben.org
402-554-9600 x 103

Iowa Team wins 2016 Fitting Challenge Championship

Woodbury, Iowa teens receive \$500 scholarships at AKSARBEN Stock Show

Omaha, Neb. (October 20, 2016) – The 12th Honor Show Chow Fitting Challenge sponsored by Purina Animal Nutrition was held during the AKSARBEN Stock Show last month. The 4-H team of Justin Beeson, Dillion Weaver and Autumn Weaver from Woodbury County (Iowa) won the Fitting Challenge Championship. The Lancaster County (Neb.) 4-H team finished as reserve champions. The Woodbury County Team was awarded individual scholarships of \$500 each and a prize package of equipment and feed.

“I was very impressed with the Woodbury County Team working together and dividing up tasks. The team was very knowledgeable about the show cattle industry. They practiced and clipped for years and worked well together to present a clean calf for twelve o’clock – ready for show,” stated Fran Minnaert, Honor Show Chow sales specialist with Purina Animal Nutrition.

The preliminary competition consisted of 16 teams with five advancing to the finals round. All teams consisted of three 4-H members, with one of the exhibitors having an eligible beef entry at the 2016 AKSARBEN 4-H Stock Show. Each team supplied their own livestock entry of either a breeding heifer, market steer, market heifer or feeder calf for the competition.

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The fitting challenge allows 4-Hers to demonstrate their skillset in preparing their livestock for the show ring. Presentation of the livestock entry is judged on quality of workmanship, team skills and compatibility of the use of various types of clippers.

Fitting Challenge Results:

Championship Team: Woodbury Co. – Iowa

Justin Beeson
Dillion Weaver
Autumn Weaver

Reserve Championship Team: Lancaster Co. – Nebraska

Brett Heinrich
Cole Cooper
Allison Walbrecht

Third Place Team: Burt Co. – Nebraska

Bailey Fleischman
Trenton Elliot
Jayden Fleishman

Fourth Place Team: Woodbury Co. – Iowa

Colt Peterson
Tyler Vohs
Bailey McKenna

Fifth Place Team: Harrison Co. – Iowa

Sydney Sherer
Bailey Schaben
Owen Smith

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About AKSARBEN Foundation

Established in 1895, AKSARBEN Foundation represents the premier employers in Nebraska and western Iowa. AKSARBEN Foundation works as a unified network to influence change for the betterment of youth, the economy and Heartland communities. We advance our mission *to leverage collective business leadership to build a more prosperous Heartland* by funding and guiding best practice, needs-based scholarship programs, awarding over \$1 million annually; promoting the Heartland's cultural heritage through top-ranking community celebrations, attended by over 100,000 annually; and honoring community leaders who carry on the Heartland's tradition of philanthropy and volunteerism.

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