

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 4-H and National Youths Compete in Annual Quiz Bowl Competition.

*Grand Island, Neb. (October 25, 2017)* – The 17<sup>th</sup> National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl competition provided an opportunity for youth representing 9 states to take part in an educational experience during the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual AKSARBEN Stock Show. 4-H'ers demonstrated knowledge on nutrition, health, genetics, production, current industry issues, or management areas related to beef, swine, meat goat, and sheep.

Competition for the 12 AKSARBEN teams began at 8:30am and National teams started competition at 10:30am with both championship matches conducted in mid-afternoon. There were six rounds of competition held in the National Contest and nine rounds in the AKSARBEN Contest. Many of the matches were very close in their final score. Each match included three phases: individual, team, and toss up questions. The 2017 Champion and Reserve Champion Teams of both contests were introduced during the Social and Awards Ceremony which followed the conclusion of matches. A new feature this year was the recognition of the high five individuals in each contest.

An excellent group of officials assisted in helping to conduct the contest. Officials included:

**Moderators:** Chandra Murray – Nebraska, Amy Powell – Iowa, Rosie Nold – South Dakota, Trent Hollister – Colorado.

**Judges:** Rob Christine – Missouri, Dwight Loveday – Tennessee, David Hoffman – Missouri, Rob Eirich – Nebraska, Clint Krehbiel – Nebraska, Dale Grotelueschen – Nebraska.

**Timers:** Sam Lowry – Colorado, Kaytlyn Kennedy – Nebraska, Adina Choat – Nebraska, Rachel Adam – Nebraska.

**Scorekeepers:** Evey Choat – Nebraska, Delilah Potter – Nebraska, Melinda Vlieger – Nebraska, Jami Ankrom – Nebraska, Andy Adam – Nebraska, Brandy VanDeWalle – Nebraska, Jennifer Epp – Nebraska, Sonya Glup – Nebraska.

**Check-in & Tabulation:** Fina Choat – Nebraska.

Tennessee was crowned National 4-H Champion Quiz Bowl Team and Minnesota was the Reserve Champion Quiz Bowl Team for 2017. Wisconsin was the third-place team. The top two teams were awarded plaques and ribbons. Team members and coaches who competed this year in the National Contest were:

#### **Tennessee – 2017 Champion Team**

- **Coach: Dan Owen**
- **Team Members: Kendall Martin, Jana Owen, Nolan Paladino, Zach Snoddy**

#### **Minnesota – 2017 Reserve Champion Team**

- **Coach: Bob Balgeman**
- **Team Members: Michael Carroll, Ashley Conrardt, Colton Ivers, Grace Bergstrom**

#### **Wisconsin – 2017 Third Place Team**

- **Coach: Mark Zimmerman**
- **Team Members: Stephanie Witberler, Kailen Smercheck, Cortney Zimmerman, Emilie Pauls**

#### **Other states represented:**

- **Colorado**
- **Arkansas**

High 5 National Contest individuals: Kendall Martin (TN), Michael Carroll (MN), Colton Ivers (MN), Katelyn Robinson (CO), Anna Wikowsky (CO).

Franklin County M – Iowa was crowned Champion AKSARBEN 4-H Quiz Bowl Team and Stanly County – North Carolina was the Reserve Champion 4-H Quiz Bowl Team for 2017. Douglas/Sarpy County – Nebraska finished third. The top two teams received plaques and ribbons. Team members and coaches of the top teams were:

#### **Iowa – Franklin County M – 2017 Champion Team**

- **Coach: Jackie Dohlman**
- **Team Members: Jaiden Shahan, Lane Abbas, Isaac Vosburg**

#### **North Carolina – Stanly County – 2017 Reserve Champion Team**

- **Coach: Michael Alexander**
- **Team Members: Cristina Sells, Weston Houck, Alainna Houck, Sarah Isley, Kaylyn Gise**

#### **Nebraska – Douglas/Sarpy County – Third Place Team**

- **Coach: Rachelle Tidwell**
- **Team Members: Ryan Sedlacek, Jennifer Tidwell, Breanna Wilkinson, Jacob Jones**

High 5 AKSARBEN Contest individuals: Jaiden Shahan (IA), Josie Chance (AL), Ryan Sedlacek (NE), Breanna Wilkinson (NE), Weston Houck (NC).

#### **Other teams represented in the contest:**

- **Nebraska – Boone County A**

- **Nebraska – Boone County B**
- **Iowa – Franklin County F**
- **Nebraska – Kearney / Franklin**
- **Nebraska – Husker Glue Power**
- **Nebraska – PBCH**
- **Arkansas – Washington County**
- **Alabama – Bibb County**
- **Tennessee – Lincoln County**

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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.