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Groves Tops State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest

Bailey Groves bested brother Grant Groves in the senior division of the Missouri State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest. The contest was held August 18th at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia.

Groves, daughter of Todd and Sheila Groves of Billings, was high individual in Ayrshires, Guernseys and Jerseys while finishing second in Holsteins and oral reasons. Second high individual in the senior division was Grant Groves of Billings. Groves, the son of Todd and Sheila Groves was first in Holsteins and oral reasons, and second in Ayrshires and Guernseys. Third high individual was Blake Wright of Verona. Wright, the son of Larry and Jodi Wright, was third in Ayrshires, Guernseys, Holsteins and oral reasons. Rounding out the top five were Kelsie Grimm of Aurora and Nicolas Dotson of Marionville.

In a tight intermediate division, Lila Wantland of Niangua was the high individual and Whitney Yerina of Conway was second high individual. The two tied for overall score, but the tie breaker gave Wantland the edge. Rounding out the top five were Molly Archer of Falcon, Kylie Scrivner of Ava, and Logan Archer of Falcon.

Teagan Hardy of Steelville was high individual in the junior division, followed by Tyson Droste of Lancaster in second, Molly Melzer of Harrisonville in third, Monique Turner of Springfield in fourth and Ada Bluel of Monett in fifth.

The contestants placed six classes and gave two sets of reasons. The top three individuals in each breed received cash prizes sponsored by the Missouri breed associations. The top ten individuals in each division received rosettes from the Missouri State Fair, and the top four individuals in each division received a plaque from the Missouri State Fair and supporters of the contest. Contestants, their families, and exhibitors who provided cattle for the event were the guests at a Junior Dairymen's Barbeque sponsored by Midwest Dairy Association, Missouri State Fair, Missouri Cattlemen's Association, MFA, Dairy Farmers of America, and Hiland Dairy. The Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging Team receives support from FCS Financial, the Missouri Holstein Association and the Missouri Dairy Association in partnership with the Missouri 4-H Foundation, and thanks all their sponsors for their support.

The Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging Team will be competing this fall in Louisville, Kentucky. The team is currently seeking ongoing sponsors for their travel. For more information about the dairy judging program, contact either Ted Probert at the Wright County Extension Center at (417)349-4134, or Karla Deaver at the Lawrence County Extension Center at 417-466-3102.

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