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National Beef Champions! Lawrence County 4-H Livestock Judging
Team Wins Beef, 5th Overall at Western National

The Lawrence County 4-H Livestock Judging team came home with honors from the 2014 Western National Round-up
Livestock Contest held January 11 in Denver, Colorado.

According to Karla Deaver, 4-H youth development specialist with University of Missouri Extension, the team won the
beef division by averaging 49 points on 4 classes and averaging 45.4 points on two sets of reasons in the species. The team
placed fifth overall in a field of 24 teams.

“This team really put it all together in beef at the contest,” said Deaver. “All four team members were in the top 20 of the
division, and three were in the top ten. They saw the classes really well, and did a great job with their oral reasons. Coach
Jim Spencer, Jr., did a great job preparing this young team for national competition.”

The team of Tori Armstrong, Hayden Fisher, Colton Spencer and Ty Whittaker were the high team in the Beef division, 5th
in oral reasons, sixth in swine and 10th in sheep.

Spencer, son of Jim and Janella Spencer of Aurora, was 8th high individual in the contest, and was 2nd high individual in
beef. He was also eighth in goats and 9th in swine and oral reasons.

Fisher, the daughter of Devin Fisher of Aurora, was fourth high individual in beef and 21st individual in sheep, oral
reasons, and overall.

Whittaker, the son of Lyle and Jania Whittaker of Miller, was 16th high individual in beef. Armstrong, the daughter of
Mark and Marla Armstrong of Aurora, was 7th high individual in beef.

Contestants placed 4 beef, 1 goat, 2 sheep and 3 swine classes and gave 6 sets of oral reasons. The team is coached by
Lawrence County 4-H volunteer, Jim Spencer, Jr.

The Lawrence County 4-H Livestock Judging Team is supported by Southwest Missouri Cattlemen’s Association, Robert
E. “Bud” and Betty Hertzog, FCS Financial, Missouri Cattlemen’s Association, and Missouri Farm Bureau in partnership
with the Missouri 4-H Foundation.

Photo caption: Lawrence County 4-H Livestock Judging Team members Tori Armstrong, Ty Whittaker, Hayden Fisher, Colton Spencer and Coach Jim Spencer, Jr.