



#### 2008 National 4-H Quiz Bowl Team

Back row: Paul Gordon, Heidi Moff,  
Kathy Phillips, Bonnie Ayars,

Front row: Lisa Gress, Julie Martig,  
Laura Gordon

Broadening the educational scope for dairy youth, the Invitational 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl was once again a featured activity at the 35<sup>th</sup> North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Kentucky. From 20 different states, teams made the trip from as far off as Maine and even as far off as Washington. This event that not only tests their wisdom, but also how quickly they can recall it. Coached by Lisa Gress (Wayne County) and Julie Martig (Mahoning County), four of our highest scoring Ohio Quiz Bowl players made the trip! It consisted of Laura Gordon and Paul Gordon of Wayne County, Kathy Phillips and Heidi Moff of Mahoning County. When all the rounds were complete, it is a pleasure to report that Ohio's kids were tied for 5<sup>th</sup> place!

The first round consists of a preliminary test that assists in setting the brackets for the competition and the succeeding rounds are individual questions to each team member, followed by toss up questions to the two teams matched with one another. When each team member has answered correctly, bonus questions come into the mix. The rounds can be filled with tension, the stress of pressing that buzzer, the agony of a mispronunciation, and the surprise of answering correctly when you hardly expect it. It's fun to watch and amazing to hear how much these kids already know about dairying! A secondary benefit for the team is that they were treated to a pizza party and recognition banquet that provided them all the opportunity to meet and interact with other dairy 4-Hers from across the country. Rest assured, wherever this group went, there was fun and entertainment!

Quiz Bowl only begins the weekend of youth events! Following on Sunday, the OSU and Ohio 4-H Dairy Judging teams competed in the dairy judging contest. There were twenty college and twenty 4-H teams there to test their skills.

Members of the Ohio 4-H team were Robin Alden of Danville, Jared Smith of Plain City, and Michelle Funk of Jeromesville. In their first competition together, they were pleased to finish 8<sup>th</sup> and rewarded by talking their way into 5<sup>th</sup> place overall for reasons. Look for much more out of this young team in 2009.



#### 2008 Ohio 4-H Dairy Judges at Louisville

Left to right: Bonnie Ayars (coach), Jared Smith and Robin Alden, missing from photo was Michelle Funk

The collegiate team also made their first outing together! Neil Duncan, Stephanie Neal (her very first judging contest), John Langel, and Jeff Reithman represented the university solidly in a high scoring contest that provided Neal the opportunity to star in the Holstein breed as the high individual and also place 9<sup>th</sup> overall in reasons for the entire contest.



#### 2008 Collegiate Dairy Judges at Louisville

Left to right Bonnie Ayars (coach), Jeff Riethman, Neil Duncan, Stephanie Neal, John Langel

It is also good to make note of the fact that Ohio's FFA team placed third overall in the National FFA Dairy Judging contest at the national convention held in Indianapolis. There were 43 different state teams represented in the contest and OSU Fresh"woman" Laura Gordon finished 8<sup>th</sup> overall and another one of our Fresh"woman" recruits, Hannah Thompson from Maryland, finished 9<sup>th</sup> and was high in the Jersey and Holstein breeds. The rest of Ohio's FFA team consisted of Paul Gordon, Brandon Meier, and Eileen Gress advised by Dale Sidle of TriWay High School. It is a pleasure to mention that this team attended our 4-H summer workouts and our judging clinics at the state fair to promote their skills.