

FORT COLLINS – A Kansas teen earned overall senior and a Nebraska youth claimed the top junior division points in the American Junior Simmental Western Regional held June 11-14, 2009 at the CSU's Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center (ARDEC) facility near here.

In the multi-state regional, Jake Gleason of Maple Hill, Kansas was overall senior and Wyatt Kile of Red Cloud, NE was the high junior. Contestants competed in a Cattlemen's Quiz, which tested EPD and cattle industry knowledge; in public speaking, where participants draw a topic, then prepare and give a speech; sales talk where youth role play with a "prospective" buyer, a livestock judging contest, showmanship and the cattle show itself.

The *Plains to Peaks Regional* drew participants from four states, according to coordinators Bruce & Donna German. Colorado Simmental Association hosted the regional event for the second year in a row. Support came from numerous individuals, ranchers, Wild, Wild West sale participants, and groups/businesses, including Colorado Beef Council, Colorado State University, Farmer's Bank of Ault, Gallagher Animal Systems, Purina Mills Inc., and WW Feed & Supply.

AJSA Western Regional top 2009 results included:

Senior overall (age 15 & older) total-points winners were: 1) Jake Gleason of Maple Hill, KS, 2) Clint Johnson of Longmont, CO, 3) Becky Gleason of Maple Hill, KS, 4) Ben Gleason of Maple Hill, KS, 5) Clay Johnson of Longmont, CO, 6) James Danehey of Red Cloud, NE, 7) Ashley Albright of Gibbon, NE, 8) Kyle Stromgren of Osage City, KS, 9) Jacobey Post of Hydro, OK, and 10) Katie German of Longmont, CO.

Junior overall (age 14 & younger) total-points winners were: 1) Wyatt Kile of Red Cloud, NE, 2) Brittney Houck of Americus, KS, 3) Caylee Serrano of Lafayette, CO, 4) Joe Gleason of Maple Hill, KS, 5) Josh Taylor of Smithfield, NE, 6) Chad Russell of Sugar City, CO, 7) Kylie Volk of Arlington, NE, 8) Blake Stromgren of Osage City, KS, 9) Logan Puett of Manhattan, KS, and 10) Kaitlin Houck of Americus, KS.

Trophy buckles, leather calf halters and grooming supply prizes were earned by each of the youth.

In the individual contests, the participants accumulated points, plus also received numerous prizes, ranging from foamers and foggers to rope halters and show sticks. The breakdown per event was:

Cattlemen's Quiz – *Seniors*: 1) Jake Gleason, 2) Ashley Albright, 3) Ben Gleason, 4) Clint Johnson, 5) Katie German, 6) Kyle Stromgren, 7) James Danehey, 8) Nigel Forster, 9) Clay Johnson, and 10) Chris Kartman; and *Juniors*: 1) Wyatt Kile, 2) Chad Russell, 3) Brittney Houck, 4) Joe Gleason, 5) Kaitlin Houck, 6) Josh Taylor, 7) Sam Gleason, 8) Caylee Serrano, 9) Marcus Cox and 10) Bryce Kotewa.

Livestock Judging – *Seniors*: 1) 1) Clint Johnson, 2) Jake Gleason, 3) Ben Gleason, 4) Lindy Lister, 5) Clay Johnson, 6) Becky Gleason, 7) Katie German, 7) Jacobey Post, 9) Ashley Albright, and 10) Chris Kartman; and *Juniors*: 1) Joe Gleason, 2) Logan Puett, 3) Brittney Houck, 4) Blake Stromgren, 5) Wyatt Kile, 6) Josh Taylor, 7) Chad Russell, 8) Sam Gleason, 9) Marcus Cox and 10) Kaitlin Houck.

Public Speaking – *Seniors*: 1) Jake Gleason, 2) Becky Gleason, 3) Clay Johnson, 4) Clint Johnson, 5) Ben Gleason, 6) Ashley Albright, 7) James Danehey, 8) Kyle Stromgren and 9) Nigel Forster; and *Juniors*: 1) Brittney Houck, 2) Caylee Serrano, 3) Kylie Volk, 4) Chad Russell, 5) Joe Gleason, 6) Wyatt Kile, 7) Josh Taylor, 8) Blake Stromgren and 9) Sam Gleason.

Sales Talk – *Seniors*: 1) Clint Johnson, 2) Becky Gleason, 3) Clay Johnson, 4) Jake Gleason, 5) James Danehey, 6) Lindy Lister, 7) Chris Kartman, 8) Katie German, 9) Kyle Stromgren and 10) Ashley Albright; and *Juniors*: 1) Wyatt Kile, 2) Caylee Serrano, 3) Brittney Houck, 4) Josh Taylor, 5) Joe Gleason, 6) Kaitlin Houck, 7) Blake Stromgren, 8) Marcus Cox, 9) Chad Russell, and 10) Kylie Volk.

Showmanship – *Seniors*: 1) Jake Gleason, 2) James Danehey, 3) Becky Gleason, 4) Jacobey Post, 5) Kyle Stromgren, 6) Clint Johnson, 7) Katie German, 8) Ben Gleason, 9) Ashley Albright and 10) Lindy Lister; and *Juniors*: 1) Wyatt Kile, 2) Josh Taylor, 3) Marcus Cox, 4) Blake Stromgren, 5) Caylee Serrano, 6) Brittney Houck, 7) Kaitlin Houck, 8) Kylie Volk, 9) Joe Gleason and 10) Chad Russell.

Cattle Show – *Steers*: 1) Bryce Kotewa, 2) Ben Gleason, 3) Wyatt Kile and 4) Kyle Stromgren; *Percentage Females*: 1) Logan Puett, 2) Kylie Volk, 3) Brittney Houck, 4) Caylee Serrano, 5 & 6) Jake Gleason, 7) Wyatt Kile, 8) Josh Taylor, 9) Joe Gleason and 10) Kaitlin Houck; *Bred & Owned*: 1 & 2) Marcus Cox and 3) Katie German; *Purebred Females*: 1) Kylie Volk, 2) Becky Gleason, 3) Logan Puett, 4) Lindy Lister, 5) Ashley Albright, 6) James Danehey, 7) Chris Kartman, 8) Blake Stromgren, 9 & 10) Marcus Cox; and *Cow/Calf pairs*: 1) Logan Puett, 2) Clint Johnson and 3) Jacobey Post.

First-time exhibitors at an AJSA regional contest winners were *Senior*: James Danehey and *Junior*: Caylee Serrano. We welcome them to the fun contests and AJSA activities.

Special thanks goes to sponsors and numerous volunteer judges; to Chase Groves, American Simmental field rep, for calculating contest results throughout the weekend; to CSU for its generous hospitality; Shane Bedwell and his CSU livestock judging team for officiating the judging contest, and Alan Sears of Eaton for officiating the cattle show. Regional coordinators were Bruce & Donna German of Longmont.