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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN THE LIVESTOCK EVALUATION CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 90th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE) were recognized at the 90th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 26-28, 2018.

In the senior division, Cameron Watts of Commerce High was the high scoring individual, followed by Hunter Spear of Commerce High and Adella Lonas of Murray County High finishing second and third, respectively. In the team competition, the state winner was Murray County High, followed by Commerce High in second place and East Jackson High in third.

In the junior division, Savannah Page of West Jackson Middle placed first in the individual CDE competition, followed by Bella Chandler of East Jackson High and Jazmine Ralston of Sonoraville High finishing second and third, respectively. In the team competition, the state winner was Sonoraville High, followed by West Jackson Middle in second place and East Jackson High in third.

CDE awards are granted to FFA members and teams who have exhibited premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in a variety of competitions. The Livestock Evaluation CDE is designed for participants to demonstrate skills in the selection and marketing of livestock to satisfy consumer demands and provide increased economic returns to producers. Participants evaluate breeding and market cattle, swine, sheep and market goats. Contestants also present oral reasons on selected classes to defend their selection.

The Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event was sponsored at the state level by the Georgia FFA Foundation.

All individual and team winners received a plaque and a cash award. Individual winners received $100. Second place individuals received $50 and third place individuals received $25. The winning team was awarded $2,000 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winning team received a $100 cash award.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are more than 600,000 FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 41,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

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