

# Animal Science Weekly

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TEXAS A&M  
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### Savell Wins Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (October 9, 2008) - Dr. Jeff Savell received the Association of Former Students® Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching at the 2008 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Faculty and Alumni Award Convocation. Savell joined the faculty in 1979 after earning his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from Texas A&M. Dr. Savell is professor and leader of the meat science section in the Department of Animal Science, and holds the E. M. "Manny" Rosenthal Chair in Animal Science. He teaches the introductory course in meat science where he has taught over 5,000 Aggies since 1992, as well as a course in carcass composition and quality, and team teaches a graduate and undergraduate course in HACCP. In addition, he conducts research on the quality, quantity, safety, and usefulness of meat and meat products through his appointment with Texas AgriLife Extension. He has been recognized with nearly 30 awards for teaching, research, and extension, authored or co-authored more than 700 publications, and garnered \$10 million in grants and contracts. Throughout his career, Savell has

worked to advance the meats industry, as well as lead through both teaching and research. The distinguished teaching honor is intended to recognize, encourage, and reward superior classroom teachers - those individuals whose command of their respective discipline, teaching methodologies, pervasive caring, communication skills, and commitment to the learning process exemplify the meaning of teacher/mentor in its highest sense. Distinguished teachers recognize their responsibility in motivating and contributing to the overall development of the student. The award is designed to distinguish those teachers who maintain high expectation of their students and who insure academic rigor in their courses.

### Livestock Judging Team Vies for Top Awards at the Tulsa State Fair & State Fair of Texas®

The fall competitive livestock judging season continued for the Texas A&M University team with competitions at both the Tulsa State Fair and State Fair of Texas®. Texas A&M first traveled to Tulsa, Oklahoma finishing fourth overall at the Tulsa State Fair. Texas Tech, Kansas State, and Oklahoma State Universities completed the top three in team competition. Individually, Cody Sloan and Randa Yezak garnered third and fourth high individual overall honors.

Continuing with competition, Texas A&M dominated at the State Fair of Texas® winning by a margin of over 70 points. Texas Tech University, the University of Illinois, Kansas State University, and Sam Houston State University completed the top five teams overall. Texas A&M boasted six of the top ten individuals. Texas A&M's Dustin Burke earned high individual overall honors. Team members Cody Sloan, Randa Yezak, Gwen Powers, Lucas Neumayr, and Faris Simon finished second, third, fourth, ninth, and tenth, respectively.

The team is coached by Dr. Chris Skaggs and graduate students Blake Bloomberg and Zach Rambo. Team members include: Dustin Burke, Christian Fridaye, Brice Mund, Lucas Neumayr, Ryan Page, Gwen Powers, Faris Simon, Cody Sloan, and Randa Yezak. The team's next competition will be the American Royal in Kansas City, Missouri.



← Pictured above: Dr. Jeff Savell received the Association of Former Students® Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching.

**Williams, Spencer, & Welsh Appointed to Lead Scientific Editorial Staff of *Domestic Animal Endocrinology***

Elsevier, one of the world's largest publishers of health and science information, has appointed three members of the Department of Animal Science/Texas AgriLife Research to lead the scientific editorial staff of the journal, *Domestic Animal Endocrinology*. Dr. Gary Williams, Texas AgriLife Research-Beeville/Department of Animal Science will serve as Editor-in-Chief, with Drs. Tom Spencer and Tom Welsh, Jr. serving as Associate Editors. *Domestic Animal Endocrinology* is ranked second internationally out of 47 agricultural, animal and dairy science journals with an impact factor of 2.528, behind only Animal Genetics (impact factor=2.64) and ahead of other leading journals such as the Journal of Dairy Science, Journal of Animal Science, and Animal Reproduction Science. The editors' three-year terms begin January 1, 2009.

**Cleere & Hammack Represent AgriLife Extension at the State Fair of Texas®**

Drs. Jason Cleere and Steve Hammack represented the Department of Animal Science and AgriLife Extension at the State Fair of Texas®. Dr. Steve Hammack served as the Superintendent of the Junior Beef Heifer Show, and Dr. Jason Cleere judged the Junior Beef Heifers.

**Upcoming Events**

J. Wayne Stark Galleries Exhibition "A Breed Apart: The Heritage of Livestock in Art" (September 17 - October 30, 2008 - College Station, TX) - For more information, please call 979-845-6081 or visit the Stark Galleries web site: <http://stark.tamu.edu>

Departmental Seminar Series (October 17, 2008 - Room 113 - 2:30 p.m.) - Mr. Paul Engler, Cactus Feeders, will present "Caught in a Period of Rapid Change: America's Beef Industry." For more information, please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham <[tryon@tamu.edu](mailto:tryon@tamu.edu)>. Lunch will be served in the Kleberg Faculty Lounge at 11:30 a.m.

Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest (October 25, 2008) - For more information, please contact Dr. Chris Skaggs <[cskaggs@tamu.edu](mailto:cskaggs@tamu.edu)> at 979-845-7616.

Broodmare Management Workshop (November 5, 2008) - For more information, please contact Dr. Brett Scott <[bdscott@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bdscott@ag.tamu.edu)> at 979-845-1562.

Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop (November 15, 2008) - For more information, please contact Teri Antilley <[tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu)> at 979-8745-1562.



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Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Lauren Schroeder <[schroeder@mail.ansc.ad.tamu.edu](mailto:schroeder@mail.ansc.ad.tamu.edu)>