



For Immediate Release

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NAIDC elects board members, executive committee

The North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge (NAIDC) board of directors elected four new board members and re-elected one incumbent board member. Rookie board members include: Cherie Bayer, American Jersey Cattle Association, Columbus, Ohio; Luciene Ribeiro, Diamond V Mills, Visalia, Calif.; Jean Conklin, Yankee Farm Credit and dairy producer, Haverhill, N.H.; and Bruce Clark, Monsanto Dairy Business Lansing, Mich. Kas Ingawa, North Carolina State University and Dairy Records Management Systems, Raleigh, N.C., was re-elected to his second term. These new board members succeed Jim Sipiorski, NorthStar Cooperative, St. Johns, Mich.; Amin Ahmadzadeh, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho; Michael Tomaszewski, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas; and Stanley Bird, Imagination Unlimited Consulting Group, New Brighton, Minn.; who dedicated unselfish service to NAIDC during its formative years.

Also, the NAIDC board elected officers to lead the group. Larry Muller, Penn State University professor emeritus, University Park, Pa., was elected chair; while Barry Putnam, Genex, Ithaca, N.Y., was elected vice chair. Other executive committee elections included: Ingawa as program chair, C. Hap Allen, Genex, Shawano, Wis., as publicity chair, and Clark as finance chair.

The remaining NAIDC board members include Miriam Weber-Nielsen, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich.; Matt Budine, Progressive Dairy Solutions Inc., Oakdale, Calif.; Linda Hodorff, Second-Look Holsteins, Eden, Wis.; Dave Thorbahn, Select Sires, Plain City, Ohio; Todd Kranz, ABS Global, Dublin, Ohio; JoDee Sattler, DairyBusiness Communications, Hartland, Wis.; and Rob Sheffer, Cargill Animal Nutrition, Albany, N.Y.

NAIDC manages and operates one national and four regional contests. The 2008 national contest will be held April 4-5, in Madison, Wis. Regional contest dates and locations include: Northeast, Nov. 8-10, 2007, Concord, N.H.; South, Nov. 15-17, 2007, Baton Rouge, La.; Midwest, Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2008, Merrillville, Ind.; and West, Feb. 28-March 1, 2008, Visalia, Calif.

The North American Dairy Challenge was established as a management contest to incorporate all phases of a specific dairy business. It strives to incorporate a higher-learning atmosphere with practical application to help prepare students for careers in the dairy industry. The first NAIDC was held in April 2002. Since then, more than 1,000 students have enhanced their dairy management, communication and business skills through Dairy Challenge – generating highly qualified graduates to lead and further improve the dairy industry.

Generous contributions from dairy industry companies, foundations and dairy producers support the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge. If you'd like to join the list of supporters, please contact an NAIDC board member or Executive Director Molly Kelley at 217-684-3007 or naidcmjk@aol.com. NAIDC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, and contributions to Dairy Challenge are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. To learn more about NAIDC, visit www.dairychallenge.org.

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