

## University of Minnesota Dairy Challenge Team - 2009

The U of M Dairy Challenge team received a first place Platinum Award in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge (NAIDC) held March 27 and 28, 2009 in Syracuse, NY. A total of 29 teams from the U.S. and two from Canada (divided into four divisions) competed in the 8th annual event.



**Front row (L-R): Jenn Becker and Amanda Rasmussen.  
Back row (L-R): Brett Boyum, Marcia Endres (coach),  
and Adam Husfeldt.**

Dairy Challenge was designed by dairy industry professionals and university educators to bring classroom training to life in the real world for students preparing for dairy careers. Teams spend two days at the contest. On the first day, they evaluate cow and farm management data as well as financial records, and visit the dairy. Later that day, they interview the farm manager.

After identifying opportunities to increase efficiency and profitability for the herd owner, the team presents its findings to a judging panel comprised of a dairy business owner and four experts in dairy nutrition, herd health, reproduction and financial management. Teams are judged on their analysis of the operation, recommendations and overall presentation.