



# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## Reaching a goal is a learning process

I attended a conference a while ago that addressed several topics of concern in agriculture. While outlining the key points of the last speaker's monologue, I was struck by a quote. In describing management strategies for setting up a successful small business, the speaker quipped, "The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese." This observation is ironically comical at first glance, but with further consideration, it also provides several subtle life lessons that can help you achieve success.



**Jake Tiedeman**

The bird was optimistic and focused on the goal, thus I associate goal setting and hard work with the first half of the foresaid metaphor. First, when approaching a challenge, write out your goals and keep them in a visible place. Reviewing your goals daily is a crucial part of your success.

Set your goals high, and remember that no one but yourself can keep you from attaining your aspirations. Second, success requires hard work. Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't yet planted. Also, remember, the actions taken toward your goal aren't always easy.

Failure is always found on the road to success. When striving toward a goal, misfortune is inevitable. However, it's how you deal with the misfortune that determines your level of success. The second mouse, for example, capitalized on someone else's failure. When you or someone around you encounters a roadblock, learn from it. Success depends on your ability to see failure as a fresh opportunity — not a final defeat.

Personally, when I encounter a hardship, I remember the inventor Thomas Edison. When attempting to create a successful light bulb, he failed several thousand times. Rather than becoming discouraged, he persevered and learned from each mistake. In the end, his success was directly dependant on how he dealt with failure.

When striving for success, setting goals and working hard will help you to be the first bird to get the worm. Just remember, hardships are to be expected when approaching your goals. If you learn from the mistakes that you and those around you make, you will be successful in finding the cheese. Finally, life is a journey, so have fun along the way.

— *Jake Tiedeman, Nebraska*

## Young beef producers raise funds for troops

Through the generosity of cattle producers and junior beef exhibitors, the Indiana Junior Beef Cattle Association (IJBCA) raised \$2,020 for "Operation Beef Up Our Troops" during the Hoosier Beef Congress show. The IJBCA, an organization promoting youth participation in the beef industry, accepted donations for the program throughout the three-day event hosted in Indianapolis.

Through the United Service Organizations (USO), Operation Beef Up Our Troops allows Americans to show their support of the armed forces by donating funds to purchase beef jerky for care packages shipped to American troops stationed abroad. The IJBCA executive board selected the program as one of its annual community service projects.

"Operation Beef Up Our Troops is a great community service project for our organization," says IJBCA Hoosier Beef Congress Co-chairperson Emily Richardson. "We would challenge other junior breed associations and state livestock organizations to raise money for this cause."

Several individuals helped the IJBCA promote the program and achieve its goal, including Jimmy Williams, owner of V8 Ranch, and Indiana Beef Cattle Association members Fred Ripberger, Steve Gunn, Howard Unger and Judy Unger.

For more information about Operation Beef Up Our Troops, go to [www.cobeeff.com](http://www.cobeeff.com). To donate, contact 1-800-876-7469 and specify Operation Beef Up Our Troops.

## Youth scholars recognized

Former Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman announced the selection of 30 students as 1890 national scholars for the 2004 academic school year. Scott Welch, an Angus junior member from Alamosa, Colo., was among those receiving full tuition, fees, books, use of laptop computers, software, employment and employee benefits for each of the four years they pursue a bachelor's degree. For each year of the scholarship, students receive room and board provided by the partnering institutions, and students are required to work one year for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is a partnership initiative between USDA and the 1890 Land Grant Institutions and Tuskegee University. Through this initiative, USDA seeks to expand its diversity by recruiting talented students into public service in agriculture and related fields, including food sciences, natural resource sciences and agricultural sciences. Since the inception of the National Scholars Program in 1992, USDA has funded a total of 362 national scholars.

Students are selected by participating USDA agencies based on recommendations of participating 1890 Land Grant Institutions and Tuskegee University.

The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is currently accepting applications for the 2005 academic school year. The application form is available on the program Web site at <http://1890scholars.program.usda.gov>. The application form

CONTINUED ON PAGE 54

## NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### TERMS UP IN 2005

**JENNIFER OURSO**, Louisiana, **chairman**, [jourso5@lsu.edu](mailto:jourso5@lsu.edu)  
**JEANA SANKEY**, Kansas, **vice chairman**, [jsankey36@hotmail.com](mailto:jsankey36@hotmail.com)  
**JOANNA OLSON**, Texas, **communications director**, [jojo\\_olson@hotmail.com](mailto:jojo_olson@hotmail.com)  
**KYLE CONLEY**, Missouri, **Foundation director**, [kyle\\_26caf@hotmail.com](mailto:kyle_26caf@hotmail.com)  
**TYLER GRISSOM**, Oklahoma, **leadership director**, [tcgrissom@hotmail.com](mailto:tcgrissom@hotmail.com)  
**JARRETT MARTIN**, Arkansas, **membership director**, [jarrettmartin@bellsouth.net](mailto:jarrettmartin@bellsouth.net)

### TERMS UP IN 2006

**CURTIS BRYANT**, Maryland, [curticb@okstate.edu](mailto:curticb@okstate.edu)  
**CASEY JENTZ**, Wisconsin, [cejentz@wisc.edu](mailto:cejentz@wisc.edu)  
**ALICIA KRAMER**, Illinois, [arkramer@uiuc.edu](mailto:arkramer@uiuc.edu)  
**HEATH MCPHERSON**, North Carolina, [hmac\\_njaa@hotmail.com](mailto:hmac_njaa@hotmail.com)  
**RENEE THELEN**, Michigan, [thelen28@msu.edu](mailto:thelen28@msu.edu)  
**JAKE TIEDEMAN**, Nebraska, [tiedeman@simla.colostate.edu](mailto:tiedeman@simla.colostate.edu)



can either be printed blank or completed online and printed.

All 2005 application materials must be postmarked no later than Feb. 15, 2005, and sent to the USDA liaison officer at the institution of the applicant's choice. For more information about the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program, contact Carl Butler, USDA/1890 national scholars program manager, at (202) 205-2693 or [carl.butler@usda.gov](mailto:carl.butler@usda.gov). Additional information about this

program is available at <http://1890scholars.program.usda.gov>.

### **Angus offers junior scholarships**

Now is the time for high school seniors who are college-bound or those who are already taking college classes to work on scholarship applications. The Angus Foundation will award scholarships to 20 deserving junior Angus members who are working toward college degrees. Eighteen juniors will receive \$1,000 scholarships, and two will receive \$3,500 scholarships.

Applicants for the Foundation scholarships must be junior, regular or life

members of the American Angus Association and less than 25 years old. Selection is based on involvement in Angus activities, academics and involvement in the beef industry. Winners of the scholarships will be announced during the awards function at the 2005 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), which is set for July 17-23 in Denver, Colo.

The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA)/Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) scholarship will also be awarded to one deserving Angus junior at the NJAS in July. Applicants for the \$1,000 scholarship must meet the requirements mentioned above and be incoming sophomores, juniors or seniors

in college and must be majoring in animal science, meat science, agricultural communications or other related fields.

All applications are due May 15. Contact the Junior Activities Department for application forms, or obtain one online at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info).

### **Apply for Auxiliary scholarships now**

The American Angus Auxiliary awards 10 scholarships annually to five boys and five girls who are graduating high school seniors. Recipients are chosen from application forms that can be obtained from state Angus Auxiliary scholarship chairwomen or by

contacting Sharee Sankey, American Angus Auxiliary scholarship chairwoman, at (620) 767-5026 or [sankeys6nranch@yahoo.com](mailto:sankeys6nranch@yahoo.com).

Application information and a list of scholarship chairwomen are online at [www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com) and in the Auxiliary Annual Report insert in this issue. Juniors must first be chosen as their states' auxiliary scholarship winners before advancing to national competition.

### **Missouri scholarships available**

Missouri high school and college students may now apply for one of six Missouri Corn Scholarships. The Missouri Corn Growers

Association and Missouri Corn Merchandising Council will award four \$750 scholarships to graduating high school seniors and two \$750 scholarships to college juniors in the year 2005.

Missouri Corn Scholarship applications are now available to download from Missouri Corn online at [www.mocorn.org](http://www.mocorn.org). Those without Internet access can call (573) 893-4181 to request an application. Applicants must submit an application form, official high school or college transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation to the Missouri Corn programs office by March 1.

For additional requirements and more information, visit [www.mocorn.org](http://www.mocorn.org).

