

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

STORY TIPS

University News Service
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July 6, 2006

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JULY IS BLUEBERRY MONTH IN MINNESOTA

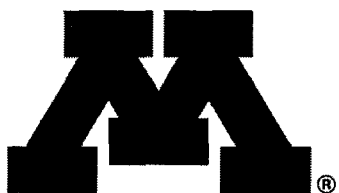
Gov. Pawlenty has proclaimed July Blueberry Month in Minnesota. July marks the peak of the blueberry harvest and is celebrated throughout the country as National Blueberry Month. In Minnesota, it's a time when people across the state head out of the city to go blueberry picking.

Blueberries are considered one of the most healthful foods available, being very high in antioxidants that lower the risk of cancer and heart disease. They also have shown to improve balance and coordination, while improving memory.

Until 1982, there was no commercial blueberry production in Minnesota, as existing cultivars would not survive the long, cold Minnesota winters. Thanks to the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, six new winter-hardy cultivars were developed and the blueberry has become a popular marketable crop in Minnesota.

Today a small but vibrant blueberry industry exists in Minnesota. Demand for the new plants has never been greater, with many plants going to Wisconsin and colder production areas of Europe, as well as into landscape use for Minnesota gardeners.

Dave Wildung, a longtime horticulturalist at the U's North Center Research and Outreach Center in Grand Rapids, was instrumental in creating the six new varieties of blueberries. Wildung is available to speak with media about the rise of commercial blueberry production and discuss the reasons why blueberries are so close to Minnesotans' hearts.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 10, 2006

*Contacts: Jill Thielen, Farmers Market coordinator, (612) 626-4161
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MAKES IT EASIER FOR FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS TO EAT THEIR VEGETABLES

~ University of Minnesota Farmers Market opens Wednesday, July 12 ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- How many employers are concerned about how many fruits and vegetables their employees eat? The University of Minnesota is. To make it easier for faculty, staff and students to consume more nutritious fruits and vegetables, University of Minnesota Office of Human Resources is sponsoring the Farmers Market for a second year.

The market is part of the University of Minnesota's efforts to encourage healthy lifestyles among its employees. The university's Farmers Market returns July 12 and will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Wednesday from July 12 through Aug. 30, on the Church Street Mall, Minneapolis.

The university's Office of Human Resources and UPlan Wellness bring the Farmers Market to the Church Street Mall, so that university faculty, staff, students and people living in the surrounding neighborhoods can readily purchase fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables at an affordable price.

"We are bringing freshly-picked produce to the workplace to make it easier for our employees to increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables that are a necessary part of maintaining good health," said Carol Carrier, vice president of human resources.

Fresh fruits and vegetables play a key role in eating right. Research shows that people who increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables can significantly reduce their risk of chronic disease. Including five to nine servings of fruits and vegetables daily in their diet can help people lower their risk for cancer and help them maintain a healthy heart, memory, vision, and strong bones and teeth.

U Plan Wellness representatives chose Farmers Market vendors based on:

- the variety of produce and flowers offered.
- the quality of vegetables, fruits and flowers.
- the affordability of the produce and flowers.
- customer service and compliance with good agricultural and farm management practices.

Cornercopia, a University of Minnesota student-managed, sustainable farming initiative, will be the sole vendor for organic produce, but their products will not be certified as organic until the summer of 2008.

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While the Farmers Market provides ample nutritious food for faculty, staff, and neighboring residents, it also offers other benefits, said Jill Thielen, Farmers Market coordinator.

"The purpose is not only to promote healthful food choices, but to also build a stronger sense of community on campus," Thielen said. "The Farmers Market is the place to take a break from work. It gives employees a chance to get outdoors, walk and spend time with colleagues."

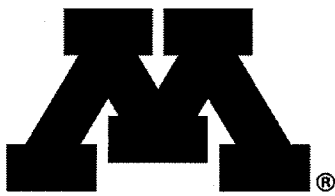
During the Farmers Market, trainers from the U of M Department of Recreational Sports will give exercise demonstrations. Representatives from *Health Connections*, the UPlan Wellness health improvement initiative, will be available to answer employee questions. Members of the university's new group, the Wellness Collaborative, will also be at the market to promote wellness, fitness and worklife balance.

The University of Minnesota is a leader among employers in efforts to foster healthy lifestyles for employees and healthy workplaces. In 2006 UPlan Wellness launched *Health Connections*, a new, multifaceted approach to health improvement for university employees and their families. *Health Connections* stretches beyond traditional health promotion programs by combining Internet-based health resources with over-the-phone health coaching and financial incentives to create healthier employees. UPlan Wellness also promotes more active lifestyles through initiatives such as its 20-minute Wellness Walks the first Wednesday of each month through Sept. 6.

Human Resources also offer the WorkLife Effectiveness Program, a systemwide effort to support faculty and staff in managing their work, family and personal responsibilities. Through workshops, group discussions, and on-site seminars for departments and work units, the WorkLife program connects people with resources, coordinates programs and offers free, confidential consultations.

While it may be summer and most students are away from campus, the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus still bustles with activity. While visiting the Farmers Market, people are encouraged to take in a free outdoor concert from noon to 1 p.m. July 12, July 19 and 26 on the Northrop Plaza. Visitors can also take in BLOOM! BOTANICAL ART THROUGH THE AGES at the Bell Museum of Natural History through Aug. 27.

For more information about the University of Minnesota Farmers Market see, www1.umn.edu/ohr/wellness/index.html



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EMBARGO: 5 P.M. EDT, JULY 10

July 10, 2006

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Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774*

U OF M RESEARCHERS IDENTIFY ENERGY GAINS AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CORN ETHANOL AND SOYBEAN BIODIESEL AND PROPOSE ALTERNATIVES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF BIOFUELS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The first comprehensive analysis of the full life cycles of soybean biodiesel and corn grain ethanol shows that biodiesel has much less of an impact on the environment and a much higher net energy benefit than corn ethanol, but that neither can do much to meet U.S. energy demand.

The study, which was funded in part by the University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment, was conducted by researchers in the university's College of Biological Sciences and College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. The study will be published in the July 11 Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The researchers tracked all the energy used for growing corn and soybeans and converting the crops into biofuels. They also looked at how much fertilizer and pesticide corn and soybeans required and how much greenhouse gases and nitrogen, phosphorus, and pesticide pollutants each released into the environment.

"Quantifying the benefits and costs of biofuels throughout their life cycles allows us not only to make sound choices today but also to identify better biofuels for the future," said Jason Hill, a postdoctoral researcher in the department of ecology, evolution, and behavior and the department of applied economics and lead author of the study.

The study showed that both corn grain ethanol and soybean biodiesel produce more energy than is needed to grow the crops and convert them into biofuels. This finding refutes other studies claiming that these biofuels require more energy to produce than they provide. The amount of energy each returns differs greatly, however. Soybean biodiesel returns 93 percent more energy than is used to produce it, while corn grain ethanol currently provides only 25 percent more energy.

Still, the researchers caution that neither biofuel can come close to meeting the growing demand for alternatives to

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petroleum. Dedicating all current U.S. corn and soybean production to biofuels would meet only 12 percent of gasoline demand and 6 percent of diesel demand. Meanwhile, global population growth and increasingly affluent societies will increase demand for corn and soybeans for food.

The authors showed that the environmental impacts of the two biofuels also differ. Soybean biodiesel produces 41 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than diesel fuel whereas corn grain ethanol produces 12 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than gasoline. Soybeans have another environmental advantage over corn because they require much less nitrogen fertilizer and pesticides, which get into groundwater, streams, rivers and oceans. These agricultural chemicals pollute drinking water, and nitrogen decreases biodiversity in global ecosystems. Nitrogen fertilizer, mainly from corn, causes the 'dead zone' in the Gulf of Mexico.

“We did this study to learn from ethanol and biodiesel,” says David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology and a co-author of the study. “Producing biofuel for transportation is a fledgling industry. Corn ethanol and soybean biodiesel are successful first generation biofuels. The next step is a biofuel crop that requires low chemical and energy inputs and can give us much greater energy and environmental returns. Prairie grasses have great potential.”

Biofuels such as switchgrass, mixed prairie grasses and woody plants produced on marginally productive agricultural land or biofuels produced from agricultural or forestry waste have the potential to provide much larger biofuel supplies with greater environmental benefits than corn ethanol and soybean biodiesel.

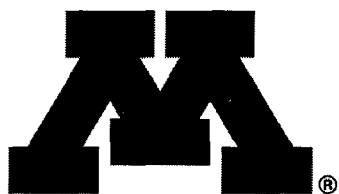
According to Douglas Tiffany, research fellow, department of applied economics and another co-author of the study, ethanol and biodiesel plants are early biorefineries that in the future will be capable of using different kinds of biomass and conversion technologies to produce a variety of biofuels and other products, depending upon market demands.

Hill adds that both ethanol and biodiesel have a long-term value as additives because they oxygenate fossil fuels, which allows them to burn cleaner. Biodiesel also protects engine parts when blended with diesel.

“There is plenty of demand for ethanol as an additive,” Hill says. “The ethanol industry was built on using ethanol as an additive rather than a fuel. Using it as a biofuel such as E85 is a recent and currently unsustainable development. As is, there is barely enough corn grown to meet demand for ethanol as a 10 percent additive.”

WHO: Jason Hill, postdoctoral researcher and lead author, University of Minnesota
David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology and co-author, University of Minnesota
Doug Tiffany, research fellow, applied economics, University of Minnesota

Embargo: 5 p.m. EDT, July 10



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U OF M BOARD OF REGENTS MEETS THIS WEEK

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will hold its July meeting beginning at 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 12, in the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. On Thursday and Friday, the Board will hold its annual retreat at the Riverwood Conference Center in Ostego.

The schedule for the meeting is as follows:

Wednesday, July 12

9 - 10 a.m., Audit Committee, East Committee Room.

The committee will hear part three of a presentation on the Board's fiduciary responsibilities.

9 - 10 a.m., Litigation Review Committee, W.R. Peterson Conference Room.

The committee will consider conducting a non-public meeting to discuss attorney-client privileged matters.

10:15 - 11:45 a.m., Educational Planning and Policy Committee, West Committee Room.

Action will be taken on a resolution related to tuition waivers for war orphans. The committee will also review and take action on a resolution creating the Center for Allied Health Programs, an integral part of the university's planned expansion in Rochester. Also, the committee will consider a technology licensing agreement with start-up company, Macular Regeneration, Inc.

1:45 - 3:15 p.m., Facilities Committee, West Committee Room.

The committee takes action on the purchase of 2324 University Ave. S.E. and considers schematic plans for the east addition to the Plant Growth Facility, renovation of 717 Delaware Ave. S.E., and the exterior stabilization of Folwell Hall, all on the Twin Cities campus.

1:45 - 3:15 p.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room.

The committee will hear a presentation from Vice President for Human Relations Carol Carrier on the role of deans, which includes a comprehensive review process that has been piloted this year and will become a core tool

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for strengthening the capacity of deans.

3:30 - 4:45 p.m., Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom.

The board will receive an update from Provost Tom Sullivan and Vice President for University Services Kathleen O'Brien on the implementation of both the academic and administrative strategic positioning recommendations.

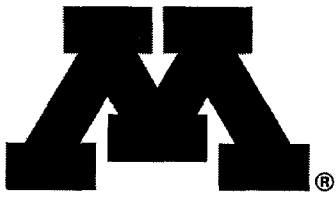
On July 1, an academic realignment that created three colleges out of six took effect.

Thursday, July 13 and Friday, July 14

Board of Regents retreat - Riverwood Conference Center, Ostego, Minn.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents.

WHAT: University of Minnesota Board of Regents July meeting
WHEN: Wednesday, July 12
WHERE: 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis



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U OF M PROFESSORS NAMED SENIOR FELLOWS AT EVAN DONALDSON ADOPTION INSTITUTE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota professors Harold Grotevant and Dana Johnson have been named to the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute new Senior Research Fellows Program.

The Adoption Institute, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is the preeminent research, policy and education organization in its field. Its mission is to provide leadership that improves laws, policies and practices – through sound research, education and advocacy – in order to better the lives of everyone touched by adoption. Grotevant and Johnson are two of nine professionals in this unprecedented initiative, which was created to enhance the quality and impact of the institute's work and to improve adoption generally by regularly convening a group of the most accomplished experts in the field to share their knowledge, to disseminate their findings, and to shape better policies and practices.

Grotevant, the Distinguished University Teaching Professor of Family Social Science and adjunct professor of child psychology at the University of Minnesota, is an international leader in adoption theory and research. He has made major contributions to the understanding of openness in adoption, relationship dynamics in adoptive families, and adoptive identity development in adolescents and young adults. Grotevant has received major research grants from federal, foundation and university sources. He is highly sought as a lecturer and has written/ contributed to several books, including "Openness in Adoption: Exploring Family Connections" (with R. McRoy), as well as many book chapters and articles.

Johnson is the director of the International Adoption Clinic and of the Division of Neonatology at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital and is a professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota. His ongoing research focuses on the short- and long-term effects of early childhood institutionalization on child health and early development. A pioneer in the field of adoption medicine, Johnson directs the largest adoption-related medical program in the world. He serves on the editorial boards of several publications and has written more than 200 journal articles, book chapters and abstracts.

"I am both proud and grateful that this extraordinary group of professionals has agreed to join us," said Adam Pertman, the Executive Director of the Adoption Institute. "I think it makes a powerful statement about the high regard with which our work is held in the field of adoption and foster care, and I'm confident they will elevate our work – and its impact – even further."

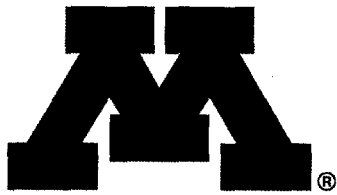
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The Senior Research Fellows will enhance and expand the initiatives of the Adoption Institute by contributing their knowledge and expertise, by providing substantive content from their research and experience, by helping to shape and vet our products so they achieve the highest possible standards and impact, and by assisting in focusing our efforts on the vitally important issues that affect tens of millions of children and families in our country every day.

In addition to Drs. Grotevant and Johnson, the initial Senior Fellows in the new program, in alphabetical order, are: Richard P. Barth of the University of Maryland, Baltimore; Dr. David Brodzinsky of Rutgers University; Madelyn Freundlich, LLD, a policy researcher and consultant; Dr. Victor Groza of Case-Western University; Dr. Ruth McRoy of the University of Texas; Dr. Ellen Pinderhughes of Tufts University; and Dr. Scott Ryan of Florida State University.

WHO: U of M professors Harold Grotevant, Dana Johnson



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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

**THE SPIRIT OF THE AMERICAN PRAIRIE SOARS IN THE U OF M BELL
MUSEUM'S 'TOUCH THE SKY' EXHIBIT**

~ Featuring the photography of Jim Brandenburg ~

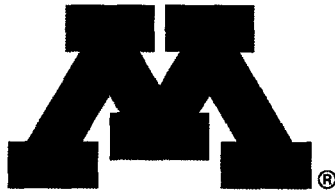
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The magnificent yet fragile American prairie is the subject of "Touch the Sky: Prairie Photographs by Jim Brandenburg," a tribute to the breathtaking vistas and iconic creatures that live in the tall grass prairies of Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Iowa. The exhibit premieres Sunday, Oct. 1, at the University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

From thundering buffalo herds to raging wildfires, Jim Brandenburg captures the prairie's cycle of life in the style that's made him one of the world's most important wildlife photographers. In more than 43 photographs, Brandenburg offers intimate glimpses into the disappearing land that once made up the largest ecosystem in North America.

Brandenburg is also a committed conservationist and founder of the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation, which is dedicated to the restoration and expansion of natural prairie in southwest Minnesota. Brandenburg will speak about his life and conservation work at a special opening event at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 at the museum. For ticket information, call (612) 624-9050.

Throughout the run of the show the museum will offer prairie-related programs and field trips, including expert guided tours to Minnesota prairies such as the Nature Conservancy's Hole in the Mountain prairie near Lake Benton and Brandenburg's own Touch the Sky prairie near Luverne. Go to www.bellmuseum.org for details.

Admission to the museum is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors, and free for children under 3. Free admission to all visitors on Sundays. For general information, call (612) 624-9050 or visit www.bellmuseum.org. The Bell Museum is part of the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.



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G8 SUMMIT AND RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY

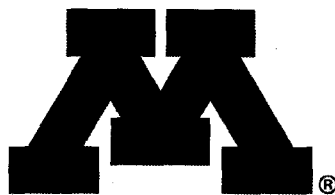
With President Bush in Russia and the G8 Summit about to happen in St. Petersburg, Russian President Putin and U.S. Vice President Cheney have been taking “shots” at each other over Russia’s brand of democracy. A University of Minnesota professor who can talk about the G8 Summit and Russian democracy is:

Evelyn Davidheiser, director of the Institute for Global Studies at the University of Minnesota

Davidheiser is the director of the U’s Institute for Global studies, and her area of expertise includes foreign relations and the democratization of Russia. She can comment on the significance of the G8 Summit happening in Russia, Russia’s desire to be a player in the West, and what we should be watching for in the Bush-Putin relationship.

To interview Davidheiser, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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DROUGHT

Another heat wave is hitting Minnesota, and this one will last a while. While it certainly takes a toll on people, plants, lawns, and crops, statewide, are suffering as well. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the heat wave, the potential drought, and what to do, are:

Mark Seeley, climatologist with the U's department of soil, water, and climate

Seeley, a climatologist at the U, can comment on this heat wave from a meteorological perspective. Seeley says, "there won't be any 'ifs' and 'buts' - the next four to six days will be very stressful for people." Seeley also says that Minnesota has not experienced a heat wave of this length and intensity in more than a decade, and some parts of the state have not gone through something like this since 1988. His prediction is that this heat will last at least until Monday or Tuesday next week. Seeley can give tips on how to deal with the heat, what precautions to take and how to ensure our neighbors, the elderly, and our families stay safe.

Bob Mugaas, professor and extension educator with the U of M's Extension Regional Center in Farmington

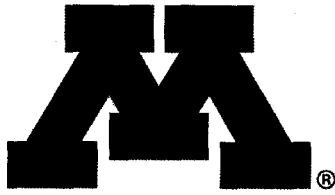
Mugaas is a regional extension educator in horticulture, and his area of expertise is turf grass science and management. He can talk heatwave and lawns, and he can give tips on what can be done to alleviate dead lawns, especially in regards to watering bans that some cities are starting to enforce. Mugaas can also talk about general lawn issues such as sustainability, natural lawns, low input lawn care, environmentally responsible lawn care, chemical and non-chemical weed control and lawn care for protecting water quality.

Dave Nicolai, extension educator with U of M's Extension Regional Center in Hutchinson

Nicolai is a regional extension educator in crops, and his area of expertise is corn and soybeans. He can discuss the issues farmers are facing across the state related to the heat, their crops and the lack of rain. He can comment on when this could become a serious issue and whether there will be severe economic damage.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M BIOLOGY FRESHMEN JUMP INTO COLLEGE LIFE AT LAKE ITASCA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Students entering the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences in the fall will begin their academic journey this month at the headwaters of the Mississippi River in Itasca State Park at Nature of Life, a unique program to help freshmen make a successful transition to college life.

"We created this program to welcome students to our community and to prepare them for academic and social success at the University of Minnesota," says Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences. "Nature of Life is a little like summer camp and a little like boot camp. It's the only program of its kind in the United States."

Over two weeks, each of the college's 380 entering freshmen will attend a three-day session at Itasca Biological Station and Laboratories -- a U of M field research station in Itasca State Park -- to get acquainted with each other, the faculty, the college and the university. Students transferring from community colleges are also invited to participate.

The three-day sessions begin with ice-breaker games, many of which involve water balloons, and move quickly to serious scientific seminars on topics ranging from bog biology to molecular biology. These seminars are limited to 15 students. At night, there are large-group sessions on the curriculum, academic success strategies, biology careers, campus engagement and the history and traditions of the University of Minnesota. The program ends with a challenging final exam on the scientific portion of the program that helps students realize the difference between high school and U of M expectations and standards.

Former CBS student Ashley Gray, who attended Nature of Life program three years ago, is program coordinator this summer. Ashley has completed her undergraduate studies and is pursuing a doctoral degree at the University's College of Pharmacy.

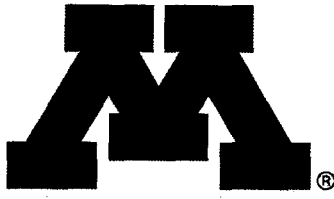
"Nature of Life was a very motivating experience for me," she says. "It gave me lots personal connections, a sense of pride in the college and an awareness of the academic standards. When I started school in the fall I knew

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sense of pride in the college and an awareness of the academic standards. When I started school in the fall I knew I was in a good place and I was prepared to succeed. I don't think I would have done as well without it. It helps you feel more comfortable, but it gives you the push you need to get out of your comfort zone and try new experiences.”

**Note: See Nature of Life video at
<http://www.cbs.umn.edu/student-services/nol/media.html>**



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July 14, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 6124-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

HEAT WAVE IN MINNESOTA

A potentially dangerous heat wave is hitting Minnesota, and people, lawns, and crops all across the state might suffer. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the heat wave, its potential dangers, and what to do, are:

Mark Seeley, climatologist with the U's department of soil, water, and climate

Seeley, a climatologist at the U, can comment on this heat from a meteorological perspective. Seeley says, "there won't be any 'ifs' and 'buts' - the next four to six days will be very stressful for people." Seeley also says that Minnesota has not experienced a heat wave of this length and intensity in more than a decade, and some parts of the state have not gone through something like this since 1988. His prediction is that this heat will last at least until Monday or Tuesday next week. Seeley can give tips on how to deal with the heat, what precautions to take and how to ensure our neighbors, the elderly and our families stay safe.

Moira Novak, athletic trainer at the U's intercollegiate athletics department

Novak is an expert in the area of heat exhaustion. She can comment on heat exhaustion, heat stroke/sunstroke and hydration in general. Novak can provide excellent tips for the public on what symptoms to watch for, how to stay hydrated, and how to properly exercise in this weather.

Bob Mugaas, professor and extension educator with the U of M's Extension Regional Center in Farmington

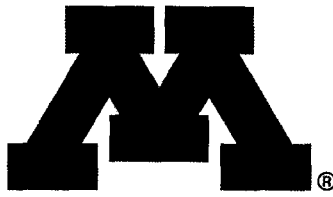
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2006

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management,
(612) 624-8770, dsKelly@csom.umn.edu
Registration Contact: (612) 626-9634, fristtuesday@csom.umn.edu

CEO OF PRIVATE EQUITY INVESTMENT FIRM TO DISCUSS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN INDUSTRY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Leslie Frécon, CEO of LFE Capital, will speak at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In her presentation, "Blazing the trail less traveled: A fortunate exit from a Fortune 500," Frécon will discuss her personal career journey from a senior executive at a Fortune 500 company to founding a private equity investment management firm. Frécon also will discuss the challenges of developing an innovative financial strategy for equity investing and the issues businesses and investors face in the industry today.

LFE Capital was founded by Frécon in 1999. With two funds under management, the firm provides growth capital to Midwest businesses that have revenues of \$5 to \$75 million. LFE Capital has a special focus on businesses that are owned or led by women or target the female market and businesses in the health, consumer and business services sectors. The firm's principals work actively with the management teams of its clients, concentrating on areas such as business strategy, resource planning, financial structuring and transactions that will create value for shareholders.

Prior to founding LFE Capital, Frécon spent more than 16 years at General Mills, most recently as senior vice president of corporate finance, where she oversaw its corporate finance functions worldwide. As a member of General Mills' senior management team, Frécon was also active in setting the strategic direction of the company. Currently, Frécon is a director and chair of the audit committee for The Ryland Group, one of the nation's largest homebuilders. She is also a director of Simon Delivers, M.A. Gedney, and API Outsourcing, all LFE Capital portfolio companies, and of Associated Packaging, a Castle Harlan fund investment, with which LFE Capital has a strategic alliance. Frécon is also treasurer and chair of the audit committee for the Greater Twin Cities United Way and a member of the Advisory Council for the Center for Women's Business Research in Washington, D.C.

Each month the First Tuesday luncheon draws about 300 local business leaders, Carlson School alumni, students

- more -

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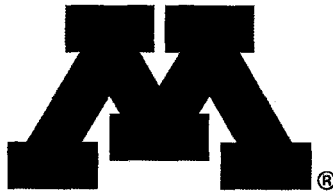
and educators, who hear from the leading business voices on today's economy.

Advance registration by July 27 is \$23 and \$28 for walk-ins. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Register by calling (612) 626-9634.

WHO: Leslie M. Frécon, CEO, LFE Capital

WHEN: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 1

WHERE: McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis



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July 14, 2006

*Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720
Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962*

MAPS OF ORGANIC FARMS AND PROCESSING FACILITIES IN MINNESOTA NOW POSTED

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Organic Outreach Coordinator, Jim Riddle, announced today that maps showing county-by-county locations of certified organic farms and processing facilities in Minnesota are now posted on the university's organic Web site, www.organicecology.umn.edu

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture recently compiled maps showing the locations of organic farms and processing facilities in Minnesota. The maps show that there are currently 507 certified organic farms and 137 certified organic processing facilities in the state.

Counties with the largest numbers of organic farms are Stearns, Winona, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston and Otter Tail. Counties with the most organic processors are Hennepin, Ramsey, Polk, LeSueur, Goodhue and Winona.

"Minnesota is a leader nationwide in the production of organic crops and livestock products," said Riddle. "The University of Minnesota has the largest certified organic acreage at any land grant university in the country, and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture has been quite supportive of the growth of the organic sector in the state."

For more information on the University of Minnesota's organic agriculture research and outreach programs, visit the Web site, or contact Jim Riddle, 31762 Wiscoy Ridge Road, Winona. Phone (507) 454-8310. Cell - (507) 429-7959.



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July 14, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICE DEPARTMENT NEEDS PUBLIC'S HELP IN FINDING ASSAULT SUSPECT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Police Department investigators are looking for the public's help in identifying a suspect who assaulted a university student at about 7:30 a.m. Saturday, July 8, in the University Village apartments. The victim reported the incident to police Monday evening and a safety alert was issued.

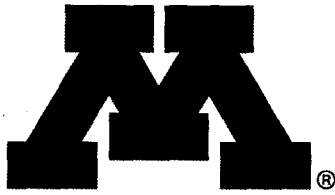
The man approached the village on a bicycle. He then followed the student in through a security door and made derogatory statements as he continued to follow the student to her apartment. He then grabbed at her and made inappropriate contact, according to university police. Police believe he intended to do more harm, but the victim screamed for help and the suspect ran away, police said.

The assailant is described as a white male who is 5-foot-7 inches to 5-foot-8 inches tall and in his 30s with short blond wavy hair. He has a heavy build and what the victim described as a "beer belly." He has a scruffy beard and was wearing a blue T-shirt and light-colored pants.

UMPD is working with Minneapolis police because the suspect may be wanted in similar incidents in the city. To view the surveillance video of the suspect, members of the public can go to the UMPD Web site at www.umn.edu/police/alerts/alert20060712.html. If you recognize the suspect from the video or have any information about this assault, please call the UMPD at 612-624-COPS.

Police ask students to remain vigilant about their safety. Do not let someone follow you in through a secure door and if someone appears to be following you, try to go to a public place with other people and call police. When walking on campus and in the blocks adjoining campus, people can call 624-WALK for an escort. For more personal safety tips, go to the UMPD Web site at www.umn.edu/police/personalsafety.html

**University of Minnesota police have video of the suspect available at
www.umn.edu/police/alerts/alert20060712.html**



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Contacts: *Mariah Carroll, Veterinary Medicine, (612) 624-7231 or (612) 730-9346*

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXPERTS AVAILABLE TO TALK ABOUT KEEPING PETS SAFE IN THE HEAT

Temperatures are expected to reach high into the 90s this weekend. Keeping pets cool and safe is a major concern for pet owners.

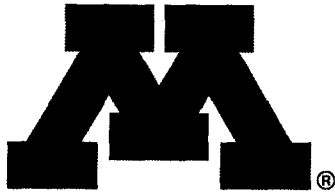
Jeff Todd and Justine Lee are University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine emergency veterinarians who treat pets suffering from heat related problems.

Todd and Lee are available to discuss tips to keep pets safe in the heat. They include:

- Do not leave a dog in a car.
- Avoid running with dogs during the day.
- Never let a dog go without water.
- If a dog is left outside, avoid tethering to a fence or tree.
- Be especially mindful of dogs with dark fur or dogs with flat faces because they can overheat quickly.

Todd and Lee are available for interviews all weekend.

To interview either of the experts above, contact Mariah Carroll at (612) 624-7231 or (612) 730-9346.



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Contacts: David Ruth, University News Service, (612) 702-9473

ISRAEL-LEBANON CRISIS

Late last month, an Israeli soldier was kidnapped by Palestinian rebels on the Gaza-Israel border. In retaliation, Israeli forces struck back, demanding the release of their soldier. Now, two weeks later, the fighting has spread north to Lebanon with Hezbollah militants, and the region finds itself in another military conflict. University of Minnesota experts who can speak about the issues involved in this conflict are:

Michael Barnett, professor at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

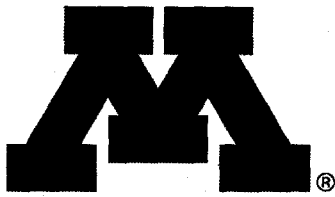
Barnett, a professor in international relations at the University of Minnesota, can comment on Middle Eastern politics. He can help decipher some of the complexity of the region's relations and history between the Middle Eastern states. Regarded as one of the nation's leading international relations scholars, his work in Arab-Israeli affairs has been published in *World Politics*, *International Studies Quarterly* and the *European Journal of International Relations*.

Oren Gross, professor at the University of Minnesota Law School

Oren Gross is the Irving Younger Professor of Law and the Director of the Minnesota Center for Legal Studies at the University of Minnesota Law School. He is an internationally recognized expert in the areas of national security law, international law and international trade. He is also an expert on the Middle East and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Prior to coming to the University of Minnesota, Gross was a member of the faculty of the Tel Aviv University Law School in Israel. **Gross is currently in Tel Aviv.**

To interview Barnett or Gross, contact David Ruth at (612) 702-9473.

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July 17, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ASTRONOMY EXPERTS HELP PUBLIC OBSERVE THE NIGHT SKY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota astronomy experts will help members of the public become more skilled at observing the night sky with the Universe in the Park program this summer.

The university's department of astronomy is offering Universe in the Park events in 12 parks and nature centers through Sept. 9. The program includes a 25-minute presentation at 8:30 p.m. followed by celestial observation until 10 or 11 p.m. (the latter may be canceled due to poor weather.) All events are free, but the park may require a vehicle permit for entry.

Bring insect repellent, prepare some questions, and get ready to be wowed by the night sky. That's the advice Evan Skillman has for those who want to experience the University of Minnesota's Universe in the Park this summer.

Skillman, an astronomy professor at the U's Twin Cities campus, introduced the annual summer outreach program--comprising a public talk, slide show and telescope viewing--to Minnesotans five years ago. U of M's Universe in the Park is an effort to get the general public excited about modern astronomical research and provide an introduction to amateur astronomy--all in the midst of a Minnesota state park, far, far away from the sometimes blinding glare of city lights.

"Everybody has questions about astronomy," Skillman says. "Our program is a chance for people to get their answers about astronomy from someone who works in the field and knows these things."

This summer, planet Jupiter takes the spotlight. "Jupiter is up all summer," says Jessica Ennis, Universe in the Park coordinator. "[While] this is not unusual--and [it happens] every couple years--it is nonetheless a wonderful sight."

Most times, through the telescopes, people can see the four largest moons of Jupiter. These are the same moons Galileo observed, which made him realize that the Earth is not the center of the universe. People will also see the

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colored banding of Jupiter's atmosphere.

Ennis, an astrophysics graduate student at the U, says the topics for each park varies, and "it is decided by the staff working the event that day, and it's often not decided until the day of event, based on the demographics expected at the location and the expertise of the staff."

The three topics most discussed are energy, history of matter, and the solar system. Recent space missions are also a popular topic.

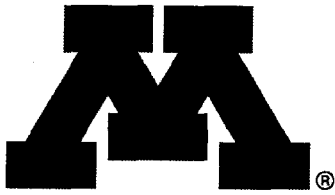
"Seeing the enthusiasm and excitement on the faces of people who have never encountered the subject really makes me realize what I love about [astronomy]," Ennis says. "Teaching about astronomy is like opening up a whole new world--the universe--to the public."

The events usually happen even if it's raining because they give their presentations in indoor theaters, said Skillman, who funds the program through a grant from NASA.

Upcoming Universe in the Park events

- Friday, July 21 -- Gooseberry Falls, near Two Harbors.
- Saturday, July 22 -- Split Rock Lighthouse, located about 20 miles northeast of Two Harbors on Minnesota Highway 61.
- Friday, July 28 -- Lake Maria State Park, near Monticello.
- Saturday, July 29 -- William O'Brien State Park, near Marine-on-St. Croix.
- Friday, Aug. 4 -- Dodge Nature Center, in West St. Paul and Mendota Heights.
- Saturday, Aug. 5 -- Afton State Park, Hastings.
- Friday, Aug. 11 -- Tamarack Nature Center, White Bear Township.
- Saturday, Aug. 12 -- William O'Brien State Park, near Marine-on-St. Croix.
- Friday, Aug. 18 -- William O'Brien State Park, near the town of Marine-on-St. Croix.
- Saturday, Aug. 19 -- Lake Maria State Park, near Monticello.
- Friday, Aug. 25 -- Lake Shetek State Park, north of Currie.
- Saturday, Aug. 26 -- Camden State Park, three miles southwest of Lynd.
- Friday, Sept. 1 -- William O'Brien State Park, near Marine-on-St. Croix.
- Saturday, Sept. 2 -- Lake Maria State Park, near Monticello.
- Friday, Sept. 8 -- Afton State Park, Hastings.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 -- Eastman Nature Center, Dayton.

For more information including directions to each park, see Universe in the Park. at www.astro.umn.edu/outreach/uitp/schedule.html



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July 18, 2006

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CORPORATE PARTNERS TO TEST FIRST OBJECT-BASED STORAGE SOFTWARE PROTOTYPE DEVELOPED BY U OF M DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- As part of a unique partnership, the University of Minnesota Digital Technology Center's Intelligent Storage Consortium (DISC) announced this week that several of its corporate partners will begin testing the first Object-based Storage Device (OSD) software developed at DISC by university graduate students and supervising faculty.

DISC, one of the leading storage research centers in the country, is a consortium that focuses on pre-competitive strategic research issues in storage system architecture and application intelligence. It is funded by corporate partners who want to tap the University of Minnesota's strong research capabilities in the area of object-based storage technology.

"DISC is a great example of how the research expertise of the university's faculty and students can be combined with the practical knowledge of industrial partners to produce solutions that anticipate market needs," said Andrew Odlyzko, director of the Digital Technology Center. "The corporate members provide direct input on the direction of research, which results in systems that are relevant for their product development. The university obtains funding for student researchers, as well as a sense for the storage marketplace and where it is going. This results in providing students with the most relevant skills and experiences."

DISC is supported by a growing number of members and affiliates including Sun Microsystems, LSI Logic, Symantec, ITRI, Seagate, McData, IBM and Unisys, as well as government agencies like Los Alamos National Labs, National Institutes of Health and the Office of Naval Research.

As part of the project, DISC members have agreed to place the OSD software prototype in the public domain for free public use later this year. By releasing the prototype the consortium hopes to expand interest in and the continued development of object-based storage technology.

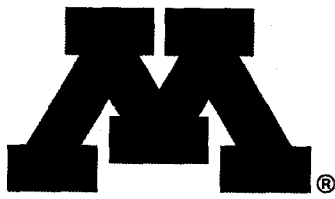
Object-based data storage concepts originated through Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency funding in

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Object-based data storage concepts originated through Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency funding in the mid-1990's. Interest in the concept has continued to grow among many data storage companies as rapid growth in installed disk storage capacity has led to major challenges in data sharing, scalability, security, performance and management.

For more information about DISC visit www.dtc.umn.edu/disc



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EMBARGO: 2 P.M. EDT, JULY 20

July 18, 2006

Contacts: *Judith Berman, University of Minnesota professor, (612) 625-1971, cell (612) 868-5846*
Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M RESEARCHERS DISCOVER GENETIC KEY TO TREATING DEADLY FUNGAL INFECTIONS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota researchers have discovered how a prevalent fungal pathogen that causes 10,000 deaths per year in the United States overcomes the effects of antifungal drugs by duplicating a section of one of its chromosomes.

Candida albicans, a type of yeast present in 80 percent of humans, is usually harmless. In otherwise healthy people, it can cause mild oral and vaginal infections (candidiasis or thrush) that are easily treated. But in people whose immune systems are suppressed (by AIDS, chemotherapy, or drugs for surgery or organ transplantation) it can produce deadly, systemic infections, causing death in 30 to 50 percent of cases. Premature babies, whose immune systems are immature, are also at risk.

Led by Judith Berman, professor of genetics, cell biology and development, university researchers have discovered that *C. albicans* can neutralize an antifungal drug by modifying one of its own chromosomes. The cell duplicates one arm of chromosome 5 and deletes the other, replacing it with the duplicate arm. The altered chromosome is known as an "isochromosome." The effect of the duplication is to help the cell tolerate the antifungal drug, thus allowing the yeast to continue growing despite the presence of the drug.

The discovery, which is reported in the July 21 issue of *Science*, could lead to strategies for making currently available antifungal drugs more effective.

"This creates important clinical opportunities," said Berman. "The next step is to find a companion drug to block the formation of isochromosomes during antifungal treatment."

Berman also explained that some cancerous tumors contain isochromosomes, which means that the finding may yield clues about how some tumors become resistant to chemotherapy and how researchers can develop companion drugs that inhibit the development of that resistance.

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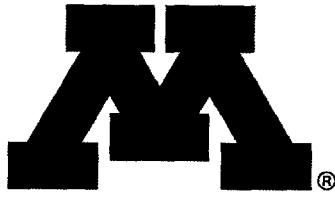
About 25,000 Americans develop these fungal infections each year. And in spite of treatment with antifungal drugs, 10,000 die. The number of hospital-acquired *C. albicans* infections is increasing. There are few drugs available to treat it and the fungus often becomes resistant to a drug, making it ineffective. The cost to the U.S. health care industry is \$1 billion per year.

Berman explained that drugs that are toxic to fungi are often toxic to humans. Thus, anti-fungal drugs are usually intended to suppress, rather than kill, *C. albicans*. This suppression encourages the organism to evolve resistance to the drug in order to survive.

The university's department of genetics, cell biology and development is jointly administered by the College of Biological Sciences and the Medical School.

Faculty in the College of Biological Sciences conduct research that ranges from molecules to ecosystems and from human to environmental health.

Embargoed until 2 p.m. July 20



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July 19, 2006

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U OF M STUDENT RECEIVES MERCURY 7 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- As seven space shuttle astronauts concluded a successful Discovery mission this week, 60 of their predecessors launched the dreams of 18 engineering and science college students by awarding them each a \$10,000 scholarship through the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation (ASF).

Alex Kossett, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering at the University of Minnesota, is one of the scholarship recipients. A native of Vadnais Heights, he is an honor student in the U of M's Institute of Technology and a robotics devotee who has designed and successfully tested a robot that can follow a path on the ground.

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1984 by the six surviving members of the famed Mercury 7 astronauts. Its goal is to aid the United States in retaining world leadership in science and technology by providing scholarships for college students who exhibit motivation, imagination and exceptional performance in the science or engineering field of their major. Today, more than 60 astronauts have joined this cause. ASF funds 18 \$10,000 scholarships annually and has awarded \$2.3 million to 211 students nationwide since 1985. The astronauts chose students who exhibited exceptional performance in the science or engineering field.

"The scholarship will open up employment possibilities for me in the sense that it will allow me to take jobs in labs at the university that may not have funding available for undergraduates," said Kossett. "This is good for the lab, since they're getting free work, and it's great for me because I'm getting some great experience that relates to my major and my interests. I think this is a great opportunity for me compared to what I might have had to do without the scholarship, because a lot of the jobs that college students have don't directly have much to do with their future careers."

Kossett, who plans to go to graduate school to get a master's degree in mechanical engineering, thinks the scholarship will let him explore what the university has to offer in terms of coursework, and may give him an early start on some graduate-level coursework.

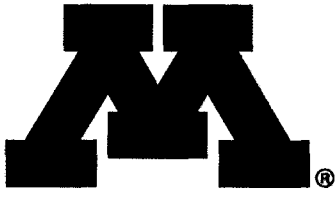
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“Our goal is to inspire renewed interest in science and engineering careers here in the United States,” said Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Chairman and Apollo 15 astronaut Al Worden. “We are committed to encouraging the next generation of explorers. Our nation is strongest when we lead the world in innovation and invention.”

For more information log on to www.AstronautScholarship.org.

WHO: Alex Kossett, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering at the University of Minnesota



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July 20, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

BOUNDARY WATERS WILDFIRE

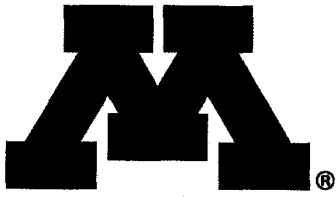
The fire in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area has claimed almost 31 square miles of wilderness, and the battle to contain it continues. A University of Minnesota expert who can talk about the wildfire is:

Lee Frelich, director of the U of M's Center for Hardwood Ecology

Frelich has done extensive research on forest fires and windstorm disturbance in remote wilderness areas such as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in northern Minnesota and the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park in Upper Michigan. While dangerous and destructive, Frelich would contend that this wildfire is a good thing, as it is critical for the regeneration of the forest, and that the current fire might not even be enough to regenerate the area.

To interview Frelich, contact Jeff Falk at (612) 626-1720 or jfalk@umn.edu, or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu. Radio stations wishing to feature Frelich as a call-in guest, please submit timeslot and call-in number to jfalk@umn.edu.

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July 20, 2006

Contacts: Dan Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA NAMES THREE NEW REGENTS PROFESSORS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Three University of Minnesota professors who are considered world leaders in their fields have been named Regents Professors by the university's Board of Regents. The designation is the highest level of recognition given to faculty at the university. The newest Regents Professors are child development professor Megan Gunnar, political science professor Kathryn Sikkink and chemistry professor Donald Truhlar.

"Regents Professors represent the best of the university, and, this year in particular, they represent the breadth of fields in which our scholars are making their marks," said University President Robert Bruininks. "From complex international political interactions to children's neurological development to the use of powerful computer tools to understand nature at the molecular level, these new Regents Professors are the embodiment of the university's intellectual reach."

"Due to their innovative research in their respective fields, professors Megan Gunnar, Kathryn Sikkink and Donald Truhlar are recognized by colleagues worldwide as leaders in their fields. Their work has affected the way people think about critical issues of the day, and has enhanced the reputation of the University of Minnesota," said Provost Thomas Sullivan.

More about the Regents Professors and their work:

Megan Gunnar

Megan Gunnar, a professor in the College of Education and Human Development's Institute of Child Development, is considered one of the leading international scientists who focus on understanding how social experiences in a person's early life shape brain and behavioral development. The child development professor and director of the Human Developmental Psychobiology Lab has pioneered the field of measuring stress in young children as a way to unravel the mysteries of healthy development.

Gunnar brought about a paradigm shift in the way developmental scientists think about the effects of early life experiences by documenting the neurobiology of stress and thus of vulnerability to early stressful life events. Having demonstrated the way that stressful events can influence patterns of brain development, she is now beginning to demonstrate that these effects are, at least, partially reversible when the care children receive improves.

Gunnar is now beginning to document the elements of therapeutic caregiving (parenting) that foster recovery in previously neglected and maltreated children. She has also been instrumental in shaping contemporary interdisciplinary sciences concerned with translating basic research, using animal models for human application through network leadership, mentoring, and extensive professional activities and services throughout the world.

Because of her groundbreaking research, the University of Minnesota is at the center of a scientific revolution in the study of human functioning and development with powerful implications for human welfare. Gunnar has secured so many grants from the National Institute of Health (NIH) that she is above the 95th percentile among grantees over the past 25 years. Not only has her research been continuously funded over this time, she has also been awarded an unprecedented four consecutive NIH Career (K) awards, spanning the past 20 years.

This year Gunnar is the recipient of the highest honor for lifetime contributions to developmental research given by the American

- more -

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Psychological Association, the prestigious G. Stanley Hall Award.

During the time she was rising to world leadership in the new integrative science of development, Gunnar provided outstanding teaching, mentoring, service and outreach here in Minnesota. She is the co-director and founding member of the Center for Neurobehavioral Development; a gifted teacher who has engaged and inspired students from diverse backgrounds to become scientists and a legendary advisor to graduate students who have gone on to illustrious careers.

Gunnar serves her profession and the university with dedication. She has been a faculty leader, serving on the Senate Committee on Educational Policy during the transition from quarters to semesters; is a member of the Faculty Consultative Committee; and, a member of the task force charged with restructuring General College and the College of Education and Human Development. She was named a Distinguished McKnight Professor in 1996.

Kathryn Sikkink

Kathryn Sikkink, the Arleen C. Carlson Professor of Political Science in the political science department, is a world-renowned scholar of comparative politics and international relations whose work has deeply influenced the study, teaching and understanding of global politics and international relations. She published the leading work on the intellectual forces that shape the way that nation-states interact in global society. This early work, quickly followed by two other precedent-setting books (in 1998 and 2004 respectively) laid the intellectual foundation for a theoretical framework that has reshaped and transformed the field of global politics and engendered new understandings of how norms and values evolve in the international economy.

Sikkink is considered a giant in her field and recognized worldwide not only for her methodological approaches to the study of human rights regimes, the role of nongovernmental organizations and comparative politics, but for her powerful analytical instincts which have fundamentally reoriented the way scholars of politics and international process think about complex political interactions in the world today.

Sikkink's books have earned numerous "best book" awards by academic organizations in her field, and one of them has been translated into Spanish, Chinese, and Arabic. She has often published work in the foremost academic journals in her field, and her articles have become classic references in several fields, including sociology, political science, law, history and environmental science. Sikkink has received several prestigious honors. In 2001, she was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the highest honors that can be bestowed on a scholar in her field. In 2002, she was elected a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. In a survey conducted in 2005 by political scientists at the College of William and Mary asking "Who has been doing the most interesting work in international relations in recent years," Sikkink was identified ninth among all scholars in the world.

Her global influence is evident in the number of institutions and scholars with whom she has collaborated and in her willingness to teach, advise and mentor both undergraduate and graduate students. She has been a critical force in shaping interdisciplinary graduate programs, in creating the Human Rights Program at the Institute for Global Studies, and in creating ties between the academic and practitioner communities on a range of international issues. She was named a Distinguished McKnight Professor in 2005.

Donald Truhlar

Truhlar has served the University of Minnesota with distinction for more than 35 years. Considered among the top physical chemists in the world, his seminal contributions have advanced and transformed chemistry and chemical physics. Truhlar developed the use of accurate quantum dynamics calculations to explore the quantum mechanics of reactive dynamics and transition states, which was among the first in the history of computational chemical dynamics.

Another groundbreaking development for Truhlar included his variational transition state theory (VTST) as a practical computational tool applicable to a broad range of problems. He played a pivotal role in the development of new techniques for calculating solvation energies of organic and biochemical molecules in aqueous solution and organic solvents.

Truhlar's work has enhanced the world's basic understanding of the mechanisms of chemical reaction and has developed new and powerful tools for using state-of-the-art supercomputers. Because of his contributions in this area, the computer industry is able to bring ever more computational power to the desks of working scientists.

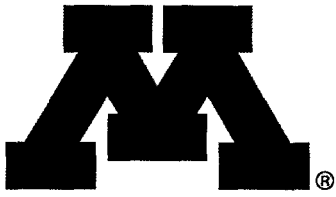
Truhlar's teaching and advising record is unparalleled. He has taught numerous graduate and undergraduate courses and has mentored hundreds of graduate students and postdoctoral associates. He has served as director of graduate studies for the chemistry, chemical physics, and scientific computation programs.

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Under Truhlar's direction, the university's Supercomputer Institute has flourished. It now serves approximately 200 research groups from more than 40 departments. He has served on numerous departmental, college and university-wide committees. His national service includes his election as National Councilor of the American Chemical Society and chairman of two leading international conferences in his field. He is the chief theoretical chemistry editor of the Journal of the American Chemical Society. In addition, he serves as editor of or on the board of several other respected journals in chemistry, chemical physics, and scientific computation. He has written numerous articles and journals. He has published more than 800 papers. Truhlar has received many honors, including the 2004 National Academy of Sciences Award for Scientific Reviewing, the Lise Meitner Lectureship Award, the Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research, and the Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry. Truhlar was named the Institute of Technology Distinguished Professor in 1998.

The Regents Professorship was established in 1965. It is the highest recognition given by the university to a member of its faculty for outstanding academic distinction in scholarly or artistic work, teaching or contributions to the public good. Once designated a Regents Professor, faculty members hold the title for as long as they remain at the university. There are now 23 Regents Professors.

Photos available upon request by calling Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

TEENS TO INCORPORATE "SPYING" INTO THEIR WORK DURING UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DESIGN CAMP

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Watch out! The next piece of furniture you use may be watching or listening to you. Teen-agers attending the University of Minnesota Design Institute's Design Camp workshop "Spying" will be designing products or furniture with either built-in spying devices that allow the creator to monitor people or built-in secret hiding places.

For the fifth year in a row, the Design Institute, with support from Target, is hosting Design Camp Monday, July 24 to Friday, July 28 in Rapson Hall, College of Design, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

About 120 teenagers from Minnesota and around the nation will once again harness the power of design to shape their environment. The workshop, "Spying" is one of six workshops led by 12 talented design professionals from around the world. The other five workshops are:

- Dressing -- students will design something to wear that captures their personality or is based on their essence.
- Telling -- students will experiment with graphic branding of an environment.
- Urbing -- students will redesign a city block.
- Interacting -- students will be involved with digital interactive storytelling.
- Wearing -- students will design clothing with embellishments inspired by nature.

Design Camp instructors come from as far away as Japan, Israel and Australia. This year's guest instructors include such designers as Eddie Opara, known for his digital work with Morgan Stanley and Prada; Mauricio Arango, who will be presenting at the international media arts conference ISEA2006 in San Jose in August; Natsuko Hayashi, who has designed jewelry for Issey Miyake; Joynöelle, recently profiled in "W" magazine;

- more -

Sonya Berlovitz, whose costume design work is currently on display at the Tychman Shapiro Gallery in Minneapolis; and Alicia Cheng and Ariel Apte, whose design consultancy art directed the book accompanying Al Gore's movie on global warming, "An Inconvenient Truth."

While teens attending the camp learn, Design Camp also includes a great learning opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students. Design Minor students from all disciplines, students at the College of Design, and art and architecture students from other universities and colleges around the country also serve as teaching assistants in each workshop, helping the instructors and mentoring the teens.

On the final day of camp, Friday, July 28, the campers receive feedback on their completed projects and share their ideas with invited jurors. Local designers, business and community leaders and university faculty and staff share their experience with the teens in tours of each workshop. They then join the teens, their parents and friends, for public catwalk presentations, closing remarks and final celebration from 2 to 4 p.m. in Rapson Hall's interior courtyard.

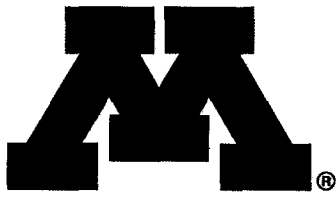
First held in 2002, Design Camp demonstrates the commitment of both the University of Minnesota and Target to provide opportunities for youth to realize their ability to make meaningful change in their designed environment.

Over the past five years more than 500 students have participated in Design Camp. They have come from a dozen states around the U.S., and from our own back yard, including students involved in pre-college and art programs run by Twin Cities' organizations Admission Possible, MMEP, Juxtaposition Arts and Waite House.

For more information about Design Camp 2006, visit <http://design.umn.edu> and click on "Design Camp" in the main menu.

WHEN: Monday, July 24 through Friday, July 28

WHERE: Rapson Hall, College of Design, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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July 20, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICE IDENTIFY SUSPECT IN UNIVERSITY VILLAGE ASSAULT, SEEK PUBLIC'S HELP IN FINDING SUSPECT

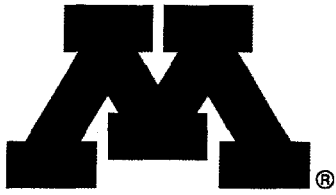
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD) investigators are asking for the public's help in locating a suspect wanted for questioning about a July 8th assault on a university student at the University Village apartments.

The suspect, Gregory Matthew Pengra, was identified as a result of surveillance video released last week.

A poster including a photograph and description of Pengra can be accessed at http://www.umn.edu/police/alerts/20060720_wp.doc. Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the suspect or has information about the assault is asked to call 612-624-COPS.

The assault occurred on Saturday, July 8, when a man followed a female student in through a security door, made derogatory comments and followed the student to her apartment. He then grabbed her and made inappropriate contact, according to police. Police believed he intended to do more harm, but the victim screamed for help and the suspect ran away.

UMPD is working with Minneapolis police because the suspect is wanted in a similar incident in the city.



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July 23, 2006

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U OF M INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL STUDIES RECEIVES \$6 MILLION FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

~ Grants support language and global studies and national security ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Institute for Global Studies is the recipient of \$6 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Education to support U.S. global competitiveness and national security through three national resource centers. The \$6 million (comprising three separate four-year grants) is through the Title VI program and provides for the establishment of a new National Resource Center focusing on Asian studies and renewed funding for two existing national resource centers in western European and international studies.

The new Consortium for the Study of the Asias (CSA) to be established at the University of Minnesota beginning fall 2006 is one of only three such national resource centers in the U.S. dedicated to pan-Asian studies. This new center builds on the university's strengths in the interdisciplinary study of the Asias and combines the intellectual resources of the departments of Asian languages and literature and global studies, along with the graduate program in Asian literature, cultures and media. CSA moves beyond the traditional division of Asia into sub-regions and explores local specifics, regional interactions and global processes across Asia. CSA also more widely supports the activities of faculty and students across the social sciences, humanities and professional schools. CSA offers language instruction in Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese.

"[This grant] puts our study of Asia on the national map immediately, and it demonstrates how we have rebuilt a distinctive, innovative program in a matter of a few years," said Joseph Allen, chair of the department of Asian languages and literature.

Director of the Institute for Global Studies Evelyn Davidheiser said support for CSA increases programming for other global areas. "We've done work at the university in Asian studies using previous grants for our National Resource Center for International Studies," she said. "This new CSA grant rewards the work we've done on Asia and frees up funding in our international program that can support work on other parts of the globe such as

- more -

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Africa and South America.”

Western European and International Studies

Funding for the two existing national resource centers -- European Studies Consortium and National Resource Center for International Studies -- have been renewed for an additional four years. Their Title VI funding will continue to support increasing international content in existing university curricula and creating new courses that address international issues. Examples of this include bringing international artists to the theater department, developing a freshman seminar on Turkish culture and language, and guaranteeing third year language instruction in less commonly taught (LCT) languages.

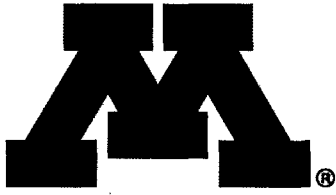
LCT languages such as Vietnamese, Korean, Turkish and Swahili have been added to university offerings thanks to seed money from this federal funding program. Supporting advanced instruction in these languages supports U.S. government priorities of advancing national security and global competitiveness.

About the National Resource Centers

All three national resource centers at the University of Minnesota have mandates to provide:

- Promotion and enhancement of less commonly taught languages
- Internationalization of university curricula
- Outreach to K-14
- Building the intellectual strength within the university and community at large.

In addition to the programming described above, the three combined Title VI grants will provide resources for 23 academic year and 12 summer fellowships for graduate students at the university. The first National Resource Center at the University of Minnesota was established in 1983.



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July 24, 2006

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THREE MINNESOTA GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES TO GIVE POLICY TALKS AT U'S HUMPHREY INSTITUTE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Each of Minnesota's three gubernatorial candidates will give a major policy address at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs as part of the Candidate Forum sponsored by the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG). Gov. Tim Pawlenty (R), Attorney General Mike Hatch (DFL), and Peter Hutchinson (IP) will address a major policy issue of their choice, after which they will take part in an open question and answer session with the audience. All events will take place in Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. Details on each event are as follows:

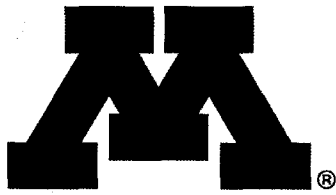
Tuesday, July 25—Gov. Tim Pawlenty will give a public policy address on “Education: Funding, Improvements, and Accountability for Results” from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 9—Attorney General Mike Hatch will speak on “Affordability and Availability of Health Care” from noon to 1:30 p.m. A complimentary light lunch will be available beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Aug. 10—Independence Party candidate Peter Hutchinson will address “The Price of Government: Getting the Results We Need in an Age of Permanent Fiscal Crisis” from 8:30 to 10 a.m. A complimentary continental breakfast will be available starting at 8 a.m.

The candidate speeches are part of the Candidate Forum, a series of policy talks by candidates for public office. Sponsored by CSPG, the Candidate Forum is an effort to nurture substantive discussion on major issues. As part of the series, Amy Klobuchar (DFL–endorsed candidate) spoke at the Humphrey Institute in June and Mark Kennedy (Republican–endorsed candidate) will speak August 22.

All presentations are free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, contact Ellen Tveit at (612) 625-8330 or tvei0002@umn.edu.



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July 24, 2006

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'U' FARM FAMILY RECOGNITION TAKES PLACE AUG. 3 AT FARMFEST

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Fifty-nine families from around the state, one from each participating county, have been named a "2006 Farm Family of the Year," University of Minnesota Extension Service Dean and Director Bev Durgan announced.

The winning families will be officially recognized in a ceremony Thursday, Aug. 3, at the 25th Annual Farmfest in Redwood County, Minn.

The families were chosen based on their contributions to the agricultural industry, their communities and the state. Families receiving honors have demonstrated a commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and agriculture production.

"Family farms are the foundation of Minnesota agriculture," said Durgan. "Looking at the 2006 winners, you quickly see that there is no standard definition for a Minnesota family farm. The one factor they all have in common is that the families work together to make their farm successful. That farm family work ethic is the major contributor to the success of Minnesota communities and Minnesota agriculture."

Approximately 90 percent of Minnesota farms are operated by either a farm family or an individual, according to the Census of Agriculture. And most of the remaining 10 percent are farm families who for legal or tax reasons organize as partnerships or corporations.

The diversity of Minnesota family farms can be seen by looking at a sample of the 2006 winners:

- Along with their children, Glenn and Lisa Berdan run a corn and soybean farm in Ortonville. They are past recipients of the Big Stone County Conservation Farmer Award and are especially interested in sources of renewable energy.
- Sisters Annette and Kathleen Fernholz of Madison (Lac Qui Parle County) grow organic produce for Earthrise Farm, a 240-acre family farm which sustains four acres of community supported agriculture (CSA). The Fernholtzes are Sisters of Notre Dame, a Catholic order, and started farming 11 years ago as part of their Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry.
- Brothers Roger and Allan Foltz of Callaway (Becker County) first formed a partnership in 1985. Today they farm together with their families, and Foltz Farms has grown to an 80-cow dairy and 150-head feed lot with 1,600 acres of alfalfa, wheat, bean and corn crop rotation.
- Kevin and Jean Goenner's 132,000 laying hens comprise Goenner Poultry, LLC. The Goenners and their children, from Clear Lake (Sherburne County), also grow corn, soybeans and rye and are enrolled in the national Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- Xa Lor and Kao Yang of St. Paul (Ramsey County) farm 25 acres in St. Paul Park and 40 acres in Hammond, Wis. The couple and their five children grow a wide variety of international produce, including Asian greens, and raise chickens, pigs, pot belly pigs and guinea hens. Lor, who came to the U.S. from Thailand at age 15, is a member of the Minneapolis Farmers Market Board.
- Ted and Shirley Luetgers of Fairmont (Martin County) run Timberlake Apple Orchard, currently celebrating its 25th anniversary. The

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- Ted and Shirley Luetgers of Fairmont (Martin County) run Timberlake Apple Orchard, currently celebrating its 25th anniversary. The family also produces honey, grows a variety of produce and has approximately 100 head of sheep, horses and chickens.
- Dennis and Bridget O'Neill run 650 acres of land near Rochester (Olmsted County). The O'Neills manage a 100-head cow and calf operation and also produce chicken, turkey, pork and beef.

For more information on the 2006 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year winners or the recognition event, visit the U's farm family website: <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu>.

Along with Farmfest, university units sponsoring the recognition event include the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS), the University of Minnesota Extension Service, the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

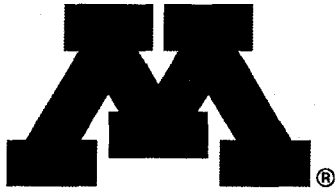
Farmfest runs Aug. 1-3 at the Gilfillan Estate. Event hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug. 1-2, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 3. Admission is \$6 per person, and those 18 and under are admitted free. More information on Farmfest is available at www.farmshows.com/ffst.

Here is a complete listing of the 2006 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year winners, by county:

County	Farm Family	City
Aitkin	Bill and Linda Dotzler	Aitkin
Becker	Foltz Farm: Roger and Jane Foltz, Allan and Kristi Foltz	Callaway
Benton	Greg Novak, LeRoy and Lorraine Novak	
Big Stone	Glenn and Lisa Berdan	Ortonville
Blue Earth	Harold Loeffler, Brad and Stephanie Loeffler, Brian and Shelly Loeffler	
Brown	Mike and Cheri Tomschin	Springfield
Carver	Larry and Deb Drier	Norwood
Chippewa	Steve and Vicki Norman	Montevideo
Chisago	Brad and Lani Bismark	
Clearwater	Petterson Family Farm	Gonvick
Cottonwood	Danny and Kathy Smith	Bingham Lake
Dakota	Jacob and Betty Gergen, James and Ann Gergen	Vermillion
Dodge	Grant and Barb Erler	West Concord
Douglas	Fred and Lana Krafthefer	Farwell
Faribault	Tom and Sheryl Warmka	Easton
Fillmore	Randi and Kari Drinkall	Rushford
Freeborn	Loren and Jane Lair	Hayward
Goodhue	Roger and Michelle Benrud	Goodhue
Grant	Gary and Jan Nelson	Ashby
Hennepin	Ron and Sharon Kohnen	Loretto
Houston	Franklin and Carol Hahn	Houston
Jackson	John and Alyce Resch	Jackson
Kandiyohi	Gunderson Farms	Raymond
Kittson	Richard and Kathy Levenhagen	Lake Bronson
Lac Qui Parle	Annette and Kathleen Fernholz	Madison
Lake of the Woods	Marvin and Charlotte Anderson	Baudette
Le Sueur	Dale and Marlene Berndt	Elysian
Lincoln	Blaine and Cheryl Maranell	Tyler
Lyon	Tim and Betty Gossen	Minneota
Martin	The Luetgers Family	Fairmont
McLeod	Benson Dairy	Stewart
Meeker	Barka Farms	Litchfield
Mower	Ray and Jeanette Schaefer	Taopi
Murray	Anderson Family Farm	Garvin
Nicollet	Hubert and Frankie Anderson,	Neal, Joni, St. Peter

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Nobles	Peter and Karri Anderson	
Olmsted	Kerry and Janna Williams	Brewster
Pipestone	Dennis and Bridget O'Neill	Rochester
Polk	Moeller Family Farm	Pipestone
Ramsey	Ralph and Geraldine Hove	Fosston
Red Lake	Xa Lor and Kao Yang	St. Paul
Redwood	Tony and Sheila Gerardy	Plummer
Renville	Roger and Faye Gilland	Morgan
Rice	Paul and Liz Lanning	Sacred Heart
Rock	Don and Cindy Langer	Faribault
Roseau	James and Jill Willers	Beaver Creek
Scott	Roger and Ellen Falk	Salol
Sherburne	Ken and Linda Gliczinski	New Prague
Sibley	Kevin and Jean Goenner	Clear Lake
Stearns	Howard and Helen Schneider	Arlington
	Jim and Joan Gondringer,	Albany
	LeRoy and Marion Gondringer	
Steele	Dennis and Deb Morgan	Morristown
Stevens	Jon and Lori Moser	Morris
Swift	Wayne and Laurie Golden	Danvers
Wabasha	Loos Farm	Millville
Waseca	Robert and Dorine Smith	New Richland
Washington	Al-Ocra Dairy: The Rydeen Family	Stillwater
Watanwon	Kurt and JoAnn Eischen	Comfrey
Winona	Jim and Pam Larson	Winona
Wright	Roger and Cindy Heuer	Howard Lake



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July 24, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RECEIVES \$500,000 GIFT FROM MEDTRONIC FOR BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING FELLOWSHIPS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has received a \$500,000 gift from Medtronic, Inc. and the Medtronic Foundation for the creation of the Medtronic Fellows in Biomedical Engineering Fund. The fund will help support new full-time biomedical engineering graduate students during their first semester.

The contribution from Medtronic, which will be spread over five years, is the second major gift in a campaign to support the entire class of first-year biomedical engineering graduate students each fall. About a third of the contribution will be used immediately for graduate fellowships, while the remainder will be placed in an endowment to earn interest and fund fellowships over time.

The goal over five years is to raise at least \$2 million for biomedical engineering fellowships. The payout on the endowed funds will be matched by the University of Minnesota to generate an estimated \$200,000 per year to support 20 graduate students during their first semester. Student support is currently the university's top fund-raising priority. This gift is part of the university's Promise of Tomorrow scholarship and fellowship drive.

"The university has a long-standing partnership with Medtronic, and we're delighted with their continuing support of our students and research," said Bob Tranquillo, head of the biomedical engineering department.

"Funding for fellowships is critical to attracting top graduate students to the University of Minnesota who can pursue research frontiers in biomedical engineering."

"Medtronic is very pleased to offer support to biomedical engineering graduate students at the University of Minnesota," said Becky Bergman, Medtronic's vice president of corporate science and technology. "It is important to Medtronic and to Minnesota's medical device and emerging biosciences industry that we attract and train world-class biomedical engineers to help continue the state's legacy of medical technology innovation."

Medtronic has ties to the University of Minnesota that date back to the 1950s. The company's founder, Earl Bakken, a 1948 electrical engineering graduate, worked with university researchers to develop and test the first wearable, battery-operated cardiac pacemaker. Medtronic is now the global leader in medical technology, with its

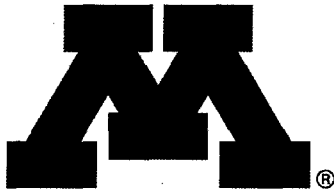
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wearable, battery-operated cardiac pacemaker. Medtronic is now the global leader in medical technology, with its headquarters located in the Twin Cities. The company employs many of the university's biomedical engineering graduates.

“As a company built on science and technology, we recognize that our continued success and, more importantly, the improved health of the world will depend on scientific innovation,” said Penny Hunt, vice president of the Medtronic Foundation. “From elementary school to graduate school, our focus has been to inspire the next generation of Minnesota innovators.”

“Biomedical engineering plays a key role in our goal to achieve prominence in the area of medical devices by building stronger collaborations among engineering, medicine and biology researchers at the university,” said Mos Kaveh, associate dean of research and planning in the university's Institute of Technology. “This gift from Medtronic will help us continue our breakthrough research by fueling our graduate students' drive to discover.”



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July 26, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

U OF M MCNAIR SCHOLARS TO DISPLAY SUMMER RESEARCH PROJECTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Can poetry be incorporated into rap music? How do income levels of families vary by regions in the Twin Cities? Has the no pass, no play policy been effective in helping high school athletes excel both on the field and in the classroom? Those topics, and some scientific research that only scientists can understand, will be presented by the University of Minnesota's 2006 Summer McNair Scholars from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1, in the Mississippi Room of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis.

The annual poster presentation will showcase the work of 21 students from four Minnesota colleges who have been studying at the university for 10 weeks this summer under the guidance of faculty mentors.

The McNair Scholars Program, now in its 14th year at the University of Minnesota, is named after Ronald McNair, the African American astronaut who died in the 1986 Challenger space shuttle explosion. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and operated by the TRIO Program in the Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning in the College of Education and Human Development. It aims to encourage and assist minority, disabled or low-income undergraduates to enroll in graduate programs or professional schools. Besides conducting hands-on research, participants have been attending motivational workshops, graduate record exam prep classes and research writing workshops.

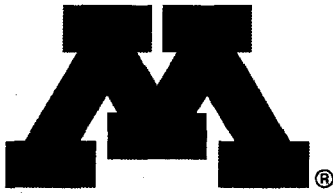
"This gathering will provide an excellent forum to display the research efforts of these McNair Scholars along with the faculty mentors," said Bruce Schelske, co-director of the McNair Program. "In addition, the reception will provide us with the opportunity to thank individuals who have contributed time and effort to help make the program a success at the University of Minnesota."

Since 1991, the McNair Program has sponsored more than 300 students. Of those, 60 percent have gone on to graduate school.

WHO: Twenty-one McNair Scholars

WHEN: 2 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 1

WHERE: Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E. Minneapolis



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July 26, 2006

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U OF M EXPERTS ON HAND AT FARMFEST NEXT WEEK TO ANSWER DRY WEATHER QUESTIONS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota experts will be on hand at the 25th annual Farmfest in Redwood County to answer your questions on farm finances, marketing crops in dry weather and the current crop conditions.

These experts will be in the U of M tent daily, located in the center of Farmfest near the forum tent. Specific presentations concerning dry weather conditions include:

- Rob Holcomb, a regional Extension educator in agricultural business management, will discuss “Analyzing Your Farm’s Finances in Good Years and Bad” at 1 and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 1.
- Dave Nicolai, regional crops Extension educator, will present “Identifying Soybean and Corn Pests in a Dry Year” at 10 and 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 2.
- Dale Hicks, professor in agronomy and plant genetics, will discuss the “2006 Corn Yield Outlook for the Corn Belt” on Wednesday, Aug. 2 at 12:30 and 1 p.m.
- Bret Oelke, a regional extension educator in agricultural business management, will present “Marketing Crops with Volatile Prices and Bad Weather” on Thursday, Aug. 3 at 12 and 12:30 p.m.

Additional information on dealing with dry weather is available on the web at www.cfans.umn.edu/drought.

Other University of Minnesota activities at Farmfest include speakers in the University of Minnesota tent who will be discussing the change and need for rural doctors on Tuesday, Aug. 1, renewable nitrogen fertilizer on Wednesday, Aug. 2, and global warming, also on Wednesday, Aug. 2. In the main forum tent, U of M experts will also be speaking during the following times:

- Steve Taff, associate professor and extension economist, and Greg Coumo, director, U of M West Central Research and Outreach Center, will be a part of “The Renewable Fuel Industry: Positioning For the Future,” to be held Wednesday Aug. 2 at 1:30 p.m.
- Marguerite Pappioanou, professor in community health and veterinary medicine, will be a part of “Avian

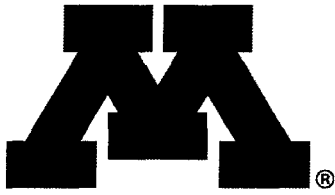
- more -

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Flu, Foot and Mouth Disease, Agro-Terrorism: What are The Risks?", to be held Thursday Aug. 3 at 10:30 a.m.

In addition, at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 3, the University of Minnesota will honor the 2006 Minnesota Farm Families of the Year at Farmfest. Nearly 60 families will be recognized this year for their contributions to agriculture and their local communities. For more about the Farm Family of the Year program visit the website at mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu.

Farmfest is held annually at the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County, Minn. For more information about Farmfest, visit its website at www.farmshows.com/ffst.



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July 27, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

SARBANES-OXLEY ACT

As former Enron and WorldCom executives begin their prison terms or await sentencing, the corporate community and America's economy are adjusting to the repercussions left after the scandals. Four years ago this week, federal legislators passed the Sarbanes-Oxley Act to combat such illegal practices that were permeating the business world. But who has been affected by such rules and regulations? How has the economy reacted? And what have corporations done to accommodate the act? University of Minnesota experts who can comment on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act are:

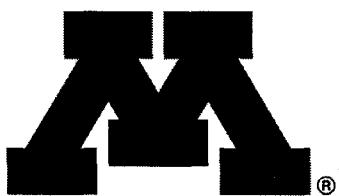
Ivy Zhang, accounting professor at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management

Professor Zhang has been monitoring the effects of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act on the American economy for the past two years. Her research, the first of its kind, has documented the events after the passage of the law and found that markets have reacted negatively. Similarly, she has also studied Continental European firms' voluntary adoption of the General Accepted Accounting Principles that United States' companies abide by.

Brett McDonnell, professor at the University of Minnesota Law School

Professor McDonnell is analyzing the organizational structure of post Sarbanes-Oxley firms. His concentration is on the area of limits of corporate control and what role the board of directors plays in its independence from the business. In his other work, McDonnell studies mergers and acquisitions, securities regulations and corporate contracts. He has also been published in the *Minnesota Law Review*, the *Yale Law Journal* and the *Antitrust Bulletin*.

To interview Zhang or McDonnell, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu, or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2006

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U OF M RESEARCHER GARY SCHWITZER NAMED WINNER OF A 2006 KNIGHT-BATTEN AWARD FOR INNOVATIONS IN JOURNALISM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota researcher Gary Schwitzer, a professor in the School of Journalism & Mass Communication, has been named one of seven winners of the prestigious Knight-Batten Awards for Innovations in Journalism. Schwitzer won the award for creating the HealthNewsReview.org – a clearinghouse Web site for health news that helps journalists write accurate medical stories and consumers find useful health news.

“I’m thrilled that HealthNewsReview.org is being honored as an innovation in journalism. Indeed, the response we’ve had from journalists, consumers, and health care professionals in just three months after launching has been terrific,” said Schwitzer. “This award will bring more attention to the site, which will help us reach even more journalists and consumers to improve the accuracy, balance and flow of health care news and information in this country.”

Since its launch April 17 the HealthNewsReview.org site has achieved:

- 3,157,140 hits
- 67,280 individual user sessions
- 157 stories reviewed on the site so far
- 1,263 registered users

“The hallmark of this year’s entries was the use of basic technology to add value to the process of journalism and not just the packaging,” said Jan Schaffer, executive director of J-Lab, which administers the awards program. “News organizations are getting beyond the veneer of pretty production and are letting citizens into the inner working of news, helping them navigate through it, participate in it and react to it.”

As one of seven award recipients Schwitzer is a finalist for the \$10,000 grand prize award that will be announced Sept. 18 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Highlighting that event will be a keynote address by Alberto Ibarguen, president and chief executive of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which funds the

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awards.

All winning entries as well as many other notable entries can be viewed by going to www.j-lab.org. The other winners are:

Global Voices Online – A network of global news and conversation from more than 160 countries run by a team of 15 international, multilingual blogger-editors. The project is run by the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University.

Transparent Newsroom – The Spokane Spokesman-Review lifts the veil on the news gathering and publishing process by webcasting daily news meetings.

IBISEYE.com – An in-depth, risk-estimator web site developed by the Sarasota Herald-Tribune to track Atlantic Ocean tropical storm and hurricane activity.

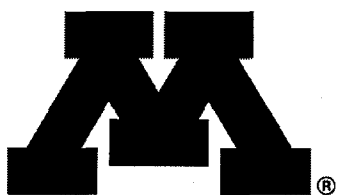
U.S. Congress Votes Database – A WashingtonPost.com searchable database, updated daily, enables users to research every recorded vote in the U.S. House and Senate since January 1991.

Bakersfield Californian's Social Media Platform – A newly developed participatory media platform that extends the networking concept of the popular MySpace.com to a local area.

TCDailyPlanet.com – A local news Web site for the Twin Cities that brings together the best work of more than 35 local and ethnic news organizations to cover undercovered communities, trigger new community alliances and train citizens to participate and contribute to the news.

The winners were selected from 109 entries, submitted by print, television and online news organizations and education and non-profit institutions.

The Knight-Batten Awards spotlight the creative use of new information ideas and technologies to involve citizens in public issues. They honor the late James K. Batten, former CEO of Knight Ridder newspaper and a pioneer in exploring ways journalism could better connect with audiences. The awards are administered by J-Lab: The Institute for Interactive Journalism at the University of Maryland.



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July 28, 2006

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Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu.

EXCESSIVE HEAT WATCH

The National Weather Service has issued an “excessive heat watch” for the Twin Cities. It has been issued for Saturday and Sunday, but the U’s climatologist Mark Seeley says that it will most likely be extended into next week. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the heat, its potential dangers, and give tips on what to do, are:

Moira Novak, athletic trainer at the U’s intercollegiate athletics department

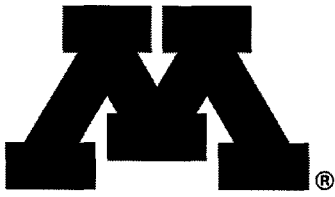
Novak is an expert in the area of heat exhaustion. She can comment on heat exhaustion, heat stroke/sunstroke, and hydration in general. Novak can provide excellent tips for people on what symptoms to watch out for, how to stay hydrated and how to properly exercise in this weather.

Kelly Tart and Justine Lee, U of M College of Veterinary Medicine emergency veterinarians

Tart and Lee are emergency veterinarians at the U, and they treat pets suffering from heat related problems. Tart and Lee can give tips on how keep your pets safe in the heat.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 6124-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu, or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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July 28, 2006

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HOMELESS AND NEARLY-HOMELESS U.S. VETERANS TO RECEIVE HELP DURING STANDDOWN 2006

~ Veteran tent city to rise on U of M fields ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Homeless and nearly-homeless U.S. veterans will receive help to get their lives back on track during Stand Down 2006 from 7 a.m. to 4:00 pm Thursday, Aug. 3 and Friday Aug. 4. The event is hosted by the University of Minnesota and organized by the Minnesota Assistance Council For Veterans (MACV), a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping veterans statewide.

“We are dedicated to honoring their service and returning these men and women to productive lives with hope, dignity and self-determination in a nation they once defended,” said MACV Executive Director Kathleen Vitalis.

StandDown is one piece of the many services and programs MACV offers to veterans throughout the year. StandDown 2006 will turn the university's west bank recreation fields (133 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis) into a tent city where veterans can sleep in a bed, eat hot meals and receive free services ranging from medical treatment to financial counseling. Minnesota National Guard units will be involved in the set-up and tear down.

During StandDown, volunteers provide services such as medical, dental, eye and psychological assessments and treatment referrals; employment assistance; legal aid; federal and state tax counseling; social security eligibility information; substance abuse counseling; and food and shelter.

In Minnesota up to 4,300 veterans are considered homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. That represents 1 percent of the 430,000 veterans who live in Minnesota and 16 percent of all homeless adults who live in the state.

“These men and women, who served their nation and defended our shared values, now struggle in their own country,” Vitalis said. “We hope that StandDown will be a first step in helping them get back on their feet.”

In the past during times of war, exhausted combat units requiring time to rest and recover were removed from the

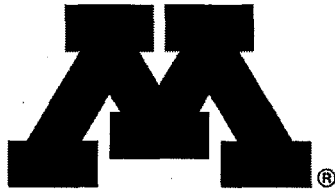
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battlefields and moved to places of relative security and safety. There the troops took care of personal hygiene, received clean uniforms, enjoyed hot meals, received medical and dental care, mailed and received letters and enjoyed time with fellow soldiers.

The first civilian StandDown was held in 1988, organized by a group of Vietnam veterans in San Diego. More and more communities began to hold StandDowns and now there are about 100 such events throughout the nation each year. It is estimated that 100,000 homeless veterans receive assistance through the StandDowns.

For more information about the StandDown and to register, call MACV at (612) 726-9375.



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July 31, 2006

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DANGEROUS HEAT IN THE TWIN CITIES

Temperatures in the Twin Cities will hit the 100 degree mark today, as the heat wave that hit Minnesota continues to endanger people as well as animals. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the heat, its potential dangers, and give tips on what to do, are:

John Shutske, professor and safety and health specialist with the University of Minnesota Extension Service

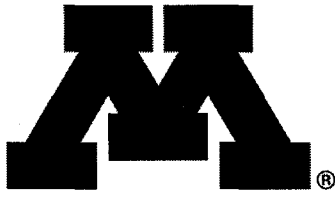
Shutske can give advice on how to avoid heat illness - especially when working outside. People that are in danger, according to Shutske, include agricultural and construction workers, those who work in the landscaping and horticultural industries, homeowners doing yard work, as well as joggers, hikers and those playing organized sports. Shutske has a number of tips that he can offer up on working outside and staying safe in the heat.

Kelly Tart and Justine Lee, U of M College of Veterinary Medicine emergency veterinarians

Tart and Lee treat pets suffering from heat related problems. They can give tips on how keep your pets safe in the heat.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 6124-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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August 1, 2006

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Rhonda Zurn, Institute of Technology, (612) 626-7959
Leslie Fink, National Science Foundation, (703) 292-5395

TWO U OF M ASSISTANT PROFESSORS RECEIVE NATION'S HIGHEST HONOR FOR EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota assistant professors Ashley James (aerospace engineering and mechanics) and William Schuler (computer science and engineering) have received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the nation's highest honor for professionals beginning their independent research and education careers. The award recipients were honored recently in a ceremony at the White House.

James and Schuler are among 20 young scientists and engineers who received this award from the National Science Foundation this year, one of nine federal departments and agencies that annually nominate individuals for this prestigious award. In all, 56 individuals were honored at the White House.

James conducts research on flows that occur at interfaces in many industrial, biomedical and natural processes. Her state-of-the-art computational techniques include variable surface tension effects that traditionally have been ignored. Her research will facilitate fundamental developments in interfacial fluid dynamics. She also has developed an educational and community outreach plan that is closely integrated with undergraduate and graduate teaching, with the goals of promoting education and increasing participation of students underrepresented in engineering.

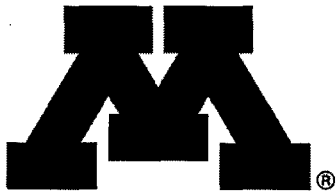
Schuler integrates word recognition and semantic interpretation into a unified model for natural language dialogue between people and computers. He is also building bridges between human language processing and fields such as computer vision, robotics and medicine. His students receive hands-on experience with a processing system for human language, which could be used for tasks such as getting information from a medical database over the telephone or commanding a team of robots.

The Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers was established in 1996 to honor the most promising researchers in the nation within their fields. Participating agencies award recipients up to five years of funding to further their research in support of critical government missions.

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funding to further their research in support of critical government missions.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA IS AMONG THE TOP 20 BEST COLLEGES FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER STUDENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, has been selected as one of the nation's top 20 best colleges and universities for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students, according to the Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students released today. The guide also lists the University of Minnesota, Duluth, as one of the 100 best campuses for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students.

“That two of our campuses have been chosen among the top 100 says a lot about the university's system-wide commitment to improving the climate for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender (GLBT) and allied students,” said Anne Phibbs, system-wide director of the university's GLBT Programs Office. “We're a national model on how to serve GLBT students, faculty, staff, alums and visitors,” Phibbs said.

To be in the top 20 in the United States means that university's Twin Cities campus is among the best of the best in achieving the most outstanding accomplishments for LGBT progressiveness, said guide author Shane Windmeyer.

“The U of M is in the forefront of GLBT campus organizing and has been a pioneer in addressing issues of sexual orientation and gender identity within higher education,” Phibbs said.

Phibbs, who has served as the university's GLBT programs director since January, credits the students, staff and faculty who came before her with doing the work that has made the university a national model.

“A lot of work has been done, but we still have work to do throughout the U of M system. We want to get all of our campuses in the top 100,” Phibbs said.

The GLBT Programs Office is dedicated to improving campus climate for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people at the University of Minnesota and to addressing the harmful effects of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identification. The GLBT Programs Office achieves this goal by providing information and referrals, offering advocacy, and providing opportunities for education and community-building.

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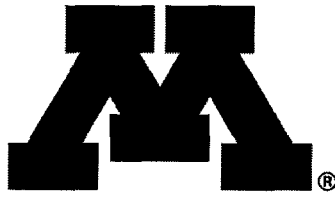
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and referrals, offering advocacy, and providing opportunities for education and community-building.

Campus PrideNet, a volunteer-driven network for and by student leaders and campus groups working to create a safer college environment for LGBT students, created the guide, which is the first comprehensive guide for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students.

The guide profiles 100 colleges and universities that offer resources and create a positive living and learning environment for LGBT students. Nearly 700 universities and colleges were nominated for the honor. The top 100 were selected for the guide based on policies, institutional commitment and support, academic life, housing, student life, counseling and health efforts, campus safety and recruitment and retention offers.

The guide provides basics on academic programs, student life, tuition and campus contacts. It also includes details about student groups; out students, faculty and staff; housing; LGBT studies courses; gay-friendly resources on campus and the social scene.



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For Immediate Release

August 1, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

LIVESTOCK EXPERT TEMPLE GRANDIN TO SPEAK AT BENEFIT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE MOVEMENTS (IFOAM) AUG. 24

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL International livestock handling expert Temple Grandin will speak at a benefit for the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), to be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

Temple Grandin is the author of several books, including "Animals in Translation" and "Thinking in Pictures." Grandin, an autistic woman who understands how animals see the world and has designed humane livestock handling systems, is a frequent guest on television and radio. Her talk is titled "Animals in Translation – How Animals See the World."

Grandin is a professor of animal science at Colorado State University. She has designed livestock facilities in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand and other countries. In North America, almost half of the cattle are handled in a center track restrainer system that she designed for meat plants.

Grandin teaches courses on livestock behavior and consults with the livestock industry on facility design, livestock handling, and animal welfare. She has appeared on television shows such as 20/20, 48 Hours, CNN Larry King Live, PrimeTime Live, the Today Show and many shows in other countries. She has been featured in People Magazine, the New York Times, Forbes, U.S. News and World Report, Time Magazine, the New York Times book review and Discover magazine.

Grandin will hold a book signing immediately following her speech. Tickets for the event, which cost \$25, can be ordered online at: http://shop.ifoam.org/animals/product_info.php?cPath=29&products_id=75

Those who purchase tickets can pick them up at the door. Purchases will be confirmed via email.

Grandin's speech will be followed by dancing, with live music performed by The Pheromones! The Pheromones play up-tempo rock, blues, and swing. They are perennial favorites at the Upper Midwest Organic Farming

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play up-tempo rock, blues, and swing. They are perennial favorites at the Upper Midwest Organic Farming Conference. Martin Diffley of the Gardens of Eagan, plays lead guitar.

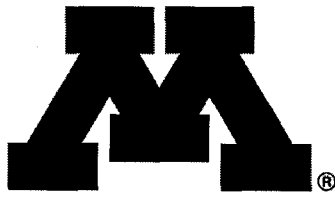
The benefit event is being held as part of the First IFOAM International Conference on Animals in Organic Production, being held Aug. 23-25 on the St. Paul campus. For complete information on the conference, visit: http://www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/IFOAM_Animal_Production_Conference.html

IFOAM is the international umbrella organization of organic agriculture movements worldwide, uniting more than 750 member organizations in 108 countries.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24

WHERE: North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul

Media interested in interviewing Temple Grandin, please contact Jeff Falk at (612) 626-1720 or jfalk@umn.edu



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2006

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GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION DAY IN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Gov. Tim Pawlenty has proclaimed Thursday, Aug. 3, University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year Recognition Day in Minnesota.

Fifty-nine families from around the state, one from each participating county, have been named a "2006 Farm Family of the Year." The winning families will be officially recognized in a ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3, in the U of M tent at the 25th Annual Farmfest in Redwood County. Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson will address the honorees and audience.

The families were chosen based on their contributions to the agricultural industry, their communities and the state. Families receiving honors have demonstrated a commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and agriculture production.

"Family farms are the foundation of Minnesota agriculture," said Bev Durgan, University of Minnesota Extension Service dean and director. "Looking at the 2006 winners, you quickly see that there is no standard definition for a Minnesota family farm. The one factor they all have in common is that the families work together to make their farm successful. That farm family work ethic is the major contributor to the success of Minnesota communities and Minnesota agriculture."

For information on the 2006 University of Minnesota Farm Family of the Year winners or the recognition event, visit the U's farm family website: <http://mnfarmfamilies.cfans.umn.edu>.

More information on Farmfest is available at www.farmshows.com/ffst.

The following is the text of the governor's official proclamation:

Whereas, Agriculture contributes tremendous bounty and economic activity to the state of Minnesota, and

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Whereas, Farm Families are the foundation of Minnesota agriculture and Minnesota's rural communities, and

Whereas, Minnesota farm families raise crops and livestock efficiently while protecting the environment, and

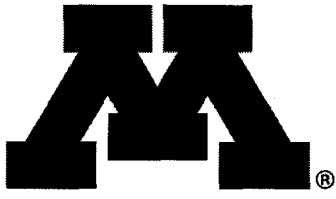
Whereas, the production from Minnesota family farms fuels more than \$2.2 billion of exports and provides the raw material for Minnesota's leadership in renewable energy, and

Whereas, the University of Minnesota recognizes the vital role of farm families and celebrates the role of farm families through the Farm Family Recognition program, and

Whereas, 59 families from around the state, have been named a "2006 Farm Family of the Year", and

Whereas, these families were chosen based on their contributions to the agriculture industry, their communities and the state,

Therefore, be it resolved that I, Tim Pawlenty, Governor of the State of Minnesota do hereby proclaim Aug. 3, 2006 to be University of Minnesota Farm Family Recognition day in the State of Minnesota.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

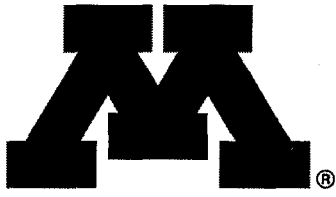
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR FUND RAISING

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has won a 2006 CASE-WealthEngine Award for Educational Fund Raising, which honors superior fund-raising programs across the country. The award is based on the amount of voluntary support the institutions receive. Minnesota was one of 10 schools honored for continuously high fund-raising performance during the fiscal years 2000-2005.

“This award is a reflection of the generosity of so many alumni and friends who value higher education and want to help build the University of Minnesota,” said Gerald Fischer, president and CEO of the University of Minnesota Foundation, which tracks and reports all gifts to the university. “I expect this trend to continue. Higher education is a top philanthropic priority for donors nationally, and many University of Minnesota alumni and friends are excited by the changes the university is making toward its goal of becoming one of the top three public research universities in the world.”

The period covered by this award includes the last four years of the seven-year Campaign Minnesota, which raised \$1.67 billion for the university. Voluntary support, which measures gifts and non-contractual research grants, was \$194 million in fiscal year 2000 and \$265 million in fiscal 2005. “We've seen tremendous growth in giving to the university during these years. Private giving has made a substantial positive difference in supporting students, faculty, university programs and research, while advancing the excellence of, and access to, this great university,” said Fischer.

Institutions become eligible for consideration for the WealthEngine Award when they submit annual fund-raising data to the Council for Aid to Education's Voluntary Support of Education (VSE) survey for three or more consecutive years. This year, 1,246 institutions were eligible.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M TO RECOGNIZE STEP UP SUMMER JOB PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will host a ceremony to recognize more than 400 participants in the STEP UP Summer Job Program at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 7 in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. Minneapolis.

STEP UP is operated by ACHIEVE!Minneapolis, a youth advocacy group that seeks to galvanize community resources to help all Minneapolis Public School students succeed in school and become productive citizens. This is the third year the University of Minnesota has participated in the program.

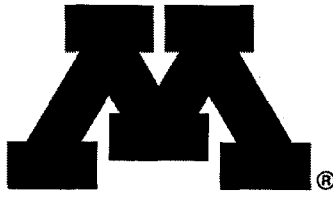
ACHIEVE!Minneapolis, along with the university and the city of Minneapolis, recruit, train and place 16- to 21-year-olds in summer jobs. They provide the young people and employers with ongoing support and training throughout the summer. Employers agree to hire a youth at a minimum of 20 hours a week, between June 19 and Aug. 25, paying at least \$7 an hour.

“This program has proven to be an important piece of the University's K-12 outreach to benefit local youth while inspiring students to further their education,” said U of M program coordinator Tex Ostvig. “For a minimum investment, we could change the life of these young people simply because they are given the opportunity to work, interact with caring adults, be exposed to the University of Minnesota campus and learn the value of work in a nurturing, educational environment.”

STEP UP participants hired by university departments are given e-mail accounts, personal E-Portfolio accounts, opportunities to attend university-sponsored leadership development workshops and tickets to Minnesota Twins games and concerts.

WHEN: 2:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 7

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2006

Contacts: *David Carl, U of M Rochester provost, (507) 281-7791*
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ANNOUNCES NEXT STEPS IN U OF M ROCHESTER PROCESS

ROCHESTER, MINN. -- Speaking to the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee (RHEDC) today, University of Minnesota Board of Regents Vice-Chair Patricia Simmons, Senior Vice President for System Academic Administration Robert Jones and University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR) Provost David Carl outlined next steps in expanding the role of the university in southeast Minnesota.

"The university is steadily moving ahead in realizing the future of higher education in Rochester and southeastern Minnesota," Jones said. "Students are already able to take advantage of new course offerings this fall."

Items discussed, included:

New academic degree programs:

- Starting this fall, UMR will offer the following new academic degree programs: doctor of education in educational leadership, master of healthcare administration, bachelor in graphic design, bachelor in art technology and photography and a post baccalaureate certificate in technology integration.
- In addition, the university is on track to expand its offering in fall 2007 with the following academic degree programs: doctor of nursing practice, masters in occupational therapy, professional masters in nursing, bachelor in clinical laboratory science and bachelor in music technology. The doctor of nursing practice and the bachelor in music technology program will be reviewed by the Board of Regents in upcoming months.

Technology commercialization office:

- UMR has established a technology commercialization office as recommended by the RHEDC. This office will provide a "front door" to the university for providing information and network support for university translational research.

- more -

New campus facility:

- The university will first lease and then purchase or build a new facility at a later time to meet the demand for greater space and new lab facilities. Academic programs offered in Rochester will guide the ultimate site selection. The new building will include classrooms with technology and faculty offices, specialized laboratories and practice labs and provide proximity to clinical and research settings.

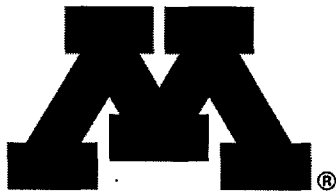
Destination campus:

- UMR will create a “destination campus” with focused academic programs and planning in the area of health sciences, biotechnology and technology.

Center for Allied Health Programs:

- Last month the Board of Regents approved the creation of a new Center for Allied Health Programs, which will help meet Minnesota’s pressing health workforce needs. The new center will be developed on the U of M Rochester and Twin Cities campuses and will involve public-private partnerships.

The university’s expansion in Rochester is based on the recommendations the RHEDC presented to Gov. Tim Pawlenty in January 2006. The Legislature this past session approved state funding for the expansion.



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For Immediate Release

August 4, 2006

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SPEAK OUT FOR MILITARY KIDS EVENT SLATED FOR AUG. 5

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Military kids aged 12-17 from around the state will present their own skits, lectures or videos about what it's like to have a parent or family member deployed overseas.

The special event, part of a Speak Out for Military Kids (SOMK) retreat, takes place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 5, at the Grand Lodge Hotel and Water Park of America, 1700 American Blvd. E., Bloomington.

SOMK is an educational program designed to raise the awareness of issues facing military families during mobilization and deployment. SOMK provides its youth participants with the opportunity to gain valuable leadership and research, organization, technology and public speaking skills.

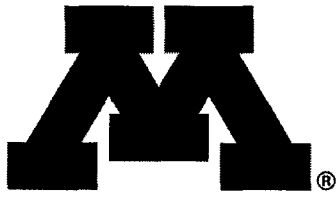
In Minnesota, SOMK is coordinated by Minnesota 4-H, part of the University of Minnesota Extension Service, as well as the Minnesota National Guard, the U.S. Army Reserve and the Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

The presentations will range from skits and lectures to videos and interviews.

The intent is to help build awareness in the community about what these kids are experiencing," said Amber Runke, Extension state 4-H events coordinator and Operation: Military Kids program, specialist. "They also get to connect with other kids who are going through the same process - namely a parent or family member who is deployed, was deployed or who will be deployed."

WHEN: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 5

WHERE: Grand Lodge Hotel and Water Park of America, 1700 American Blvd. E., Bloomington



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EMBARGO: UNTIL 12:01 A.M. AUG. 11

August 7, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

THE 'GOOD LIFE' ELUSIVE FOR MIDDLE CLASS WORKING COUPLES WITH CHILDREN

~ Super couples 'Have it all' ... except children ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- In research to be presented at the American Sociological Association's annual meeting, Phyllis Moen, McKnight Presidential Chair in Sociology at the University of Minnesota, says that middle class couples who both work struggle to compete in job environments designed for single earners with no family responsibilities. According to Moen, couples still are operating under outdated work policies and practices and institutional and organizational rules designed for a one earner, one homemaker model.

"Middle class couples are stretched thin in terms of time by "work-friendly" jobs," said Moen. "In part this reflects the realities of a global information economy with its speed-ups, pressures to increase productivity, 24-7 availability by computer, downsizing insecurities, expectations of long hours and little schedule flexibility."

In her paper, Moen describes evidence that middle class dual-earner couples, who appear advantaged given their education and resources, are nevertheless stretched thin. In fact, fewer than one in six qualify as "super couples" (those where both husband and wife have a high quality of life). And those who fit this category tend to be couples with no children.

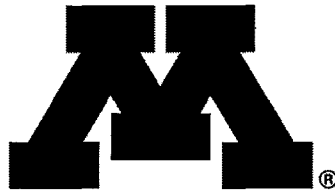
In about half of the 1,060 couples she studied, Moen found that both the husbands and wives reported either low quality of life or only adequate -- what she calls "good enough" -- quality of life. Women working in job environments that are insecure or offer them little scheduling flexibility and control are unlikely to have individual or couple life quality.

Moen's paper, "Dual-Earner Middle-Class Time Convoys, Ecologies, and Life-Course 'Fit:' Super Couples or Couples Stretched Thin?" will be presented from 4:30 - 6:10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11, at the Palais des congrès de Montreal (the convention center in downtown Montreal, Canada).

Moen studies and has published numerous books and articles on occupational careers, retirement, families, health, gender and social policy, as they intersect and as they play out over the life course. Her two most recent

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books report on data obtained through a grant supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. They are "It's About Time: Couples and Careers" (2003) and "The Career Mystique: Cracks in the American Dream" (2005, with Pat Roehling). The Career Mystique earned the 2005 Award for Excellence in Sociology and Social Work from the Association of American Publishers Professional and Scholarly Publishing Division.



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August 7, 2006

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Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu

BP'S ALASKA OIL FIELD AND GAS PRICES

Beyond Petroleum (BP) has announced the shutdown of the biggest oil field in the United States due to major corrosion in one of its pipelines. The oil supply affected accounts for eight percent of the nation's oil. This reduction in global oil output will put additional strain on an already tight oil market and is certain to affect prices at the pump. University of Minnesota experts who can talk about the possible surge in oil and gas prices and alternative fuels are:

Akshay R. Rao, professor of marketing at the U's Carlson School of Management

Rao is the chairman of the department of marketing and logistics management and a professor of marketing at the U's Carlson School. He specializes in pricing and can answer questions on gas prices in response to the shutdown of the oilfield. Rao can also field questions in the general arena of gas pricing strategy.

Alfred Marcus, professor of strategic management and organization at the U's Carlson School of Management

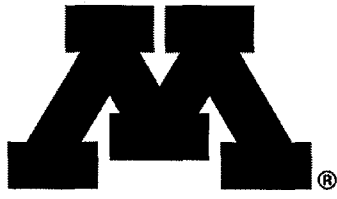
Marcus can talk about the supply and demand dynamics that contribute to the price of gas at the pump. He can also talk about hybrid technologies such as hybrid electric vehicles or ethanol. Marcus can discuss hybrid technologies and what the government needs to do to provide incentives that will result in more fuel efficient vehicles and less oil dependency in the future.

Jerry Fruin, professor in the applied economics department at the U's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

Fruin can talk about BP's announcement this morning and how this ties into the global supply of oil vs. directly affecting the prices at US pumps.

To interview any of the experts above, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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August 7, 2006

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Martin Moen, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, (612) 624-0702

FIRST-EVER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ORGANIC LIVESTOCK TO BE HELD IN ST. PAUL; REGISTRATION DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) will hold the first-ever international conference on organic livestock from Wednesday, Aug. 23 to Friday, Aug. 25, on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus. The registration deadline -- Aug. 15 -- is fast approaching, and those considering attending are encouraged to register at once to take part in this historic event.

Today the world is confronted by the negative repercussions of industrial animal agriculture. The pollution from animal waste harms waterways, human health, aquatic life and the animals themselves. An example of a tragedy caused in large part by this agricultural model is the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico, which in 1999 covered an area of 7,728 square miles, which is equivalent to all of the surface water in Minnesota. There are many other threats from industrial agricultural practices.

Organic agriculture takes a systematic approach that strives to ensure none of these elements are part of animal production systems, and IFOAM is bringing together leading livestock researchers and producers from throughout the world to unite and improve these efforts globally.

This conference will focus on key issues concerning organic livestock and animal husbandry, concentrating on health and food safety, marketing trends and innovations in organic livestock systems.

The conference will begin on Aug. 23 with tours of organic livestock farms in the Twin Cities area, including a tour of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum (www.arboretum.umn.edu), which features spectacular annual and perennial display gardens, collections of plants developed for northern climates, natural and native areas, and demonstration gardens.

Tour bus stops include Cedar Summit Dairy, Jeff and Pam Riesgraf's organic dairy, Roger and Michelle Benrud's organic dairy, the O'Reilly's Shamrock Organic Dairy, John Luhman's organic grass-fed beef farm, Harmony

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Organic Poultry, Brad and Leanne Donnay's organic goat dairy and the Duffley's Gardens of Eagan organic produce farm. Those interested in the preparation and sale of organic livestock products will have the chance to visit several retail stores in the Twin Cities area.

During the evening of Aug. 23, opening remarks will be delivered by Minnesota Commissioner of Agriculture Gene Hugoson, and the university's dean of extension, Bev Durgan. The opening keynote will be given by Fred Kirschenmann of Iowa State University's Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. Kirschenmann will discuss, "Animals in an Organic System – Exploring the Ecological, Social, and Economic Functions of Animals in Organic Agriculture."

Mette Vaarst of the Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, will speak on "Sustaining Animal Health and Food Safety Through Organic Methods" during the morning keynote on Aug. 24. There will be workshops on organic poultry, dairy, sheep, hogs, and beef, as well as organic livestock standards. Groundbreaking research will be presented about differences between antibiotic-resistant bacteria found on organic versus conventional livestock farms.

Noted author, researcher and acclaimed speaker Temple Grandin will present the evening keynote, which will be held in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave. Grandin, an autistic woman who has developed humane livestock handling systems used worldwide, will present "Animals in Translation," which explores how animals see the world.

The evening of Aug. 24 will conclude with a dance party in the North Star Ballroom, with music provided by The Pheromones.

David Wallinga from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, will give the morning keynote on Aug. 25. Wallinga will discuss "Antibiotic Resistance and the Organic Alternative." There will be workshops on humane treatment, biosecurity, animal health, market access, milk quality and food safety.

The closing keynote will be given by Jim Riddle, the university's coordinator for Organic Agriculture Outreach, who will discuss "Fostering Organic Livestock Research – Priorities and Preferences." The program will conclude with reports from session moderators on key findings of the conference, along with a conference resolution, presented by Angela Caudle, IFOAM's executive director.

The registration deadline is Aug. 15. Complete information about the conference, including on-line registration, can be found at:

www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/IFOAM_Animal_Production_Conference.html

Sponsors for the conference include Organic Valley, Newman's Own Organics, Northland Organic Foods, Stoneyfield Farm, Indian Herbs, Horizon Organic, Aurora Organic Dairy, FiBL – Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, MOSES – Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Services, Organic Choice, OTA – Organic

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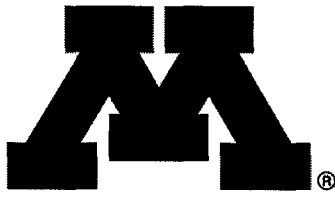
Trade Association, Sunrich/SunOpta, Crystal Creek, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the University of Minnesota.

Delicious local organic food will be served throughout the conference, with donations from Gardens of Eagan, Organic Valley, Stoneyfield Farm, Horizon Organic, Nancy's Organic Yogurt, The Wedge, French Meadow Bakery, Co-op Partners Warehouse, Frey Organic Vineyards, Pastureland Dairy, Peace Coffee, and Cornercopia, the university's Student Organic Farm on the St. Paul campus.

WHEN: Wednesday, Aug. 23, to Friday, Aug. 25

WHERE: Continuing Education and Conference Center, 1890 Buford Ave., University of Minnesota, St. Paul

**Media interested in covering the conference, please register at
http://www.ifoam.org/events/ifoam_conferences/Press_Accreditation.html**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 8, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M PANEL TO DISCUSS CUBA AFTER CASTRO

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A mix of academic and community activists will convene at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 14, to discuss the future of Cuba in light of Fidel Castro's questionable health. "Cuba After Castro" will take place at the Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive S.E., Minneapolis, and is sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Study. This event is free and open to the public.

Panelists include U of M political science professors August Nimtz and David Samuels, U of M sociology professor Enid Logan, graduate student Melisa Rivière, and activists Joe Callahan and Terrell Webb.

Panelist bios:

August Nimtz Jr. is a professor of political science. His publications include "Marx and Engels - Their Contribution to the Democratic Breakthrough, Islam and Politics in East Africa," and essays on Marxism and the politics of socialist transformation in the Caribbean and South Africa. He has taught classes on "Cuban Revolution Through the Words of Cuban Revolutionaries" and "Che: In His Own Words."

Enid Logan's research focuses on conflicts between church and state and on questions of race and ethnicity in 20th century Cuba.

David Samuels specializes in Latin American politics and the comparative study of political institutions.

In preparation for her doctoral research Melisa Rivière worked in Havana, Cuba as a team documentarian in conjunction with the Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Art and Industry. She worked on a film titled "Revolutionary Cubanas." She is now a MacArthur Doctoral Scholar in the university's department of anthropology developing research on the four elements of hip-hop in Cuba and Puerto Rico. She returned from a hip-hop conference in Cuba last week.

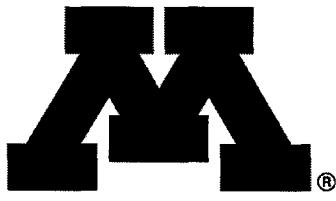
Joe Callahan is a member of Minnesota Cuba Committee and Venceremos Brigade, a group that sends annual work brigades to Cuba in solidarity with Cuban socialism. He recently returned from Cuba, where his delegation

- more -

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met with Ricardo Alarcon, the head of Cuba's National Assembly.

Terrell Webb is an undergraduate student at the university and was part of the Venceremos Brigade delegation that recently met with Alarcon.



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August 9, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES ACQUIRE PENUMBRA THEATRE ARCHIVE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Libraries have acquired the institutional archive of Penumbra Theatre Company, which will become part of the Givens Collection of African American Literature.

The archive includes the historical documentation of the theatre as well as the personal and artistic papers of Penumbra founder and artistic director Lou Bellamy, who is also on the faculty of the university's department of theatre arts and dance. Penumbra is Minnesota's only professional African-American theatre, and is one of only three professional African-American theaters in the nation to offer a full season of performances. Once the Penumbra archive is catalogued and processed, it will be available for research and study by the general public as well as students, faculty and staff.

"The acquisition of Penumbra Theatre's archive into the University Libraries' collection is a major boon for researchers from the university community, the state, and across the globe," said Steven Rosenstone, dean of the university's College of Liberal Arts. "Now everyone from serious scholars of the African-American experience to avocational theatre buffs can experience and learn from this rich trove of primary source material. Something quite extraordinary happens when a library visitor can touch, read and examine original documents with her or his own eyes."

The University Libraries' Givens Collection of African American Literature contains more than 5,000 primary source items--novels, poems, plays, diaries, and photographs--related to African-American history and culture. The Penumbra archive, which was a gift from Penumbra to the university, consists of more than 70 boxes of records and memorabilia chronicling the theatre's 30-year history, including photographs, set and costume designs and sketches, administrative records, programs, and other key documents.

"Marking the path is important," Bellamy said of the importance of Penumbra's archive. "So many people have given so much of themselves to build and maintain Penumbra. It is crucial to impart the knowledge we have gained on building community to future generations. This effort must ensure their access to the documentation

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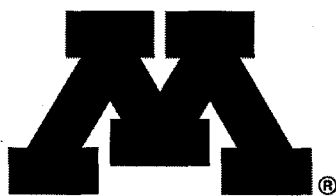
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that shows what we have done, that we were here, that we marked the path. It is our history.”

In May 2007, Penumbra and the University Libraries will host a public event to celebrate the acquisition of the archive. Bellamy will speak at the event, and materials from the collection will be on display. The event will also be part of Penumbra's yearlong 30th anniversary celebration.

Penumbra, founded in 1976 by Bellamy, was born of the Civil Rights and Black Arts Movement and the tenet that an artist's ethics and aesthetics must be one. Out of this comes mission driven art, art for social change, art that is critical, forceful and demands response - art that creates and sustains a community. Under Bellamy's continuous leadership, Penumbra has garnered critical acclaim for creating an authentic voice and style for African American theatre and achieved national recognition as a pioneer in cross-cultural dialogue. Penumbra's mission is to create professional productions that are artistically excellent, thought provoking, relevant, and illuminate the human condition through the prism of the African American experience.

The University of Minnesota Libraries are among the university's and the state's greatest intellectual and capital assets. Housed in 14 facilities on the Twin Cities campuses, the University Libraries' collections contain more than six million print volumes, making it the 16th largest research library in North America.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M TO SHARE \$100 MILLION NASA 'SPACE WEATHER' GRANT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Four university teams, including one led by the University of Minnesota, will share \$100 million to provide experiments and supporting hardware for a future NASA mission to study near-Earth space radiation. This type of radiation is hazardous to astronauts, orbiting satellites and aircraft flying high altitude polar routes.

The teams will initially use \$4.2 million to perform a one-year cost, management and technical study prior to assembling and testing their scientific payload for the mission. The anticipated lifetime cost of payload development is \$96 million.

Called the Radiation Belt Storm Probes, the two-spacecraft mission is scheduled for launch in 2012. The mission will study how accumulations of space radiation form and change during space storms.

"We've been waiting a long time for this opportunity, and we're delighted to be able to participate," said John Wygant, associate professor of physics and the principal investigator for the University of Minnesota-led project.

Earth is surrounded by two doughnut-shaped radiation belts, called the Van Allen Belts after their discoverer, James Van Allen. The belts fit one inside the other, and the outer belt extends as far as 20,000 miles above the Earth. Both are part of the inner area of the Earth's magnetic field. The University of Minnesota-led team will study electric fields in space that energize radiation particles and modify the structure of the Van Allen Belts.

"The processes that form radiation belts are mysterious," said Wygant. "We want to understand all the mechanisms that energize particles in the belts. The belts intensify, expand and contract with geomagnetic activity or activity in the Earth's magnetic field. At such times, people in northern areas are apt to see especially strong displays of the aurora borealis. Radiation belt intensifications can also cause spacecraft to malfunction, and it is suspected that some have even been lost because of this. Satellites in this region of space include weather, communications, GPS and military satellites."

- more -

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Energy from radiation belt intensifications can black out long-distance communications over entire continents and disrupt the global navigational system.

"This research will provide information to aid those working in this environment to respond proactively to space radiation events, rather than reactively," said NASA's Heliophysics Division Director Dick Fisher.

Along with the University of Minnesota-led project, the other three teams and experiments selected for the 2012 mission are:

- Boston University: directly measure the near-Earth space radiation particles to determine the physical processes that produce radiation enhancements and loss.
- University of Iowa: understand the origin of plasma waves that energize space particles to radiation levels; measure the distortions to Earth's magnetic field that control the structure of the planet's radiation belts.
- New Jersey Institute of Technology: determine how space weather creates what is called the "storm time ring current" around Earth and determine how that ring current supplies and supports the creation of radiation populations.

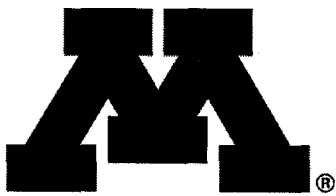
NASA also has selected three teams to share approximately \$2.3 million to conduct studies for small missions that will augment the 2012 mission. NASA will review the studies and select one investigation for continued development.

The National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, Va., plans to enhance the mission's scientific goals by contributing an experiment to gather additional data that will better characterize the radiation environment in space. The experiment will extend the measurement capabilities to a range beyond what was originally planned for the mission.

These investigations and the Radiation Belt Storm Probe mission are part of NASA's Living with a Star Program. The program is designed to understand how and why the sun varies, how planetary systems respond and the effect on human space and Earth activities.

The program is managed by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md., for the agency's Heliophysics Division of the Science Mission Directorate.

For more information on NASA's Living with a Star Geospace Program, visit:<http://www.lws.nasa.gov/geospace>



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EMBARGO: UNTIL 12:01 A.M. EDT

August 10, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA STUDY SAYS TEEN WORK PROMOTES EARLY ADULT CAREERS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Research reported today at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) by Jeylan Mortimer, sociology professor at the University of Minnesota, found that although many youth have difficulty in finding a job with career potential, extensive work experiences during high school hastens the movement toward a "career job" in early adulthood. The study focuses on high school youths' own assessments of whether their jobs constitute "careers."

"The pace by which young people come to recognize their jobs as careers appears to be far from random," said Mortimer, the lead researcher of the study. "Adolescents' orientations and experiences during high school significantly influence the process of 'career' acquisition thereafter."

Job characteristics after leaving high school, such as having higher wages, longer work hours and early job training likewise hasten young adults' progress into career-like jobs. The research, conducted by Mortimer, Jeremy Staff, professor at Penn State University, Mike Vuolo and other associates at the University of Minnesota, is supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. It is based on the Youth Development Study, an ongoing study of 1,010 Minnesota youth that has surveyed the youth annually from their first year of high school in 1988 at age 14 to the age of 30.

The research also found that sources of advantage, such as being male, native-born and from a two-parent family, are associated with faster acquisition of careers, as are high self-esteem and parenthood.

"In the context of the rather precarious school-to-work transition in the United States, youth move toward careers through early intensive work experience during high school, which positions them for employment that is relatively quickly acknowledged as having career potential," explained Mortimer. "On-the-job training after high school and receipt of an associate's degree also have positive payoff with respect to acquiring a 'career' job."

The research concluded that a second, longer route toward a career involves less intensive employment during high school, followed by post-secondary educational investment, more often in four-year colleges. This

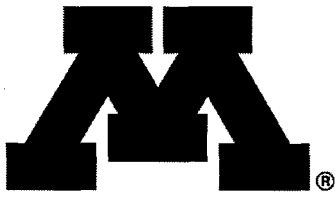
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pathway, which eventually also leads to “careers,” is favored by more advantaged youth.

To obtain a copy of Mortimer’s paper, for more information on other ASA presentations, the meeting in general, or for assistance reaching the researchers, contact Johanna Olexy at the ASA Press Office at (202) 247-9871, pubinfo@asanet.org.

The American Sociological Association, founded in 1905, is a non-profit membership association dedicated to serving sociologists in their work, advancing sociology as a science and profession, and promoting the contributions and use of sociology to society.

EMBARGO: until 12:01 a.m. EDT Aug. 13



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U OF M KICKS OFF STATE FAIR SEASON EARLY: FEATURES A GOLDY GOPHER BUTTER SCULPTURE AND STATE FAIR FOOD ON AUG. 16

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will kick off the state fair season early with special University Dining Services (UDS) state fair food and a sculpted butter bust of Goldy Gopher from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16.

“This is an exciting opportunity for the university community to get in the mood for the ‘Great Minnesota Get-Together’ and stock up on Golden Gopher pride,” says Suzanne Hedrick, UDS marketing manager.

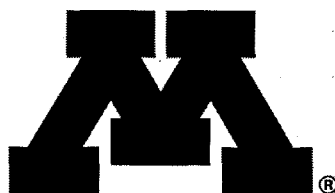
The sculpted Goldy butter bust will be on display at the Coffman Union ground floor food court, the Minnesota Marketplace, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The Minnesota Marketplace will serve corn dogs, corn on the cob and funnel cakes.

In addition, state fair admission tickets for \$7 (regular \$9) and special edition T-shirts are on sale at the U of M Bookstore.

Note to media: TV cameras are encouraged to arrive at 10 a.m. to get footage of the sculpted Goldy butter bust before dining gets underway at 11 a.m.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 16

WHERE: Minnesota Marketplace, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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August 11, 2006

*Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770,
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038
Registration Contact: (612) 626-9634, firsttuesday@csom.umn.edu*

PRESIDENT AND COO OF BLUE CROSS TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE IN MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Colleen Reitan, president and COO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, will speak at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management First Tuesday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 5 at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In her presentation, "Finishing the job: A plan for universal health care coverage in Minnesota," Reitan will discuss how Minnesota is closer than any other state in the nation to achieving universal health care coverage, and why achieving this goal is within the state's reach. She will outline the components of a universal coverage proposal developed by Blue Cross and designed to add to current discussions in Minnesota about obtaining health care coverage for all its residents.

Headquartered in Eagan, Minn., Blue Cross is the nation's oldest and largest health benefits organization. The organization contracts with more hospitals and physicians than any other insurer and is the largest health plan based in Minnesota, covering 2.6 million members nationally through its health plans or plans administered by its affiliated companies.

In her 20-year career at Blue Cross, Reitan has developed a broad background in health plan management as executive vice president, operations; senior vice president of provider network management and government business; and as CEO of Blue Plus, the HMO subsidiary of Blue Cross. She holds a master's degree in health care administration from the University of Minnesota and currently serves on the boards of the Greater Twin Cities United Way, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities and the Visitation School Board.

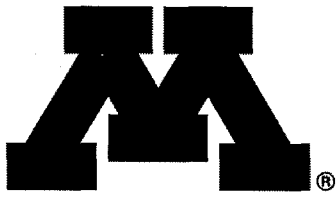
Each month the First Tuesday luncheon draws around 300 local business leaders, Carlson School alumni, students, and educators, who hear from the leading business voices on today's economy.

Advance registration by Aug. 31 is \$23 and \$28 for walk-ins. Space is limited. The fee includes lunch and parking

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in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting
www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events, or by e-mailing fristuesday@csom.umn.edu.



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August 11, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M'S DANTE CICHETTI TO RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Dante Cicchetti, the University of Minnesota McKnight Presidential Chair, Institute of Child Development and department of psychiatry, will receive the Urie Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contribution to Developmental Psychology at the American Psychological Association Convention (Aug. 10-13, 2006) in New Orleans.

The Bronfenbrenner Award was established in 1996 to honor Urie Bronfenbrenner, the Jacob Gould Schurman Professor Emeritus of Human Development at Cornell University. The Urie Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contribution to Developmental Psychology in the Service of Science and Society is given to an individual whose work has, over a lifetime career, contributed not only to the science of developmental psychology, but who has also worked to benefit the application of developmental psychology to society. The individual's contributions may have been made through advocacy, direct service, influencing public policy or education, or through any other routes that enable scientific developmental psychology to better the condition of children and families.

Cicchetti is widely regarded as one of the leading researchers and scholars in the field of developmental psychopathology. Cicchetti is a theoretician and empirical scientist whose research is applied to interventions for children and families in the areas of adult and child depression, child maltreatment, family functioning, parenting, resolving conflict, coping with violence and other stresses, and in interpersonal relationships in children. Advanced interdisciplinary research provides the foundation for his work. His areas of study include diverse psychological, social-contextual and biological processes and their interrelations across development as they contribute to adaptation, resilience, maladjustment and psychopathology.

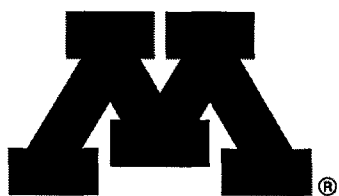
Cicchetti joined the University of Minnesota faculty in July 2005. Before this he was the Shirley Cox Kearns Professor of Psychology, Psychiatry, and Pediatrics at the University of Rochester, N.Y., where he launched four major initiatives that have defined and established the discipline of developmental psychopathology and founded and directed the Mt. Hope Family Center. He received a doctorate in clinical psychology and child development, with minors in behavior genetics, neuroscience and psychophysiology, from the University of Minnesota department of psychology and Institute of Child Development in 1977. He was on the faculty of

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Harvard University until he left for the University of Rochester in 1985.

Cicchetti has received several awards, including the Developmental Division of the American Psychological Association's (APA) G. Stanley Hall Award in 2005 and the APA Senior Career Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest.



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August 14, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

TRANSFORMING THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR MINNESOTA'S ENVIRONMENT?

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Big changes are happening at the University of Minnesota. On July 1, the university launched the new College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS), integrating the College of Natural Resources, College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences and the department of Food Science and Nutrition. The reconfiguration of the colleges is being carried out as part of President Robert Bruininks' Strategic Positioning process, which aims to better align the university's resources with the future needs of Minnesota and to place the university in the top three public research universities in the world. As an additional element of the redesign, the university will establish the Institute on the Environment, which will coordinate the university's broad resources in environmental research and education.

On Wednesday, Aug. 16, the Minnesota Environmental Initiative (MEI) is holding a policy forum at the Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, to discuss the implications of the new college and the institute for stakeholders in the public and private sectors. Participants at the forum will have the opportunity to explore the university's perspectives on the integration of food, health and the environment; find out what role the Institute on the Environment will play at the university and in the community; and reflect on what has been and what will be the role of the university's work in Minnesota's economy and environment.

Participants will join panelists for a conversation about the opportunities in research, teaching, and community engagement created by the reconfiguration of the university colleges and the establishment of the new Institute on the Environment. For more information on the conference and to register, visit www.mn-ei.org.

AGENDA

9 a.m. Welcome and introduction
Steve Morse, Minnesota Environmental Initiative board of directors

9:15 a.m. "The University of Minnesota: looking forward"

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Robert Bruininks, president, University of Minnesota

President Bruininks will discuss the principles behind the reorganization at the university and how the new College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences and the Institute on the Environment are part of a new paradigm at the university.

10 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. "Institute on the Environment and CFANS: what is known, what is not known, and what might be in the future"

After brief presentations about the institute and the new college, University of Minnesota panel members will discuss questions from audience members.

Panelists include:

Thomas Sullivan, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, U of M

Kate VandenBosch, interim dean of the College of Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS)

Deborah Swackhamer, co-director, Water Resources Center and professor, environmental chemistry

11 a.m. "Engaging the University: a conversation with the university and stakeholders"

University and stakeholder panelists will respond to the issues and questions raised during the first half of the forum and then take questions from each other and the audience.

Panelists include:

Kate VandenBosch

Deborah Swackhamer

Diane Jensen, executive director, the Minnesota Project

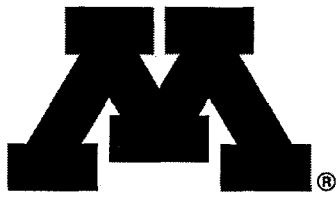
Gene Hugoson, commissioner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (invited)

Wayne Brandt, Minnesota Forest Industries and Forest Resources Council

WHEN: 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Aug. 16

WHERE: Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul

Media planning to attend, please RSVP to sshreffler@mn-ei.org



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August 15, 2006

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THE U OF M AT THE 'GREAT MINNESOTA GET-TOGETHER'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota is gearing up once again to be among the largest attractions at this year's Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from Thursday, Aug. 24 through Monday, Sept. 4.

Over the course of 12 days, more than 100 university experts and scholars will be on hand to share their cutting-edge research and discoveries that have impacted the world. Visitors can view the innovations the university has brought to life as it embarks on its goal to become one of the top three public research institutions in the world.

All five U campuses and more than 40 colleges and offices will showcase their programs and services at locations across the fairgrounds.

The U's state fair highlights include:

- **Dynamic stage and booth programs:** Stage programs will be held daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors can meet world champion endurance athlete "Rocket" Rod Raymond, the life fitness and wellness coordinator at the University of Minnesota Duluth, who will talk about achieving optimal health, gain insight on the latest developments in renewable energy and watch computer science professor Nikolaos Papanikolopoulos' scout robots that are used in search and rescue missions, to name just a few of the featured stage programs. In addition, university experts in the building will offer insight on student opportunities, research innovations and life-changing discoveries. To view a summary of program highlights, see <http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/audio/StateFairHighlights.doc> .

- **Goldy and friends:** Visitors can stop by the U building to shake hands with their favorite mascot, Goldy Gopher. Goldy will be on hand the following days:

- Friday, Aug. 25, 10 a.m. to noon
- Sunday, Aug. 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 28, 2 to 4 p.m.
- Monday, Sep. 4, 10 a.m. to noon

- **Daily giveaways:** This year's daily giveaways include a new limited edition maroon and gold mesh drawstring backpack filled with information on U programs. Visitors can register to win a pair of tickets to "Headliners," the new current events monthly lecture and forum with University of Minnesota experts.

- **Maroon and Gold Day is Sunday, Aug. 27.** Visitors are encouraged to proudly wear their maroon and gold attire and watch the University Alumni Band perform, participate in the "Know Your U" trivia game and cheer for the Alumni Association's Chief Executive Officer Margaret Sughrue Carlson at 11 a.m. and University President Robert Bruininks and his wife, Susan Hagstrum, at 3 p.m. as they don their cooking gear and take

- more -

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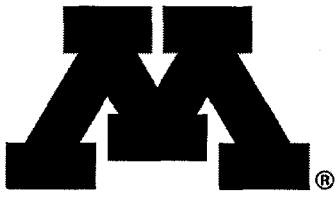
part in the celebrity guacamole chefs cook-off at the Tejas Booth, adjacent to the university building.

- At the coordinate campus exhibit, representatives from the university's statewide system, which includes Duluth, Crookston, Morris and Rochester, will be available to answer questions.
- University athletics will be on hand with sports displays and the "Stadium Experience" exhibit which features Gopher memorabilia, bleacher seating to watch Gopher highlights, past and present and the chance to learn about the university's plan for a new stadium scheduled for groundbreaking this fall. Tickets for the 2006 football home opener against Temple University on Sept. 16 will also be available to purchase for a special \$10 price each.

Other buildings and exhibits:

- 4-H building, U of M Extension Service: See more than 7,000 exhibits, including clothing, gardening and photography projects. Some 2,200 "blue ribbon" kids exhibit livestock during the fair's first four days. The U of M Extension Service is an outreach arm of the U; 4-H is an Extension youth program.
- Horticulture building: Visit with a master gardener. Demonstrations take place at 11 a.m., noon, 1 and 4 p.m. Find information on the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, new plant development and academic degrees in horticulture. See lawns, flowers, fruits and landscapes and meet U landscape designers, flower and rose breeders and turfgrass experts.
- Progress Center, Eco Experience exhibit: U design experts talk about sustainable building products and construction methods. View the latest U research on fuels from renewable biomass and the next generation of biofuels in the Eco Experience exhibit. A solar vehicle built by U students will also be on display.
- Free shuttle: For transportation to the fair, a free shuttle runs daily from the Huron Boulevard parking complex, at Huron Boulevard and 4th Street, Minneapolis, to the fairgrounds 8 a.m. to midnight and until 10 p.m. on Labor Day.

More information about the fair and a complete schedule and map of university events can be found at <http://www.umn.edu/statefair>. The fair runs from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.



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August 15, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PROFESSOR EXPLORES SPOONING, SNORING AND SHEET STEALING IN NEW BOOK ABOUT COUPLES SHARING BEDS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Snoring, spooning, stealing the sheets and sleeping in the nude -- for the millions of people who share a bed with a partner, University of Minnesota family social science professor Paul Rosenblatt's new book explores the challenges and benefits of "sleeping together."

In his newly-released book, "Two in a Bed: The Social System of Couple Bed Sharing," Rosenblatt examines the dynamic of couples sharing their sleeping space. "Two in a Bed" is a groundbreaking book in the field of sleep and relationships. While a plethora of writing exists about adults sleeping as an individual phenomenon, until now there was no book about sharing a bed, even though it's a part of millions of couples' lives.

"Sharing a bed is a complicated, changing and often a challenging experience and no one had written about it," Rosenblatt said. In his study for the book, Rosenblatt interviewed 42 bed-sharing couples. He examines what it means to share a bed with someone else, how it affects the couple's relationship, how the relationship affects the bed sharing and how couples dealt with the complexities of sharing a bed.

For most couples, their time chatting in bed is the most time they have to talk with each other on a daily basis and that talk can be crucially important to their relationship, Rosenblatt said.

"Lots of couples say that if they can both stay awake, they talk for a few minutes each night," Rosenblatt said.

Many couples told Rosenblatt about how important sleeping in the same bed is to them, because it's a time for intimacy, pleasure and feeling comfortable together. During the time before drifting off to sleep, couples catch up on what's going on with one another, plan, make decisions, deal with disagreements and solve problems.

"If couples don't have this time in bed, then they're in trouble," Rosenblatt said.

"Many of the couples interviewed said they would get a better night's sleep apart, but they don't want to sleep apart because of the intimacy of sharing a bed, the security and the sense of belonging together," Rosenblatt said.

- more -

Many books on sleep offer advice to individuals on how to sleep well, but those books do not delve into the connections between individual sleep and couple bed sharing, Rosenblatt said. One partner's health problems, snoring, or work tensions can impact the other's sleeping. Two people differ in hundreds of ways, and those differences can create trouble when people share a bed -- deep sleepers versus light sleepers, night-owls versus early birds and people who need the covers tucked in versus people who need them untucked. Those differences can be issues for a couple and how the differences are addressed can affect both partner's sleep. And, one partner's sleep problem can be a problem for the other. "For example," Rosenblatt said, "his insomnia can wreck her sleep."

Snoring is a common issue for couples and each couple finds their own ways to resolve the difficulty. For some, it involves a simple nudge and for others, it was more extreme like the couple sleeping on separate floors, he said.

People who have never shared a bed together have to learn how to do it. "Some people have spent years sprawled out across the bed or wrapped up in a blanket and suddenly they have to adjust to sleeping with someone," Rosenblatt said.

"As life changes, people have to learn how to sleep together and not just once, but again and again," Rosenblatt said.

If one partner has an injury or chronic illness or when the couples have kids, the couple needs to adjust to the new circumstances. An interesting finding in Rosenblatt's study involved life and death.

"Some couples feel that their sleeping together has meant that one of them saved the life of the other," he said.

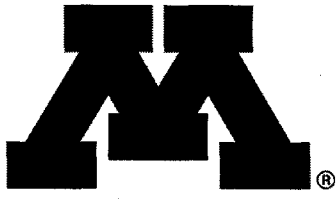
In fact, while some couples don't touch while they sleep, it was fortunate that one couple spoons all night.

"One couple was spooning as they slept when the woman had a seizure with minor movement and the husband woke up immediately and called 9-1-1," Rosenblatt said. "This couple felt like the woman might have died had they not been spooning."

At least two of the couples interviewed by Rosenblatt dealt with suicidal possibilities. "To keep the other partner alive, one man tied his wife's wrist to his wrist, so then he would know if she moved or got out of bed," Rosenblatt said.

Some people, especially women, felt a sense of security with their partner sleeping next to them.

"They feel that their partner will be an ally for them in facing an intruder," Rosenblatt said. "Some men joke they they don't think they would be any help, just another victim, but others feel protective, tough, and up to the job."



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For Immediate Release

August 15, 2006

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KIDS IN U OF M NORTH MINNEAPOLIS PASS PROGRAM TO SHOWCASE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL The Pathways to Academic and School Success (PASS), a free educational and recreational program for 6-to 8-year-olds, will hold an end-of-the-year picnic from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17 at the Folwell Community Center, 1615 Dowling Ave., N., Minneapolis.

The PASS program is offered through a partnership between the University of Minnesota and the Folwell Neighborhood Associations' Folwell Center for Urban Initiatives. The picnic will showcase student accomplishments and class projects and give parents their student progress reports and teacher recommendations for the upcoming school year.

The PASS program offers children instruction in reading, math, science and school success skills, as well as recreational activities. The program ran Monday through Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m. (June 19 through Aug. 17). PASS is directed by Jennifer McComas, associate professor, College of Education and Human Development, and staffed by four licensed teachers, seven graduate students and two undergraduate students.

WHEN: 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17

WHERE: Folwell Community Center, 1615 Dowling Ave. N., Minneapolis



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August 15, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

BELL MUSEUM CELEBRATES UPCOMING TV SHOW WITH COMPOSER PETER OSTROUSHKO IN CONCERT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Composer and musician Peter Ostroushko will perform a public concert in celebration of the newest episode in the Emmy-award winning TV series, "Minnesota: A History of the Land" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

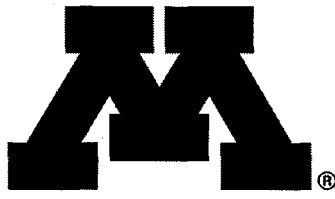
The concert will feature music from the show's soundtrack written and performed by Ostroushko and a preview of the episode, "The Northern Forest," with an introduction by Bell Museum director Scott Lanyon. A reception with light fare and a wine bar will follow.

Peter Ostroushko is a world-renowned fiddler and mandolin player, who has composed scores for several PBS documentaries including "Lewis and Clark" and "Mark Twain." "The Northern Forest," premiering on Twin Cities Public Television (tpt) in October, is the fifth in a series of highly acclaimed documentaries on Minnesota's landscapes and the people who changed them. Produced by Bell Museum Productions, "The Northern Forest" takes up where the series left off by tracing the forest's role in Minnesota's quality of life and economy.

Tickets are \$20 for the general public; \$15 for tpt members; \$10 for museum members. For tickets or information, call (612) 624-9050 or visit www.bellmuseum.org. The Bell Museum is part of the University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14

WHERE: 10 Church St. S.E., Bell Museum of Natural History, Minneapolis.



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EXPERT ALERT

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August 16, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu*

3 MORE PLANETS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM?

Nearly 2,500 astronomers from the International Astronomical Union are meeting for the next two weeks in Prague, Czech Republic, to agree on a standard system of defining what constitutes a planet. The past half-century has seen great advances in telescope technology, and scientists have been able to observe further into the galaxy and in more precise detail than ever before. Now, with asteroids and once unknown clusters visible, the space community may be adding three more planets, forcing updates in textbooks and encyclopedias across the globe. University of Minnesota experts who can comment on these astronomical changes are:

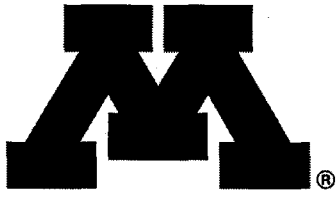
Terry Jones, professor of astronomy at the University of Minnesota

Professor Jones specializes in infrared astronomy, stars and the Milky Way. Widely published in his field, he has had the opportunity to work with the Minnesota Supercomputer Institute and the Hubble Space Telescope to locate obscure stars hidden in our galaxies. Jones is available to discuss the three planet candidates and some of the controversy over the possible new definition.

Larry Rudnick, professor of astronomy at the University of Minnesota

Professor Rudnick's research focuses on supernovas and cluster galaxies. An Institute of Technology Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award recipient, Rudnick has also consulted for public television's "Newton's Apple" and is a founding member of the Minnesota Planetarium Society.

To interview Jones or Rudnick, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu, or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.



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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

MINNESOTA BIOFUELS: IREE AT THE STATE FAIR

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) is gearing up to be a part of the new Eco Experience exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair. The exhibit will be located in the Progress Center (previously the Wonders of Technology building) on Randall Avenue, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul. Sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), the wide-ranging exhibit will feature interactive and educational information on renewable energy and energy efficiency, air and water conservation and protection, waste reduction, recycling and reuse, pollution reduction, transportation, and low impact, organic and environmentally favorable agriculture.

IREE will take part in the Eco Experience with a "Minnesota Biofuels" exhibit that will illustrate how plants and trees are used to create ethanol and other bio-based fuels. The goals of the exhibit are to show how bio-based fuels can be grown right here in Minnesota and to showcase research about the next generation of bio-based fuels.

Different aspects of the exhibit include:

- samples of energy plants grown in Minnesota (hybrid poplars, corn, soybeans, mixed grass perennials, switchgrass, miscanthus, and soybeans);
- a display on University of Minnesota research on the next generation of biofuels;
- an interactive display of an ethanol processing plant describing how ethanol is made;
- a display on the benefits of biodiesel and information on how it is made; and
- a mock E85 pump and a flex-fuel vehicle.

"Renewable energy is one of the issues of our time, and Minnesota is at the forefront of developing the next generation of biofuels for the next generation of citizens," said Dick Hemmingsen, IREE's director.

For more information about IREE, visit www.iree.umn.edu.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2006

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Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510 or (651) 485-3214*

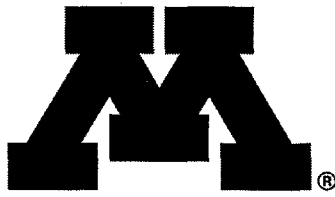
GOV. PAWLENTY TO SPEAK AT GROUNDBREAKING OF U OF M HORMEL INSTITUTE EXPANSION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Gov. Tim Pawlenty and University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks will be among those attending the groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion and renovation of the University of Minnesota's Hormel Institute in Austin, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21, at the institute, 801 16th Ave. N.E., Austin.

Under the leadership of Richard Knowlton of the Hormel Foundation, a new facility will be built and integrated within the current site of the Hormel institute. The contemporary design of the new facility will house state of the art equipment and create a highly favorable environment for research and further promote the Hormel Institute as a worldwide research center specializing in the study of natural compounds for the prevention, treatment and cure of cancer and other chronic diseases. The expansion is expected to add 100 jobs in the community and triple the current capacity of the institute.

The Hormel Institute was established in 1942 by Jay C. Hormel as a unit of the University of Minnesota Graduate School. The current building was completed in 1960 and houses 10 research laboratories and support space. The need for expansion and renovation arose from the increased growth of the institute and its worldwide recognition over the past five years. The staff has almost doubled and funding from the National Institute of Health has tripled.

In addition to Gov. Pawlenty and President Bruininks, groundbreaking ceremony participants include: Richard Knowlton, chairman of The Hormel Foundation; Zigang Dong, executive director, the Hormel Institute, University of Minnesota; Glenn Forbes, CEO, Mayo Clinic, Rochester; Bonnie Rietz, mayor of Austin, Joel Johnson, chairman of the board, Hormel Foods Corporation; and Ann Bode, assistant director Hormel Institute.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CONVERTS TO USING BIODIESEL BLEND

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Parking and Transportation Services continues to be a leader in the use of biobased fuels in its fleet on the Twin Cities campus. The university has converted its fuel tanks on the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses from diesel to a 20 percent biodiesel blend.

"It's important that we take steps to use fuels that are more friendly to the environment as well as lessen our dependence on fossil fuel," said Bill Roberts, associate director of Parking and Transportation Services.

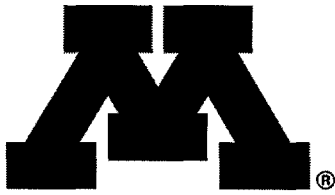
Produced from domestic, renewable resources such as soybeans and restaurant grease, biodiesel fuel is better for the environment because it has lower emissions compared to petroleum diesel, Roberts said. It is less toxic than table salt and biodegrades as fast as sugar, according to the National Biodiesel Board.

The university has 50 vehicles on the Twin Cities campus that run on diesel fuel. In fiscal year 2006, the Twin Cities campus used 44,000 gallons of diesel fuel.

A staunch supporter of alternative fuel consumption, the U of M Twin Cities campus has used E85 for several years and has 50 vehicles capable of running on E85. E85 is a fuel that is a mixture of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline. The university pumped more than 14,000 gallons of E85 in fiscal year 2006.

Together, the use of E85 and biodiesel fuel account for 20 percent of the fuel used by the Twin Cities campus, Roberts said. The university's Twin Cities fleet includes about 500 vehicles -- mostly cars, vans, trucks and SUVs -- including 11 hybrids and 50 vehicles that run on E85. Each year, university vehicles on the Twin Cities campus travel nearly 4 million miles.

For more information, please contact Parking and Transportation Services at the University of Minnesota at 612-626-PARK (7275).



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PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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For Immediate Release

August 21, 2006

Contacts: *Rhonda Zurn, Institute of Technology, (612) 626-7959*
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M SUMMER TECHNOLOGY DAY CAMP GIVES KIDS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE WITH ROBOTICS AND OTHER CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL-- The University of Minnesota Summer Technology Day Camp, which runs from Aug. 21-25, is bringing 20 students in fifth through eighth grades to campus to give them hands-on technology experiences, including making a take-home lunch box boombox, creating a 3-D movie and programming robot dogs for a dance competition.

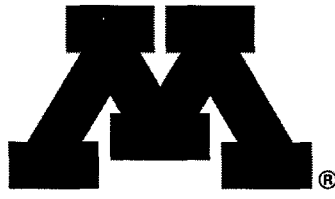
The camp is intended to get students interested in science and engineering and give them a glimpse into graduate school education through creative experiences, tours and demonstrations. The camp was created through a grassroots effort by computer science and engineering graduate students to reach kids who typically don't get high-level technology experiences. This year, a diverse group of 18 university graduate student volunteers will donate about eight hours each during the week to run the day camp.

The program is led by Kelly Cannon, computer science and engineering doctoral student, under the guidance of Professor Nikos Papanikolopoulos. The camp is co-sponsored by the Digital Technology Center and the Center for Distributed Robotics. Both centers are part of the Institute of Technology, the university's college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics.

Best photo opportunities are:

9:30 a.m.-noon and again from 1:30-3:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 22; Electrical Engineering and Computer Science building, 200 Union St. S.E., room 2-140A--Students will be working on boomboxes made from plastic lunch boxes, speakers, battery packs and other parts. In the morning, students will be soldering, and in the afternoon students will finish the assembly (drilling, speaker placement and battery pack installation).

2:45-3:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 23; Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., fourth floor--Students will demonstrate the dances that they have programmed for their Sony AIBOs (robot dogs) in the form of a dance contest.



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U'S HORMEL INSTITUTE HEAD ZIGANG DONG NAMED MCKNIGHT PRESIDENTIAL PROFESSOR IN CANCER PREVENTION

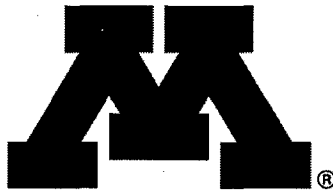
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Zigang Dong was named the McKnight Presidential Professor in Cancer Prevention at the University of Minnesota today.

Dong is a professor of cellular and molecular biology and the executive director of the university's renowned Hormel Institute in Austin, Minn. His research focuses on molecular mechanisms of cancer development and the actions of chemopreventive agents in cancer prevention. Dong has recently published breakthrough research in the area of cellular suicide where, like a bodyguard turned traitor, a protein whose regular job is to help repair severed DNA molecules will, in some cases, join forces with another protein to do the opposite and chop the DNA to bits.

Dong holds a master's and a medical degree from the Henan Medical University in China and a doctorate in public health from Columbia University. He did his post-doctoral work at the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute before coming to the Hormel Institute in 1995. Dong has served as the chief of the cellular and molecular biology research section at the Hormel Institute, where he was appointed executive director and awarded the Hormel/Knowlton Professorship in 2001.

"Zigang Dong demonstrates the qualities in teaching, research and service that the University of Minnesota values most highly, and we are proud to offer him this most prestigious award," said University President Robert Bruininks. "Through his remarkable scientific career, his exemplary leadership and his commitment to establishing the university as a world-class institution of research and learning, Dr. Dong has exemplified the qualities of a McKnight Professor and is poised to help the university break new frontiers in cancer research."

The McKnight Presidential Professorships are assigned at the discretion of President Robert Bruininks and are intended to recognize the critical importance of the university's most distinguished faculty across all disciplines, as well as to strengthen the university's faculty for the future through recruiting and retaining the best professors and world-class scholars. These professorships are made possible by a \$15 million gift from the McKnight Foundation.



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August 22, 2006

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Norm Munk, Partnership Resources, Inc., (952) 746-6207
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

'ARTFUL LIVES' EXHIBIT AT U OF M SHOWCASES ARTWORK BY INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- "Artful Lives," an exhibit of artwork created by individuals with developmental disabilities, will open with an artists' reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Humphrey Forum, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public.

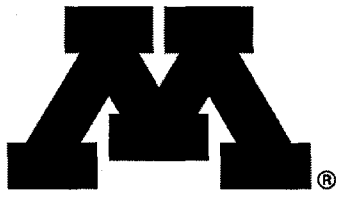
The exhibit was organized by the Humphrey Forum, a museum of government and politics at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, and Partnership Resources, Inc. (PRI), an agency that provides employment and artistic opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

"Hubert and Muriel Humphrey dedicated much of their public and private lives to the welfare of individuals with disabilities," said Steve Sandell, Humphrey Forum director. "This exhibit is a chance to highlight their commitment, while showcasing the work of a local agency and its clients."

PRI executive director Norm Munk sees the partnership with the Humphrey Forum as a way to celebrate artists with disabilities while reminding the public of Hubert H. Humphrey's fight for civil rights that created these opportunities. "We want to show the world how art can break down stereotypes and myths, create business opportunities and add beauty to the world," he said.

PRI created PARTnerships in 2003. PARTnerships is an artistic and business venture that allows individuals to train with a professional artist and to create images that are used in reproductions, such as prints and cards. Clients of PRI are involved in every aspect of the business, including design, production and manufacturing, and receive compensation for their work, as well as from the sale of their images and paintings.

"Artful Lives" will be on view at the Humphrey Forum from Sept. 7 through Nov. 24, 2006. The exhibit is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.



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August 22, 2006

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George Weiblen, plant biology department, (612) 624-3461, gweiblen@umn.edu*

STUDY: EVEN WITH MORE DIVERSE 'MENU,' RAIN FOREST INSECTS EAT NO MORE TREE SPECIES THAN TEMPERATE COUNTERPARTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A study initiated by University of Minnesota plant biologist George Weiblen has confirmed what biologists since Darwin have suspected - that the vast number of tree species in rain forests accounts for the equally vast number of plant-eating species of insects.

"This is a big step forward in the quest to understand why there is so much biodiversity in the tropics," said Weiblen, principal investigator and senior author for the National Science Foundation-funded research. The study is published in the Aug. 25 issue of the journal *Science*.

The research showed that insect species in tropical and temperate forests dine on about the same number of tree species, despite the more diverse menu in the tropics.

"The tropical forest cafeteria offers many more options than the temperate forest," Weiblen said. "Our study confirms that the choices tropical insects make are quite similar to those of insects in less diverse forests of places like Minnesota."

The study rejected an alternative theory that tropical insects are actually picky eaters who prefer fewer host plants than their temperate counterparts.

"Theory predicts that similar species coexist by dividing up resources like food and space," Weiblen said. "The unparalleled diversity of plant-eating insects in the tropics could be explained according to this theory if tropical insects were more choosy than those in temperate forests. But it hasn't been possible to compare what's on the menu until now."

Identical experiments on tropical and temperate insects were unknown until Weiblen developed a technique to control for differences in food plant diversity.

- more -

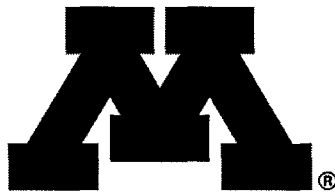
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“It turns out that insect appetites aren’t all that different near the equator but the tropical smorgasbord brings more species to the table,” Weiblen says.

The study was carried out in Papua New Guinea and the Czech Republic by scientists from the University of South Bohemia, the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, National Zoological Park, Tropical Research Institute, Comenius University in Slovakia as well as the University of Minnesota.

The researchers, led by Vojtech Novotny of the University of South Bohemia in the Czech Republic, collected insect species feeding on 22 tree species at the Czech and Slovak sites and 22 species in Papua New Guinea. In all, some 850 insect species were recorded.

The study was funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the U. S. National Institutes of Health, the Czech Grant Agency, the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Czech Ministry of Education, the National Geographic Society, the Darwin Initiative and the Slovak Grant Agency.



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Sara Buss, AHC Communications, (612) 624-2449

Bruce Erickson, Office of the Vice President for Research, (612) 625-2354

NEW UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA START-UP COMPANY HELPS PHARMACISTS MANAGE PATIENTS AND DRUG THERAPIES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has signed an agreement to launch Medication Management Systems, Inc., a corporation focused on commercializing a medication therapy management software developed at the university.

Three university College of Pharmacy faculty, Bob Cipolle, Linda Strand and Peter Morley, are among the company's founders, as well as seasoned health care management professionals, David McLean, CEO, Tom Albers, vice president of sales and marketing, and Michael Frakes, technology director.

When Cipolle, Strand and Morley created a new practice to improve patient care several years ago, they also developed software to help pharmacists manage drug therapies for patients. The software, called the Assurance Pharmaceutical Care System™, helps pharmacists manage patients who take multiple medications and have multiple chronic conditions. The software allows pharmacists to develop care plans for each patient, create and manage patient-specific outcomes and personalize reports for healthcare patients and providers.

"The software has rich capabilities: from the tracking of patients, drugs and disease, to providing safe and effective recommendations for patient care," said Cipolle.

Pharmacist Michelle Johnson recently provided pharmaceutical care to a long-standing patient using Medication Management Systems. She said, "My patient came back with new [prescriptions] in hand after her appointment [with her physician]. Her doctor loves the report [generated by the Assurance Pharmaceutical Care System™,]. Both the doctor and her patient felt the new system made the visit better, resulted in a positive plan of action with direction and made the doctor more comfortable about changing therapy."

This spring, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law that requires new approaches to manage the effective use of medications, recognizes trained pharmacists as health care practitioners and allows Medicaid users to receive pharmaceutical care services through a reimbursement system. The Assurance System meets these requirements,

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

and the one-on-one pharmacist service aims to drive health care costs down and improve patients' quality of life.

Jim Hildebrand, a software specialist for the university's Office of Patents and Technology Marketing (PTM), worked with Cipolle to license the intellectual property to Medication Management Systems, Inc.

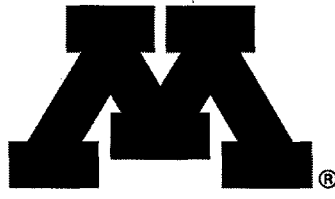
After protecting the technology in its early stages with a copyright, Jessica Zeaske in the university's Office of Business Development (OBD) helped Cipolle and colleagues create a business plan, identify potential investors and locate board members.

"The OBD sees Medication Management Systems as an ideal partner to take Assurance to market," said Zeaske.

"We aim to unite great university innovations with experienced management teams to fill unmet market needs.

The Assurance opportunity fits our new start-up model perfectly."

"In the not too distant future, this personalized approach to patients' medication needs will have a dramatic impact on their health and quality of life," said Cipolle.



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August 23, 2006

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GERMAN TECHNO ARTIST OLIVER LIEB TO SPEAK AT U OF M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Internationally-recognized techno artist Oliver Lieb will take part in a conversation about the Frankfurt techno scene and his own career during an appearance 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Whole Music Club, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. This multi-media event will explore the history of the vibrant, chaotic and notorious world of techno across the Atlantic. The event is free and open to the public.

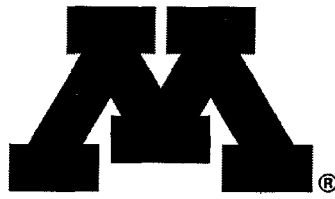
Lieb is one of an elite group of producer/DJs of international renown. With 17 albums, more than 200 EPs and 120 remixes released so far under roughly 40 pseudonyms, he is one of the most prolific and impressive producers in electronica. Based in Frankfurt and a central figure in the legendary label Harthouse, his achievements have earned him an exclusive article in *Techno: The Rough Guide*, among others, and his productions are favorites of such DJs as Paul Oakenfold, Sasha and Digweed, Armin van Buuren and Tiesto.

Lieb's appearance at the University of Minnesota is co-sponsored by the department of German, Scandinavian and Dutch; European Studies Consortium; and the department of cultural studies and comparative literature in the College of Liberal Arts.

WHO: German techno artist Oliver Lieb

WHEN: 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16

WHERE: Coffman Memorial Union, Whole Music Club, 300 Washington Ave S.E., Minneapolis



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U OF M STATE FAIR SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, AUG. 24; UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT BRUININKS TO WELCOME FAIRGOERS TO U BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for the opening day of the Minnesota State Fair. At 3 p.m., University President Robert Bruininks will welcome visitors to the university booth and hand out limited edition maroon and gold mesh drawstring backpacks filled with information on U programs. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23.

Thursday's stage and booth highlights include:

On the U of M stage:

- 11 a.m., Minnesota Nature Quiz: Test your knowledge of the plants and animals that live in Minnesota.
- Noon, What is a Bioblitz? Part contest, part gathering, part scientific endeavor, the Bell Museum sponsors an annual 24-hour biological survey called Bioblitz. Learn how many different species of plants and animals were found in 24 hours a quarter of a mile from the state fair. Presented by the Bell Museum of Natural History.

Inside the U of M building:

- Talk to representatives from the U's Rochester campus.
- School of Public Health vodcasting (video podcasting) throughout the day: DNA spooling (9 a.m.-noon), Health Habits Quiz (noon-3 p.m.), "The Environment and Your Health" (3-6 p.m.), Body Image Distortion (6-9 p.m.).

- more -

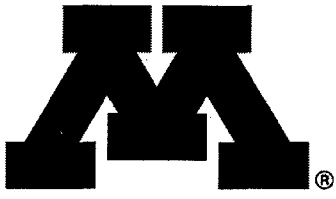
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- Get your tickets to the Sept. 16 Gopher football home opener against Temple University. Special ticket price \$10.

For a complete schedule of Thursday's stage and booth programs, visit <http://www1.umn.edu/statefair/060824.html>.

President Bruininks will also make a stop at WCCO-Radio's state fair booth and appear as a guest on the "Don Shelby Show" at 3:40 p.m.

For more information on the U's state fair activities, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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August 23, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

ANDREA HJELM RECEIVES U OF M'S ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota announced that Andrea Hjelm is this year's recipient of the Alumni Service Award, one of the most prestigious awards bestowed upon alums.

Hjelm, a past president of the U of M Alumni Association (UMAA), will be formally recognized at the UMAA's Volunteer Awards Ceremony 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at Coffman Union's Great Hall, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. For more information and to register to attend, visit www.alumni.umn.edu/volunteerawards.

"Andrea is one of the alumni association's most visible and valuable ambassadors," says Margaret Sughrue Carlson, the UMAA's CEO. "Her leadership and enthusiasm have benefited the university in countless ways. We are especially thankful for the key role Andrea played in rallying support for the U's new on-campus Gopher football stadium."

Hjelm, who received her bachelor's degree from the College of Education in 1965, is president and owner of Minneapolis-based Moore Creative Talent, Inc., which represents actors and models for commercial TV, radio and print advertising.

While a language arts major at the U, Hjelm was involved in many activities: she was a member of the Union Board Council and head of the Santa Anonymous Campus Drive. She was a cheerleader for two years, the 1962 Homecoming Queen and a finalist in the National College Queen Contest.

In 1998, she joined the UMAA National Board of Directors in an at-large position and went on to serve as UMAA Programs and Career Services Committee chair, vice president, president-elect, national president and immediate past president and nominating committee chair in 2005-06.

In addition to serving on the alumni association board, Hjelm currently sits on the university's Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Board and is a member of the President's Club. In 2001, she chaired the "Save Gopher

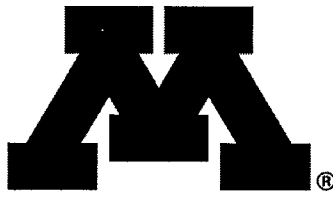
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Sports" auction.

"My love and appreciation for the U have only grown over the years," Hjelm says. "It's always been a pleasure and honor to serve this great institution and I will continue to do so. Once a cheerleader, always a cheerleader."

Hjelm has also been active on behalf of the greater Twin Cities community by serving on the board of directors for Big Brothers of Minneapolis and the Twins Community Fund. In addition, she has been a member of the Guthrie Theatre Business Council and the Basilica of St. Mary's fundraising committee.



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EXPERT ALERT

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August 24, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu*

PLUTO DEMOTED

For the past 12 days, thousands of astronomers from around the world have been meeting in Prague, Czech Republic at the International Astronomical Union conference to determine the standards of what constitutes a planet. Today, the astronomers voted on a universal definition that demoted Pluto to a “dwarf planet,” bringing the total number of “classical” planets down to eight. University of Minnesota experts who can comment on this historic decision are:

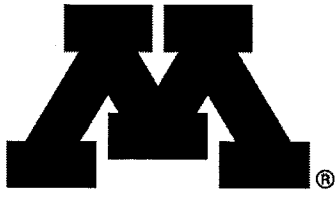
Terry Jones, professor of astronomy at the University of Minnesota

Professor Jones specializes in infrared astronomy, stars and the Milky Way. Widely published in his field, he has had the opportunity to work with the Minnesota Supercomputer Institute and the Hubble Space Telescope to locate obscure stars hidden in our galaxies. Jones is available to discuss the demotion and some of the controversy over the new definition.

Larry Rudnick, professor of astronomy at the University of Minnesota

Professor Rudnick’s research focuses on supernovas and cluster galaxies. An Institute of Technology Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award recipient, Rudnick has also consulted for public television's “Newton's Apple” and is a founding member of the Minnesota Planetarium Society. He is also available to comment on the new definition.

To interview Jones or Rudnick, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu, or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.



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August 24, 2006

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ADVICE FOR PARENTS SENDING THEIR CHILDREN OFF TO COLLEGE

Going away to college is an anxiety-filled time for students, and it's a difficult time for parents as well. Parents are searching for advice on how to handle this transition in the child's life. A University of Minnesota expert who has advice for parents is:

Marjorie Savage, University of Minnesota Parent Program director

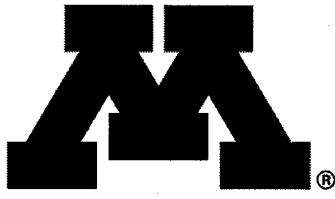
Savage has good advice for parents as they prepare to send their children off to college. In fact, Savage wrote the book on helping parents navigate their role in their child's life when he or she leaves home for college.

In her book, "You're On Your Own (but I'm here if you need me): Mentoring Your Child During the College Years," Savage guides parents through this critical period of life.

The unwritten rules for parent involvement in college-age children's lives have changed, said Savage, who has worked in parent programs for 10 years. "When I started in this field, the message was for parents to let go," Savage said. "About eight to nine years ago, I noticed a change in the student population. Students didn't want their parents to completely let go."

She gives tips on how to navigate issues that arise during college, involving everything from credit loads and body piercings to sex and finances. Savage's book offers advice to help parents gauge when it's appropriate to get involved in their children's life and when it's better to back off. When it comes to finances and health, get involved, Savage advises. When it comes to talking to professors about class, parents should not interfere, she said. "That's considered sacred ground."

To interview Savage, contact Patty Mattern at (612) 624-2801.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

University News Service

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August 24, 2006

Contacts: *Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu*
Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu

PLAN B - THE MORNING-AFTER PILL

This morning, the Food and Drug Administration approved Plan B, the morning-after pill, for over the counter sales for anyone 18 and older. Girls 17 and younger will still require a doctor's note to obtain the emergency contraceptive. A University of Minnesota expert who can comment on this issue is:

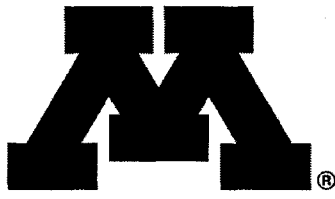
Martha Erickson, parenting expert and senior fellow at the U's Institute for Child Development:

Erickson served as the first director of the University of Minnesota's Children, Youth & Family Consortium, and she currently co-chairs the president's Initiative on Children, Youth & Families at the U. She can give parents advice on a number of issues, including:

- Talking to teenagers about what is a morning-after pill
- Ensuring your teens know that Plan B is not simply an alternative to condoms or other contraceptives
- General advice on talking to kids about sex
- Helping your kids make good decisions in all areas of life

To interview Erickson, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2006

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

SUNDAY IS MAROON AND GOLD DAY AT THE STATE FAIR

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for the opening weekend of the Minnesota State Fair. On Sunday, Aug. 27, the university celebrates Maroon and Gold Day at the fair, which includes activities such as the "Know Your U" trivia contest and a performance by the University of Minnesota Alumni Band. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23.

Saturday's stage and booth highlights include:

On the stage:

- 11 a.m. Adventure learning program: Adventure learning with Polar Huskies. Meet Polar Husky sled dogs and Arctic explorers -- Join them on a virtual dogsled expedition to experience the Arctic and "GoNorth!" presented by the College of Education and Human Development.
- 2 p.m. Who wants to be an entrepreneur? Explore the world of job creation -- what it takes to succeed as an entrepreneur or improve an existing business. Get the scoop, learn about successful projects and have fun at the same time. Presented by U of M, Crookston.

Inside the building:

- Throughout the day: Anatomy of the heart demonstration: Visitors will have an opportunity to "hold a heart." Presented by the U of M Medical School.
- Throughout the day: Want to learn more about the University's Crookston campus? Get answers from campus representatives.

Sunday's stage and booth highlights include:

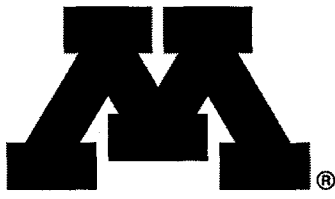
- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The university celebrates Maroon and Gold Day at the Fair. Show your Gopher pride by wearing maroon and gold and participate in these great activities:

- 10:30 a.m. University of Minnesota Alumni Band performance.
- 11 a.m. Margaret Sughrue Carlson, chief executive officer of the U of M Alumni Association, will be a celebrity guacamole chef at the Tejas Restaurant booth, adjacent to the U building.
- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Test how much you know about the U in the “Know Your U” trivia contest on the U of M stage. Prizes provided by the University Bookstores.
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visitors can stop by the U building to shake hands with their favorite mascot, Goldy Gopher.
- 2 p.m. Cheer on the U’s marching band, cheerleaders, Goldy Gopher and President Robert Bruininks in the parade down Dan Patch Avenue.
- 3 p.m. Turn your attention back to the U stage for the Alumni Marching Band. Bruininks, and his wife, Susan Hagstrum, will be celebrity guacamole chefs at the Tejas Restaurant booth, adjacent to the U building.

For a complete schedule of this weekend's stage and booth programs, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

August 25, 2006

Contacts: Sue Banovetz, College of Liberal Arts, (651) 334-2837

MCGUIRE ACADEMIC PROGRAM KICKS OFF SUNDAY - COLLEGE DOORS OPENED FOR 134 STUDENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Freshmen from economically disadvantaged communities jump start their college careers at the University of Minnesota on Sunday, Aug. 27, a week before classes begin officially, thanks to the brand new McGuire Academic Program (MAP) and the work of university faculty, staff and student mentors. The project is made possible by a contribution from the McGuire Family Foundation, with most of the donation dedicated to student scholarships.

Sunday marks the beginning of a week-long resident program in which 66 of the 134 MAP students are participating and beginning their university journey through events designed especially for them to build a community for the students, build connections between the students and faculty, mentors and staff, and familiarize them with the resources and support available on campus.

Students of MAP are entering their first year in either the College of Liberal Arts; College of Biological Science; Institute of Technology; Carlson School of Management; College of Design; College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; and College of Education and Human Development.

Key events:

10:30 a.m. Monday, Aug. 28

Nicholson Hall, Room 155

216 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., Minneapolis

Keynote address by Alex Pate, faculty member in the department of African American and African Studies at the university, teaches courses on fiction writing, English and literature, including "The Poetry of Rap" and "Writing in the Age of Hip Hop." Pate's novels include the New York Times best-seller "Amistad: The Novel," which he wrote at the request of Steven Spielberg.

9-10:15 a.m. Monday, Aug 28

8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday., Aug. 29,

- more -

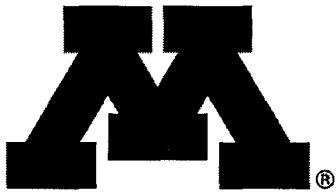
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

10:30-noon Wednesday., Aug. 30

Northrop Mall and across the Twin Cities campuses

The Amazing Race - Edge Style

Students will gather in teams each day in the middle of Northrop Mall to start another leg of their amazing race of discovery across the East and West Banks and the Saint Paul campus.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

STORY TIPS

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August 28, 2006

Contacts: *Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*
Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

U OF M STUDENT ON ROAD TO RECOVERY AFTER LOSS OF MOTHER, HURRICANE KATRINA

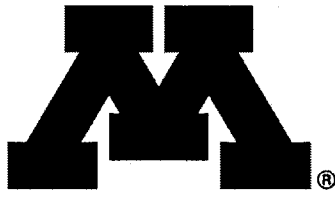
Elizabeth DeSanto is a current University of Minnesota student from Southwest Minneapolis with a heart-warming story related to Hurricane Katrina.

She lost her mom to cancer early in 2005. In August 2005, she decided to move to Loyola University in New Orleans to start a new. Just five days after she got there, Katrina hit, and DeSanto had to evacuate.

Within a week of returning to Minnesota, she was attending class at the U, thanks to an expedited application process for Hurricane Katrina victims. One year after Katrina, Elizabeth is studying kinesiology at the U.

To interview DeSanto, contact Bob San at (612) 624-4082; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

Story Tips is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, it provides unique story ideas about U research, students, and campus life. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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August 28, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

OLD U OF M HAS A FARM, U RAH, RAH, RAH, SKI-U-MAH!

~ Students learn in farm field ~

You've heard about family farms and corporate farms, but have you heard about the University of Minnesota student farm. Students plan and operate an organic farm on the St. Paul campus and their farm produces more than vegetables, fruits and flowers.

The farm, called Cornercopia, plants the seeds of learning for the student farmers. The farm actually begins each season in the classroom during the spring semester course Farm Planning and Growing. Many students from that class then extend their learning into the fields as interns on the farm.

"Students have the opportunity to experience the real world of what it's like to operate a farm and some interns do research on the farm," said Courtney Tchida, Student Programs coordinator for the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture.

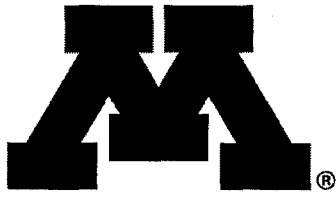
This year, the student farmers planted 100 different varieties of vegetables, flowers, herbs and fruits. July's heat created some extra insect problems this year, but the student farmers planned for that.

"We try to companion plant with herbs and flowers. They bring in beneficial insects to control the bad insects," Tchida said.

The student farmers have been selling their crops during the U of M Farmer's Market on the Minneapolis campus each Wednesday. They also do office deliveries on the St. Paul campus. The farm is working to become certified as organic by summer 2008.

To interview Tchida, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2006

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

THE U OF M AT THE STATE FAIR -- SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY, AUG. 29

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for Tuesday, Aug. 29, at the Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday's stage and building highlights include:

On the stage:

- 11 a.m. and noon, Physics Force: An entertaining outreach program of the Institute of Technology that makes science fun and interesting for people of all ages.
- 1 p.m., Real robots in action: Roughly the size of a soda can, the U of M Scout robot can do some amazing things. And the technology has numerous real world applications, from search and rescue missions to national security. Presented by the Institute of Technology.

Inside the building:

Throughout the day: Experts from the Center for Early Education and Development are on hand to talk about monitoring progress for preschoolers, early literacy and early childhood policy.

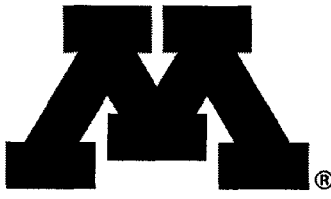
"Gems from the Trove":

Visitors are encouraged to stop by "Kerlan Treasures: Gems from the Trove," the University of Minnesota Libraries' state fair exhibit, running through Sept. 4. The exhibit covers more than 50 feet of wall space in the Fine Arts Building at the corner of Randall Avenue and Cosgrove Street. The exhibit includes more than 20 pieces of new and classic artwork from beloved artists who have found a home for their treasures in the U Libraries' Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature.

- more -

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For a complete schedule of Tuesday's stage and booth programs, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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August 29, 2006

*Contacts: Betsy Brown, U of M Alumni Association, (612) 626-4854
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720*

SCHULSTAD TAKES ON NEW CHALLENGE AT U OF M ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Denny Schulstad, retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general, former Minneapolis City Council member and well-known community leader, has been elected national volunteer president of the 57,000-member University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) for 2006-07.

As UMAA president, Schulstad will help lead the association in its role as an influential advocate for the university's vision: to become one of the top three public research universities in the world. He has served as an officer and provided volunteer leadership to the association's membership and marketing programs since 1999.

"We are very fortunate to have Denny as our volunteer president at such a crucial time in the history of the university and the alumni association," said UMAA Chief Executive Officer Margaret Sughrue Carlson. "His experience as a community leader and his dedication to the university have made him an excellent advocate, and we're looking forward to an even more focused approach as he performs his new leadership role."

As a strong advocate for the university, Schulstad testified in favor of a new on-campus football stadium and lobbied for the U's 2006-07 bonding bill.

"I see my role as UMAA president as informing the public, business leaders and the legislature about what it means to be a top three public research university and then working with them to make it happen," said Schulstad. "The university is the economic engine for the state and we want people to support it."

Schulstad is a 1966 graduate of the university who spent 22 years as an elected member of the Minneapolis City Council. An active civic leader, he has been commodore and president of the Minneapolis Aquatennial and still serves on numerous boards and commissions. He is the Minnesota chair of Employers Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and is a co-founder of the Minnesotans' Military Appreciation Fund.

"I learned a lot of skills at the university and through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC)," he said. "How to organize time; how to be self-reliant; how to manage people; and how to effectively

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communicate. That's what it takes to get things done, and I owe it all to the U.”

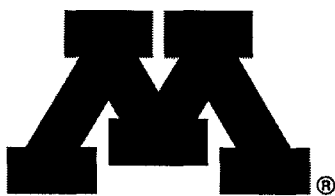
Schulstad and his wife Pam are strong financial supporters of the U's Intercollegiate Athletics, U of M Landscape Arboretum, Raptor Center and AFROTC. They fund two scholarships: one is an endowed scholarship for athletics and ROTC and the other is an annual stipend that provides \$1,000 to one or two public school graduates who enter AFROTC.

As a close friend of late Minnesota Lakers basketball star, George Mikan, Schulstad chaired and coordinated the effort to raise funds for a life-size statue of Mikan that now stands inside Target Center in Minneapolis. The project was so successful that an additional \$500,000 was raised and donated to the Maxi Fund to help find a cure for juvenile diabetes.

More recently, as Minnesota ESGR chair, he has been working with the employers of young men and women in the Minnesota National Guard and Reserve to be sure they comply with laws protecting jobs for those who are deployed, and to go above and beyond the requirements of federal and state law. As a board member of the Minnesota Military Family Foundation, he also raises funds to assist families that have financial difficulties due to military service.

“The university is the source of information and education for our state,” said Schulstad. “We are driven to discover new ways to benefit the state and the world. As national president of the alumni association, I'll be helping to lead the way.”

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is an independent 57,000-member organization dedicated to connecting alumni, students and friends in lifelong support of the University of Minnesota and each other. For more information about the UMAA, visit www.alumni.umn.edu or call (612) 624-2323.



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August 29, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

NEW ONLINE SYSTEM MAKES IT EASIER FOR CITIZENS TO GET FREE ACCESS TO NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, BOOKS AND RESEARCH MATERIALS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Minnesota citizens can gain free access to thousands of newspapers, magazines, electronic books and cutting-edge research materials through a new online interface system developed this year. Any Minnesota resident with a public library card and computer Internet access can tap into these resources by going to the interface at the home page of the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM) at www.elm4you.org. ELM is administered by the MINITEX Library Information Network at the University of Minnesota.

ELM gives Minnesotans free, full-text access to more than 13,000 magazines, 15,000 electronic books, and 340 newspapers, including the New York Times, the Star Tribune and USA Today, as well as a worldwide catalog of more than 70 million bibliographic records.

"ELM is truly a resource for Minnesota," said William DeJohn, MINITEX director at the U of M. "It's funded by all of our tax dollars, so it's a benefit that is to be shared by all of us."

Before ELM, most of these materials were only available through paid subscriptions or through in-person visits to public libraries. ELM provides free access 24 hours a day, seven days a week from a user's home, school, workplace, or wherever an Internet connection is available. It is also available through public, school, and academic library Web sites statewide.

ELM is funded by the Minnesota Legislature through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the Minnesota Department of Education's division, Minnesota State Library Services. ELM was launched in 2000 by the MINITEX staff, who, working with library staff from across the state and the State Library Services staff, successfully lobbied the state legislature for the approximately \$1.8 million in state appropriations needed to fund the program each year.

Minnesota students were quick to embrace ELM, which logged more than nine million hits in 2005.

"I use ELM every day at school for research in my honors classes," said Laura Peters, a 10th grader at Anoka High School. "Wherever I study -- school, the public library, or at home -- the databases are the same, and I can pick up where I left off and have the same information available."

ELM is a boon for educators as well, said Judith Roggow of Minneapolis's De La Salle High

- more -

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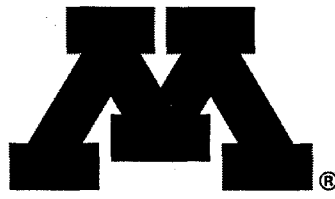
School.

"ELM makes it possible for our students to expand their knowledge base and enhance their studies. It is a tool I can use with lower-level students to teach basic knowledge as well as a strong resource for those approaching a college project."

And librarians throughout Minnesota in public, academic, state government and school libraries tout ELM's benefits in an atmosphere of tight budgets and difficult-to-access resources.

"ELM not only stretches our budget, but it maximizes tax dollars," said Kathy Fredette, executive director of Lake Agassiz Regional Library in Moorhead. "It gives citizens in small rural communities access to materials which would not have been possible otherwise."

MINITEX Library Information Network is a program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the University of Minnesota. Located at the University's Minneapolis Campus, MINITEX serves 158 academic libraries, 180 public libraries, 89 special libraries, and 1731 K-12 school media centers in Minnesota and North and South Dakota.



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August 29, 2006

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THE U OF M AT THE STATE FAIR -- SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for Wednesday, Aug. 30, at the Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Wednesday's stage and building highlights include:

On the stage:

- 12 p.m., Wicked Rocks: Scott Wolter will show part of the largest collection of Lake Superior agates in the world, including Native American Minnehaha Falls artifacts. Presented by U of M, Duluth.
- 3 p.m., Play Loteria, a Mexican version of bingo with the department of Chicano studies. Presented by the College of Liberal Arts

Inside the building:

- Tired from walking around the fairgrounds? Relax and get a chair massage from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Presented by the Center for Spirituality and Healing.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by "Kerlan Treasures: Gems from the Trove," the University of Minnesota Libraries' state fair exhibit, running through Sept. 4. The exhibit covers more than 50 feet of wall space in the Fine Arts Building at the corner of Randall Avenue and Cosgrove Street. The exhibit includes more than 20 pieces of new and classic artwork from beloved artists who have found a home for their treasures in the U Libraries' Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature.

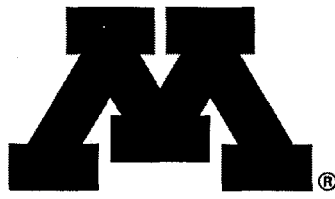
Special guest appearance on Friday, Sept. 1:

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Meet Earl Bakken, cofounder and chairman emeritus of Medtronic, Inc., from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Academic Health Center booth. U alum Bakken, inventor of the world's first wearable, battery-operated external pacemaker at the University of Minnesota, helped launch the modern medical-technology industry. Through his leadership, he enabled millions of people with life-threatening illnesses to be restored to full life and health. Today, he continues to pioneer new ways to help people lead better lives. He is the driving force in establishing Hawaii as the "Healing Island," in promoting complementary medicine and the study of heart-brain interactions.

For a complete schedule of Wednesday's stage and booth programs, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

U OF M TO HOST MULTICULTURAL KICKOFF DAYS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- More than 400 incoming University of Minnesota students of color and about 100 of their parents will attend Multicultural Kickoff Days Thursday and Friday, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, at Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

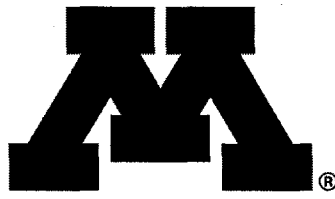
The annual event is organized by the university's Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence to welcome the new students and their parents and to celebrate the diversity of the university. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, sessions in Coffman Union's Great Hall will give parents and students the inside scoop on scholarships, financial aid, work study, research and volunteer programs.

The students and parents, who will be housed in university residence halls and the Radisson Metrodome Hotel, will also be introduced to the various ethnic units on campus, such as the student cultural centers and the academic support services offered through the Office of Equity and Diversity. On Friday, representatives from the university's financial aid office and study abroad programs will make presentations.

"Multicultural Kickoff Days provide our new students an opportunity to meet other students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds," said Jillian Rowan of the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence. "It will help first-year students make a successful transition to college by building community and identifying academic and cultural support on campus."

WHEN: Thursday and Friday, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1

WHERE: Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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August 30, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

LEADER OF THE BAND: FIRST FEMALE DRUM MAJOR AT THE U OF M SETS THE PACE FOR THE MARCHING BAND AT SPAT CAMP

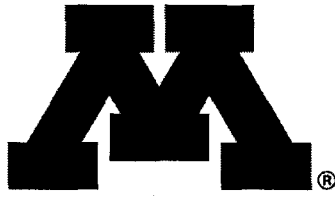
When the U of M Marching band hits the field at halftime this year it will be led by Molly Watters, the University of Minnesota Marching Band's first female drum major.

Watters, originally from Eden Prairie, is the marching band's 56th drum major and first female drum major. She is a third-year student at the University of Minnesota majoring in political science and sociology. Before being selected as drum major, Molly played the mellophone in the U of M Marching Band, Hockey Pep Band and the Women's Athletic Band. Molly is president of Kappa Kappa Psi, the National Honorary Band Fraternity.

Currently Watters is leading the band through Spat Camp, the intensive, in-residence preparation camp where students learn music and marching fundamentals that marks the official start of the marching band season. Spat Camp is in-session now and runs through Sunday, Sept. 2.

If you'd like to interview Watters or visit Spat Camp, contact Mark Cassutt at (612) 624-8038.

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

MINNEAPOLIS GOING FOR WIRELESS

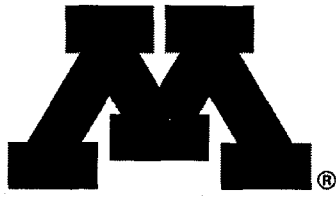
Philadelphia, San Francisco and Anaheim have it, and now Minneapolis is on its way to becoming a wireless city. This Friday the City Council will vote on whether or not to approve the \$20 million project that would give roughly 90 percent of the city a wireless internet connection for \$20 a month. In its preliminary plan, a locally based technology firm has been appointed to undertake the daunting task. A University of Minnesota expert who can discuss what being a wireless city entails is:

Nihar Jindal, electrical and computer engineering professor at the University of Minnesota

Professor Jindal has extensively researched wireless communications at the university's Digital Technology Center. He currently teaches a course on the subject. During his career he has also worked with Intel and Bell Labs on wireless technology development. Jindal can comment on the challenges encountered in a metropolitan-wide wireless system and what services it would provide.

To interview Jindal, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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EXPERT ALERT

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August 30, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

THE "SLIMMING" OF SOON-TO-BE CBS NEWS ANCHOR KATIE COURIC

News broke today that a photo of Katie Couric, the incoming "CBS Evening News" anchor and the first solo female anchor of a weekday network evening news in history, had been touched-up to make Couric significantly slimmer. Couric said that she was unaware the photo would be touched-up until the CBS magazine it appears in crossed her desk. A University of Minnesota expert who can speak about the doctored photo and how women in the media are treated differently than their male counterparts is:

Mary Vavrus, a University of Minnesota communication studies professor

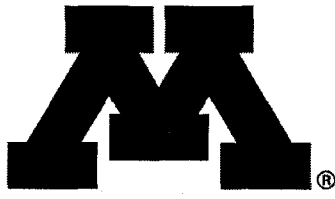
Vavrus is an expert on women and the media. Vavrus' research interests include news media representations of gender, feminism and postfeminism.

"In TV news, a woman's size is always an issue," Vavrus says. "In TV media, women's cache has always been based on their appearance and men's isn't and, sadly, that hasn't changed in years."

Vavrus is currently working on a book, tentatively titled "Gendered Brands: Identity and the New Terrain of Media Politics." Vavrus is also a member of the graduate faculty of the Feminist Studies program and teaches graduate courses including political economy of media culture, feminist media studies, qualitative methods in media studies and feminist cultural studies and electoral politics.

To interview Vavrus, contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

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August 30, 2006

Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

THE U OF M AT THE STATE FAIR -- SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, AUG. 31

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for Thursday, Aug. 31, at the Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Thursday's stage and building highlights include:

On the stage:

- 10:30 a.m., Birds of Prey presented by the Raptor Center.
- 2 p.m., The Aging Game: Watch a young person from the audience take on the infirmities of old age. Presented by the U of M Medical School.

Inside the building:

- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Cancer quiz and human tissue on display by the U's Cancer Center.
- Throughout the day: College of Education and Human Development representatives will answer questions about admissions to the college and continuing education for teachers, while the department of Family and Social Sciences shares its outreach work around the globe.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY U of M architecture students design state fair ticket booth:

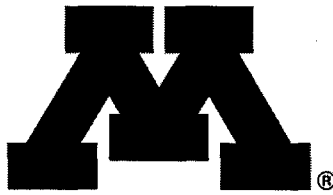
This spring students in the College of Design's architecture department designed and built a state fair ticket booth, located at gate 6, at the corner of Como Avenue and Snelling Avenue. The department of architecture has an agreement with the state fair to create a student-built structure every year. The agreement provides students a rare opportunity to go beyond the conceptual realm and get hands-on experience constructing a building they

- more -

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designed. The course was taught by adjunct faculty Paul Neseth and Wynne Yelland of Locus Architecture.

For a complete schedule of Thursday's stage and booth programs, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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For Immediate Release

August 30, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

NEW STUDENT WEEKEND PROGRAM GIVES 850 STUDENTS OPPORTUNITY TO EASE TRANSITION TO UNIVERSITY LIFE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL-- About 850 University of Minnesota freshmen will launch their college careers early with the New Student Weekend program that begins at 11:30 a.m. today, Aug. 31.

New Student Weekend (NSW) is a long-standing tradition at the U of M that helps first-year students ease the transition into college. New students will meet other first-year students, hear advice from current U of M students and learn tips on how to make their first year at the university a success.

“Students who attend New Student Weekend come back to campus knowing some familiar faces and they feel more confident about starting classes,” said Beth Lingren, director of Orientation and First-Year Programs.

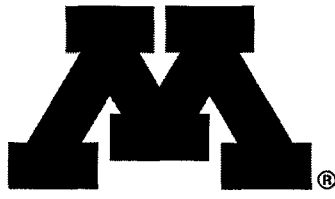
During NSW, groups of students will travel to retreat sites near the Twin Cities where they will participate in games and workshops that focus on values, campus involvement and taking charge of their college career. The weekend also includes small group and large group activities, a dance, an evening campfire and time for new students to get their questions answered by students who have been there.

The New Student Weekend schedule follows:

11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Students will check-in at Northrop Plaza, drop off their luggage and be greeted by student leaders.

1:00 to 2:00 p.m., Jermaine Davis, an educational, inspirational and motivational speaker, gives the talk “Do It Now!” His speech will tell students how they can realize their goals and will set the tone for the weekend.

2 p.m., Students depart for the retreat sites.



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August 31, 2006

Contacts: John Byrnes, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, (612) 625-4743
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

PATHOGENS WILL BE 'LOCKED DOWN' IN NEW U OF M QUARANTINE FACILITY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Researchers will be able to get one step ahead of dangerous pathogens that may eventually damage Minnesota crops and forests when a new state-of-the-art building is completed on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul campus. The Plant Pathology Research Facility will allow scientists to research pests that, if they reach Minnesota, could cause diseases such as Asian soybean rust, sudden oak death and new strains of stem rust on small grains.

The \$4.8 million building will have its groundbreaking at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 1907 Dudley Ave., St. Paul. The facility will be jointly operated by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. "Crop diseases are a constant threat to our agricultural community, and the state has a role to play in helping protect our farmers," said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Gene Hugoson. "This facility is a valuable resource that will help us cope with these threats for years to come."

Speakers at the groundbreaking will include U of M Regent Dallas Bohnsack, Hugoson and Ron Jacobsen, who was president of the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association at the time legislation passed authorizing the Plant Pathology Research Facility.

"The University of Minnesota will be the only university in the Midwest with this type of research capability. These facilities will serve as a magnet to attract scientists who are driven to discover the best way to help agriculture," said Beverly Durgan, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and dean and director of the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

When completed and licensed by the USDA-APHIS, the facility will be approved as a bio-safety level (BL3) facility and eligible to study a variety of plant diseases. Currently, only three BL3 facilities in the United States are allowed to work with and conduct research on exotic plant pathogens. Special security and air filtration systems in the new facility will ensure the pathogens aren't released into the environment.

Research in the building will focus on plant pathogens that could damage crops or forests if they were introduced

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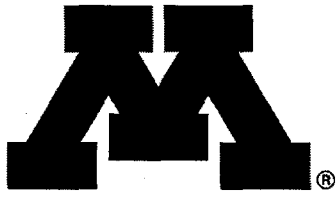
Research in the building will focus on plant pathogens that could damage crops or forests if they were introduced to Minnesota. Plant pathogens can be inadvertently spread by wind, travelers, food products or shipping, or deliberately spread to cause economic, political or human health problems.

The Plant Pathology Research Facility will be a final piece of a \$24 million plant growth facilities project that includes classrooms, 15,000 square feet of growing space in state-of-the-art greenhouses and an Insect Quarantine Facility. The Insect Quarantine Facility opened in 2003 and allows researchers to analyze the potential usefulness of beneficial insects in the control of soybean aphids, buckthorn, garlic mustard and other pests.

The University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will all use the facility.

WHEN: 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6

WHERE: 1907 Dudley Ave., U of M St. Paul campus



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August 31, 2006

Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436

THOMAS MANN AND NORM ORNSTEIN WILL DISCUSS "THE BROKEN BRANCH" OF GOVERNMENT AT THE U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Congress is broken and failing Americans, according to Thomas Mann, senior fellow at The Brookings Institution, and Norman Ornstein, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, who will discuss "The Broken Branch: A Look at the Contemporary Congress" from noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11, at the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

In Mann and Ornstein's new book, "The Broken Branch: How Congress Is Failing America and How to Get It Back on Track," these nationally renowned congressional experts offer their diagnosis of the cause of this decline: unnecessarily partisan behavior that makes rational policymaking impossible. Ornstein and Mann temper their critique with a blueprint for positive change.

All are invited to attend this discussion, which will be moderated by Star Tribune editorial writer and columnist Lori Sturdevant. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance, the event is free and open to the public. For more information or to RSVP for the event, contact Lea Chittenden at chit0018@umn.edu or (612) 625-2530.



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THE U OF M AT THE STATE FAIR -- SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY, SEPT. 1

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota has a busy schedule planned for Friday, Sept. 1, at the Minnesota State Fair. Fairgoers are invited to visit the university's main building and stage located at the corner of Dan Patch Avenue and Underwood Street, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday's stage and building highlights include:

On the stage:

- 2 p.m., "Minnesota's Bright Renewable Energy Future": Learn how the development of wind, biomass, biofuels, solar and renewable hydrogen technologies can have far-reaching effects on our economy and environment.

Inside the building:

- 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., meet Earl Bakken, co-founder and chairman emeritus of Medtronic, Inc., at the Academic Health Center booth. U alum Bakken, inventor of the world's first wearable, battery-operated external pacemaker at the University of Minnesota, helped launch the modern medical-technology industry. Through his leadership, he enabled millions of people with life-threatening illnesses to be restored to full life and health. Today, he continues to pioneer new ways to help people lead better lives. He is the driving force in establishing Hawaii as the "Healing Island," in promoting complimentary medicine and the study of heart-brain interactions.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY U of M architecture students design state fair ticket booth:

This spring students in the College of Design's architecture department designed and built a state fair ticket booth, located at gate 6, at Como Avenue and Snelling Avenue. The department of architecture has an agreement with the state fair to create a student-built structure every year. The agreement provides students a rare opportunity to go beyond the conceptual realm and get hands-on experience. The course was taught by adjunct faculty Paul Neseth and Wynne Yelland of Locus Architecture.

- more -

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Visitors are encouraged to stop by “Kerlan Treasures: Gems from the Trove,” the University of Minnesota Libraries’ state fair exhibit, running through Sept. 4. The exhibit covers more than 50 feet of wall space in the Fine Arts Building at the corner of Randall Avenue and Cosgrove Street. The exhibit includes more than 20 pieces of new and classic artwork from beloved artists who have found a home for their treasures in the U Libraries’ Kerlan Collection of Children’s Literature.

For a complete schedule of Friday’s stage and booth programs, visit www.umn.edu/statefair.



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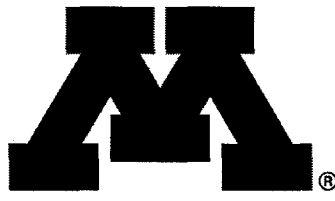
MIDDLE EAST EXPERT WILL REVEAL THE “VOICES OF JIHAD” AT THE U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Do Islamic jihadis really hate American democracy and freedom? What are their goals and how do they justify the deaths of innocent people? David Aaron, director of RAND's Center for Middle East Public Policy, will offer insights to these questions from noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the Humphrey Institute, 301 19th Ave. S. Minneapolis.

In Aaron's forthcoming book, "In Their Own Words: Voices of Jihad," he addresses these questions by relaying his direct conversations with Islamic jihadis. He will present his work in a discussion introduced by Vice President Walter Mondale and moderated by professor Larry Jacobs, director of the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance (CSPG).

Aaron is a former Foreign Service officer and deputy national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter. His previous works include "State Scarlet" (Simon & Schuster 1988), "Agent of Influence" (Putnam Publishing Group 1990), and "Crossing by Night" (Harper 1993). Aaron also wrote two PBS documentaries, including "Lessons of the 1991 Gulf War."

Sponsored by CSPG, the event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Please RSVP by Sept. 8 to Lea Chittenden at chit0018@umn.edu or (612) 625-2530.



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August 31, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M TRANSPORTATION FAIR TO GIVE THE LATEST INFORMATION ON PARKING, CARPOOLING, BIKING, BUSING AND WALKING

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Where is the closest bus stop? Is carpooling the cheapest parking option? What is the police escort service hotline number? These questions and more will be answered at the annual Transportation Fair at the University of Minnesota.

About 5,000 students are expected to attend the 12th Annual Transportation Fair at the University of Minnesota on the Minneapolis East Bank campus next week.

The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 5, in front of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

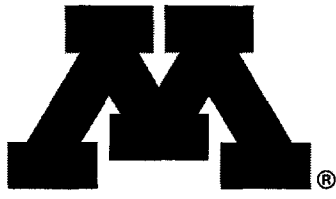
Students on the St. Paul campus will also have a chance to attend the Transportation Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul.

People attending the fair learn more about the variety of transportation options available to them while sipping free soda, munching on complimentary snacks and, in Minneapolis, listening to music broadcasted from 89.3 The Current during the lunch hour. People can also enter to win great prizes like a free U-Pass or student parking contract and gift certificates to Target stores or free meal coupons at dining locations on campus.

Participating organizations include:

U of M Parking and Transportation Services, University of Minnesota Police Department - Bike Patrol, University Dining Services, U of M Commuter Connection, Metro Transit, Anoka County Transit, Maple Grove Transit, Minnesota Valley Transit Authority, Plymouth Metro Link, SouthWest Metro Transit, SchoolRider, Jefferson Lines, city of Minneapolis, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Van-GO!, Zipcar, Campus Club, and MnPASS.

For more information, see www.parkandtrans.umn.edu, e-mail to parking@umn.edu or call 612-626-7275.



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STORY TIPS

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August 31, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

BACK FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR

Once again, returning University of Minnesota students are making their way towards the Twin Cities to begin the new school year. Parents are wishing them goodbye and settling in for a quieter household. Overconfident, yet secretly nervous, freshmen are debating what can fit in a dorm room as university faculty finish up class curriculums.

Back to school jitters and empty-nest syndrome

Attending college after a summer of full-time working and no-time studying, no matter if it is for freshmen or fifth year seniors, can be a difficult transition. Motivation, homesickness and adoption to a new lifestyle are challenges that students can face. Back at the home front, some parents must cope with an empty nest. Professor at the Institute of Child Development, Martha Erickson, is available for interviews on how students deal with returning to college. Marjorie Savage is the director of the University Parent Program and is hosting back to school information sessions for parents this weekend. She has also helped create alcohol online education courses for parents with young adults new to college.

Electronic socializing craze

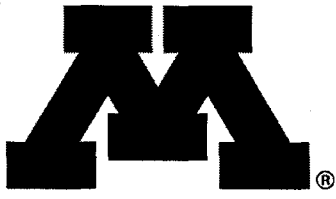
Dorms, off-campus houses and apartments are all social gathering places for university students. But public interaction has recently gone digital with networking websites such as Facebook, Myspace and Friendster. Users can create groups of friends, share photos and send out electronic party invitations. Colleen Gengler, a family relations educator with the U of M Extension Service, thinks that these online sites are just another place for students to hang out, make friends and be accepted in new ways.

Wireless available on-campus

With Minneapolis working to approve a city-wide wireless network, the University of Minnesota is one step ahead. Since early 2000, the Office of Information Technology has continually developed a more extensive wireless network. It is committed to the goal of creating a common, secure Twin Cities 'Wireless Campus' experience for all wireless network users. Students and faculty have more freedom and flexibility to access the internet, whether it be from a dorm room or a study session in one of the libraries. Steve Cawley is the associate vice president for the Office of Information Technology and is working to advance wireless communications technology on campus.

To interview any of the university representatives above, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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For Immediate Release

September 1, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U OF M STUDENTS START MOVING INTO RESIDENCE HALLS AT 8 A.M. SATURDAY, SEPT. 2

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Parents and volunteers: It's time to flex your muscles. The big rush to move about 6,600 University of Minnesota students into their residence halls and apartments begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2.

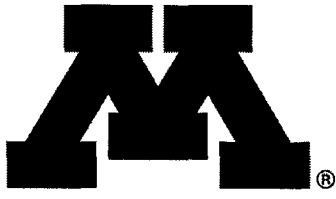
With the assistance of Housing and Residential Life and the "Bruininks Crew," students receive help in getting boxes, furniture and computers into their new campus homes. It's estimated that 4,400 freshmen will live on campus. The university estimates that this year's freshman class will include about 5,300 students.

More and more first-year students are choosing to live on campus, said Laurie McLaughlin, director of housing and residential life. "Living in residence halls gives students a good opportunity to integrate their classroom and out-of-classroom experiences in a supportive living-learning community." Students can benefit from educational, cultural, recreational and social programs in residential communities, she said.

The number of students choosing on-campus housing has been steadily increasing at the University of Minnesota for the last several years. In 1992, 59 percent of new freshmen lived on campus. This year, more than 80 percent of freshmen are expected to live on campus, McLaughlin said. She attributes the trend to the wealth of opportunities offered to students who live in university housing.

"On-campus residential environments today are more than just a place to eat and sleep," McLaughlin said. "Living on campus gives students opportunities to meet people, become involved in campus life and experience a sense of community on campus. Students who live in university housing feel a strong connection to the broader university community." On-campus living also has academic benefits. Research shows that living in university housing positively influences a student's grade point average and level of involvement in campus activities, McLaughlin said.

MEDIA NOTES: Media is welcome to come and do stories about students moving in. If you want to do interviews or shoot video or photos inside the residence halls, you must ask a student to escort you and you must remain with the student escort while in the residence hall. **Media must ask a student living in the residence hall to escort them. The residence halls in the Superblock area at Oak and Fulton Streets Southeast, Minneapolis, have the highest concentrations of students.**



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jjasinski@labrechemurray.com
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M NAMES GARY HOLMES "ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR"

~ Holmes to recognized for his leadership in the local business community ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will present Gary Holmes, president and founder of CSM Corporation, with its first annual Entrepreneur of the Year Award at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, during the Minnesota Cup award event at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis. Holmes' will receive the award in conjunction with a reception to announce the winners of the 2006 Minnesota Cup, a competition that promotes entrepreneurial activity and enhances the role of the University of Minnesota as the center of innovation.

"At the heart of the Minnesota Cup competition is the idea that the future vitality of our state is dependent upon innovative entrepreneurs that will grow our economy," says John Stavig, director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Carlson School of Management. "Holmes is clearly recognized as a leader in our community, a brilliant businessman and driver of change. The Center for Entrepreneurial Studies is proud to recognize him with this award as part of an event that encourages and celebrates entrepreneurial endeavors."

Gifted with an entrepreneurial spirit from childhood, at age 12 Holmes developed - and put into practice - a talent for turning bright ideas into reality; selling light bulbs in southwest Minneapolis and recruiting fellow Boy Scouts as salesmen. From there, Holmes took his earnings and entered the world of real estate by acquiring his first set of duplexes by age 14.

His interest in real estate progressed as Holmes became the founder of CSM Corporation, which acquires, develops, leases and manages assets including hotels, restaurants, apartment and townhome communities, commercial, industrial and retail properties. Holmes is one of the largest owner-operators of real estate in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and owns more than 200 properties across 16 states.

Holmes is particularly active at the University's Carlson School of Management where he frequently speaks to MBA classes, partners his CSM Corporation marketing department with MBA students and helps to develop

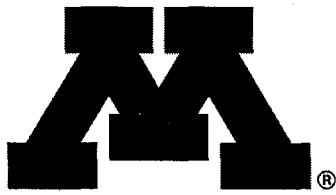
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the school's entrepreneurial program. In 2005, he was the recipient of the University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award, an award presented to graduates or former students of the University of Minnesota who have attained unusual distinction in their profession or in public service and who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership.

About CSM Corporation

CSM Corporation, founded in 1976, is headquartered in Minneapolis. CSM Corporation engages in the acquisition, development, leasing, management and ownership of quality real estate assets. The company's extensive portfolio includes retail, industrial, multi-family residential and hotel properties across the continental United States. For more information, visit www.csmcorp.net.



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Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U SEEKS PUBLIC'S INPUT ON NEW INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota is hosting three public forums next week to seek input on the new systemwide Institute on the Environment. The goal of the institute is to coordinate the university's broad environmental resources to make it easier for researchers to share knowledge with each other and the public. In addition to providing more opportunities for students, the hope is that bringing the university's far-flung environmental experts closer together will help trigger even greater discoveries and further enhance the university's reputation as an environmental leader.

The Provost's Advisory Committee for the Institute on the Environment is scheduled to offer its blueprint for the institute Sept. 14. In order to engage the university community and broader public in the discussion on institute's role, three public forums will be held next week:

- 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, 105 Cargill Building, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul
- 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, 402 Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis
- 1-2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, 130 School of Medicine Building, 1035 University Drive, Duluth

In addition, the public is invited to offer suggestions and comments about the institute at <https://www.myu.umn.edu/metadot/index.pl?iid=644332&isa=Category>.

People not able to attend in person can participate on the Web. For more information, see the Provost's Advisory Committee for the Institute on the Environment Web site, <http://academic.umn.edu/provost/interdisc/environment.html>.

It's expected that the institute will be operating sometime this fall or early in 2007. No decisions have been made as to where the institute will be located.



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September 1, 2006

Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

U OF M PRESIDENT TO DELIVER MESSAGE ABOUT GRADUATING IN FOUR YEARS IN A DRAMATIC WAY AT CONVOCATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Increasing the number of students who graduate in four years is a top priority for the University of Minnesota and that is the message this fall's freshman class will hear in a dramatic way on **Tuesday, Sept. 5**, the first day of classes.

When first-year students enter Northrop Auditorium for convocation at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, each student will receive an envelope and will be told not to open it until instructed to do so by U of M President Robert Bruininks. The envelope will contain a maroon and gold graduation tassel with their graduation year of 2010.

Bruininks will tell them: "This tassel represents the reason that you are here today -- to receive the education you came here to get and to grow as a global citizen and to graduate from the university in 2010, four short years from now. Hang this tassel someplace that you will see everyday as a reminder of the goal that you have before you."

The U of M's Twin Cities campus keeps working to improve four-year graduation rates. In fact the four-year graduation rate has increased from 18 percent in 1993 to 36.7 percent in 2005. Under current graduation rate goals, by the year 2012, the university hopes to improve the four-year graduation rate to 50 percent, the five-year graduation rate to 70 percent and the six-year rate to 75 percent. And, the U of M will announce new higher graduation rate goals in October.

Bruininks' welcome of the class of 2010 is just one part of the 2006 convocation. The convocation is designed to give new students a feel for the tradition and pride at the university while welcoming them to the community and campus. It begins at 4:30 p.m. with a traditional academic procession. Faculty and university leaders will be wearing colorful academic regalia in the march from Coffman Union down Northrop Mall to Northrop Auditorium.

Convocation also includes:

- a welcome by Meghan Keating, a 2006 U of M College of Liberal Arts graduate.
- the presentation of the class of 2010 by incoming first-year Institute of Technology student Ambreasha Frazier to President Bruininks. Frazier was the valedictorian of the Minneapolis North High School Class of 2006. She graduated with a straight A average and earned entrance into

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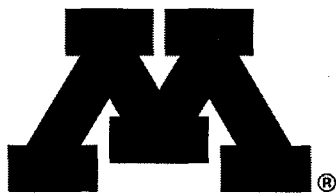
the National Honor Society.

- faculty members offer insights to first-year students.
- The U of M Marching Band will enter Northrop, perform school songs and at 5:30 p.m. lead the first-year students down the mall to Coffman Union.

At 5:45 p.m., a Pride and Spirit event will be held at Coffman where students will receive a free dinner and enjoy entertainment.

For more information on orientation and first-year programs, go to www.ofyp.umn.edu

Multibox available for broadcast reporters.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

SEPTEMBER BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING TO BE WEBCAST; NEW LEADERS TO BE RECOGNIZED

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- When the University of Minnesota Board of Regents meets this week, it will be the first time that the board's proceedings will be webcast. The full board meeting on Friday, Sept. 8 can be viewed beginning at 9 a.m. at www.umn.edu/regents.

"The work of this board is open, accountable and now even more accessible than ever before," said Board Chair Anthony Baraga. "This will be an important way for students and citizens to learn more about the work we do in guiding this world class higher education institution."

The board will also recognize a number of new university officials, including University of Minnesota Morris Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson, Carlson School of Management Dean Alison Davis-Blake and Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity Rusty Barceló. In addition, the board will honor new Regents Professors, those who have received the highest recognition the university provides faculty.

Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

Thursday, Sept. 7

1:15 - 2:30 p.m., Board of Regents work session, East Committee Room. Carol Carrier, vice president of human resources, will lead a discussion on human resources policies.

2:45 - 4:45 p.m., Faculty, Staff and Student Affairs Committee, East Committee Room. The committee will hear an update on the university's Parent Program from director Marjorie Savage.

Friday, Sept. 8

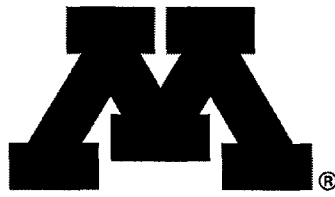
9 - 11:30 a.m., Board of Regents meeting, Boardroom. President Robert Bruininks will lead a discussion on the

- more -

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conceptual framework of the university's biennial budget request. The board will recognize Regents Professors and a number of new university officials. Professor Carol Chomsky, chair of the Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC), will give the FCC's annual report.

More information on the Board of Regents meeting can be found at www.umn.edu/regents.



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September 5, 2005

*Contacts: Jamie Proulx, Humphrey Institute, (612) 625-9436 or jamie@umn.edu
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

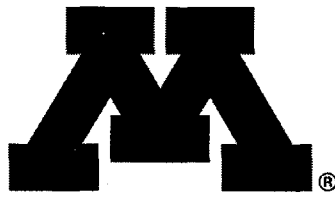
WALTER MONDALE WILL LEAD DISCUSSION AT THE U OF M ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA CRISIS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Vice President Walter Mondale will lead a panel discussion called "Beyond the Nuclear Issue: Crisis on the Korean Peninsula" from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Sept. 15, at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

North Korea's 4th of July launch of multiple medium- and long-range missiles once again thrust North Korea onto the front pages. In addition to the ongoing nuclear crisis, there is growing concern over North Korea's human rights situation, the flow of refugees into China, the past kidnapping of Japanese and South Korean citizens and recent evidence that the flooding and famine that haunted much of North Korea in the 1990s may be returning.

Joining Mondale for a panel discussion on these issues will be L. Desaix Anderson, former executive director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO); Burton Levin, former U.S. Consul General in Hong Kong and U.S. ambassador to Burma; L. Gordon Flake, executive director of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and a frequent commentator on Asian issues; and Humphrey Institute Dean J. Brian Atwood, former United States Agency for International Development administrator.

The event, which is cosponsored by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and the Minnesota International Center, is free and open to the public, but registration is required by contacting Camille Gage at (612) 625-5309.



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September 5, 2006

*Contacts: Kari Erpenbach, U of M Bookstore, (612) 625-6564, kari@umn.edu
Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

**GARRISON KEILLOR WILL DISCUSS HIS BOOK "HOMEGROWN DEMOCRAT"
OCT. 9 AT THE U OF M BOOKSTORE**

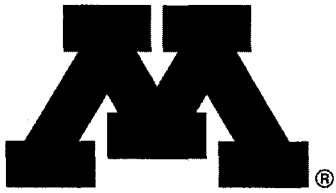
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Garrison Keillor, best-selling author and host of "A Prairie Home Companion," will discuss his book "Homegrown Democrat: A Few Plain Thoughts from the Heart of America" at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9 at the University of Minnesota Bookstore, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Keillor, with his trademark wit and a dash of anger, delivers a personal reflection on the values and accomplishments of the national Democratic party as he begs America to bring common-sense and compassion back to the political forefront. Keillor defines the democratic values that shaped and galvanized his patriotism and questions why the Republicans have threatened those values over the years. Keillor who believes "liberalism is simply the politics of kindness," asks all Americans to think about what we can do to make our nation a better, happier and safer place for everyone.

Keillor will sign copies of his book following the discussion. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, or to order a signed copy visit www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9

WHERE: University of Minnesota Bookstore, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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For Immediate Release

September 5, 2006

Contacts: *Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

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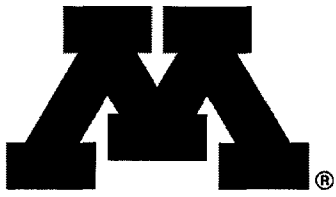
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Media Note: Multibox available for broadcast reporters. Good photo opportunity.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 6, 2006

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Nina Shepherd, Media Relations, (612) 599-1148

WHITE ON WHITE: NATION'S FIRST EVER 'WHITENESS' SURVEY PROVIDES NEW INSIGHT ON RACE

~ Survey focuses on what white people think about being white ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- What whites think about their own race is the focus of a first-of-its-kind national survey by researchers in the University of Minnesota's department of sociology. From a telephone survey of more than 2,000 households nationwide, results show that there is more recognition among white people of their own racial identity and the social privileges that come with it than was previously thought.

The assumption behind prior scholarship and diversity training initiatives was that whites overlooked their own race. "It's sort of like having an accent," said the study's co-author, University of Minnesota associate professor Doug Hartmann. "For some white Americans, racial identity is so fixed, so taken for granted, that 'race' becomes something other people have."

In fact, the researchers found that a majority of whites (74 percent) felt that their own racial identity was important to them, and that a similar majority were able to see prejudice and discrimination as important in explaining white advantage. At the same time, minorities are more likely to see their racial identities as important and to see structural reasons for racial disparities.

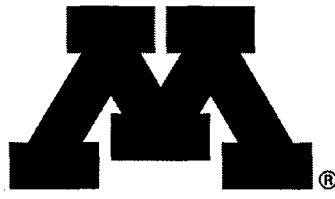
The research also suggests that awareness of white identity and awareness of white privilege are not the same. "The fact of the matter is that people claim white identity for defensive as well as progressive reasons," said survey co-author Paul Croll, University of Minnesota graduate student.

Age and income have little impact on a white person's awareness of their racial identity, the study found. But Southerners and social conservatives place more emphasis on their racial identity than other white Americans, while those with more education place less. Republican and male respondents most strongly resist claims that discrimination in legal and financial systems can explain white advantage. Additionally, respondents--regardless of their racial identity--believed strongly in the importance of individual effort, hard work and family upbringing in achieving success.

- more -

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The study, available upon request, was part of the American Mosaic Project, a three-year project funded by the Minneapolis-based David Edelstein Family Foundation that looks at race, religion and cultural diversity in the contemporary United States.



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STORY TIPS

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September 6, 2006

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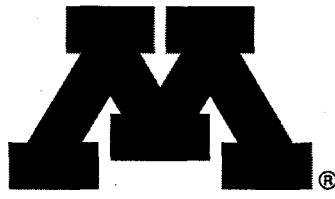
ROOTING FOR THE UNDERDOG: DO PEOPLE WHO ROOT FOR THE UNDERDOG (OR FAVORITE) HAVE COMMON OR SIMILAR PERSONALITY TRAITS AND PERSONAL VALUES?

As the baseball playoff races heat up and the NFL season kick off approaches, sports fans everywhere will be choosing teams to root for, whether a perennial favorite or the classic underdog. From sports to movies, rooting for the underdog is a time-honored American tradition. A new study by the University of Minnesota's Todd Wilkinson, visiting assistant professor in the psychology department, looks at the relationship between an individual's personality traits and personal values and choosing to root for an underdog or backing a favored team.

In his analysis, Wilkinson tested such attributes as openness to experience, right-wing authoritarianism, social dominance orientation, belief in a just world, as well as personal values of conformity, benevolence, power and achievement and found that some traits would make you an "underdog" or a "favorite" person.

If you would like to interview Wilkinson, contact Mark Cassutt, University of Minnesota News Service, (612) 624-8038.

Story Tips is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, it provides unique story ideas about U research, students, and campus life. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 6, 2006

*Contacts: Deborah Gallenberg, Law School, (612) 625-1538
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M LAW SCHOOL'S CLASS OF 2009 IS THE STRONGEST ACADEMICALLY AND THE MOST DIVERSE CLASS IN HISTORY

~ Applications to U of M Law School increase while applications nationwide drop ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Law School's entering first year class is the strongest academically and the most diverse class in the school's 118 year history. The 258 members of the Class of 2009 enter the Law School with a median GPA of 3.55 and a median LSAT score of 165, which places these students close to the 95th percentile of applicants to law schools nationwide.

Forty-three percent of the class are women which exceeds last year's entering class by 4 percent. Twenty percent of the students are minorities. The students represent 28 states and five foreign countries and 118 undergraduate institutions. The largest number of students are from Minnesota, followed by Wisconsin with California as a close third. The Law School has become significantly more selective in its admissions process, accepting less than one in four applicants. The overall goal of the Law School's admissions process is to recruit diverse and academically strong students who will thrive in law school, and eventually excel as lawyers or in related careers, said Joan Howland, associate dean at the Law School.

In other good news, applications to the University of Minnesota Law School have increased by nearly 27 percent over the past two years at a time when applications to law schools nationwide have decreased by more than 10 percent since 2004.

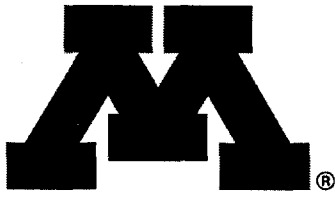
The Law School's nationally and internationally recognized faculty, rich and deep curriculum, world class law library, strong skills training programs, and exceptionally high bar passage and employment rates are factors that combine to make the Law School very attractive to students from all regions of the country, Howland said.

The Law School's tuition remains the lowest among the nation's premier law schools which also enhances the institution's attractiveness, she said. In addition, the Law School has continued to refine its marketing efforts as part of a strategy to attract the most diverse and academically competitive students possible. Along with creatively and aggressively utilizing e-mail as a recruitment tool, the Law School has expanded its attendance at

- more -

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recruitment events at undergraduate institutions. With the goal of increasing the percentage of women and minorities, the Law School has also begun visiting colleges it has not visited before such as: the University of Texas, San Antonio; the University of South Carolina; Sacramento State University; Vassar College; Wellesley College and the University of New Mexico.



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September 7, 2006

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770, dsKelly@csom.umn.edu
Registration Contact: (612) 626-9634, fristtuesday@csom.umn.edu

JAMES STEINER OF LOWRY HILL AT U OF M TO DISCUSS CREATING A STRONG COMPANY CULTURE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- James Steiner, managing principal of Lowry Hill, will speak at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's "First Tuesday" luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

In his presentation, "Unexpected Lessons Yield Two Successful Decades," Steiner will share his insights into how to create a strong company culture that attracts both strong colleagues and strong clients. He will also discuss how having a true passion for what you do and the people you work with is vital to the success of any highly successful company.

Lowry Hill has offices in Minneapolis, Naples, Fla. and Scottsdale, Ariz. The firm has managed investments for wealthy individuals and families for 20 years and currently holds more than \$6 billion in assets for 300 families living in 38 states. The firm focuses on working closely with a small client base to help clients identify their financial goals and implement strategies designed to accomplish those goals.

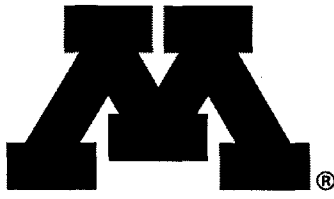
In addition to serving as managing principal of Lowry Hill, Steiner serves on its Investment Strategy Committee and is responsible for the company's growth equity investment strategy. He has also been responsible for the company's small cap investment strategy and been involved with the firm's overall investment strategy. Prior to joining Lowry Hill, Steiner was vice president and senior equity analyst at Investment Advisers Inc., where his work focused on the IAI Regional Fund, a \$550 million mutual fund that invested in private and public firms in the upper Midwest and managed \$350 million for institutional clients. Steiner has a master's of business administration degree from the Carlson School.

Each month the First Tuesday luncheon draws around 300 local business leaders, Carlson School alumni, students, and educators, who hear from the leading business voices on today's economy.

- more -

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Advance registration by Sept. 28 is \$23 and \$28 for walk-ins. The fee includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue Ramp. Register by calling (612) 626-9634, visiting www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/events, or by e-mailing firsttuesday@csom.umn.edu.



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EXPERT ALERT

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September 7, 2006

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

CONTROVERSY SURROUNDS ABC'S SCHEDULED SUNDAY/MONDAY AIRING OF "THE PATH TO 9/11"

ABC's plans to air the two-part miniseries *The Path to 9/11* beginning Sunday evening is generating a lot of controversy. The miniseries is based on interviews and documents including the report by the Sept. 11 commission. ABC says the miniseries is not a documentary but a dramatization. Clinton administration officials say that the five-hour movie is riddled with factual errors and fabrications. University of Minnesota experts who can discuss the controversy are:

Professor Mary Vavrus, U of M communication studies professor

Vavrus is an expert in the area of media studies, with particular emphasis on the political economy of the media and women in the media. She is author of *Postfeminist News* and an expert on critical media literacy. Vavrus says that *The Path to 9/11* "highlights ABC's political bias, something that poses special problems during this run-up to the November mid-term elections."

Professor Edward Schiappa, U of M communication studies professor and chair of the communication studies department

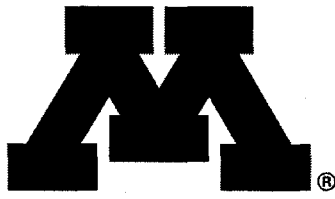
Schiappa is author of *Defining Reality* and teaches courses in freedom of speech and media studies. He says "the contradiction of Disney (who owns ABC) being unwilling to distribute Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* because it was controversial yet showing *The Path to 9/11* without commercials is large." "The airing of Path after CBS pulled their show about the Reagans due to complaints certainly challenges the myth of 'liberal media'."

Professor Gil Rodman, U of M communication studies professor

Rodman teaches media and cultural studies. His areas of expertise are critical media studies, cultural studies, popular culture, communication technologies and Politics of Race and Ethnicity. Rodman says "Path demonstrates very odd priorities on ABC's part: the \$40 million that the network spent to make a piece of "entertainment" (one that won't have commercial sponsors) could have been used to fund an awful lot of serious investigative journalism instead."

To interview any of the professors, contact Patty Mattern at (612) 624-2801; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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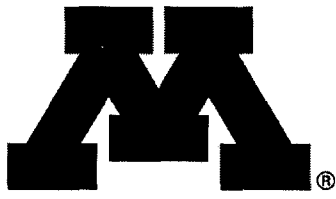
Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770, dskelly@csom.umn.edu

JOHN DAWSON NAMED NEW DIRECTOR OF U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL LEADERSHIP ACCESS PROGRAM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Mary Maus Kosir, assistant dean of the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management undergraduate program, today named John Dawson as the new director of the Leadership Access Program. Dawson will oversee the newly designed Leadership Access Program, an early outreach program intended to familiarize high school students from under-represented communities with business education, Carlson School faculty, students and alumni, and the skills necessary for admission to college.

Dawson has more than 20 years of experience in the local educational community. Prior to joining the university he served as the director of New Student Services for Normandale Community College and director of diversity for North Hennepin Community College. He has a master's degree in counseling and student personnel psychology from the University of North Dakota.

As director of the Leadership Access Program, Dawson will work with students from Patrick Henry High School in Minneapolis and Arlington High School in St. Paul. Students in the program will receive both a Carlson School student and alumni mentor, advising on college preparatory courses, invitations to parent activities, ACT/SAT college preparation test support and exposure to the University of Minnesota campus and faculty.



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Contacts: Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu

U OF M TO "GO LONG" WITH HISTORIC GOPHER 3 YARDS AND A CLOUD OF DUST FOOTBALL RELAY SEPT. 30

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota is holding an historic Gopher Football Relay on Saturday, Sept. 30, to celebrate Gopher football's return to campus in fall 2009.

"An on-campus Gopher football stadium is now becoming a reality and we want our friends and fans to celebrate with us by bringing Gopher football back to campus – literally," said U of M athletics director Joel Maturi.

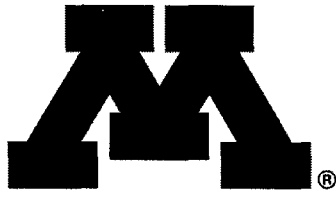
Hundreds of U of M supporters will bring football back to campus by relaying a football from the Metrodome, through the university campus and to the future site of TCF Bank Stadium at the corner of Oak Street S.E. and Fourth Street S.E., Minneapolis. Official "ball carriers" will be assigned a location along the route where they will receive a hand off from another ball carrier, walk it a short distance and give it to the next carrier. The relay will begin at 12:30 p.m. and be followed by a stadium groundbreaking celebration at 2 p.m. Afterward, shuttle buses to the Metrodome will be available for fans who plan to attend the Gopher game against Michigan.

The public is encouraged to wear maroon and gold and to bring their spirit and Gopher pride to cheer on the celebrity ball carriers as they make their way to the stadium site. The event will take place rain or shine.

TCF Bank Stadium will have an open-air horseshoe design with a capacity of 50,000, including general seats as well as an array of club and suite seats. The stadium will complement the campus environment, have a collegiate look and feel, create two landscaped plazas and accommodate other uses. The design allows for maximum flexibility, including potential expansion to 80,000 seats.

The stadium cost is estimated at \$248 million, which includes site preparation, district improvements and the stadium itself, with funding coming from private and corporate contributions, as well from the state of Minnesota.

For more information on the new on-campus Gopher football stadium, see www.umn.edu/stadium.



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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720

U OF M COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES NAMES THREE FINALISTS IN THE SEARCH FOR NEW DEAN

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS) dean search committee has named three finalists for the position of dean of the college.

“The dean search committee has worked hard to identify a slate of talented candidates for this position. The three candidates chosen for public interview have shown, in their previous positions, the ability to exercise strategic executive leadership while working with a variety of constituents,” said Thomas Sullivan, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We are looking for the best person to both continue the college’s many exciting programs and initiatives and to further the college in its national and international prominence, while strengthening its commitment to Minnesota agriculture and the environment.”

The finalists are:

Allen S. Levine - professor and head of the department of Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Minnesota. He has been a member of the University of Minnesota faculty since 1981, and holds joint appointments in the departments of psychiatry and medicine. He is also director of the Minnesota Obesity Center and was deputy associate chief of staff for research at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Minneapolis for more than 17 years. Levine’s on-campus interview schedule is Sept. 20-22.

Curtis J. Richardson - professor of resource ecology at Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences and director of Duke’s Wetland Center. He has been a member of the Duke University faculty since 1978, and previously worked at the University of Edinburgh, UK and at the University of Michigan. Richardson has led various departments and programs in his career and served as acting dean for a year at Duke University. Richardson’s on-campus interview schedule is Sept. 24-26.

Eric W. Triplett - professor and chair of the department of microbiology and cell science at the University of

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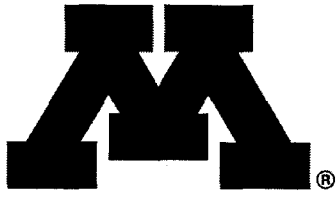
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Florida-Gainesville. He has held this post since 2003. Prior to that, he was a Fulbright visiting scholar at the Research School of Biological Sciences at Australian National University-Canberra. Triplett's academic career also includes 16 years on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and five years at the University of California-Riverside. Triplett's on-campus interview schedule is September 27-29.

More information about each of the finalists is available at <http://www.cfans.umn.edu/deansearch>.

Finalist visits culminate in a public forum, which will be broadcast live and archived online. All public comments on the finalists are due by Oct. 4.

CFANS is the new university college formed from the College of Natural Resources, the College of Human Ecology's department of food science and nutrition and the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. The finalist selected will replace interim dean Kate VandenBosch, who has been leading the college since its inception on July 1. The search for a permanent dean is being led by Sullivan.



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EXPERT ALERT

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September 8, 2006

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9/11: FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Monday marks five years since that Tuesday morning in 2001 when the United States was fully and brutally introduced to home-front terrorism. The tragedy still lingers in the minds of many Americans who witnessed the planes crash, whether in person on the streets of New York or even thousands of miles away in front of the television. Almost 3,000 people were killed that day: husbands, wives, fathers, mothers and children. How have these families who lost loved ones searched for hope and closure these past five years?

Few times in American history has the country been so horrifically shocked on its own soil, tightly united in common defense, and then slowly and sharply polarized. Our foreign involvement has drastically increased, and we now live in a society with "orange" and "yellow" levels of security alertness.

Colin Kahl, assistant professor in political science at the University of Minnesota

Kahl teaches courses in international relations, international security, American foreign policy, civil and ethnic conflict, and terrorism. He has recently completed a Council on Foreign Relations Fellowship at the Department of Defense in Washington, D.C., where he has worked on a variety of "War on Terrorism" issues. Kahl currently teaches a class at the U called "War on Terrorism and American Foreign Policy," and has recently returned from a week in Baghdad, where he did research for the Department of Defense.

Kahl can comment on a variety of issues, including:

- The origins and U.S. response to 9/11
- The evolution of the terrorist threat since 9/11
- Current U.S. policies related to the War on Terrorism
- U.S strategy, policy, and military conduct in Iraq
- Application of the Geneva Conventions and other aspects of the Law of War in Iraq and the broader War on Terrorism

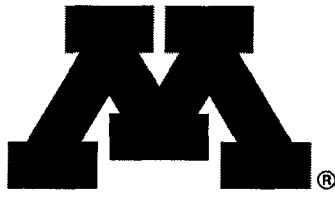
Kahl is returning from Washington on Monday and will be available from noon to 3 p.m. During the weekend, he will be available for phone interviews.

Pauline Boss, professor of family social science at the University of Minnesota

Shortly after the attacks, Boss worked with family members of 9/11 victims and has continued to help them in the following years. She can speak about what she has learned from them and how she has worked on "resilience and new hopes rather than the pain of it all." She discusses these themes in her new book, "Loss, Trauma and Resilience." She is also coordinator of the post-9/11 Minnesota-New York Project.

To interview Kahl or Boss, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 670-6765 (cell) or dorovic@umn.edu.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 8, 2006

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LIND HALL COMPUTER THEFT PROMPTS DATA SECURITY NOTIFICATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Sometime during the night of Aug. 14 or early morning of Aug. 15, 2006, two desktop computers were stolen from an office in Lind Hall on the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus. The matter is under investigation by the University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD). The computers contained data about current and former students at the University's Institute of Technology (IT), officials said today. The first batch of letters notifying those individuals whose data was contained on the stolen computers were mailed last week.

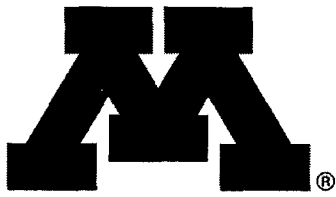
Records for more than 13,000 students were on the machines, including those who entered IT between Fall 1991 through those admitted for Fall 2006. Of those, 603 contained Social Security numbers, which means the potential for identity theft exists.

“We've worked quickly to get these notification letters out as soon as possible to all of those students whose information was contained on the stolen computers,” said Steve Cawley, the University's chief information officer. “Although there is nothing to suggest this is more than property theft, we want all of these students and former students to be watching for any potential identity theft.”

Cawley said the University has strong data security policies in place, but would be enhancing its education efforts, including the addition of a mandatory online training course on data security for all University faculty and staff. In addition, an all-campus data security alert is being issued reminding faculty and staff of basic precautions to be taken to protect student and research data, including encryption, password protections and use of secured central servers.

“There is probably no institution in the state of Minnesota that has so many people who need regular access to private data, which makes education our best form of security,” said Cawley. “We want all of our people to understand that data security is everyone's responsibility.”

If they have not received notification letters already, current and former IT students should be receiving letters in the next week. Those with questions are asked to call (612) 624-7305.



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NEWS

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September 11, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

TOP UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARS TO OBSERVE U.S. CONSTITUTION DAY WITH PROGRAM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Law School, on behalf of the entire University of Minnesota system, will present a program commemorating the U.S. Constitution from 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. in Mondale Hall (Law School), 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

All educational institutions that receive federal funds must offer students instruction on the U.S. Constitution on Constitution Day, the anniversary of the day the Constitution was signed in 1787. Since Constitution Day is Saturday, Sept. 17, the university is holding its program on Tuesday, Sept. 19, which is allowable under the law. This is the second year the law is in effect.

"The University of Minnesota's Constitution Day program assembles one of America's finest teams of talent on constitutional law. The members of our community, across the university's campuses in the Twin Cities, Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and Rochester, can find no better source of wisdom on current constitutional issues than the team that will be gathered here Sept. 19," said Jim Chen, associate dean at the Law School.

Topics will include:

- First Person Plural, an examination of the first three words of the Constitution, "We the People," by Chen.
- An examination of First Amendment Law and the *Rumsfeld v. Fair* case by Law School Professor Dale Carpenter. That case involved a coalition of university law schools named Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights (FAIR) objecting to the U.S. military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which bans openly gay and lesbian individuals from serving in the armed forces. The Solomon Amendment denies federal funds to colleges and universities that discriminate against military recruiters by denying them equal access to campuses. The U.S. Supreme Court earlier this year ruled that educational institutions that receive millions of federal dollars cannot bar U.S. military recruiters from their campuses.
- An examination of the military and First Amendment Law by Law School Professor Mike Paulsen. This will focus on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, striking down regulations authorizing use of

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focus on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, striking down regulations authorizing use of military commissions to try unlawful combatants for crimes against the law of war.

- An examination of Article III standing and statutory interpretation by Law School Professors Kristin Hickman and Alexandra Klass involving *Massachusetts v. U.S. EPA*. The case involves a dispute over whether the Environmental Protection Agency has the power to regulate emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that scientists say contribute to global warming.

- An examination of Freedom of Speech by Law School Professor Heidi Kitrosser.

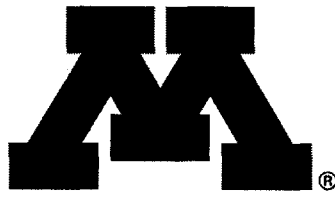
- An examination of state taxation and the Dormant Commerce Clause by Law School Professor Morgan Holcomb.

- An examination of criminal procedure with the focus on the *Hudson v. Michigan* by Law School Professor Ted Sampson-Jones. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the case that use of evidence against a defendant obtained through search warrants in situations where police failed to knock-and-announce does not violate the Fourth Amendment.

A Webcast will connect the East Bank, the St. Paul campus, and the university's campuses in Crookston, Duluth, Morris and Rochester with this event. In addition, students, alumni, employees and friends of the University of Minnesota system will be able to view the presentation on their own computers. Remote participants, who are unable to join the discussion in person, will be able to submit questions.

The Law School has applied for 2.0 continuing legal education credits, including 1.0 "elimination of bias" credit. If approved, those credits will be available to attendees as well as remote viewers.

To view the full Constitution Day agenda, see: www.law.umn.edu/constitutionallaw/conday2006agenda.html



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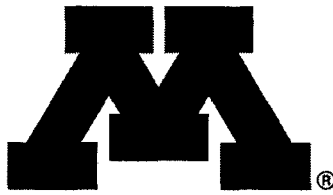
THE HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER SCREENS FILM "SHIPBREAKERS" AS PART OF FILM SERIES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Human Rights Center will feature a screening of the documentary film "Shipbreakers," followed by a panel discussion at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in Room 50 at the University of Minnesota Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. The screening is free and open to the public.

The film is set in Alang, India, the site of a gargantuan scrap yard where ocean-going ships come to die. Forty thousand Indians live and work here, dismantling and scavenging the hulks of 400 vessels every year. *Shipbreakers* is an extraordinary documentary that chronicles the lives of the people who work here, from the men who take apart these giant ships with their bare hands to the bosses, who ignore environmental and health concerns for fear of losing the business to other developing nations. It may be the world's most dangerous job. One worker a day, on average, dies on the job, evaporated in explosions, crushed by falling steel, cut in half by cables or broken up from falls. Of the remaining workers one in four will contract cancers caused by asbestos, PCBs and other toxic substances. The film vividly captures both the haunting beauty of the ships and the deplorable conditions of the workers, *Shipbreakers* is an international story of greed, survival, Third World labor and environmental neglect.

The film is the first showing in the Human Rights Center's 2006-07 film series. Through screenings and panel discussions, the Human Rights Center brings experts and community members together to raise awareness, promote discussion, and take action on issues affecting the human rights community in Minnesota, the nation and the world.

The Humphrey Fellowship Program, the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center and the University of Minnesota School of Public Health are sponsoring the film.



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STORY TIPS

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September 11, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA OFFERS UNIQUE CLASS ABOUT 9/11 AND HOW THE WORLD HAS CHANGED

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL When the twin towers fell in New York City, the world forever changed for Americans. Called "The United States Since Sept. 11," a unique class that looks at every aspect and impact of the 9/11 tragedy from historical and the economy to sociology and art is taught by professor Rod Ferguson of the University of Minnesota's American Studies department.

His course analyzes the changes that took place within the United States and how those changes have a history in prior and forgotten wars in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. In addition, the students will study how the day was remembered, officially and unofficially and how the lives of citizens and immigrants have changed in the aftermath.

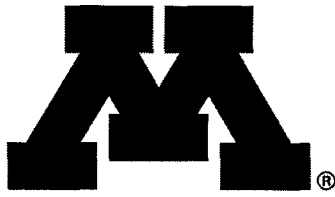
"One thing we were interested in is how the world has changed since 9/11, and 9/11 as a historical marker. What kind of shifts have been made in terms of law, criminalization, race, war and immigration," said Ferguson.

The class, which expected 75 students, got 150. Students were about 13 years old when 9/11 happened, so they came of age in the wake of 9/11.

Ferguson is available all day Monday for interviews.

To interview Ferguson, contact Mark Cassutt at (612) 624-8038 or cassu003@umn.edu.

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September 12, 2006

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THE U'S NEW ZESTAR! APPLE

Most Minnesotans now think Honeycrisp when they think of apples. The variety was released in 1991 by University of Minnesota researchers and became a booming success in the state. But this season, Jim Luby and other university horticulturists are introducing their newest creation, Zestar!.

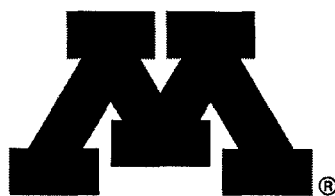
While the Honeycrisp is known for its sweetness and juicy crunch, Zestar! packs a tarter taste with just a hint of brown sugar. Luby describes his latest breed as “fresh apple cider with a bit more zip.” With an early blooming season and two and a half month storage life, Zestar! is also great for cooking.

Like many of the university’s apple varieties, Zestar! has a cold hardiness that makes it perfect for Minnesota. Any apple-grower in Minnesota knows that the state’s climate is nothing like the Southern Hemisphere; cold, harsh winters are brutal on fruit farmers. That’s why Luby engineered Zestar! to withstand the elements and retain its flavor.

So the next time you bite into a Minnesotan apple, whether it is the sweet and juicy Honeycrisp or the tangy Zestar!, be confident to know that Luby and his team are always working to find that next tough and tasty apple for you to enjoy.

If you would like to interview Luby, contact Jeff Falk at (612) 626-1720 or jfalk@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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September 12, 2006

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NOBEL LAUREATE NORMAN BORLAUG RETURNS TO THE U TO PRESENT AN AWARD, CELEBRATE A BOOK - AND MARK A NEW DAY IN HIS HONOR

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Norman Borlaug, the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize winner and University of Minnesota alumnus, will visit the university's St. Paul campus next week to take part in the annual E.C. Stakman Award ceremony and to mark the release of a new biography, "The Man Who Fed the World," by friend and colleague Leon Hesser.

Borlaug and Hesser will be on campus Monday, Sept. 18 -- the date that Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty recently declared to be Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Day in recognition of Borlaug's contributions to the university, the state and the world.

Borlaug earned his bachelor's degree from the U in 1937, his master's degree in 1939 and his doctorate degree in 1942. A plant pathologist by training, he has spent the better part of six decades fighting hunger in Africa, Asia and Mexico - saving, by some estimates, as many as 1 billion lives. Hesser, who earned his doctorate degree in agricultural economics from Purdue University, met Borlaug in Pakistan in 1966; Hesser then worked to introduce Borlaug's high-yield seeds and production techniques to the Asian subcontinent.

Hesser's book, which features a foreword by former president Jimmy Carter, describes Borlaug's life in straightforward prose befitting his Norwegian immigrant family and rural Iowa upbringing. Underlying themes of old-fashioned common sense, decency, humility and hard work still resonate because Borlaug's work -- in fields, laboratories and the halls of government -- continues today.

Their arrival kicks off a full slate of activities, including the following events open to the university community and the media:

1:45 - 2:30 p.m. Seminar by Leon Hesser: "Unsung Hero: The Man Who Fed the World," with an introduction and comments by Norman Borlaug. 105 Cargill Building, 1500 Gortner Ave., St. Paul.

3:15 - 5:00 p.m. Stakman Award reception and Hesser book signing. Cargill Atrium, 1500 Gortner Ave., St.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Paul.

Borlaug and Hesser will also take part in various departmental activities, including seminars and discussion sessions with plant pathology graduate students and undergraduate ambassadors, as well as the Stakman award ceremony, in which Borlaug will speak to the accomplishments of this year's recipient, U alumnus John Gibler.

The department of plant pathology presents the Stakman award for outstanding achievements in plant pathology. Gibler's work paralleled that of his Rockefeller Foundation mentors, Stakman and Borlaug - he is recognized in particular for his work leading to the development of disease-resistant cereals throughout Latin America, the adaptation of cereal varieties and soybean production protocols for "worn-out" soils in Brazil, and the training and organizing of plant scientists in Latin America, as well as for his unique abilities to influence politicians, administrators and growers worldwide to adopt policies and protocols that will help end world hunger.

Gibler earned his master's degree from the U of M in 1950, and his doctorate degree in 1951. As Gibler is unable to attend the award ceremony, his daughter, Jan Krukar, will receive award on his behalf.

The following is the text of Gov. Pawlenty's proclamation.

WHEREAS: Norman Ernest Borlaug was born March 25, 1914, on a farm in Iowa and received a bachelor of science degree in forestry from the University of Minnesota in 1937; and

WHEREAS: Norman Borlaug was a varsity wrestler at the University of Minnesota. Through exhibition matches, he helped introduce the sport to high schools throughout Minnesota and refereed the first-ever Minnesota State High School Wrestling Tournament in 1938; and

WHEREAS: After receiving his degree, Borlaug started work with the U. S. Forestry Service at stations located in Massachusetts and Idaho; and

WHEREAS: After returning to Minnesota, Borlaug received a master's degree in 1939 and a doctorate degree in 1942, both from the University of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: In 1944, Borlaug accepted an appointment as geneticist and plant pathologist to organize and direct the Cooperative Wheat Research and Production Program in Mexico. This appointment allowed him to be involved in scientific research in genetics and for the next 16 years he was extremely successful in finding a high-yielding, short-strawed, disease-resistant wheat; and

WHEREAS: Borlaug's agriculture research in Mexico improved crop management practices and transformed agricultural production in Mexico during the 1940s and 1950s and later in Asia and Latin America; and

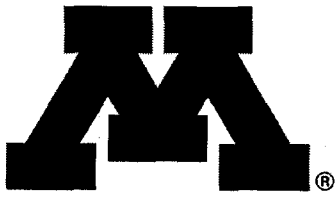
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WHEREAS: In 1970, Dr. Norman Ernest Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his lifetime work in agriculture, which has resulted in saving millions of human lives by preventing famine and alleviating hunger and malnutrition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, proclaim Monday, September 18, 2006, to be:

DR. NORMAN E. BORLAUG DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2006

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U OF M OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES ANNOUNCES 10 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Ten students at the University of Minnesota received the Robert and Gail Buuck Scholarship and the Angela Brooke Warner Scholarship for Disability Services at a reception Friday, Sept. 8. The purpose of the scholarships is to provide access to higher education, opportunities for enhancing or supporting learning, and support for guidance or training in the development of self-advocacy and leadership for students with disabilities at the University of Minnesota.

The Buuck Family Scholarship, established in 2004, is the university's first fully endowed scholarship for students with disabilities. Alumnus Robert Buuck and his wife, Gail, made a donation to the university's Office of Disability Services to establish the endowed scholarship fund after learning in a newspaper article that the university did not have scholarships for students with disabilities.

The Angela Brooke Warner CF Scholarship Endowment Fund was established in 2005 by the Angela Warner Foundation to honor and memorialize the life of Angela Brooke Warner. Born March 11, 1981, to Donald and Linda Warner of Eden Prairie, Angela died Feb. 6, 2003, at the age of 21 after a lifelong battle against cystic fibrosis. Despite her illness, she strived for excellence. She was an honors graduate and varsity cheerleader at Eden Prairie High School.

This year's Buuck Scholars are:

Jenna Aaland, Fargo, N. D., is a two-year Buuck recipient. She plans on majoring in biomedical engineering with the long-term goal of attending medical school.

Patsy Rose Coleman, Minneapolis, is majoring in psychology and minoring in women's studies with a long-term career goal of working as a counselor in nonprofit shelters for abused women and children.

Kimberly Conlon, St. Peter, is a freshman in the Institute of Technology who plans to major in mechanical engineering. She grew up on her family farm in St. Peter and was the third child in her family to graduate from high school with a 4.0 grade point average.

Rachel Garaghty, Cottage Grove, is also a two-year Buuck recipient. A board member of the Disabled Student Cultural Center, Garaghty is double majoring in French and political science with long-term plans of earning a doctorate in international relations.

Emily Danser, Excelsior, is a junior double majoring in international relations and German. Her career goal is to become an international lawyer, which would allow her to reconstruct and form new relations with foreign

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countries.

Sarah Henely, Underwood, is a freshman in the College of Liberal Arts Honors Program majoring in political science and psychology. Her career goal is to work for a worldwide relief agency.

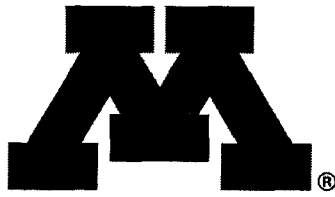
Gwen McNamara, White Bear Lake, is a junior majoring in communication studies and art. She hopes to study art in France.

Kaylea Palmer, Rapid City, S.D., is a sophomore majoring in linguistics and minoring in Russian. She wants to pursue a career in either computational linguistics or language acquisition research.

Corrine Spading, Chisago City, is a sophomore majoring in child psychology. Her career goal is to become a child life specialist working with children.

This year's Warner Scholar is:

Carly Buchanan, Mandan, N.D, is a freshman majoring in microbiology and minoring in genetics. She hopes to work in the area of genetic research.



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September 12, 2006

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**JIM BRANDENBURG TO SPEAK AT BELL MUSEUM'S "TOUCH THE SKY"
EXHIBIT PREMIERE**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Join celebrated photographer Jim Brandenburg for the opening premiere of his breathtaking exhibit, "Touch the Sky: Prairie Photographs by Jim Brandenburg" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Brandenburg, a committed conservationist and founder of the Brandenburg Prairie Foundation, is dedicated to the restoration and expansion of natural prairie in southwest Minnesota. He will talk about never-before-seen images from his prairie project, as well as offer a sneak preview of his upcoming feature film. The event will feature live music, hors d'oeuvres and wine in the museum's galleries. A special members-only event with Brandenburg begins at 6 p.m.

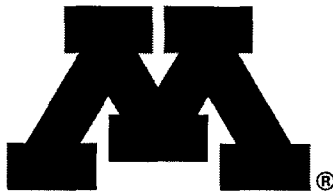
Also in celebration of the exhibit, a special four-course prairie-themed dinner with Brandenburg will be held Thursday, Sept. 28, at The Craftsman Restaurant and Bar in Minneapolis. For tickets and more information, call 612-626-9603.

Tickets for the preview evening are \$25 per person; \$10 for museum members. Call 612-624-9050. The Bell Museum is located at 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis and is part of the university's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

WHAT: "Touch the Sky" exhibit premiere

WHEN: 7 p.m Saturday, Sept. 30

WHERE: University of Minnesota Bell Museum, 10 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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For Immediate Release

September 13, 2006

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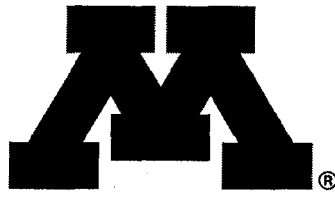
U OF M STUDENTS TO GIVE WASHINGTON AVENUE BRIDGE CREATIVE MAKEOVER THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL University of Minnesota students will give the Washington Avenue Bridge its 2006 makeover this week. The annual "Paint the Bridge" event is back from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14 to 10 a.m. and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15.

The University of Minnesota's Student Unions & Activities is sponsoring Paint the Bridge, an annual event where student organizations and university departments creatively makeover panels along the Washington Avenue pedestrian bridge. They paint panels of the bridge to create awareness about and interest in their groups.

U of M Student Unions & Activities provides more than 100 gallons of paint and 2,600 brushes. Then it's up to individuals to add their creative flair. Nearly 300 university organizations have reserved 612 panels on the bridge.

The event is part of Campus Kickoff Days, activities that are designed to welcome new and returning students to campus. It gives people a chance to get acquainted with campus life and meet new people.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

CENTER FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS TO DISCUSS MEETING REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS IN THE NEXT DECADE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Metropolitan Council's new system for forecasting need, the formula applied to produce affordable housing goals for each community and how local governments are planning to respond, will be the topic of the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) monthly forum.

The free forum, "Meeting Regional Housing Needs in the Next Decade: The Met Council's New Housing Need Numbers, Local Governments' Response and Citizen Action," will be from noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22, in Room L-114 at the Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

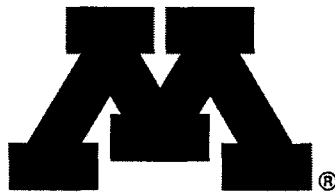
Panelists are Ed Goetz, associate dean and professor at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute, and Tim Thompson, a senior attorney with Housing Preservation Project, a nonprofit public interest advocacy and legal organization whose primary mission is to preserve and expand affordable housing for low income individuals and families.

Goetz will present preliminary findings based on interviews conducted in 40 large or high growth communities in the region. Thompson will describe efforts to create "Citizen Action Guides" tailored to each community and designed to provide the background and context for citizen advocacy of affordable housing.

RSVP is required no later than Sept. 20 to (612) 625-1551. For more information contact Adrienne Hannert, (612) 625-2086 or see http://cura.umn.edu/cura_mailing/. Use the username "cura" and the password "housing".

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 22

WHERE: Room L-114, Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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September 13, 2006

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**FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL WILL HEADLINE THE
2006 DISTINGUISHED CARLSON LECTURE AT U OF M**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs will present the 2006 Distinguished Carlson Lecture featuring former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

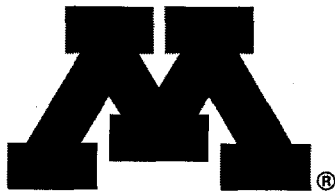
Powell has been a leader for most of his life, having led troops as both a military leader--as chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff--and as secretary of state. In his speech, "Leadership: Taking Charge," Powell will talk about what it takes to be a leader during times of great change and great crises.

Powell's speech is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets will be available beginning Tuesday, Sept. 26. For additional ticket information including location hours, call (612) 625-5002. Tickets will be available at the following University of Minnesota locations: Northrop Auditorium (84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis); the University of Minnesota bookstore (ground level, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis); the St. Paul Student Center (2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul); and the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs (Room 130, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis). Tickets are limited to two per person.

The Distinguished Carlson Lecture Series is made possible by a gift from Carlson Companies, Inc. For more than 25 years, the lecture series has hosted renowned public leaders from across the globe including President Bill Clinton, the Dalai Lama and Queen Silvia of Sweden.

WHO: Former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell
WHAT: Distinguished Carlson Lecture Series
WHEN: 12:15-1:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3
WHERE: Northrop Memorial Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis

More information will be sent detailing limited media access to this event.



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September 13, 2006

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NEW COLLABORATIVE TO PROMOTE RESEARCH AND POLICY ANALYSIS ON EARLY CHILDHOOD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The Center for Early Education and Development at the University of Minnesota and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis are teaming up to enhance multidisciplinary research and high-profile policy discussions on early childhood development.

The Early Childhood Research Collaborative (ECRC) is a unique partnership that brings together prominent researchers and faculty members in a variety of disciplines at the university with economists at the Federal Reserve to develop and synthesize research on cost-effective investments in early childhood.

Co-directed by Arthur Reynolds, professor of child development and Fellow of the Center for Early Education and Development (CEED), and Art Rolnick, senior vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, the ECRC is funded in part by University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks' Interdisciplinary Academic Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families. CEED is an outreach and research center in the College of Education and Human Development. The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis is one of 12 Federal Reserve banks in the United States.

The most visible sign of the new collaboration is its newly-launched Web site at www.earlychildhoodrc.org, where discussion papers on a variety of topics have already been posted.

The collaborative's mission is to foster multidisciplinary research on early development from birth to age 8 on topics such as the impact and cost-effectiveness of preschool and family support programs; family, school and community influences on child development; and psychological and biological foundations of child health and well-being.

To accomplish this, the collaborative will conduct research and policy analyses, disseminate research through discussion papers and other reports, convene forums and conferences, provide Web resources and help coordinate early childhood research activities around campus and in the community. The collaborative's national advisory committee includes Edward Zigler, Yale University; James Heckman, University of Chicago; Jack

- more -

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advisory committee includes Edward Zigler, Yale University; James Heckman, University of Chicago; Jack Shonkoff, Harvard University; and University of Minnesota professors Megan Gunnar, Institute of Child Development, and V. V. Chari, department of economics.

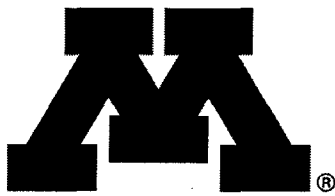
“We want to conduct and promote research that is policy-relevant as well as based on a thorough understanding of child development and how early experiences influence later development,” Reynolds says.

“We want to bring together the best research on early childhood development in the country,” Rolnick says, “to help Minnesota and other states develop the most cost-effective early childhood education programs.”

The papers currently posted on the Web site focus on effective programs and practices from preschool to third grade (PK-3), the productivity argument for investing in young children, developing high quality PK-3 classrooms, the long-term effects of child-parent centered early childhood intervention, and the role of cooperative behavior in preschoolers' social development. To read them, see www.earlychildhoodrc.org/papers/catalog.cfm.

The first public event of the collaborative is a conference on Friday, Oct. 13 at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. The event will provide an overview of the collaborative and will feature an address by Nobel Laureate James Heckman of the University of Chicago. See the collaborative Web site for conference information.

For more information on the collaborative, to sign up for the collaborative's listserv, and to contact its members, go to www.earlychildhoodrc.org.



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September 14, 2006

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GROWTH IN PRIVATE GIVING TO THE U CONTINUES; \$181 MILLION RAISED IN FISCAL 2006

~ U of M Foundation reports university-wide giving for FY06 ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota raised \$181 million in gifts and pledges in fiscal year (FY) 2006, continuing the pattern of growth it has experienced in fund-raising over the past 10 years. Gifts raised were slightly ahead of the prior year, up 25 percent from FY 2004, and more than double what the university raised a decade ago.

Gifts supporting students were particularly strong, with a record number of donors making gifts for scholarships and fellowships. More than 21,000 donors made gifts totaling \$54 million for student support, up 52 percent from the prior year and more than four times the amount raised a decade ago. Scholarships and fellowships have been the university's top fund-raising priority since 2003.

"We want all students with the desire and ability to succeed at the U to have the opportunity to do so, regardless of their economic backgrounds," said University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks. "Alumni and friends are helping us do this. Their gifts are making a significant difference in increasing the number of students we can help each year." An update on the progress and impact of the University's Promise of Tomorrow Scholarship Drive will be announced in October.

Alumni giving to the university also saw significant growth. Nearly 50,000 alumni gave \$83 million, up 51 percent from the prior year. The number of alumni donors has increased 43 percent over the past five years and 67 percent from a decade ago.

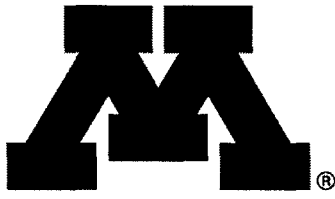
"It was an excellent year, capped by significant growth in support for students and in giving from our alumni," said Gerald Fischer, president and chief executive officer of the University of Minnesota Foundation, which is the central development office for the university and reports on fund-raising results on behalf of all colleges, programs and affiliated foundations. "We are seeing enthusiasm from all sectors for the university's advances in research and academics, and for its goal to become one of the top three public research universities."

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The \$181 million raised includes cash gifts and pledges, as well as other future commitments such as bequests and trusts, and includes gifts made to all U of M campuses, colleges and departments, including gifts made through the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

The university's combined endowment totaled \$2.2 billion as of June 30, an increase of 14 percent compared with the prior year, reflecting both new gifts and overall strong investment performance.



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September 14, 2006

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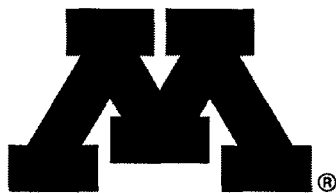
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TO HOLD CAMPUS ARTS FESTIVAL FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

~ Henna tattoos, massages and more offered for free ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL The Campus Arts Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15 at Coffman Union's front plaza, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

Artists working in all media and genres, including jewelry, pottery and painting will display and sell their work. Free activities including the application of henna tattoos, tie-dye shirt-making, massages, creation of caricatures and tarot card readings will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Student and local musicians will also perform throughout the day.

The Campus Arts Festival is presented by the Student Unions & Activities which offers convenient services, entertainment, dining options, meeting and event spaces, involvement opportunities and more, available at three convenient campus locations of Coffman Union, the St. Paul Student Center and the West Bank Skyway. Additional information is available at www.sao.umn.edu/ckod



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September 14, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

COMMUNITY SERVICE FAIR LINKS STUDENTS WITH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- About 1,000 students are expected to check out 85 Twin Cities community organizations for volunteer opportunities at the 14th annual University of Minnesota Community Involvement Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, in the Great Hall of Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

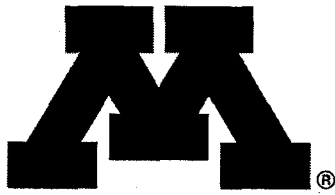
The fair, organized by the university's Career and Community Learning Center (CCLC), is an opportunity for university students, faculty and staff to meet and talk with representatives from community organizations. CCLC supplies tables for the organizations free of charge. Coffman Union, the student center at the university, gives the organizations high exposure to students throughout the day. Last year, 1,000 students participated in the fair.

"This is the largest gathering of non-profit organizations on campus," said David Holliday, program coordinator with the CCLC. "It is set up to let students learn about non-profit organizations in the Twin Cities and find out what volunteering and internship opportunities are available. The students can talk to representatives from organizations working in youth education, the environment, homelessness, health, ESL tutoring, political organizing and other fields."

This event is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information and a list of organizations that will be at the fair, visit www.cclc.umn.edu/CIF.

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20

WHERE: Great Hall, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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September 15, 2006

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“GENERATION DEBT” AUTHOR ANYA KAMENETZ TO SPEAK AT THE U OF M

~ Media Availability with author from 6 to 6:15 p.m. ~

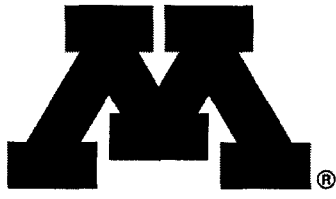
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL--“Generation Debt, Why Now Is a Terrible Time to Be Young” author Anya Kamenetz will speak at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20 at Coffman Union’s Theater, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. The University of Minnesota’s Minnesota Programs and Activities Council (MPAC) is sponsoring the event. Doors open at 6 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

After graduating from Yale, Kamenetz moved to Manhattan and started freelance work for the Village Voice. Assigned to contribute to the series “Generation Debt, the New Economics of Being Young,” Kamenetz’s work earned her a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize and soon attracted publishers which led to the development of the book “Generation Debt, Why Now Is A Terrible Time To Be Young.” The book features detailed interviews with hundreds of young people, as well as thoughtful research on the political, social, economic and public health implications that culminated to cause a dramatic decrease in quality opportunities for young people.

Laurence Kotlikoff, Boston University professor of economics commented on the importance of the book, “America is slowly but surely eating its young by leaving them with massive public and private obligations ... We all need to read this brilliant book and see that the American dream is being transformed into a financial, fiscal and personal nightmare.”

MPAC is the main campus-wide programming board for the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Its programming committees are responsible for initiating, developing and implementing a comprehensive and diverse activities program that anticipates and responds to the needs of U of M students and the campus community. For more information, please visit www.coffman.umn.edu.

Media Note: Media interested in advance interviews with Kamenetz should contact Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.



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September 15, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

GLBT MUSLIM ACTIVIST TO GIVE LECTURE "HIDDEN VOICES: THE LIVES OF QUEER MUSLIMS" AT U OF M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- GLBT Muslim activist Faisal Alam will present this year's 2006 Allan Spear Lecture in GLBT Public Policy at the University of Minnesota at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in the Hubert H. Humphrey Center Cowles Auditorium, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

"Hidden Voices: The Lives of Queer Muslims" is the lecture Alam will deliver. Alam is founder and former director of Al-Fatiha, a U.S.-based organization dedicated to supporting and empowering Muslims who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and those questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity (LGBTIQ.) Al-Fatiha's mission is to support, empower and advocate on behalf of LGBTIQ Muslims and to promote progressive Islamic notions of peace and social justice.

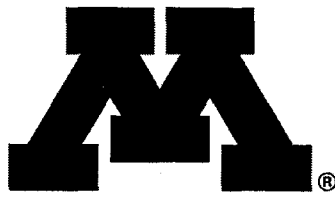
Alam began the first Internet-based email discussion group for LGBT Muslims in November of 1997 when he was 19 years old which marked the first time that LGBT Muslims could discuss issues of concern in a safe environment. The listserv eventually led to the first gathering for LGBTQ Muslims in October of 1998 in Boston, where Al-Fatiha was founded. In the eight years since its formation, the organization has provided resources and information to more than 3,000 people around the world. Al-Fatiha also advocates on behalf of the LGBTIQ Muslim community in immigration, refugee, and asylum cases, and in the HIV/AIDS and human rights movement.

In addition to his LGBT faith-based activism, Alam is also active in the LGBT human rights, immigration and asylum rights, and LGBT youth movements.

About the Allan Spear Lecture in Public Policy

Established in 2000, the Allan Spear Lecture in Public Policy honors former Minnesota Sen. Allan Spear. Spear was the the first and longest-serving openly gay male legislator in the nation. He served as senator for more than a quarter century. He was also a faculty member of the history department at the University of Minnesota. The lecture is part of the Steven J. Schochet Distinguished Lecture Series. The lecture series bring notable local, national, and international speakers and scholars in GLBT Studies to the U of M.

For more information, contact the GLBTA Programs Office at 612/625-0537 or by email at glbt.umn.edu.



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September 15, 2006

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U OF M SOLAR CAR TEAM GETS READY FOR START OF WORLD SOLAR RALLY IN TAIWAN AND KEEPS EYE ON APPROACHING TYPHOON

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota solar car team is making final preparations for the 370-mile World Solar Rally around the island of Taiwan set to begin Monday, Sept. 18. The racecourse features plenty of mountains and city driving. It will begin and end in the city of Kaohsiung. As the teams prepare, rally organizers are keeping a close eye on Typhoon Shanshan. Current forecasts predict the path of the storm skirting the island in the next few days.

The rally features 11 teams from 10 universities around the world, including: Middle East Technical University (Turkey); Ashya University (Japan); University of Tehran (Iran); Principia College (St. Louis, Mo.); KAMM Solar Racing (Germany); and others.

The University of Minnesota solar team arrived in Taiwan nearly four days ago and is learning to adapt to the time change, food, customs and language. According to U of M Project Manager Patrick O'Connor the university team has been one of the best-prepared teams on exhibit so far.

The event schedule leading up to the race is as follows:

- Friday, Sept 15 - Inspection day to test Borealis III's road worthiness. Then all cars will be exhibited for the public at the National Science Museum.
- Saturday, Sept. 16 - Parade of cars and an exhibition at a central government office.
- Sunday, Sept. 17 - One-day track qualifier and race. Prizes will be award for first, second and third places.

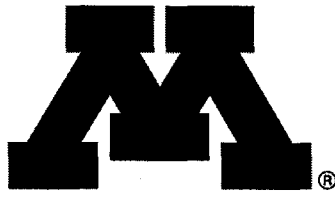
O'Connor said the team is ready for just about anything. "The rally will be a drastically different format from what we have experienced in the United States. There are some very demanding sections that will test the acceleration, turning and endurance of Borealis III," he said. "The drivers are excited, as is the rest of the team. The winner of the race will have the proper combination of a good car and good luck."

Updates on the U of M solar car team's progress will be provided as they are received. For more information

- more -

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about the U of M solar car project, visit www.svp.umn.edu. The official World Solar Rally Web site is solarschool.kuas.edu.tw/2006/eindex.htm



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September 15, 2006

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2,500 MINNESOTA GUARD, RESERVE AND ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO ATTEND GOPHER FOOTBALL HOME OPENER AGAINST TEMPLE

~ Third annual Gopher "Tickets for Troops" fund drive honors military members ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- On Saturday, Sept. 16, more than 2,500 Minnesota military members and their families will attend the Gopher football home opener against Temple University. Their attendance was made possible through the third annual Gopher "Tickets for Troops" fund drive. Kickoff at the Metrodome is scheduled for 1 p.m.

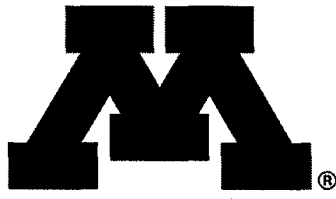
Partnering with the Minnesota National Guard and Reserve and the Minnesota Masons, University of Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics provides a ticket and a t-shirt for every \$10 raised by individuals or organizations. This year, Minnesotans donated more than \$25,000 to "Tickets for Troops."

Since 9/11, nearly 11,000 members of the Guard and Reserve from Minnesota have been activated to support military operations around the world.

"This is an excellent way to show our support for the men and women in the military," said Denny Schulstad, volunteer president of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and state chair of the Minnesota Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR). "Our military members' sacrifices and dedication to duty is remarkable. This is our opportunity to say "Thank You."

Denny Schulstad will appear on WCCO-Radio's "Charlie Boone Show" at 7:30 a.m. Saturday to discuss this year's "Tickets for Troops" fund drive.

For more information on Gopher sports, visit www.gophersports.com.



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September 15, 2006

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U OF M LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR DEVELOPS SCAVENGER HUNT TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

~ Game available free to high school and college teachers ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Law School Associate Dean Jim Chen has made learning about the U.S. Constitution more fun for high school and college students. And it's just in time for the U.S. Constitution Day celebrations. The nation officially celebrates Constitution Day on Sunday, Sept. 17, but Constitution Day observances will continue through the next week.

Chen has developed an exercise called "Constitutional Curiosities: A 21 Question Scavenger Hunt." Students read the Constitution for clues that will help them complete the scavenger hunt.

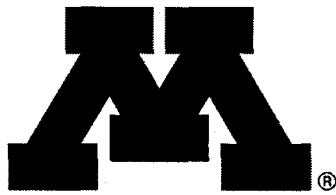
Chen has licensed the exercise for free use in high schools and colleges. The scavenger hunt is available for free download at <http://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=929012>

He's also posted a version of the game for students at <http://jurisdynamics.blogspot.com/2006/09/constitutional-curiosities-21-question.html>

Chen said that teachers and students should feel free to use "Constitutional Curiosities," as long as they attribute the source and as long as it is for noncommercial use. Chen also invites users to make their own modifications and distribute them.

"In the spirit of the Creative Commons license that I'm using, I ask that you share your modifications on the same terms -- noncommercial use, plus a commitment to sharing all changes," Chen said.

Chen welcomes questions and feedback at chenx064@maroon.tc.umn.edu.



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For Immediate Release

September 18, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY TO CREATE GIANT TIMELINE ON WASHINGTON AVENUE BRIDGE FOR LAUNCH OF 'TIME SYMPOSIUM'

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL To celebrate the kickoff of the University of Minnesota Institute for Advanced Study's (IAS) "Time Symposium," university students, staff and faculty will join together to create two giant timelines spanning the Washington Avenue bridge from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, beginning at both ends of the Washington Avenue bridge and working toward the center.

Timeline participants will be invited to grab a slip of paper with an event from human or geologic history, or offer their own suggestion, and with a few flicks of chalk they can help complete the timelines. "Timelines are a handy way of visually presenting the sequence in which events happen, the juxtaposition of how things happen over time," said Susannah Smith, managing director of IAS.

According to Smith, "Time" was selected as the next symposium because of its ubiquitous presence and influence in our lives. Time lies at the center of existence itself; it is a foundational element in the universe. Yet how we perceive time, how we construct our consciousness of time, and how we ascribe meaning to it varies widely by culture, by society, and, within the university, by discipline.

The IAS is a research center housed in Nolte Center that presents scores of events each year on topics ranging from global populations to Asian cinema, and from HIV education to how we think about war. A main focus of its activities is bringing together scholars from different disciplines to look at a subject through their own lens. By creating the University Symposium series, IAS fosters exploration of a critical question or issue from a variety of vantage points.

For more information, see www.ias.umn.edu or call (612) 626-5054.

WHO: Institute for Advanced Study with students and faculty
WHAT: Giant timelines of human and geologic history
WHEN: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19
WHERE: Washington Avenue bridge



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2006

Contacts: Dawn Skelly, Carlson School of Management, (612) 624-8770,
Registration Contact: Susan Markgraf, (612) 625-5348, brandmatters@csom.umn.edu

YVONNE LA PENOTIERE, PRESIDENT OF CARLSON HOTELS WORLDWIDE'S AMERICAS DIVISION TO SPEAK AT U OF M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Yvonne La Penotiere, president of Carlson Hotels Worldwide's Americas division, will be the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management's "Brand Matters" featured speaker from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, at the Carlson School's 3M Auditorium, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

In her presentation, "The Radisson Story," La Penotiere will discuss how the Carlson Company managed to revive a declining brand by going back to the basic principles of brand management. She will address how shifting a company's focus from franchisee-as-customer to the management of customer "touch points" can help deliver exceptional brand experiences and a higher return on investment.

La Penotiere is responsible for the strategy, management and key functional support areas for the brands of Carlson Hotels Worldwide in North and South America. She manages the brands of Radisson Hotels & Resorts, Park Plaza Hotels & Resorts, and Country Inn & Suites By Carlson and Park Inn. Before serving as president of Carlson Hotels Worldwide's Americas Division, La Penotiere served as executive vice president of brand marketing for Carlson Hotels Worldwide, where she championed a major new brand-defining strategy for the company, focusing the organization on engaging its customers through carefully defined and executed brands. In 2003, La Penotiere was named one of the top 25 Women Changemakers by Twin Cities Business. Her Brand Matters presentation is designed to help other business makers avoid common mistakes as they attempt to re-invigorate their own brand management.

Offered jointly by Yamamoto Moss, the Carlson School of Management and Twin Cities Business, Brand Matters is a powerful speakers' forum that provides tools and insights to help companies build their brands.

To register, call Susan Markgraf at (612) 625-5348, or e-mail brandmatters@csom.umn.edu by Sept. 26. The cost is \$25 at the door and includes breakfast.

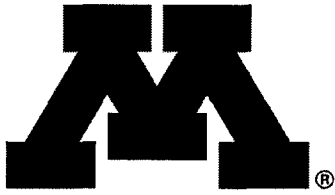
WHO: Yvonne La Penotiere, president, Carlson Hotels Worldwide - the Americas

- more -

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WHEN: 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4,

WHERE: Carlson School of Management, 321 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis



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For Immediate Release

September 19, 2006

Contacts: *Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962*

THE U OF M'S NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORP TO HOLD "VETERANS APPRECIATION 5K RUN AND WALK"

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL On Saturday, Sept. 23, the University of Minnesota's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corp (NROTC) will host the fourth "Veterans Appreciation 5K Run and Walk." The race will start at 9 a.m. at the U's Armory, 15 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

Held in conjunction with the Minnesota Combined Federal Campaign and other local organizations, the event is being held on campus for the first time. Prizes and medals will be awarded to winners in four specific age classes.

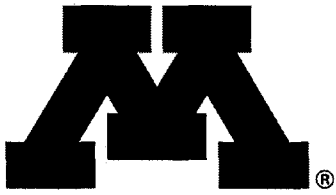
Registration is \$15 per person and begins at 8 a.m. Race t-shirts are available for an additional \$5. All proceeds will go to support programs with the university's NROTC Battalion and the Veteran's Affairs Hospital in Minneapolis.

The race will start and end on the front lawn of the Armory. Free parking will be available behind Ridder Arena, 1815 Fourth Street S.E., Minneapolis.

The mission of the University of Minnesota Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit is to train college students and enlisted sailors and Marines to be future Navy and Marine Corps Officers.

To register and for more information, visit <http://www.nrotc.umn.edu/5k>.

WHAT: Veterans Appreciation 5K Run and Walk
WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m.
WHERE: University of Minnesota Armory, 15 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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September 19, 2006

Contacts: *Raleigh Kaminsky, CEHD, (612) 626-1601.*
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT OFFERS SPECIAL DAY OF SATURDAY CLASSES

~ New Dean Darlyne Bailey to share her vision for the college ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) Alumni Society invites alums and members of the public to become a student again with a special set of classes during Saturday Scholars from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7.

During Saturday Scholars, distinguished faculty members will teach classes in a casual and interactive setting. Classes offered are:

- Mind your mind! Strength-training your brain -- Carla Tabourne, associate professor, School of Kinesiology.
- When do children fall behind in reading and mathematics? What can be done? -- Mark Davison, professor, educational psychology.
- Motion sickness is back -- Tom Stoffregen, professor, School of Kinesiology.
- Mental illness and violence in youths and young adults -- Ed Taylor, associate professor, School of Social Work.
- What's next for us? Vital aging -- Jan Hively, senior fellow and senior adviser, Vital Aging Network.
- Being white: Fear, religion, and an elusive innocence -- Timothy Lensmire, associate professor, curriculum and instruction.
- Culture and money: What's the family got to do with it -- Jean Bauer, professor and extension specialist, family social science.
- Bridging the achievement gap with social capital -- Na'im Madyun, assistant professor, Postsecondary Teaching and Learning.
- Engaging students in digital writing -- Thom Swiss, professor of culture and teaching, curriculum and instruction.

The schedule for Saturday Scholars follows:

- more -

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8 to 8:45 a.m. Registration, continental breakfast, and welcome by Alumni Society President Adele Munsterman.

9 to 9:50 a.m. -- Class I.

10:05 to 10:55 a.m. -- Class II.

11:10 a.m. to Noon -- Class III.

Noon -- Luncheon; new CEHD Dean and Special Assistant to the President Darlyne Bailey will deliver the talk "Building Bridges for Change and Continuity."

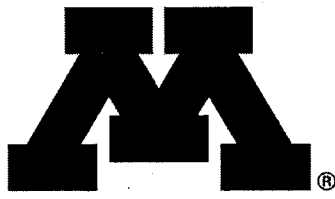
1:15–2:45 p.m. -- Optional tour of The Raptor Center.

The CEHD Alumni Society extends a special welcome to General College, School of Social Work, and College of Human Ecology alumni who are now a part of the new CEHD. Teachers can receive 4.5 continuing education credits for attending Saturday Scholars.

The deadline to register for Saturday Scholars is Monday, Sept. 25.

To register, go to <http://education.umn.edu/alum/saturday.html> and download a registration form and mail with a check to Saturday Scholars Registration, University of Minnesota, 48 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, MN, 55108.

For registration questions, please contact Serena Wright at (612) 624-0430 or wrigh103@umn.edu.



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September 20, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

STUDY RANKS U OF M SIXTH IN NORTH AMERICA FOR THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF BIOTECH RESEARCH

~ Milken Institute finds that U.S. universities remain a global powerhouse in biotechnology research ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Despite growing efforts by universities around the world to catch up, the United States remains the global powerhouse in biotechnology research - and in the ability to turn research into commercial applications, according to a new study from the Milken Institute.

In the study, the University of Minnesota ranks sixth in North America in the category of Technology Transfer and Commercialization Index (or the ability to turn knowledge into commercially viable products and companies). In other categories, the university was 27th globally in Patent Rankings and 75th globally in Research Publication Rankings.

"We are excited about the findings in the Milken Institute study," said Tim Mulcahy, vice president for research at the University of Minnesota. "This study reinforces the university's investment in technology commercialization and in our partnerships with the private sector to deliver faculty's life-changing discoveries to the marketplace where they can benefit society," added Mulcahy.

This study of the commercialization of university research reveals that the U.S. dominates the top rankings on many key measures, including published research, patents issued and licensing income.

The study, "Mind to Market: A Global Analysis of University Biotechnology Transfer and Commercialization," shows the position of these institutions in the commercialization pipeline, which starts with the quality of research and moves to patented ideas and, finally, to commercial outcomes. The findings include:

- U.S. universities hold eight of the top 10 positions on a measure of the quality and quantity of published biotech research. Harvard University is No. 1, followed by the University of Tokyo and University of London. The U of M is 75th.
- Nine of the top 10 universities are American when scored on the quality and quantity of biotechnology patents

- more -

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- Nine of the top 10 universities are American when scored on the quality and quantity of biotechnology patents issued in the U.S. The University of Texas system is first, followed by University of California, San Francisco and Johns Hopkins University. The U of M ranks 27th.
- In a narrower aspect of the larger study, based on detailed data from U.S. and Canadian universities only, institute researchers looked at outcomes - turning knowledge into commercially viable products and companies. According to the Milken Institute University Technology Transfer and Commercialization Index, the following universities are the leaders at taking world-class research and turning it into commercial applications:

1. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2. University of California system
3. California Institute of Technology
4. Stanford University
5. University of Florida
6. **University of Minnesota**
7. Brigham Young University
8. University of British Columbia
9. University of Michigan
10. New York University

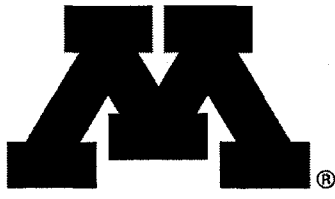
Among the other key findings:

- Research activity has a high rate of return. Each 10-point increase in the institute's score for published research contributes an additional \$1.7 million to a university's annual licensing income.
- For every \$1 invested in OTT staff, the university receives more than \$6 in licensing income.
- For each additional year that an OTT is in operation, \$228,000 of incremental licensing income is generated for the university.

The study was made possible thanks, in part, to a generous donation from Inflect Technologies, a leading commercialization fund, efficiently and methodically developing innovative intellectual property licensed from universities and institutions into game-changing products and companies.

The full report and rankings are available online at www.milkeninstitute.org.

The Milken Institute is a nonprofit, independent economic think tank whose mission is to improve the lives and economic conditions of diverse populations around the world.



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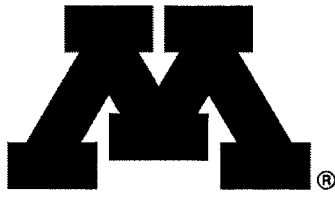
Contacts: Myrna Smith, Graduate School, (612) 625-7579
Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801

**DISTINGUISHED RELIGION SCHOLAR TO DELIVER LECTURE ABOUT JESUS,
MARY MAGDALENE AND DA VINCI**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Princeton University professor of religion Elaine Pagels will deliver the lecture "Jesus, Mary Magdalene & Da Vinci" at 12:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, in the Ted Mann Concert Hall 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Her presentation is the Graduate School's annual Guy Stanton Ford Memorial Lecture. The lecture is free and open to the public. The concert hall opens at 11:30 a.m.

Pagels is a distinguished religion scholar of early Christianity and a preeminent figure in the theological community whose impressive scholarship has earned her international respect. Her best-selling books include, "The Gnostic Gospels," an analysis of 52 early Christian manuscripts that were unearthed in Egypt; "The Origin of Satan," which chronicles the evolution of Jewish and Christian concepts of evil; "Adam, Eve and the Serpent," which examines the creation myth and its role in the development of sexual attitudes in the Christian West and "Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas," which focuses on religious claims to possessing the ultimate "truth."

Pagels has written many scholarly articles and book reviews and has been profiled in *Time*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Vogue*, and *The New Yorker*. In three consecutive years, she was awarded the Rockefeller, Guggenheim, and MacArthur Fellowships. She is the Harrington Spear Paine Professor of Religion at Princeton University.



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September 20, 2006

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U OF M SOLAR CAR FINISHES FOURTH IN WORLD SOLAR RALLY; CARS REACH SPEEDS UP TO 100 MPH DURING TIMED SPEED SEGMENTS

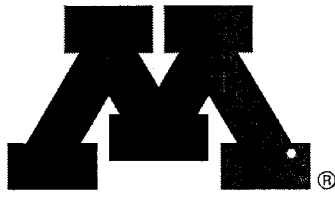
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota solar car finished the World Solar Rally today in fourth place, moving up one spot from yesterday's result. The Ashiya Sky Ace TIGA team from Japan won the rally.

As part of the final leg of the race, the solar cars participated in timed speed races. The U of M car, the Borealis III attained speeds up to 85 mph.

According to Pat O'Connor, project team leader, "The first timed segment was a flat out drag race. There were a few bends, but we reached speeds of nearly 85 mph, and the overall victor clocked in at 100 mph. These speeds seemed incredible to us all."

Tomorrow, the U of M team will participate in solar car exhibition day and pack up for the trip home. The team will arrive in the Twin Cities the evening of Sept. 23.

"Our continual improvement through the race after some initial mechanical troubles says a lot for this team," said O'Connor. "I could not be happier with our performance given all that we encountered. The team has learned what to improve, what to change completely, and most importantly, how to interact with other engineers from around the world to solve some of the the same problems we experienced."



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September 20, 2006

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DEBORAH SWACKHAMER APPOINTED INTERIM DIRECTOR OF U'S NEW INSTITUTE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Provost Thomas Sullivan announced today that Deborah Swackhamer, a professor in the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health and co-director of the university's Water Resources Center, has been appointed interim director of the U's new Institute on the Environment.

"Deb Swackhamer is an outstanding leader, a spirited university citizen and broadly recognized by her peers as one of our finest environmental scientists," said Sullivan. "Her depth of understanding of the vision and mission of the new institute is unparalleled. We look forward to her exemplary leadership."

The institute is a key component of the university's strategic positioning goal to become one of the top three public research universities in the world.

In addition, the Institute on the Environment will coordinate the university's broad environmental resources to make it easier for researchers to share knowledge with each other and the public. The institute will bring the university's wide-ranging environmental experts closer together, helping to trigger even greater discoveries and further enhance the university's reputation as an environmental leader.

"I look forward to a strong start with the institute by establishing research themes, providing leadership for fundraising and public engagement and to develop internal and external partnerships," said Swackhamer.

The new institute will be located on the university's Twin Cities campus but will be a "virtual roof" over all environmental research across the U of M system. It will also be a clearinghouse for existing environmental work done by various schools and research facilities within the university system.

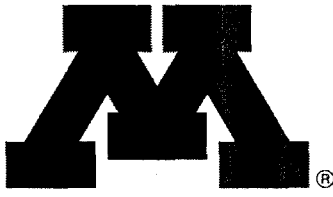
In her role as interim director, Swackhamer will work with a small group of university-wide faculty founding fellows to conduct an international search for a permanent director. "An established institute and implemented framework will create an attractive environment to recruit a world-class director," said Swackhamer.

- more -

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Funding for the IonE will be included in the university's biennial budget request to the 2007 Legislature.

For more information, see the Provost's Advisory Committee for the Institute on the Environment report Web site at <http://academic.umn.edu/provost/interdisc/environment.html>.



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September 21, 2006

Contacts: Asim Dorovic, (612) 624-0214 dorovic@umn.edu,
Drew Swain, (612) 625-8962 dswain@umn.edu

TWINS PLAYOFF RACE AND THE MATH OF "MAGIC NUMBERS"

It is the last few weeks of Major League Baseball's regular season, and eager Minnesota Twins fans are pulling out their pad and pencils to calculate the team's "magic number" - how many more wins the team will need to clinch a playoff spot. After a monumental late season comeback, the Twins find themselves in the race to catch the Detroit Tigers for the Central Division title, or hold off long-time foe, the Chicago White Sox, for the Wild Card spot; either win will assure post-season play, but with a division title comes home field advantage. What math is behind the "magic numbers" that will determine where the Twins fall? A University of Minnesota expert who can comment on "magic numbers" is:

Lawrence Gray, University of Minnesota math professor

Gray can discuss the math that goes into "magic numbers" at the end of every baseball season and where the Twins currently stand. A Twins fan himself, Gray can also go into depth on the elimination numbers that he hopes the Tigers or White Sox will soon reach. In the classroom, his teaching focuses on probability theory.

To interview Gray, contact Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu; or Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu.

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Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

ONE COUP IN BANGKOK WITH A U OF M PROFESSOR

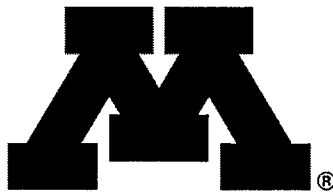
Martial law has been declared, political meetings are forbidden and foreign news networks are now removed from national television - Thailand is experiencing a military coup. Early Wednesday morning, amid no reports of violence, the southeast Asian country's military chief announced a government take over. Now tanks and troops are quietly patrolling the capitol city, awaiting a round of elections to fill vacant positions. This is one of dozens of coups in Thailand since the end of World War II and the first since 1991. A University of Minnesota expert who has an intimate view of the situation and is available to comment is:

Gerald Fry, University of Minnesota professor of education policy and administration

Recently returned from Thailand for a World Bank meeting, professor Fry can discuss the current state of the country. He personally knows the prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, who was deposed during the coup. For the past several years Fry has traveled extensively throughout southern Asia as an advocate for education reform.

To interview Fry, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

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September 21, 2006

*Contacts: Nina Shepherd, Bell Museum of Natural History, (612) 624-7389
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M BELL MUSEUM'S NEW FILM PROGRAMS-DOCUMENTARY STUDIO, TV SPECIAL, FILM-SERIES DEBUT IN OCTOBER

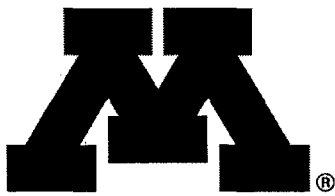
MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History kicks off a major film initiative this October with the formation of a new documentary production unit, the premiere of a new installment in its Emmy award-winning TV series and a Sunday afternoon science film program for all ages.

The museum's new documentary unit -- Bell Productions -- will build on the foundation created by the university's highly acclaimed "Minnesota: A History of the Land" series which combined the visual excitement of a National Geographic special with the storytelling format of a Ken Burns-style production. Upcoming projects include features on Minnesota's prairie wetlands, Lake Superior and the Mississippi River.

The museum's newest documentary television project, "The Northern Forest," premieres on Twin Cities Public Television and other public television stations across the state at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 18. "The Northern Forest" chronicles Minnesotans' efforts to understand and restore its iconic northern forest as the new threat of forest fragmentation and human encroachment looms. Award-winning local composer Peter Ostroushko, known for his work on the PBS documentaries "Lewis and Clark" and "Mark Twain," scored and performed the original soundtrack.

Also this fall, the museum kicks off a Sunday afternoon film series exploring nature from compelling and distinctive points of view. Each month, the series will take on a new topic or theme each month, ranging from astronomy to living "green." "Film is one of society's most powerful storytellers," says film-series director Shanai Matteson. "Our series will not only encourage people to see nature in new ways, but will give them a forum to tell stories of their own through community and museum-produced projects." The museum will also host periodic film competitions, film premieres and offer movie-making workshops throughout the year.

For more information about Bell Productions, "The Northern Forest" and the museum's new film series, visit www.bellmuseum.org.



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September 21, 2006

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Kyle Coughlin, Athletic Communications, (612) 625-4389*

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR JOEL MATURI SIGNS THREE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- University of Minnesota Athletics Director Joel Maturi has signed on for another three years, university officials announced today.

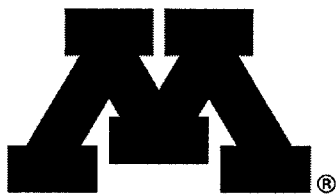
“Joel Maturi has been an outstanding leader for Gopher Athletics,” university President Robert Bruininks said. “He successfully led the merger of men’s and women’s athletics, significantly increased fundraising, played a major role in the effort to build TCF Bank Stadium and put an unprecedented focus on enhancing academic support.”

Bruininks praised Maturi for leading Gopher Athletics through substantial financial challenges. During his first four years, Maturi has increased fundraising by 40 percent. The current endowment for athletics went from \$12.4 million to \$22.3 million – an 80 percent increase. Also during this time, Gopher Athletics finished in the top 25 in the U.S. Sports Academy Directors’ Cup every year.

“I’m excited about the future of Gopher Athletics,” Maturi said. “We’ve had some challenging years with tight budgets. But we’ve been able to stay competitive on the playing fields, make progress in the classroom and maintain the level of integrity Minnesotans expect.”

The new contract extends through June 2010 and includes a market competitive base salary increase to \$315,000 annually, annual deferred compensation and a restructured bonus plan focusing on the academic performance of student-athletes, overall athletic success of the department and solid management.

“It’s our goal for every student-athlete to end their college career with a degree from one of the world’s top public research universities and have a positive and meaningful athletic experience,” said Bruininks. “Joel Maturi understands that.”



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September 21, 2006

*Contacts: Peggy Rinard, College of Biological Sciences, (612) 624-0774
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M BREAKS GROUND FOR ECOLOGY RESEARCH FACILITIES AT CEDAR CREEK NATURAL HISTORY AREA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Ground was broken this morning for new ecology research and education facilities at Cedar Creek Natural History Area, a University of Minnesota field station located in East Bethel, about 30 miles north of the Twin Cities.

The facilities will include a 12,000-square-foot Science and Interpretive Center and 10,000 square feet of housing for student interns and visiting faculty.

The new buildings will support technological advances in ecology research and the number of faculty and students who are attracted to the field station by its reputation for biodiversity research and growing interest in issues such as greenhouse gases, climate change, and the impact of agriculture on global ecosystems. It will also provide space for public outreach education.

David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology and director of Cedar Creek Natural History Area, has used the field station as his laboratory since he arrived at the university 25 years ago. Tilman is internationally known for a series of articles published over the past 12 years in *Science* and *Nature* proving that biodiversity makes ecosystems more productive and better able to withstand climate extremes and disease. During the 1990s, he was twice named the most cited ecologist in the world.

The main components of the Science and Interpretive Center will include a reception area and an exhibit hall, multipurpose room with kitchen, laboratories, a computer library and offices.

- The exhibit hall will feature educational displays on the role of global ecosystems as the Earth's life support systems and describe research in progress at Cedar Creek.
- The multipurpose room will provide flexible space for classes, lectures and outreach programs for K-12 schools, the media, state agencies and nonprofit organizations.
- Laboratories will be and equipped for ecosystem analysis, environmental chemistry and biogeochemistry.

- more -

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- Laboratories will be and equipped for ecosystem analysis, environmental chemistry and biogeochemistry.

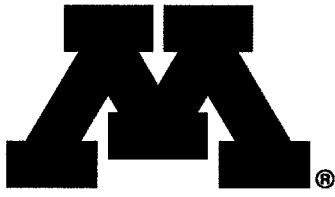
The Science and Interpretive Center will overlook a biodiverse garden with walking trails where visitors may learn about the plants and ecosystems of Cedar Creek Natural History Area.

Housing will include six two-bedroom cabins for visiting scientists, a campground with platform tents for students and a shared living area with a kitchen, bathrooms and a large deck.

The facilities have been designed by Rafferty Rafferty & Tollefson, an award-winning St. Paul architectural firm that specializes in educational structures. Their credits include the new Visitor's Center at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen; a 63,000-square-foot science building at the University of Minnesota, Morris; Engel Hall and Sexton Commons at St. John's University; and the Como Zoo Large Cat Exhibit.

The College of Biological Sciences is conducting a campaign to raise \$7.5million for construction, furnishings, equipment and educational exhibits.

Photos available upon request.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2006

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Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801*

U OF M TO OBSERVE NATIONAL HAZING PREVENTION WEEK WITH EVENTS AIMED AT RAISING AWARENESS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota will observe National Hazing Prevention Week from Saturday, Sept. 23, to Friday, Sept. 29, with events to raise awareness about and eliminate hazing.

Now in its second year, National Hazing Prevention Week grew out of the Association of Fraternity Advisors who sought to collaborate with peers interested in combating hazing. The University of Minnesota's observation of National Hazing Prevention Week has collaborators from areas including Greek advising, judicial affairs, military personnel, legal services and athletics.

"Hazing is an enormous issue -- one that reaches deeply into higher education and beyond. Our efforts here at the U of M are part of a national movement to eliminate hazing," said Chad Ellsworth, U of M student activities adviser.

The Office for Student Affairs, the department of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, the U of M Marching Band, the department of Recreational Sports, the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, Student Judicial Affairs and Student Legal Services have collaborated to plan the events.

"It is important to discuss hazing as often as possible to eliminate the misperceptions and to hopefully thwart future incidents. Hazing hurts many people, not just the victim or the perpetrators, it hurts other members of the organizations, the community, and the university," said Mandi Watkins, assistant director of Student Activities.

The week begins with the Gopher Sports Challenge at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23. The event is designed as a teambuilding exercise for students and a competition to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis research. The challenge includes a basketball shootout, a home run derby, an obstacle course, swimming, field goal slingshot and Frisbee golf accuracy.

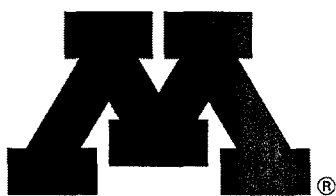
- more -

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Speaker Rick Barnes will deliver "Hazing: When Will It End?" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, in 125-175 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. In his talk, Barnes will take an honest look at hazing, the problems it causes and the reasons it continues to exist on campus. He will challenge participants to take a serious look at how they work with their newest members.

Athletics, Recreational Sports, and Student Judicial Affairs will host a showing of the documentary "Unless a Death Occurs" followed by a discussion at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, on the 2nd floor of the Gibson Nagurski Football Complex, 600 15th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis. Because of the room's occupancy, this event is limited to student athletes and students in club sports.

Speaker T.J. Sullivan will present "Confronting the Idiot in your Chapter" at this time Monday, Oct. 2, 125-175 Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. In his talk, Sullivan will challenge all Greeks to step to the plate and find the courage to confront negative actions and attitudes from their fellow members. He will also offer practical strategies for increasing the effectiveness of constructive confrontations. This talk is sponsored by the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

U OF M CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT TO HOLD GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR HANSON HALL AT 5:30 P.M., SEPT. 28

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management will break ground for the construction of Hanson Hall at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, on the site of the new building in the parking lot just south of the Carlson School, 321 19th Ave S., Minneapolis.

The event will feature a computerized virtual tour and interactive display of the new building. University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, Carlson School Dean Alison Davis-Blake, benefactor Herbert Hanson, Jr., U of M Regent Frank Berman, College of Liberal Arts Dean Steven Rosenstone and other key leaders will be on hand for the event, along with more than 100 undergraduate students.

"This will be the premier facility in the country dedicated to undergraduate business students," said Davis-Blake. "Most of the money for business school bricks and mortar over the past decade has gone to buildings and spaces serving graduate students. The support for this building has been outstanding."

Hanson Hall was named in honor of University of Minnesota alum Herbert M. Hanson. The Minnesota State Legislature approved the building and granted \$26.6 million this past spring as part of the University's bonding bill request. The \$39.9 million building will be four stories high and 124,000-square-feet. Hanson Hall will be connected to the existing Carlson School building by a skyway and have a similar atrium. The stepped building will sit against 20th Avenue, with a lower form curving to the west.

The new building will allow the Carlson School to serve at least 50 percent more students by 2008. It will also provide a home to the College of Liberal Arts' department of economics.

This fall, the Carlson School welcomed 425 freshmen, up from 300 admitted last year. For the third consecutive year, applications rose by more than 30 percent.

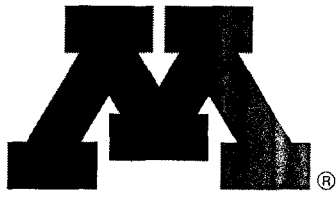
This event is free and open to the public but registration is suggested. To register, visit carlsonschool.umn.edu/hansonhallgroundbreaking.

- more -

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carlsonschool.umn.edu/hansonhallgroundbreaking.

WHAT: Groundbreaking ceremony for Carlson School's Hanson Hall
WHEN: 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28
WHERE: Parking lot south of the Carlson School, 321 19th Ave S., Minneapolis



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September 22, 2006

Contacts: Jennifer Welsh, coordinator, Department of Animal Sciences, (612) 624-2722

U OF M TO HOST SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN SCIENCE: JOURNEYS IN ACADEMIA

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Three prominent female scientists will be featured at the second University of Minnesota Women In Science: Journeys in Academia Symposium from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, in room 125 Animal Science/Vet Med Building, 1988 Fitch Ave., St. Paul Campus.

"The overall goal of the symposium is to provide graduate students with the opportunity to meet with successful female scientist role models from whom they could hear the stories of their career paths and learn of their contributions and achievements in research," said Jennifer Welsh, a coordinator in the Department of Animal Sciences.

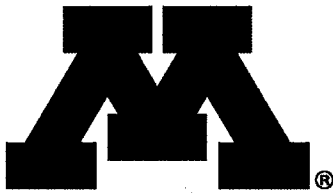
The speakers are Kathryn VandenBosch, plant biology professor and interim dean of the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; Karen Plaut, professor and chair of the Michigan State University Department of Animal Science; and Linda Saif, professor at Ohio State University's Food Animal Health Research Program and Ohio Agricultural and Research Development Center.

"These women were chosen based on the broad appeal of their areas of research (applied/translational and basic, multi-species), as well as their prominence as internationally recognized experts in their fields and their commitment to serve as mentors for women scientists," Welsh said.

The symposium is sponsored by the university's Animal Sciences Graduate Students, the Department of Animal Science, the College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resource Sciences, the Office for University Women, and the Office of the Vice President for Research.

WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27

WHERE: Room 125 Animal Science/Vet Med Building, 1988 Fitch Ave., St. Paul



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September 22, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES CO-SPONSORS GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27 AT U OF M**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- A gubernatorial debate between Republican Gov. Tim Pawlenty, DFL candidate Attorney General Mike Hatch, and Independence party candidate Peter Hutchinson will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 at Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis, on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota.

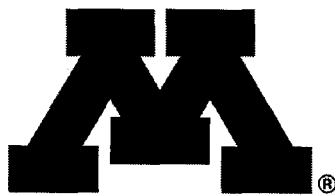
The U of M's department of communication studies is cosponsoring the event. University of Minnesota Provost Thomas Sullivan will deliver the opening welcome. Doug Tice, political editor of the Star Tribune and Patrick Marx, the Blandin Foundation will serve as moderators. Debate Minnesota is hosting the debate, which is one of 15 that Debate Minnesota has scheduled for the 2006 election year.

Debate Minnesota is a non-profit foundation led by a multi-partisan board of directors. Debate Minnesota Foundation aims to promote civility in politics and engage voters with fair and open forums that highlight candidates' views on particular issues.

The famous Lincoln-Douglas debates during the 1858 Illinois Senatorial election were the inspiration for the Debate Minnesota mission. That year, the public square became an opportunity to exchange ideas and ideals, and a platform for the people to shape the country.

Debate Minnesota was established in 2004 by the Independent Community Bankers of Minnesota, a non-profit association of independent, community-focused banks. Other sponsoring partners include Minnesota Sun Newspapers and the Minnesota Cable Communications Association.

Debate Minnesota 2004 hosted 19 debates in 19 districts around the state to wide acclaim.



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September 22, 2006

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Tessa Eagan, College of Liberal Arts, (612) 624-1359*

U OF M STUDENT NAMED ONE OF GLAMOUR MAGAZINE'S TOP COLLEGE WOMEN

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Glamour magazine named College of Liberal Arts (CLA) senior Rebecca Mitchell as one of its top 10 college women in the nation for 2006 in the magazine's 49th annual Top 10 College Women Competition. Mitchell, along with nine other students from across the United States, received the distinction in the magazine's October issue and is featured in "Brilliant, brave and under 25!"

Mitchell, who grew up in Chippewa Falls, Wis., is a CLA honors student and a 2006 Harry S. Truman Scholar. Mitchell, a biology, society and environment major, plans to earn a combined doctorate and master's degree in public health and pursue a career in international health care and health policy.

In 2005, Mitchell volunteered at an orphanage in Kenya, where she saw a caretaker whipping young children. She lobbied to have the caretaker removed and drafted new discipline guidelines for all employees. Mitchell then founded the Student Project Africa Network (SPAN), a nonprofit organization that has sent 43 people to Africa to continue her work.

Mitchell is the third CLA student who has been honored with this distinction. She joins Maya Babu, who won the honor in 2004, and Jenny Carrier, who won in 2001.

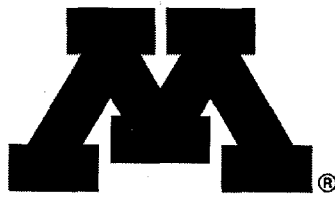
"You will meet few 21-year-olds who possess the compassion, intellectual abilities, and leadership qualities that Rebecca does. You will meet even fewer who are already actively using these skills to better the lives of others every day and inspiring so many along the way to do the same," said Leonard Muyebele, principal of the Kenyan Pistis Academy and Orphanage, where Mitchell volunteered.

In the competition, candidates are evaluated on their leadership experience; involvement on campus and in the community; unique, inspiring goals; and excellence in their fields of study. For her award, Mitchell will receive a \$2,000 cash prize; a trip to New York City; opportunities to meet with top female professionals; and being honored at a gala luncheon awards ceremony.

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The Truman Scholarship, which Mitchell earned earlier this year, is awarded to approximately 75 college juniors who are committed to careers in public service. The scholarship provides up to \$30,000 for graduate or professional school, and carries a service commitment.



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September 22, 2006

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SCHOLARS WALK AND WALL OF DISCOVERY TO BE UNVEILED AT U OF M FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- On Friday, Sept. 29, the University of Minnesota will dedicate the Scholars Walk and unveil the Wall of Discovery, two monuments that honor the research and academic accomplishments of the university's greatest students and faculty throughout its illustrious 155-year history.

The 2,200-foot-long Scholars Walk stretches across the Minneapolis campus, from Walnut Street, adjacent to the McNamara Alumni Center, all the way to Pleasant Street and Appleby Hall. It has emerged as the major east-west walkway on the East Bank, complementing the Northrop Mall, which it intersects.

The dedication and unveiling event takes place from noon to 2 p.m. on the walk between the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., and Church Street, Minneapolis. Free ice cream treats from Dairy Queen will be handed out while supplies last.

Wall of Discovery

The Wall of Discovery - situated approximately in the middle of Scholars Walk - is a 253-foot-long artistic tribute to the "drive" that leads to great moments of discovery. The wall is on the north side of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Building, where the Scholars Walk has a narrow passage between buildings. Reproductions of original sketches, notes, drawings, letters and other items from 92 illustrious faculty and alumni will be represented on the wall.

Among the items featured on the wall are Seymour Cray's calculations for the first Cray Supercomputer, a hand-written score of Dominick Argento's Pulitzer Prize-winning song cycle "From the Diary of Virginia Woolf," a sketch of William Pedersen's Shanghai World Financial Center and notes from breakthrough medical operations.

The representations are inscribed upon a metaphorical blackboard, along with the names of the creators and brief descriptions. Completing the wall are 20 edge-lit glass panels, which will appear to float in the front of the

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blackboard.

Drew Sternal of L.A. Ink, who spent two years researching and creating the Wall of Discovery, says these panels, etched and carved with abstract images, are meant to inspire multiple interpretations and reflect the continuing work that is leading to tomorrow's achievements. "I'd call it a celebration of the great discoveries and minds that have passed through the University of Minnesota," Sternal said.

Scholars Walk

Lined with 40 bur oak trees, shrubs and benches, the Scholars Walk features lighted glass-and-limestone monuments that provide a prominent, permanent memorial to the university's greatest scholars.

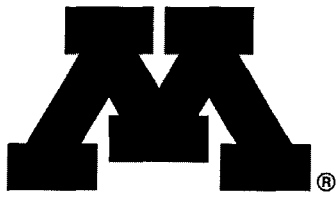
Among the national and international award recipients recognized are the U's Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences winners, national academies inductees and Rhodes, Truman and Marshall Scholars.

University award recipients recognized include the Regents Professors, McKnight Distinguished Professors, McKnight Presidential Chairs, Morse-Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Teachers and the Outstanding Graduate and Professional Teachers. A special faculty committee assisted planners of the Scholars Walk in determining the names of those to be included.

"In 150 years of existence, some great, great minds have come through this institution," said Larry Laukka, who spearheaded the design and development of the walk. "We have Nobel laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners and national science academy award winners. The real importance of this walk is recognizing scholarly actions and scholarly accomplishments."

The Scholars Walk was designed by landscape architect Gary Fishbeck of Hammel, Green, and Abrahamson, and was first suggested by U of M landscape architecture professor Clint Hewitt in 2000 as a way to mark the university's 150th anniversary.

The Scholars Walk and the nearby Alumni Wall of Honor are gifts to the university from the University of Minnesota Foundation, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and the Minnesota Medical Foundation. This partnership worked to build and now operates the McNamara Alumni Center.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2006

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U OF M TO HOST SCREENING FOR "THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR MEE," A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT STATE SENATOR MEE MOUA'S 2002 CAMPAIGN

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Institute for Advanced Study will host a screening and discussion of "The Time is Right for Mee," a documentary about Minnesota State Senator Mee Moua's successful 2002 campaign, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, in Room 100 Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

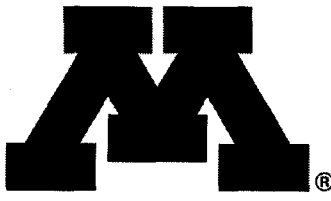
Filmmaker Fong Heu captured Moua's successful 2002 campaign for the state senate in this documentary. Heu recorded the events leading up to the election of the first Hmong American legislator in American history.

Both Moua and Heu will attend the screening and participate in a discussion of the documentary.

The screening is free and open to the public. For more information contact the Institute for Advanced Study at (612) 626-5054.

WHEN: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26

WHERE: Room 100 Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 25, 2006

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY RECEIVES \$10 MILLION BEQUEST

~ Deferred gift will be used to fund graduate student fellowships within the institute ~

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Institute of Technology announced today that it has received an anonymous \$10 million bequest. The deferred gift will be used to set up a permanent endowment to fund graduate student fellowships in the Institute of Technology, the university's college of engineering, physical sciences and mathematics.

The university estimates that the endowment will fund about 15 to 25 graduate fellowships each year to help graduate students pay for education and living expenses.

"This generous gift is a critical step in securing the future of the Institute of Technology," said Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology. "Through these fellowships, we will be able to maintain our stellar reputation and continue to attract the best and brightest graduate students. These graduate students are a key part of the research engine that drives our university."

Crouch pointed to recent research within the Institute of Technology resulting in new medical devices, nanotechnology advances in the pharmaceutical industry, possible fossil fuel alternatives and sensors and robotics used to improve homeland security.

"Our faculty and staff are driven to discover, but their research is dependent upon them working with top graduate students," Crouch said. "We thank this donor for recognizing the work we are doing here and for supporting our continued success."

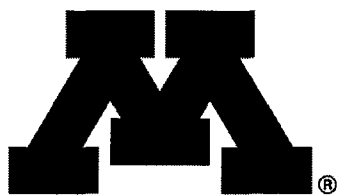
"This gift will make the U of M more attractive to the most talented and creative students -- women and men who have many options for their graduate education," said University President Robert Bruininks. "Attracting these high potential students will be key to our aspirations to become one of the top three public research universities in the world. They also will be focused in areas that many observers, including the National

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Academies and the Business Roundtable, have identified as critical to our country's ability to compete in a global economy."

The Institute of Technology currently enrolls about 2,500 graduate students. Student support in the form of fellowships and scholarships continues to be a top fundraising priority within the Institute of Technology and the University of Minnesota.



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September 26, 2006

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A BIG DAY FOR GOPHER FOOTBALL: SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- On Saturday, Sept. 30, big events will focus on University of Minnesota football -- past, present and future. The ceremonial groundbreaking for the new on-campus football stadium, set to open in the fall of 2009, will take place at 2 p.m. at the stadium site on the corner of Oak and Fourth Streets S.E., Minneapolis. The program will include remarks by U of M President Robert Bruininks, Athletics Director Joel Maturi, head football coach Glen Mason and Back to Campus campaign co-chairs Nancy and John Lindahl, along with appearances by Goldy Gopher and the U of M Spirit Squad.

The groundbreaking will be preceded by another special event designed to symbolize the return of football to campus. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., hundreds of university supporters and celebrities will partake in the Gopher Football Relay and transport a football from the Metrodome, through the U campus, and all the way to the site of the new stadium.

Former Gopher football coach Murray Warmath will kick off the relay outside of the Metrodome's Gate C on 11th Street, Minneapolis, and other official ball carriers will walk the ball a short distance before handing it off to the next carrier. In the final leg of the relay, Bruininks will carry the football to the future site of TCF Bank Stadium -- just in time for the groundbreaking -- with the Minnesota Marching Band playing the Rouser. The relay will take place rain or shine.

There will be three "watching stations" for the public--on the west end of the Washington Avenue pedestrian bridge (outside of Anderson Hall, 257 19th Ave. S.E.), Northrop Mall and the Gateway Plaza outside of the McNamara Alumni Center, Minneapolis.

"Every Minnesotan, from Albert Lea to International Falls and from Winona to Warroad, is encouraged to join us," says Margaret Sughrue Carlson, CEO of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. "We're asking people to wear maroon and gold and to cheer on the celebrity ball carriers as they make their way to the stadium site."

"An on-campus Gopher football stadium is now becoming a reality, and we want our friends and fans to

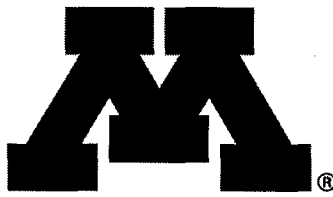
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

celebrate with us by bringing Gopher football back to campus -- literally," adds Maturi.

But that's hardly the end of the football festivities. At 7 p.m. the action returns to the Metrodome when the Golden Gophers host the Michigan Wolverines in the annual battle for the Little Brown Jug. The Gophers are currently in possession of the coveted traveling jug, having upset Michigan in Ann Arbor last year 23-20 in a game for the ages. Before last year, Minnesota had only beaten Michigan twice since 1967 (in 1977 and 1986). The Gophers are hoping to keep the Little Brown Jug for a second straight year for the first time since 1963.

Shuttle buses will be available after the relay to transport fans to the Metrodome who are attending the Minnesota-Michigan game.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 26, 2006

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U OF M MINORITY POLITICAL SUMMIT TO URGE INCLUSION OF MINORITY ISSUES IN STATEWIDE/CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- In an effort to urge inclusion of minority issues in policy platforms of candidates for statewide and congressional offices, a group of Twin Cities community leaders and the University of Minnesota will host the 2006 Minority Political Summit from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at the Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis.

At the summit, about 40 leaders and policy experts will identify top priorities for minorities in various sectors from business development to health care and education.

"The purpose of the event is to bring visibility to the policy priorities of the minority communities of Minnesota," said Bruce Corrie, a member of the University of Minnesota Wilkins Forum, a group of scholars and community leaders who advise the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations & Social Justice at the Humphrey Institute. "An initial analysis of the policy statements of candidates, including the U.S. Congressional and Senate races, showed little or no integration of policy priorities of minority communities."

"We have assembled a wide range of experts from various minority communities who are also opinion leaders in those communities," said Lawrencina Mason Oramlu, assistant director of the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations & Social Justice at the Humphrey Institute. "We will compile this input and make it available to the candidates for public office to help them integrate these issues into their policy platforms."

As a follow-up to the summit, the group will issue a report on Oct. 20 that will provide an analysis of the official Web site of candidates on their integration of issues and priorities of Minnesota's minority communities.

"Minnesota's minority communities have an estimated buying power of over \$12 billion, greater than the gross domestic product of over 50 countries in the world," Corrie said. "Minority firms have grown rapidly in Minnesota and are among the fastest growing segments of the economy locally and nationally. Minorities will take up an increasingly important role in the future of Minnesota."

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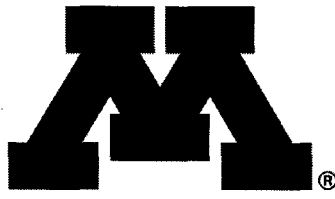
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Speakers at the summit include: Vinod Kutty (minority health priorities), Ramon Leon and Karri Plowman (business development), Readus Fletcher (public procurement), Vee Pham Nelson (work force issues), Lee Pao Xiong (Met Council), Georgia Lickness (housing), Michael Fondungullah (immigration), Emma Corrie (student career internships), Adeel Lari (transportation), Minnesota Rep. Carlos Mariani (K-12 education), Gail Chang Bohr (judicial appointments), Alberto Monserate (policy priorities), Hennepin County District Court Judge LaJune Lange (judicial priorities), Minnesota Sen. Mee Moua (policy priorities), Teshite Wako (financial development), Nieeta Presley (business development), Kojo Wallace Reed (higher education student perspective), LeMoine LaPointe (policy priorities), Norma Renville (policy priorities), Sheila Ards (policy priorities), Jesse Kao Lee (pre-kindergarten education), Lester Collins (policy priorities), Roger Banks (priorities for seniors), Nghi Hyunh (policy priorities), Martin Mohammed (financial development) and Ezell Jones (policy priorities).

The summit is free and open to the public. It is cosponsored by the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations & Social Justice, Asian American Press, Asian Pages, Conversations with Al McFarlane, Latino Communication Network Media (La Prensa de Minnesota, Gente de Minnesota), Hmong Times, Insight News, Mshale, Minnesota Multicultural Media Coalition and African News Journal.

WHEN: 3:30 to 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2

WHERE: Cowles Auditorium at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S.,
Minneapolis



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

September 26, 2006

Contacts: Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

U OF M INTERIOR DESIGN STUDENTS TO UNVEIL SOLUTIONS FOR UNIVERSITY NORTHSIDE PARTNERSHIP OFFICE SPACE

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL Thirty-four senior interior design students from the University of Minnesota's College of Design will be presenting design solutions for office space that will temporarily house the University Northside Partnership (UNP) in North Minneapolis from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 28, at Space Lab, 233 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul. This event is free and open to the public.

UNP is a collaborative effort to enhance the social and economic environment in the North Minneapolis community. The University of Minnesota, and many others, including NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County and Northside community organizations are working in unison to brighten both the present and future of North Minneapolis.

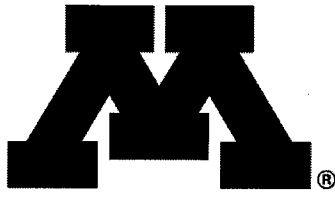
Background: A UNP partner, the university's Center for Early Education and Development (CEED), with support from the university's real estate office, was looking for temporary office space in North Minneapolis to serve as a first 'place' for the UNP. Two prospective office sites (both on West Broadway) were identified, and each space, needs substantial design and interior build-out before it can be occupied -- one space is a former grocery store, the other a former auto repair shop. CEED, the real estate office and UNP asked the university's design students for ideas.

Under the direction of Caren Martin, assistant professor, and Michael English, lecturer, the 34 students enrolled in the Interior Design Studio class, have been working in teams for three weeks to create their design solutions.

For more information, contact Martin, cmartin@umn.edu or (612) 624-5318.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 28

WHERE: Space Lab, 233 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 26, 2006

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Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038*

PHYSICS NOBEL LAUREATE FRANK WILCZEK TO SPEAK AT THE U OF M

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Frank Wilczek, a 2004 Nobel Prize winner in physics, will visit the University of Minnesota to give a free public lecture on "The Origin of Mass and Feebleness of Gravity." The lecture is at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, in the Van Vleck Auditorium, Room 150, Tate Laboratory of Physics, 116 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis. Wilczek's presentation is the inaugural lecture of the William I. Fine Theoretical Physics Institute's new Misel Lecture Series.

Wilczek, a Herman Feshbach professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is best known for his work on the theory of the strong force -- the force that binds quarks together within protons and neutrons. He has also made major contributions to many topics within theoretical physics including the behavior of matter at ultra-high temperatures and the quantum theory of black holes.

Although Wilczek's major achievements have been in theoretical physics, he is also an accomplished writer and speaker, not only to specialists in the field but also to the interested general public. His most recent book, "Fantastic Realities: 49 Mind Journeys and a Trip to Stockholm," was recently published by World Scientific. Wilczek will be available after the lecture to sign copies of his book.

The Misel Lecture Series is endowed by a gift from Irving and Edythe Misel. The series honors the life-long friendship between William and Bianca Fine and Irving and Edythe Misel.

The William I. Fine Theoretical Physics Institute is based within the Institute of Technology's school of physics and astronomy. It was established in 1987 and made possible by Fine's generous donation. Today it continues to provide a meeting place for theorists from around the globe to exchange and develop ideas in theoretical physics.

For more information, visit www.ftpi.umn.edu.

WHEN: 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4

WHERE: Van Vleck Auditorium, Room 150, Tate Laboratory of Physics, 116 Church St. S.E.,
Minneapolis

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 26, 2006

Contact: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (612) 625-8510

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAUNCHES "DRIVEN TO DISCOVER" INITIATIVE

- "Driven to Discover" seeks to rally state around "Top 3" goal -

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota today announced a full-scale communications initiative to rally the state around its goal to become one of the top three public research universities in the world.

"For the U to get the support it needs to become one of the best in the world, Minnesotans need to better understand our research mission," said university President Robert Bruininks. "Research is what differentiates the University of Minnesota from other higher education institutions in the state, and that research has contributed immensely to the health, well-being and prosperity of our citizens."

Known as "Driven to Discover," the marketing initiative grew out of the Transforming the U strategic positioning process.

"As we talked with hundreds of people within the U and greater community, the word 'discover' was often repeated," Bruininks said. "And our aspiration to become one of the best public research universities in the world has awoken our passion to excel. 'Driven to Discover' is an authentic way to capture that goal and passion."

The initiative includes an advertising campaign theme, "We Are All Search Engines" that will begin Wednesday, Sept. 27 in print advertisements featuring people asking their "single greatest questions," coupled with university researchers discussing their search for the answers.

The print ads will be followed by one-of-a-kind TV advertisements known as "Search TV" that debut the week of Oct. 2. The innovative 60-second spots begin with a person asking a single greatest question. At the end of the question, a "search bar" pops up and promises results in 15 seconds. Next, an actual local TV news promotion airs with the branded "search bar" appearing over the promo. After the promo ends, a university professor who is conducting research on the question will appear with an answer.

"This is an interactive campaign in which Minnesotans can learn more about the research at the university, and people at the university can learn more about the questions on Minnesotans' minds," said Linda Thrane, vice president for university relations, who is leading the initiative.

Thrane said that colleges and universities across the country have stepped up their branding and marketing efforts as competition for top faculty, students and resources increases. "The U has a great story to tell, and we believe 'Driven to Discover' will help us reach more people with those stories," she said.

"Driven to Discover" will be part of the U's communications for years to come, Thrane said. "It's not a slogan. It's a new way of talking about ourselves and presenting ourselves to our stakeholders," she said. "As important, 'Driven to Discover' will become part of the life of the university – on the web at umn.edu, in our printed materials, in our signs and even on our sidewalks."

Students at the U love to communicate by "chalking" sidewalks, Thrane said, so the search engine format will appear on sidewalk clings located on the Twin Cities and other campuses.

Minnesotans will be invited to participate in the campaign by submitting their single greatest questions at www.umn.edu.

The questions and answers featured in the ads represent just a sample of the U's ongoing research initiatives, including research into Alzheimer's, alternative energy, a new toolbox for music composers and the use of robots in saving lives.

Minneapolis-based OLSON, an independent agency, created the "We Are All Search Engines" campaign for the U.

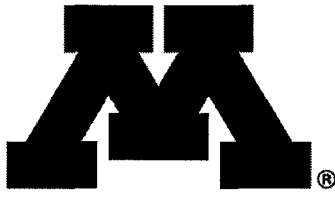
"This campaign celebrates the University of Minnesota's amazing history of groundbreaking discoveries and our innate curiosity as human beings," said John Olson, president of the agency. "The U touches so many different communities in this state and we're confident that this campaign will reach those communities and will help build more support for the U."

The "We Are All Search Engines" campaign runs through March 2007.

About the University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota is one of the largest, most comprehensive public universities in the world. A land-grant university founded in 1851, it has campuses on the banks of the historic Mississippi River in the Twin Cities, and in Duluth, Morris, Crookston and Rochester.

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September 27, 2006

*Contacts: John Lukanen, Disabled Student Cultural Center, (612) 202-3991, (612) 624-2602
Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082*

U OF M STUDENTS TO KICK OFF DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Disabled Student Cultural Center (DSCC) will hold a Disability Awareness Month (DAM) Kickoff Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, on the Northrop Plaza, 89 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

October is National Disability Awareness Month and DSCC co-director John Lukanen said the kickoff day is an effort to raise awareness about the DSCC and U of M students with disabilities. DSCC will conduct wheelchair basketball games, scavenger hunts, and other games. DSCC members encourage all students to participate.

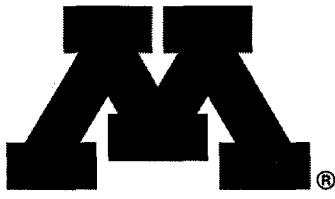
“DAM Kickoff Day is meant to give the campus community a chance to experience activities that persons with disabilities may experience in everyday life,” Lukanen said.

DSCC is a student-run organization composed of students with or without disabilities. Its missions are to foster the culture of individuals with a disability, provide learning opportunities for all students and increase the level of disability awareness on campus.

The DAM kickoff will be followed by several other events throughout the month.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29

WHERE: Northrop Plaza, 84 Church St. S.E. Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

UNIVERSITY HONORS SEELEY WITH TOP EXTENSION AWARD

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Extension Service today presented one of its Dean and Director Award to Mark Seeley, Extension climatologist/meteorologist and professor. The award honors Seeley for excellence in performing Extension education.

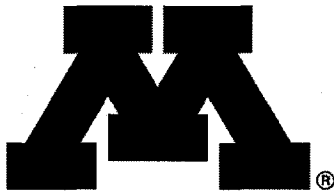
“An outstanding educator and researcher, Mark has the unique ability to make the subject of weather interesting and relevant,” said Bev Durgan, Extension dean and director. “Throughout his career, Mark has delivered climate information rooted in science without embellishment or personal opinion. He has been a strong advocate for the agricultural community and a solid supporter of public safety in times of hazardous weather.”

A member of the U of M faculty since November 1978, Seeley is widely known for his Friday morning weather commentaries on MPR (91.1 FM). His work with the U includes the creation of educational programs related to weather and climate impacts on agriculture and natural resources. He also operates a network of automated weather stations, most of which are co-located with University Research and Outreach centers.

Seeley’s latest book, “Minnesota Weather Almanac”, was released in April. The complete guide to Minnesota weather is equal parts entertainment and education, as it helps Minnesotans better understand the state’s complex weather systems.

“With Mark’s enthusiasm and commitment to his discipline and the public, he has enhanced the credibility of the university,” Durgan said.

The Dean and Directors Award was presented during Extension’s annual Fall Program Conference, a statewide gathering of the university’s Extension faculty and staff, held in Brooklyn Center, Minn.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2006

Contacts: John Byrnes, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, (612) 625-4743,
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UNIVERSITY GIVES TOP AWARD TO MINNESOTA SOYBEAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- The University of Minnesota Extension Service today presented one of its Dean and Director Award to the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association (MSGA) with special recognition to Jim Palmer, their executive director. The award honors the organization for its support of Extension and research-based information.

“Research-based information plays a key role in agriculture,” said Bev Durgan, Extension dean and director. “The Minnesota Soybean Growers Association understands this and their partnership with the University of Minnesota helps us fulfill our land grant mission and makes a difference in Minnesota.”

Soybeans are one of Minnesota’s largest crops with annual sales of \$1.4 billion. The state’s 30,000 soybean growers are represented by the MSGA and the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Since 1999, these grower organizations have provided the university with a total of \$6 million in support of research and \$2.5 million for Extension job positions and programming. Their lobbying support is credited with playing a key role in providing legislative support for the \$5 million Biolevel 3 Plant Pathology Research Facility now under construction on the University of Minnesota’s St. Paul campus.

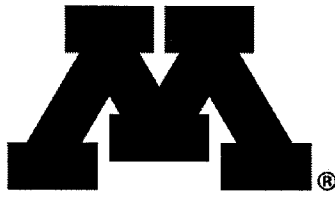
“In addition, individual soybean growers volunteer their time on local and statewide committees to improve the flow of research-based information from the university to the field,” Durgan said.

The Dean and Directors Award was presented during the Extension’s annual Fall Program Conference, a statewide gathering of the university’s Extension faculty and staff.

The MSGA is a non-profit organization whose goal is to assure profitable soybean farming by monitoring government policies and supporting research and market development activities. The Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council is an elected board of 14 soybean producers that directs the investment of soybean checkoff dollars in international and domestic marketing programs, research projects and education and

- more -

technology transfer programs designed to increase the profitability of soybean production.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2006

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Bob San, University News Service, (612) 624-4082

U OF M TO HONOR WALLIN SCHOLARS

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- About 200 University of Minnesota students who receive scholarships through the Wallin Scholarship Program will be recognized at a ceremony from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, in the Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis.

The Wallin Scholarships were instituted in 1991 at Minneapolis South High School by South High graduate and former president of Pillsbury, CEO and chairman emeritus of Medtronic, Win Wallin and his wife, Maxine Houghton Wallin. The scholarship program extended to all city high schools in 2000 and continues to evolve with other scholarship partners. The Wallin Foundation was established to administer these scholarships on behalf of the respective donors. Currently, donor partnerships have created foundation support for the following scholarships -- Eric, Cornwell, McCary, Holman, Finch, Technology, Excel Bank, Ronald and Junior League of Minneapolis.

One of the goals of the foundation is to encourage additional scholarship support from the community for academically deserving students who demonstrate financial need, said Wallin Foundation Scholarship Program Director Rebecca Wallin.

More than 1,800 scholarships have been awarded since 1991, totaling over \$20 million. All Minneapolis public high school seniors with financial need are eligible to apply. Students must demonstrate past academic performance, rigor in prior academic coursework, continued academic potential and motivation to continue their studies. This year's scholarship recipients each receive \$3,500 for four years.

Students are eligible to attend four-year accredited colleges and universities within Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa, as well as historically black colleges and universities. The foundation sponsors about 240 scholars at the University of Minnesota.

At the reception, Wallin Scholars will be celebrated and those who achieved honor status and those who are graduating from the U of M will be recognized. Present at the occasion will be U of M Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Diversity Nancy Barcelo, the Wallins, and partners including the McCarys, the Cornwells, Ms. Erickson, Ms. Ardes Johnson, Wallin scholars, their families and friends, student speakers and academic and community allies.

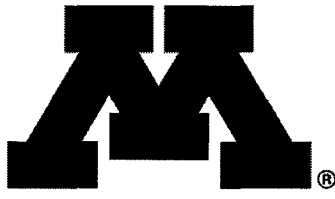
WHEN: 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 4

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

WHEN: 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 4

WHERE: Mississippi Room, Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2006

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(cell)
Mark Cassutt, University News Service, (612) 624-8038

MEDIA LOGISTICS FOR THE U OF M HUMPHREY INSTITUTE'S DISTINGUISHED CARLSON LECTURE SERIES WITH GEN. COLIN POWELL

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Former Secretary of State Gen. Colin Powell will headline the 2006 Distinguished Carlson Lecture from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, at Northrop Memorial Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis.

All members of the media attending the lecture must RSVP in advance by Monday, Oct. 2, to Jamie Proulx at jamie@umn.edu. You will receive confirmation of your request from Proulx prior to the event.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS:

- Television cameras are not allowed.
- Broadcast media outlets (radio, television, online) are not allowed to record any part of the presentation for any purpose. Recording devices will not be allowed.
- Still photographs of Colin Powell will only be allowed for the first three minutes of his speech. Photographs also may be taken at the very end of the program during the presentation of the plaque.

Media Check-in

All members of the media on the list must obtain credentials at the media check-in table. Upon entering Northrop Auditorium, proceed to the west side of the building (to your left as you enter the main doors from the mall). The check-in table will be located at the end of this hallway. Signs will be posted. Check-in will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Media Section:

Reporters and photographers will be seated at the front of the house to the left of the stage. Due to the limited space, members of the media must RSVP in advance to be seated in the media section.

Please direct additional questions to Jamie Proulx at jamie@umn.edu or (612) 625-9436.

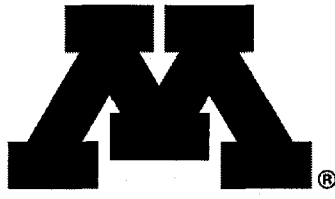
- more -

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Please direct additional questions to Jamie Proulx at jamie@umn.edu or (612) 625-9436.

WHEN: Doors open at 11:30 a.m.; Program begins at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3

WHERE: Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 2006

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Jeff Falk, University News Service, (612) 626-1720, jfalk@umn.edu*

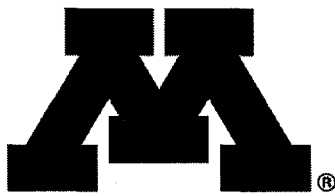
THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST -- "HEADLINERS" INAUGURAL EVENT ON OCT. 5

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Join University of Minnesota Professor Michael Barnett, Harold Stassen Chair of International Relations at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, as he explores current developments in the Middle East at the College of Continuing Education's "Headliners" inaugural event on Thursday, Oct. 5.

This summer's 34-day Lebanese-Israeli conflict claimed more than 1,000 lives and displaced more than one million people on both sides of the border. Barnett will address the following questions and more: What were the causes of the war? Was it connected to Iran's ambitions, the U.S. war in Iraq, Israel's unilateral withdrawal from Gaza, or another cause? What do we think about how it was fought? What are the consequences? In Lebanon, how did the war and the subsequent United Nations peacekeeping operation impact Hezbollah and its political standing among average Lebanese? What is the fallout for the Israeli government? What are the prospects for regional stability? Was this war just one of many in the Middle East, or does it suggest a different and perhaps darker future for the region?

Barnett will explore these and other up-to-the-moment questions at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, at the Continuing Education and Conference Center, room 135, 1890 Buford Ave., St. Paul. The Headliners series, a new program from the College of Continuing Education, gives the public the opportunity to go beyond sound bites and spin and get their news firsthand, from the experts -- and then participate in an open forum discussion on the issue. In order to be truly responsive to current headlines and news events, details about these monthly events are finalized only in the final weeks before each lecture date.

Tickets cost \$10 and can be obtained by calling (612) 624-4000, visiting www.cce.umn.edu/enrichment/headliners or at the door.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

STORY TIPS

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For Immediate Release

September 29, 2006

*Contacts: Patty Mattern, University News Service, (612) 624-2801
Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu*

U OF M STAFFERS FIND A NEW MORE COST-EFFECTIVE COMMUTE TO WORK

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Five University of Minnesota employees have found a new, unique and more cost-effective way to get to work.

The employees formed the university's first vanpool as part of the Van-Go! -- a program sponsored by the Metropolitan Council and the U of M Parking and Transportation Services. Van-GO! matches university staff and faculty who live in the same geographic area with each other, so they can commute to the Twin Cities campus.

The first vanpool makes its inaugural commute on Monday, Oct. 2. The vanpool travels between Chisago and the Twin Cities campus. A second vanpool is shaping up to originate in the same area, but will travel on an earlier schedule.

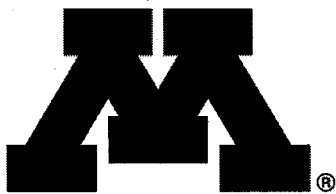
Under the Van-GO! program, a vanpool must have at least five passengers who can ride together at least three days a week. Vanpools serve areas that do not have convenient bus or light rail service. A portion of the van lease is subsidized by the Metropolitan Council. The remainder of the lease, as well as gas and parking fees, is the responsibility of the vanpool group.

Those in the vanpool will save an average of \$800 a year over the cost of driving alone and will benefit from being able to use their commute time efficiently.

The Van-Go! driver must be at least 25 years old with a valid drivers license, a good driving record and good credit. Drivers do not pay the vanpool costs and may use the vehicle for a limited number of personal miles.

Media Note:

The van stops to pick up passengers just south of Forest Lake at the Park and Ride lot at exit 129 off I-35E at roughly 7 a.m. to arrive on campus at approximately 7:35 a.m. The return trip leaves campus at approximately 4:30 p.m. The van is white and has a blue Van-Go! logo on it.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXPERT ALERT

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September 29, 2006

Contacts: *Drew Swain, University News Service, (612) 625-8962, dswain@umn.edu*
Asim Dorovic, University News Service, (612) 624-0214, dorovic@umn.edu

MINNESOTANS LOVE THE MAROON AND GOLD OF FALL

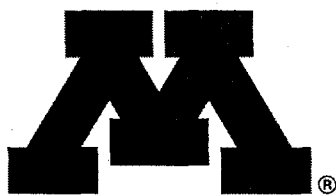
Thank goodness that the last season before Minnesota's less than comfortable winter is such a beautiful one. From Lake Superior's shore to the state's southern border, fall's foliage puts on a vivid display of colors. But we often take for granted nature's complex and necessary process of seasonal change and adaptation. A University of Minnesota expert who can give a scientific perspective on the changing of colors is:

Florence Gleason, University of Minnesota plant biology professor

Gleason can discuss the chemical processes that leaves and other vegetation go through during all seasons and what we are actually seeing outdoors this autumn. She reminds us that the change in color is not just for show, but a vital need in Mother Nature.

To interview Gleason, contact Drew Swain at (612) 625-8962 or dswain@umn.edu; or Asim Dorovic at (612) 624-0214 or dorovic@umn.edu.

Expert Alert is a service provided by the University News Service. Delivered regularly, *Expert Alert* is designed to connect university experts to today's breaking news and current events. For an archive and other useful media services, visit www.unews.umn.edu.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2006

Contacts: Daniel Wolter, University News Service, (651) 485-3214 (cell), wolter@umn.edu

U OF M BREAKS GROUND ON TCF BANK STADIUM

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL -- Lining the streets from downtown to the campus, multitudes of cheering Gopher football fans, university students and alumni followed a host of celebrity ball carriers to the campus as the University of Minnesota today broke ground on the new TCF Bank Stadium at the stadium site on the corner of Oak and Fourth Streets S.E., Minneapolis.

"This is an historic day for the University of Minnesota," said university President Robert Bruininks. "Our thanks goes out to the state of Minnesota, TCF Bank and the many students, faculty and staff who stepped up to bring Gopher football back to campus."

TCF Bank Stadium will have an open-air horseshoe design with a capacity of 50,000, including general seats as well as an array of club and suite seats. The stadium will complement the campus environment, have a collegiate look and feel, create two landscaped plazas and accommodate other uses. The design allows for maximum flexibility, including potential expansion to 80,000 seats.

The stadium is expected to be ready in time for the start of the 2009 football season.

"The stadium will serve as a unique and grand gathering place for all of the Gopher family, offering an experience unlike any other statewide," said Athletics Director Joel Maturi. "It will serve the entire university community, from offering a home to the Pride of Minnesota Marching Band, to fields for recreational and intramural activities, to other university-wide events."

University officials announced that the university has raised about half of its \$86 million goal for private gifts and sponsorships for the new TCF Bank stadium.

"The response from alumni and friends to bringing football back to campus has been tremendous," said Nancy Lindahl, co-chair of the fund-raising campaign for the stadium. "We've been pleased to see how important it is to alumni and friends to build this place of spirit and celebration for the university community."

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Under the financing plan for the stadium, the university will pay 45 percent, or \$111 million of the \$249 million stadium cost. The remaining 55 percent, or \$137 million, was approved by the state Legislature last spring and includes the university's transfer of undeveloped land in Dakota County. Parking and student fees will cover some of the U's costs, but at least \$86 million needs to come from private gifts and sponsorships. TCF Bank made the first major commitment toward this goal last year with a \$35 million naming rights agreement.

Best Buy has decided to enhance their commitment to the stadium campaign by increasing their \$2.5 million commitment to a series of challenge grants equal to \$3 million. "The university is very appreciative of the tremendous gift and the opportunity it creates for us to use it to leverage other gifts," said Bruininks. This brings the total raised since the TCF commitment to nearly \$20 million.

TCF Bank Stadium will be located on the university's Huron Avenue parking complex, close to existing athletic venues. The site has room for a new stadium and still leaves room for potential future development of new academic and research facilities. A stadium located here will be accessible, complement existing athletics facilities and enhance campus life.

Actual construction won't begin until June or July of 2007 and will take about 25 months to complete.

For more information on the new on-campus Gopher football stadium, see www.umn.edu/stadium.