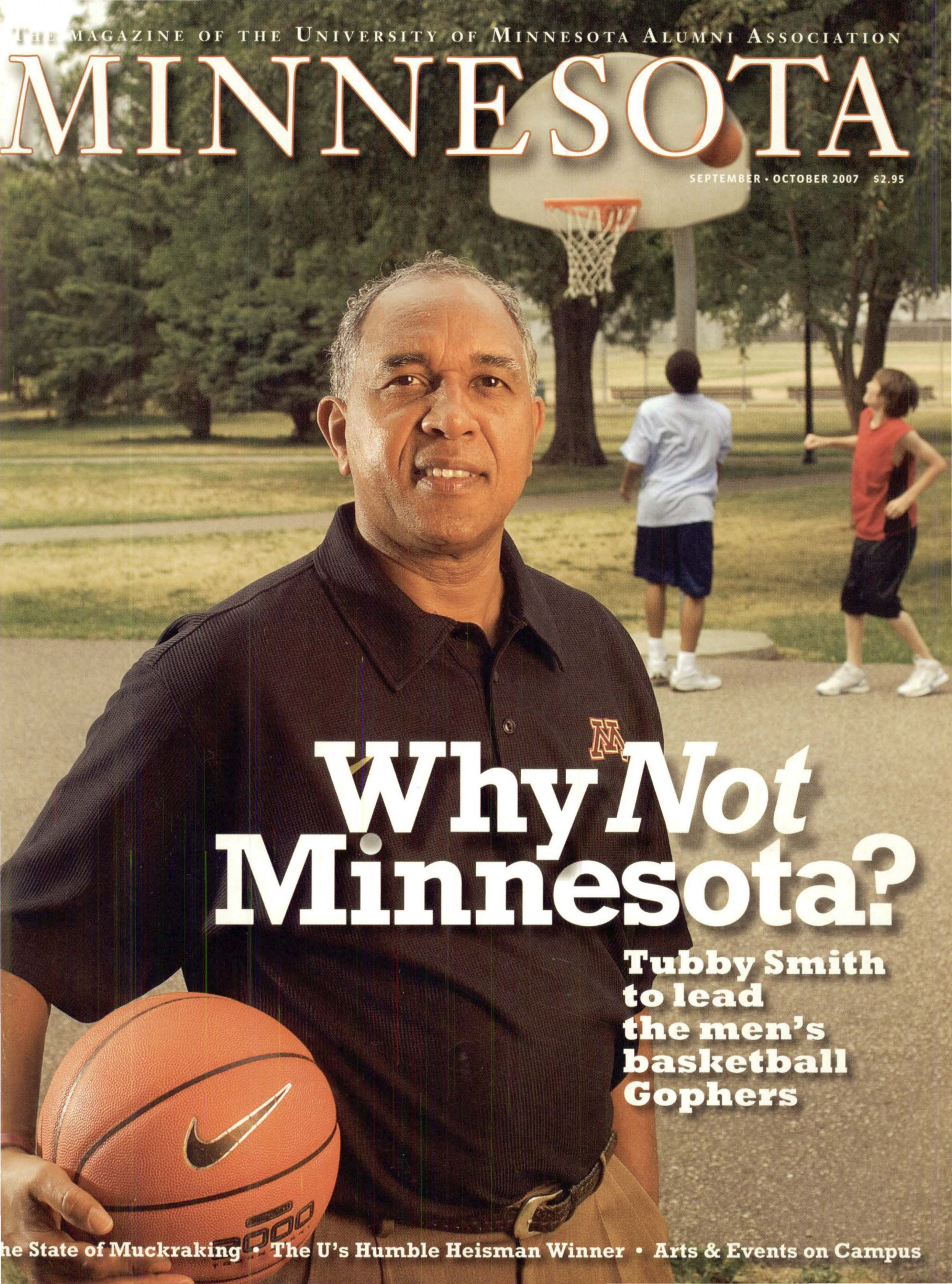


THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINNESOTA


SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2007 \$2.95

A photograph of Tubby Smith, a man with grey hair wearing a dark polo shirt with a small 'M' logo on the chest, holding a Nike basketball. In the background, two other people are playing basketball on an outdoor court under a hoop. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a grassy area.

Why Not Minnesota?

**Tubby Smith
to lead
the men's
basketball
Gophers**

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This is more.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

 FAIRVIEW

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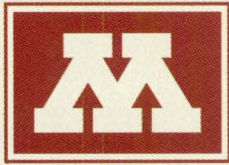


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Cover photograph by Dan Marshall



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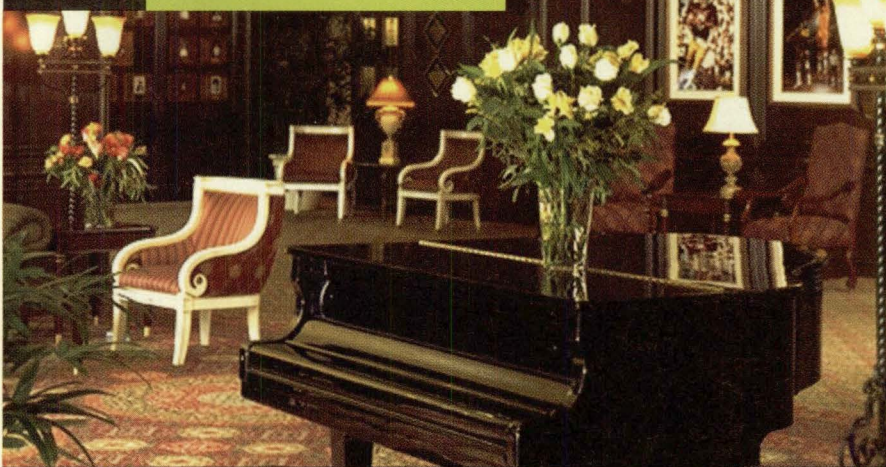
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Did You Know...?

I thought I knew every curve of path, low-hanging branch, and wobbly manhole cover across campus to walk in any direction with my nose in a book and get back to the office in an hour without a scratch. Then I took notice of the tour guides. They walk the same paths but backwards, all the while keeping up a running commentary about the glories of the University of Minnesota and what it's like to be a student here.

Nearly every summer day, a stroll around campus would have me bumping into these tour groups on a corner in Stadium Village or outside the bookstore in Coffman Memorial Union. Sometimes I'd pause on the perimeter and listen to a tour in progress. I'd report on my reconnaissance back at the office: "Did you know that the pool in the Rec Center is bigger than an Olympic pool? Are you aware that the U has more than 600 student-run organizations—including a sweatpants club and a group for people named Mike?"



Shelly Fling

What else didn't I know that potential students and their parents—who make up these tour groups—are in on? I called the Office of Admissions to ask if I could tag along on one of these expeditions.

Cassie Peterson, a junior double major in English and communications studies at the U and our tour guide one sunny August afternoon, drew our group of 10 down the sidewalk outside Jones Hall, adroitly sidestepping a street sign as if she had eyes in the back of her head. Her entourage was impressed.

She took us through the back door of Walter Library—one of 23 libraries on campus—and paused to tell us that the computer lab there is open 24 hours a day and that if you think you need to bring your own computer to school, think again. The U has approximately one computer for every two students. And, gasp, it's possible not to even set foot inside a library during one's college career at the U because of Lumina, an online service that will locate any book in the system. What's more, the campus is wireless, meaning students can be online under a tree on Northrop Mall.

Out on the mall, Cassie pointed to Morrill Hall, where University President Bob Bruininks' office is found. "It's not a building you'll need to go into unless you've been really good or really bad," she assured the potential students. Then she pointed to the Tate Lab of Physics, just south of Morrill. The dome on top houses a telescope, which is open to the public on Friday evenings for viewing the night sky.

Along the way, she noted a few of the architectural idiosyncrasies of campus. Coffman Memorial Union was allegedly designed to resemble a Gopher. And Weaver-Densford Hall, home to the School of Dentistry and recognizable because it's narrower at the bottom than on top, reportedly was designed to look like a molar. We walked on top of the Civil Engineering building—easy to do since, to save energy, seven of its floors are underground. A periscope allows sunlight to filter all the way to the bottom floor. Cassie said that some visitors have asked why the main architecture building of what is now Rapson Hall is, curiously, the most nondescript on campus. "It was intentionally designed to be plain so students wouldn't look to it for ideas," she explained.

But what these potential students most wanted to hear about was the residence halls. We all crammed into a typical dorm room and imagined bunked or lofted beds, where a fridge would fit, and how far the laundry room was from where we were standing.

Laundry? That's the best part, Cassie said. A "laundry view" Web site allows students to log on to learn whether washers and dryers are available. The site will even send an e-mail or text message when a load is finished. ■

Shelly Fling may be reached at fling003@umn.edu.

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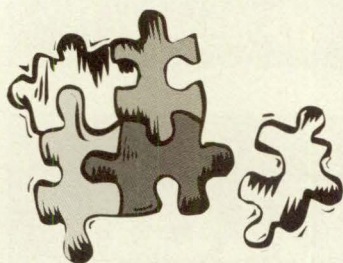


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Letters

ROOM FOR ALL VIEWS

You made a mistake in allowing Steve Miles's personal vendetta against Robert Delahunty to be included in your recent article "Taking On Torture" [July–August]. Opposing views are something to be embraced and discussed, not vilified, by an institution of higher learning.

We are well aware that certain University of Minnesota faculty members wanted Delahunty hung out to dry rather than substitute teach at the Law School. Apparently they would rather suppress free speech than expose students to differing viewpoints.

The subject matter of Steve Miles's story is complex and the reality is that people have differing views. These issues have been (and will continue to be) the subject of numerous legal proceedings, court rulings, congressional debates, and passage of laws. Most recently, the Military Commissions Act of 2006 expressly denied Third Geneva Convention rights to unlawful military combatants. This is all due to Robert Delahunty's memo? No, it's our democracy at work.

We expect to read a potpourri of stories citing new ideas, causes, inventions, etc., from our University. But when you allow personal attacks to get into your stories, you diminish the name and reputation of the University of Minnesota.

Mark Schroepfer
St. Paul

A BEACON AGAINST TORTURE

Thank you for the article about Dr. Steven Miles's research on medical complicity in torture. The Bush Administration has reversed longstanding U.S. practice, philosophy, and policy with respect to treatment of prisoners. They presumably do this to make us safer, but the clear result is the opposite. Our officially sanctioned misbehavior helps fuel radicals in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Torture and other misguided actions have dimmed our beacon of freedom. I teach annually in more than 30 business schools worldwide (including the Carlson School of Management), and students and faculty abroad ask me about what happened to America leading by example. I have no good answer.

I especially appreciated Dr. Miles's precise, well-chosen words. They were those of a clinician and a scientist, and that measured perspective adds to his credibility.

Judging by the tenor of letters in recent

issues, you've surely heard from readers who would criticize your running a "political" piece. Dr. Miles's work transcends politics. It is about basic human decency.

Robert Britton (B.A. '73, M.A. '76, Ph.D. '78)
Richardson, Texas

I have never been prouder of my UMAA and the University of Minnesota than when I read your magazine's recent cover article on Dr. Steven Miles. It is surpassingly important for all of us to know of the atrocities that are being committed in our names in Iraq and Guantanamo, and the role of medical professionals in supervising this torture and hiding the causes of death. It was also appropriate to alert us to the role of Robert Delahunty in helping to provide the legal rationale for these policies, since he is now a law professor at another university, helping to mold the young minds and future leaders of our state.

The linked article about child torture was equally compelling, and even more alarming. What have we become?

We owe Dr. Miles a deep debt of gratitude for the hard, courageous work he has performed in slogging through countless documents and bringing these acts to light. It is research of the highest order, and a fine example of what a great University should be about.

Mary McLeod (B.A. '66, J.D. '82)
White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Thank you so very much for the informative and sometimes disturbing articles in the July–August 2007 *Minnesota*. Your Editor's Note ("Don't Look Away") indicates a real commitment to exposing readers to what must move us to action.

Sieglinde Gassman (B.A. '85)
St. Paul

Your article about Dr. Steven Miles is the most significant I have ever seen in a University of Minnesota Alumni Association publication and one of the most important I have ever read in any alumni magazine. It addresses a problem not just of how we futilely conduct a phony war that never has been declared, but how we have callously sunk to such depths of barbarism. As Michael Moore in his movie *Sicko* asked of our attitudes toward the sick, what kind of people have our fraudulent and violent leaders duped us into being?

Dr. Miles's plain talk is exemplary, as in the answer to the question, "Do you think that complicity by medical profession-

als makes torture worse?” His reply: “Yes . . . [torture] winds up roping in a larger medical community on behalf of a torturing society.” So much for the Hippocratic Oath, which admonishes physicians to do no harm.

Of equal value is Professor Miles’s collecting and organizing a permanent archive at the University of Minnesota of material used in his book, *Oath Betrayed: Torture, Medical Complicity, and the War on Terror*. His insistence on documentary evidence and verification of assertions is a beacon in the darkness of torture.

I spent five years earning my Ph.D. at Minnesota, and after all that reading and writing I thought there might be hope that the dissemination of humane culture would be earnestly supported by the educated. Yet, as Dr. Miles helps us understand, our presumably well-educated professionals in a national administration never condemn the barbarity and dehumanization of torture but slink around in the dark forests of complicity.

The current president of the University of Minnesota said around the time of his inauguration that he wanted Minnesota to be one of the great universities of America. The three pages of your article on Steven Miles take one firm step in that direction.

George Simson (Ph.D. '63), Professor Emeritus of English, University of Hawaii Honolulu

HEALTH SYSTEM REMEDY

When M.D.s vote in favor of a single-payer system by a significant margin [“Curing a Sick Health System,” May–June], you know it is an idea whose time has finally arrived. The benefits to the peace of mind of Americans, not to mention relief for the embattled automobile industry, will be huge. As a long-time resident of Saskatchewan, the province that pioneered a single-payer system in Canada (surviving a physicians’ strike in 1962 along the way), it is good to see the issue getting the attention it deserves during the current presidential campaign.

**Roland Muir (M.A. '60)
Saskatoon, Canada**

WINDFALL

As a farmer in Graceville, near the University of Minnesota–Morris campus, I see the opportunities wind development brings to area farmers and citizens like me when I drive by the wind turbine on the Morris campus. And as a University of Minnesota alumnus and board member of the University’s West Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (WCRSDP), I see this 1.65 megawatt wind

turbine as yet another way the U is leading by example in western Minnesota.

By contributing initial seed money in the early stages of the wind turbine, the University’s WCRSDP was in many ways the spark that energized clean energy development around the U of M system and the surrounding region. And having a drive-by example of wind energy’s potential on the Morris campus has spurred six community-owned wind projects, totaling \$150 million in local investment, within just a 30-mile radius of the original Morris turbine. This is a great benefit to the region. The resulting community wind

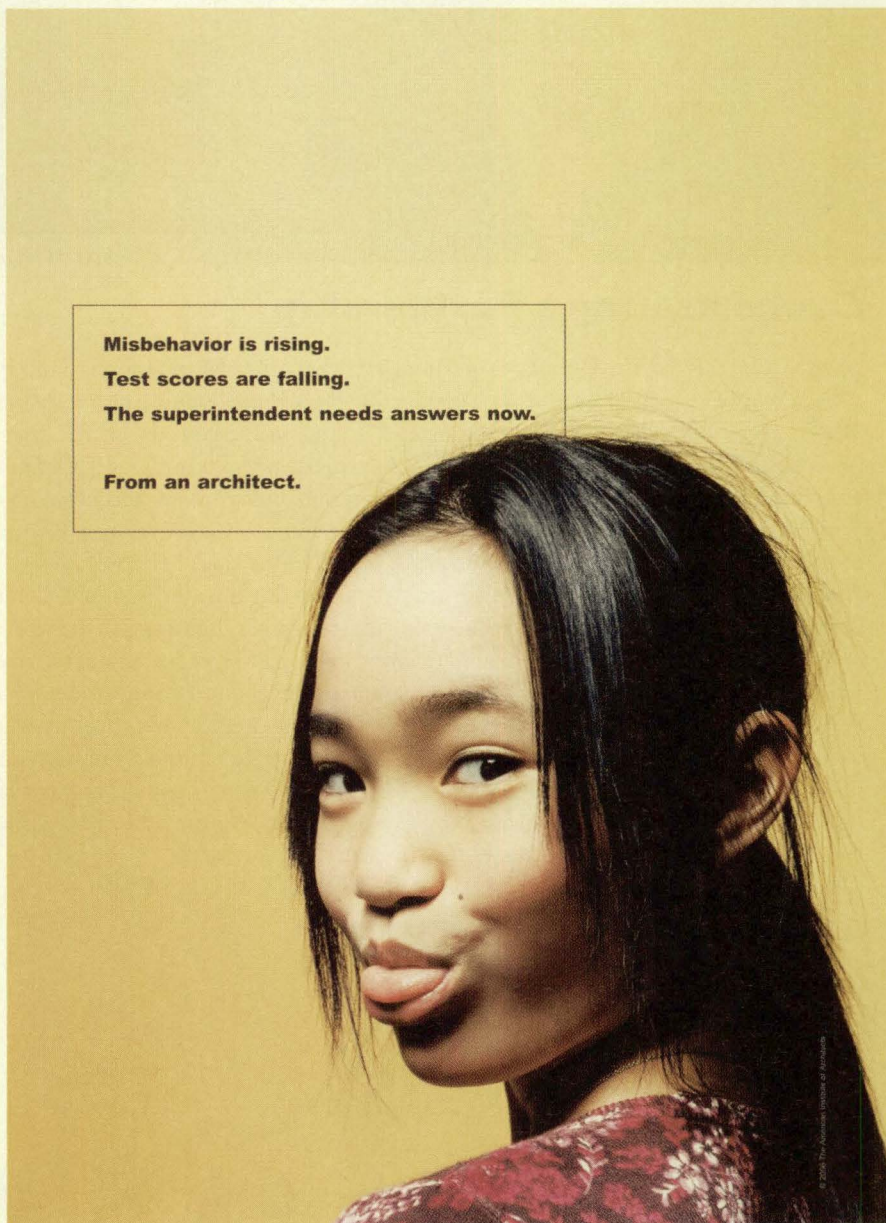
projects around Morris are a testament to the unique partnerships the University of Minnesota’s programs have with local communities.

**Chuck Walters (B.S. '75)
Graceville, Minnesota**

Letters reflect the opinion of the author and do not represent the views of the University or the alumni association. To submit a letter, go to www.alumni.umn.edu/opinion or write to Letter to the Editor, *Minnesota Magazine*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Letters will be edited for length, style, and clarity. Full guidelines are at the Web address above.

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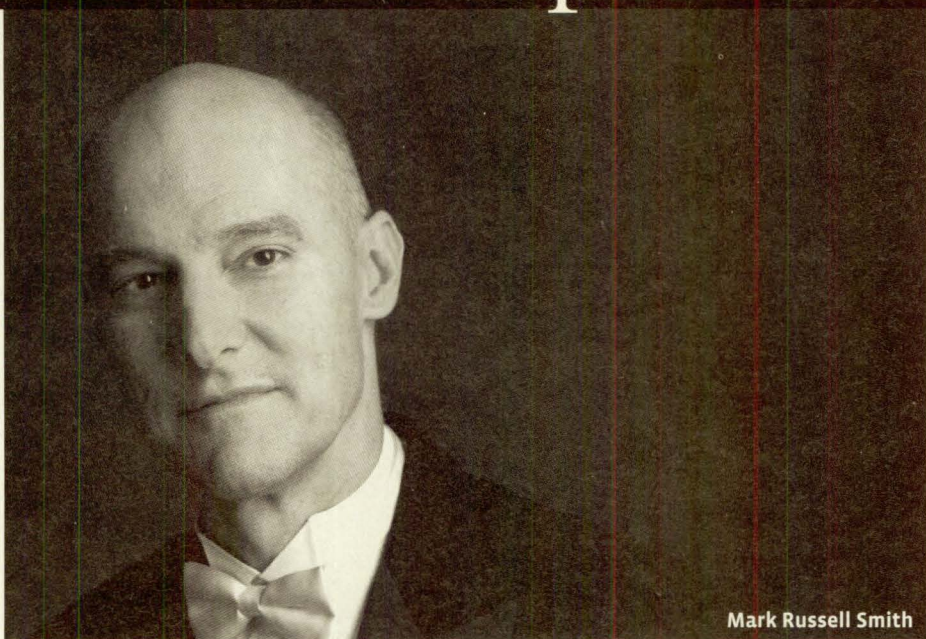
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Mark Russell Smith

Orchestrating a Partnership

Starting this fall, the University of Minnesota's School of Music and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra will share a conductor. Mark Russell Smith, currently music director of the Richmond Symphony in Virginia, will serve as the artistic director of orchestral studies at the U and director of new music projects at the SPCO. Smith's appointment is part of a larger collaboration announced two years ago between the University and the SPCO, which included the creation of a Contemporary Composers Festival last year and the development of a new doctoral track in orchestral studies. The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is the nation's only full-time professional chamber orchestra and is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world.

As part of his duties at the University, Smith, 44, will serve as conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra, mentor graduate-level conducting students, and teach courses in orchestral studies. His SPCO duties entail conducting six weeks each season. Smith will maintain his current post at the Richmond Symphony until his contract expires in 2009, necessitating considerable travel—something to which he is accustomed, since he is married to Ellen Dinwiddie Smith, a horn player with the Minnesota Orchestra, and has homes in both Minneapolis and Richmond.

WEB HIT: IMPACT THE ENVIRONMENT

Earlier this year, the University of Minnesota established the Institute on the Environment, an interdisciplinary center that brings together more than 300 faculty whose work is related to the environment. Shortly after the institute's inception, the State of Minnesota tapped it to develop the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, which will guide the state's natural resource conservation efforts for the next half-century.

Preparation of the plan will take place through July 2008, and citizen input is a crucial component of it. The institute is gathering ideas from people who want to help shape the future of Minnesota's lands, air, water, and wildlife. Providing feedback for the plan is simple. To contribute your vision, go to www.mnconservationplan.net and click on "Get Involved."

Pedaling Research

When Associate Professor Louis Mendoza decides to write a book, he really puts in the legwork. Mendoza, chair of the University's department of Chicano studies, set out July 1 on an 8,500-mile bicycle trek across the country to explore Americans' views on what he terms the "Latino-ization" of the United States. His findings will form the basis of a book.

"I'm not setting out with particular research goals or outcomes," Mendoza says. "My goal is to listen to people on the street, in churches, cafes, and bars. My hope is that this journey will not be just my story, but the story of the people I encounter and their perceptions of immigration in this country."

Mendoza began and will end his trip in San José, California, traveling clockwise through 34 states, plus parts of Canada and Mexico. He expects to end his journey in December. Mendoza's blog detailing his experiences on the road is at <http://journeycrossouramerica.blogspot.com>.



Louis Mendoza, pictured on the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis before the start of his trek.



Jan Morlock sometimes holds community meetings at the Espresso Royale coffeehouse in Dinkytown.

Neighborly Matters

Whether she's coordinating an advisory group or bringing students and community members together for a cookout, Jan Morlock always works to make sure that the efforts of town and gown go hand in hand. The University of Minnesota's community relations director, Morlock was recently awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Service for her work bridging relationships with the U's neighborhood communities. She explains what her work entails.

What exactly is a community relations director? Our office does a lot of one-on-one work with local government officials, local business people, and neighborhood communities that are close to our campus. I'm also the person who people can turn to when they have a question or idea about our campus.

Such as? Well, business owners might notice that the University changed from a quarter system to a semester system—and that might affect their business. Or a community member might see a construction crane over the Academic Health Center and want to know what the University is working on.

The new football stadium must be a hot topic. Definitely. One of the principles that the Board of Regents articulated for the stadium during the planning process was promoting good physical integration with the areas adjacent to campus. If done right, the stadium can be an enormous asset in ways that are bigger than just playing football.

How do you make sure the U's interests and those of

businesses, local government, and individual citizens are given equal consideration? Long before we decided to build a stadium, we got together a group of campus neighbors and representatives from local government and asked them what they thought the positive and negative impacts of a stadium would be. About two years ago, that conversation turned into a more formal group called the Stadium Area Advisory Group. There are 28 official members who meet monthly, but there are also lots of other folks who just have an interest in the stadium, and they're on our mailing list, too. They provide information and feedback to us on everything from environmental impact to stadium design.

It sounds like a two-way street. Absolutely. Another element of the group is the creation of a \$1.5 million endowment for a stadium Good Neighborhood Fund. It will provide between \$70,000 and \$75,000 each year for neighborhood communities to do things like plant more trees, market neighborhood businesses, or help facilitate traffic and parking.

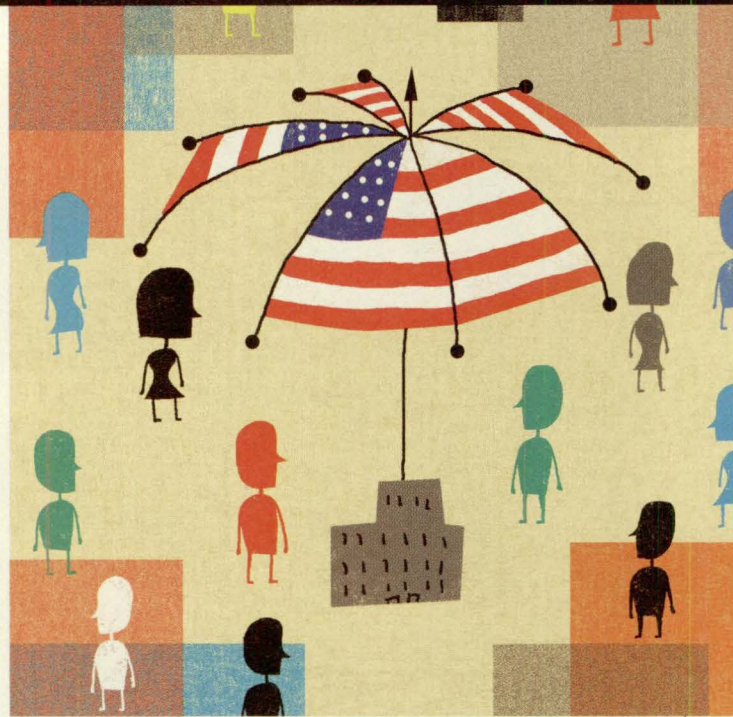
Why is it so important to work closely with the University's neighbors? The biggest reason is that it's not about "them" and "us." It's really all "us." The communities that are around our campus are part of the fabric of the campus. It's part of what people experience when they come here as students or visitors, it's where many of our students and faculty and staff live. The campus isn't just the land that the University owns. It's about all the different, interrelated functions and relationships around us.

—Erin Peterson

All for Diversity, But Not So Fast

Americans embrace the word *diversity*, but are not very clear about what it means and sometimes point to it to couch concerns and anxieties about race-related issues. Those conclusions were drawn by University of Minnesota sociology researchers who surveyed more than 2,000 households across the country and conducted 150 hour-long interviews with adults from a wide range of backgrounds living in Atlanta, Boston, Los Angeles, and Minneapolis–St. Paul.

The study found that the desire to appear color-blind prompted most respondents to report a high comfort level with the concept of diversity. But, when pressed, most were unable to describe what it is, why they value it, or give examples of it in their everyday lives. A majority of respondents, cutting across race, class, and gender lines, acknowledged that, though they value diversity, they have deep concerns about its impact on society. The biggest fear they named was that the United States is becoming a multicultural society too quickly and that too much diversity too fast could cause cultural conflict.



ONE DRUG, TWO NEW APPLICATIONS

A drug originally developed to fight tuberculosis might also be useful in helping treat people with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and nicotine addiction. That's what University Medical School researchers have found in their studies on D-Cycloserine, a drug that acts by influencing how the brain responds to various external cues. Research has shown that the drug can help people with OCD feel less anxiety about their obsessions or compulsions, thus allowing them to make more progress in their behavioral therapy. Researchers are now investigating whether the same mechanism can help people change the positive feelings they typically experience when exposed to the cues of smoking, such as seeing a pack of cigarettes or lighting up.

COLON CANCER CULPRIT MAY BE ENZYME

Researchers from the University's Hormel Institute have found evidence that a normal human enzyme is the trigger for a series of signals in the body that lead to the development of colorectal cancer, the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States. The study suggests that drugs designed to disable the enzyme could have anti-cancer benefits.

Researchers have frequently observed that the enzyme, known as TOPK, is overactive in the cells of several human cancers. How the enzyme becomes overactive is not known, but it appears to happen as a result of abnormal activity that stems from mutations in certain genes. The genes, called oncogenes, generally do not cause problems until mutations occur in them.



BAD TO THE BONE

Older women may be sacrificing bone health to improve their mental health, according to research at the University of Minnesota. The research found that older women who took selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)—such as Prozac, Lexapro, Zoloft, Celexa, and Paxil—lost bone mass more quickly than women who were not on the medication. The average age of the women in the study was 78.5 years. SSRIs treat depression by inhibiting the protein that transports serotonin, a neurotransmitter involved in sleep and depression, which is also found in bone.

Researchers said more investigation needs to be done to determine the degree to which the medication contributes to bone loss, whether young women taking SSRIs also experience it, and whether the bone loss observed leads to increased fractures.



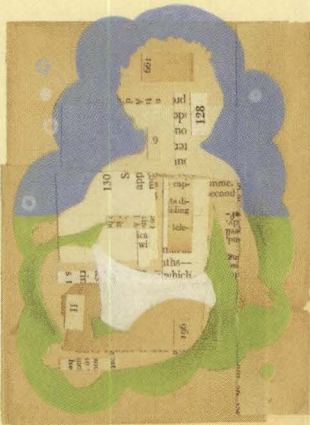
NATURE'S TOILET PAPER

Researchers in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources Sciences have shown that corn, lettuce, and potatoes absorb small amounts of a commonly used veterinary antibiotic when the soil they are grown in is spread with manure from livestock that has been treated with the medication. Concentrations in the crops were found to increase as the amount of antibiotics present in the manure increased.

The finding may be of particular importance to the organic food industry, where manure is often the primary fertilizer. The ability of plants to take up antibiotics poses the possibility that the food supply could be contaminated, but researchers note that the effect of consuming plants containing a small quantity of antibiotics is unknown. Consuming antibiotics may also lead to the development of antibiotic resistance.

LEUKEMIA TREATMENTS SHOW EQUAL BENEFIT

The first-ever study to compare outcomes of bone marrow transplants versus umbilical cord blood transplants in children with leukemia suggests that the two treatments are equally beneficial, a finding that could be a major breakthrough in treating the disease.



The study was conducted by researchers at the University of Minnesota Medical School in collaboration with the New York Blood Center and the University of Wisconsin. The results are significant because cord blood is stored at blood banks and is more readily available than bone marrow, which must be matched to the recipient—a process that sometimes requires a long wait for the patient.

The study was done by extensive review of clinical data from transplant centers around the United States.

LIKE A COCKTAIL, ONLY BETTER

People with HIV/AIDS might soon have an alternative to the expensive and highly toxic drug cocktail that is now standard therapy, thanks to a new treatment developed at the University's Center for Drug Design.

A drug cocktail is a combination of two or more drugs taken at one time. The regimen has improved survival rates, but its cost can be prohibitive and its side effects significant. Multiple drugs are necessary in treating HIV/AIDS because the virus is able to develop resistance to a single drug very quickly.

The new approach combines the features of two drugs into one, achieving the same effect as the drug cocktail. And because it has components of multiple drugs, it is not likely to develop resistance to the virus. The new approach has proven reliable in lab tests, and will now be tested to see how it reacts in the human body.

WHO TO SCHMOOZE FOR BOOZE

Young males are the segment of the population most willing to buy alcohol for underage youth, according to a study by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. The study found that 19 percent of young men age 21 or older were willing to purchase alcohol for youth who appeared to be underage when "shoulder-tapped" outside of a convenience or liquor store. In contrast, only 8 percent of the general adult population entering alcohol establishments was willing to purchase the alcohol.

Researchers conducted two waves of shoulder-tap requests outside of 219 randomly selected stores in urban and suburban areas. Requesters were young men and women age 21 or older who looked to be 18 to 20 years old. They tapped potential buyers on the shoulder, said they did not have their identification with them, and asked the adults to purchase a six-pack of beer for them. The study also found that adults approached at a city convenience or liquor store rather than one located in a suburb were nine times more likely to make the purchase.



—Edited by Cynthia Scott

Dr. Stephen Lehmkuhle has been appointed the first chancellor of the University of Minnesota–Rochester by President Bob Bruininks, pending the approval of the Board of Regents. Lehmkuhle is senior vice president for academic affairs in the University of Missouri system, where he has worked since 1998. He also served for eight months as the interim chancellor at the University of Missouri–Kansas City until the permanent chancellor was in place. He holds a doctorate in experimental psychology from Vanderbilt University. Rochester was designated as an official campus of the University last fall. As the chancellor, Lehmkuhle will be responsible for the academic, executive, and administrative leadership of the campus.

University graduate Norman Borlaug (B.S. '37, M.S. '39, Ph.D. '42), who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work reducing world hunger, received the nation's highest civilian honor from President George Bush and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi at the Capitol Rotunda on July 17. Borlaug, 93, was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal for distinguished achievements and contributions to society. He is considered the father of the “Green Revolution” for his work developing high-yield, disease-resistant grains and remains the only person ever to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for work in agriculture.

Tuition reciprocity will continue between the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin under a renegotiated agreement that resolves concerns about the arrangement's fairness to Minnesota students. Under tuition reciprocity, students from each state are allowed to attend college in either state without paying nonresident tuition. Because of the way the previous agreement was structured, and because Minnesota's tuition is higher than Wisconsin's, Minnesota students paid more to attend the U of M than Wisconsin students did. The new pact resolves that disparity by charging all University of Minnesota students the higher of the two rates. The state of Wisconsin will provide a tuition reciprocity supplement for Wisconsin residents attending the U of M to cover the increase in tuition charges. The two schools have had tuition reciprocity in place for 40 years. The new agreement takes effect in 2008.

The \$2.83 billion budget that was approved by the Board of Regents for the 2007–08 school year includes a tuition reform measure for the Duluth, Morris, and Crookston campuses that will keep increases below 2 percent for most undergraduates. The 13-credit tuition band means that credits over 13 per semester are free. The measure has helped improve graduation rates on the Twin Cities campus and has translated into a savings of up to \$20,000 for students who graduate in four years.

Other reforms include resetting the tuition rates at the Duluth and Morris campuses to be less than the Twin Cities campus and lowering the nonresident undergraduate tuition on those campuses. In addition, the Founders Free Tuition Program provides free tuition for all low-income Minne-



The Buzz on Bees

Participants in a daylong Curiosity Camp program on honeybees were all abuzz at the University of Minnesota apiary in August, as entomology professor Marla Spivak showed off a new honeybee she developed that helps keep hives free of a parasitic mite. Honeybees have experienced a marked decrease in population, and Spivak, a renowned expert on honeybees, is conducting research to learn how diseases and pests—as well as urban sprawl, modern agricultural practices, and pesticide use—might be contributing factors in their decline. Curiosity Camps are sponsored by the College of Continuing Education.

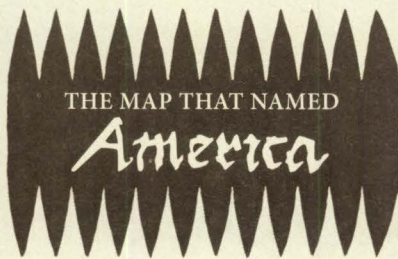
sota resident undergraduate students eligible for a federal Pell grant. More scholarship aid will also be available for students from families with an income of \$150,000 or less.

Five University of Minnesota professors have been named Regents Professors by the University Board of Regents. The designation is the highest level of recognition given to faculty by the University. They are: chemical engineering and materials sciences professor Frank Bates, cultural studies and comparative literature professor Richard Leppert, American studies and history professor Elaine Tyler May, psychology professor Matt McGue, and forest resources professor Peter Reich. Their addition brings the total number of Regents Professors to 25.

After four years of laboratory testing, the federal government has given University scientists the go-ahead to field-test a stingless wasp from China that preys on soybean aphids. A successful field test would be a major breakthrough in controlling the pest, which annually has cost growers an estimated \$200 million since it first appeared in 2000. The wasp is an especially promising species for control of the soybean aphid because it comes from a region in China where the climate is similar to Minnesota's. The soybean aphid invaded without any of its natural enemies to keep it in check.

—Cynthia Scott

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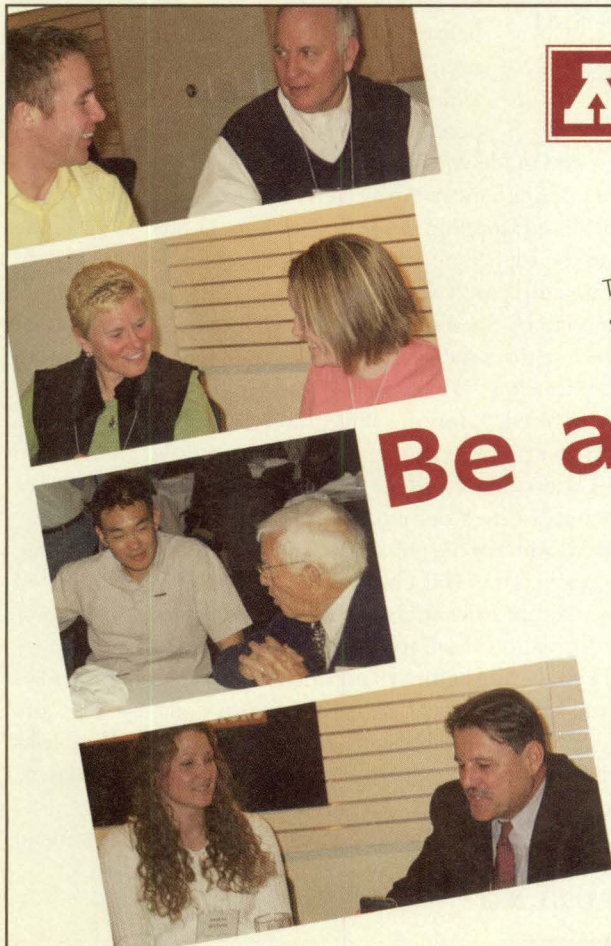
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Learning the Ropes

A short course in trust, balance, and momentum.

"Gala, sit," I addressed my guide dog. "Good girl." I let her harness handle drop to lie comfortably along her back, signaling to her that she was off duty for the moment. Someone handed me a jumble of straps, which, when untangled and adjusted to fit my body, became my own harness. I was ready to do the high-ropes course.

I came to Clearwater Chrysalis, a summer retreat for women at a camp in Deerwood, Minnesota, to facilitate a workshop on inclusiveness. But what I most wanted to do was face the high ropes—a longtime dream of mine. As a person who is blind, I have always believed that my feet had to be on firm ground and that physical guidance, when requested, makes a difference. Moving confidently and gracefully and maintaining balance matter to me. The high-ropes course offered a chance to test myself, to see if I could maneuver without a guide, to let go of always having to know where I am in time and space. Besides, I always relish the opportunity to prove that I can do something that others say I couldn't—or shouldn't.

The high-ropes structure is set in an open field, with five metal poles spaced 24 feet apart and stabilized by steel cables anchored into the ground. A series of horizontal and vertical challenges created with ropes, wood planks, and cables are strung between the poles and platforms. Participants maneuver through these while clipped to a safety system. I imagined what it would be like for me to walk in space, unguided, along unpredictable ropes and webbing.

But suddenly anxiety replaced my eagerness. Empty-handed, I felt bereft of Gala's partnership and wanted her harness back in my grip. Would it work for me to be the one who is harnessed? Would I be able to interact as safely, freely, and expertly upon the ropes as Gala in harness allows me to do on earth?

I took some heart from the matter-of-fact confidence of Dana, one of the instructors, as she described the safety rope and how it attached to a carabiner that linked to the cable above my head. She explained that by pulling the safety rope forward, I would control the carabiner's slide from the end of one element, around the pole, and to the beginning of the next element. I would never be unclipped. Unhurried, Dana let me

take my time. My hands, mind, and emotions explored the shape, fit, straps, and buckles of this apparatus and compared them to Gala's harness. So different from each other! Gala's harness perfectly suited guide work and our guide-to-guidee relationship. Could this new contraption stabilize, hold, and support me while I went *solo*? The construction and material of my harness conveyed a "trust me" message. "So trust 'em, Jane," I told myself and stepped to the foot of the ladder.

I can hardly remember the next few minutes. So many sounds, too many people hovering. Everybody willing to help yet unsure how. Me quivering inside, not knowing what information I wanted or needed, wondering if I'd figure out what was essential to know before it was too late. Wondering what the ropes would teach me. And Gala—unhappy and worried not to be with me. She whimpered and I sensed her looking up, as if asking,

"How do I guide you once you're up *there*?"

Hand over hand, rung by rung, I climbed the metal ladder. I considered stopping at the first level, but opted to go all the way to the top. "Jane, do you know how high you are?" D.J., the camp director, called up to me.

Judging by the sounds, I estimated it to be about the same distance as from the Washington Avenue footbridge down to the traffic below. "Thirty feet?" I guessed. Everyone cheered—and wondered, "How did she know?"

I tipped my head and felt the sun's warmth on my face. Up here I knew I could count on this familiar, reliable point of reference. I tuned out voices on the ground; they were way too loud. Some of the onlookers were already effusively saying, "Good job, Jane." But I hadn't done anything yet. I dismissed them and paid strict attention to whichever staffer's voice gave me information about my immediate choices and tasks.

"Dana," I said before I stepped off the ladder onto the tower's wooden platform, "Let's agree that you won't say 'good job' every time I do something, OK? That's distracting." Establishing that understanding between us freed me from having to be grateful all the time.

I stood on the platform and met my first big, hollow metal

My self-image of grace and perfection didn't translate well to the ropes. I feared becoming a flailing, grabbing Jane. Groping—that blindness to avoid at all cost.

ESSAY BY JANE L. TOLENO



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pole. I felt the hooks for the harness clips and the tracks that the safety rope would follow. Dana unhooked me from the ladder safety line and hooked me to the cable above my head. She showed me how I had to maneuver my safety rope around each pole. Initially, I couldn't situate my carabiner correctly and, already, had to ask for Dana's help. But I succeeded in guiding my clip around the next pole myself.

Once I stepped off the boards and onto the tightrope element, I immediately felt tipsy. There I was, teetering, holding tight to the safety line, wondering, "Now what? I can't just stand here. Do something!"

My self-image of grace and perfection didn't translate well to the ropes. I feared becoming a flailing, grabbing Jane. Groping—that blindness to avoid at all cost. "I've got to figure out what to do next," I thought determinedly. I took a breath, relaxed, released my grip, and reached for the hand rings that I'd been told were there. Caught one! I swung one foot forward, placing it heel to toe. I picked up my back foot and gingerly set it down in front. Momentum created balance. I would have to trust this new relationship of ropes, harness, and me if I wanted to finish. Inch by inch, I quivered my way

to the end of the first element.

"The platform is one more giant step ahead," Dana called. I lifted my foot high and far and threw my body forward. The ringing slap of my hand on the pole was the best high five I ever gave—and I hugged that pole hard. Belly laughter replaced my fears.

At each of the remaining seven elements, a staff member and I talked about what was next. I imagined what was ahead of me as a different kind of street whose surface was much more unpredictable than I was used to. As I grew more comfortable, I observed what others were doing. "Charlie, how do you dart across like that?" I asked. "You do it so I can hear the confidence in you. I want to do it just like you!"

Then I fell. I lost my footing and my stomach lurched. I flung my hands out in a futile attempt to regain balance. But I was OK. It was no big deal; the safety rope kept me from dropping more than a couple feet and I easily got back up on the ropes and continued on.

When I had completed all of the elements, I didn't want to climb back down that ladder. I wanted to try another option: the zip line. This would allow me to fly from a height of three

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stories down to the ground in one swift rush. Facing forward, I pushed off, hanging tightly to the safety rope above my head. When I reached the ground, someone asked if I was done. I responded, "Let's do it all again!" And we did.

Then the staff encouraged me to give freefalling a try—to not use my hands and to fall backwards off of the zip line platform into space. "Me freefall? Even with these ropes and harness in place—I don't think so!" I fretted silently. I've spent my entire life paying attention to where I am in relationship to what's around me. Being aware of how I move through time and space keeps me safe. If I'm paying attention and a fall still comes, my body is better prepared to handle it. So I sat on that freefall choice a long time.

Finally, I stood on the platform and fought the urge to grab the safety rope over my head. I held my arms out away from my sides—trusting the harness—and fell backwards.

After I'd dropped through space without dying (there are photos), I celebrated. I had truly let go of constraints. I usually put on my body and discovered flexibility matters. I didn't always need firm ground to get where I wanted to go, and guidance doesn't always come from predictable sources. I could do things, blindness notwithstanding, whether or not others said I could or should. The high ropes harness had let me be self-reliant and self-guided.

Once back on the ground for good, I remember clearly feeling three things: weary, renewed, and proud. And I wanted Gala. I gave her a hug and patted her all over. I let her sniff me until she was sure I was OK. Then I took my harness off and put hers on and with delight said, "Gala, forward." ■

Jane L. Toleno (B.A. '97) is the author of BlindSight: come and see (Singing River Publications, 2006), conversational essays about one woman's unconventional journeys through blindness and life. She is thankful for the high-ropes experience at the Presbyterian Clearwater Forest camp that challenged her to dream of other adventures, perhaps even to skydive on her 60th birthday. Toleno lives in Big Lake, Minnesota.

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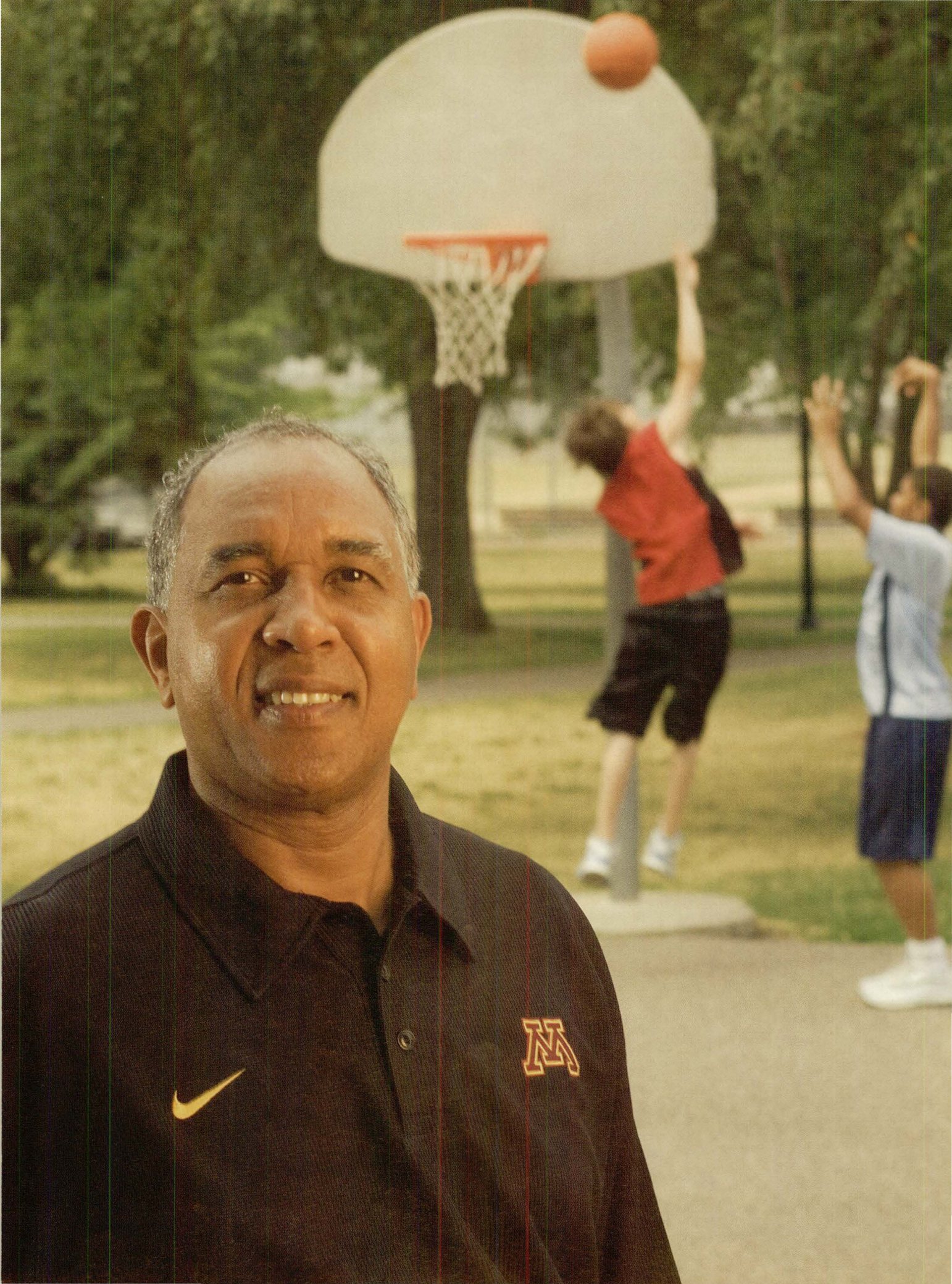
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Why Not? Minnesota.

New Gopher men's basketball coach Tubby Smith

A few days before recruiting season begins, Tubby Smith is leading a tour of his new home away from home: Williams Arena. The University of Minnesota's much-heralded men's basketball coach takes it upon himself to push his guests' wheelchairs, coordinate an impromptu viewing of a recruiting film, and authorize a rare visit to the players-only locker room. At one point, Smith—one of the nation's winningest college basketball coaches—stops to serve bottled water to everyone.

His guests this day are former Gopher basketball players John Kundla (B.A. '39) and Grant Johnson (B.A. '39, M.A. '45)—both 91 years old and the only surviving members of the 1937 Big Ten championship team—and their families. It's impossible to tell who is more honored to meet whom. Smith's eyes gleam as he pulls his glasses out to read aloud the fine print on a plaque on a wall in the arena's concourse. "You coached the [Minneapolis] Lakers to six world championships!" Smith announces, turning to Kundla. "Wow."

When Smith, veteran coach of one of the most venerable college basketball programs in the nation, accepted Minnesota athletics director Joel Maturi's offer to coach the struggling (9–22, 3–13 last season) Gophers in the Big Ten, he instantly became the state's biggest coaching star. Even sports columnists seemed to universally applaud the move.

But not even Maturi, who silenced his own critics with the hire, initially grasped exactly how far Tubby Smith's impact stretches beyond his 73 percent (387–145) winning percentage. He started to suspect it, however, when his phone began to ring incessantly. Smith's minister called. The person who built his house called. Everyone said the same thing to Maturi: "You don't know how lucky you are."

A new test

Former Kentucky coach Rick Pitino, who is currently the head coach at Louisville, has said the highest-pressure jobs in college sports are coaching Notre Dame football and Kentucky basketball. Smith doesn't directly agree, but sitting in his corner office overlooking Bierman Track, he offers this:

"In Kentucky, there's an article written about basketball every day of the year. There are probably three talk shows—a day."

At Smith's first head coaching stop, Tulsa, he compiled a 79–43 record from 1991 to 1995. In two seasons at the University of Georgia, he led the Bulldogs to their first back-to-back seasons of 20 victories or more.

But Kentucky is the nation's winningest basketball program in history, a place where fans demand near perfection, where merely winning is not enough. When the Wildcats lost 10 times in a season, fans dubbed the coach "10-loss Tubby." Last season, the Web site *firetubbysmith.com* peddled T-shirts that read "2006 SEC East 2nd Runner-Up."

Many observers surmised it was that never-ceasing pressure that sparked Smith's move, which came with four years left on his contract

By Sheila Mulrooney Eldred
Photographs by Dan Marshall

and required a pay cut (although he's earning \$1.7 million a season at Minnesota, more than any other coach at the University, ever). Smith, 56, puts a slightly different spin on it:

"Where do you go from Kentucky?" he says. "Do you stay there for the rest of your career? Or do you say, do I need a change? I'd been there 12 years, and really only worked in that region. This is the Big Ten, it's north, it's a new test, a new measure of myself against other great programs and other great coaches."

A community coach

In addition to coaching the Wildcats to one national championship (1998), five Southeast Conference championships, six Sweet Sixteens, and four Elite Eights, Smith permeated the state in ways so deep that a 2004 poll by the *Louisville Courier Journal* found that 98 percent of respondents had a favorable opinion of the coach—making him the most popular person in Kentucky.

The Other Coach Smith

When Tubby Smith hired his middle son as an assistant coach at Minnesota, 28-year-old Saul was well-prepared to handle any criticism that might come from being the coach's son. After playing four years for his father at Kentucky, starting at point guard his final two seasons, and coaching at Kentucky with his father in 2003–04 before taking an assistant position at Tennessee Tech under head coach Mike Sutton, Smith is a veteran at navigating the sometimes challenging—but often rewarding—father-son relationship.

"It's difficult to separate the two, but you need to. You can't be on the court calling the coach 'Dad,'" says Smith, who still refers to his father as Coach Smith at work. A coach's son needs to prove his worth to everyone on the team, Smith says, so he made it his mission to beat everyone on his college team in practice: the team sprint, shooting contests, one-on-one, even in the classroom. "That's why we're all still friends," he jokes.

Smith ranks 10th all-time in Kentucky basketball history with 363 assists. He also led the Wildcats in assists in both the 1999–2000 and the 2000–01 seasons and in steals during the 2000–01 season. Now, Smith is happy to be back on his dad's team instead of playing against him: When his Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles played at Kentucky, they were "run out of the gym," Smith remembers.

Growing up, Smith played soccer, baseball, football, and basketball. He excelled most at baseball, he says, and still thinks his slender, 6-foot-2 frame is more suited to that sport. But eventually he gravitated to basketball, sharing his father's passion for a game he calls the ultimate team sport. "We share a number of things: we have the same vision of success, the same basketball mind," he says.

Most important, he says, is a lesson he learned from

More recently, P.G. Peeples, president of the Lexington Urban League, speculated during a June meeting about how his departure might affect local race relations. "When Tubby Smith was hired as a coach, it was a galvanizing moment in the state of Kentucky," he told the *Lexington Herald-Leader*. "His departure has left a lot of concern in the minds of African Americans as to whether he was ever truly supported during his tenure."

Smith's response to his friend is diplomatic. "I think he felt like he lost someone who worked to improve the community," Smith says. "Race is always an issue. You can't get past your color. But, that's the reality until we get to a point where all men and women are equal."

As Kentucky's first black men's basketball coach, Smith felt it was his duty to give back to the community, which he did through extensive outreach programs, most famously his Tubby's Clubhouse programs that worked to bring technology to disadvantaged students, and by modeling the type of behavior and work ethic he learned growing up on a farm in a large



Saul Smith

his father: "A lot of people want to be on the top, to do things that are extraordinary, but he always taught me about longevity, about doing a job and lasting, being steady, not getting too high or too low. Without those lessons, I never would have made it through college."

After he graduated from college, Saul says his relationship with his father changed, and the two became close friends. As gracefully as Smith handles personal criticism, it still rankles him when people criticize his father. "When it's about a family member, it raises the hair on your neck," he says. "Especially knowing he's the best coach in America."

—S.M.E.

family. "Most people would rather see a sermon than hear a sermon; that's how I try to influence people," Smith says.

As the fourth African American head coach in any sport at Minnesota, Smith says he plans on maintaining the same type of community leadership here. So far, he's been grand marshal of the Minneapolis Aquatennial parade, lent his voice to the Twins broadcast booth, and toured the state with a contingent of Gopher coaches.

Along with Donna, his wife of 31 years, Smith is settling into a home near campus—a priority, Smith says, to establish themselves as a local presence for the team, the University, and the community.

"Winning is important, but it's more important to do things the right way," Donna says. "These kids are students first, athletes second. You have to keep that in mind, that you're helping young people grow into responsible young men."

Guardian of the game

College basketball commentator Dick Vitale called the Tubby Smith hire "one of the greatest steals" in NCAA coaching history.

"So... how in the world did you get him?" That's the question Maturi has been asked countless times.

However it happened, fans responded immediately: Since Smith was hired in March, the Gophers have sold 1,000 new men's basketball season tickets, raising the total to 10,000. Minnesotans are wearing "Chubby 4 Tubby" T-shirts.

Smith offers perhaps the best answer to the perplexing question: "Why *not* Minnesota?"

Then he plunges into a talk about lofty ideals, about basketball in a broader context, about the impact one coach can have on a game that influences legions of young people, and about why, at his first press conference for Minnesota, he referred to himself as a guardian of the game.

"Once you reach a certain level you look for ways to influence more people and to have a positive influence on others and to touch more people," Smith says. "Not just in college but in global basketball. I want to keep it a great game."

In addition to his community work, Smith serves on so many basketball committees it's hard for his assistants to keep track of his schedule: the USA Basketball Selection Committee for Youth Teams, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, NCAA President Myles Brand's Partnership of Basketball Committee, and the Black Coaches Association, of which he is a charter member.

In those capacities, he helps analyze rules and make subtle changes to the game, ranging from widening the lane to requiring American NBA players to be a year removed from high school and at least 19 years old to be eligible for the NBA draft.

Farm values

But perhaps the reason Minnesota seems like such a comfortable fit, why Smith looks natural leading former Gopher players around the Barn wearing a Gopher polo shirt neatly tucked into shorts, goes back to his roots.

"I think I easily relate to people because of the diversity in

our family," says Smith, one of 17 kids who grew up in tiny Scotland, Maryland. "You learn about sacrificing, waiting your turn, getting your job done. Everyone can't be in the bathroom at the same time."

He tells his players stories about getting up at dawn to feed chickens and milk cows, about earning his nickname from the galvanized tub he bathed in. He tells them that you can't miss bringing the water in the house or you're not going to have water. Smith notes that he never even missed a day of school.

"That's what's given me the consistency in being able to do it at this level for so long," he says.

His upbringing also gave him a thick skin that seems to shield him from criticism. His teams are known, for example, for their defensive-minded, team-oriented style of play not always popular with fans. That won't change much here, he says.

Smith's ability to recruit also raises questions from critics, especially in Minnesota, where fans are eager to retain local talent.

"There are few better at teaching defense and getting players to perform with effort," says *Sporting News* college basketball writer Mike DeCourcy. "But... Kentucky was struggling to recruit against other elite programs... Tubby has to get the best in-state players to make this work."

The Gopher coaching staff says keeping local talent is a high priority. That'll become easier with time, says top assistant Ron Jirsa, who also coached under Smith at Tulsa. "At Tulsa, when we did well it benefited the whole school," Jirsa says. "Enrollment and applications went up. He had that effect at Georgia and everywhere he's been."

Smith hopes that a similar effect at Minnesota will imbue the team and turn the program into one nationally recognized for its values as well as its success on the court.

"After 30 years, you don't worry about wins and losses," Smith says. "Wins are going to come if you do the right things and recruit well, get the right kids here. And when you're successful, people will listen. Kids will listen."

Abnormal behavior

It remains to be seen whether the Barn will be full when the Gophers play their first home game under Smith, how much improvement will follow last year's 9-22 season, how many top in-state recruits will don Minnesota uniforms.

But at least a couple signs indicate that people believe Smith could propel Minnesota back onto the national basketball scene. For one, assistant coach Vince Taylor left the Minnesota Timberwolves to join Smith's staff, crediting the University with taking a huge step forward with the hire.

And then there's the hoopla that Gopher center Spencer Tollackson saw on the way to Williams Arena for Smith's first press conference. "We were driving here from class, and people were walking down University Avenue in Gopher basketball shirts," Tollackson told the Associated Press. "That's just not normal around here right now."

Under Smith, however, that might just become the new normal. ■

Sheila Mulrooney Eldred is a Minneapolis-based freelance writer.



Monika Bauerlein, University alumna and co-editor of muckraking *Mother Jones* magazine, discusses the state of investigative journalism and the future of her profession.

Danger

Grows in the Shadows

When *Mother Jones* magazine took a sharply worded poke at the blogosphere—the vast, online community of public opinion leaders—an angry buzz rose from some quarters of the hive. The July–August cover package of interviews with and essays by bloggers, netizens, and digerati—inhabitants of the online world who have gained increasing political influence in recent years—questioned whether technology really can create a more transparent political system driven by the people, in which politicians listen to what the voters have to say before formulating their messages.

Mother Jones posits that the blogosphere is creating little more than a new digital elite that is as prone to the corruptions of power as so many before them.

On his blog, *PressThink*, New York University journalism professor Jay Rosen responded mockingly, asking whether the “printing press progressives at *Mother Jones* have any kind of grip. “They saw the Internet and freaked: this can’t be real. Recovering their bravery, they decided to debunk it.”

It’s not unusual for the San Francisco–based magazine with a circulation of 230,000 to ignite controversy; what is unusual is how the magazine chose to respond. It initiated a dialogue with critics, not just on its own blog, but on other blogs as well. “It just became this fascinating, multi-tentacled conversation,” says *Mother Jones* co-editor Monika Bauerlein (M.A. ’91), who, along with co-editor Clara Jeffery (a graduate of Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota) and their staff, spent untold hours online conversing with critics. It was a very 21st-century response for a magazine with a very 20th-century reputation as a lofty, lefty, muckraking print publication.

By J. Trout Lowen // Photograph by Kim Kulish

A native of Bonn, Germany, Bauerlein came to the University of Minnesota on a Fulbright scholarship and enrolled in the master's program at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. It was a tumultuous time in the newspaper industry: Technology and the Internet were beginning to change how news was gathered and produced, competing daily newspapers around the United States were folding and consolidating, and media critics were bemoaning the softening of the White House press corps during the Reagan administration.

As a freelance writer in New York and Washington, D.C., in the late 1980s, Bauerlein covered the 1988 presidential campaign and negotiations to end the first Gulf War. While attending the University, she worked as a reporter at the *Minnesota Daily* and as a stringer for the Associated Press and later as an investigative reporter and then managing editor of the Twin Cities alternative weekly *City Pages*. She joined the staff of *Mother Jones* as features editor in 2000, helping to burnish the magazine's 30-year reputation for investigative journalism, overseeing the stories on the war in Iraq, the privatization of America's highways, and the death of the oceans and beefing up its online and East Coast presence.

At a time when many print media are cutting back news coverage and staff, *Mother Jones* formally opened its Washington, D.C., investigative bureau in July. "It's needed now more than ever," Bauerlein says of the expansion. "Honest-to-goodness news and investigative and political coverage is shrinking everywhere."

Bauerlein expanded on the future of investigative journalism for *Minnesota* magazine.

There is a lot of hand wringing these days about the fate of journalism in the United States. From your perspective, how much of it is deserved? I think the hand wringing right now is almost more acute about the likelihood of a continued existence of journalism, because that to me seems to be the difference in the conversation we were having in the '80s and '90s about how good journalism is and how much the standards have fallen apart.

There was the *USA Today*-ification of journalism—shorter stories, "news you can use," fluff. At the same time, the commercial pressures were becoming much greater and more papers and TV stations were being bought by [large corporations], and generally it got to where the media started to be seen as an investment and investors began to treat media companies accordingly.

Now it seems like we're literally just looking over a cliff, realizing that the economic model that has financed journalism—where we used to subsidize the reporting by putting lipstick ads on the same pages that the stories were on—is just going away and there is not the equivalent of that online. So

How do we either trick people or convince them to pay for what they're getting? My theory is ultimately we have to look at some sort of public-radio model where it's basically reader supported journalism.

I think at this point, beyond the question of standards and how good is the work that we're doing, we are literally just wondering how will it be done and who will pay for it.

A lot of people are blaming the Internet for the demise of journalism but isn't it also about people's news consumption habits? Are we as a population getting out of the habit of consuming news? Well, the jury is still out on that. We did a piece couple of issues ago about the future of newspapers in particular. We especially took a close look at the Tribune Company because of the way it's taken the wrecking ball to the *Los Angeles Times* by cutting staff into oblivion and by treating it as if the only thing that matters is what it costs you to produce this amount of copy on dead trees every day when in fact it's not that you print the newspaper that matters, it's what you put in it.

It used to be that newspaper owners were basically content to run a decent newspaper and make enough money to meet payroll and take home a profit. Over a period of time people got a sense that you could practically print money in the newspaper business, and shareholders came to dominate the economic imperative. It wasn't good enough to bring home a 15 percent profit; you had to show another 10 percent growth year after year, and if you miss the 10 percent growth target they would ax people. And the more people you got rid of, the less of the great content you produced that would bring people to your product and the more you are in trouble financially.

But the fact is, the content that's being produced, people are reading the stories, they're just not necessarily reading them on paper. When you look at online and print news consumption together—and I think it's the same for magazines—people are still reading this stuff, but they're not paying for it. And advertisers are not paying for it online. So it goes back to how do we either trick people or convince them to pay for what they're getting?

My theory is ultimately we have to look at some sort of public-radio model where it's basically reader-supported journalism.

Isn't that similar to the *Mother Jones* model? Yes, that is very much the *Mother Jones* model, except that we don't have pledge drives. *Mother Jones* [published by the nonprofit Foundation for National Progress] is one of the very few print publications that has a substantial, small donor base.

The message of the public-radio pledge drives, when you strip away all the mugs and the tote bags is, "You are getting a free ride on this fantastic radio broadcast. You know, it's not actually free to produce, so why don't you step up and do your part?" And I think that's essentially the appeal somehow that we have to make—all of us.

Mother Jones has had this long history of muckraking and tough investigative journalism, is the magazine still as tough as its reputation? Oh, possibly more so. The magazine struggles with a reputation of being a counterculture product from another era, which couldn't be further from the truth.

But, ultimately, the mandate has always been the same, which is to speak truth to power and to do muckraking about abuses of power, both in politics and in corporate America, and when I say "in politics," that means on the left and the right. Our cover package on how technology is changing politics includes a piece that is critical about the ways in which already there are elements of the blogosphere that are turning into kind of a new machine. Power corrupts, and as people in that universe gain power, they exhibit some of the same bully qualities that powerful people always have.

What kinds of stories are you seeing out there that aren't being reported? We're seeing a lot more about the Bush administration, but there is an enormous amount more to be told. And in particular it seems to me that there's more to be uncovered about things that were done by the administration in collusion with corporate America.

The state of pensions and retirement insurance is an enormous story where the surface hasn't been scratched; the Medicare drug plan and the fact that it is essentially an enormous corporate giveaway; the degree to which natural resources have been handed over to the private sector without much public attention; the extent to which every crisis of the last few years, from 9/11 to Hurricane Katrina, has been used to create another honey pot for contractors is still not fully understood. Those are the kinds of things I'm talking about.

We just did a big piece earlier this year about the privatization of highways question ["The Highwaymen," January–February 2007, about the operation of U.S. toll roads being sold to foreign consortiums] that had completely gone under the radar but is a really major public policy issue.

What are some of the stories that Mother Jones has done in the past year that have broken new ground? Something I thought that was pretty cool was the Iraq War timeline, which was basically a compilation of who knew what and when they knew it about weapons of mass destruction and the war itself.

The genesis of this was during that period of the run up to the war, for instance at the 2003 State of the Union speech and the infamous 16 words involving the Nigerian uranium yellowcake deal. It just seemed to us last year that what we hadn't accomplished in the public debate was a sense of what was known and when it was known—to people in the administration, to people in the media, and to the rest of us.

So, we put together this timeline in a very sustained and very definitively sourced format that pulled together when the claims were made, what was known at the time, which documents had already been exposed showing the claim was false, and when it finally unraveled. And we did this for the period up to the start of the war, and then we did another installment for the first few months after the beginning of the war.

That was an exciting project because it also experimented with journalistic form. It didn't have a huge narrative that was hard to slog through. This was done in a very extensive but bite-sized format that allowed you to browse and read it in sequence or just scan it for the highlights.

And then we made it an interactive online database and that gave it a completely different dimension where you could search for things that you are interested in, you could pull together your own mini-timeline for Dick Cheney or Donald Rumsfeld or the aluminum tubes. I think it was a way to pull together the best of what journalism can be—really as a resource for the public conscience—and the best of what print and online can do.

As governments from the federal level down to local city councils are cracking down on what information is made public, how is that playing out in investigative journalism?

That has been an enormous problem post 9/11 in particular. There was some of that going on before, but the war on terror has provided a very easy way to sell those kinds of restrictions, even if most of them have nothing to do with keeping information from terrorists.

In fact, it's most likely the opposite. Danger grows in the shadows and it's only by exposing things to public scrutiny that you get safety improvements and security improvements.

But it's a gigantic problem with everything from records of toxic storage to things like evacuation routes—which people should really be able to know about—being locked down.

I have sort of a hunch that, as following Watergate there was a raft of Sunshine Laws, we will come to some kind of moment like that again. But I certainly don't think it's automatic, and I certainly don't automatically assume that Democrats by their nature are somehow more likely to be honest and open on those issues.

So where is the pressure for transparency in government going to come from? I think it still needs to come from journalism. It's always come from journalists and activists of various descriptions. One of the things that is happening now is that we have this sort of hybrid between the journalism and the activism universes, the blogosphere, and that's a pretty big force in pushing for transparency. ■

J. Trout Lowen (B.A. '89) is a Minneapolis-based freelance writer.

“The mandate has always been to speak truth to power and to do muckraking about abuses of power, both in politics and in corporate America, and when I say ‘in politics,’ that means on the left and the right.”



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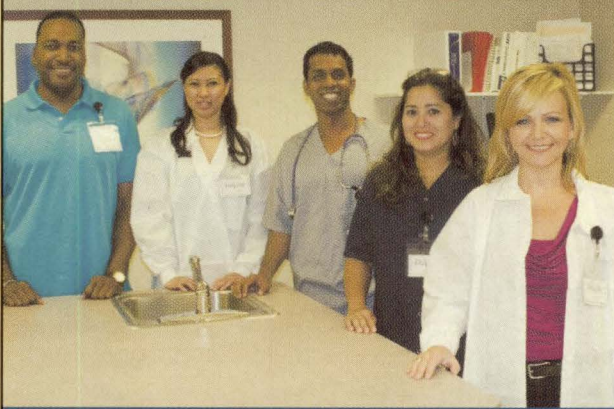
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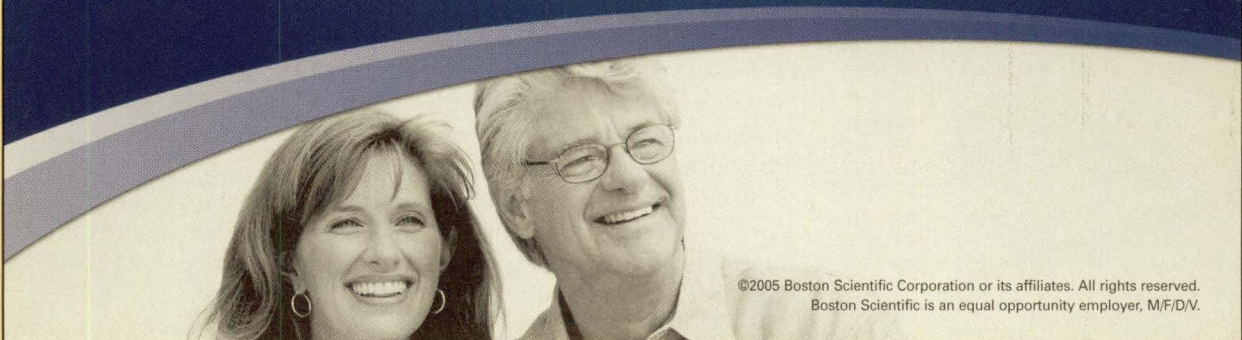
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A

RT APPRECIATION

DANCE, MUSIC, MUSEUM, THEATER, AND OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS COMING TO CAMPUS THIS FALL.



DANCE

Liquid movement. Abstract experimental ballet. An explosive amalgam of jazz, modern, and ballet styles. The 2007–08 Northrop Dance Season opens in October with three notable dance companies vastly different in approach, content, and execution, providing audiences with a rich excursion in contemporary dance.

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan first visited the Northrop stage in 2003 with “Cursive,” a work in which choreographer Lin Hwai-Min quietly spelled out the similarities between choreographed bodies moving through space and the dancing brushwork of Chinese calligraphy. Through Hwai-Min’s movement vocabulary—a mix of martial arts, modern dance, and ballet—the dancers’ bodies become the animated signatures of the calligraphy project on stage, while the actual calligraphy resembled dancing bodies captured mid-move.

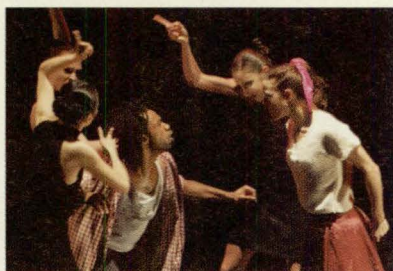
This year, Cloud Gate returns with “Wild Cursive” (October 13), a work reportedly far more fierce than the earlier one. The reason? Hwai-Min was inspired by the ancient Chinese art of “wild calligraphy,” in which written characters are set free from their normal forms, allowing those who write them to express their inner state. While the 19 black-clad dancers embody a turbulent representation of this style, an element of calm is created as banners of white rice paper fall to the stage marked by trails of black ink that drip, seep, and feather into free-form patterns.

The following weekend, the high-powered Houston Ballet brings three contemporary works to Northrop (October 20). Artistic director Stanton Welch’s quicksilver “Velocity,” set to angular music by composer Michael Torke, puts the female dancers in paper-thin tutus and on point to expose their classical technique. In contrast, Welch’s “Clear,” an artistic response to 9/11 set to music by Bach, showcases the male dancers’ aggressive exuberance, while keeping a solitary woman at the work’s core.

Associate choreographer Christopher Bruce also contributes “Hush” to this concert, set to tracks from the *Hush* album by Bobby McFerrin and Yo-Yo Ma. According to Bruce, the work was inspired by one of Ma’s liner notes: “*Hush* is a musical celebration of life—from youth to old age.” As such, the cast includes a family—mother, father, and four children—who dance through a lighthearted series of situations.

Philadelphia’s Koresh Dance Company debuts at Northrop with “Looking Back: the Music of the ‘40s and ‘50s” (November 13). Founded in 1991 by Israeli-born choreographer and artistic director Ronen Koresh, the company is renowned for both its eloquence and explosive energy. Pairing iconic songs with imaginative dance, “Looking Back” features a jazz-tango set to Louis Armstrong’s “Kiss of Fire,” men dancing with invisible partners during Dean Martin’s “Sway,” and a delightful Lindy Hop to Benny Goodman’s “Sing, Sing, Sing.” Songs by the likes of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Elvis Presley, and Frank Sinatra also get the royal treatment in this choreographic salute.

All performances take place at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For information on the entire Northrop Dance Season or for tickets, go to www.northrop.umn.edu or call 612-624-2345.



Top to bottom: The Houston Ballet performs at Northrop October 20.

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan comes to Northrop October 13.

The Koresh Dance Company appears at Northrop November 13.

BY CAMILLE LEFEVRE // ARTS ICON BY LEIGH WELLS

MUSIC

German composer Kurt Weill's *ballet chanté* ("sung ballet") *The Seven Deadly Sins*, with German libretto by Bertolt Brecht, has long attracted adventurous artists. In November, the Opera Theatre at the University of Minnesota's School of Music tackles the "story of a woman used and abused by the world," says David Walsh, associate professor and director of University Opera Theatre. "The basic idea of the piece is that this girl from a small town in Louisiana rises through the 'ranks'—from stripper/cabaret dancer to showgirl to model/actress," he explains. "In the process, her natural charm and beauty are replaced with a kind of cold, hard, and artificial glamour. It's the kind of journey that Hollywood makes famous, or notorious, depending on your point of view."

The central character, Anna, is actually portrayed by two performers—a singer and a dancer. Anna 1, the singer, is the practical one who feels she must control the creative, impulsive, exuberant Anna 2, the dancer. Theoretically the two are identical twin sisters. But soon into the production they're revealed as different sides of the same personality.

It's a device Brecht used to demonstrate the schizophrenic nature of modern human existence, of someone "caught between the desire to be true to oneself and one's innermost feelings, and the cravings and temptations generated by our materialistic, consumer society—a society driven by the notion that even art is a product," Walsh explains. "There are clearly two different Annas and the result is the destruction of a person. It's not a laugh-a-minute piece, that's for sure."

Walsh says he sharpened Brecht's societal criticism further by translating the libretto himself, "to make it less poetic and more to do with the character of Anna and what is meant when she's paid for her services. So it's a bit hard-hitting in that respect." Walsh also wanted to sharpen the work's primary theme: the destruction of innocence and idealism. "The moral of the story is this: If you want to 'make it,' you have to learn to 'play the game,' often through blatant hypocrisy and exploitation of others."

The story of *The Seven Deadly Sins* hasn't changed since the 1930s, Walsh insists, "because unfortunately people haven't changed." The staging of the production, however, will bring



Julie Brousseau (right) and Chelsey Korus play the parts of Anna 1 and Anna 2, respectively, in *The Seven Deadly Sins*.

the opera into the 21st century. "Our contemporary statement will be apparent in the clothes and in certain props that wouldn't have existed back in the 1930s, like a cell phone."

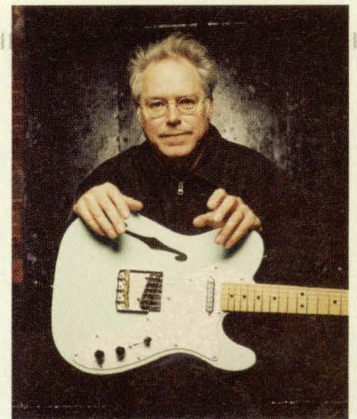
Vocalist Julie Brousseau sings the part of Anna 1, and Anna 2 will be danced by Chelsey Korus. Both appeared in Walsh's production of Weill's *Street Scene* last year.

The Seven Deadly Sins runs November 8 through 11 at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For information and tickets, go to www.music.umn.edu or call 612-624-2345.

NORTHROP JAZZ SEASON

The 2007–08 Northrop Jazz Season opens its 14th year of concert-hall performances with the eminently enjoyable Pat Metheny Trio (October 14). Moody and atmospheric, Metheny's stylistically innovative music has a signature looseness that belies its complex rhythms and clear articulation. For this engagement, Metheny is joined by bassist Christian McBride and jazz drummer Antonio Sanchez. The jazz series continues with Bill Frisell's compositions based on photographer Mike Disfarmer's portraits of people living in Heber Springs, Arkansas, in the 1940s (October 27). "Musical Portraits from Heber Springs: Bill Frisell's Disfarmer Project" features Greg Leisz on lap steel guitar and Jenny Scheinman on violin, as Frisell explores postwar rural life through his unique musical vocabulary. The fall season concludes with Steven Bernstein's Millennial Territory Orchestra (December 1) reintroducing audiences to obscure jazz treasures from the 1920s and '30s with a nine-piece, free-jazz band.

For more information, go to www.northrop.umn.edu or call 612-624-2345.



Bill Frisell



While Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* takes place in 1692 during the witch hunts of Salem, Massachusetts, the Pulitzer Prize-winning American playwright wrote the story in 1953 during the McCarthy "witch hunts," when—under U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy's instigation—Americans were accusing each other of pro-Communist beliefs. Miller himself faced the House of Un-American Activities Committee, was found guilty of beliefs in communism, then found the verdict reversed in a 1957 appeals court.

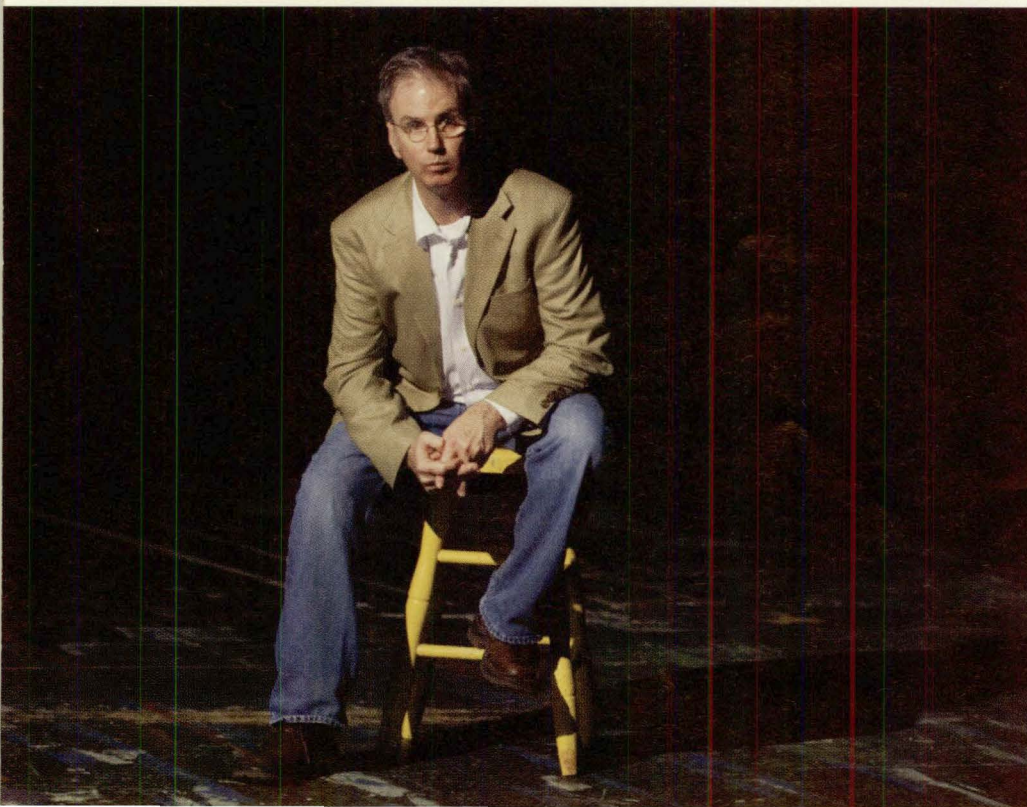
The story of rising over adversity and standing for the truth even to death, however, is a timeless one, argues Kenneth Mitchell, acting instructor in the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program. "There's always a witch hunt going on in our culture, whether on a political or social level," Mitchell says. "Especially now, since 9/11, when anyone from the Middle East is looked on with suspicion and doubt."

This fall, the senior class of the BFA program tackles *The Crucible* in a staging that "will be kept in New England's Puritan times," Mitchell explains, "yet have a modern sensibility. So the feel will be classical and contemporary." Miller's singular writing style will also be retained, as it simply and dramatically brings out the evil quality of Abigail and the other girls who wrongly accuse townspeople; the gullibility of the judges; and the absurdity and tragedy of the story's events.

"Miller's text is so strong and the language so beautiful in this play about integrity and redemption," Mitchell says. "Everyone in the play goes through their own personal crucible, their own melting down to who they truly are. And that experience is timeless. It's in the moments of extreme crisis that we find out who we really are."

The *Crucible* will be performed October 26 through November 3 in the Whiting Proscenium Theatre at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For more information or tickets, go to www.theatre.umn.edu or call 612-624-2345.

Kenneth Mitchell directs *The Crucible* this fall.



DIVERSE VOICES

In March 1988, Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., created for education of the deaf and hard-of-hearing, experienced a watershed event. Outraged at the selection of another hearing president, students protested until she resigned and was replaced by I. King Jordan, Gallaudet's first deaf president in its 124-year history. A movement was born, Deaf President Now (DPN), which has become synonymous with the self-determination and empowerment of deaf and hard-of-hearing people around the world.

In 2006, campus activists mobilized again when Gallaudet announced that provost Jane Fernandes would succeed Jordan. Fernandes was a deaf educator raised in an oral-education program that taught her to speak, rather than in a sign-language program. Even though Fernandes later learned American Sign Language (ASL), DPN protested her presidential appointment.

Evonne Bilotta-Burke, a sign-language interpreter at the University of Minnesota, explores these controversies in her original documentary script, *Inside the Gate*, which will be read by Diverse Voices (September 17). A collaborative, staged reading by students from the University Theatre, the Xperimental Theater, and local high schools, Diverse Voices was created to showcase themes and issues that address underrepresented communities. *Inside the Gate* will be read in English and in sign language simultaneously, putting hearing and hearing-challenged members of the audience on equal footing.

For more information, visit www.theatre.umn.edu.

SPEAKERS

No science background is necessary to attend Café Scientifique; just bring your questions and a genuine interest in the pressing science issues of our time. The goal of Café Scientifique is to demystify science while helping the curious understand and engage in the scientific topics affecting our world.

The first Café Scientifique, created by Duncan Dallas, was held in Leeds, England, in 1998. Inspired by the Cafés Philosophiques in France, Dallas decided to create a similar forum for topical scientific ideas and set it in lively non-academic surroundings. The idea was to bring people together in a friendly pub after work to hear an informal introduction—by an expert—on a current scientific topic. Questions and answers and general discussion would follow.

That forum was so successful that, since then, such cafes have sprouted up around the world. The Minneapolis branch of Café Scientifique, which is run by the University's Bell Museum of Natural History, began four years ago to help the museum fulfill its goals for public engagement, says Shanai Matteson (B.A. '05), program coordinator and host. "The Bell was also interested in reaching a younger audience," she adds, "people in their 20s and 30s who aren't usually involved in the Bell's programming."

That's why the Minneapolis installments of Café Scientifique take place at some of hippest spots in town. Plus, Café Scientifique audiences—regardless of age—largely consist of people who are interested in science but lack the opportunity to discuss their views with someone in the know. In other words, the speakers don't require, or expect, scientific knowledge on the part of the audience. So anyone can participate and no question is "stupid."

The theme of this year's Minneapolis Café Scientifique is "Seeing Change" and focuses on "the intersections of people and environment," Matteson says. The series kicks off on September 10 at 7 p.m. at the Loring Pasta Bar in Dinkytown, when a panel of University experts discusses the future of science, the questions and challenges facing researchers, and the role of culture and technology in the evolution of science education and policy.

The series continues on September 18 at 7 p.m. in the theater at the Bryant-Lake Bowl in the Lyn-Lake neighborhood of south Minneapolis. A panel of behavioral psychologists (Christie Manning, Elise Amel, and Brian Scott) tackles the question, "Is America Seeing Green?" As Minnesotans become increasingly aware of such green technologies as wind energy, energy-saving appliances, and fuel-efficient cars, green living has become *de rigueur*. But—as people strive to incorporate these technologies and other green strategies into their everyday lives—is the sustainable trend really sustainable?



Shanai Matteson helps demystify science through Café Scientifique.

The panel will evaluate, with input from the audience, why people go green and whether the green life we're pursuing today is valuable for the long-term health of the planet.

Other Café Scientifique topics this fall cover agriculture and landscape ecology; changes in urban landscapes through planning; and geology and fluid dynamics on the Mississippi River. "I try to pick out topics that are intriguing, cutting-edge, and culturally relevant, especially when they coincide with policy," Matteson explains. "This year, the environment, and particularly climate change, are on everyone's minds, just as we enter an election year."

For more information, go to www.bellmuseum.org or call 612-624-9050.



Documenting China: Contemporary Photography and Social Change

In the Western world, the transformation from an agrarian-based rural life to an urban-industrial way of life was a gradual process that, in some countries, occurred over more than a hundred years. In China, however, that change is progressing at a breakneck pace.

Until the 1970s, three-quarters of China's population lived in isolated rural areas where they maintained their traditional lifestyles. In the last 20 years, however, hundreds of workers from rural fields and factories have flooded the cities in search of a better life, their traditions clashing with mechanized, digitized, 21st-century culture and its pop icons.

The seven Chinese photographers featured in "Documenting China: Contemporary Photography and Social Change" at the Weisman Art Museum have recorded that change with vivid, candid images. Curated by Gu Zheng of Fudan University in Shanghai and organized by the Bates College Museum of Art in Maine in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the show focuses on the impacts of urbanization and industrialization in China from insiders' points of view.

"This exhibition isn't through a news lens or through the financial or economic lens of a business journal, but through the artistic and visual point of view of Chinese documentary photographers," explains Diane Mullin, the coordinator of the exhibition. "It's a unique point of view for westerners from a country that's front and center in global politics and culture."

Only one photographer, Liu Xiaodi, presents images of rural peasants from the 1970s in iconic portraits of Maoist China. The rest provide contrasting documents from the 1990s, many of which depict the harsh realities of dehumanizing work and culture shock. Zhang Xinmin's raw photographs show peasants who have migrated to the cities in search of work only to find themselves at the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder. Zhou Hai captures industrial workers swathed in smoke, steam, or grime, staring defiantly at the camera.

Conversely, Jiang Jian's color portraits tenderly depict peasant families in their homes, while Lu Yuanmin's sepia-toned portraits document the middle-class apartments in which objects both past and present find unlikely juxtaposition. Luo Yongjin has photographed the cities' new modern architecture. And a panoramic shot by Zhou Ming captures Shanghai's Disneyesque skyline.

With China in the news on a weekly basis, Mullin hopes the exhibition will "contribute to our ongoing intellectual engagement with China. Here's a way to think through China and its effects on the world at a deeper level, see China from an insider's perspective, and contemplate photography's role in our lives."

Documenting China runs September 8 through November 25 at the Weisman, 333 E. River Road, on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For information, go to www.weisman.umn.edu or call 612-625-9494.



Zhang Qunzi and Her Two Daughters, Mengjin County, Henan, 1996, by Jiang Jian

Here by Design III: Process and Prototype

Since the exhibition "Here by Design" premiered in 2001, the world that Minnesota designers inhabit has changed radically. "There's been a huge shift in design technology in terms of digital fabrication and rapid prototyping," explains curator James Boyd-Brent, associate professor of graphic design in the University's College of Design. "It really wasn't on the radar six years ago and now it's unavoidable."

Digital fabrication refers to the creation of objects via computer. Rapid prototyping—developed to test equipment for large-scale manufacturing—encompasses such methods of digital fabrication as 3-D printing and stereo-lithography. The two come together when digital fabrication methods are used to manufacture objects in small numbers, resulting in a new rapid manufacturing capability.

"Today, rapid prototyping affects design thinking and digital fabrication plays a major part in design production," Boyd-Brent says. "There's a whole new world of possibilities for designers, in terms of speeding up production time and envisioning vast numbers of possible iterations for a project."

The third installment of "Here by Design" at the Goldstein Museum of Design, "Here by Design III: Process and Prototype," examines "the new possibilities these technologies open up for designers," Boyd-Brent says. For instance, the Mount'n Mover, prototyped by BlueSky Designs, Inc., secures a variety of devices to wheelchairs, beds, and workstations and can be easily unlocked and repositioned.

Marc Swackhamer, an assistant professor of architecture who investigates how techniques of digital fabrication can address sustainability and speed of assembly, prefabrication, and affordability, has developed an acoustic wall of interlocking panels that also serves as a piece of furniture. "It's a complex system that exemplifies how digital fabrication can, paradoxically, bolster the idea of craft in design," says Boyd-Brent.



The swan diorama is based on a scene from in Bloomington in the 1940s.

Using computer-aided design, the architectural firm Vince James and Associates devised a folded-and-perforated stainless-steel skin that's part of a prefabricated building kit ready to assemble into a dynamic structure on site. One of its first uses will be as a guard house at the base of a gate house at the University of Cincinnati. "Designed to be visually dynamic during the day, it will transform into a lantern-like colored veil at night," explains Jennifer Yoos, a principal at the firm.

"Here by Design" runs October 20 through January 20 at the Goldstein, 240 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., on the St. Paul campus. For information, go to www.goldstein.cbe.umn.edu or call 612-624-7434.

Behind the Diorama Glass

"Dioramas are the hallmarks of traditional national history museums in North America," says Don Luce, curator of exhibits at the Bell Museum of Natural History. During the first half of the 20th century, dioramas were a radically new interpretation—and presentation—of nature as a living system of interconnection. Featuring painted backgrounds executed in exquisite detail, they introduced viewers to the importance of habitat. Today, they're "time capsules" of the natural world as it once existed. Says Luce: "Dioramas were the original virtual reality."

Many natural-history museums around the country, however, are retiring their dioramas. Not the Bell Museum. "When you stack our dioramas up against others around the world, the Bell's are considered one of the top three in terms of quality," Luce says. "They're a remarkable, unique resource in Minnesota."

As the Bell gears up for its move to new digs next year, it's mounting a new exhibition that provides a behind-the-scenes look at how its dioramas were constructed. The show, "Behind the Diorama Glass," includes "cool stories about who made the dioramas and why," Luce explains, along with photographs of the dioramas in process, molds and tools used, and models prepared beforehand. "This show will get at the heart of how dioramas combine art and science."

"Behind the Diorama Glass" runs November 10 through February 10 at the Bell Museum, 10 Church St. SE, on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For information, go to www.bellmuseum.org or call 612-624-7083.

Retrospectives

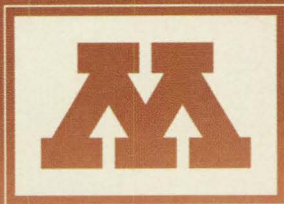
Gary Hallman pioneered the use of digital technology in creating his photography. His sometimes iconic, often quirky images are the hallmarks of major collections around the country. Guy Baldwin is a sculptor whose kinetic works might emit sounds or move along a gallery floor. Both are distinguished faculty members in the University of Minnesota's Department of Art and receive a joint retrospective at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery this fall. In a prior faculty exhibition, Baldwin's motorized sculpture featured a calligraphy brush that swept marks across paper, an image of artistic resonance that technologically predates Hallman's synthetic and narrative imagery.

"Retrospectives" runs October 9 through November 8 at the Nash Gallery, 405 21st Ave. S., on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus. For information, go to www.nash.umn.edu or call 612-624-6518. ■

Camille LeFevre (B.A. '81) is a St. Paul-based freelance writer.



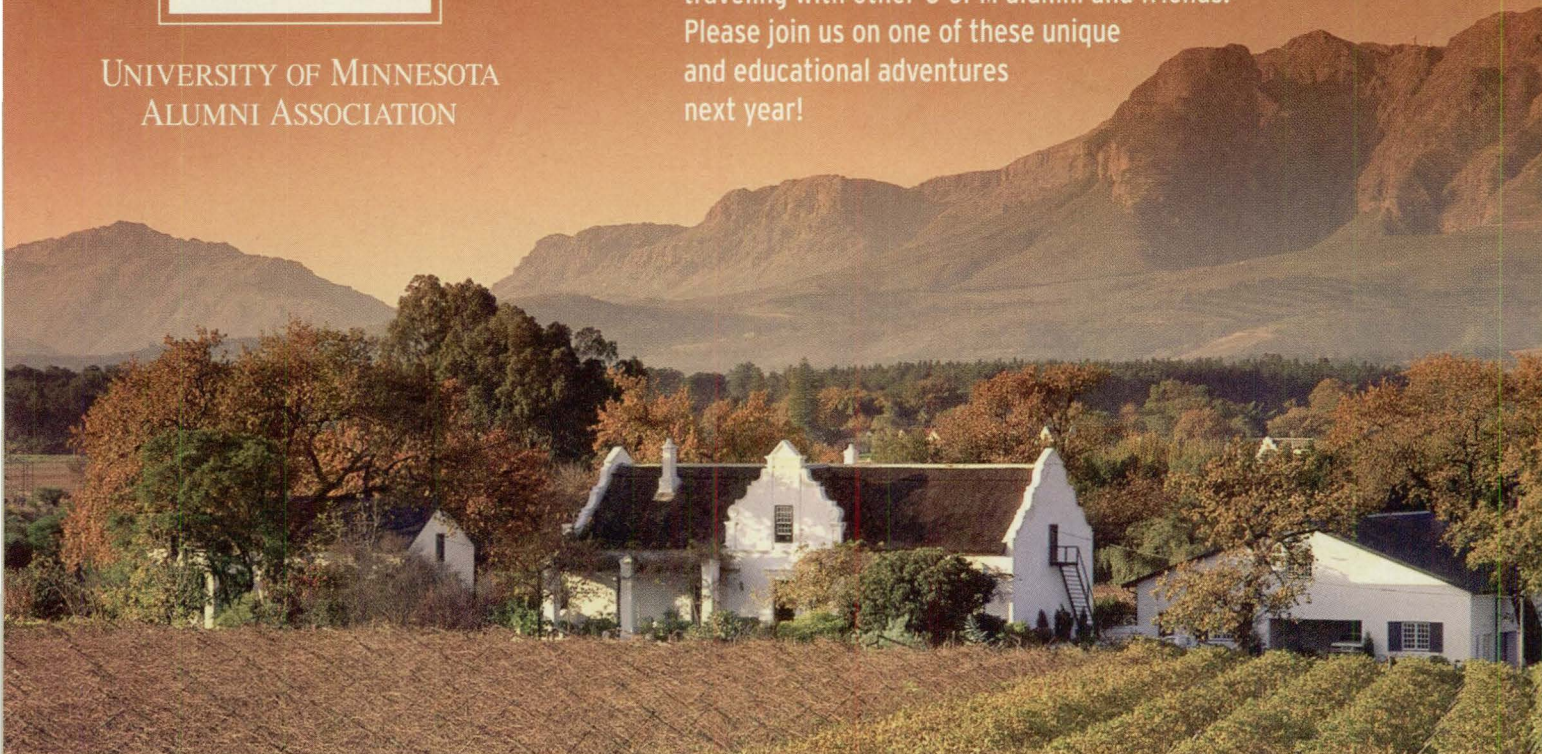
Icarus Too, 2005, by Gary Hallman



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2008 Travel Preview

We invite you to experience the comfort and camaraderie of traveling with other U of M alumni and friends. Please join us on one of these unique and educational adventures next year!



EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA

January 12-25

Experience the White Continent's majestic coastal scenery and abundant wildlife. Spend two nights in Buenos Aires, then embark upon a journey of discovery to Earth's most pristine wilderness. Enjoy spectacular volcanic topography, magnificent glaciers, and thousands of penguins, seals, whales, and seabirds. A post-program option at majestic Iguazu Falls is also featured.

From \$4,995 (plus air).

AMAZON RIVER JOURNEY

February 1-10

Explore the headwaters of the Amazon river beyond areas inhabited by the natives. Discover exotic wildlife while cruising on a vessel that can access remote tributaries and exotic regions of the upper Amazon. Explore virgin rainforests with expert naturalists, visit native villages, and enjoy two nights in cosmopolitan Lima. Extend your journey with a visit to the mysterious and enchanting Inca complex of Machu Picchu.

From \$3,395 (plus air).

COLONIAL MEXICO

February 2-9

Cuernavaca, Land of Eternal Spring: this mountain resort offers the rejuvenating powers of European-style spas, ancient spiritual sites and verdant landscape, and gentle, sunny climate. Visit the Santa Prisca Church in Taxco de Alarcón and the mysterious pyramids at Xochicalco. Explore the highlights of Mexico City and admire artistic treasures at Centro Cultural Muros and the Museo Robert Brady.

Approximately \$1,895 (plus air).

ISLAND LIFE IN TAHITI AND FRENCH POLYNESIA

February 3-11

Discover the pristine beauty of land and sea and the legendary warmth and hospitality of the South Seas people. View ancient stone temples on tranquil Huahine, explore the Polynesian cultural legacy on the "Sacred Island" of Raiatea, savor the seductive charm of Bora Bora, and visit Moorea, the tropical Eden that inspired James Michener to write *Tales of the South Pacific*. Swim and snorkel in idyllic lagoons.

From \$2,695 (plus air).

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY: WONDERS OF THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

February 8-16

Discover a region unmatched in its beauty and role in the history of natural science. Here you can walk among 400-pound tortoises, get close to spiny-backed iguanas, and snorkel in crystal clear waters alongside sea lions, dolphins, and tropical penguins. Excursions led by certified naturalists will enhance your enjoyment of this mysterious natural realm. On mainland Ecuador, explore the colonial section of Quito.

From \$2,994 (plus air).

ITALIAN FAVORITES: ROME AND FLORENCE

March 8-16

Explore two great cities that epitomize Italy's culture, architecture, and rich historical heritage. Rome's many timeless monuments include the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, and the Pantheon. Marvel at St. Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world, and visit legendary Pompeii. Florence, the beautiful city known as "the Cradle of the Renaissance," has architectural and sensory treasures around virtually every corner.

Approximately \$2,099 (includes air).

AUSTRALIA DISCOVERY

March 26-April 6

Your adventure begins in Cairns, gateway to two UNESCO World Heritage sites: the amazing Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics of Queensland, where rain forests are home to many rare animals and plants. Next, visit Melbourne, Australia's second-largest city and a center of culture and style. Then journey to Sydney, Australia's largest and oldest city. Daily optional excursions are offered.

Approximately \$2,495 (plus air).

VILLAGE LIFE ALONG THE WATERWAYS OF HOLLAND AND BELGIUM

April 4-12

Celebrate the spirit and beauty of springtime in the Low Countries. Cruise past centuries-old windmills and charming villages as Holland's tulips burst into full spring bloom. Discover picturesque old Dutch towns like Gouda, Middelburg, and Delft; explore the medieval Flemish cities of Bruges and Antwerp; visit Holland's most famous windmills at Kinderdijk; tour the extraordinary gardens of Keukenhof; and enjoy private chocolate and beer tastings in Belgium.

From \$1,995 (plus air).

TREASURES OF CHINA AND YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE

April 10-22

Explore the 'Magical East,' a land of ancient treasures and infinite variety. Visit Shanghai, China's largest city, and Beijing, its capital for most of the last seven centuries and home to the spectacular Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, and the magnificent Great Wall. Tour historic Xi'an and the amazing Terracotta Warriors of the Qin dynasty. Marvel at the spectacular Three Gorges and the world's largest dam as you cruise the mighty Yangtze.

Approximately \$3,399 (includes air).

PARIS HIGHLIGHTS

April 19-27

Paris is a city of glamour, romance, and culture, whose very name conjures up a multitude of wondrous images. The Eiffel Tower, the Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame, the Louvre Museum, and Palace of Versailles are just a few of its treasures. Experience fabulous restaurants, street cafes, colorful markets, and spectacular haute couture shops. Optional excursions include Normandy, the Champagne Country, and the Loire Valley.

Approximately \$1,999 (includes air).

UKRAINE ON THE DNEIPER RIVER

April 21-May 4

Explore the glittering domes of Kiev before sailing the fabled Dnieper River. Visit the historic Caves Monastery; Zaporizhia, the cultural home of the Cossacks; and Kherson. In Crimea, visit Sevastopol and Bakhchisarai, a city that inspired author Aleksandr Pushkin. Experience Yalta and Livadia Palace; admire elegant Odessa, the Pearl of the Black Sea; and explore Tulcea, Romania, and Bucharest.

From approximately \$1,795 (plus air).

ISLAND LIFE IN MALTA AND SICILY

April 23-May 1

Explore these historic Mediterranean islands, the crossroads of civilizations for countless millennia. Spend three nights on Malta and step back into the Middle Ages in the walled city of Mdina, the island's ancient capital. From Malta, journey to Sicily aboard a high-speed ferry for four nights in Siracusa. Explore Sicily's wealth of Greco-Roman monuments and the charming town of Taormina, picturesquely located within sight of Mt. Etna and the sea.

From \$2,895 (plus air).

PORTRAIT OF SOUTH AFRICA

April 26-May 7

South Africa is an amazingly diverse land, home to the famous "Big Five" (elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion, and leopard). Explore bustling Cape Town, set on a peninsula of rocky outcroppings and lush valleys with the Indian and Atlantic oceans converging at its feet. Observe some of the world's most remarkable creatures in their natural habitat at the Pilanesberg Game Reserve. An optional extension to Victoria Falls in Zambia is available.

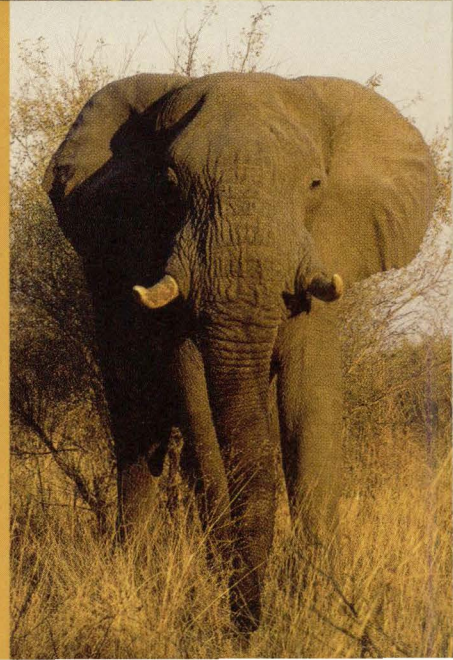
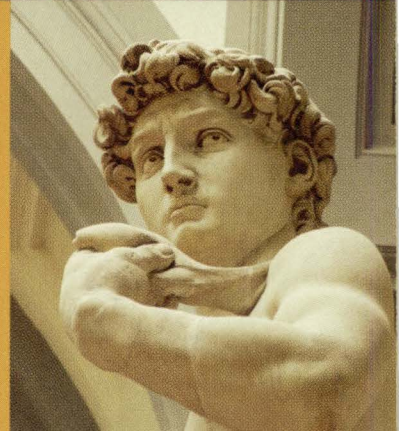
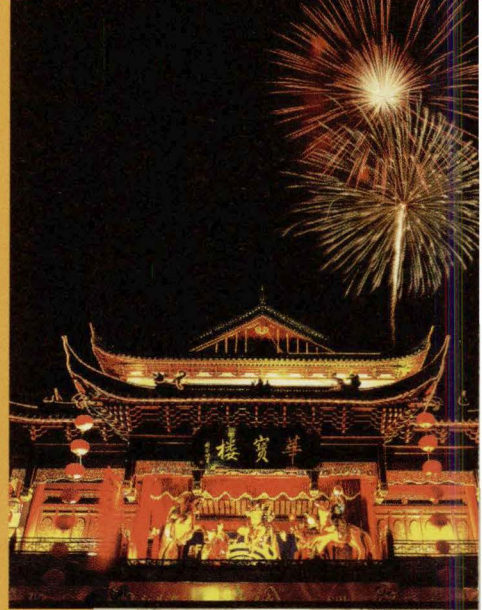
Approximately \$4,499 (includes air).

JEWELS OF THE DANUBE

May 4-12

The majestic Danube, Europe's longest river, passes through eight countries on its voyage from the Black Forest to the Black Sea. Cruise between Vienna and Passau, the picture-perfect part of the river known as the Wachau valley where charming villages, ancient medieval castles, and lush vineyards greet you around every bend. Discover Melk, with its splendid Benedictine Abbey; Passau, one of Germany's oldest and prettiest towns; Vienna; and Munich.

Approximately \$2,349 (includes air).





ALPINE MOUNTAINS AND LAKES

May 12-20

The waters of Lake Constance caress the shores of four countries. Explore the Napoleonic Museum at Arenenberg Castle; Europe's largest waterfall, the Rhine Falls, in Switzerland; the flower island of Mainau; and the monastic architecture on Reichenau Island. Tour Bregenz and enjoy a panoramic cable car railway ride. Visit St. Gallen, Appenzell, Liechtenstein and its capital Vaduz, Meersburg, and Birnau. *Approximately \$2,095 (plus air).*

VILLAGE LIFE IN TUSCANY

May 24-June 2

Discover one of Italy's most fabled regions while staying in the charming 130-year-old Hotel Chiusarelli, located in the heart of the medieval town of Siena. This specially designed itinerary provides a perfect balance between the world-renowned treasures of Florence and lesser-known gems like San Gimignano and Montalcino where the rhythms of life have remained virtually unchanged for centuries. *From \$2,495 (plus air).*

CELTIC LANDS

May 24-June 4

Journey from the ancient Norman city of Rouen to Scotland's historic capital of Edinburgh. Cruise along the verdant shorelines of northern France and southern England and around the misty Highlands and Isles of Scotland. Visit the historic Normandy Beaches, the medieval Abbey of Mont-St-Michel, the port of Dartmouth, and Dublin. Explore North Wales and experience the stark beauty and calm of Scotland's Hebrides and Orkney Islands. *From \$4,995 (plus air).*

CRUISING THE BALTIC SEA AND THE NORWEGIAN FJORDS

June 20 - July 2

Discover Scandinavia's most historic ports and capitals. While cruising from Bergen to St. Petersburg, experience the stunning beauty of Norway's Sognefjord and Aurlandsfjord and explore some of Europe's most historic and impressive cities including Copenhagen, Denmark; Klaipeda, Lithuania; Riga, Latvia; Stockholm, Sweden; and Tallinn, Estonia. You will meet with Nobel Laureate and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa in Poland. *From \$4,795 (plus air).*

POLAND

June 15-23

Your travels begin in Krakow, where the abundance of well-preserved historic buildings—miraculously spared during the destruction of both World Wars has earned the designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit Auschwitz or Ojcow National Park. Marvel at the crystalline sculptures and underground lakes of the Wieliczka Salt Mine; then journey to Warsaw, with its beautifully restored architectural splendors. *Approximately \$1,995 (plus air).*

CHIANTI IN A TUSCAN VILLA

June 29-July 7

Discover the rolling hills of Tuscany, blanketed with verdant vineyards, olive groves, and cypress trees. From the idyllic village of Tavarnelle Val di Pesa, travel to Castello di Monsanto. Explore the beautiful Tuscan hill country, visiting the market town of Greve, the medieval village of Radda, charming Castellina, and the fortified town of San Gimignano. Also featured are Lucca, Florence, and Siena. *Approximately \$1,995 (plus air).*

CRUISE THE PASSAGE OF PETER THE GREAT

August 31-September 12

Journey through the heart of Russia. Explore the Tretyakov Gallery, Kremlin's Armory Museum, Red Square, and iconic St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow. In Star City, home to Russia's space program, enjoy an exclusive tour of the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center. Cruise the scenic Volga River to Uglich and then beautiful Yaroslavl, Goritsy, and Kizhi Island. Finally, explore the best of St. Petersburg. *From approximately \$2,395 (plus air).*

CROATIA & VENETIAN TREASURES

September 11-19

Croatia is a strikingly beautiful country, and elegant Opatija is one of its most famous resorts on the sparkling Adriatic Coast. Travel to picturesque medieval hilltop towns and ancient underground caves. Lido di Jesolo, one of Italy's most popular and attractive resorts, is a superb base from which to explore the magical city of Venice and splendid Padua and the Riviera del Brenta. *Approximately \$1,999 (includes air).*

SPECTACULAR SWISS ALPS & SALZBURG

September 19-27

Switzerland and Austria offer a kaleidoscope of inspiring delights. Stay in Davos, a lively Swiss town nestled in a picture-perfect mountain landscape and in Mozart's home city, Salzburg, Austria, a lovely town known for its beautiful Baroque buildings. Embark on an exciting rail journey through the Swiss Alps. Visit charming Lucerne and chic St. Moritz, and see the castle called the "Bavarian Versailles," Herrenchiemsee. *Approximately \$2,099 (includes air).*

BEST OF TUSCANY & THE ITALIAN RIVIERA

October 4-12

Delightful Montecatini is located in the heart of Tuscany. Experience the exquisite beauty of the surrounding Tuscan landscapes with visits to charming Siena and beautiful Florence, a living museum of Renaissance art and architecture. The seaside resort town of San Remo basks in the wonderful climate of the sun-drenched Italian Riviera and is ideally situated for visiting the glamorous cities of Monte Carlo and Nice. *Approximately \$1,999 (includes air).*

VILLAGE LIFE ALONG THE SEINE RIVER

October 3-11

Cruise the Seine River from the historic port of Rouen to exciting Paris. Enjoy excursions to impressionist painter Claude Monet's house and studios in Giverny and Auvers-sur-Oise, where Vincent Van Gogh spent his final days. Visit the Normandy Beaches, enjoy delicious regional cheeses, and discover Calvados. Conclude in romantic Paris and stroll through the streets of the legendary bohemian neighborhood of Montmartre. *From \$2,595 (plus air).*

VILLAGE LIFE IN BURGUNDY AND PROVENCE

October 3-11

Embark the deluxe M.S. Princesse de Provence in Lyon and depart on a leisurely voyage on the waterways of southern France to the ancient city of Arles. Explore the legendary Romanesque Abbey of Cluny, enjoy a private wine tasting in Trevoux, tour the Roman monuments of Vienne, visit the charming villages of Boucieu-le-Roi and Perouges, and walk in the footsteps of popes in Avignon. Enjoy special presentations on cuisine and culture. *From \$2,295 (plus air).*

ISLAND LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE

October 7-15

Travel the Aegean Sea from Turkey's historic coast to the Greek Isles. Stroll through the streets of Ephesus, the most intact Greco-Roman city in the world, and sail to legendary Troy. Explore Greece's most fabled islands, including Patmos, Rhodes, Delos, and Santorini, renowned for their stunning beauty, ancient monuments, and picturesque villages. Pre- and post-program tours of mystical Istanbul and ancient Athens are available. *From \$2,995 (plus air).*

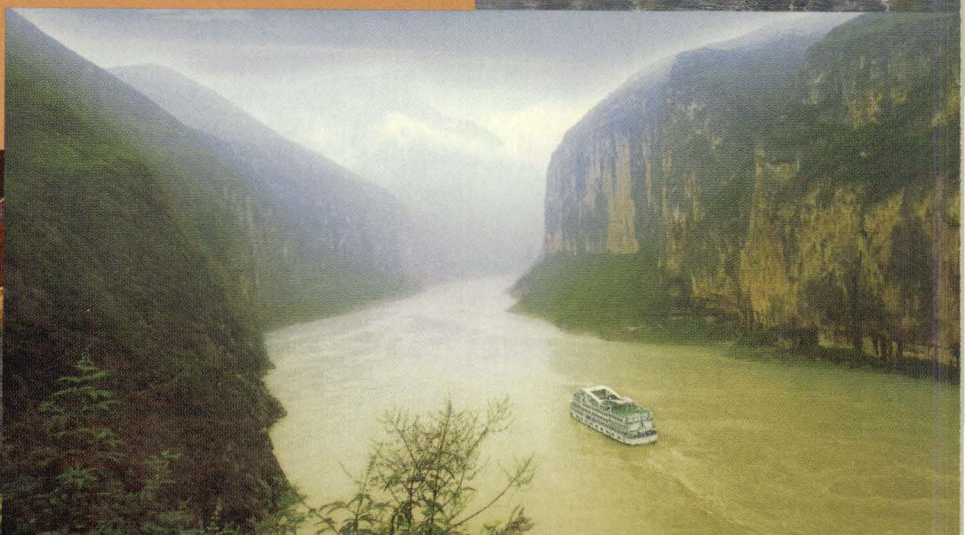
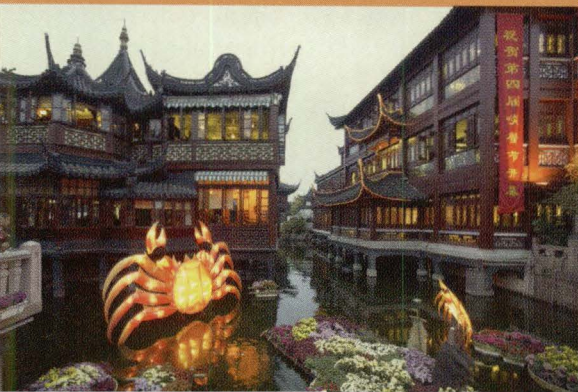
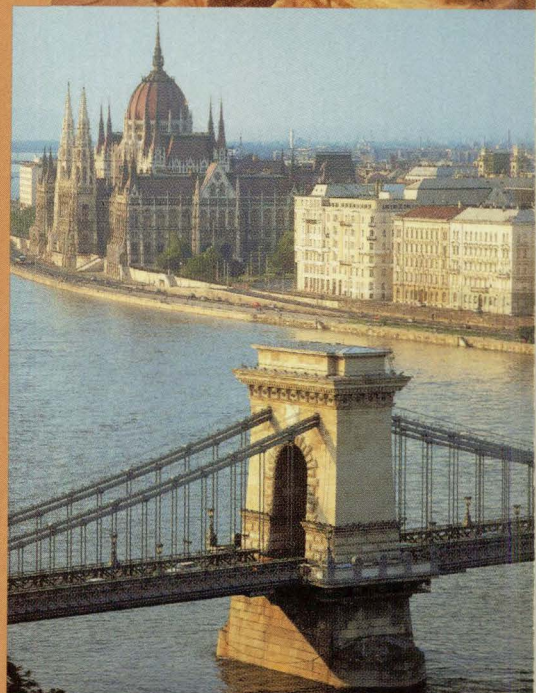
DYNAMIC BEIJING

November 5-12

Beijing, China's capital for over seven centuries, is today a modern, flourishing city whose concentration of ancient sites makes it the showplace of this diverse land. Stroll around the impressive Tiananmen Square, explore the imposing Forbidden City, and be spellbound by the magnificent Great Wall. Visit the giant pandas at Beijing Zoo; admire the ancient Temple of Heaven; or travel to Xi'an. *Approximately \$1,899 (includes air).*

Please note that dates, itineraries and prices are preliminary and subject to change due to operational conditions. Prices are per-person, double-occupancy, and do not include taxes.

Detailed trip brochures are available approximately eight months prior to the departure date. To receive brochure(s), e-mail howard@umn.edu, call 612-625-9427 or visit www.alumni.umn.edu/travel.



Who Was Bruce Smith?

The University's humble Heisman winner.

As the only Gopher ever to win the Heisman Trophy, Bruce Smith's name is often tossed around in discussions of University of Minnesota football lore. However, the specifics of his legend are a little fogged by time. His name lacks the colorful resonance of Bronko Nagurski, and his achievements on the gridiron tend to be overshadowed by the memorable accomplishments of the teams on which he played. Still, who else in Gopher football history ever won a Heisman Trophy, starred in a movie made about his life, or was nominated for sainthood?

The arc of Bruce Smith's playing career reached its zenith on the Saturday afternoon of November 9, 1940. Smith, a junior halfback, began the day not only a far piece from the glories to come, but quite a distance from the center of Minnesota's football universe. Even the weather was a bigger story. It was a messy, slog-

in - t h e - m u d kind of day. The leading edge of a storm system that in less than



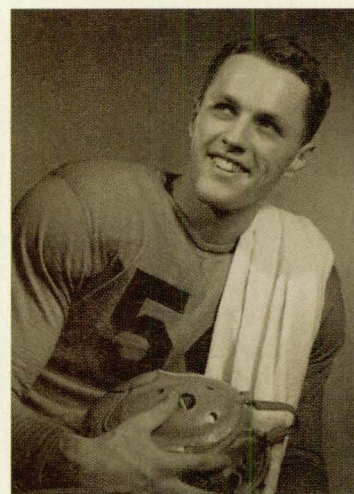
Bernie Bierman coached the football Gophers from 1932 to 1941.

48 hours would huff and puff itself into the disastrous "Armistice Day Blizzard" was making its way over Memorial Stadium on the campus of the University of Minnesota, soaking the 64,000 spectators—a record attendance at the time—to the bone.

On the playing field below, the Golden Gophers lined up against their most bitter Big Ten rival: the Michigan Wolverines. Coached by Bernie Bierman, undefeated Minnesota was the best football program in the nation and was vying for a national championship, the first time the Gophers



Herbert "Fritz" Crisler coached the football Gophers for the 1930 and '31 seasons. He was head coach of the Michigan Wolverines when they came to Memorial Stadium in 1940.



Bruce Smith, above and in the Heisman pose at right, in 1941.

had been in that hunt since 1936. Michigan was also undefeated and aiming for that same title. Michigan had been Minnesota's leading competitor for Big Ten championships since the birth of the conference. For 37 years, the schools had also maintained a traditional side-bet over the Little Brown Jug, considered the oldest trophy in college football history.

Though the Wolverines had a number of down years in the early 1930s, they were now rejuvenated under coach Herbert "Fritz" Crisler. To build the drama, Crisler had previously held the head job at the University of Minnesota. In fact, he had preceded Bierman, and been let go in a cloud of controversy, essentially because he hadn't been successful enough to satisfy rabid Gopher fans. Now Crisler was back in Minneapolis with a powerful team led by the best football player in the nation: senior tailback Tom Harmon.

The most acclaimed Gopher that day was not Bruce Smith but the other halfback on the team, speedy senior George

BY TIM BRADY



“Sonny” Franck. If Harmon had any rival for the Heisman, awarded to the nation’s most outstanding college football player of the year, it was Franck. Smith was hardly an unknown commodity but was not yet considered of Franck’s caliber.

Still, with his wavy blond hair and dimpled grin, Bruce Smith cut an awfully handsome figure and had a pretty good backstory of his own. His father, Lucius Smith (J.D. ’12), a Faribault attorney, had played end for “Doc” Henry Williams in 1910 and 1911, and though he would later deny the story, it became part of the legend that the only touchdown scored in the 1910 Little Brown Jug game was made by Michigan and had come around Lucius Smith’s end. It was said that Smith père vowed then and there, that if he ever had a Smith fils, that son would play Minnesota football and exact the old man’s revenge on the Wolverines.



Lucius Smith (J.D. '12), father of Bruce Smith, played Gopher football from 1910 to '11. He's pictured in the 1912 Gopher annual.

Smith had started for the Gophers as a sophomore and was having a fine second varsity season as a triple-threat halfback; Smith could run, pass, and kick—all necessities for a quality back in the days of the single-wing offense.

But eyes were not yet glued on him the way they were on Harmon and Franck.

Regardless of whether there was any truth to the story, Lucius Smith raised a good candidate for beating up on Michigan. Bruce Smith was a natural athlete who won four letters each in football, basketball, and golf at Faribault Senior High. He arrived at the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1938, played well on the freshman team, won the starting left halfback position as a sophomore, and kept it as a junior, which is where he was ensconced for the game against Michigan.

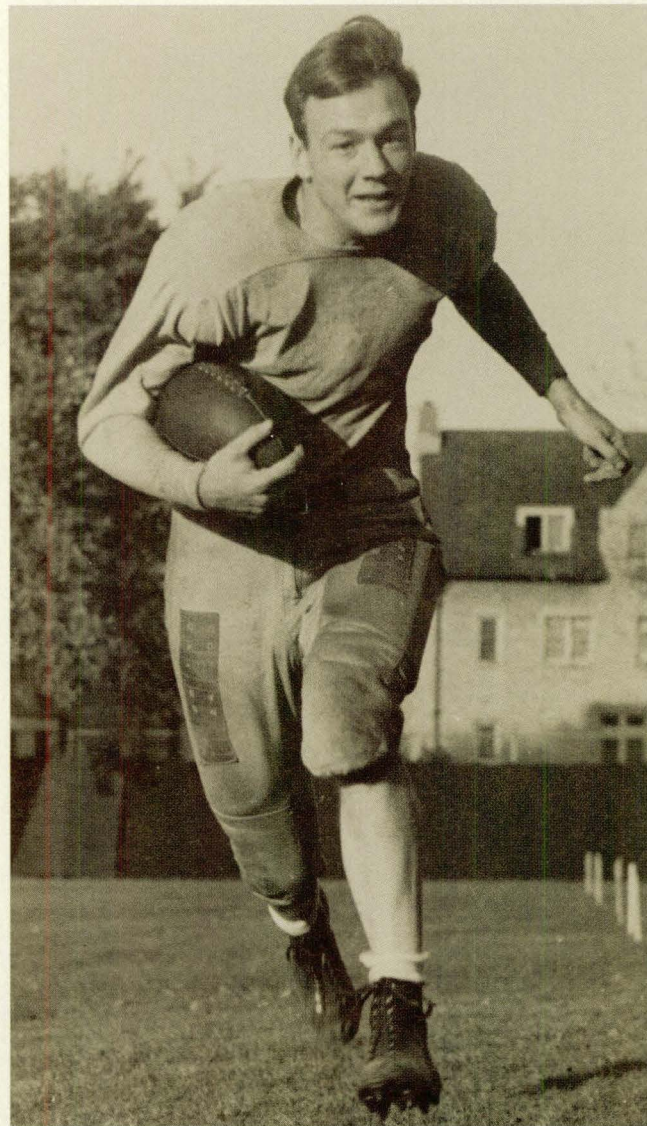
The kickoff featured its two stars—Harmon booting to Franck near the goal line. Franck returned the ball about 40 yards, but nothing much happened afterwards, not just in that initial drive, but through the rest of the first quarter. It was back-and-forth football, primarily played in the rain-soaked center of the field, with neither of the teams, or their stars, wowing the record crowd. The quarter ended, however, with Michigan threatening on Minnesota’s three-yard line.

It was the first of three inside-the-10 opportunities for the Wolverines in the second quarter. Minnesota’s stellar defense held on the first and last of these occasions; but in between, Harmon threw a seven-yard scoring strike to another Michigan all-American, Forest Evashevski. The extra point failed, and Michigan held a 6-0 lead as the first half neared an end and the saturated field grew sloppier.

After the touchdown, Minnesota once again went nowhere and Michigan once again moved down the field. Then the Gophers intercepted an errant Michigan pass in the end zone and took possession of the ball on their own 20-yard line. Just a couple of minutes remained in the first half when Smith’s number was called in the Minnesota huddle. Franck would

get the snap and head right with another back in front of him. Smith, playing the wingback position just beyond the right side of the line, would head in the opposite direction, to his left, and receive a handoff from Franck. Smith would then head around left end with good luck and Godspeed.

Single-wing offenses relied heavily on reverses and ball trickery to gain yardage on running plays. Any of four backs could handle the football and multiple exchanges in the back-



Gopher halfback George Franck was a contender for the 1940 Heisman Trophy, which went to Michigan’s Tom Harmon.

field were common. Viewing old film footage of the handoffs, pitches, and shifting, back-and-forth movements of a single-wing offense is like watching a fire drill in which only the leather helmets seem to know what’s going on.

So it was with this play. By the time Tom Harmon and the Michigan defenders realized that Bruce Smith was carrying the ball around left end, not George Franck heading right, Smith was already into the secondary with his shoulders squared and a bead on the goal line. He needed to beat Harmon, Evashevski, and a couple of others, but with a juke here, some good blocking there, and a long sprint to the end zone, Bruce Smith had

completed the most important touchdown run in Gopher football history. Eighty yards to pay dirt.

The extra point was good. Minnesota took a 7-6 lead into the locker room, and by the time the teams came out for the second half, it was like they were playing in a Rangoon monsoon. Michigan got deep into Minnesota territory one more time, where they were once again stopped, and that was that. The game ended as had the first half, 7-6 Minnesota, though now a lot more mud covered players on both sides of the field.

Minnesota would finish the season undefeated at 8-0, owner of both the Little Brown Jug and the Gophers' fourth National Championship under Bernie Bierman. Michigan's sole loss that season was that one-point defeat in Minneapolis. Its consolation prize, Tom Harmon's 1940 Heisman Trophy, was not much consolation at all.

As for Bruce Smith, the glare of the national college football spotlight was suddenly shining on him. With both Harmon and Franck graduating and that brilliant 80-yard run a warm memory, Smith entered his senior year at Minnesota as the Big Ten's premier player and a leading candidate for the 1941 Heisman. "Bruce Smith of Minnesota will be the back of the year," reported the *Saturday Evening Post* in a preview of the 1941 college football season that was echoed in a number of publications. "He weighs 200 pounds, can kick, pass, run hard and deceptively, and on any kind of field."

Not only that, Smith had a widely acknowledged mod-

esty that was so pronounced that the *Minnesota Daily* actually retained the "gee's" and "gosh's" from his speech. "I got a big kick out of making that touchdown run against Michigan," Smith is quoted as saying on the occasion of being voted senior captain of the team, "but gee . . . this is absolutely the biggest thrill of my life."

It wasn't as if Smith didn't have to show up for his last year as a Gopher to win all-American honors, but he did seem to have a leg up on the competition. Statistically speaking, his senior year was less impressive than his junior; he gained fewer yards rushing and actually missed all or most of three games due to injury. But he was a stellar performer nonetheless. The Gophers again went 8-0 and were once again crowned national champions. No one in Minnesota was surprised to hear that Bruce Smith had been voted winner of the 1941 Heisman Trophy.

Momentous days in Smith's football life tended to coincide with events of historical significance. The Michigan game had been played as a prelude to the Armistice Day Blizzard; Smith received his Heisman Trophy in New York City on December 9, 1941—two days after the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor.

With Smith in New York were his father and coach Bierman. After thanking them and his teammates, the small-town hero assured his audience that: "In the Far East they may think Americans are soft, but I have plenty of evidence in black and



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blue to prove otherwise. I think that in this emergency the value of football to a nation will be demonstrated."

It is doubtful that many members of the "greatest generation" listened to that pronouncement with any question of its basic truth. This was an era when college football heroes epitomized all-American values, both on and off the field—a fact that Hollywood well understood. Just a few months after Smith received his Heisman, Columbia Pictures announced that his life story would be dramatized in a 1942 film titled *Smith of Minnesota*.

(It wasn't the first or last time in these years that the motion-picture industry plucked a college football star from the playing fields and set him down on a studio lot. In fact, Tom Harmon had just starred in his own feature, perhaps not surprisingly, called *Harmon of Michigan*, which was then playing in theaters across the country.)

In *Smith of Minnesota*, the movie's namesake was the centerpiece of the movie, but not exactly its star. That would be an actor named Warren Ashe, who played a Hollywood scenarist sent off to Faribault, Minnesota, to write a script based on the exploits of football hero Bruce Smith, who played himself. The writer is cynical about the all-American qualities Smith is supposed to possess, but in the end, he's won over by the town's admiration for its favorite son and, of course, by Smith.

Anyone interested in viewing *Smith of Minnesota* will have a hard time finding a copy. This is not the sort of biopic on anyone's must-be-preserved list. By the time it premiered in Minnesota in September 1942, Smith himself was in Chicago, enlisted as a flier in the U.S. Navy. *Smith of Minnesota* represented the first and last of his film credits.

Smith spent three years in the Navy, some of that time as a football player for the Great Lakes Naval Station in Chicago and then for St. Mary's Flight School in California. After the war, Bruce Smith played three years of pro ball with the Green Bay Packers and Los Angeles Rams, but injuries—and the fact that the Packers played him only as a defensive back—prevented Smith from reaching his full potential as a professional.

Smith married Gloria Bardeau, a fashion model from Phil-

Where Is Smith's Heisman Trophy?

In December 2005, the Smith family sold Bruce Smith's Heisman Trophy and other mementoes from his playing days as a Gopher to a collector in Los Angeles. The proceeds, around \$400,000, according to the *Los Angeles Times*, will help support Smith's widow, Gloria, for the remainder of her life. Smith's Heisman Trophy is on display at Cypres Sports Museum in downtown Los Angeles.



Smith tackles Wolverine Tom Harmon in the 1940 game at Minnesota. Harmon won the Heisman Trophy that year.

delphia he met while in the service, and they had four children. In the 1950s, he opened a sporting goods store with a partner in Northfield, Minnesota, and he subsequently worked in sales for a clothing store in Faribault and for a beer distributor in Alexandria, Minnesota. By 1967, Smith was fatally ill with cancer and died in August of that year at the age of 47.

There were a couple more accolades left to come for Smith of Minnesota. In 1972, he was voted into the College Football Hall of Fame. Bernie Bierman said at the time that "Bruce Smith was the most complete ball player I ever saw or coached." And his number, 54, was the first to be retired by the Gophers, in 1977.

High praise indeed, but really nothing compared to that offered to Smith in 1978 by a Paulist priest named Father William Cantwell when he proposed that Bruce Smith be recognized as a saint by the Catholic Church.

Smith had been devout his entire life, praying before and after games and once declaring to his father "that every man should spend at least an hour a day with God." Cantwell had known Smith only in his last few months, when he was physically wasting away. Despite his ailments, Smith made hospital rounds with Cantwell, visiting and comforting dying young cancer patients. Cantwell told the National Catholic News Service that "because he lived a life of heroic virtue and because of the way he died," Smith deserved to be canonized.

Achieving sainthood is a process longer and more serious than, say, Warren Ashe's efforts at checking into the character of a college football hero from Faribault, à la *Smith of Minnesota*. In fact, according to a recent report in the *Star Tribune*, the canonization campaign is ongoing, having been taken up by another Paulist priest, the Rev. Michael Martin, 30 years after it began with Cantwell.

Regardless of the outcome, it's plain to see that Bruce Smith set a high bar for the next Minnesota Gopher who wins the Heisman. ■

Tim Brady is a St. Paul-based freelance writer and frequent contributor to Minnesota.



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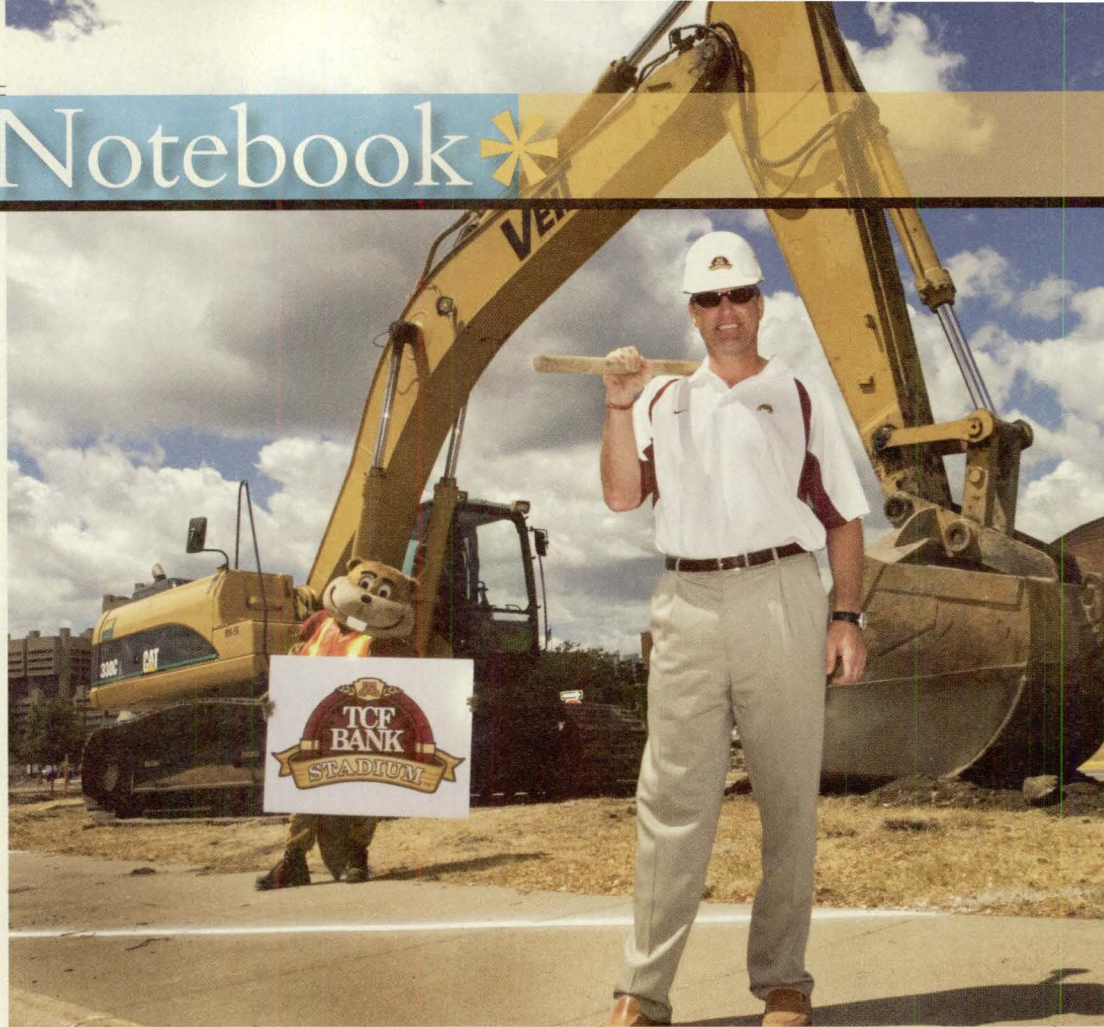
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Sports Notebook

Gopher sports news and notes

It might have looked like an ordinary backhoe taking a bite out of the ground, but Gopher football coach Tim Brewster saw something else when the first scoop of earth was removed from the site of the new on campus football stadium on July 11. "That's our first first down in TCF Bank Stadium," he quipped. University officials were joined by representatives of TCF Bank and construction company M.A. Mortenson Company for the groundbreaking, which featured the unveiling of the TCF Bank Stadium logo. The construction timeline calls for the installation of 2,100 steel pipe piles through October, with the first of 8,000 tons of structural steel scheduled to be erected in January 2008. The stadium is scheduled for completion by fall 2009.



The Big Ten Network officially launched on August 30 with a preview of the football season on *Big Ten Tonight*, its nightly studio show, and the premiere of the network's classic games broadcast, *The Big Ten's Greatest Games*. That program rebroadcasts selected football games from the past decade, including Minnesota's 1999 upset victory over undefeated Penn State. The new cable and satellite network will televise 35 Big Ten football games this season, led by veteran sportscasters Thom Brennaman and Wayne Larrivee. Former Gopher football coach Glen Mason will be one of the network's game-day analysts. The new cable and satellite television network, which is dedicated exclusively to Big Ten conference athletic and campus programming, has formed agreements with more than 75 cable and satellite providers. For information and to check availability in your area, visit www.bigtennetwork.com.

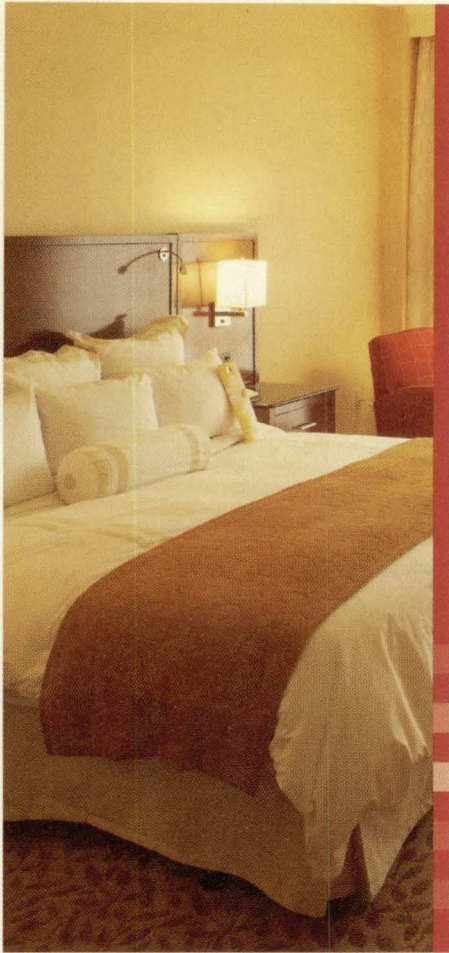
Gopher football head coach Tim Brewster dismissed four players from the team in mid-July for violations of both team and University of Minnesota student athlete code of conduct regulations. "We are establishing a culture of integrity and we will demand that our players are held accountable for their actions," Brewster said. Junior defensive back Dominic Jones, junior defensive end Alex Daniels, sophomore defensive back Keith Massey, and sophomore running back E.J. Jones had since April been the subjects of an ongoing criminal investigation for sexual assault. Brewster's decision to kick them off the team came after new evidence surfaced that led to sexual assault charges being filed against Dominic Jones.

Former Gopher basketball player Quincy Lewis (B.S. '04) has established the Quincy L. Lewis Scholarship, a permanent fund at the University of Minnesota that will award at least one scholarship per year to students of color who are enrolled in natural resources and environmental studies, his major. Lewis, 30, played for Minnesota from 1995 to 1999. He was selected 19th overall in the National Basketball Association draft in 1999 and played several seasons for the Utah Jazz, Minnesota Timberwolves, and several European teams. During his off-seasons, Lewis returned to the U to take classes and earned his degree in 2004.

In funding a scholarship, Lewis said he wanted to show the same level of compassion and patience he received when he was a student athlete. His contribution qualifies for the University of Minnesota Foundation's President's Scholarship match, which doubles the impact of Lewis's gift.

Emily Fox became the third Gopher in Minnesota women's basketball history to represent the United States in the Pan American Games. The others are Lindsay Whalen and Janel McCarville. The United States came home with a gold medal after defeating Brazil in July.

The Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation will name its research center in honor of legendary Gopher athlete and former athletics director Paul Giel (B.A. '55). Giel was vice president of public affairs for the foundation before he died of heart disease in 2002 at age 69. —*Cynthia Scott*



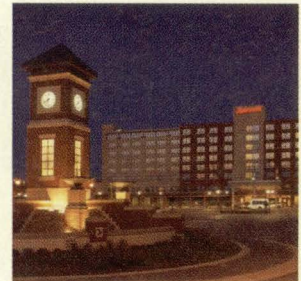
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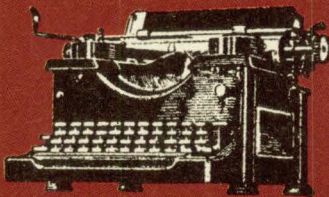


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Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our ninth-annual fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni and students

How to enter:

- Submit a double-spaced, typed manuscript, 3,000 words or fewer. Submissions must not have been previously published. Past winners of this contest must wait two years before entering again. Poetry, children's stories, plays, and screenplays are not eligible.
- Include a cover sheet that bears your name, year of graduation (or years of attending the University), day and evening phone numbers, address, story title, and word count of the manuscript. To ensure anonymity, please do not put your name on the manuscript itself. Manuscripts will not be returned.
- The winner will receive \$1,500, and the winning story will be published in the March-April 2008 issue of Minnesota magazine and on the magazine's Web site. The author of the winning entry will be notified in early January but won't be announced until publication. The editors reserve the right not to name a winner.

Submissions must be postmarked by December 3, 2007. Send to:

Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest, U of M Alumni Association, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040.

Who Wants to Be a Rock Star?

Laurie Lindeen and I have similar backgrounds—having sung in the school choir, grown up memorizing musical soundtracks, and, in our 20s, liked going to punk-rock clubs. So how is it that she wound up playing guitar onstage while I was destined to remain in the dancing throngs below?

Lindeen (B.A. '90, M.F.A. '04) got to be a rock star simply because she decided to become one, she reveals in *Petal Pusher: A Rock and Roll Cinderella Story*. Imagining herself and her two best friends enjoying “our choice of the cream of the opposite sex and the protection and admiration of our peers,” she wasn’t worried that she didn’t actually know how to play an instrument. Nor was Lindeen, then a 24-year-old college dropout from Madison, Wisconsin, deterred by her recent diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. She became the front woman for Zuzu’s Petals, a Minneapolis female trio that put out two albums and toured cross-country and internationally in the late 1980s and early '90s, when the city was a nationally recognized indie-rock hotbed.

So Lindeen had chutzpah, not to mention a flair for assembling cool thrift-store outfits and attracting stellar connections.

Her friends included some of the city’s most prominent musicians—notably members of the Replacements, Soul Asylum, and the Jayhawks, three Minneapolis bands that were then just becoming nationally popular, musically influential, and critically revered. Lindeen is now married to singer, songwriter, and former Replacement Paul Westerberg.

But the life of a small-time rock star is not as glamorous as Lindeen had expected. Moments of triumph and exhilaration are interspersed with gigs where everything goes wrong. There are practice sessions in dank basements, practice sessions in a boxcar surrounded by vaguely threatening hobos. Rude promoters, skimpy audiences, low pay. Cross-country drives in treacherous weather. Nights sleeping in shared rooms in cheap hotels, on dingy mattresses in party houses, in their van parked in a sinister truck-stop parking lot. Scruffy apartments and dead-end day jobs. Rivalry among bandmates. A bust in Ohio for a minute amount of marijuana. A scathing review in a local paper. Stage fright so intense that “every performance is executed in an altered state akin to a blackout.”

Hmm. Maybe I’m glad to have stayed among those dancing throngs.

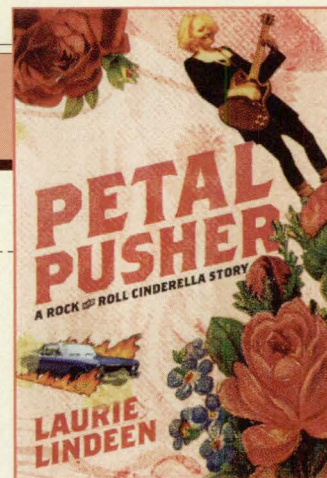
“I guess this is what happens when you’re on the road non-stop—you’re a commodity, an hour rental per night, revealing shreds of your soul under the beer lights, spending the other twenty-three hours of the day on the highway, on a lumpy motel bed, in Denny’s, in a bar,” she writes. “It’s every kid’s dream, and it’s a hard gritty life.”

But living it vicariously through Lindeen’s account is fun. She is blunt, candid, bawdy, and funny, reeling off anecdotes and wisecracks at a pace befitting those whirlwind times. Her attitude swings from swaggering to self-mocking and back again. Of a Western-themed bar she writes, “I’ve always found that kitsch helps when seeking refuge in a dark Wisconsin bar; it reminds you to be a cheerful, ironic drunk.”

Even her happily-ever-after with Westerberg evokes a few wry comments, as when one stranger asks, “What’s it like going out with God?” Or when she enters the office of a female record company exec and confronts a giant portrait of Westerberg on the wall. “It’s so weird to feel like you’re namedropping when you’re talking about your own boyfriend,” she writes.

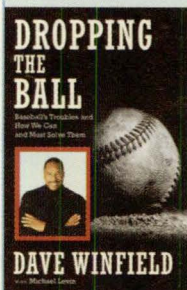
Lindeen’s approach is so warts-and-all—in some parts, it’s more warts than anything else—that it never feels like name-dropping. It just feels honest.

—Katy Read



Petal Pusher:
A Rock and Roll
Cinderella Story
Atria Books, 2007
By Laurie Lindeen
(B.A. '90, M.F.A. '04)

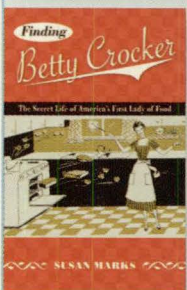
Bookmarks



Dropping the Ball: Baseball's Troubles and How We Can and Must Solve Them

By Dave Winfield
Scribner (2007)

Baseball is hurting, says former Gopher athlete and baseball Hall of Famer Dave Winfield. It's suffering from steroid scandals, a decline in African American players, labor conflicts, and more. But Winfield believes the game he loves can be rescued from self-destruction and spells out a strategy saving it, focusing on how to make the game fan-friendly, reach out to the African American community, and diversify front offices.



Finding Betty Crocker: The Secret Life of America's First Lady of Food

By Susan Marks (B.A. '96, M.S. '01)
University of Minnesota Press (2007)

Created more than 85 years ago, Betty Crocker has remained young and relevant to generations of homemakers. Susan Marks offers an entertaining and informative history of this cultural icon, including her original role as the public face of the Washburn Crosby Company home service department, her career as a local radio personality, and her life as a happy, frugal homemaker.

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Alumni Profile

Healing Traditional Medicine

Connie Grauds (B.S. '69) was a registered pharmacist for more than 30 years, but now she dispenses spiritual medicine instead of pills. Grauds is a shamana, a practitioner who uses ancient healing traditions and natural pharmaceuticals to treat disease.

"I truly believed that, as a pharmacist, I was going to stamp out diseases and save lives one pill at a time," Grauds says. "So I happily filled and filled and refilled prescriptions until I suddenly asked myself, 'If the magic bullet called pharmaceuticals could cure everything, then why was the same woman coming back with two prescriptions for her high blood pressure instead of one, and why were the lobbies of the pharmacies getting more crowded?' I began to think that there must be more to the healing equation—that, in addition to the wonders of modern pharmaceuticals and the marvels of surgical techniques, there must be a missing piece."

Then, in 1994, Grauds saw an advertisement in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* for a continuing education trip to the Amazon jungle in Peru to study ancient healing traditions and natural pharmaceuticals. "In amongst the ads for Merck and Pfizer and Glaxo was this little ad that led to the pivotal, life-changing event of my life," Graud says. It turned out that she would experience a shaman's healing touch firsthand. On her first trip to Peru, the shaman told her that she had a blockage in her throat. Eighteen months later, she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. After surgery to remove the cancer, Grauds returned to Peru for shamanic healing of her spirit. She remains cancer-free.

Grauds has returned to the Amazon 13 times in as many years, studied and served an apprenticeship with her shaman, and is now a shamana who uses her own healing energy to write books (including *Jungle Medicine* and *The Energy Prescription*), teach courses, and give inspirational talks. She is founder of the Center for Spirited Medicine, president of the Association of Natural Medicine Pharmacists, and director of the Spirited Medicine Alliance.


"I no longer dispense pills in a bottle," Grauds says, "but I inspire people. Everything has an innate spirit. Our Western culture uses the term to describe someone who is high-spirited or whose spirits are low. But we haven't incorporated the life-giving spirits from the natural world into the Western healing process. I affirm the value of Western medicine, and I hope that these two seemingly incompatible healing traditions—one ancient and one modern—can meet and form a union more whole and more powerful than their separate parts."




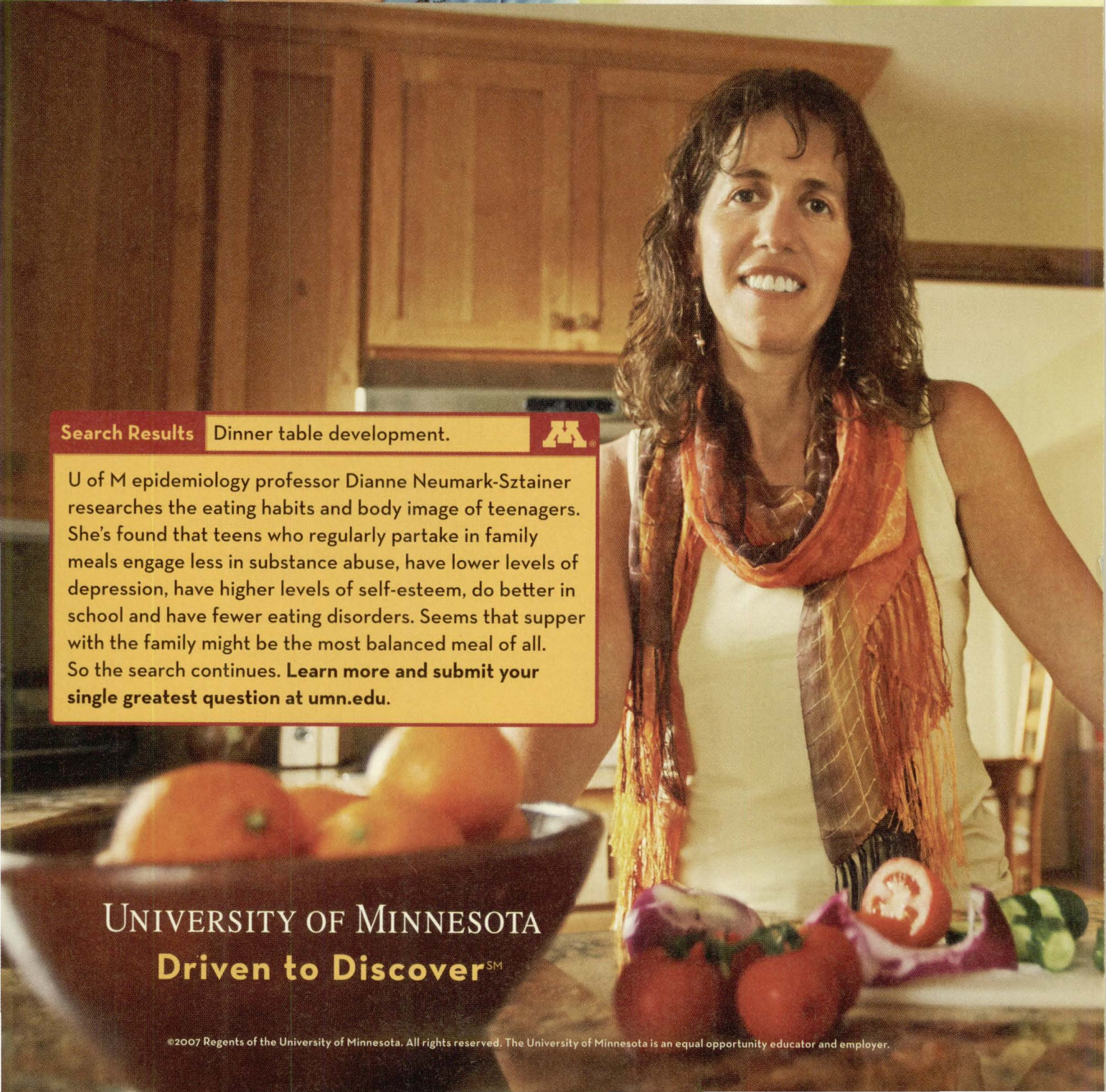
That hope has begun to become a reality for Grauds. She has designed and teaches in the nation's first two-year degree program in herbalism at the Minneapolis Community and Technical College and teaches a course on global healing traditions at the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality and Healing. The center also sponsors scientific research on complementary, alternative, and culturally based healing practices.


"Our culture is changing," Grauds says. "Nurses and physicians are beginning to embrace the concept of spirituality as it relates to medicine. It is good to know that the University of Minnesota understands the value of integrated care by offering both healing traditions under one roof."

—Evelyn Cottle Raedler



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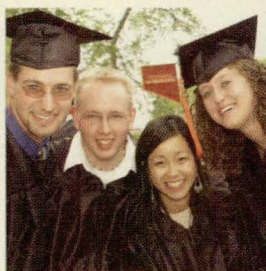
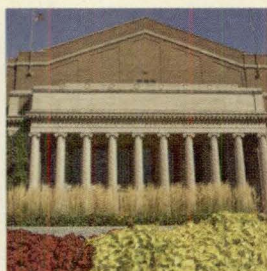
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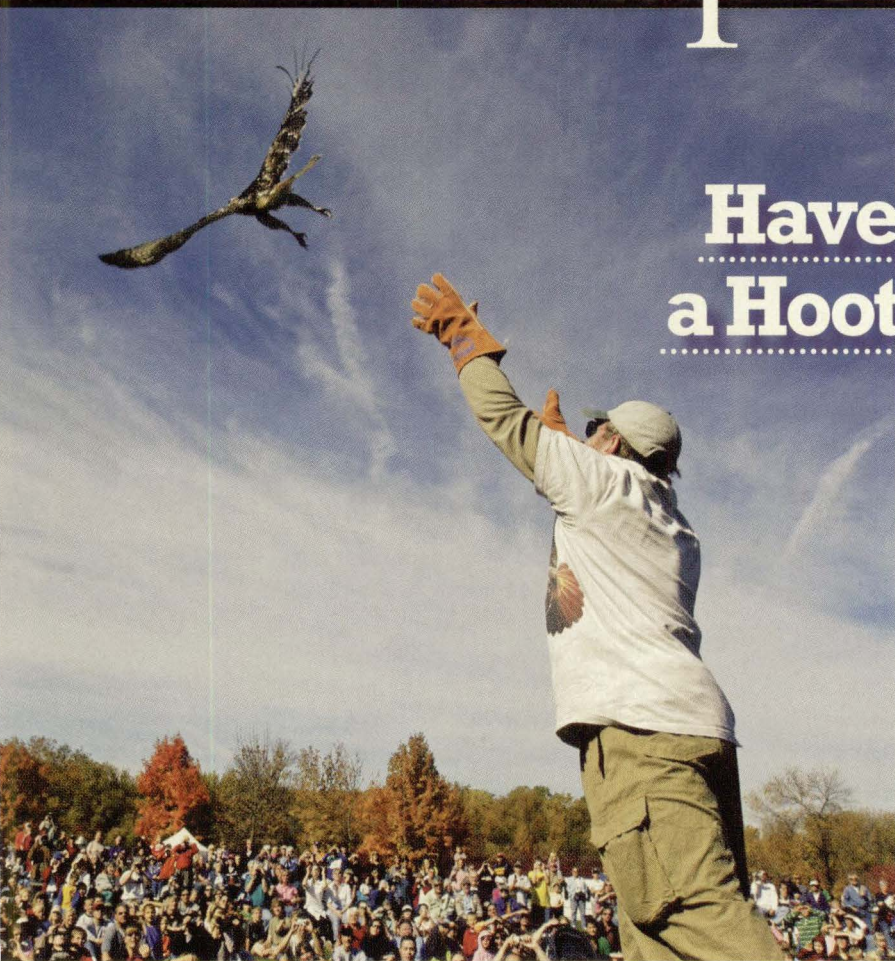
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Report



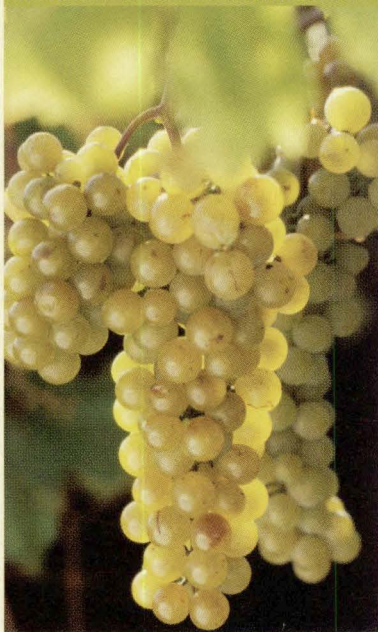
Have a Hoot

UMMA members enjoy discounts at the Raptor Center at the College of Veterinary Medicine, a unique organization dedicated to the medical care, rehabilitation, conservation, and study of eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls. On September 29, the Raptor Center will hold its fall raptor release from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve in Rockford, Minnesota (30 miles west of Minneapolis). The public is invited to watch as rehabilitated birds are returned to the wild. The free event includes music, children's activities, and educational displays.

On September 19, a three-session senior learning series at the Raptor Center on the St. Paul campus begins with "Introduction to Raptors." Other sessions, covering falcons and falconry and raptors and the environment, take place on October 17 and November 14.

The Raptor Center offers many other year-round programs, including hatchday (birthday) parties for up to 30 kids. The parties are a great way to have fun while learning about raptors and also supporting the Raptor Center. Numerous volunteer opportunities are also available. For more information, visit www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu.

Minnesota Wine, Naturally



Trunks of the La Crescent wine grape have survived temperatures of -36 degrees Fahrenheit.

Minnesota's emerging commercial winemaking industry has a story to tell, and the Bell Museum of Natural History is helping tell it. "The Natural History of Minnesota Wine," an evening featuring Jim Luby, professor of horticultural sciences at the University of Minnesota, will showcase the history and flavors of Minnesota viticulture and wine-making.

The history of the state's increasingly competitive wine-making industry is intimately connected to the University: Luby's team of researchers is credited with developing many of the cold-hardy, hybrid grapes used in Minnesota wines (see "Grape Expectations" in the March-April 2006 issue of *Minnesota* magazine, www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota). Following Luby's talk, participants will have the opportunity to handle Minnesota grown wine grapes and try out some of the best Minnesota varietals at a wine and cheese reception.

The reception will feature tasting pours of award-winning wines using the University's Frontenac, Frontenac Gris, and La Crescent grapes. Cheeses will be handcrafted by student cheese makers in the University's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources Sciences. The event takes place September 29 at 7 p.m. at the Bell Museum of Natural History on the East Bank. Admission for UMAA members is \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door; general public admission is \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Bell annual fund. For more information, visit www.bellmuseum.org or call 612-624-7083.

RAPTOR PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT;
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The UMAA Group Travel Program welcomes all alumni, their families, and friends. With a commitment to lifelong learning, the UMAA offers trips with numerous opportunities to expand your knowledge. At least one expert will travel with the majority of our groups, lecturing on the sights, culture, and history of the area.

In the Wake of Lewis and Clark
November 1-11

Dynamic Beijing
November 7-14

Cruising the Canary Islands
November 7-15

Sicily
November 10-21

Bavarian Markets Discovery
December 9-17

Expedition to Antarctica
January 12-25

Amazon River Journey
February 1-10

Colonial Mexico
February 2-9

For more information on these and other trips, call Christine Howard at 612-625-9427 or visit www.alumni.umn.edu/travel.



Lisa Gidlow-Moriarty, a featured speaker at the Arboretum's workshop, created the alyssum (left) and prairie (below) labyrinths.

Learn about Labyrinths

Two UMAA member benefit partners will host a daylong workshop that explores the role of labyrinths in healing. "Using Labyrinths in Health and Healing" explores this age-old, universal symbol of wholeness and unity. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the Center for Spirituality and Healing will co-sponsor the event, which takes place October 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska. The day's featured speakers are Jeff Seward and Kimberly Lowelle-Seward of Essex, England, world-renowned experts on labyrinths, and Lisa Gidlow-Moriarty of Stillwater, a labyrinth artist and designer. A \$125 fee includes morning and afternoon presentations and lunch. Call 612-624-9459 to register, or visit www.csb.umn.edu.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY LISA GIDLOW-MORIARTY



UMAA Hits Membership Record

The UMAA reached a milestone during the summer, when membership hit an all-time high of 62,000. That includes more than 13,000 life members, also an all-time high. Hats off to all of our members who help make the University great. For information on renewing your membership in the UMAA or on what it means to be a life member, visit www.alumni.umn.edu.

Take Another Look at the U

It's an amazing honor to serve as president of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. But if you would have told me as a student that I would be in this position someday, I would have been stunned—and my friends would have laughed. When I graduated in 1972, I had no idea how much influence the University ultimately would have on my life.

I started at the University in 1968—at the height of the Vietnam War and a confusing time to come of age. Protests on campus sometimes shut down school and canceled games. While I spent half my day in class and witnessing the turmoil on campus, I spent the other half working as a produce manager for a Country Club Market (in those days it was possible to work your way through school).

I lived at home with my parents in St. Paul and carpooled to campus with my friends. We'd park the car and go to the lounge in the Newman Center until it was time for class. My introductory classes were held in front of big TV monitors in large auditoriums; I don't remember meeting a professor until I was a junior. My friends and I had some great times at the U, but we weren't involved in many clubs or activities.

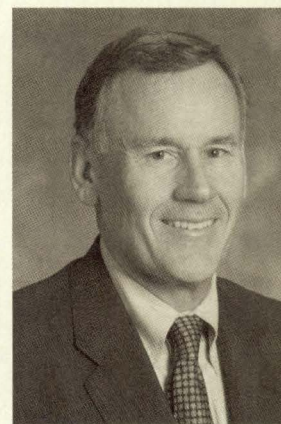
When I finally did become involved in a program at the U, it was near the end of my senior year. I was walking across the Washington Avenue Bridge and saw a flyer for an internship at the University YMCA, an organization that had been on campus for more than 100 years helping students develop ethical leadership skills. I went straight to the U-YMCA office, filled out an application, and was chosen for the internship. It was through the U-YMCA that I met Larry Laukka (B.A. '58), CEO of Shelter Homes, the company sponsoring the internship. Larry became a lifelong mentor and friend, and the internship helped me secure my first job out of college with the parent company of Shelter Homes. Three years later, I started my own real estate company, the LaSalle Group.

It was Larry who brought me back to the University in the early 1990s, when the alumni association was looking for a permanent home on campus. Larry, a longtime volunteer with the alumni association and one of the key figures in building the McNamara Alumni Center, asked me to get involved. That led to my company becoming an owners' representative for a number of projects at the University, including the alumni center, Gateway Plaza, Alumni Wall of Honor, Scholars Walk, Wall of Discovery, and Regents Plaza.

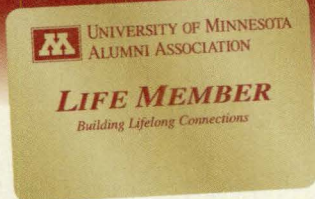
When the McNamara Alumni Center was completed, I was asked to join the alumni association's national board. I was also asked to become chairman of the University Gateway Corporation, a nonprofit corporation comprised of representatives from the alumni center's three owners: the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, University of Minnesota Foundation, and Minnesota Medical Foundation.

Working on these projects and joining the national board changed my entire viewpoint of the University. When I came to campus as an 18-year-old, I had an adolescent view of the U's significance. It was simply the place where I was taking classes when I wasn't at work. I look at the University in a new way now that I've been a part of projects that showcase the significant and unique achievements of University students, faculty, and alumni.

I believe it is crucial for alumni, especially those who had a student experience similar to mine, to take another look at the University and to consider how discoveries made at the U—from the retractable seatbelt to agricultural research that has dramatically reduced world hunger—have improved their lives and the lives of others around the world. ■



Tom LaSalle (B.A. '72)



**A special welcome to our
newest fully paid life members**

(reflects May 16 – July 15, 2007)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jeffrey A. Aleckson | Lisa E. Manzey Adelmann |
| Emily E. Andersen | Narinder K. Mehta |
| Ann B. Anderson | David G. Meineke |
| Bella A. Anderson | Pierre G. Meyer |
| Jack M. Anderson | Sharon Meyer |
| Steven G. Anderson | Thomas A. Mooney |
| Scott E. Augustine | Betsy Neff |
| Marsha D. Banovetz | Taylor E. Neff |
| Linda L. Bartling | Anita J. Nelson |
| Janell J. Beck | Claude J. Nelson |
| Mary J. Benner | John S. Nelson |
| Harvey A. Bernard | Brooke L. Nielsen |
| Debra L. Bieber | Melvin A. Niska |
| Andrew Blair | Stephen A. Nordgaard |
| Alden M. Booren | Gloria M. Nordin |
| Ann S. Booren | Richard E. Nordin |
| Kathryn M. Borman | Evelyn B. Nordstrom |
| Franklin C. Bradshaw | Alexander W. Obornolte |
| Oleksa P. Breslawec | Lisa L. O'Brien |
| David E. Carlson | Donald J. Olsen |
| George H. Carlson | Kristin A. Olsen |
| James R. Carlson | Reno L. Parker |
| Lois A. Carlson | Michael J. Perpich |
| Ryan T. Carlson | Tracy L. Peterson |
| Elizabeth L. Charbonneau | Willard D. Philipson |
| David A. Christesen | Deborah L. Pierson |
| Katherine A. Christesen | Warren F. Plunkett |
| Dennis J. Cronin | Sonja K. Quale |
| Phyllis E. Crouse | Malempati M. Rao |
| Gordon L. Davis | Bobby L. Renfro |
| Eunice A. Davis | Richard J. Renk |
| Theresa R. Deblieck | G. James Rockwell |
| David C. DeGree | Jackie L. K. Ross |
| Susan E. Detmer | James R. Rush |
| Paul B. Diers | Marlene L. Rutman |
| Laura M. Eng | Roland B. Saeger |
| Robert E. Eng | Paul L. Schroeder |
| Mark G. Fagan | Michael R. Senta |
| Priscilla L. Faris | Robert K. Severson |
| Wayne G. Faris | Diane K. Smith |
| Carole A. Gesme | Daniel W. Soiseth |
| Lisa J. Go | Ronald D. Sommers |
| Robert C. Hauck | Jane I. Spack |
| Donald J. Haugen | Michael P. Spack |
| Timothy M. Heaney | Robert V. St. Louis |
| Matthew Heimermann | Wendy L. St. Peter |
| Jonathan L. Herlocker | John V. St. Peter |
| Tami J. Herlocker | Steven K. Stegemeyer |
| Linda K. Hofflander | James D. Swenson |
| Michael T. Hofflander | Hal H. Tearse |
| Jeffrey P. Hovis | Brian Teng |
| Gareth A. Hughes | Matthew P. Terry |
| Karis M. H. Hughes | S. Eric Thomas |
| Roberta J. Hunt | Michael L. Trettel |
| G. Phillip Johnson | Keith S. Trnka |
| LaVohn E. Josten | Brandon L. Ulstad |
| Sandra K. Keith | Robert M. Valente |
| Paul G. Koziol | Anthony J. Vennard |
| Patricia A. Krinke | Joseph S. Villa |
| Thomas L. Krinke | Brian M. Welkle |
| Amy C. Kroll | Justin A. Williams |
| Ryan M. Kroll | Debra K. Zeller |
| Erin L. Krueger | Steven P. Zeller |
| Thomas M. Kucera | Cheryl Zosel |
| Adam C. Lyche | Thomas W. Zosel |

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The Iceland Connection

University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree to Iceland Prime Minister Geir Haarde (M.A. '77) in Reykjavik last spring. Haarde's University degree is in economics. Bruininks led a delegation of health sciences deans and representatives to renew the U's 25-year-old cooperative agreement with the University of Iceland, the first in that country's history. The expanded agreement provides U of M students and faculty with new opportunities for education and research at the University of Iceland.



University President Bob Bruininks (left) and Iceland Prime Minister Geir Haarde.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Members of the UMAA are entitled to a discount on membership in the Campus Club, a members-only restaurant and bar located on the fourth floor of Coffman Union. The annual cost is \$260 for members who live in the 11-county metro area (regularly \$300) and \$189 for members who live outside the 11-county metro area. UMAA members are also eligible to receive a one-month trial membership. The Campus Club features fine dining and meeting and reception facilities and hosts special events, including Oktoberfest und Apfelfest on the Terrace, a scotch tasting, and a wine class. For more information, visit www.alumni.umn.edu/rewards.

UMAA
Happenings

**SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
SOCIETY**

North Dakota Dental
Association Annual Session
Breakfast

September 15 at 7 a.m. at
the Ramada Plaza Suite and
Conference Center in Fargo

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
ALUMNI SOCIETY**

Saturday Scholars

November 10 at 8:30 a.m.,
Coffman Memorial Union

ETIQUETTE DINNER

October 9, 5:30–8 p.m. at
McNamara Alumni Center

HOMECOMING

November 3. Gophers v. Illinois
at 7 p.m. at the Metrodome.
Parade and other activities
during the day.

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIETY**

CLA outing and taping of
"Access Minnesota" radio
program

October 7 at noon at the
Minnesota Landscape
Arboretum MacMillan
Auditorium

MEDICAL SCHOOL SOCIETY

Medical School reunion
weekend and awards banquet
September 28–29; details TBD

PARENTS WEEKEND

September 28–29, Twin Cities
campus

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ALUMNI SOCIETY**

Alumni and friends reception

November 5 at 6:30 p.m.
in the Capitol building in
Washington, D.C.

SUNCOAST CHAPTER

Lunch and tour of the
Biltmore Hotel

November 17 in Tampa,
Florida; details TBD

**UMAA VOLUNTEER AWARDS
AND VOLUNTEER SUMMIT**

October 30 at McNamara
Alumni Center

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Sat., October 13 – 8 p.m.

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Sat., October 20 – 8 p.m.

Musical Portraits from Heber Springs:
Bill Frisell's Disfarmer Project
Sat., October 27 – 7 & 9 p.m.

Koresh Dance Company
Tues., November 13 – 7:30 p.m.

Steven Bernstein's Millennial Territory Orchestra
Sat., December 1 – 7 & 9:30 p.m.



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When the Bridge Fell, the U Stepped Up

Life in Minnesota stopped August 1 when the Interstate 35W bridge over the Mississippi River collapsed during evening rush hour. The Mississippi River runs through the Minneapolis campus of the University of Minnesota, and the bridge brought thousands of U students, employees, alumni, and visitors to campus every day. It was one of Minnesota's busiest bridges, carrying 140,000 vehicles a day, including mine. The disaster shook us all, because any of us could have been on that bridge when it fell.

Many people pulled together to help during this crisis, and University staff and alumni have brought knowledge and resources to bear. Eleven University of Minnesota police and Minneapolis Fire Chief James Clack (A.A.S. '80 Crookston) were among the very first responders. The entire U of M Police Department was deployed in the days following the collapse, and four University of Minnesota–Duluth police officers came to assist, as did campus security monitors.

The University Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview, got the "Code Orange" at 6:14 p.m. and within minutes had an army of nurses and doctors lining the halls, waiting for patients. At least 40 victims were treated there. Students Josh Lee and Damon Canady were among the first civilians to reach the scene, jumping medians and carrying victims out of the wreckage. Other first responders included University medical students Nicole Kopari, Melissa Wayne, and Heather Nelson, who put on their surgical scrubs and helped assess injuries and treated about 10 victims.

Sociology associate professor Ross MacMillan ran to the site from his nearby apartment and began aiding the injured. Minnesota state senator Satveer Chaudhary (J.D. '95) crossed the bridge a few minutes before its collapse. He and his wife, Dee, returned with his boat to help with rescue efforts.

Critically injured victims were rushed to Hennepin County Medical Center, a Level 1 Trauma Center in downtown Minneapolis. Five members of the hospital's executive leadership team are alumni, including CEO Lynn Abrahamsen (M.H.A. '79) and medical director and chief medical officer Michael Belzer (M.D. '74).

The student reporters, editors, and photographers from the *Minnesota Daily* sprung into action to cover the event; one editor reportedly ran to the scene so quickly that she forgot to put on shoes. The pared-down summer staff produced a remarkable edition with smart analysis and perhaps the best, most personal photos that exist of the scene (www.mndaily.com/collapse).

Brian Pashina (B.S. '73) leads the Minneapolis unit of forensic engineering firm Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, which is conducting an official investigation of the bridge failure for the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

A recent University graduate developed, as part of his doctoral dissertation, a computer model that demonstrates failure



The collapsed Interstate 35W bridge over the Mississippi River as seen from the sixth floor of the University of Minnesota's West Bank Office Building. In the background are the 10th Avenue Bridge and buildings on the U's East Bank campus.

modes that this bridge could exhibit. The National Transportation Safety Board will use this model to help determine the reason for the bridge's failure.

Within a week after the collapse, Philip Thompson (B.S. '07), who works for a financial services company but is also a pianist and performer, composed *Final Ride Home*, a tribute to the victims of the tragedy (www.philtbompsonmusic.com). The proceeds from the sale of the single on iTunes will benefit the local Red Cross.

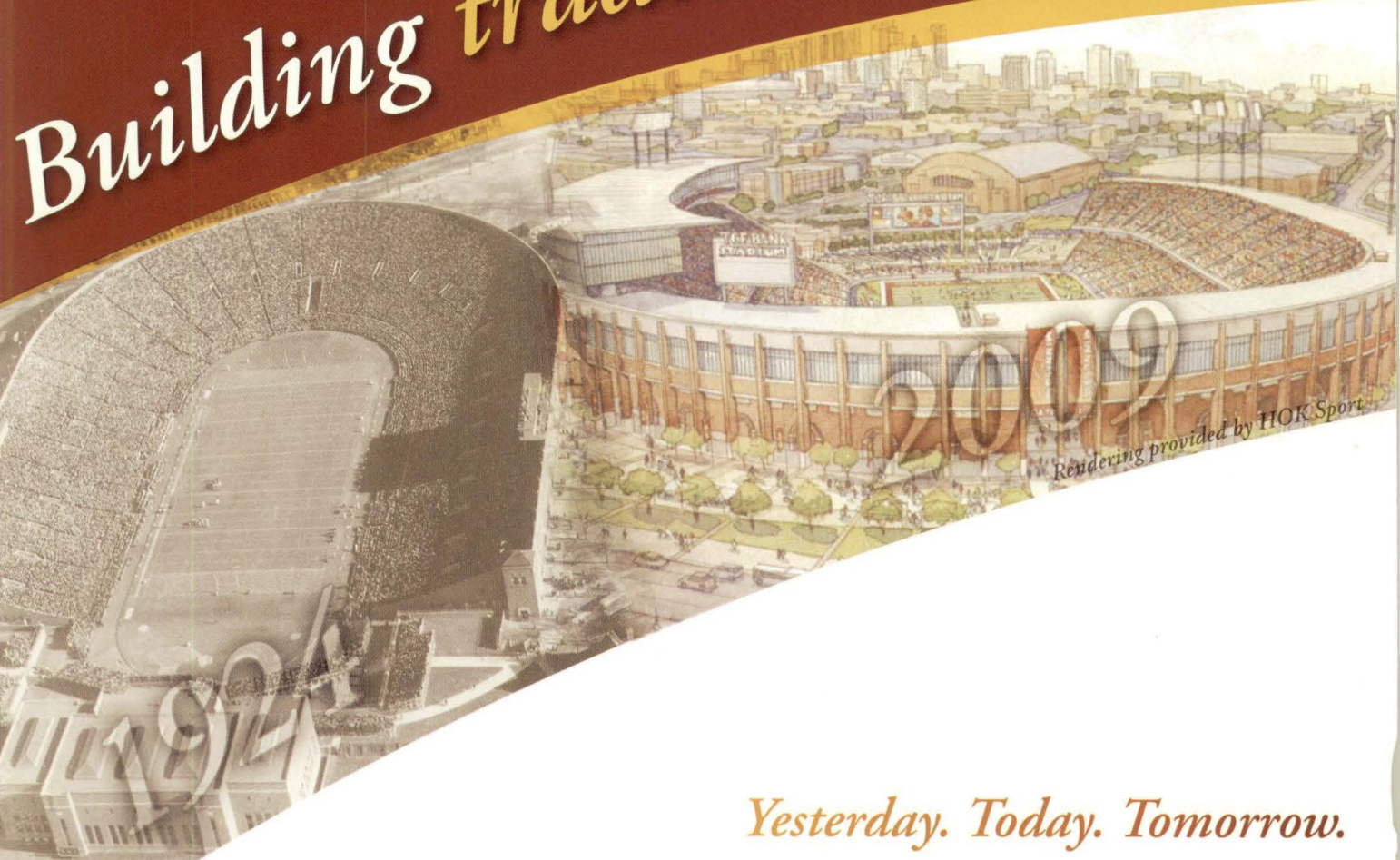
And Mac Baird (M.D. '75), a physician in the University of Minnesota Medical Center; Marti Erickson (M.A. '75, Ph.D. '84), a child development expert in the College of Education and Human Development; and Rose Allen, University of Minnesota Extension family relations educator, provided information to the media about such topics as how parents should talk to their children about the tragedy.

These examples of rescue, recovery, and research reflect the mission and greatness of the University of Minnesota. In the days following the tragedy, I heard from alumni and friends around the state and across the country and from as far away as Hong Kong expressing their condolences. The collapse of the bridge drew immense national and international media attention—no doubt in part because the mighty Mississippi is a natural landmark known worldwide. But also because it could have happened anywhere. In that respect, this disaster has shined a light on the condition of the nation's infrastructure. And that, perhaps, is the one silver lining around this dark cloud.

In the coming months and years, the University will continue to contribute expertise and research to help in the aftermath of this tragedy.

—Margaret Sughrue Carlson (Ph.D. '83)

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Mort Mortenson, Chairman and CEO of Mortenson Construction



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