

MINNESOTA

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2013

**The 21-Year Fight for
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**Books: A Mystery, a
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ON THE COVER: A detail from *The Birth of Venus*, by Sandro Botticelli, from © 2010 Haltadefinizione® Image Bank, courtesy of Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali. This page, clockwise from top: illustration by Jeffrey Smith; photograph by Eric Moore; photograph by Dan Marshall; illustration by Roman Muradov; photograph by Sher Stoneman

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Minnesota (ISSN 0164-9450) is published four
times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer)
by the University of Minnesota
Alumni Association for its members.

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University of Minnesota Alumni Association
McNamara Alumni Center
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fax 612-626-8167
www.MinnesotaAlumni.org

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Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota,
and additional mailing offices.

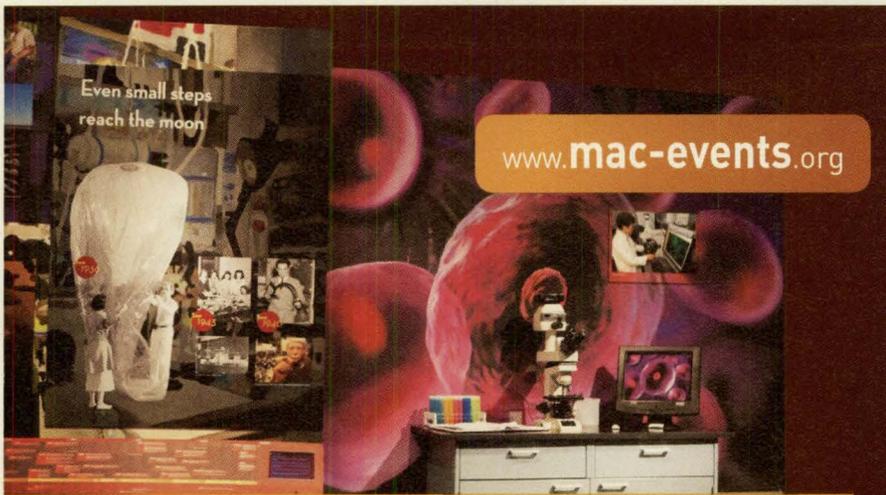
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Editor's Note

A Second Helping of History

I looked around the Campus Club dining room in search of familiar faces—faculty members, staff, and alumni—who might also have their families in tow for Mother's Day brunch. I was curious to see another side of people I knew and to look for traces of them in the faces and gestures of their children, siblings, or parents. Toasts and jokes and animated discussions bounced off the windows overlooking the river, and I caught a few snippets and stories.

One 50-something alumnus in a maroon shirt leaned in at the round table where he sat with his family. "Mom," he said, a glint in his eyes, "do you remember what you said when I was a kid and told you I wanted to come to the U to play basketball?"

His mother looked up from her plate, searching her memory. "No," she said. "I don't."

"You told me you'd never let me come to the U because the place was full of Communists," he said.

His siblings erupted in laughter and everyone spoke at once.

"Seriously?"

"You're kidding."

"You said that, Mom? Wow."

She waited for the fervor to fade. "Well, you have to remember, that was a different time," she said with a tinge of sadness. "That was the height of the Cold War. There was a lot of fear."

"There's some truth to it," said one of the guests, noting the accusations of Communist affiliations that befell some faculty members in the 1950s and how the hysteria led normally thoughtful, principled figures to make deplorable decisions.

"It's ignorance," said one of the daughters, shaking her head.

"No, it's fear," said the other, "and cowardice."

They took to recalling their grade school days and the duck-and-cover drills should a Soviet missile be aimed at their small town in southwestern Minnesota.

Listening to this exchange brought to mind the story we were preparing for this issue of *Minnesota*, about another era in American—and University of Minnesota—history. That, too, was a "different time" when there was "a lot of fear." I wanted to tell them all about it—that this sort of thing had happened before and, if upright people didn't acknowledge this and understand how and why, it would happen again. And again.

I interrupted and told them to watch for this issue of the magazine and to read the story about a political science professor on campus during World War I. While he suffered a tremendous injustice, I said, some good eventually came about because of it.

The table's conversation turned to yet another wartime era, when Japanese citizens were sent off to internment camps, and the mother told a story about how her father needed help on the farm during World War II and so German prisoners being held nearby were trucked in. They were kind and gracious, she said. "They weren't Nazis." People from a neighboring town settled by German immigrants visited the prisoners and brought them cakes and other provisions.

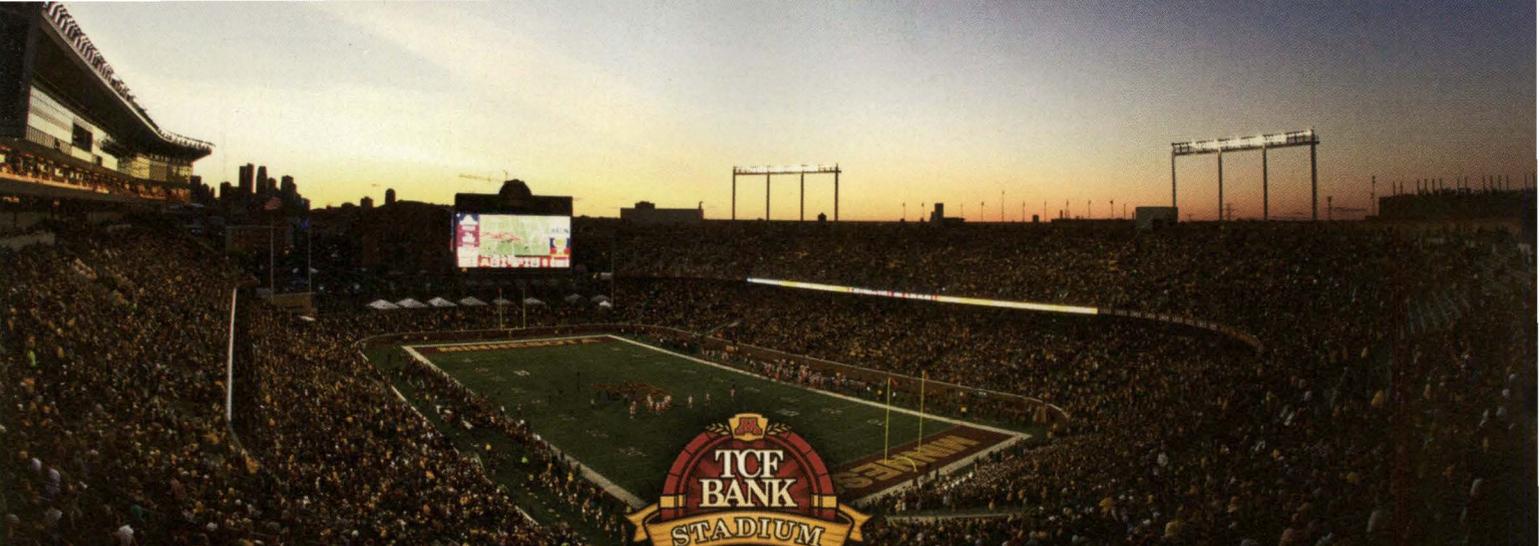
She paused and recommended a book she had just read that she thought might change their opinion about some aspects of the war.

Her son smiled, his eye again catching a glint of light. "I don't know if I want my opinion to change."



Shelly Fling

Shelly Fling is editor of *Minnesota*. She may be reached at fling003@umn.edu.



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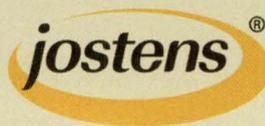
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PRONE TO WORDPLAY

Someone was trying to make a clever play on words with titling the photo on page 47 of the Spring 2013 *Minnesota* with “Prone to Study.” Unfortunately, the student in the photo is supine, not prone. Your well-educated alumni audience is sure to notice.

David Yarusso (B.S. '78)
Shoreview, Minnesota

RIGHT ON ABOUT DEAN OWRE

As a School of Dentistry graduate (1953), former dean of the school (1977–86), and recipient of the University’s Outstanding Achievement Award (2012), I enjoyed immensely your article on Alfred Owre [“Molar Authority,” Winter 2013]. I was trained in Owre Hall.

When I left the deanship at the University of Southern California to return to Minnesota, I remember reading a

book about Owre. I was very impressed with his ideas and contributions to dentistry and Minnesota. One small fact I remember that was not mentioned in the article was that his hiking companion in California was John Muir! Wouldn’t we have liked to eavesdrop on those conversations. The article was right on about Owre’s contributions.

Richard Oliver (D.D.S. '53)
Rio Verde, Arizona

MEETING GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Thanks again for another inspiring and well-written issue of *Minnesota* magazine (Winter 2013). It is always so interesting because of its well-rounded inclusion of historical and current alumni. The “Molar Authority” article on Dean Alfred Owre was very well done, as was the cover story about Judy Helgen. It speaks to the expectations of all of us that we continue to get such an intelligent offering. Thanks to everyone on the staff for producing such an excellent and fun-to-read magazine.

Judy Helgen (Ph.D. '82)
Roseville, Minnesota

A NOD TO A FELLOW RESEARCHER

In response to the letter [“Leapfrogged,” Spring 2013] about the absence of Bob McKinnell from the Winter 2013 *Minnesota* article about my research:

During our work investigating deformed frogs in Minnesota, Bob McKinnell, professor emeritus of genetics and

cell biology, jumped on board, literally, and accompanied me to some ponds that had high frequencies of abnormalities in young frogs. On the road, he gave me a crash course in frog biology, and later, he tested frog eggs we collected for him and did other research as well. His collaboration is detailed in my book, *Peril in the Ponds*. As pointed out, Dr. McKinnell carried out extensive field population surveys of frogs in the Midwest as well as basic research in his lab.

Judy Helgen (Ph.D. '82)
Roseville, Minnesota

CORRECTIONS

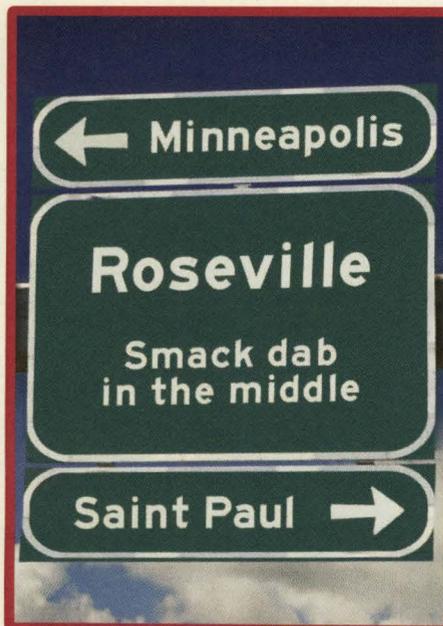
The aircraft pictured in the profile of Major Tammy Barlette [“She’s Just Got to Fly,” Spring 2013] was incorrectly identified. The plane is an A-10 Thunderbolt II.

The name of Alumni Service Award recipient Jan Anderson Meyer was misspelled in the Winter 2013 issue.

The caption for the photograph in “Craving Our Caveman Days” [Spring 2013] misidentified the animals in the Bell Museum of Natural History diorama as elk. They are woodland caribou.

The editors regret the errors.

Submit a letter at www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/opinion or write to Letter to the Editor, Minnesota Magazine, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak. St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Letters may be edited for style, length, and clarity.



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No Ordinary Study Break

Tumbler Meshu Hameso performs a dive roll over six more-or-less willing volunteers during Cirque De-Stress at Coffman Memorial Union on April 3. Boynton Health Service sponsored the daylong circus of stress-busting shenanigans and acrobatics designed to give students a break from mid-semester stress.

Pictured from bottom left are Lian Huai, Belen Santa Ana, Jian Hu, Christina Wynn, Luisina Rosas, and Neal Skoy. Lian, Jian, and Wynn are U students and the others, along with Hameso, are performers in the Kentucky-based troupe Circus Mojo.

“It’s like having a ‘no peeing’ section in the swimming pool.”

Ferd Schlapper, director of the University of Minnesota’s Boynton Health Service, commenting in the *Star Tribune* about why he is opposed to granting exceptions in certain areas to a possible campus-wide smoking ban.

A Century of Legal Service

This summer the University of Minnesota Law School is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its program in Clinical Law Education (CLE). One of the first of its kind in the nation, the program was established in 1913 to provide third-year students with practical experience prior to graduation.

Learning the ABCs of being a lawyer often got lost as university law schools replaced apprentice programs as the primary means of educating lawyers early in the last century. Clinics helped fill the gap between the theory and the practice of law. Over the years, law clinics have continued to provide legal assistance to clients who might not otherwise have the means to hire an attorney. In the process, law students have learned the basic technical skills of the profession, including conducting interviews and



Not a Very Retiring Engineer

When David Bennett got the idea to design the next generation of engines, he decided to get his Ph.D. Never mind that he was 61 years old. "I wanted to do a Ph.D. because I always felt I left something on the table," he says. Now 65, Bennett will graduate next year from the University of Minnesota with a doctorate in mechanical engineering.

It wasn't for lack of expertise that he returned to school. A 1972 graduate of the General Motors Institute (now Kettering University), Bennett enjoyed a productive 40-year career in the automotive industry and invented the liquid propane fuel injection engine, on which he still holds the patent. But he discovered that his trusty slide rule didn't provide the inventive edge he needed to pursue his new idea. "Things have changed so much," he says. "I was in the last class that didn't have handheld calculators. I can do square roots in my head, but I came back to learn the software."

Bennett's presence in the classroom and labs has been a boon to undergraduate students decades younger who find in him a seasoned engineer knowledgeable about the ins and outs of working in industry. This year he mentored six undergraduates who worked on another



David Bennett (left) and his students with their Ro-Ro Railcar at the Senior Design Show. Students, left to right: Lauren Stemper, Brandon Nelson, Nicholas Kuehn, Kyle Husebye, William Martin. Not pictured: Alexander Lysdahl

one of his ideas: a double-decker railroad car for motorcycle tourists who don't want to drive their cycles every mile of the way. The lower level of the Ro-Ro Railcar would hold 10 motorcycles, while the top would be a luxury passenger car. The students exhibited the Ro-Ro Railcar at the Spring 2013 Senior Design Show hosted by the mechanical

engineering and electrical and computer engineering departments at Coffman Union on May 9 and are hoping to find the funding to bring it to reality.

"Working with the students has been a surprise," he says. "It's fun. It's a little more sophisticated than herding cats, but not much," he says.

—Cynthia Scott

research, making court filings, and drawing summons and complaints. A 1966 ruling by the Minnesota Supreme Court allowed law students for the first time to actually represent clients in Minnesota courtrooms under the supervision of clinic faculty.

The program is extremely popular among second- and third-year U of M law students and has grown substantially over the years. About 180 students are now taking part in 24 separate law clinics in the school. These cover a host of legal matters, including bankruptcy, workers' rights, consumer protection, criminal defense and prosecution, insurance law, and more.

To celebrate the anniversary, the law clinics will host a pair of free CLE programs for veterans. "Serving Those Who Serve Us" on June 8 at the Law School will focus on veterans' legal issues. A drop-in legal clinic for veterans will be held at the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis on June 11. Hosted in cooperation with the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, the drop-in clinic will be an opportunity for Law School alumni and friends to provide pro bono legal services and support veterans.

—Tim Brady

Edmund Morgan,
one of the Law
School's first
clinic attorneys

New Regents Elected

The Minnesota State Legislature elected two incumbents and two newcomers to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents in March.

Abdul Omari (B.A. '08, M.P.P. '10), a third-year doctoral student at the Humphrey School, was elected to the at-large position reserved for students. Peggy Lucas (B.A. '64, M.S.W. '76), a founder and partner in Brighton Development, will represent Congressional District 5.

Linda Cohen and Dean Johnson will each return for a second six-year term.



BREAST CANCER ENZYME IDENTIFIED

Researchers at the University of Minnesota's Masonic Cancer Center have identified an enzyme responsible for DNA mutations found in the majority of breast cancers. The discovery of this enzyme, called APOBEC3B, may change the way breast cancer is diagnosed and treated.

Reuben Harris, associate professor of biochemistry, molecular biology, and biophysics, and his team built on their previous HIV research to identify the enzyme. That research showed that APOBEC3B and related enzymes function normally to protect the body from infectious viruses such as HIV. Harris's lab discovered that the enzyme is overexpressed in breast cancer cell lines and tumors, resulting in DNA mutations.

The discovery could lead to the development of a blood test for early detection if more research confirms the finding.

The research was published in the February 6 issue of *Nature*.

PRIME TIME SUCCESS

Mentoring and leadership training can help teenage girls at high risk for becoming pregnant choose to use contraceptives, according to the outcomes of an 18-month-long study led by researchers at the University of Minnesota's School of Nursing.

According to the United Nations Demographic Yearbook, 34 out of every 1,000 15- to 19-year-old girls gave birth in the United States in 2010, while in other industrialized nations, that number ranged from 5 to 17 per 1,000.

Developed by Renee Sieving, associate professor in the School of Nursing and Department of Pediatrics, the Prime Time program assigned adolescent girls to a case manager and engaged them in multi-session training and employment as peer health educators. The case manager and teen met monthly, with an emphasis on discussing consistency of contraceptive use and other responsible sexual behaviors.

As peer educators, the girls were asked to reach and teach up to 50 people—family members, friends, or other teens in their schools and neighborhoods—using information they had learned in the peer educator training sessions.

Girls who participated reported using condoms with their partners all or most of the time in 1.53 of the previous six months, compared with 0.93 months in controls. They also used hormonal contraceptives more consistently in 3.29 of the previous six months, compared with 2.34 months.

The study was published in the February 25 issue of *JAMA Pediatrics*.



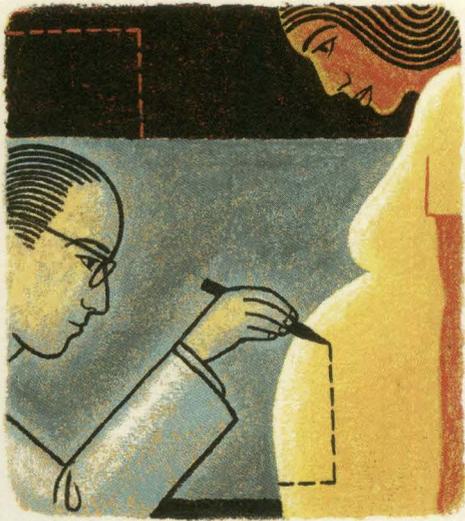
CYANIDE SOLUTION

Researchers at the University of Minnesota's Center for Drug Design have developed a fast-acting injectable antidote for cyanide poisoning.

Led by Steve Patterson, associate director of the Center for Drug Design, researchers discovered the antidote using the chemical sulfanegen triethanolamine, which allows the body to convert the cyanide to a less toxic chemical. Administered by injection, the antidote can be used in the case of a mass casualty emergency or to treat victims of smoke inhalation. The antidote also functions as a prophylactic and could protect firefighters or emergency personnel if taken prior to cyanide exposure.

Existing antidotes to cyanide poisoning are typically administered by intravenous drip over a period of 15 minutes. But cyanide can kill in much less time than that by preventing the cells from using oxygen.

The research was published in the January 9 issue of the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*.



VERY VARIED, VERY ALARMING

Researchers at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health have discovered a wide and surprising variation in cesarean delivery rates in the United States, especially among women who are at low risk for the surgery.

Assistant professor Katy Kozhimannil and her team examined discharge data from a representative sample of 593 hospitals with at least 100 births in 2009 and found that cesarean delivery rates varied tenfold, from 7 percent to 70 percent. Even wider variation was found among lower risk women, defined as those whose deliveries were not preterm, breech, or multiple gestation and who had no history of cesarean delivery. Among this group, for whom researchers expected less variation, rates varied by a factor of 15, from 2 percent to 36 percent.

Cesarean delivery is the most common surgery in the United States. While it is clearly indicated for some women, Kozhimannil said the scope of variation found in the study, particularly among low-risk women, is alarming given the risks of the procedure, including higher rates of infection and rehospitalization, more painful recovery, breastfeeding challenges, and complications in future pregnancies. She noted that cesarean delivery rates also have public policy implications, since nearly half of all U.S. births are financed by Medicaid programs, and cesarean births are more expensive than vaginal deliveries.

The study was published in the March 4 issue of *Health Affairs*.

FENCES COULD SAVE LIONS

The best option for warding off extinction of African lions is to fence vast areas of their habitat, according to a study by renowned lion researcher Craig Packer of the University of Minnesota's Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior. The study found that despite substantial initial costs, fencing would be less expensive and more effective in the long run than current conservation methods.

African lion habitat has been reduced by at least 75 percent over the last century. Human encroachment has resulted in a substantial increase in lion attacks on humans and livestock, leading to retaliatory killing by villagers to protect their families and livestock. At current rates, almost half of unfenced lion populations could disappear in 20 to 40 years. The precise population of African lions is difficult to determine, but estimates range from 16,500 to 47,000, down from hundreds of thousands in the 1950s.

Some game reserves are currently fenced. Packer and his research team compared population densities and management practices across 42 sites in 11 African countries. They found that fenced reserves maintained lions at 80 percent of their potential population capacity on annual management budgets of about \$500 per square kilometer per year, while unfenced areas maintained them at just 50 percent of capacity at an average cost of \$2,000 per square kilometer.

Packer said fencing would have to be placed around massive areas of land in order to be effective. Fencing the 17,000-square-mile Selous Game Reserve—home to the largest remaining lion population in the world—would cost approximately \$30 million. Such huge expenses, he said, point to the need for the equivalent of a conservation Marshall Plan that would establish a global funding agency.

The study was published in the March 5 issue of *Ecology Letters*.



A lion walking near an electrified fence at the Sanwild Animal Sanctuary in South Africa.

 **Discoveries is edited by Cynthia Scott.** University of Minnesota Alumni Association members may access many of the journals that publish these studies through the Libraries Online member benefit. Go to www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Libraries.

THE POKER BOYS

In between hands, in between friends—
that's where life is lived.

ESSAY BY MICHAEL J. SOLENDER
ILLUSTRATION BY ROMAN MURADOV

It's my turn to host. By 7:30 p.m., a dozen "boys" will occupy my family room, the furniture rearranged to accommodate a felt-covered oval table with black cup holders built into the vinyl padded edge. I've set out a plate of ham biscuits, each crowned with one of my signature pickled jalapeño slices, and a snack bowl overflowing with Hubs Virginia Peanuts. Beer is chilling in the fridge.

It's our every-other Tuesday night ritual, now in its eighth year. Tim, J-man, Billy, and Zsa-Zsa just confirmed. Guys are weird with nicknames. Drill-bit Boy works in construction. Sock Boy is the marketing guy for Gold Toe, the hosiery manufacturer. I don't know where King Carl got his name, but it fits as he tries to reign over the game like a despot.

Nicknames are bestowed upon us—we don't choose our own monikers—and their use is an earned privilege. Newbies at our table are introduced to the boys by their given names.

We have about 20 guys in the roundup and on any given poker night 8 to 12 show up. Music is the host's choice, with '70s and '80s classic rock a crowd favorite. Most anything else garners some grief for the host. I put on Latin jazz, which annoys David, an avid country-western fan.

"Puh-lease. Not this mambo jambo," he says.

I relent and turn up the volume on the basketball game.

We settle in after getting caught up on the last week or so and deal the first hand no later than 8. Things go quiet until the first "big" hand—something that involves at least a hundred dollars and several of the boys.

"I gotta monster," Jeremy says. Fumbling with his chips, he pushes a stack to the center of the table. "All in."

"The only monster you have is that slobbering dog of yours," Billy says with a snort and matches the bet.

Indeed, Jeremy does have a monster hand. His full house, kings over nines, crushes Billy's two pair. And so it goes. The jokes, the digs, the banter—all the boys take it as well as they dish it out.

Guys drift in and out of our game over the months and years, joining a core group of about 10. Coworkers, neighbors, in-laws, friends of friends—the connections start out tenuous but by the second or third game, I trust each one of these guys as if he were my brother.

The games last about five hours. The stare downs and the constant clatter of chips being counted and recounted, stacked and restacked, give the evening its own rhythm. We play until, one by one, the guys peel off. It's usually the night's losers standing up first. The early departing winner will raise the ire of the hope-springs-eternal gamblers. The last hand is dealt around 1 a.m.

It's the in-between time, though, when I'm out of a hand, that means the most to me. While those winning hands where my heart nearly stops or as I wait to see if my bluff gets called are exhilarating, I lie in bed after it's all done for the night thinking about that evening's in-between moments.

The serious conversations typically come when players get up to grab a beer or sit out a hand or two. Howard tells me about his investments and how he isn't sure he'd have enough when he retired and mentions his grown son moving home after losing his job.

I sometimes catch myself watching the younger guys, wondering if I really had that much testosterone when I was 20

years younger. Jeremy used to work for me, long ago before I got bumped from the corporate lair. "Worry less about the battles and more about the war," I tell him when we sit out a hand. He pays attention, showing more deference now than when I was his boss. I wonder what getting such advice could have done for me.

In between hands, I talk to my buddies' kids, whom I've watched grow over the years. We laugh at dad being all serious and try to throw him off his game. We play with his chips or distract him with his favorite ice cream.

In between is when the host's wife might appear to refill the sandwich platter. Tanya, married to Jason, is a physician's assistant and listened to me tell about the trouble my wife and I were having with my aging mother-in-law. "Patience and diligence is best with seniors," Tanya said, revealing her own concern for her father who recently had a heart attack.

Those in-between moments and the bonds developed over the years of poker nights is the main reason I'm still playing. Certainly none of us play for the money, though at times the boys act as if they do. Sure, it's cool to win enough to take your wife someplace nice that week or get a new toy for the golf bag. And losing big might have you brown bagging for a week, but no one is going to change his lifestyle because of his luck at our table.

We play for a lot of reasons and really for only one. We play because we *have* to play. All week long we're the dads who have to know everything. Our wives or partners, they share in the daily stresses that chip away at us all, yet guys are often reluctant to let our vulnerabilities show. We're somehow supposed to hold it in, keep it together.

We're bosses who have to orchestrate the layoff that is going to impact people we've grown to really like and respect. We're the subordinates caught in a continual crossfire of hidden agendas and corporate politics. We're the sons, who, with our spouses, are now the parents to our parents and have to convince them to do things against their will for their own good.

We're getting married or divorced, fighting cancer or just bad knees, and we are guys who, when no one else is looking, are vulnerable to life's indignities just like the women in our lives. We are so laden with responsibilities and others' expectations that at times the weight can be crushing and drain the joy right out from under us like an elevator in free-fall.

Big boys play to be little boys again. We play to get lost in the

moment, to let down our guard and know, in our gut, it's OK; these guys have our backs. It's not a beer commercial. There are no "I love you man" moments, just real, honest friendship that transcends the game and is rekindled in weekend phone calls asking for help moving a generator or a ride to the airport or over a workday lunch seeking recommendations on a headhunter.

When we play, we're goofy. We tell bad jokes. We don't have to be a dad or a boss or a son or a husband. Guys call us Sock-boy and we like it. We can say anything without being judged or worried how it may come out or be perceived. We dish out and receive unmerciful amounts of grief for our bad play, our haircut that



week, or any one of a number of our frailties. We like getting grief from the Poker Boys. In fact, it feels great. We laugh at ourselves and have a beer in the middle of the week and don't care.

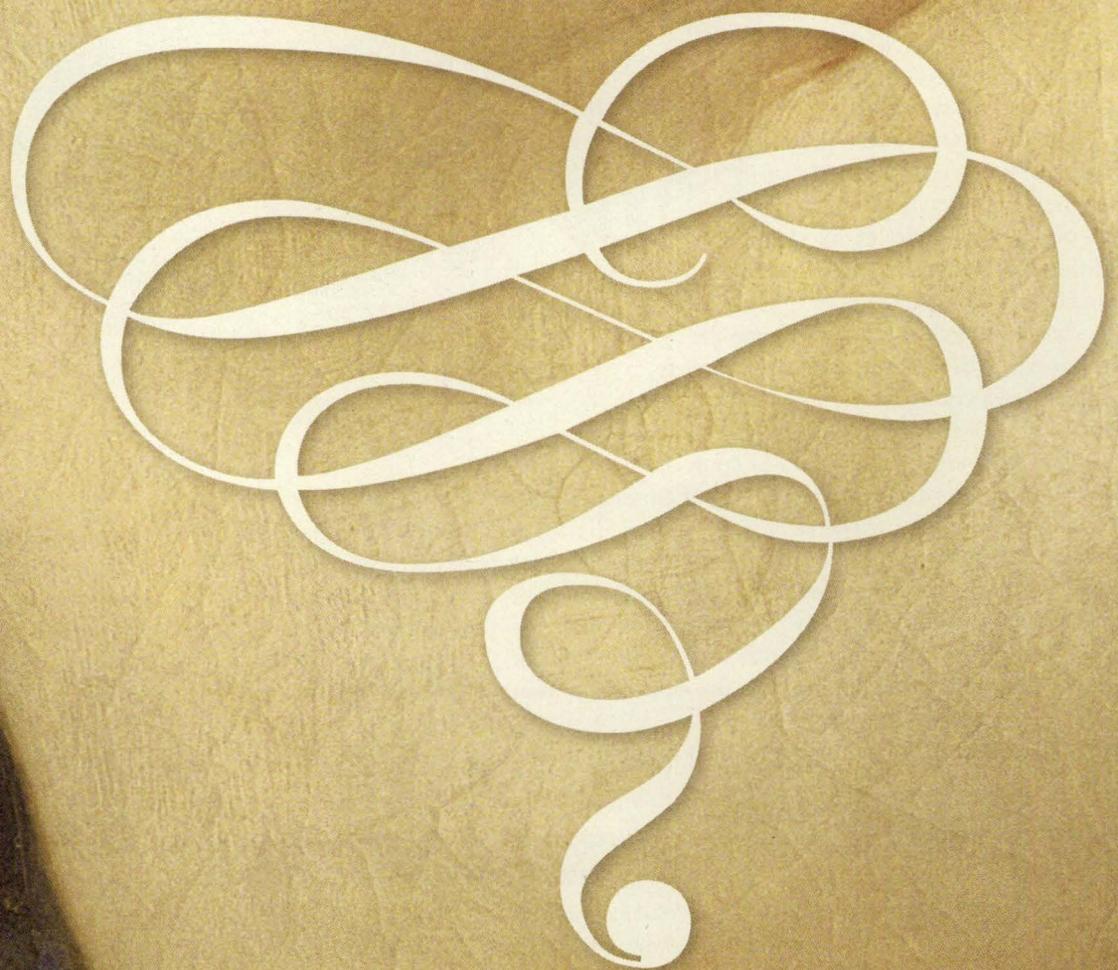
When it gets late and we know our wife and kids are asleep upstairs, we are warmed by the sense of intimacy, knowing the blanket of friendship that envelops us at that very moment extends to them too.

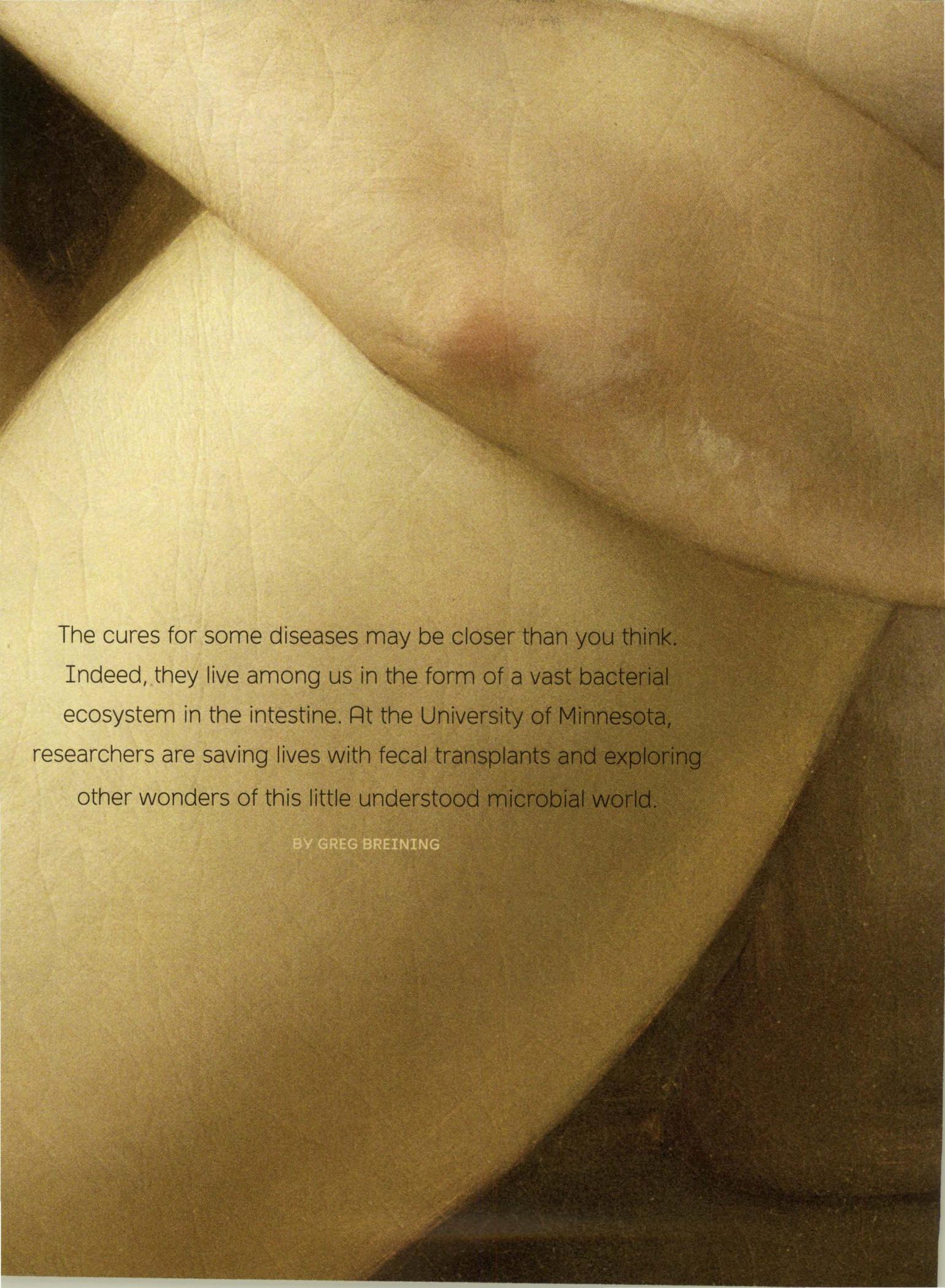
We are with our buddies, the Poker Boys. ■

Michael J. Solender (B.A. '80, M.A. '83) is the city life editor for the online arts, culture, and civic magazine Charlotte Viewpoint. He lives in Charlotte, North Carolina, with his wife, Harriet.

First Person essays may be written by University of Minnesota alumni, students, faculty, and staff. For writers' guidelines, go to www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/firstperson.

gut
reaction





The cures for some diseases may be closer than you think. Indeed, they live among us in the form of a vast bacterial ecosystem in the intestine. At the University of Minnesota, researchers are saving lives with fecal transplants and exploring other wonders of this little understood microbial world.

BY GREG BREINING

By

y the time the 61-year-old woman had been referred to Alexander Khoruts (B.S. '85, M.D. '89) in 2008, she was crippled by cramps and nearly constant diarrhea. After eight months in and out of hospitals and repeated treatments with antibiotics, she had lost 60 pounds. Weak and wheelchair-bound, she had to wear diapers 24 hours a day.

The diagnosis: inflammation of the colon caused by stubborn infection from the bacteria *Clostridium difficile*. Khoruts, a gastroenterologist and associate professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota, treated her at the Fairview Maple Grove Medical Center according to the standard protocol: two more cycles of the antiprotozoal drug nitazoxanide and probiotics. She improved, but only temporarily. Ten days later, her condition worsened. She was in danger of losing her life.

It was then that Khoruts reached back into medical history, resorting to a treatment first written about nearly 1,700 years ago. Within two days, the woman's bowel movements were returning to normal and her cramps vanished. A month later, her intestine showed no sign of *Clostridium difficile*.

Dr. Alexander Khoruts says that one of the biggest challenges to the acceptance of fecal transplants is overcoming the "yuck factor."



The ancient remedy? A fecal transplant. It was the first of many that Khoruts would perform.

To perhaps all but the desperate and the fearless, the very idea of transplanting feces sounds revolting. But taking fecal matter from a healthy person—in this case from the patient's husband—and inserting it into the patient's colon likely saved her life. The transplant kick-started the patient's intestinal tract with all the microbes she needed to digest food and hold the troublesome microbes at bay.

Khoruts has been instrumental in resurrecting the seldom-used cure for a flourishing and deadly disease. He has now treated 150 patients with fecal transplants, curing 90 percent on the first try and achieving complete success with a second transplant. In the process, he has brought deliverance from months of suffering and quite possibly death.

With colleague Michael Sadowsky, director of the University's BioTechnology Institute, Khoruts has begun to document why and how fecal transplants restore health to the body's digestive system. "The idea of doing it was not particularly bold," Khoruts says of the ancient remedy. "What we did that was different—why it made news—is that I decided that if we were going to take that step, which is not standard medicine, we should 'do some science' around it."



Clostridium difficile—*C. diff*, for short—are rod-shaped, spore-forming, anaerobic bacteria.

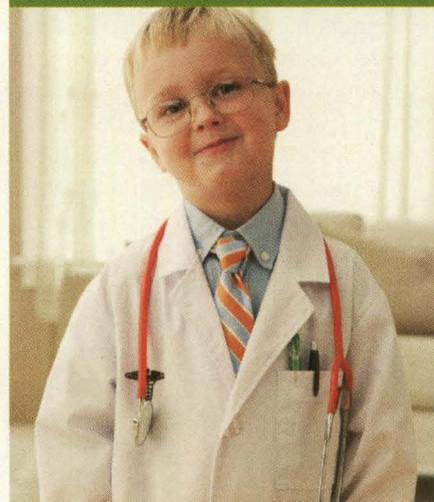
They live naturally in the intestines of some people, but usually at undetectable numbers. *C. diff* are widespread, so people often unknowingly ingest them. Even then, in the company of thousands of other microbes in the human gut, *C. diff* remain a silent minority.

Trouble arises when standard antibiotic treatment kills most of the microbes in the human gut. *C. diff*'s dormant spores, resistant to antibiotics, spring into action, populating the intestine like dandelions on a lawn in spring. The *C. diff*-dominated intestine does a poor job of digestion, and the microbes release toxins that cause diarrhea and bloating.

The standard treatment is another round of antibiotics, which brings temporary relief as *C. diff*—and other bacteria—die off. But in many patients, the unwanted *C. diff* come roaring back once the antibiotic treatment stops. Up to 30 percent of patients who have one bout with *C. diff* will soon have another. After that, the chances of yet another infection rise to 65 percent.

Carol Clark's experience was typical. In her early 50s, the real estate agent enjoyed an active life, including dragon boat racing. Her trouble began in April 2011, when overwhelming cramping forced her into the emergency room in Cambridge, Minnesota, near her home. She was diagnosed with an abscess caused by diverticulitis and sent home with a prescription for antibiotics. She soon felt better but was back in the hospital a week later with vomiting, diarrhea, and more cramps. The abscess had shrunk, but now her intestine was overrun with *C. diff*. "It was coming

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out both ends," Clark says. "And there's no way to control it."

She was prescribed more antibiotics but returned to the hospital with a *C. diff* infection on Memorial Day and again in mid-June, when she was referred to a gastroenterologist in St. Paul who prescribed vancomycin. The result was the same: Temporary relief for as long as she took antibiotics, but then the excruciating cramps and incessant diarrhea returned. She couldn't work and had to turn her listings over to another agent. Her weight, normally 140, dropped to 115. "It was out of control," she says. "I couldn't function."

After another cycle of illness and treatment, her gastroenterologist suggested she try a fecal transplant. "I said let's do it. By then I was fed up. I was so sick," Clark says. "It completely made sense to me that you need to replace that biotic community."

She was referred to Khoruts in late October 2011. He prescribed another round of vancomycin to clear out the microbiome in her intestine. Then, in late November, he introduced a slurry of fecal material from an anonymous donor through a colonoscopy.

"He said go eat and enjoy your life now. You should be fine," Clark says. Within days, her bowels were back to normal. "Oh, holy Jesus. It took three, four months before I really started feeling like a human being again," she says. "I lost a year of my life."

It might have been worse. *C. diff* infections have become rampant in health care settings. In the United States, the National Hospital Discharge Survey shows the incidence of *C. diff* diagnoses doubled between 1996 and 2003. And the germ seems to have become more virulent, drug-resistant, and toxic. Treating and managing *C. diff* cost \$1 billion a year, just in the United States. In 2010, an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people died from the infection.



I can't claim that I thought of it first," Khoruts says of his first transplant, in 2008. "This was something that was known about when I was in medical school. It was lectured about, although the students giggled and thought it was somewhat surreal."

The treatment may have been obscure, but it has a long history, dating at least to fourth-century China, when alchemist Ge Hong wrote of using feces to treat food poisoning and severe diarrhea. Italian surgeon and anatomist Hieronymus Fabricius wrote about the technique 400 years ago. Fecal transplants were also long used in veterinary medicine.

It wasn't until 1958 in the United States that the technique

Doctors such as
Lawrence Brandt at
Albert Einstein College
of Medicine in the Bronx
are advocating that
transplants should be
used on "any patients
who are severely ill
because of *C. difficile*
infection, even if the
current infection is their
first episode."



Colored transmission
electron micrograph of
Clostridium difficile

received modern scientific documentation. Ben Eiseman, a rear admiral in the naval reserves, led a team at the University of Colorado and a Veterans Administration Hospital in treating four patients critically ill with *C. diff* infections to "re-establish the balance of nature." All quickly recovered and left the hospital within days. Eiseman wrote that once the crucial microbes were identified, they could be packaged in capsules that "might be both more aesthetic and more effective."

Such packaging of intestinal microbes is still a ways off. Fecal transplants continue to be performed, infrequently, the traditional way: via enema, colonoscopic infusion, or nasoduodenal tube. What hadn't been done was a study of the ecology of intestinal organisms before and after treatment to come to a better understanding of how the transplants worked. So Khoruts contacted Sadowsky.

In 2009, Khoruts and Sadowsky started a clinical program to treat patients with persistent *C. diff* infections with fecal transplants. Khoruts developed a proto-

col of infusing the upper large intestine with about a pint of liquefied feces diluted with saline or whole milk. And in every case, the patient was cured—if not with the first fecal transplant, then with the second.

Khoruts and Sadowsky discovered that almost any healthy donor will do. Using feces from a spouse or close relative may help a patient overcome some fears. And if the donor and patient are living in close contact anyway, the risk of transmitting an undesirable microbe through the procedure is almost irrelevant. But for ease and convenience, the team now uses donations from screened local health-care workers. "That's the beauty of this system—it works across large swaths of populations of people," Sadowsky says. "We have that commonality."

But it was the rapid change in microbial ecosystems in patients that was most interesting to Khoruts and Sadowsky, who analyzed stool samples of both patients and donors. "The idea was to see what the gut would look like prior to the transplant and then what the gut looked like after the transplant so we can follow the changes in the microorganisms over time," Sadowsky says.

After a successful transplant, the patient's intestinal ecosystem looked almost identical to the donor's. But after a few weeks, the patient's intestinal microbial makeup took on subtle characteristics of its own. "There are some that are essential, which we call the core," Sadowsky says. "And there's additional microbes that come in and come out of the gut more as transients." Specific species will differ even among family members or identical twins.

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Until recently, scientists had no way to understand the diverse ecology of the human body. They could identify microbes only by trying to grow them in cultures and identify them one by one. "In fact," says Sadowsky, "we've learned over the years that we can culture less than 1 percent of all the microorganisms that are actually out there in the environment or in the human body."

That has changed recently as scientists can sample and identify microbes en masse by their genetic codes. What they're finding is astounding.

The Human Microbiome Project, involving 200 scientists at 80 institutions, sequenced the genetic material of microbes sampled from more than 200 healthy subjects. They were able to identify an estimated 4,000 species in the throat, 6,500 in the saliva, 8,000 on the tongue, and 10,000 on the tonsils. They found 2,400 behind the ears, 2,200 in the nostrils, 2,000 on the inner elbows, and more than 2,000 in the vagina (including *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, which makes the environment slightly acidic and inhibits the growth of other bacteria).

But the greatest diversity by far occurred in the large intestine—which is home to an estimated 33,000 species. In each of us reside up to 100 trillion microbes of various species, outnumbering our own larger human cells 10 to 1.

Khoruts and Sadowsky call this assemblage a "microbial organ" that evolves and interacts with its human host. It enables us to digest foods and nutrients that would otherwise be unavailable to us. The ecology of this microbial organ is remarkably resilient and stable. In fact, it may be modulated in a mysterious ongoing interaction with our immune system.

"Our concept of what the immune system is for us is a very warlike paradigm," Khoruts says. "Our immune system against them, the bad guys, the microbes. However, most of the microbes we encounter are not pathogens. In fact, most of them are our own microbes, part of our body. We don't want to exterminate them and they don't want to kill us."

"Microbes are the good guys," Sadowsky says, "and without them we would not function as human beings."

Scientists are finding potential links between microbes and many diseases and conditions. Chronic inflammatory bowel diseases, such as Crohn's and ulcerative colitis, coincide with an atypical "imbalanced" gut ecology. The bacterial ecosystem may also play a role in metabolic syndrome and obesity. Scientists have also found a possible link to heart disease whereby a bacteria that thrives on a diet of red meat

produces a chemical byproduct that increases the risk of plaque formation in the arteries. Other scientists are searching for farther-reaching effects of microbes, including links with depression and even the use of fecal transplants to treat Parkinson's.

"It sounds unlikely, doesn't it? But it's published," Khoruts says. "You can imagine you publish an anecdote of one or two patients and this is going to take off like wildfire. There are so many diseases for which there are no effective treatments. People are desperate.

"I have requests that come in e-mail: Can you do this to cure my son's autism? Can you do this to reverse my autoimmune disease? Multiple sclerosis? Fix my food allergies?" Khoruts says. "And the fact is we have no data to suggest that any of this would work. Is this completely implausible? No, actually, it's not implausible, because this is transplanting an organ. It's not our idea of an organ, like a heart or a liver because it's made of completely different kinds of cells, microbial cells. But it's our microbial organ."



While links between microbes and many diseases remain a puzzle, it's becoming crystal clear that fecal transplants are proving to be the best treatment going when it comes to persistent and dangerous *C. diff* infections. Of more than 500 cases that have been documented, transplants have cured about 90 percent, a far better rate than standard antibiotic treatment.

Recently, in a randomized study at the University of Amsterdam, patients were split into three groups. Two groups received variations on the standard treatment with the antibiotic vancomycin. The third group received vancomycin and a fecal transplant. The study had to be stopped because the antibiotic treatments were helping less than a third of the patients, while 94 percent of the patients receiving fecal transplants were cured after one or two treatments.

"For those of us who have been doing it, the trial was not any big surprise because we've been working with the patients who have failed every other therapy already," Khoruts says.

The success rate of fecal transplants raises an important question: If a relatively simple, low-tech, inexpensive treatment for a dangerous problem is so much more effective than the standard method, why hasn't fecal transplant become the treatment of choice rather than a last resort?

First, people by nature want to avoid excrement. So the idea of transplanting

The benefits of our microbial ecosystem begin at birth. Babies enter this world coated with their mother's vaginal microbes. Scientists wonder if that helps explain why babies delivered by cesarean section have more asthma, eczema, and obesity.



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People raised on farms are exposed to a healthy dose of microbes that city dwellers aren't and are less prone to autoimmune disorders.

The theory is that immune systems unaccustomed to these microbes overreact to them and kill not only the invaders but also the body's own cells.

rating with the start-up company CIPAC Limited on a formal trial of fecal transplants under an "investigational new drug" application with the Food and Drug Administration. Australia-based CIPAC licensed the University of Minnesota researchers' technology and intends to advance it to treat patients using frozen and, eventually, encapsulated microbial preparations. The first step is standardizing a protocol for fecal transplants. "The goal is to make it as simple as possible and reproducible as possible so it can go into more clinical trials," Khoruts says.

The next step is to better understand and describe the mechanisms by which the body's gut ecology is restored. "The fact is we're just in the infancy of trying to understand what human microbes do in our bodies," Khoruts says. "We don't even

have names for a lot of these things, let alone understand how these microbial communities are put together."

It's ironic that a treatment so poorly understood is also simple and effective, Khoruts says. "In the more glorified fields of bone marrow transplants and solid organ transplant, the intensity of what they have to go through to save one life is far greater than what we do," he says. "But in the end you still save a life." ■

Greg Breining (B.A. '74) writes about science, the environment, and related topics. He lives in St. Paul.

feces presents a challenge to just about everyone—patients, doctors, and technicians. There's also a logistical problem in keeping an adequate supply of a level 2 biohazard on hand. "This material does have a yuck factor—multiplied by orders of magnitude," Khoruts says.

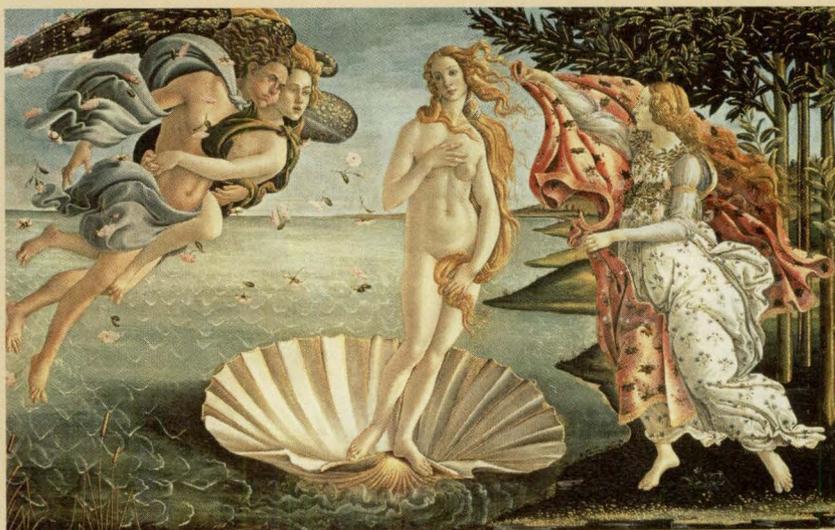
Second, there's something insufficiently scientific about simply transplanting fecal matter and hoping for the best, Khoruts says. As he and Sadowsky wrote in the January 2011 journal *Mucosal Immunology*: "In the absence of much science, the idea probably could not overcome the instinctive avoidance of something seemingly repulsive."

Third, as medical journalist, author, and blogger Maryn McKenna has noted, "You can't monetize feces." In its basic and most effective form, the transplant material can't be patented. So no big medical or drug companies are pushing for approval. And until it's approved as a standard medical practice, a doctor and hospital performing the procedure assume the risk but don't get reimbursed.

"In American medicine, we have to contend with commercial factors—with all the issues of reimbursement and things that govern how medicine is administered," Khoruts says. "Not everything we do has to make money. But you at least hope not to lose money."

Khoruts hopes to overcome these obstacles and is collabo-

Our Gutsy Ladies Revealed



From the cover: *The Birth of Venus*, circa 1485, by Sandro Botticelli, in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy SOURCE: GIRAUDON / THE BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY (ABOVE); ©2010 HALTADEFINIZIONE® IMAGE BANK, COURTESY OF MINISTERO PER I BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI (COVER)



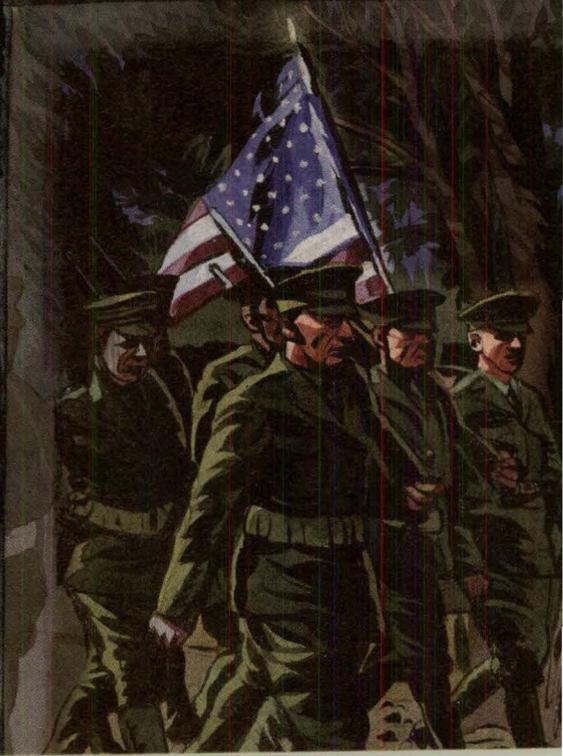
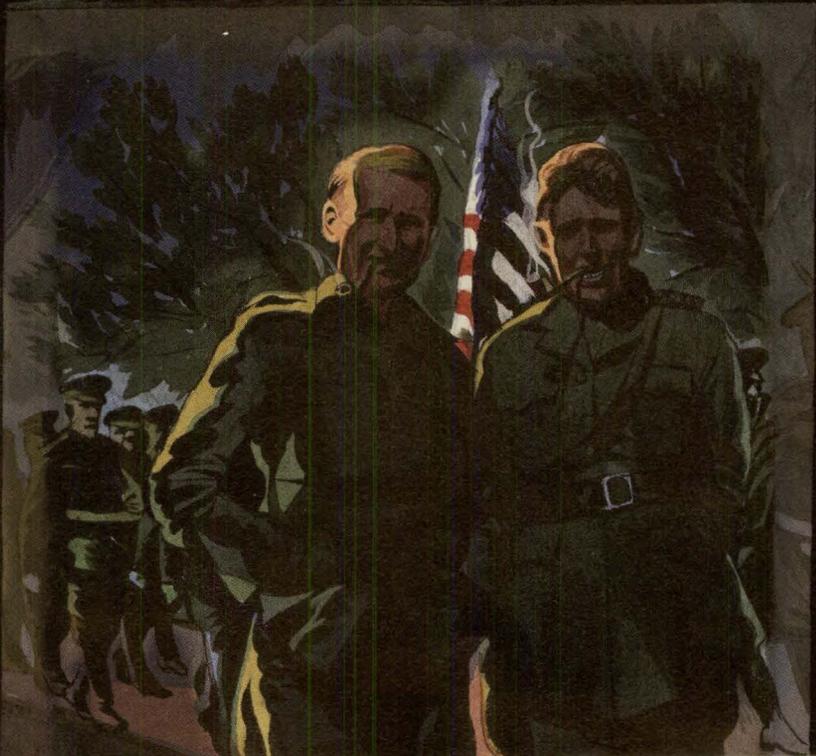
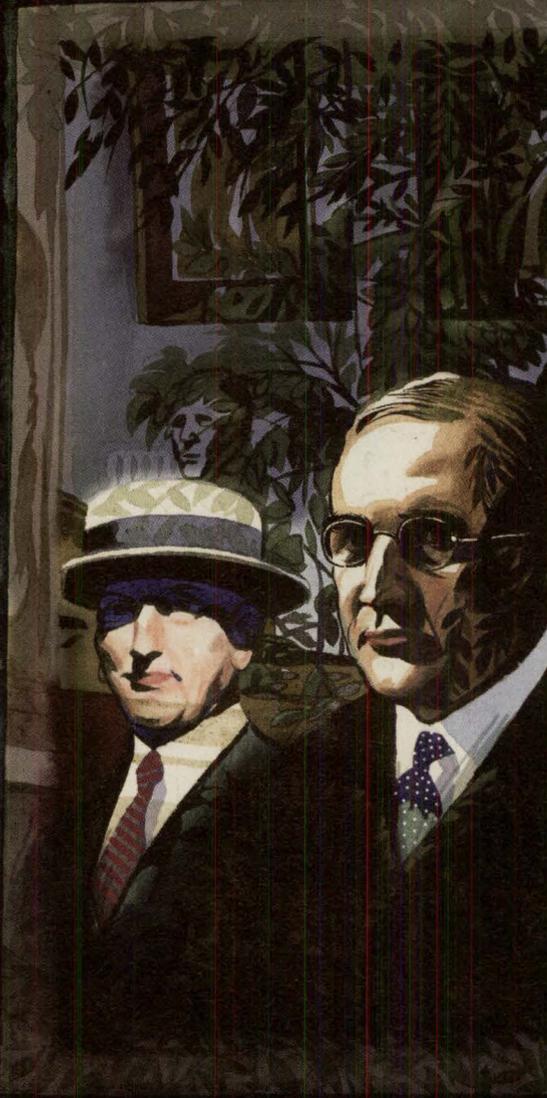
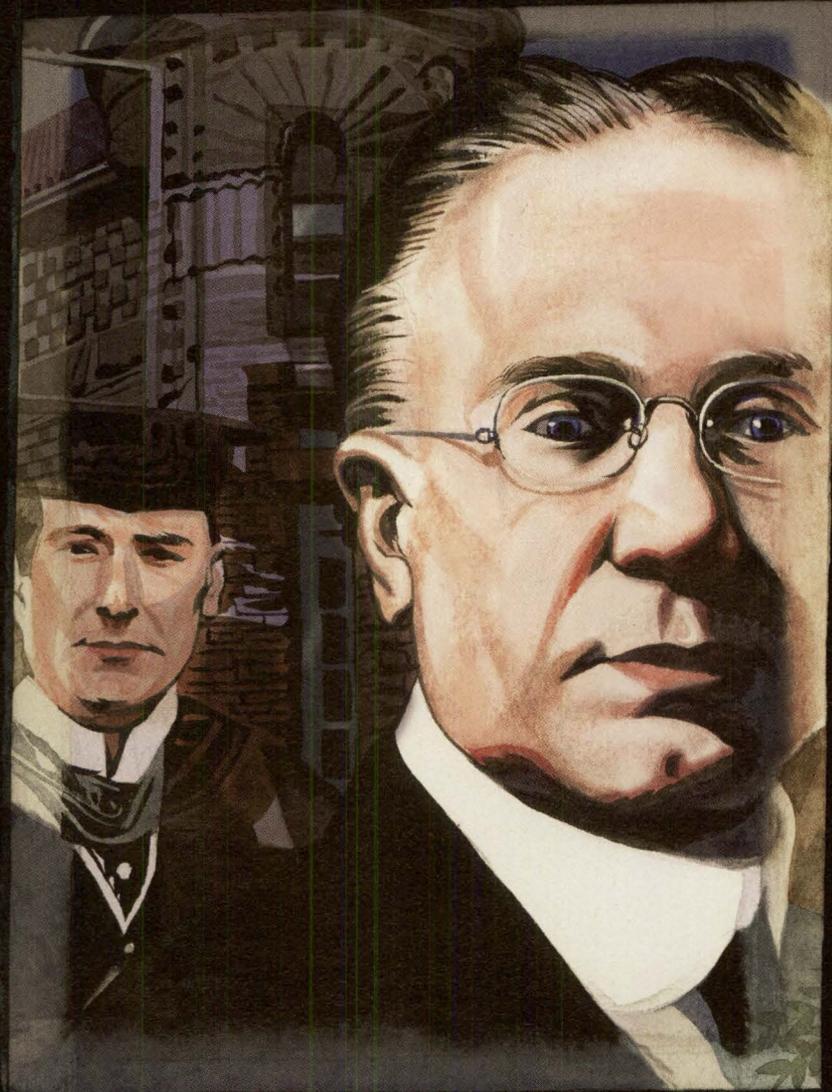
From pages 16-17: *Seated Nude*, 1884, by William-Adolphe Bouguereau, in the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts SOURCE: THE BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

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PATRIOTISM and the PROFESSOR

When World War I hysteria visited the University of Minnesota, among the casualties were political science professor William A. Schaper and academic freedom.

FOR MORE THAN TWO AND A HALF YEARS after World War I began in Europe in August 1914, the United States avoided entry into the conflict, initially considering it as a strictly European affair. When Germany began a campaign of submarine warfare against commercial ships heading to Great Britain, however, momentum began to build for joining the war, and on April 6, 1917, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson finally urged the nation to enter “a war to end all wars.” His call was met by a surge of patriotic fervor that rose into a tidal wave of war hysteria. The University of Minnesota did not escape its forces.

BY TIM BRADY • ILLUSTRATION BY JEFFREY SMITH

This illustration depicts, from left, University of Minnesota President Marion Burton, Professor William Schaper, Board of Regents President Fred Snyder, and Regent Pierce Butler, based on photographs from University Archives and the Minnesota Historical Society.

W

illiam A. Schaper, a professor of political science at the University of Minnesota for 16 years, would forever recall the exact moment his life at the U buckled. It was 10 minutes to 3 o'clock

on Thursday, September 13, 1917, when Professor Schaper bumped into University President Marion Burton and learned that the Board of Regents wanted to discuss a matter of some urgency with him.

Back in his office, Schaper received a formal summons to appear before the regents, who were even then gathered in session. Only when he was standing before the board did Board of Regents President Fred Snyder tell Schaper what this was all about. That summer, the board had received a letter from the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety: a newly created body of seven powerful Minnesotans appointed in April 1917 by Governor Joseph A.A. Burnquist to safeguard the state and see to it that no one undermined its war efforts. Addressed to Snyder, the letter named Schaper and members of the University's German Department as guilty of conduct disloyal to the United States in its war against Germany.

According to the letter, "A person of the highest standing and whose information is direct and at first hand" had stated that the German Department professors had failed to sign a pledge in support of President Woodrow Wilson. Further, one of the German professors had "denounced the stationing of sentries before the University Armory to guard the arms and munitions stored there." Further still, claimed the anonymous source, "There are two other rabid pro-Germans in official positions at the University: Dean Owre and W.A. Schaper."



Already that day, the three other professors named in this sketchy indictment had been called before the regents and had abjectly declared their allegiance to the United States. After stern lectures about their future behavior, they were placed back in the good graces of the University.

Schaper, however, would prove a tougher nut to crack. Despite hearing no specific charge beyond the accusation that he was rabidly pro-German and facing no accuser, Schaper was summarily asked to defend himself against vague charges of disloyalty.

The 48-year-old native of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, had been teaching at the University since 1901 and became a full professor in 1904. Widely published and with a doctorate from Columbia University and postgraduate work at the University of Berlin, Schaper was a highly regarded member of the faculty. He was

the son of German immigrants and had openly expressed his feelings about the war to Regent Snyder in the years leading up to 1917. The war was a "great calamity," Schaper said, "and a wholly wrong method of settling the difficulties between the European nations."

After the United States had entered the fray, however, Schaper's opinion changed. Then he came to believe that every citizen needed to support the war effort. Further, his advice to the young men he taught was that they must serve in the military if asked. Schaper explained that he had four nephews who had recently been drafted into the U.S. Army. He also told the board that he had several first cousins in Germany serving the Kaiser. "Under the circumstances," Schaper said, "I feel that I cannot go out and boost for the war."

To the regents, Schaper's statement did not constitute the sort of ringing endorsement of the war that they sought. According to



In 1917, St. Paul lawyer and U Regent Pierce Butler accused Professor William Schaper (above) of being the "Kaiser's man." Pictured in 1937, Butler (left) went on to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court.

a later publication of the board proceedings, the regents asked Schaper what he meant when he said he couldn't "boost" for the war.

Schaper said that he couldn't go out "haranguing public meetings for the purpose of arousing the spirit of hate, stirring up the war hysteria. This I could not do. It would be revolting to my conscience."

Taking the lead in the University's inquisition of Schaper was St. Paul lawyer and Regent Pierce Butler. A former Ramsey County attorney and chief litigator for railroad magnate James J. Hill, Butler was a man whose prosecutorial skills were so sharp that they had earned him the nickname "Fierce" Butler. In Schaper, he faced a man as obstinate, prickly, and argumentative as himself.

"You are the Kaiser's man," Butler began. "You want the Kaiser and the Crown Prince to dominate the world, don't you?"

"That is an accusation, not a question. It is absurd," Schaper said.

"It is the truth, is it not?"

"It is utterly absurd," Schaper repeated.

Butler reminded Schaper that he'd "lived off the public money of this State" for the past 16 years through his salary from the University.

Schaper's retort: "I was not aware that this board was dispensing charity. I had supposed that I held an honorable position in the university. I earned every dollar I ever received from the State."

Butler asked why Schaper himself wasn't currently in the army.

Schaper pointed out that he was 48 years old. Hardly soldier material.

On it went for another half hour until Schaper was finally

Civil liberties were being trampled across the United States. In Minnesota, the Commission of Public Safety built a network of spies throughout the counties looking for unpatriotic acts.

dismissed from the meeting. The regents continued to sit, drawing up a statement on Schaper's fate that would resound at the University for decades to come. They eventually called the political science professor back into their meeting, and Snyder read the decision to Schaper: "The Board of Regents have voted unanimously that you are a disloyal American citizen. In view of the position you hold as Professor of Political Science you might have been very useful in furthering the cause. In view of the 16 years that you have received the public money of this state, something more could have been expected of you. We now call for your resignation."

Schaper asked that charges against him be put into writing and that he be given a full opportunity to respond. The board's answer came later that evening in the form of a resolution sent by telegram to Schaper and simultaneously to the local press.

Once again the professor was called "a rabid pro-German" whose "expressed unwillingness to aid the United States in the present war render him unfit and unable rightly to discharge the duties of his position." Professor William A. Schaper's relations with the University were "hereby terminated."

IN LESS THAN A DAY, the long career of a respected member of the University faculty ended under highly dubious circumstances. Yet life on campus and in the wider community rolled along. The local newspapers applauded the regents' decision, as did the General Alumni Association. President Burton, who sat through the regents meeting, did not utter a word in defense of his faculty member. The powerful Commission of Public Safety was of course satisfied, having brought the charges in the first



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In the fall of 1937, *The Minnesota Daily* published a series of articles recalling the Schaper case and asked the regents to right a longstanding wrong.



place. In the climate then present on the campus, with student soldiers conducting military drills and guards stationed at the armory, the dismissal of Professor Schaper may have been viewed as simply another facet of the march to war.

A couple members of Schaper's political science department went to Burton to discuss the matter but the president put them off. An economics professor raised the issue of academic freedom at the October regents meeting, but he too was rebuffed. The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) investigated the matter, but many other faculty members across the country had been similarly treated, and the AAUP lacked the resources to deal with the cases on an individual basis.

Civil liberties were being trampled across the United States. In Minnesota, the Commission of Public Safety, with the blessing of the governor and legislature, built a network of spies throughout the counties looking for unpatriotic acts, armed a 7,000-man militia to guard against subversion in labor and political organizations, demanded loyalty oaths, and hired ex-Pinkerton agents to keep an eye on the state's German American population. It even considered creating a state firing squad to dispose of traitorous citizens.

William Schaper garnered some interest in his case from a former student of his, Max Lowenthal (B.A. 1909), who was counsel for the U.S. Labor Conciliation Commission, headed by future Supreme Court justice Felix Frankfurter. In December 1917, Lowenthal contacted Fred Snyder on Schaper's behalf and asked that the Board of Regents rehear Schaper's case on the simple but obvious grounds that the professor had done nothing that might constitute disloyalty to the United States. Snyder wrote back to Lowenthal saying that the entire board would resign rather than conduct another hearing on the matter.

The correspondence between Lowenthal and Schaper continued, but as Schaper himself admitted to his attorney later that winter, the times remained unpropitious for any redress of his status. The war was blazing and its attendant patriotic fervor had hardly diminished.



Schaper's former student Max Lowenthal (above, in 1939) and Minnesota Governor Floyd B. Olson (right, circa 1935) appealed to the Board of Regents to revisit the Schaper case.

In the meantime, Schaper was left without a job and with few prospects. Being fired from a teaching position for disloyalty to one's country does not invite a lot of offers for other professorships. Schaper eventually started a manufacturing business in Minneapolis: The former professor made and sold washboards for homes around Minnesota.

He also got involved in state politics with the newly formed Farmer-Labor Party (established, in part, in reaction to the measures taken during the war by the Commission of Public Safety). Slowly Schaper began to garner more allies as the war ended and the intense emotion waned.

In 1922, Lowenthal and Schaper organized a letter-writing campaign to Butler, the regents, and the governor asking

that Schaper's record be expunged. In an accompanying letter, Schaper wrote that he was not interested in being reinstated at the University but hoped to have his name cleared "so that other universities who want my services would not be barred by public prejudice from giving me a call," he wrote.

The Board of Regents again refused to reconsider its actions, but that same year Schaper got some measure of satisfaction against Butler. U.S. President Warren G. Harding had nominated



the St. Paul lawyer to fill a vacant seat on the Supreme Court, and the announcement elicited a hue and cry from progressive publications, including *The New Republic* and *The Nation*, which, due to the continued efforts of Lowenthal, were aware of Schaper's case and Butler's role in it. Schaper was called to Washington, D.C., to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee and tell his story. He was also allowed to submit a personal statement in which he wrote about Butler's role in dealing "me a cruel, crushing blow in an irregular and unfair manner."

It didn't matter much. Butler's nomination passed out of the committee and was confirmed by an overwhelming vote of 61 to 8 on the Senate floor.

Schaper returned to Minnesota where he not only remained active in Farmer-Labor politics but also ran in the party's primary for governor in 1924. Advocating for absolute academic freedom at the University of Minnesota, Schaper opened his campaign with a speech at St. Olaf College in Northfield—no doubt a conscious slap at his former employer. Schaper had no better luck in politics: He lost his race, finishing sixth in a field of seven candidates.

Good news was on the horizon, however. In 1925, the University of Oklahoma offered him a position as a professor of economics. Schaper and his wife, Harriet, were soon ensconced in Norman, Oklahoma, where he would serve until 1938.

THAT WAS NOT TO BE THE END of Schaper's part in the history of the University of Minnesota. His case continued to stick in the craw of many Minnesotans, not only because of the injustice done to him, but because of the precedent it set in regard to academic freedom.

A combination of factors led to the case being returned to the Board of Regents in February 1938. First of all, one of Professor Schaper's early supporters at the U in the years after the dismissal had been a young lawyer in Minneapolis named Floyd Olson. Olson, who was kicked out of the U Law School in 1911 for not paying his fees, later was elected governor of Minnesota and was a champion of the U during the Great Depression. He

remained interested in Schaper's case and was preparing a brief on the professor's behalf to take to the Board of Regents at the time of his death in 1936. Olson's successor, Governor Elmer Benson, then took up the cause.

At the same time, a new war in Europe was in its early stages. Around the state, questions about issues similar to those that had animated public opinion prior to World War I surfaced. What would happen this time around if the United States entered the war? Would the same hysteria and lack of tolerance hold sway? Would a body like the Commission of Public Safety reign once again? Would the Board of Regents again haul faculty members before it on charges of disloyalty?

In the fall of 1937, these issues were being talked about in public forums. *The Minnesota Daily* published a series of articles recalling the Schaper case and asked the regents to right a long-standing wrong. Nationally renowned historian Charles Beard wrote a piece in *The New Republic* on Schaper's behalf.

For all this, perhaps the single deciding factor in the board's decision to revisit the case was the fact that the regents were now controlled by a Farmer-Labor faction, including a German American lawyer from New Ulm named Albert Pfaender, who, during the same World War I hysteria, had been falsely accused of trying to incite some friends in New Ulm to disloyal acts. The only two hidebound defenders of the earlier decision left on the board were Dr. Charles Mayo and Fred Snyder.

The regents considered a resolution written primarily by

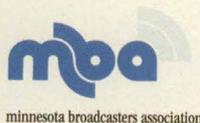


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Malcolm Willey, assistant to the acting president of the University, Guy Stanton Ford. At the top of a list of six items stating a new policy of academic freedom was this: "The University of Minnesota should not impose any limitations upon the teacher's freedom in the exposition of his own subject in the classroom or in addresses and publications." Among other points, it went on to state that "in no case should any member of the teaching staff be dismissed before the normal termination of his period of appointment without full and open hearing before the board of regents, should he desire it, and only upon sufficient notice."

Further, the resolution recognized "with regret and not in a spirit of condemnation of its predecessors that periods of national crisis are characterized by widespread loss of social perspective and a strain upon the values that prevail when conditions are not normal."

Finally, it authorized the University to rescind the 1917

termination of William Schaper, to reinstate him to the rank of professor of political science, and to pay out \$5,000 in reparation for his loss of salary in 1917-18.

There was one vote against the resolution: Fred Snyder's. The reasons he gave were essentially technicalities. Schaper himself was not offering the resolution, Snyder said, and no new evidence had been submitted to support the resolution. It was simply a challenge to the "integrity, ability, and charity of the board of 1917."

True enough, but then again, the board had no real evidence against Schaper in the first place. The times had changed, and, just as public opinion had supported the board in 1917, it now supported it in passing the counter-resolution of February 1938. The difference was that now history was on its side as well.

Schaper was grateful for the action of the Board of Regents and accepted the \$5,000, but he had no interest in returning to teach at the University of Minnesota. Apparently, he held no grudges against the school. When he died in 1955 in Oklahoma at the age of 86 (Harriet followed him in death six days later), he left \$10,000 to the University of Oklahoma and an equal amount to the University of Minnesota. ■

Tim Brady is a St. Paul-based writer and frequent contributor to Minnesota. His forthcoming book A Death in San Pietro: The Untold Story of Ernie Pyle, John Huston, and the Fight for Purple Heart Valley will be released in November.



Schaper ran in the 1924 primary for governor on the Farmer-Labor ticket.

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Here's to You, No. 42

The backyard of Tyler Walker's family home in San Jose, California, was ground zero for baseball creativity. Walker, a sophomore shortstop for the Gopher softball team, and her older brother Justin spent hours playing a hybrid game of baseball and basketball they had invented. Other times they grabbed grapefruits from a backyard tree and hit them toward the creek behind their house.

"We would break the windows to our house by accident," Tyler says. "There were many days my dad fixed shattered windows and broken fence boards. We were little rascals together."

Justin pretended to be his hero, Jackie Robinson, and Tyler was San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds. Years later, as an outfielder at West Valley College in Saratoga, California, Justin wore No. 42 as a tribute to Robinson—until the awful day five years ago when a home plate collision left him paralyzed from the waist down.

Today, Tyler wears No. 42 for Justin and Robinson. "It means the world to me that she wears my number," Justin says. "I feel like she has a little part of me out there."

"My brother is one of the most mentally tough people I've ever encountered," Tyler says. "He's faced with challenges that not everybody has to deal with every day, and he overcomes them with immense strength. Every time I put my jersey on, I thank God for sparing his life."

Justin's life changed on March 19, 2008, in a game against Sacramento City College. He was on third base and racing for home plate on a delayed double steal when he got down into a hook slide. "My head kind of got stuck on the catcher's left shin guard and my body kept going. I heard a ring, and then I thought, get up, get up. I couldn't," he says.

The collision shattered Justin's C7 vertebra near the base of his neck. Doctors told him his prospects of walking again were slim. But almost two months into a three-month hospital stay, Justin's big toe



Tyler Walker

twitched when a scene from the slasher movie *Saw IV*, which he was watching with his dad, scared him. Since then, he has regained 50 percent function in his left leg and 20 percent in his right through arduous therapy. He's able to work and drive a car and he plays in a wheelchair basketball league.

At the time of Justin's injury, Tyler was making a name for herself in California high school softball—she was the state's Player of the Year her senior season—and considering college options. That she gravitated to the U isn't a stretch. Her father, Calvin, is a Pac-12 conference softball umpire who knew Gophers Coach Jessica Allister when she was an all-conference catcher and then assistant coach at Stanford and Oregon. As a high school player, Tyler attended Allister's clinics.

"I could have played in California, yes, but what's better than Minnesota? I came out here, fell in love with the program, fell in love with the school," she says. When Justin assured her he would watch her

"It means the world to me that she wears my number," says Justin Walker. "I feel like she has a little part of me out there."

play no matter where she went, becoming a Gopher was a done deal.

Tyler, who plans to major in kinesiology, immediately established herself as a force in the Big Ten. Last year she hit .380, a freshman record, and was named the team's Player of the Year while making third team all-Big Ten. This season she picked up where she left off: In mid-April she was named co-Big Ten Player of the

Week for batting .857 in a sweep of Illinois.

"Lots of times after a great freshman year, it's easy to come in with lots of self-imposed pressure on what you expect yourself to do the next year," Allister says. "I've been impressed with Tyler's ability to just come in every day, work to get better, trust that she's a good hitter, and let her talents take over."

For Tyler and Justin, inspiration flows both ways. Justin and his wife, Nikki, became first-time parents last December to a girl they named Jordyn Tyler. "I want my daughter to know that's what a young woman should be," Justin says. "I want my daughter to know that no matter what she's working toward, it will happen, if you truly believe in it."

Justin stayed true to his word. He drives to the Gophers' early-season games out West and last year he attended a home game, against Michigan, for the first time. "To see her play where she's happy, I would travel 4,000 miles for that," he says.

—Pat Borzi

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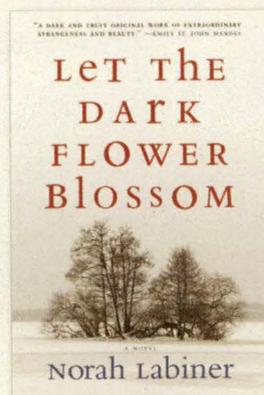


Norah Labiner

Mysteries of Memory and Murder

Minneapolis author Norah Labiner's fourth novel, *Let the Dark Flower Blossom* (Coffee House Press), is not an easy read. It's a moody, labyrinthine, psychological thriller weighted with literary allusions and stream-of-consciousness musings. For readers who know the rudiments of Greek mythology, remember discovering Yeats's poem "Leda and the Swan," and know a little Edith Hamilton and maybe a little Freud, this is a feast of a book.

As in her previous works, including *Miniatures*, which won a 2003 Minnesota Book Award, Labiner (M.A. '96) burrows deep into the psyches of her characters to expose their creepiest secrets. Yet when those secrets are revealed, it's not clear—even to the characters themselves—if they spring from real events, false memories, someone else's lies, or fiction crafted during countless retellings that obscured the original occurrence. "This is a story about the dangers of storytelling," Labiner has written of this book. The "dark flowers"



By Norah Labiner (M.A. '96)
Coffee House Press,
May 2013

that bloom in the shadowy borderland between memory and imagination are the stories that make up one's own private autobiography.

The story is told, alternately, by Sheldon and Eloise Schell, twins from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan who during

their 1970s college years in Iowa became entwined with Roman Stone, a brilliant, corrupt rich kid who jokes about sleeping with his stepmother (did he?) and killing his father (will he?). As the novel opens, middle-aged Roman has just been stabbed to death with scissors by... whom? Slowly and with considerable angst, the twins unwind their separate memories of Roman, and, with multiple retellings, their stories about him—and about their own mystery-shrouded childhood—begin to spin out of control until it is impossible to tell fact from fiction. Murder, rape, incest, seduction, deception, and betrayal pepper this gothic riddle of a novel, just as they spice the bloody myths it pays homage to.

The story's primary narrator, Sheldon Schell, is a brooding middle-aged widower who lives on an island in an archipelago in Lake Superior. Playing a nightly chess game with a neighbor with deepening Alzheimer's allows Sheldon to tell his stories and confess his secrets over and over again because his listener immediately forgets them. Meanwhile, Sheldon's twin, Eloise, equally given to brooding, is an aging beauty who lives in a Chicago penthouse with her husband, a high-powered defense attorney who specializes in making juries believe that crime victims' memories are false.

The narrative shifts between "Shel and El" as they recount their childhoods, in which their parents died suspiciously, as well as their youthful adventures with the charismatic Roman. A third narrator, Eloise's raven-haired daughter, Susu, may be the novel's most enigmatic character. In the end, she shapes the fates of her elders.

In the story's familiar Midwestern settings—Sheldon's northern island, the Upper Peninsula forest, the dorms of an Iowa college town, the streets of a Twin Cities suburb called Little America—its ancient themes seem to crystallize in even sharper relief.

Despite the challenges posed by Labiner's mazelike prose (the author says she has no interest in linear storytelling), this is a first-rate, highly literate murder mystery, one that proves even more rewarding, appropriately, on a second read.

—Pamela Miller (B.A. '78, M.A. '86 UMD)

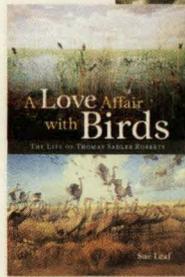
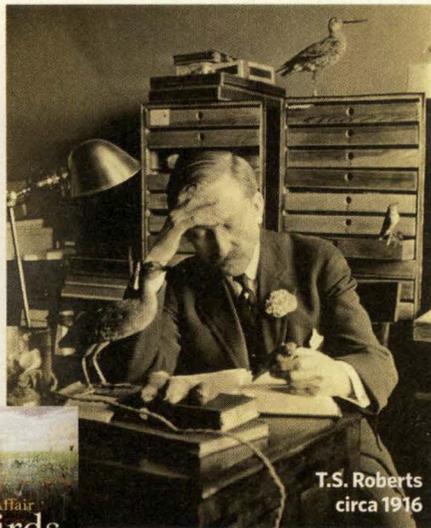
Friends of a Feather

Walking along a dirt path near the spring-loud Mississippi River, my friend freezes. "I think I saw it fly into those bushes," she whispers. Peering through the branches, I spot something moving. A yellow-throated vireo pops out, then drops back into the bright green leaves.

As for my companion and me, friendship and watching birds were also intertwined for Thomas Sadler Roberts, known as the father of Minnesota birding. This generous gentleman is the subject of Sue Leaf's charming biography, *A Love Affair with Birds* (University of Minnesota Press). With insights from Roberts's journals, letters, and publications, Leaf (M.S. '78, Ph.D. '84), creates an affectionate portrait of a man whose life's work continues to inspire bird-watchers. (Leaf is an environmental writer and author of *Potato City* and *The Bullhead Queen*.)

Roberts, born in 1858, became fascinated with birds as a boy on outings designed to restore his father's health—the reason the family moved from Philadelphia to Minneapolis. Roberts attended the University of Minnesota in the late 1870s, and, although he pursued medicine (including at the U), his love of birds inspired friends, fellow doctors, and even patients—including the Bell family. James Ford Bell funded a building dedicated to the U's natural history museum that Roberts headed, as well as Roberts's magnum opus.

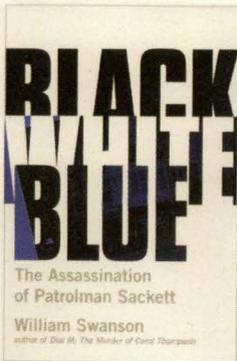
That opus, *The Birds of Minnesota* (University of Minnesota Press, 1932), two



weighty volumes still treasured by Minnesota birders, combines superb illustrations with scientific reports and Roberts's own delightful bird "biographies." Among the bird-observing friends and correspondents around the state who contributed to the book was his former medical secretary, Mabel Densmore, who also deciphered Roberts's scrawled notes to help create a reference for the backyard birder and the scientific naturalist alike.

A year after his death in 1946, a thicket next to Minneapolis's Lake Harriet that Leaf aptly calls "a tiny oasis in the middle of the city" became a bird sanctuary named for Roberts. His legacy also includes the Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, a haven in northwestern Minnesota for ducks, grebes, and sandhill cranes—as well as a place where people and birds may connect.

—Allison Campbell Jensen



Listen Up In mid-May 1970, St. Paul police officers pulled over a young man and confiscated a pistol from his glove box. "As they were talking," recounts author William Swanson (B.A. '68), "[he] told the officers, 'Watch the rooftops.'"

Was this a warning about the murder of Officer James Sackett that would happen a week later? Swanson discusses the assassination, the racial tensions of the era, and his book *Black White Blue* (Borealis Books)—in an Access Minnesota interview. Go to www.accessminnesotaonline.com.

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A Life-Changing Quest

As he neared his 60th birthday, David Hunter (M.D. '74) wanted to get away from the long hours and high intensity of working as an emergency room physician. A founding partner of the largest emergency medicine group in California, Hunter had been practicing medicine and running his growing business for more than 25 years. It was time for a change.

"I spent much of my career working in emergency rooms in low-income areas," says Hunter, 64, who lives in Scotts Valley, California. "I saw many victims of gang violence and treated lots of gunshot wounds and stabbings. But I also got to know a lot of bright young kids who, despite their environment, got good grades and were optimistic about their futures. They inspired me."

They still do. In 2009 Michael McCullough, an emergency physician who had worked with Hunter, offered him a job as CEO of the Quest Scholars Program, a nonprofit organization McCullough cofounded in Palo Alto that helps place high-achieving, low-income high school students at 35 of the best colleges and universities in the United States.

Hunter, who also holds a law degree from Harvard, readily accepted the offer, even though it came with a catch. "When they asked me to be the CEO, they also asked 'Would you be willing to do it for free?' I said, 'Sure,'" he says. "I'd rather they take the money that would be my salary and invest it in these kids."

Nationwide, roughly 35,000 low-income high school students score more than 1300—near the 90th percentile—on the combined

David Hunter (center) with Quest Scholars from the University of Pennsylvania, Stanford, Princeton, Rice, Emory, the University of Chicago, Amherst, Northwestern, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Yale, the University of Southern California, Haverford, Washington and Lee, and the University of Virginia

math and verbal SAT scores, but the vast majority of them never even dream of applying to top colleges and universities. "These kids face tremendous challenges; maybe Dad's in prison and Mom's working three jobs—but they don't see themselves as victims," Hunter says. "I really believe in the power of education—and I think these kids represent a tremendous underutilized resource to our country."

Hunter says the biggest challenge is reaching good students and persuading them to apply to top universities. Last year, the Quest Scholars Program sent out 750,000 e-mails and 250,000 print mail packets to prospective scholars nationwide. More than 7,000 submitted college applications through the program. Almost 400 received full-ride scholarships; some 1,600 other applicants received generous financial aid packages that enabled them to enroll at partner schools. Currently more than 4,000 Quest Scholars are enrolled in college.

"It's amazing to meet these young students and see what an education can do for them," Hunter says. "One of our scholars is the student body president at Princeton. Another was recently invited to give a TED talk."

"When I was an ER doctor, I often had the opportunity to save lives—which was very gratifying," Hunter recalls. "It's almost as gratifying to bring a student into the Quest Scholars Program."

—Chuck Benda

Artist on the Edge

Residents of Bigfork, Minnesota, population 469, drive 50 miles to go to a supermarket or movie theater. But live theater is another matter. Thanks to the efforts of Patricia Feld, they don't just attend theater in their own backyard—they make it.

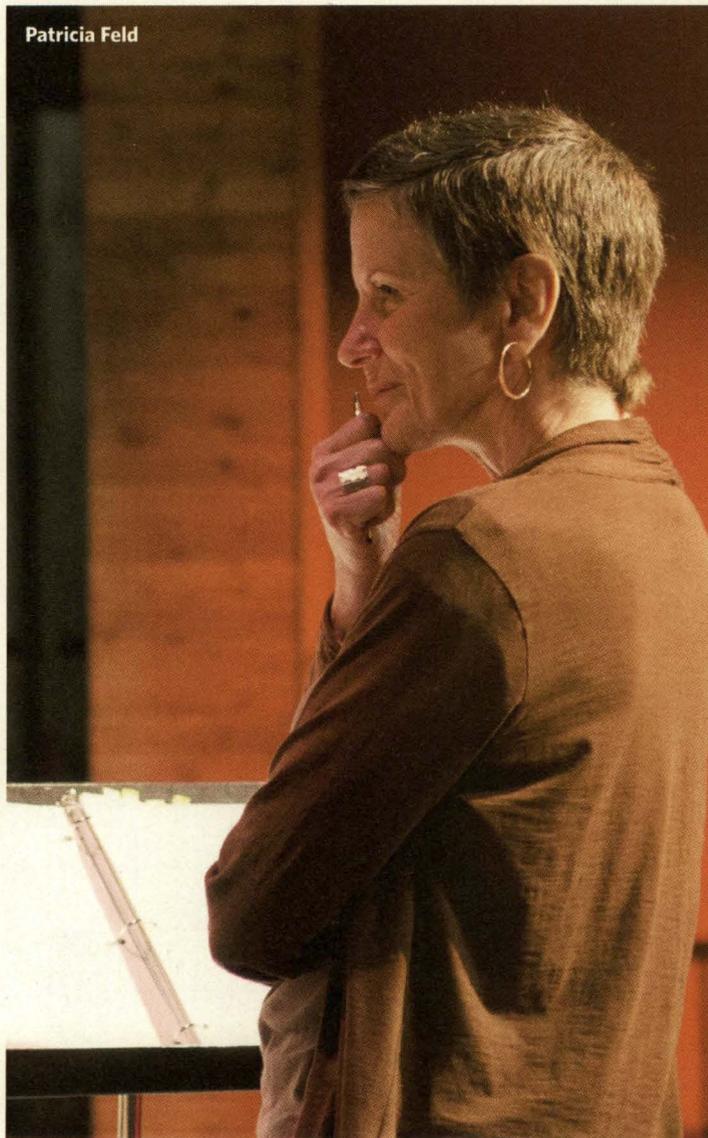
Feld (B.A. '70, M.F.A. '74, B.S. '87) is a cofounder and artistic director of the Edge Center for the Arts, a vibrant fine arts hub in the sparsely populated area of northern Minnesota known as the Edge of the Wilderness. The center includes the Edgewild Players, a theater company that Feld directs; live musical performances; juried arts shows; and an art gallery.

The Edge of the Wilderness is perhaps an unlikely spot for fine arts to thrive—but then again, maybe not. "In large part people had been completely unexposed to live arts," Feld says. "Nobody knew that anybody around here was capable of acting. There are some people who have such horsepower that I know they could act anywhere."

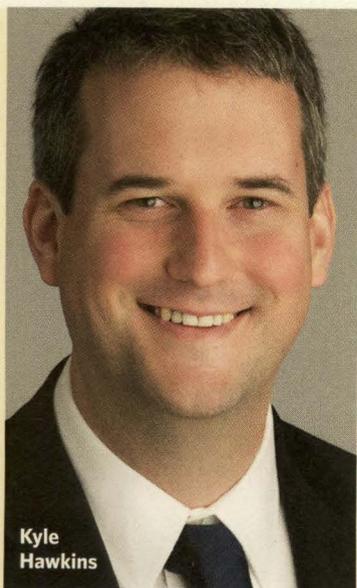
Feld's M.F.A. is in acting and she worked as a choreographer and assistant director at the Minnesota Opera from 1974 to 1981. In 1977 Feld and her husband, Barry Feld (J.D. '69), moved to Effie (population 123), seven miles from Bigfork. Her intention was to quietly enjoy the spectacular nature the area had to offer. But she got involved in an ad hoc group established to explore what could be done to enhance the community and ended up helping raise \$2.2 million for what would become the Edge Center. The center held its grand opening in September 2005 with a performance of *The Music Man*. Today it is self-supporting.

"Kids who had nowhere to hang art except the refrigerator now have a gallery. Actors and musicians have their own venue. It really brought everyone's awareness of art forms to the fore—and then it brought some artists out," Feld says.

—Cynthia Scott



Patricia Feld



Kyle Hawkins

Supreme Opportunity

Working at the Supreme Court of the United States was not on Kyle Hawkins's list of likely jobs when he entered law school at the University of Minnesota. Consider him pleasantly surprised. Hawkins (J.D. '09) is one of four attorneys recently chosen to serve as law clerk for Justice Samuel Alito for one year beginning in July.

"Every year the Supreme Court addresses some of the nation's most important legal questions. I'm very excited to serve Justice Alito and witness firsthand how the Court approaches those questions," Hawkins says.

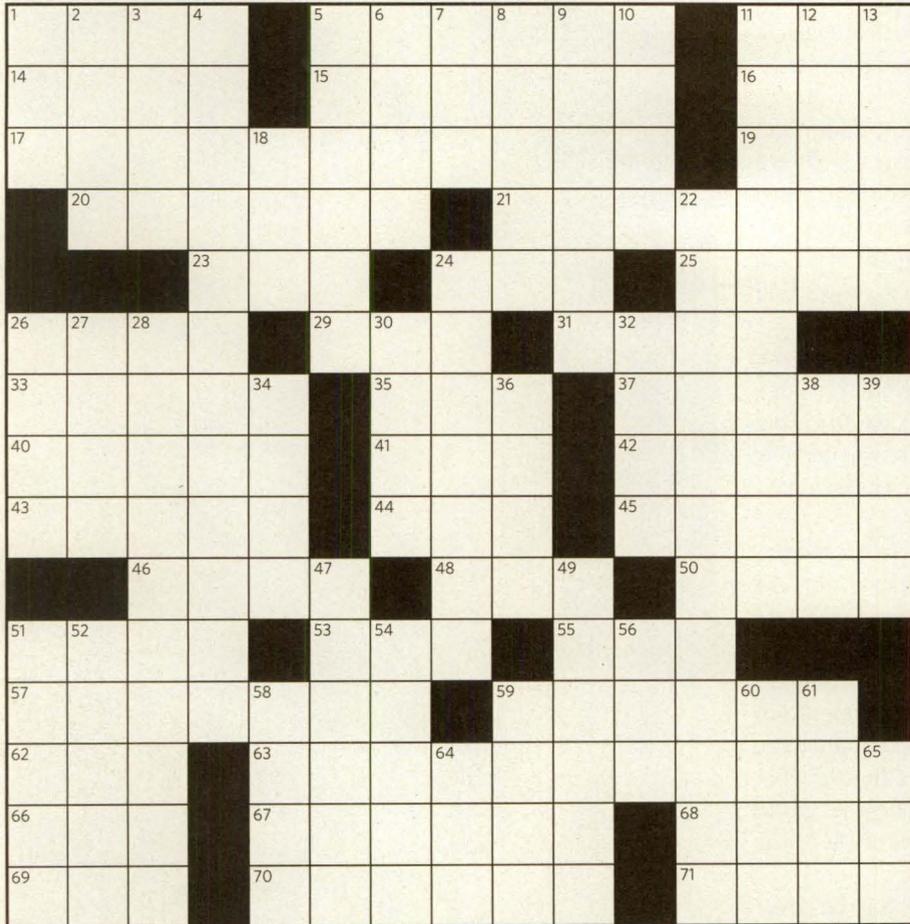
Currently a member of the appellate and constitutional law practice group at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Washington, D.C., Hawkins worked as a management consultant and taught English in Japan for two years before going to law school. He previously clerked for then-Chief Judge Edith Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. "The clerkship is an unparalleled learning opportunity that will make me a better lawyer," Hawkins says.

Hawkins is the ninth University of Minnesota graduate to clerk for a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

—C.S.

A Puzzle to Circumnavigate

By George Barany and Deane Morrison



ACROSS

- 1 Kvetch
- 5 Soiled
- 11 Doo-wop syllable
- 14 Kind of arch
- 15 Nabokov's nymphet
- 16 Curse or plague
- 17 Integer that describes an electron's state
- 19 Not healthy
- 20 Wrangles
- 21 Matisse painting of a hand-holding quintet
- 23 The network in *Network*
- 24 Sleep phase
- 25 Makes lace
- 26 Berry in dietary supplements

- 29 Educ. inst.
- 31 He wrote *A Boy Named Sue* for Johnny
- 33 Spring
- 35 Pirate potable
- 37 Outspoken
- 40 Dustin in *Midnight Cowboy*
- 41 Lawyers' grp.
- 42 Chameleon's cousin
- 43 Class reunion attendee
- 44 Red Sox legend Carl, affectionately
- 45 Salsa legend Cruz
- 46 Diet brand word
- 48 Notes after dos
- 50 Abolitionist senator Charles
- 51 Renege on a dele?
- 53 Iconic Bay Area 29-Across

- 55 Old credit-tracking corp.
- 57 It makes a clean slate
- 59 Settled routine
- 62 AL Central, e.g.
- 63 Chile saltpeter
- 66 Mayor Beame or Justice Fortas
- 67 Become self-revelatory, say
- 68 Cacophonies
- 69 Nintendo's Super ____
- 70 West Point student body
- 71 Piece of cake

DOWN

- 1 Rimsky-Korsakov's *Le ____ d'Or*
- 2 H-dos-O
- 3 Straggler's place

- 4 Tuxedos
- 5 Down-in-the-mouth state
- 6 Nobelist Peyton who went 55 years between his seminal discovery and the call to Stockholm
- 7 Einstein's birthplace
- 8 Oath-taker's prop
- 9 Second-string squads
- 10 Gridiron unit
- 11 Defining feature of vertebrates
- 12 *The Planets* composer Gustav
- 13 Wheel turners
- 18 Butter holder
- 22 Recanted
- 24 Strawberry's partner in recipes
- 26 Start of a spell
- 27 Stocking stuffer for a brat
- 28 Red and gold ones, in song
- 30 Supercomputing Seymour
- 32 Indoor atmospheric controls, for short
- 34 "O mighty Caesar! ____ thou lie so low?" (*Julius Caesar*)
- 36 One may be cut in a cornfield
- 38 "That's ____!" (angry retort)
- 39 Shakespearean king
- 47 Moon of Jupiter
- 49 Vegas and L.A. have famous ones
- 51 Portable chair
- 52 Clan
- 54 Yielded, as a debate point
- 56 Decompose
- 58 Grp. that sent an American team to London in 2012
- 59 Woody fruit of eucalyptus
- 60 Narcissistic
- 61 Sicilian smoker
- 64 Like Handel's Suite No. 5
- 65 Sixth sense, for short

George Barany is a professor of chemistry at the University of Minnesota and Deane Morrison is an editor and science writer in the Office of University Relations.



Answers to the Gopher Crossword appear on page 55. To solve this puzzle online, go to www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/crossword_summer13.

2014 Travel Preview



The University of Minnesota Alumni Association invites you to enjoy the ease and camaraderie of alumni group travel. We hope you'll join us in exploring storied destinations and captivating cultures next year!

Please note that all tours take place in 2014 and that date and price information is subject to change. All prices are per person, double occupancy. To be added to our travel mailing list or to request specific brochures, please send a message to umalumni@umn.edu.

PASSAGE THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL AND NATURE'S WONDERS OF COSTA RICA

A spectacular nine-day journey from the Costa Rican rain forest through the mighty locks of the Panama Canal during its 100th anniversary year. Aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art *M.Y. Variety Voyager*, cruise to remote island paradises and explore Costa Rica's terrestrial wonders and Panama City.

January 4-12; from approximately \$3,995 plus airfare.

EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA

A unique 14-day journey featuring a nine-night cruise to Antarctica, Earth's last frontier, aboard the deluxe *M.S. L'Austral*. Experience the White Continent in its unspoiled state, accompanied by the ship's expert team of naturalists. Also, spend two nights in vibrant Buenos Aires. Iguazu Falls post-program option available.

January 31-February 13; from \$7,995 plus airfare.

TANZANIA SAFARI DURING THE GREAT MIGRATION

An 11-day safari of a lifetime in Tanzania, Africa's premier safari destination, during the annual Great Migration. Enjoy daily guided game drives through Lake Manyara National Park, Serengeti National Park, and Ngorongoro Crater—with deluxe accommodations. Visit Olduvai Gorge, the "cradle of mankind." Two-night Tarangire extension available. **February 10-20; from approximately \$5,895 plus airfare.**

WONDERS OF THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

The Galapagos Islands are a nature lover's dream destination, where the unique wildlife accepts human company up-close like nowhere else on Earth. Accompanied by certified naturalists, cruise for four nights and enjoy four nights on mainland Ecuador. The six-night post-program option features Machu Picchu, the Sacred Valley, and historic Lima, Peru.

March 7-15; from approximately \$3,795 plus airfare.

MYSTERIES OF MYANMAR: BURMESE HERITAGE REVEALED

With traditions unchanged from time immemorial, a rich Buddhist culture, and diverse ethnic groups, Myanmar presents a singular travel experience. As our small group (limited to 24 guests) sets out on the road to Mandalay, we see the spectacular temples at Bagan, colonial Yangon, the hill station of Kalaw, and pastoral Inle Lake—a journey of deep discovery and reward.

March 7-20; \$4,795 air inclusive.

WATERWAYS OF HOLLAND AND BELGIUM

Cruise for seven nights in Holland and Belgium aboard a state-of-the-art Ama Waterways vessel during the best time of the year. Meet local residents during an exclusive Village Forum for a personal perspective of the Low Countries' modern life and cultural heritage. Visit Amsterdam, Bruges, Kinderdijk, the Delta Works, and Kuekenhof Gardens. **April 6-14; from approximately \$2,995 plus airfare.**

www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Travel





THE RIVIERAS AND ISLANDS OF FRANCE, ITALY, AND SPAIN

Cruise for seven nights from Barcelona to Rome aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star *M.V. Tere Moana*. Visit the sun-drenched landscapes of the French and Italian rivieras and islands and up to five UNESCO World Heritage sites, with excursions featuring Nice, Cannes, Monte Carlo, Eze, Italy's Cinque Terre, Florence, Sardinia, and Corsica.

April 18-26; from \$4,595 plus airfare.

HISTORIC REFLECTIONS—OCEANIA CRUISES

History springs to life as you sail the balmy seas of the Mediterranean on Oceania Cruises' elegant *Riviera*. Ports of call on the shores of France, Monaco, Italy, Turkey, and Greece will provide a kaleidoscope of unforgettable experiences. From Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel in Rome to the famed Library of Celsus in Ephesus, this voyage reflects the heart and soul of the Mediterranean.

April 20-May 1; from \$3,499 air inclusive.

EUROPEAN COASTAL CIVILIZATIONS

A seven-night cruise aboard the deluxe *M.S. L'Austral* to coastal Portugal, Spain, France, and Guernsey, one of the United Kingdom's Channel Islands. Professor David Eisenhower, grandson of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower, will give an onboard lecture and accompany you to the Normandy beaches 70 years after Allied Forces made their historic D-Day landings.

April 27-May 5; from approximately \$3,995 plus airfare.

MEDITERRANEAN MARVELS—OCEANIA CRUISES

Discover the marvels of the Mediterranean aboard the elegant Oceania Cruises' *Insignia*. Explore lovely Palma de Mallorca, take in Marseille's old town, experience the French Riviera in Antibes and Monte Carlo, and enrich yourself among celebrated art and natural beauty in Portofino, Florence, Pisa, and Tuscany.

May 7-15; from \$2,499 air inclusive.

GREEK ISLES ODYSSEY—OCEANIA CRUISES

Discover incredible ancient wonders and alluring sun-soaked islands on this Aegean adventure aboard the graceful Oceania Cruises' *Riviera*. This odyssey to Turkey and the Greek Isles transports you to the amazing cities and islands of Santorini, Kusadasi, Rhodes, Mykonos, Kavala, and Istanbul.

May 14-22; from \$2,499 air inclusive.

TOWN AND COUNTRY LIFE IN OXFORD

Spend one full week in quintessential England, with four nights in Oxford's landmark Macdonald Randolph Hotel and three nights in the charming Cotswolds villages. By special arrangement, Lord Charles Spencer-Churchill hosts an exclusive tour and lunch in Blenheim Palace, the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill. Cambridge pre-program and Canterbury post-program options.

May 17-25; from \$3,795 plus airfare.

ICELAND TO GREENLAND IN THE WAKE OF THE VIKINGS

Cruise the beautiful, rugged west coast of Greenland from Reykjavik, Iceland, to Kangerlussuaq, with ports of call at Narsaq, Nuuk, Equi Glacier, and Ilulissat. Experience this extreme land that is home to eight species of whales, two million seals, walruses, reindeer, and an amazing variety of seabirds. Two-night Northern Iceland pre-cruise option available.

May 21-29; from \$3,995 plus airfare.

ANTEBELLUM SOUTH—AMERICAN QUEEN

Revel in authentic Americana aboard the luxury steamboat *American Queen* as you cruise along the vast Mississippi River. Delve into the history, culture, and grandeur of the Antebellum South from New Orleans to Memphis, stopping at Oak Alley, St. Francisville, Natchez, Vicksburg, and Helena.

May 23-31; from \$2,549 plus airfare.

CULTURAL TREASURES OF THE BLACK SEA AND THE CRIMEA

This unique nine-day program showcases the Black Sea's most intriguing destinations—Istanbul, Yalta, Sevastopol, Odessa, and Nesebar. Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star *M.V. Tere Moana* and discover three countries with more than 26 centuries of culture and history surrounding the Black Sea. Istanbul pre-cruise and Cappadocia post-cruise options.

June 6-14; from approximately \$4,995 plus airfare.

MEDITERRANEAN INSPIRATION—OCEANIA CRUISES

This Mediterranean adventure aboard Oceania Cruises' elegant *Nautica* takes you to amazing ports of call in Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania, and Greece. Appreciate artistic masterpieces in Florence, experience dramatic hillside Italian towns, relax on a Greek island, and explore the historical wonders of Kotor and Durres on this inspirational journey.

June 6-17; from \$3,999 air inclusive.





CRUISING ALONG THE DALMATIAN COAST

Explore the Adriatic Sea's stunning, island-dappled Dalmatian Coast aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe *M.S. Le Soleal* on this seven-night cruise. Visit three countries and four UNESCO World Heritage sites. Enjoy specially arranged lectures, a Village Forum with local residents, and a folk music performance on board. Two-night Venice pre- and post-cruise options.

June 18-26; from \$3,895 plus airfare.

BALTIC TREASURES—OCEANIA CRUISES

The treasures of the Baltic are revealed on this magical voyage aboard the elegant Oceania Cruises' *Marina*. Discover onion-domed cathedrals, Baroque palaces, medieval towns, and stunning harbors as you cruise the Baltic Sea to captivating ports in Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Russia, Estonia, and Sweden.

June 30-July 11; from \$4,299 air inclusive.

SCANDINAVIAN AND RUSSIAN SPENDORS—OCEANIA CRUISES

Sail away on the gorgeous Oceania Cruises' *Marina* to some of the most intriguing cities that Northern Europe has to offer and take in its many splendors. See stunning harbors, gilded domes, majestic palaces, and historic landmarks in Estonia, Russia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany, Denmark, and Belgium.

July 10-23; from \$5,299 air inclusive.

BEST OF THE BRITISH ISLES—OCEANIA CRUISES

Explore the captivating ports, age-old castles, and dramatic scenery of the British Isles while cruising aboard the graceful Oceania Cruises' *Marina*. Watch and marvel as picturesque landscapes and enthralling city centers unfold along the coasts of Scotland, Ireland, and England. **July 22-August 2; from \$4,299 air inclusive.**

DISCOVERING EASTERN EUROPE

Eastern Europe is an especially beautiful and poignant part of the world. This small group (limited to 24 guests) journey offers ample opportunity for enrichment, enlightenment, and enjoyment. Both leisurely and comprehensive, it provides a generous overview of five distinctly different and fascinating nations—the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland.

July 22-August 7; \$4,795 air inclusive.

ALASKAN ADVENTURES—OCEANIA CRUISES

Explore Alaska, a natural wonder of stunning landscapes and unspoiled wilderness aboard the intimate Oceania Cruises' *Regatta*. Depart Seattle and sail to Ketchikan, through the stunningly scenic Tracy Arm Fjord to Wrangell, with a stop in Prince Rupert, British Columbia, on your return to Seattle. Alaska's rugged beauty will captivate you! **July 24-31; from \$1,999 air inclusive.**

EXPLORING ICELAND

Iceland is an adventurous land with massive glaciers, rumbling volcanoes, bubbling mud holes, and powerful waterfalls. Home to a hugely abundant bird life and just 300,000 people, the sun never sets for six splendid weeks. It's perfect for exploring in a small group, as we discover traveling the breadth of the country and staying in charming, ideally located small hotels.

August 23-September 2; \$4,395 air inclusive.

PARIS TO PROVENCE: TOWN AND COUNTRY LIFE

This exclusive French sojourn features two nights in Paris; a cruise through the Burgundy, Beaujolais, and Provence wine regions aboard the exclusively chartered *M.S. Amadeus Symphony*, and travel aboard the TGV high-speed train to the Rhone Valley. Visit Lyon, Orange, Avignon, and Arles. London pre-program and Aix-en-Provence post-program options.

September 1-9; from approximately \$3,995 plus airfare.

PORTRAIT OF ITALY

From the breathtaking Amalfi Coast to eternal Rome, through the gentle Umbrian and Tuscan countryside to timeless Venice, this leisurely tour showcases ancient sites, contemporary life, priceless art, and gorgeous natural scenery. You'll especially appreciate the small size of your group (just 24 guests) as you stay in unique places in the Tuscan countryside and a medieval village.

September 2-18; \$4,895 air inclusive.





SPANISH SERENADE— OCEANIA CRUISES

Savor the sights and sounds of Spain, Gibraltar, Morocco, France, Monaco, and Italy from aboard Oceania Cruises' luxurious *Marina*. Discover celebrated landmarks, exotic structures, and natural wonders as you sail the beautiful shores of the Iberian Peninsula to the French Riviera and Italy's revered west coast. **September 23-October 4; from \$3,999 air inclusive.**

ISLAND LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE AND TURKEY

A nine-day odyssey from Athens to Istanbul aboard the exclusively chartered deluxe small ship *M.S. Le Soleal*. Meet local residents during the specially arranged Village Forum. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Delos, Rhodes, Patmos, and Troy. Athens pre-cruise and Istanbul or Cappadocia and Istanbul post-cruise options. **September 24-October 2; from approximately \$3,695 plus airfare.**

VILLAGE LIFE IN DORDOGNE

Experience the provincial character of Dordogne for one full week in Sarlat-la-Caneda, one of the most beautiful and well-preserved medieval villages in France. Stay in the family-owned Plaza Madeleine Hotel, formerly a grand 19th-century townhouse. Discover the region's charming villages, medieval castles, and prehistoric treasures. Bordeaux pre-program option. **September 25-October 3; from \$3,095 plus airfare.**

AUTUMN IN AMERICA'S HEARTLAND—AMERICAN QUEEN

Discover autumn beauty along the Mississippi from St. Louis to St. Paul on an authentic river cruise aboard the luxury steamboat *American Queen*. This all-American voyage features the river in its most classic glory, with rich fall colors, spectacular bluffs, and communities born of the spirit immortalized by Mark Twain. **September 26-October 4; from \$2,549 plus airfare.**

VILLAGE LIFE IN THE ITALIAN LAKES DISTRICT

Experience the true essence of life in northern Italy's fabled Lakes District for one full week in the charming Hotel Regina Olga overlooking Lake Como. Enjoy a private boat cruise on Lake Como and expert-guided excursions to Bellagio, Villa del Balbianello, the Borromeo Islands, and Stresa. Milan pre-program option. **September 27-October 5; from approximately \$2,995 plus airfare.**

ITALIAN TAPESTRY—OCEANIA CRUISES

Discover the brilliant tapestry of renowned art, culture, and scenic beauty in the celebrated cities and towns of Italy's beloved west coast, and experience the historic charms of Marseille, Antibes, Corfu, and Dubrovnik, as you sail from Barcelona to Venice aboard the beautifully appointed Oceania Cruises' *Marina*. **October 10-21; from \$3,799 air inclusive.**

ACCENT ON THE ADRIATIC—OCEANIA CRUISES

Immerse yourself in ancient history and stunning landscapes as you cruise the azure waters of the Adriatic aboard the deluxe Oceania Cruises' *Marina*. Adriatic wonders come to life with visits to captivating ports on the renowned shores of Croatia, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, and Italy. **October 20-28; from \$2,499 air inclusive.**

CHINA IN-DEPTH

Distinctive and comprehensive, this small group journey reveals the essence of present-day China, with an appreciative look at the past. From the classic virtues of Beijing and Xian to vibrant Shanghai, the natural beauty of Guilin and the Yangtze to the sophistication of Hong Kong, you'll encounter a traditional nation on a fast course toward the future. **October 23-November 11; \$5,495 air inclusive.**

PEARLS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN—OCEANIA CRUISES

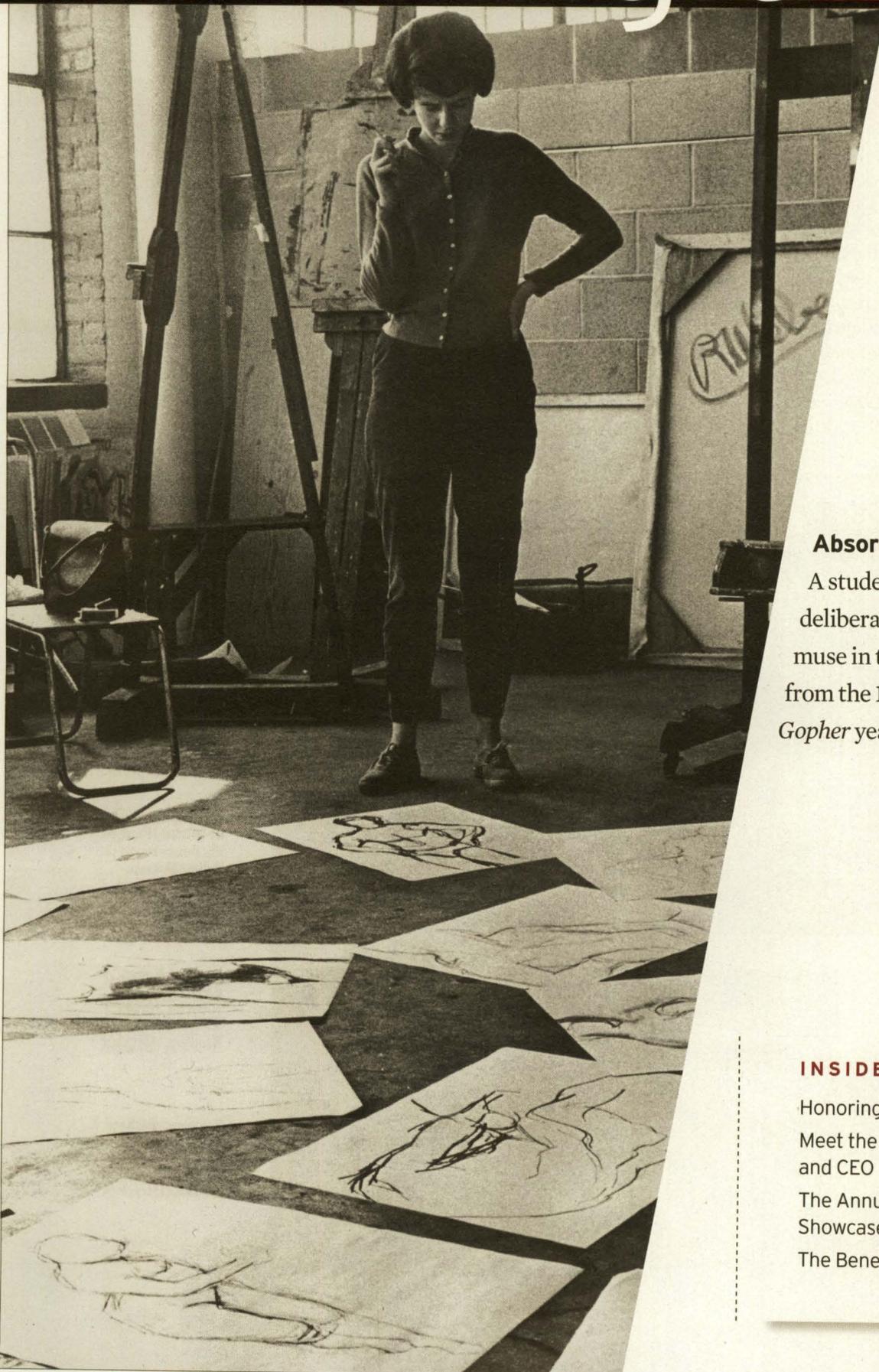
Discover culturally rich pearls of the Mediterranean on this cruise aboard Oceania Cruises' elegant *Riviera*. Explore the charming French ports of Marseille and Port-Vendres, experience Spanish splendor in Mallorca, and immerse yourself in the storied Italian art and natural beauty in Portofino, Rome, Florence, and Pisa. **November 7-15; from \$2,299 air inclusive.**



**Many additional destinations to be announced!
Visit our website for the latest tour information.**

www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Travel

Alumni Association **Angle**



Absorbed

A student artist deliberates with her muse in this photograph from the 1966-67 *Gopher* yearbook.

INSIDE

Honoring A+ Teachers
Meet the New President
and CEO
The Annual Celebration
Showcases U Talent
The Benefits of Summer

The U Honors Its Best

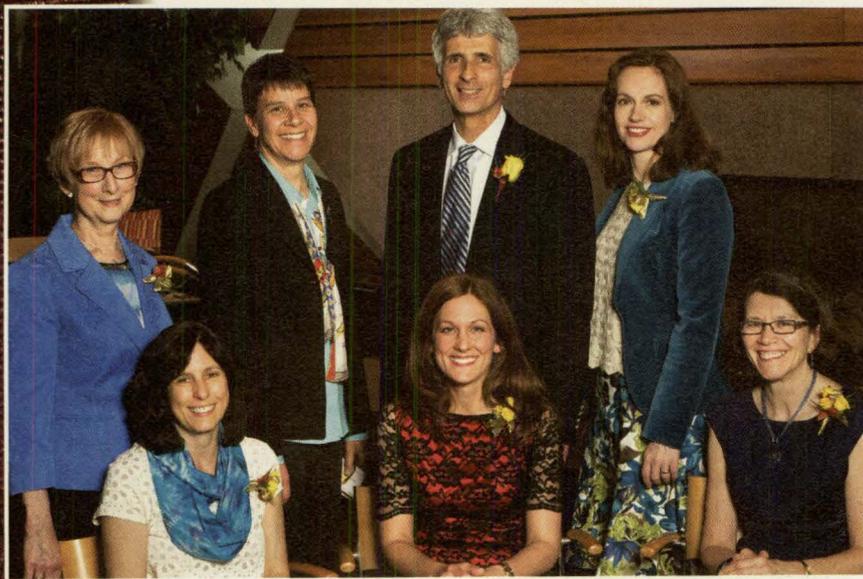
Every spring, the University of Minnesota inducts selected faculty into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers at the Distinguished Teaching Awards Ceremony. The ceremony, held this year on April 30, honors recipients of the Horace T. Morse–Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education—named for the first dean of the University’s General College, who served from 1946 to 1966—and the Award for Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education. The Academy of Distinguished Teachers was established in 1999 to advance the University’s teaching mission.

The Alumni Association, the Senate Committee on Educational Policy, and the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost cosponsor the awards.

Recipients are pictured below.

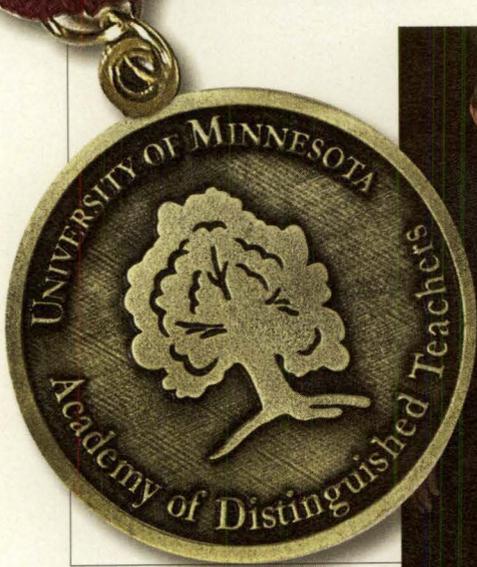
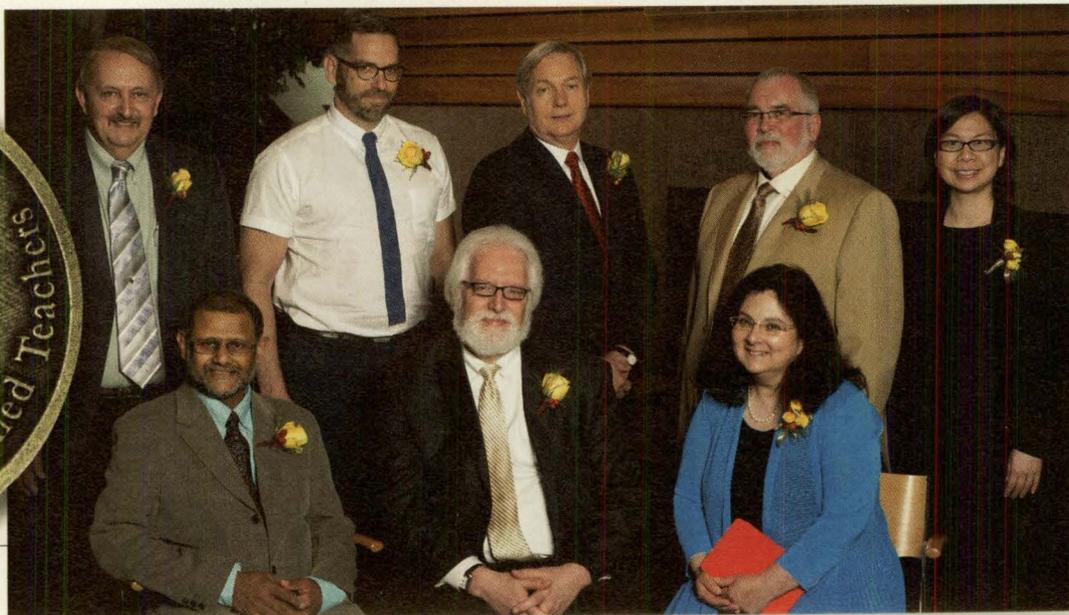
Horace T. Morse–Alumni Award recipients (below left)

Back row, left to right: Karen La Bat, professor of design, housing, and apparel, College of Design; Carrie Earthman, associate professor of food science and nutrition, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS); Chris Dovolis, teaching specialist in computer science and engineering, College of Science and Engineering (CSE); Jennifer Kolpacoff Deane, associate professor of history, University of Minnesota, Morris. Front row, left to right: Susan Staats, associate professor of postsecondary teaching and learning, College of Education and Human Development; Rachel McCoppin, associate professor of literature and the humanities, University of Minnesota, Crookston; Susan Wick, professor of plant biology, College of Biological Sciences



The Award for Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education recipients (bottom)

Back row, left to right: Jerry Cohen, Gordon and Margaret Bailey Professor of horticulture, CFANS; Kevin Murphy, associate professor of history, College of Liberal Arts (CLA); Michael Osterholm, professor of environmental health sciences and director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, School of Public Health, and adjunct professor, Medical School; Ronald Hadsall, assistant dean, College of Pharmacy; Karen Ho, associate professor of anthropology, CLA. Front row, left to right: Keshab Parhi, professor of electrical and computer engineering, CSE; Robert Washabau, professor of medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine; Lisa Schimmenti, associate professor of pediatrics, Medical School



Educator for Life

Susan Wick knows deep in her bones the challenges faced by students who are the first in their families to go to college. A University of Minnesota professor of plant biology, Wick grew up in inner-city Milwaukee in a working-class family where the very idea of education was foreign. Her parents didn't attend high school, much less college.

Today that experience has helped Wick excel at encouraging and mentoring her students, especially those who are first-generation. "It's not that all homes with more highly educated parents sit around having deep philosophical discussions all the time, but there is a certain level of critical thinking that usually comes with exposure to college coursework and that tends to influence day-to-day life," Wick says. "Most of us from first-generation homes never experienced that and may not realize how that subtle difference affects how we approach school and life in general."

On April 30 the University of Minnesota recognized Wick and seven other outstanding teachers as recipients of the Horace T. Morse–Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education. The award is presented annually to selected faculty who demonstrate uncommon skill, excellence, and commitment to their students.

Wick says her experience as an international student—she spent a year in Japan as an undergraduate and did postgraduate work in Australia—helped her become an empathetic teacher. "Everyone should have the experience of being a minority in society, especially when young, so they can be sensitive to what that is like for others. International students, like many first-generation students, come from a home culture that may be slightly—or very—different than those of the majority of students," she says.

"Sue has a knack for understanding students and developing mentoring relationships that go beyond standard advising," says Professor Gary



Susan Wick with students Vuong Nguyen (left) and Katie Mattson during a Foundations of Biology class

Muehlbauer, head of the Department of Plant Biology. Wick's commitment to helping students learn has motivated her to strive constantly for better ways to teach. She helped design a course called Foundations of Biology for Biological Science Majors, a pioneering active-learning model that has changed the culture of biology instruction at the U.

"The aim is to have students *do* biology,

not just read or hear about it," Wick says. Her primary focus in developing undergraduate courses has always been to enhance students' learning experiences so that when they graduate they possess problem-solving skills and, most importantly, remain curious about the world around them.

—Erika Block



Lisa Lewis Named Alumni Association President and CEO

In April the Alumni Association board of directors named Lisa Lewis president and chief executive officer. Lewis has 23 years of alumni association experience, most recently as executive director of the University of Connecticut Alumni Association. Prior to that she served as assistant vice president of communications for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, based in Tampa, Florida, and held positions of president of the University of South Florida Alumni Association and associate vice president of alumni affairs for the University of South Florida.

Lewis has also served in several leadership roles with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Council of Alumni Association Executives. She began her duties on May 31.

National Board Chair

Our Deep, Broad Roots

Over the past year, I've had the privilege to travel around the state and nation to attend alumni gatherings and other events hosted by the Alumni Association and to see firsthand the diverse and unique qualities that our alumni bring to the fabric of the University of Minnesota. I was especially interested in learning how the University illuminated the lives of alumni. These were the most enjoyable moments when meeting alumni. Each person told a story that was unique to him or her, but also—in each case—was clearly part of a larger theme.

Some spoke about professors and courses that helped them discover their passions. Others said their degree led to making connections that created new opportunities or helped them advance their ideas. And others told of the life-changing impacts of the relationships they built at the U.

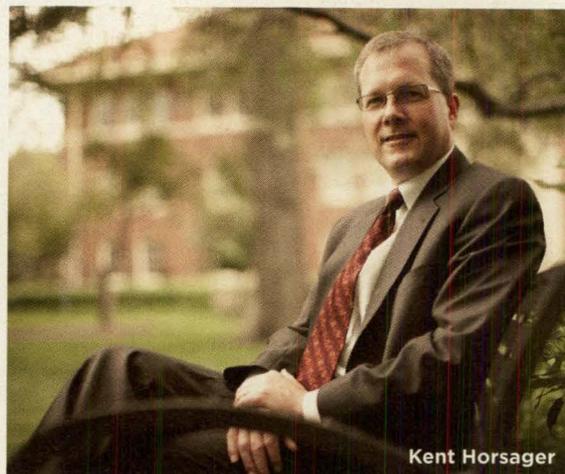
I would often look at the faces and note the vast range of ages, professions, and interests. I thought about one of nature's examples of the value of deep and broad connections that I saw growing up on a farm—something you might appreciate if you travel through rural Minnesota this summer. Alfalfa hay is an important source of feed for milk cows and other livestock. The alfalfa plant grows about 3 feet high before being harvested. Its root system, however, is a fibrous web that winds as deep as 45 feet below ground. Its deep, broad root structure connects it to a rich supply of nutrients.

Just imagine the life-sustaining interconnections beneath the surface in an entire field of alfalfa. The Alumni Association's mission is to nurture such lifelong connections between alumni and their alma mater.

The dynamic life of campus means the foundations of new traditions and connections are being forged every day. I recently toured the northeast Minneapolis studio of artist Nicholas Legeros (M.F.A. '83), who has been commissioned to sculpt a bronze statue of Goldy Gopher. The 6-foot-3-inch statue will stand outside Coffman Memorial Union, and students are brainstorming ways to make our beloved mascot's statue the centerpiece of new traditions. I have a feeling that rubbing Goldy's teeth—keeping them illuminated for good luck—will be an irresistible ritual when Goldy is unveiled this fall during homecoming week.

No farmer wants to see gophers in his or her alfalfa field. But Goldy will always hold an honored place in the hearts of U of M alumni. Thank you for sharing your stories with me this year. I hope to see you on campus soon—perhaps at the Goldy statue.

—Kent Horsager (B.S. '84)



Kent Horsager

Plan to come home...

MINNESOTA HOMECOMING 2013

HOMECOMING 2013

September 22-28

Alumni Awards Celebration
Blood Drive
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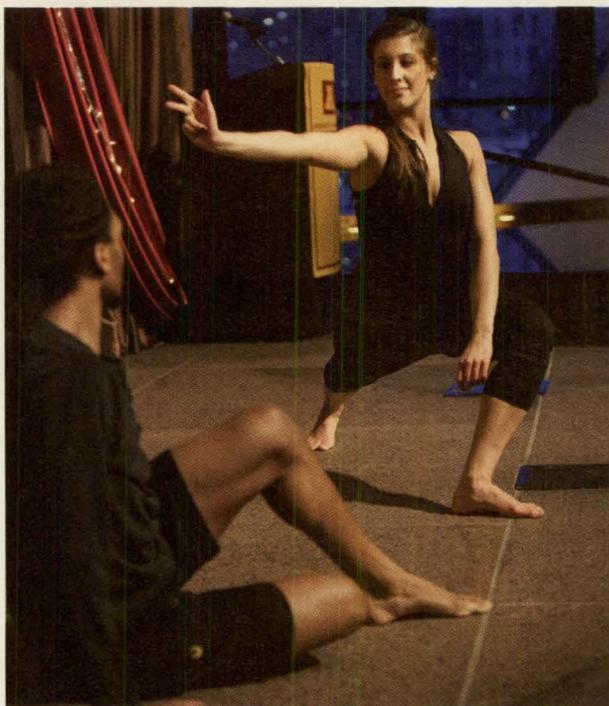
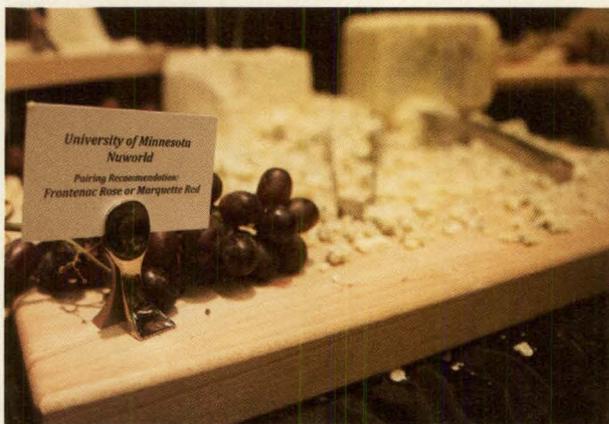
MinnesotaAlumni.org/homecoming

Alumni Association Angle

Annual Celebration Showcases the U

More than 450 guests enjoyed an evening of eclectic entertainment celebrating the University of Minnesota on April 19 at the 2013 Alumni Association Annual Celebration, held at McNamara Alumni Center. Highlights of the evening included a reception featuring wine made with cold-hardy grapes developed at the University of Minnesota and cheese made at the U; an exhibition by U student artists; remarks by President Eric Kaler; performances by students from the University Opera Theatre and the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance; and a keynote address by noted University of Minnesota aquatic invasive species researcher Peter Sorensen.

Alumni Association Interim President and CEO Scott Meyer recognized the service of National Board Chair Kent Horsager, whose term ends July 1. Horsager will be succeeded by chair-elect Susan Adams Loyd, to whom he ceremonially passed the gavel.



Clockwise from top: guest Christopher Scholl; student artist Amruta Marwah; Alumni Association national board chair-elect Susan Adams Loyd; keynote speaker Peter Sorensen; student dancers Davente Gilreath and Kaitlin Setzke; Nuworld cheese, made at the University of Minnesota, at the wine and cheese reception.

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Make Room for the Uncommon Geek

Newly renovated with a college-chic vibe, the Commons Hotel in Stadium Village encourages guests to embrace their inner geek and promises a stay that is anything but common.

A contemporary library featuring a circular fireplace greets visitors upon arrival. The surrounding bookshelves house a selection of classic titles for guests to peruse and read during their stay. The scholastic theme continues throughout the hotel via in-room art galleries, Sudoku puzzle deliveries with room service, and custom-designed educational excursions to on-campus and area attractions.

Celebrating the hotel's proximity to the University of Minnesota and downtown Minneapolis, the lobby guest chairs are made of fabric imprinted with the names of nearby streets—Delaware, Oak, Walnut, and others—and historical area photographs that highlight the hotel's Twin Cities connection.

With 20,000 square feet of redesigned meeting space and 304 renovated guest rooms and suites, the Commons Hotel, formerly known as University Hotel,



The Commons Hotel Library offers guests an inviting conversation area adjacent to the hotel lobby.

offers spacious guestrooms that feature custom furniture complemented by iPod docking stations, LCD televisions, and high-speed wireless Internet. The property also boasts an on-premise Starbucks and state-of-the-art fitness center.

Guests can dine in-room or at the Beacon Public House restaurant, which features locally inspired menu items such as pan roasted salmon served with Minnesota wild rice or roasted chicken from Wild Acres game farm in Pequot Lakes, Minnesota. Along with several

Minnesota-brewed beers and a diverse wine list, guests can sample reinvented classic cocktails like the Modern Mule, mixed with Belvedere vodka, ginger beer, and lime.

Alumni Association members receive special room rates and 10 percent savings on Beacon Public House restaurant orders. An Alumni Association member card must be presented for discounts. For details visit www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/hotels.

—Jennifer Benson

Learn about the Science of Being Well

The Wellbeing Lecture Series of the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality & Healing, which brings world-renowned experts to campus to discuss the science behind personal health and well-being, will present Kristin Neff on September 19 and author Tom Rath on November 19.

Neff's presentation, *Self-Compassion and Psychological Wellbeing*, will highlight her pioneering research on self-kindness, common humanity, and mindfulness. Learning to embrace these principles, she says, can help individuals cope with life's hardships in a constructive and healthy manner by acknowledging personal problems



Tom Rath



Kristin Neff

and being sympathetic toward them, rather than suppressing them. Neff is an associate professor of educational psychology at the University of Texas at Austin.

Rath is a cocreator of the popular online assessment tool *StrengthsFinder* and has written widely on the role of human behavior in business, health, and economics. His presentation, *Eat, Move, Sleep: Why Small Choices Make a Big Difference*, will explore his research on how everyday decisions profoundly affect health, energy, and productivity.

Both lectures will be held in the Great Hall at Coffman Union.

Admission is \$20. Alumni Association members receive a 10 percent discount on the center's Wellbeing Lecture Series and other selected programs. Learn more at www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/csh.

—Shannon Juen



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Revenge Is Sweet

Crooked cops, a down-on-his-luck good guy, a big-city con artist, a killer, a heroine, and a raging storm all await audiences in *Sweet Revenge!* on the Minnesota Centennial Showboat June 13 through August 24.

"What more could you expect from a night at the theater? And where else but on the Showboat can you cheer on the hero and hiss the bad guy?" says returning Showboat director Peter Moore.

In this, the Showboat's 55th season, the Showboat Players—all University of Minnesota Theatre Arts & Dance students—perform this action-packed tale about a repentant criminal who steals the heart of a farmer's daughter, only to have a con man claim her for his own. Caught in a web of deceit, the secret lovers must battle to overcome powerful forces.

Minnesota Opera veteran Vern Sutton directs the show's signature songs, song and dance interludes straight from vaudeville.

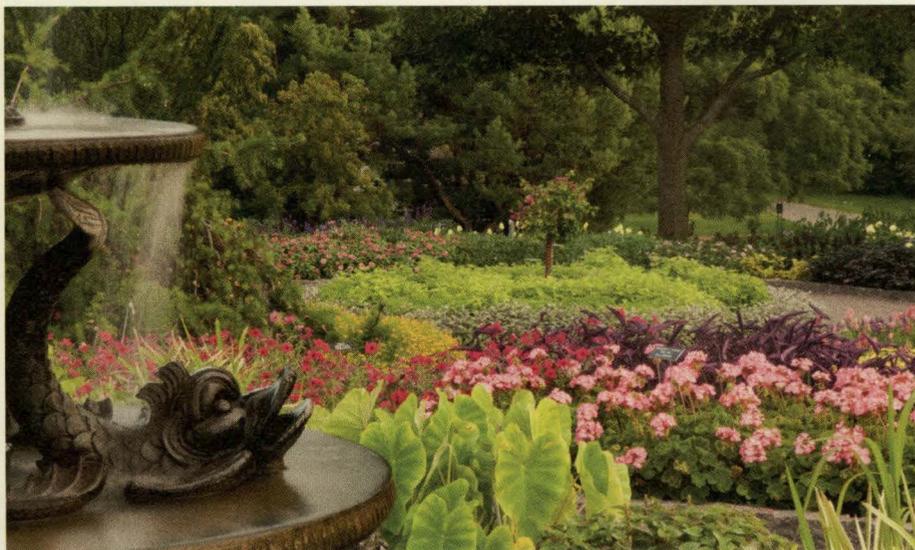
Docked on the banks of the Mississippi River at Harriet Island in downtown St. Paul, the Showboat welcomes guests with an upper deck lounge, a bar, and spectacular views of the city's skyline. *Sweet Revenge!* matinees are performed at 2:30 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday and evenings at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Following the performances on June 26 and July 25, University of Minnesota Alumni Association members and their guests are invited to an exclusive dessert reception with the Showboat players. Pricing and reservation information can be found at www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Utheatre.

—Jennifer Benson



Rebecca Wilson plays Rose, the farmer's daughter, and Joseph Pyfferoen is con man Livingstone in *Sweet Revenge!*



Goldy Digs the Arboretum

Enjoy gophers in the garden for a change this summer.

The University of Minnesota's Landscape Arboretum will feature *Gophers in the Garden*—as in 4-foot, 6-inch Goldy Gopher statues—as part of its Summer in Motion series that showcases the University of Minnesota and state pride June 1 through August 31. In addition to Gophers in the Garden, Summer in

Motion also features outdoor live musical performances and screenings of the family movies *The Mighty Ducks*, *Miracle*, and *Little Big League*, all of which have a Minnesota angle. Indoor exhibits will explore the histories of Goldy Gopher and the U's northern-hardy apples, blueberries, and other plants.

The nine Goldy Gopher statues will grace several gardens, providing whimsy and fun for visitors while also highlighting the Arboretum's role and mission as a University resource for horticultural and environmental information, research, and public education. They were designed by Twin Cities artists and sponsored by Twin Cities companies and organizations.

Admission to the Arboretum is free with an annual membership, which is available at several different levels beginning at \$45. Members of the Alumni Association receive a \$5 discount on the cost of Arboretum membership.

The University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is the largest public garden in the Upper Midwest and is part of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. For more information, including directions, visit www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/arboretum.

—Cynthia Scott

Answers to The Gopher Crossword on page 40

C	A	R	P		G	R	U	B	B	Y		S	H	A				
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Alumni Association members receive discounted pricing on our weekend public program, **The Raptors of Minnesota:**

\$5 for adults
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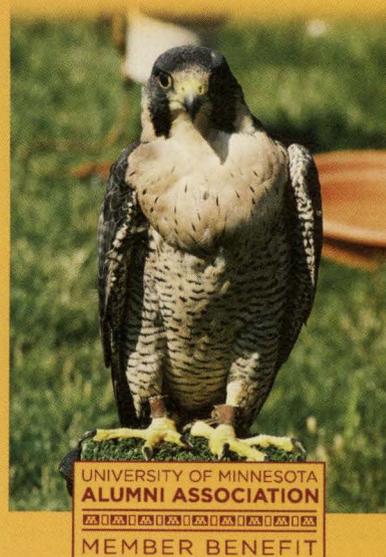
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Campus Seen



Andres Crovetti (right) on bongos, Henrik Wiman on congas, and other students of School of Music Associate Professor Fernando Meza ended the school year on an upbeat during a Percussion Studio Showcase.

PHOTOGRAPH BY SARA RUBINSTEIN

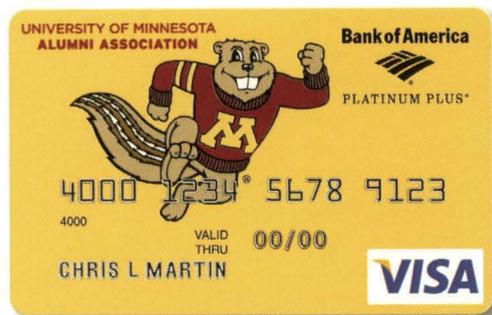


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