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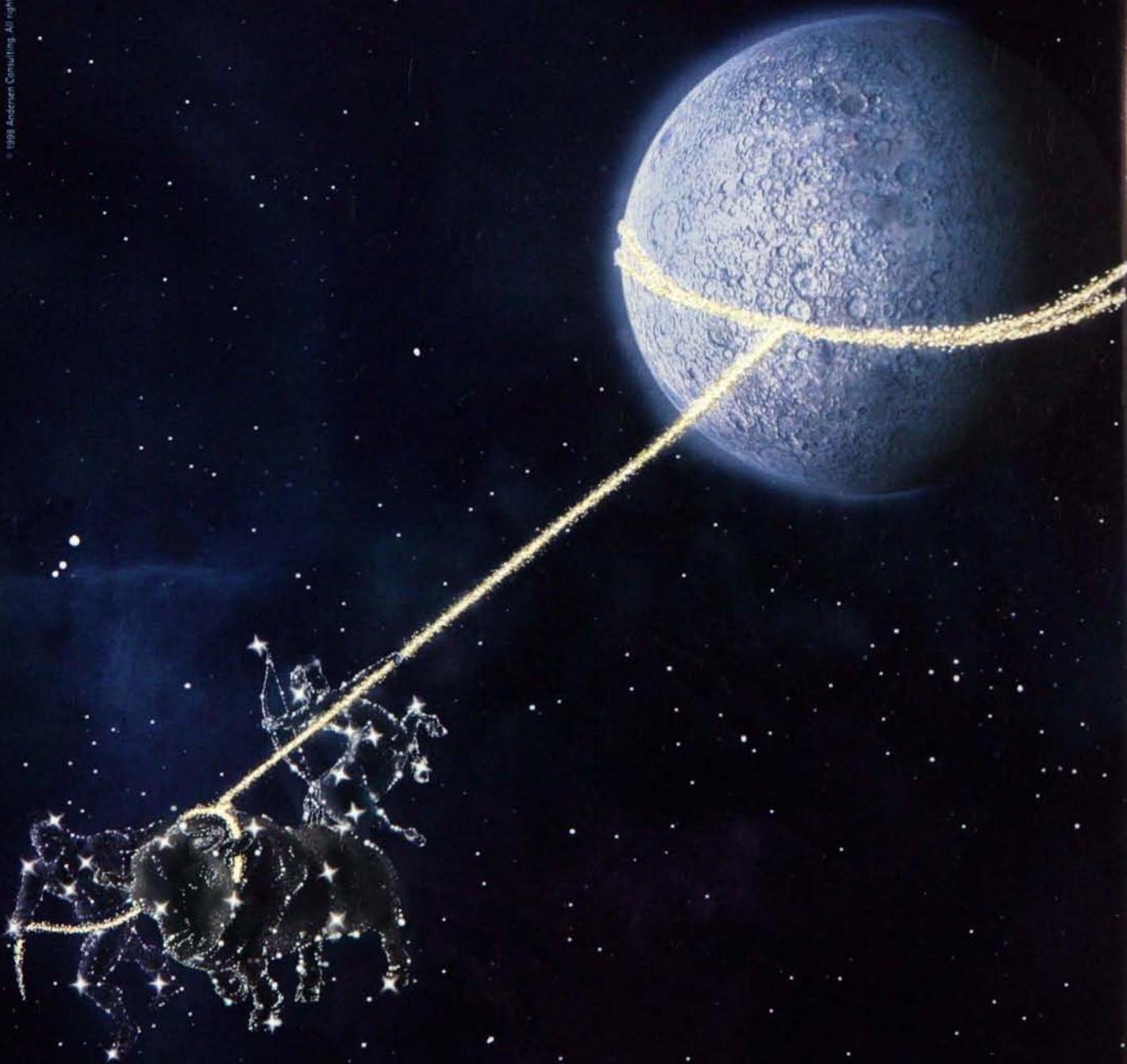
Technical Knockouts

THO VU, OF TOP-VU TECHNOLOGY

**Remembering
Curt Carlson:
the U's Greatest
Benefactor**

**Curious Gorge:
Explorer Ken
Storm Jr. Finds
Hidden Falls**

**Athlete Students:
Meet Four Who
Score in Sports
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Every year, hundreds of University alumni carve out careers in computer, software, bio-tech, or med-tech fields. Meet five who have become industry leaders and innovators.
By Phil Bolsta

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By William Swanson

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Few people enrolled at the University face a greater challenge than those who balance the demands of college athletics with the rigors of college academics. Here are four Gophers who excel in both sports and school.
By Chris Coughlan-Smith and Julie Jensen



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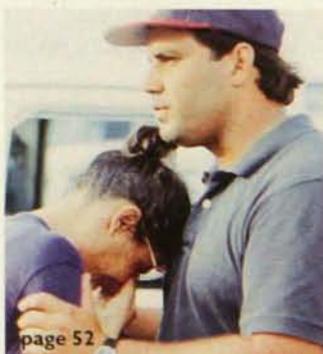
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A little-known incident in the University's early years involving prankster students and a discipline-embracing president shows how far we've all come.
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As told to Vicki Stavig



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By Robert Levitz

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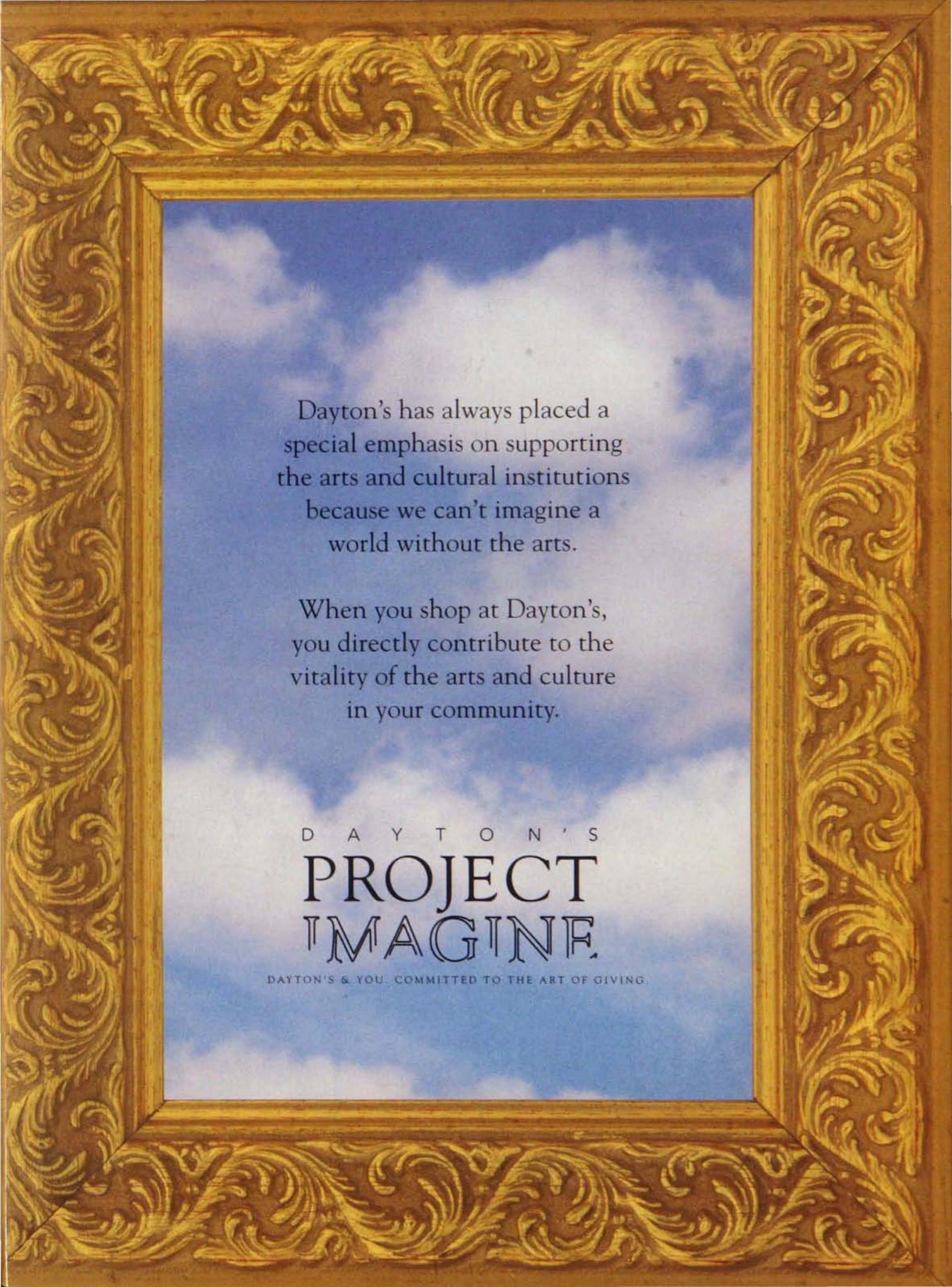
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In Focus

Supply and Demand

The experts tell us that in the next century, society will need far more computer science professionals than journalists. I like to think that the wordsmiths among us will still be needed to sift and sort, interpret and explain what the reams of information and dizzying advances in technology mean for our world. But to give you an idea why corporate recruiters come to campus looking for technology grads, consider, for example, the explosive growth of the Internet compared with other popular media.



Tom Garrison

Radio, according to a 1998 U.S. Department of Commerce study, existed for 38 years before listenership reached 50 million people. Television viewership topped the 50 million mark within 13 years. Internet connections by the general public reached the same level in just four years. Little wonder why the University's Institute of Technology reports that the average starting salary for its computer science majors graduating this year is \$45,000. For the past four years, recruiters on campus report there have been more jobs available than there are students graduating to fill those positions.

Major corporations such as Exxon, IBM, and General Motors want our best and brightest chemical, electrical, and mechanical engineers. Michael Wiest, human resources manager for Unisys in Minnesota, says his company is holding Maroon-and-Gold Day at work to celebrate the University of Minnesota as the number-one source for Unisys employees. Kevin Hall ('79), University campus recruiting manager for Hewlett-Packard, says Minnesota engineering grads are among the tops in the country, and that's the reason company officials agreed to contribute \$15,000 to the University's student-led solar vehicle project.

A reputation for excellence is why companies will conduct between 10,000 and 15,000 interviews this year with Institute of Technology students, not to mention thousands more for students from the Carlson School of Management, the College of Liberal Arts, and a dozen other disciplines. Ryan Bierwerth, a senior in chemical engineering, says that politely "hounding and pounding" potential employers is how he landed his first position, with a fire protection consulting firm in Bloomington, but that the University's excellent reputation certainly helped.

Our cover story this issue, written by Phil Bolsta (page 20), informs readers about five alumni who are "technical knockouts"—from a 27-year-old computer-game designer in Texas to a seasoned adviser to computer and software start-up companies in Minnesota—who have all made their mark after matriculating at the U.

In a story assigned months before the recent allegations concerning the men's basketball program (see In Brief on page 18) writers Chris Coughlan-Smith and Julie Jensen tell us about the sacrifices and achievements of four of Minnesota's best scholar athletes. These student athletes juggle extraordinary demands on their time and talents, and will leave readers proud of how these young men and women represent the University.

Finally, it's instructive to know that the University of Minnesota has successfully weathered other controversies. History buffs will be interested in the little-known story (page 42) of how a student prank in 1882 led to guns being drawn, a shot fired by a professor, and questions raised about University President William Watts Folwell's ability to maintain discipline.

—The Executive Editor
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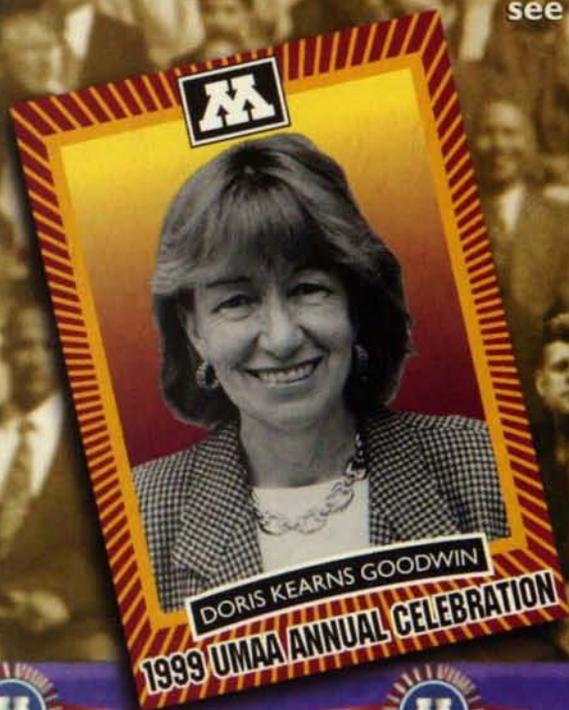
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By Chris Coughlan-Smith, Jerry Flattum, Stacy Herrmann, and Shelly Fling

Campus Digest



Harding High School student Vang Chang (left) learns Hmong needlework from Vang Mang.

A Common Thread

Hmong students at St. Paul's Harding High School are finding a common thread with older Hmong in their community. Eighty 15- to 18-year-olds and eight elders are taking part in "Hmong Textile Arts," an education outreach program in which traditional sewing methods are handed down from the oldest generation to the youngest.

The sewing lessons are part of the Written Hmong Language class at Harding. Many Hmong do not read or write the language because, until a missionary invented a written version in the 1950s, Hmong was only spoken. The students, American born and bilin-

gual, learn to write Hmong four days a week. Every Friday, they gather around Hmong elders who visit the school for two class periods to teach sewing.

Students cross-stitched bookmarks in the fall and this spring are making a heart, a snail, and an elephant's foot using reverse appliqué, a more difficult technique. "What we try to do is emulate the way sewing is taught back in Laos as much as we can," says Masami Suga, program coordinator in the Refugee Studies Center at the University.

Funded by the University Extension Service, the pilot program began last fall and runs through May 1999. It is a collaboration of the Refugee Studies Center and the Women's Association of Hmong and Lao in St. Paul. The program reestablishes relationships between Hmong youth and elders. The younger Hmong are growing up in a culture vastly different from what the older Hmong experienced. As a result, the generations feel they have little in common and rarely communicate—until now.

Naly Thao and Tua Lor are students in the textile arts program. "I am glad I get to work with elders because I haven't been around them at all for the past few years," says Thao, who has no living grandparents. Lor admits that, although he feels it is important to keep the Hmong traditions alive, it is easy to forget the Hmong culture when living in the United States. He likes that he can "learn new skills and talk to older people about their lives."

Some students even take their sewing projects home on the weekends and work on them with their mothers or grandmothers. "It has been such a wonderful experience to see that interaction reopened," Suga says.

—Stacy Herrmann



Gopher Mascot Creator Dies

George Grooms, the man who designed the original University of Minnesota Gopher mascot in the 1940s, died of congestive heart failure in February. He was 83.

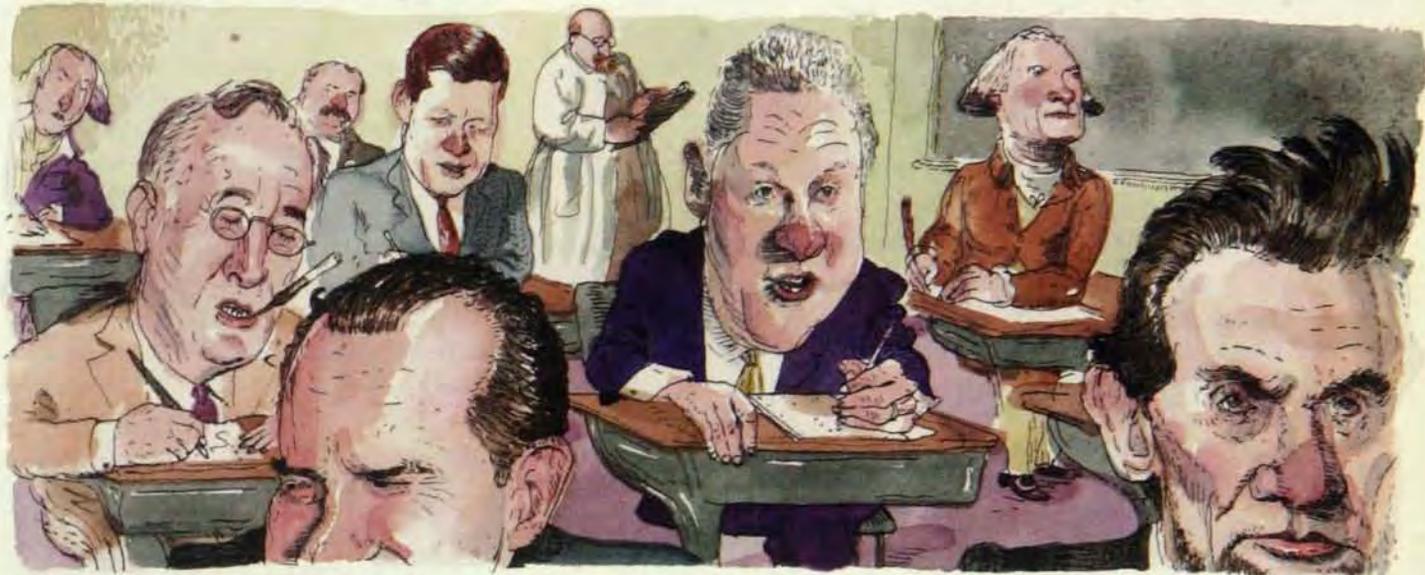
Grooms was working at Collegiate Manufacturing in Iowa when the University commissioned him to design a cartoonlike Gopher mascot. Never having seen a gopher, Grooms erroneously fashioned the mascot after a chipmunk. Nonetheless, the University loved the design, and it became the official Gopher figure.

Grooms's Gopher eventually was replaced by a cuddlier Gopher in 1979, which later evolved into the bulky, more athletic looking character used today. But the current mascot still exhibits some chipmunk traits, and Grooms's Gopher—albeit a rare breed—is the image thousands of alumni still associate with the University.

Grooms died at his home in Wayzata, Minnesota, where he had moved with his family in 1960 to start a stuffed-animal business.

Faculty Research

A look at recent University of Minnesota studies, research, discoveries, and rankings



Presidential Personality Pros and Problems

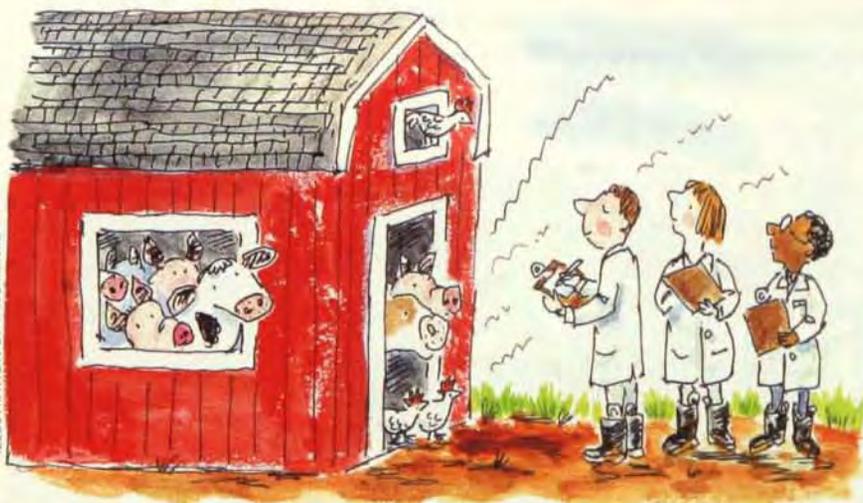
Hellervik Professor of Industrial Psychology Deniz Ones won't say "I told you so," but she could. A presidential personality study she conducted in 1996 with colleagues Steve Rubenzer and Bill Fashingbauer found President Bill Clinton to be "highly interested in the opposite sex" and to "often give in to his cravings." The study also found Clinton, compared with the 40 past presidents, to be one of the most extroverted (third) and intelligent (ninth), but also one of the lowest in integrity (37th) and conscientiousness (40th). As an industrial-organizational psychology researcher and instructor, Ones studies personality measurements and how they relate to job performance. In the presidential survey, she asked 110 biographers and scholars to rate presidential personalities by scoring 620 items for each president. In intelligence, Thomas Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt top the list, with Warren G. Harding and Andrew Johnson at the bottom. Leading in character were Rutherford B. Hayes, George Washington, and James Madison, with Richard Nixon and Harding at the other end. Nixon was the most neurotic by a landslide, with Ronald Reagan and Hayes at the opposite end. In conscientiousness, which includes such attributes as self-discipline and devotion to duty, Washington and Woodrow Wilson lead the list, with dead-last Harding far below the next-to-last Clinton.

Truly Biodegradable Plastic

A truly biodegradable plastic is one of those products that has always sounded out of reach—until now. Mrinal Bhattacharya, a professor of biosystems and agricultural engineering at the University of Minnesota, has worked with colleagues to develop plastics that combine plant proteins and starches with a degradable synthetic polymer. This new type of plastic will break down into mostly water, carbon dioxide, and other natural elements. Most current biodegradable plastics break down into tiny bits of plastic, which can't be absorbed by natural systems. The new plastic types can be used for just about anything, including rigid plastic golf tees, plastic ski-lift tickets, and plastic bags. The University-developed biodegradable plastic costs about three times as much as regular plastic, meaning it won't replace most regular plastic anytime soon. It might have appeal in certain markets, however—such as in Europe, where steep disposal fees may make biodegradable items attractive, and on ships, where used plastics could be dumped overboard without environmental damage.

A Greater Understanding of Alzheimer's

Following on the heels of other Alzheimer's disease advances at the University of Minnesota comes the news that researchers have discovered a toxic protein that damages neurons and limits blood flow to the brain, thereby promoting the disease. Although their understanding of the process is incomplete, Dr. Constantino Iadecola and his team also found that antioxidants such as vitamin E appear to restore brain blood flow and reverse early symptoms of Alzheimer's. Iadecola used mice that mimic Alzheimer's symptoms, developed by the University's Dr. Karen Hsiao, to investigate the long-posed idea that blood flow to brain neurons may play a role in the disease. During periods of mental activity, more blood is needed to deliver oxygen and nutrients to those neurons. Researchers found that blood vessels attacked by the toxic protein simply do not expand to allow more blood to the brain. They identified the culprit substance by neutralizing it with enzymes and then watching blood-vessel function return to normal. The finding suggests that, at least early on, blood vessel cells are not permanently damaged or killed and that treatment with antioxidants, which can improve the function of blood vessels, may reverse the phenomenon. The findings were published in January in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*.



Nothing to Sniff At

The University of Minnesota olfactometry lab is one of only four university labs in the United States that researches ways to reduce odors produced by livestock farms. The lab, which measures odors and evaluates their effect on people, opened in 1996 after rural communities statewide voiced concerns about strong smells emanating from pig, dairy, and poultry operations.

Working within the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering on the St. Paul campus, the research team comprises 10 to 12 faculty members, students, and technicians. At any given time, the team is handling about a dozen odor-control projects. "Sprinkling Vegetable Oil for Odor Control in Pig Barns" and "Non-Thermal Plasma for Livestock Odor Control" are two current projects. A study that began in 1997 and will conclude this summer appears to indicate that a 12-inch-thick cover of barley straw and wheat significantly reduces odor emissions from waste storage tanks. "That's just one strategy. There's a number of other strategies," says Larry Jacobson, associate professor in biosystems and agricultural engineering. "Some people think there is a magic potion to make this stuff stop smelling. I seriously doubt that."

More than 200 gas compounds, including the odoriferous ammonia and hydrogen sulfide, have been found in air collected from barns and manure storage units. The researchers test air samples for odor concentration, but they don't have a high-tech method. They use "sniffers"—similar to taste-test panelists at food companies—to detect the odors. The researchers increase the odor level in the air sample until the sniffer becomes aware of a smell. Then they assign a number to the detection level.

"There is no odor meter you can buy that you can plug in the wall that tells you how many odor units it is," Jacobson says.

—Stacy Herrmann

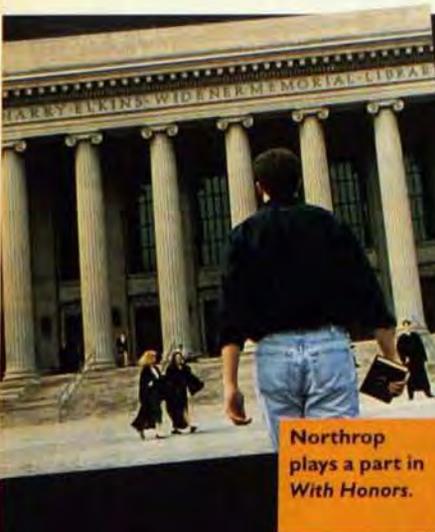
Dental Students Learn a New Drill

Dental professionals are in a position to play a unique role in detecting and intervening in family violence situations. "In child abuse cases, most injuries are found in the head and neck area," explains Dr. Dan Rose, associate professor of preventive sciences in the School of Dentistry. "And all health-care professionals are required by law to report suspected child abuse or vulnerable adult cases."

Although dental professionals must report suspected child abuse cases, only about 1 percent ever make such reports, says Jamie Tiedemann, director of the University's Program Against Sexual Violence. "We know that there is more abuse out there, but it's not being recognized because



Dr. Dan Rose in the School of Dentistry and Jamie Tiedemann, director of the University's Program Against Sexual Violence, are collaborating to teach dental professionals what to do when they suspect domestic abuse.



Northrop plays a part in *With Honors*.

The U Plays Supporting Role for Filmmakers

Thanks to a new campus filming policy, crews for commercials, feature films, and videos are finding the University a friendlier shooting location.

The University struggled in the past to accommodate filming requests, and scouts and location managers often had to deal with several University offices or departments, each with its own set of policies and procedures. Filmmakers complained about the runaround to the Minnesota Film Board, which turned to then-Governor Arne Carlson. Carlson, an advocate of the state's growing film industry, encouraged University administrators to get their act together. Now that Institutional Relations, Facilities Management, and the Real

Estate Office are coordinating their efforts, the University is obliging film requests and could make a small profit at the same time.

Requests for feature film shoots on campus are increasing. "The U has great locations," says Kelly Heikkila, director of production at the Minnesota Film Board. "It has been cooperative in providing assistance and is really quite film friendly." (Heikkila says that, on film, Northrop Mall can double for Harvard, apparently a tricky campus for filming.)

With Honors, starring Joe Pesci, and *Overnight Delivery*, starring Reese Witherspoon, are the most recent feature films shot on or near campus. But an increasing number of requests are coming in to Institutional Relations (which has

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN MOLTNER



University President Mark Yudof answers questions posed by alumni and friends of the U of M

Q: Allegations of academic misconduct within the men's basketball program have elicited strong reactions from University alumni. While many alumni support the University's response, there is nevertheless concern about damage to the U's reputation, fairness to the suspended players, and steps to be taken, if needed, to prevent future misconduct. What has been done and what will be done in response to this situation?

YUDOF: These serious allegations became public on March 10. The next day, Vice President McKinley Boston, with my concurrence, suspended four of our players from NCAA playoff eligibility. As you probably have read, I ordered an independent investigation, expected to take about six months, by attorneys Mike Glazier, of a Kansas City law firm, and Don Lewis, of a Minneapolis firm. My chief of staff, Tonya Moten Brown, is coordinating the investigation. The outside investigators are working closely and cooperatively with NCAA enforcement staff. This approach has the complete support of the Board of Regents, the Faculty Consultative Committee, and the Assembly Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics.

Our first obligation is to the integrity of our academic processes. There are more important things than prevailing in an athletic contest. The University's reputation for integrity—and the degree to which administrators can be trusted to do the right thing—will depend in large part on how we respond to this situation. We must see to it that everyone, whether player or staff member, accused or accuser, is treated fairly and impartially in the investigative process. While the investigation is taking place, our duty is to continue the University's fundamental mission to educate, perform research, and serve the public. The work on behalf of our legislative request will not slacken, nor will our effort to improve community relations, upgrade student services, and keep our ambitious rebuilding program on track.

If the results of the investigation show the need for personal actions or internal corrective measures, we will act promptly and decisively—but only after we have our facts straight. After consultation with the appropriate faculty governance committees, the Board of Regents and I may determine that certain policies and structures must change, in the light of the recent experience. Should collegiate units find that students have violated internal academic regulations, disciplinary steps may be needed. And if NCAA rule violations are found, the University will report them.

Whatever the findings, there will be no whitewashing or temporizing. As we expect students to play by the rules, tell the truth, and keep their word, we will do likewise to uphold a standard of zero tolerance for cheating.

Send your question for President Yudof to Shelly Fling, editor of *Minnesota*, at 501 Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. You may e-mail it to fling003@tc.umn.edu or fax to 612-626-8167. Questions may be edited for length and clarity. Please include your name and address and your year or years of graduation.

they haven't been trained to recognize and to report."

During routine appointments for dental cleaning, dentistry school residents have noticed some patients with facial bruises. Not knowing the appropriate way to handle such situations, the residents turned to Rose for guidance. Rose sought help from the Program Against Sexual Violence, which was prepared to intervene and find emergency shelter if needed. "From that, [Dr. Rose] began realizing that the dentistry school was not adequately training students to be able to intervene appropriately and to provide resources for people who are in violent situations or violent homes," Tiedemann says.

In October 1998, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime awarded an \$87,000 continuation grant for the Program on Family Violence: An Intervention and Training Model for Dental Professionals. This collaboration between the Program Against Sexual Violence and the School of Dentistry will help train dental professionals regarding their role when they see patients who might be victims of family violence. An initial grant of \$50,000 helped the program develop a training model and produce a video. The new grant will allow development of a second video and a curriculum model that dentistry schools nationwide can use.

"The key thing is for the dental professionals to realize that they don't have to do a lot as far as intervention," Rose says. "Intervention is recognizing the problem, initiating the intervention, and contacting those people who are trained to deal with it. Then they can become survivors rather than victims."

—Stacy Herrmann

dles the fees, license agreements, and permits) from ad agencies shooting ads or commercials for such clients as Dayton's, Cost Cutters, KARE-11, and Target.

Based on a Real Estate Office comparison study of fees for film shoots charged by other universities, the University's per-day fee structure is \$250 for still photography, \$500 for commercials, and \$1,000 for video and low-budget films. For a major motion picture, the first five days cost \$2,500; the second five days cost an additional \$2,500; days 11 through 15 cost \$5,000; and anything beyond that is negotiable.

Although the University is warming up to film crews, the campus, along with the rest of the state, could heat up further if Governor Jesse Ventura keeps working his Hollywood connections.

—Jerry Flattum

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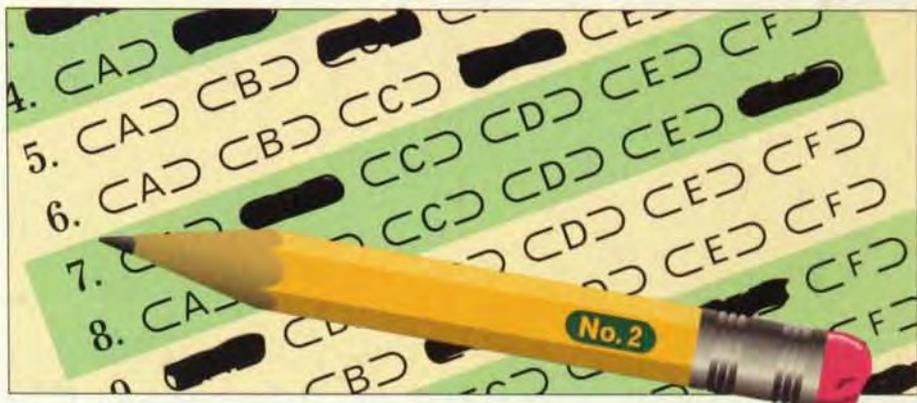
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Alumnus's Invention Put Pencil to Paper

As the school year's final set of exams approaches, millions of students are preparing to attack the universal multiple-choice "bubble test" with sharpened number 2 pencils. How the tests work and why the number 2 pencil is best are not questions foremost in the minds of finals-stressed University of Minnesota students. But one of their predecessors knew the answers to those questions even before the tests existed. Reynold B. Johnson ('29) invented the test-scoring method.

Johnson was a high-school science teacher in Michigan in the early 1930s when he came up with the method and machinery to score tests electrically. Johnson had learned the electrical properties of pencils when, as boys, he and his brother used to rub soft lead pencils over automobile spark plugs, temporarily shorting out the engines. Their favorite targets, he recalled in 1997 when on campus to receive an award, were the Model-Ts owned by their older sister's "gentlemen callers." Johnson's test-scoring machine proved so ingenious and valuable that IBM bought it and hired him.

While at IBM, Johnson developed so many new machines and methods that he eventually held more than 90 patents when he died in September 1998. His most important invention may have been the Random Access Method of Accounting Control, which made the leap from storing data on punch cards to magnetic storage on disks and earned him the reputation of "father of the computer disk drive."

His other inventions include a kind of videotape that Sony still uses and children's *Talk to Me Books*, an idea purchased by Fisher-Price. He received the National Medal of Technology from President Ronald Reagan in 1986.

Students may not care how bubble-tests work, but instructors with just a few days to review tests and turn in grades are glad a University alumnus once figured it out.



Reynold Johnson accepted the College of Education and Human Development's Distinguished Achievement Award in 1984. He is pictured with his wife, Beatrice.

Corrections

The "Web Watcher" article in the March-April issue incorrectly reported Laura Gurak's title. She is an associate professor and the director of undergraduate studies for the Scientific and Technical Communication Program in the Department of Rhetoric. Also in that article, a sentence about on-line communities being predominantly male should have referred specifically to two cases Gurak studied, not to on-line communities in general.

A booklet on kitchen planning published by the Extension Service that was noted in the "Rethinking the Kitchen" article in the March-April issue costs \$6 and can be obtained by calling (612) 625-8173.

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An untitled work by Charles Biederman.

Ralph Rapson designed the Guthrie Theater.

At the Weisman

"Charles Biederman and Ralph Rapson: Sixty Years of Modern Design" continues through May 23 at the Weisman Art Museum.



MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, (612) 625-9494

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Admission is free

• Charles Biederman and Ralph Rapson: Sixty Years of Modern Design

Through May 23

Some of the most significant work (including Guthrie Theater sketches) by Rapson, an architect, designer, educator, and head of the School of Architecture at the University for 30 years, and Biederman, whose art spans more than seven decades and who developed his own artistic vocabulary while living in the woods outside Red Wing, Minnesota.

• Berenice Abbott's Changing New York

Through September 12

Photographs from the Weisman's permanent collection of Abbott's documentary portrait of New York. Captivated by the dynamism of New York during a period of great change, Abbott created her portrait for the Federal Art Project from 1935–39.

Bell Museum of Natural History

10 Church St., Minneapolis, (612) 624-7083

Tuesday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday, 12–5 p.m.

Admission: \$3 adults; \$2 seniors and children

Rainforests: A Wet and Wild Adventure

Through June 27

This exhibition looks at the plants, animals, and cultures of tropical and temperate rain forests around

the world. Highlights include an American Indian longhouse representing the Hoh people of Washington state, and videos and interactive games that teach about rain-forest ecosystems.

Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel

Visual Arts presents "Instructor's Choice"—a mixed-media student showing.

May 19–June 4

Paul Whitney Larson Art Gallery, St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul, (612) 624-4373

Reception: May 21, 6–8 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Wednesday, 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Admission is free

MUSIC

Northrop Jazz Season Presents the Bud Shank Quartet

May 19, 8 p.m.

Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128

Fourth St. S., Minneapolis,

(612) 624-2345

Tickets: \$21.50, \$16.50

A charter member of the West Coast jazz movement, Bud Shank first came to prominence as a saxophonist in the big bands of Charlie Barnet and Stan Kenton during the late 1940s. After two decades of international touring, he became part of the LAFour, introducing chamber music to California Cool in the '70s. When the group disbanded in 1985, Shank took off in diverse musical directions.

New Folk Collective Concert Series

St. Paul Student Center Theatre,

2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul,

(651) 293-9021

Admission: \$5 students, \$10 advance, \$12 door

• Les Barker

May 16, 7 p.m.

• Austin Lounge Lizards

May 23, 7 p.m.

University of Minnesota Bands and School of Music

Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128

Fourth St. S., Minneapolis,

(612) 626-1892

All concerts are free.

• Men's and Women's Chorus

May 20, 7:30 p.m.

• Symphony Orchestra

May 21, 7:30 p.m.

• Concert Choir and Chamber Singers

May 23, 4 p.m.

• Symphonic Band

May 25, 7:30 p.m.

• Symphonic Wind Ensemble

May 27, 7:30 p.m.

• University Band

June 1, 7:30 p.m.

DANCE

Barbara Barker Center for Dance, 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis

On the Edge

Approximately 30 students are selected to work with three national and international theater companies. The students take classes with guest artists-in-residence and their classwork will culminate in the creation of new pieces.

May 13, 7:30 p.m.

May 14 and 15, 8 p.m.

May 16, 2 p.m.

(612) 624-2345

Student Dance Coalition Concert

Works by students form the University Dance Program.

May 21 and 22, 8 p.m.

May 22 and 23, 2 p.m.

(612) 624-5060

THEATER

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

May 21–28

Stoll Thrust Theatre, Rarig Center,

330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis,

(612) 624-2345

General public (advance): \$15

U students/faculty/staff: \$10

This musical comedy revolves around Pseudolus, the dishonest slave of a Roman family who will do almost anything to gain his

freedom. When Pseudolus is left in charge of his owner's young son, Hero, who has fallen madly in love with the beautiful courtesan Philia, the fun and confusion begin.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Armed Forces Day

A formal military parade and awards ceremony by the cadets and midshipmen of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC Programs. Rifle drill performances and rappelling off the Armory tower follows. May 15, 10 a.m. Northrop Mall

Spring Jam '99

A celebration of campus life at the University of Minnesota. Alumni and their families are welcome at this five-day festival of concerts, movies, games, arts and crafts, and more! Spring Jam '99 takes place May 17–22. Call (612) 625-9400 for complete and current information.

• May 17—Residence Hall Day at the Superblock

11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.: Kick-off barbecue at the Superblock
12–1 p.m.: Little Blue Crunchy Things plays at Coffman Plaza
Dusk: Movie *Saturday Night Fever* at the Superblock

• May 18—St. Paul Day

12–1 p.m. Bobby Llama plays at Coffman Plaza
6:30 p.m.: Barry Williams (a.k.a. Greg Brady) at Coffman Plaza
Dusk: Movie *Dazed and Confused* at the St. Paul Pit

• May 19—Disco Fever Day

8 p.m.–2 a.m.: Dance marathon and raffle benefit in Great Hall
12–2 a.m.: Bell-bottom and karaoke contests in Great Hall

• May 20—Brady Bunch Day

12–1 p.m.: Vic Volare plays at Coffman Plaza
9 a.m.–9 p.m.: Brady Bunch marathon in the Fireplace Lounge
7–9 p.m.: Royalty Bowling in Coffman

• May 21—One Last Daze

12–1 p.m.: Rhymesayers

At the Weisman

Manhattan Bridge

Looking Up is part of the "Berenice Abbott's Changing New York" exhibit at the Weisman Art Museum. The show, which features photographs from the permanent collection, continues through September 12.



At the Center for Dance

Annie Lincoln and other students perform at the Barbara Baker Center for Dance.

The University Dance Program presents "On the Edge" and a Student Dance Coalition Concert this May.

Collective plays at Coffman Plaza
8 p.m.–12 a.m.; Student band competition
at the St. Paul Pit

• May 22—The Festival Daze

11 a.m.–12 p.m.: Comedian Scott Henry
at Coffman Plaza
5 p.m.–12 a.m.: Music followed by
fireworks at Fifth St. and 17th Ave. SE

1998 Nobel Laureate Visit

Dr. Louis Ignarro, who earned his Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University in 1966 and is currently at the UCLA School of Medicine, visits campus to accept the F.E. Shideman Distinguished Alumnus Award and to speak on "Nitric Oxide as a Novel Signaling Molecule in the Cardiovascular System." Ignarro and two colleagues won the 1998 Nobel Prize in Medicine for their work, and his discoveries created the scientific foundation for the development of Viagra as an anti-impotency drug.
May 27, 2:30 p.m.
Maya Memorial Auditorium, 420 Delaware St. SE, Minneapolis, (612) 625-1645

Global Food, Agriculture Summit

July 7–9
St. Paul Radisson Hotel
The University of Minnesota College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences is sponsoring "Exploring Our Global Community—People, Food, and Agriculture: An International Food Summit and Celebration." More than 2,000 agricultural leaders, producers, and educators from Minnesota and around the world are expected to attend. Speakers include Nobel Laureate Norman Borlaug and Chinese agricultural official Chen Xu. The \$150,000 Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture will be awarded during the Summit. Call (612) 625-7061 or visit <http://globalag.coafes.umn.edu>.

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Senior Programmer Analyst

Responsible for designing, coding, testing, debugging, maintaining and evaluating performance of complex programs using modern, structured techniques. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in CS, 3-5 years programming/developing database applications using MS Access, Visual Basic, SQL Server, Word Macros, and experience with Windows development, excellent knowledge of Windows NT and Win 95.

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Opportunity for you to be part of the process of creating new products relative to E-COMMERCE. This initiative will expand upon Teltech's web site to create a more content-rich research and information source for our clients. Qualifications include demonstrated success in developing E-Commerce applications, experience working with multiple search engines, demonstrated ability in building public Web sites, and ability to meet project deadlines.

Knowledge Strategist

Responsibilities include conducting on-site assessments of clients' needs, designing solutions, developing presentation material, and creating and delivering client proposals. Will assist clients in implementing knowledge management systems, creating a business environment that is conducive to knowledge sharing, and increasing the speed and productivity of key business processes. Qualifications include 3-5 years of experience delivering on-site business consulting services to major corporations and implementing successful business solutions. Must have demonstrated success at working with all levels in an organization, be a strong relationship builder and have demonstrated project management skills. Broad understanding of IT systems and leading-edge software, including web-based technologies and MBA is desired. Potential of 50% travel.

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Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our first-ever fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni.

How to enter:

- Submit a double-spaced, typed manuscript, 2,500 words or less. Submissions must not have been previously published.
- Include a cover sheet that bears your name, year of graduation (or years of attendance), phone number, and story title.
- To ensure anonymity, please do not put your name on your story.

The winner will receive a cash prize, and the winning story will be published in the January–February 2000 issue.

Send submissions by October 11 to:
Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest,
UMAA, 501 Coffman Memorial Union,
300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN
55455. Please, no phone calls. Entrants will be notified by mail that their submissions have been received.

in Brief

An external investigation is under way into allegations of academic fraud in the Gopher men's basketball program, first reported in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* March 10. Jan Gangelhoff, a former office manager for the academic counseling unit, said she wrote papers and take-home exams for at least 20 basketball players, including four current players, from 1993 through 1998.

University President Mark Yudof, Vice President McKinley Boston, and Regent William Hogan spoke at a news conference March 11, with the full Board of Regents standing behind them. "We view this as a very, very serious business," Yudof said. "We're concerned about doing the right thing" and protecting the reputation of the University. "You're only as good as your integrity."

Four current players were declared ineligible for the game against Gonzaga University in Washington in the first round of the NCAA tournament. Yudof said the charges were serious enough that action was necessary to protect the institution, but the decision did not "represent a judgment about these young people." The reputations of coach Clem Haskins and the players are at stake, he said, and judgments could not be made without more information. The Gophers lost the game 75-63.

The University named two law firms to conduct an independent investigation. Michael Glazier, of a Kansas City law firm, is leading the investigation. Don Lewis, of a Minneapolis firm, will serve as co-counsel. Yudof charged the investigation team to work closely with NCAA enforcement staff.

The investigation will likely take about six months and will be conducted "in a thorough, impartial, and prompt way," Yudof said. "Once the initial fact-finding is completed . . . the Board of Regents and I will be in a position to identify the actions necessary to respond." (See President Yudof's column on page 13.)

Doug Woog ('67) resigned April 6 after 14 years as head coach of the Gopher men's hockey team and will take an assistant men's athletics director's position to focus on fund-raising. As coach, he compiled 389 wins, more than twice as many as any other coach in Gopher hockey history. His teams appeared in the NCAA tournament each of his first 12 years, including an overtime loss to Harvard in the 1989 national championship game. As a player, Woog was a first-team all-America center for the Gophers in 1965 when he scored 26 goals in 29 games. Don Lucia was named new coach three days later. Lucia, 40, is a Grand Rapids,



Four Gopher men's basketball players were sidelined when allegations of cheating surfaced on the eve of the NCAA tournament. University officials had only 36 hours to investigate and decide whether to allow the athletes to play.

Minnesota, native and graduate of Notre Dame. He comes to Minnesota from Colorado College, where he won three conference titles in his six years as coach.

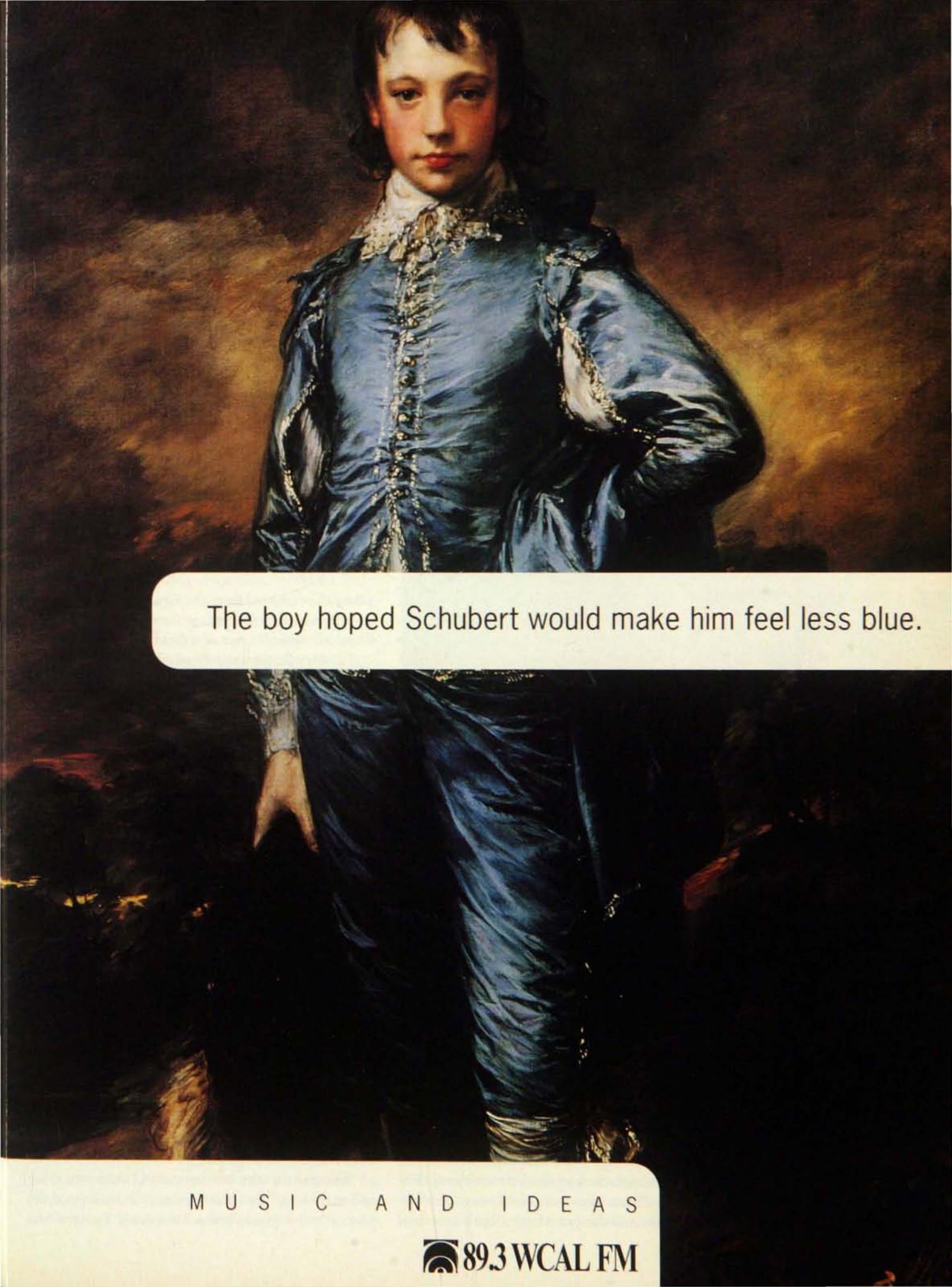
Animal rights activists broke into 12 University research labs in two East Bank buildings early April 5, destroying equipment and stealing research animals. Members of the Animal Liberation Front broke into Lions Research Building and Elliott Hall between 2 and 5 a.m., destroyed computers and microscopes, sprayed paint on walls, wiped out years of data, and stole approximately 75 mice, rats, salamanders, and pigeons. Damages are expected to be in the millions of dollars and to set some research back two years or longer.

Some of the animals, data, and materials lost pertain to Alzheimer's disease and brain tumor research. Investigators from the FBI, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, and the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department are assisting the University Police Department in the investigation.

The Medical School recently received the largest gift in its 110-year history: \$5 million from the estate of a 1932 alumnus who spent the majority of his career as a federal employee. The bequest, from deceased benefactors Edmund and Anna Tulloch of San Francisco, is for unrestricted support of medical research.

An agreement to expand educational resources in Rochester was unanimously approved by the regents in March. The University would establish a nonresidential branch campus, to be called the University of Minnesota at Rochester, with faculty of 20 to 30 and academic programs in allied health fields, technology, education, social services, and other professional fields. A special allocation will be requested from the legislature. According to the agreement, there must be no offset to the governor's recommended 2000-01 budget or the legislative appropriation for either the University of Minnesota or other state colleges and universities.

The regents approved a tuition plan designed to offer **incentives to students to keep up their credit loads** with the move to semesters. For undergraduates on the Twin Cities campus, the cost per credit will be at one rate up to 12 credits (\$154.50) and half price for all credits over 12. Students who take a full load will save 10 percent over the course of their educations. ■



The boy hoped Schubert would make him feel less blue.

MUSIC AND IDEAS

 89.3 WCAL FM

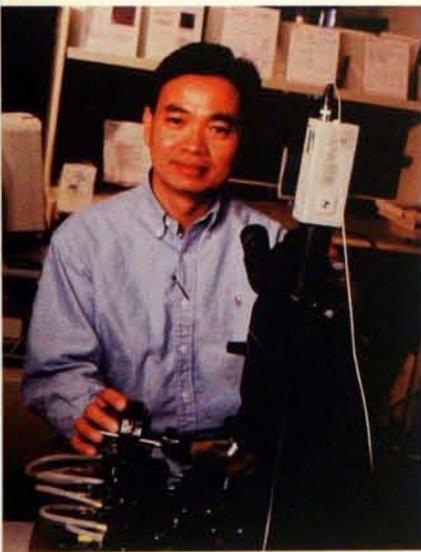
Technical Knockouts



Every year, hundreds of University alumni carve out careers in computer, software, bio-tech, or med-tech fields. Meet five who have become industry leaders and innovators.

By Phil Bolsta • Photographs by Per Breiehagen

Tho Vu • The Chips Are Up



With help from University professors and students and local business consultants, plus a lot of hard work, Tho Vu ('77, '80) has positioned his company as a world leader in a telecommunications industry niche.

Vu founded Top-Vu Technology, Inc., 10 years ago to develop innovative gallium arsenide (GaAs) microsensor systems and to provide chip design services using silicon, GaAs, and indium phosphide technologies. Top-Vu's semiconductor GaAs microsensor systems, used for space and aerospace applications, have three distinct advantages over silicon microsensor systems: they offer higher speed and radiation tolerance and can be used in wider temperature extremes.

Top-Vu, strictly a research and chip-design company, does not sell actual chips or systems, but Vu hopes to be able to manufacture and sell products in three to five years. In the meantime, the New Brighton company has been awarded more than \$2.5 million in government grants and contracts from the U.S. Department of Defense, NASA, and the National Science Foundation. The company also serves as an independent design center for Honeywell, Motorola, Rockwell, and Vitesse GaAs foundries. "We use their foundries for chip fabrication," Vu explains.

Top-Vu Technology also collaborates with several academic centers, including the University of Minnesota, Portland State University, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. And this past March, Top-Vu received

a Best Paper Award from the Government Microcircuit Applications Conference on Gallium Arsenide-Based Microsensor Systems, held in California.

Vu, 44, who graduated from the University with a master's in electrical engineering, has more than 20 years of experience in integrated circuits, microsensors, and microsystems. He had worked at Honeywell for a decade before starting Top-Vu Technology in 1989. "It was a new technology that had not been commercialized yet," Vu says. "I thought there was a market for this new application."

There was. "Tho Vu's company is unique in that it combines GaAs semiconductor technology with MEMS [microelectromechanical systems], and that's an important area right now in the telecommunications industry," explains Professor Dennis Polla, head of the Biomedical Engineering Institute at the University. "Wireless phones, high-speed communication links, and military sensors are all going to be an integration of GaAs integrated circuit technology with MEMS. His company is one of the few in the world that is working on that type of technical approach."

Although Vu was confident about his technical abilities, he realized he needed to improve his business skills before leaving Honeywell to start his own company. To prepare for that day, he contacted the Small Business Administration and the Service Corps of Retired Executives, and took business classes at the University of St. Thomas.

"Starting my own business was an unknown thing and very risky," Vu acknowledges. "It took me three years of investigation before I was ready. I got my first

contract from NASA's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California, shortly after I left Honeywell."

Vu readily admits he never could have started his own company without the help of University of Minnesota professors, including Polla, Lorie Lucke, and Ramesh Harjani. "The technology we're developing is very ambitious," he explains, "so we had to team with university professors to make it all happen, particularly in the electrical engineering department. We only have six people, so we use a lot of consultants and subcontractors, including a number of people from the University of Minnesota."

Vu's relationship with the University has been both productive and mutually rewarding. "We have had a long, 10-year history of interaction where he would have our microtechnology laboratory do some simple prototyping for him," Polla says. "I've worked with him as a consultant and we've sponsored research programs in the past. The students here have also gotten involved. We've had an ideal industry/university type of collaboration."

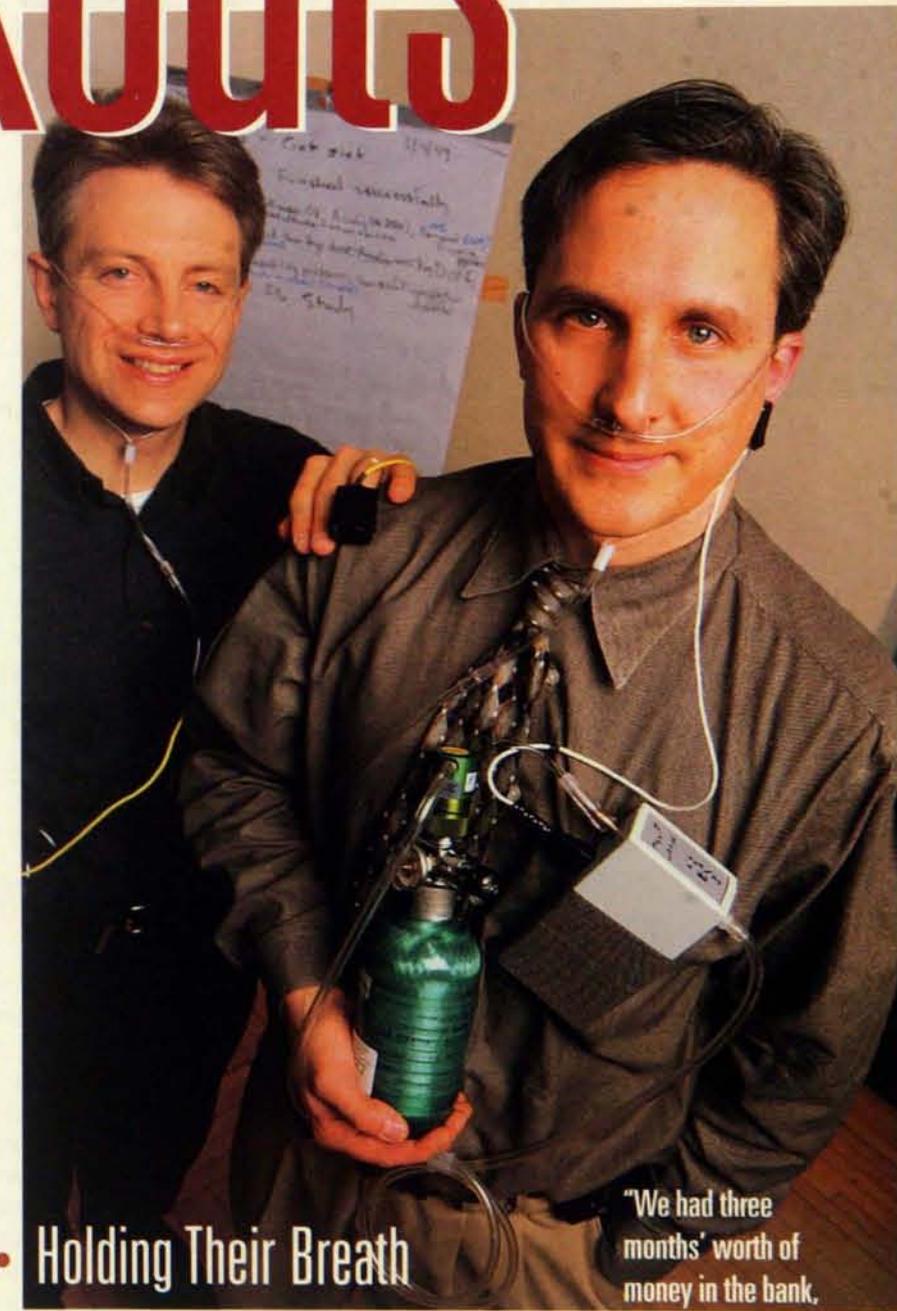
Although Top-Vu Technology is 10 years old, the company always contends with new challenges. "Our biggest problem is to be able to grow the company," says Vu. "I'm actively searching for investors and business and marketing partners."

As he prepares to begin his second decade at the helm of Top-Vu, Vu looks ahead with conviction. "Running my own business is exciting and very challenging," he says. "It's a lot of stress and a lot of pressure, but I have to do it."

Matt Schmidt and John Buan • Holding Their Breath

Thanks to Matt Schmidt ('90, '94) and John Buan ('86, '95), hundreds of thousands of patients with respiratory diseases may soon be breathing easier.

The pair of University alumni, each with a Ph.D. in physics, founded Minnesota Innovative Technologies & Instruments Corporation (MITI), a medical-device company, back in November 1994. The company, located in Dinkytown, near the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus, is putting the finishing touches on the development of its first product, the AccuO₂



home oxygen therapy system. More efficient and inexpensive than competing oxygen-delivery systems, the AccuO₂ could have FDA approval as early as this summer.

"The AccuO₂ controls the flow of oxygen to patients relative to their blood oxygen saturation," Buan explains. "So it's monitoring how much oxygen they have in their blood and then responding accordingly." MITI's innovative solution could provide better therapy at a lower cost for the million patients in this country who require

"We had three months' worth of money in the bank, and this hand-to-mouth consulting wasn't getting us where we wanted to go," says Matt Schmidt, pictured left.

"Starting my own business was an unknown thing and very risky. It took me three years of investigation before I was ready."



supplemental oxygen due to emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and other respiratory ailments.

Inspired to start a business of their own but not knowing where to turn, Schmidt and Buan sought out Professor Allen Goldman, head of the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University, in March 1993. "Allen was very encouraging," Schmidt says. "From his point of view, the physics department needed to be more involved in entrepreneurial types of activities. He had seen a lot of that happening on the two coasts, particularly the commercial activity coming out of the physics department at Stanford and MIT."

Goldman steered Schmidt and Buan toward SOTA TEC, a program operated by the University of Minnesota and the Blandin Foundation whose purpose is to promote the commercialization of emerging technologies at the University. In November 1994, shortly after Schmidt and Buan founded MITI, they received SOTA TEC funds for the development of a high-temperature industrial thermometer. "It had a lot of commercial potential if we could pull it off," Schmidt says. "To make a long story short, we couldn't pull it off. Ironically, instead of a high-temperature thermometer, we ended up with a pretty good low-temperature thermometer. So we looked at the applications there."

Schmidt and Buan initiated discussions with firms specializing in cryogenic fluids, which led to contact with a company in the medical oxygen field. To make ends meet, MITI began doing consulting work for the company. Six months later, in May 1997, the medical company pulled the plug on that relationship due to an internal financial crisis.

"We got a phone message on a Thursday morning

that said, 'Hey, guys. Sorry, but today's your last day.'" Schmidt recalls. "We just looked at each other. But sometimes in your darkest hour, you have your brightest moments. We had three months' worth of money in the bank and, this hand-to-mouth consulting wasn't getting us where we wanted to go. We decided to develop an oxygen therapy device on our own and set out writing a business plan."

With support from SOTA TEC, favorable test results, the filing of a couple of patents, and a lot of networking, MITI pulled off a \$500,000 private placement financing deal in May 1998 that enabled the company to get to the late-stage clinical phase.

Those who know Schmidt and Buan have no doubt they'll succeed. "They're very energetic, very resourceful, and learn things very quickly," says Goldman. "They haven't made it to the big board yet, but wait a few years. They have the ability to work intensively, think critically, and make things happen."

Both men are grateful for their years at the University. "I bleed maroon and gold," Buan says. "I thoroughly enjoyed my time here and had a chance to interact with a lot of very high-quality faculty members in the physics department, including Allen Goldman, Oriol Valls, and my adviser, C.C. Huang."

"Probably the most valuable part of my education was Allen Goldman's hands-off management style," Schmidt says. "He didn't sit his grad students down and say, 'OK, here's the problem you need to work on and here's step A, B, C, and D.' You're left to find a way—to define what the problem is, what the direction should be, and to set out down the path to accomplish something. That's a skill that's serving me very well now."

Ellen Heath • The Chicken before the Kit

Ellen Heath likes to tinker and the world is better off because of it.

As director of research and product development at Genra Systems, a life sciences company in Plymouth, Minnesota, Heath ('88) created an innovative way to purify nucleic acids. This breakthrough ensures that biological samples such as blood and tissue are pure enough to detect DNA or RNA sequences, which helps researchers identify genetic and pathological diseases, including cystic fibrosis, cancer, and HIV infection.

It all started with chickens. "We first were involved in poultry genetic engineering," Heath explains. "Our goal was to improve the growth rate and disease resistance of poultry. We had to test hundreds of chicks a week. We needed a method of purifying DNA that was easy to learn, rapid, and safe because we were using student interns from area high schools and the University of Minnesota."

Although methods for purifying nucleic acids had existed for more than 20 years, most were time con-

suming, hazardous—to users and the environment—and generated waste that was costly to dispose of. Heath's technique was a huge step forward.

Unfortunately, the poultry research projects that the company handled on contract while technologically and financially successful, required development cycles of 15 to 20 years—meaning it would take that long to get a genetically engineered chicken expanded into a useful population. "For the health of the company, we needed to sell something with a short-term development cycle," Heath says. "And one of the best things we had was a quick and easy process for purifying DNA."

Ruth Schuman ('84), who founded Genra Systems in 1988 and moved it from North Carolina to Minnesota a year later, saw the purification kits as a tremendous new revenue source. Her vision was to start selling DNA and RNA purification products into the markets of diagnostics and gene hunting for human research and clinical testing. ("I'm the scientist of the team," Heath says. Schuman, her friend from graduate

school, also has a degree in genetics, "but she's the one with the business vision.")

Heath and Schuman took their first product to the University Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory. "They were among the first people to test our new kit in an actual clinical setting," Heath says. "Over the years they've been an excellent 'testing ground' for our new products." Schuman and Heath also approached the Mayo Clinic because of its reputation for diagnosing inherited diseases.

"These purification kits have certainly contributed a lot by enabling researchers to screen hundreds of thousands of people for genetic disorders such as diabetes, heart disease, obesity, alcoholism, and mental illness," Heath says. Heath's purification kits are an integral part of such gene discovery programs at pharmaceutical companies, universities, and government labs around the world. Heath has already made improvements in kit designs that allow them to work even faster. "But you have to remember that this is just the first stage. Once you have the purified DNA and RNA, you then take it through very sensitive analytical testing. Our kits are the upstream part of all this, the beginning of the process."

According to Schuman, the market for nucleic acid sample preparation is rapidly growing, expected to reach over \$2 billion in five years. Gentra Systems seems poised to take advantage of this. It is the only company selling these products that has FDA approval and is generating interest among investors.

Although she grew up in New England, Heath is happy she chose to attend the University. "I was very



fortunate to work with Professor Michael Simmons, my Ph.D. adviser in the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology. He was wonderful to work with and I received excellent guidance. It was a nice combination of very rigorous training with a lot of independence."

Schuman is also happy that Heath joined her company and moved with it back to Minnesota. "Ellen is the creative force behind product development in our company and has contributed enormously to our success," she says.

"Her work is cutting edge, and she's at the forefront in the nucleic acid sample preparation field."

"These kits have [enabled] researchers to screen hundreds of thousands of people for genetic disorders."

Tim Willits • Doom and Destiny

"It's very nice to get paid well for working hard and doing what you love, especially when I'd do it for free."

Tim Willits, 27, plays games for a living. To be more exact, he designs computer games for id Software in Mesquite, Texas. But to Willits, although it's his job, it's mostly fun and games.

"Doom came out in early '93, my last year at the U," he recalls. "Id Software allows people to modify their games and create new levels, new characters, and new art. So for my own sheer enjoyment, I was creating new Doom levels and uploading them onto the Internet."

Willits's modifications proved so creative and popular that id Software took notice and contacted him. He was soon doing contract work for the company in University computer labs between assignments. But Willits, a computer science and business major, was no computer geek. He had been captain of his St. Paul Harding High School soccer, track, and cross-country skiing teams and was attending the University on a three-year ROTC scholarship.

But his first love was computers. So when id called in February 1994 with an immediate need for a full-time game designer, Willits jumped at the chance, despite

being three classes shy of his degree. "It was totally effortless to leave. Without a doubt, that's what I wanted to do," he says. "Working with id Software was a dream come true. I loved games, I loved the products they were creating, and I knew I could do a good job."

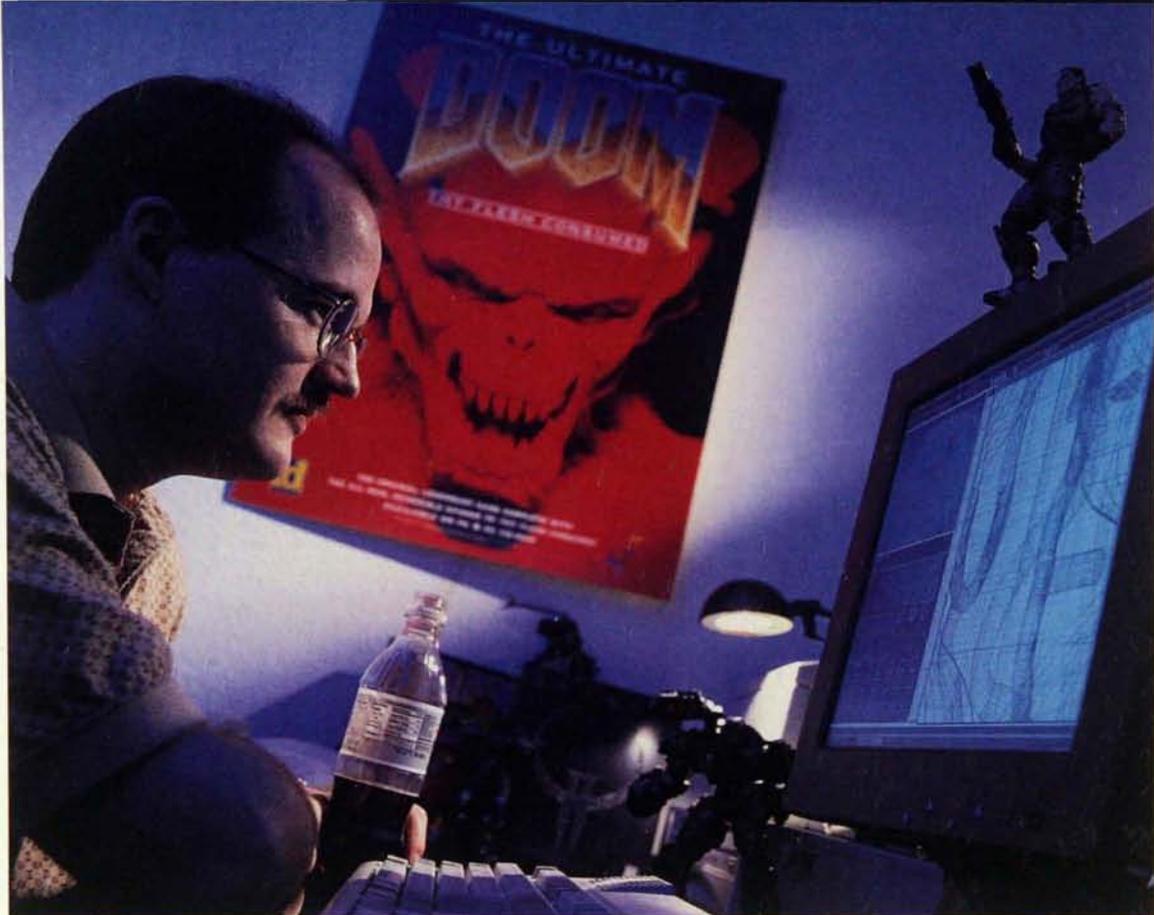
Willits finished the quarter and left for Texas in March. Id even paid off his army scholarship. "My boss still says, 'You don't actually work for us, Tim. We own you because we bought you from the army.'"

Richard and Mary Willits of St. Paul initially expressed concern about their son's decision to leave school without a degree, but Tim's enthusiasm quickly won them over. "I said, 'Tim, can't you just hold off a little bit? You really should graduate,'" recalls Richard Willits, a union organizer for the Minnesota pipe trades. "He said, 'Dad, if somebody called you and said they would give you good money to test Harley-Davidsons, would you leave?' That really put things into perspective."

Willits is indeed making good money. He paid \$72,000 in cash for his new Porsche and just recently bought a house on the 14th hole of a golf course. "My



"Id Software allows people to modify their games. So for my own sheer enjoyment, I was creating new Doom levels and uploading them on the Internet."



Realtor tells me I'm the youngest home owner in the development," he says, then adds with a laugh, "but I didn't pay cash for it."

Willits has traveled all over the world on behalf of id Software and has built quite a reputation along the way. "I've been to Australia and all through Europe for press tours, shows, and demonstrations," he says, "and people know who I am. That's very exciting."

Still, Willits is happy to work at a slightly slower pace after five years in the business. "When I first moved here, it was a little more stressful and I worked really, really hard," he explains. "But now I can take some time off. I'm a little older, a little more mature, and I know how to get things done."

But make no mistake about it, Willits enjoys his job as much as ever. "It's very nice to get paid well for work-

ing hard and doing what you love," he says. "Especially when I'd do it for free."

Willits, who says he plans to finish his coursework someday, will always have fond memories of the University. "The U was great for me," he says. "The computer classes were excellent. I learned everything I needed to about programming, networking, and the Internet, and having access to all that hardware was great. John Carlis in the computer science department was especially helpful, particularly when I was interviewing for this job in Texas."

"The campus was great, too. There were a lot of nice places to study and I always enjoyed going to the library. I try to get back to the U as often as I can, and when I do, I head to the bookstore to get more sweat-shirts!"

Rich Daly • The Industry's Best Friend

In the beginning, there was Rich Daly.

Daly ('49, '50) began his career in the Twin Cities computer industry back in 1952 with Engineering Research Associates, one of only two companies in the world at that time making computers. The founder of that company was William Norris, who would later start Control Data.

Daly founded his own computer services company in 1960. Five more start-ups followed. In 1985, he sold his interest in Comserv, a software products company started in 1969, and decided he would rather work with

other entrepreneurs instead of starting yet another company.

So, armed with 33 years of hard-earned experience and wisdom, Daly founded Consatech, Inc., a management consulting firm targeting start-up and emerging companies, particularly in the computer software and services industry. Because most start-up companies are cash poor, he charges low up-front fees and accepts a share of equity in exchange for his service. "I'm not particularly looking for Consatech to be rewarding financially, other than a potential return on equity," he says.

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"The entrepreneurs behind many start-up companies tend to have more technical skills than business skills."



"It really is rewarding to work with small companies and see them moving ahead."

Daly, now 74, enjoys his role as business adviser. In the past dozen years, he has worked with more than 100 companies. Although he relies on a network of attorneys, accountants, sales consultants and human resources professionals, Consatech is essentially a one-man show. "I am Consatech," Daly says with a laugh.

"The entrepreneurs behind many start-up companies tend to have more technical skills than business skills," he says. "I help them with business plans, getting financing—just a ton of things that come up that relate to running and growing their business." Daly also helps his clients to focus on the short-term objectives that are critical to the survival and growth of the company. "Most start-up and emerging companies have limited resources and don't need to address everything right away. For example, they probably can do without a policy-and-procedures manual for a while. They also need to focus on a very specific market and worry about expanding into national and even international markets when the time is right. . . . The first thing we put into place is a business plan and we stick to it."

Over the years, Daly has been a major force, helping to ignite in Minnesota what has become an \$850 million software industry. Much of that growth can certainly be attributed to the Minnesota Software Association (MSA). In the late 1980s, Daly was one of a half-dozen industry executives who began meeting at a local restaurant once a month for informal discussions. Daly structured and organized the group and found someone willing to serve as executive director. Thus the MSA was born.

After becoming certified as a Minnesota nonprofit trade association, the MSA built its membership to around 400 companies. Early last year, it merged with the Minnesota High-Tech Council to form the Minnesota High-Tech Association, which now has more than 800 member companies.

Daly was also instrumental in founding the Software Technology Center in St. Paul's Energy Park in January 1996. "It was designed to be a place where small software companies could come to facilitate development of their software and to give them access to their peers and the information they needed," he says. "Late last year, we also merged that into the Minnesota High-Tech Association."

Daly, who had enrolled at the University in electrical engineering, is matter of fact about the role his education played in his success. "I wouldn't be where I am without it," he says. "That's for sure. When I graduated in 1949, there weren't any jobs available in any field; that's why I stayed on and completed my M.B.A."

Count Gary Anderson, founder of St. Paul Software, an electronic commerce company, as one of Daly's satisfied customers. "When I met Rich in 1987 and brought him on as a management consultant, cash flow was tight and it was real hard for me to write that first check," Anderson recalls. "But throughout the years, because of his great contribution in helping to shape the vision and strategy of St. Paul Software, the investment I made in Rich Daly is the best money I've ever spent." ■

Phil Bolsta wrote about personal rapid transit in the November-December 1998 issue of Minnesota. He lives in Minnetonka.

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THE GOLDEN TOUCH

CURT CARLSON, FOUNDER OF ONE OF THE BIGGEST PRIVATE COMPANIES IN THE COUNTRY AND THE UNIVERSITY'S LARGEST INDIVIDUAL BENEFACTOR, SHOWED ENTREPRENEURIAL TENDENCIES EVEN WHILE A STUDENT IN THE MID-1930S.

BY WILLIAM SWANSON

VERY FEW MONTHS for the better part of a decade, I had the unusual opportunity to talk one on one with Curt Carlson ('37) about his life and career. I would be invited to his office—first in the Carlson Companies' low-slung, '60s-style headquarters on Highway 55 in Plymouth and later at the company's twin towers in Minnetonka—and join him for a couple hours of uninterrupted reminiscence. If it was lunchtime, we would sit at a table in a corner of the executive dining room, and the tapes I made of our conversation would ring with the happy chime of silver on china. If our meeting fell between meals, we would share a plate of freshly baked cookies at his desk. Curt's mother operated a bakery when he was a kid, so his passion for sweets came naturally.

I had known Curt since the early '70s, when I was an editor at *Corporate Report* magazine and he was generally recognized as Minnesota's foremost self-made mogul. Not long after I began freelancing in the early '80s, he hired me to help write the Carlson Companies' history. I knew by that time, of course, that to write about an entrepreneurial business is to write about the entrepreneur, and that the entrepreneur's life and career are almost always inseparable. The story of the company is the story of the entrepreneur, and each is unimaginable without the other. Now, as this entrepreneur's amanuensis—recording, organizing, and polishing his recollections—I was struck by how seamlessly the disparate elements of his life and career connected with and complemented each other. No question about it: Curt Carlson was Carlson Companies, and vice versa.



Curt Carlson, '37

For conventional reasons we organized the book—which we called *Good as Gold* and which the company published privately, in 1994, for employees, customers, and friends—by chapters: Growing Up, School Days, Getting Started, etc. But Curt's story was all of a piece. When he spoke of his years at the University of Minnesota, for example, he was inevitably and most importantly talking about how the U prepared him for his life and career. Later, discussing in a valedictory chapter the lessons he'd learned in his long lifetime and the need he felt to give back to those who contributed to his enormous success, he spoke of his salad days at the U and his great debt to the institution.

The U, in fact, was often on his mind. Truth to tell, I don't think I've met anyone, in any field, before or since, more genuinely grateful to his alma mater. Curt's love for the University was heartfelt and constant. He believed that the U was our state's greatest public treasure, that it benefited everyone in many different ways, and that its sustenance was every citizen's responsibility. (During one



Carlson at his company's headquarters in August 1985, just before the announcement of the Minnesota Campaign that would generate \$365 million.



Carlson, while a student at the University, in 1935.



Carlson married Arleen Martin in 1938.

of our early meetings, he suddenly asked me—apropos of what exactly I don't remember—if I belonged to the alumni association. When I said I didn't, he frowned and, in the voice of a devout father who's just discovered his son wasn't attending church, said, "Well, you need to join it right away. That's very important, you know." I never heard him enthuse about Gopher sports or get overly sentimental about the familiar glories of old Ski-U-Mah. He simply loved the University for what he learned there and because it was where he met his wife and because he believed the University played an essential role in his eventual success.

Curt did not come out of an academic or intellectual back-

ground. His father ran a grocery store and soft-drink distributorship, and his mother owned that bakery. With his parents' example and encouragement, Curt began making money at an early age, caddying at nearby golf courses and delivering the old *Minneapolis Journal* in his south Minneapolis neighborhood. At West High he was, he told me, a fancy dancer, Hi-Y president, and entrepreneur who earned enough money to tool around town in a Chevy convertible. Though not much of a student in high school ("too busy working and having a good time"), he went on to the U without giving the matter a lot of thought. "I don't think it occurred to us *not* to go to college," he said of himself and his four siblings. "It was something that was expected, no questions asked." The U was the obvious choice because it was an easy commute, it was affordable (though just barely, this being the Depression), and it had educated the sons and daughters of so many of the Carlsons'



friends and neighbors.

Curt lived at home, where he didn't have to pay room and board, but covered "every penny" (he was proud to recall) of his University tuition. His mother, noting her son's gift for gab, wanted him to study law, but Curt, a born entrepreneur if there ever was one, was determined to make his mark in business. At the same time, he seemed remarkably uncertain, even unconcerned, about the specifics of that eventual business career. (Decades later, he would marvel at the fact that his son-in-law, Dr. Glen Nelson, was able to write down, as a fifth grader, his specific ambition to be a physician.) Curt was clearly resolved, from an early age, "to get ahead, to make something of myself—to be somebody." He was content, however, to wait to choose among the possibilities when the time came.

In the meantime, he had to hustle to make ends meet. "Unlike my experience in high school, where I was the one guy who always seemed to have some money, within the circle I was part of at the University, I was one of the 'poor' kids," he said. For the first couple of years, he oversaw the several paper routes he'd been either carrying himself or farming out to siblings and pals since he was 10. He also sold a series of odd novelties, such as miniature plaster-of-Paris churches, the proceeds of which he'd split, he recalled, with the "manufacturer" and the sponsoring houses of worship. Especially lucrative was the "little advertising business" he operated while studying business and economics. "What I'd do is have some attractive bulletin boards

made up and post those boards in all the fraternity and sorority houses around campus," he explained. "Then I'd sell advertising space on those boards to local restaurants and merchants. It was a simple idea—so simple I wondered why no one had thought of it before I did." Which was precisely what he said about the trading stamps that he leveraged into his first real fortune beginning a few years later.

Though he never lived there, Curt remembered being "very active" at Sigma Phi Epsilon, which he served for a time as president. In *Good as Gold* he referred to the "great pleasure" he took in Sigma Phi's social life and noted that many of the friendships he made there had lasted a lifetime. Then, typically, he added, "That fraternity activity . . . was as instructive as it was fun. It taught me how to deal with my peers, how to initiate and develop close, working relationships. To this day I look favorably on any job candidate who has been an officer of a fraternity, sorority, or other such social organization. To me, that kind of achievement shows that the person has a pleasing, persuasive way of relating to other people—which is, of course, a critical attribute in business." His single most important relationship established at the U had nothing, however, to do with either social organizations or business. Its prize was pretty, blonde Arleen Martin, whom he met in a poli-sci class, began dating, and married within months of his graduation.

When it finally came time to translate our conversations into type, Curt, who was always quick with the pencil and paper, produced the following cost-benefit analysis of his years at the U:

"To say I owe an enormous debt to that institution may sound trite and sentimental, but I have said it often, and always from the bottom of my heart.

"I often think of my debt this way: Between 1933 and 1937 I was given a first-rate university education, culminating in that bachelor's degree in economics. For the education and degree I paid the University a grand total of \$45 a year in tuition. Even taking into account the depressed economic times, I find the thought incredible. So much information, so much experience, so much *life*—for such a minuscule amount of money. Surely I owe the University and, behind it, the taxpayers of Minnesota a substantial amount of gratitude."



Groundbreaking for the new business school building took place in June 1995. Left to right: Pierson "Sandy" Grieve, then-chairman of Ecolab; David Kidwell, dean of the Carlson School; Curt Carlson; and then-President Nils Hasselmo.

Carlson with his daughter Marilyn Carlson Nelson in January 1989 after a chair-endowment ceremony. Carlson's \$25 million gift in 1986 created 17 endowments for faculty chairs and professorships.



Carlson talks about entrepreneurship to graduate students at the Carlson School in September 1986.

CURT CARLSON'S COMMITMENT TO THE U

FIRST GIFT: In 1952, Carlson gave \$500 to the University for a conference on "Savings & Inflation."

TOTAL GIVING: Through 1998, Carlson gave a total of \$36,470,000 to the University.

MAJOR GIFTS: \$1 million in 1980 to launch the Carlson Lecture Series; \$10 million in 1993 for the new Carlson School building; \$25 million in 1986 for the Minnesota Campaign, \$18 million of which was earmarked for the Carlson School.

UNIVERSITY HONORS: Outstanding Achievement Award in 1967, Regents Award in 1979, Honorary Doctor of Laws in 1996.

SERVICE TO THE U: Trustee, University Foundation, 1966-99 (chairman, 1975-77; member, Carlson School of Management's Advisory Committee and Board of Overseers, 1978-99; chairman, Minnesota Campaign, 1985-88; chairman, Campaign for the Humphrey Institute, 1976-80.

In the tributes that followed Curt's death in February, much was said about the \$36 million in philanthropic gifts that made Curt the University of Minnesota's largest individual benefactor. For all those donations, though, I'm not sure he really believed that he'd given back enough. ■

William Swanson ('68) is a Minneapolis writer and editor who has previously written in Minnesota about Sid Hartman and Dr. John Najarian.

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Athlete | Students

Few people enrolled at the University face a greater challenge than those who balance the demands of college athletics with the rigors of college academics. Here are four Gophers who excel in both sports and school. • By Julie Jensen and Chris Coughlan-Smith • Photographs by Dan Marshall

Amber Hegland | The List Grows Shorter

Amber Hegland's is not your typical to-do list. There's no room for "Watch *Ally McBeal*" when she's got "Earn all-Big Ten honors at four softball positions" and "Keep 3.2 GPA in kinesiology major" on her agenda.

Oh yes, this year she added "Resume outstanding hockey career."

After four years of stellar play for the Gopher softball team, Hegland, a fifth-year senior, went back on the ice. A trailblazer as the first girl to play for a boys' team (Farmington) in the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament, Hegland joined the Gopher women. You can cross out "Be elected co-captain of hockey team" on the list. She's done that too.

"For me, time management is the most important thing," Hegland says. "I write out a to-do list every day. All my projects are on a big calendar so I know when it's time to work on them. I learned the hard way my freshman year in college. At one point, I was just so overloaded with things—the list really helped me track things."

At times, Hegland may have needed a list to keep track of where she was on the softball field. A talented athlete, she proved her versatility by playing every position—and there are 10 of them—during her collegiate softball career. No Gopher had done that before. Four times she earned all-Big Ten second-team status, at four of those spots. Twice she was named academic all-Big Ten. In 1996, she was named to the all-America second team, and in 1998, she was on the academic All-America third team.

"Amber is 100 percent dedicated and focused," says Gophers softball coach Lisa Bernstein, who misses Hegland and her .399 batting average—a Gophers career best. "She pays attention to the process and she has the big picture figured out. She knows her educational goals and she understood the balance that was needed."

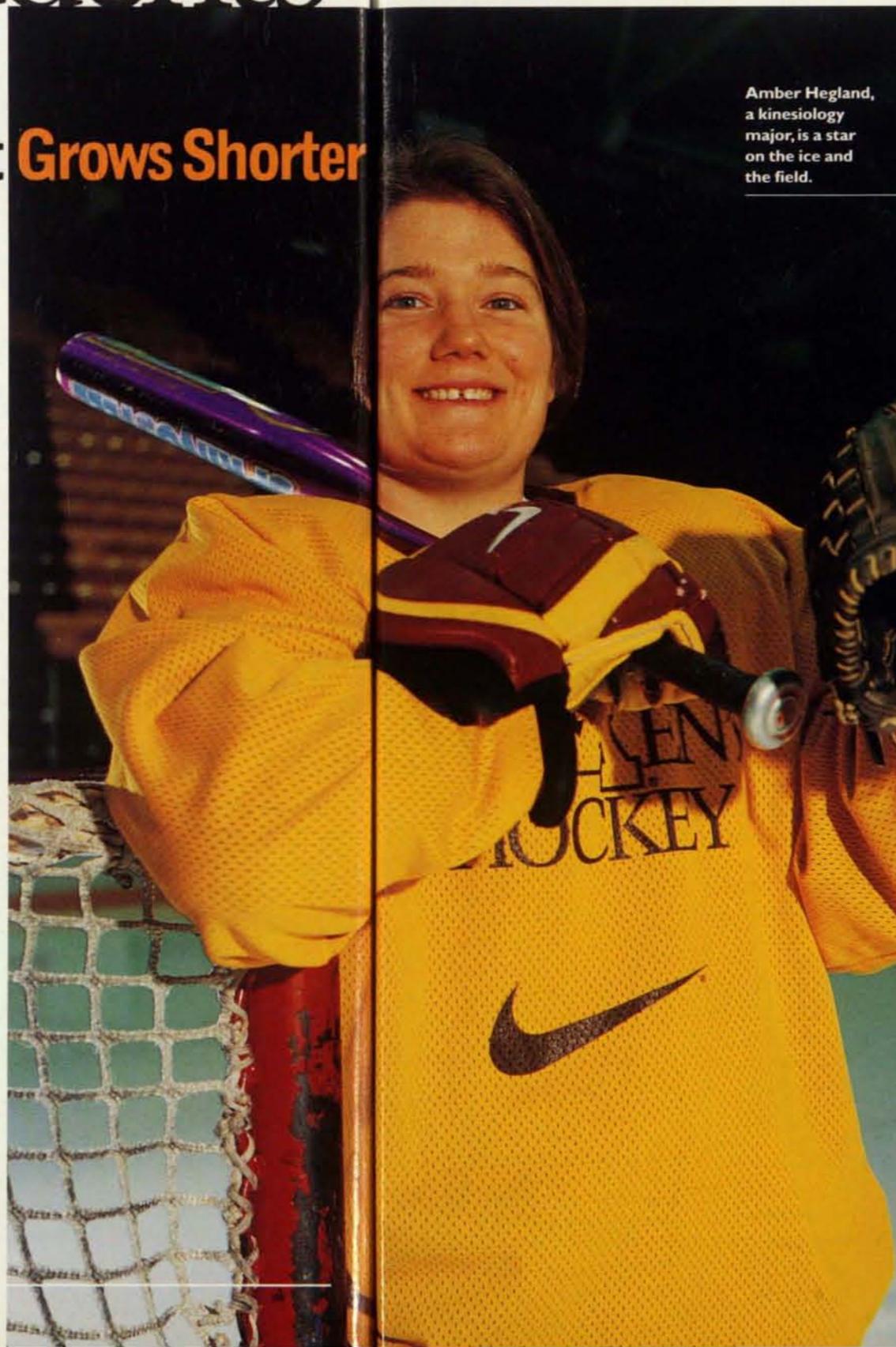
"I miss Amber the person the most," continues Bernstein, whose Gophers reached the regional championship before losing to eventual national champion Fresno State in Hegland's final game. "Athletically, she's very talented. Emotionally, she's very stable."

Bernstein's successor in coaching Hegland is Gopher hockey coach Laura Halldorson, who sees the same solid citizen Bernstein did. "She's been a leader ever since she joined us," Halldorson says. "I don't need to tell people what Amber's about. They know. The other kids look up to her—they call her 'Grandma.'"

Halldorson was somewhat skeptical last summer when Hegland asked about playing hockey for the Gophers. "I didn't guarantee her anything," Halldorson says. "I said, 'You haven't played in four or five years. Let's see what you've got.'"

What Hegland had was the ability to make goals happen. Her 17 goals were fourth on the team and, along with her 18 assists, put her in seventh place in points for Minnesota. The Gophers finished third in the American Women's College Hockey Alliance final four, the sport's season-ending national tournament, held in Minneapolis.

Next on Hegland's list is becoming a Division I hockey or softball coach after she graduates this spring. "She's awfully competitive," Halldorson says. "And that competitiveness isn't just in athletics; it's also in her academics. She does a good job of budgeting her time. She gives 100 percent to what she's doing. When she's on the ice she's not reading; when she's in class she's not working on her shot. Young players need to learn that focus." —J.J.



Amber Hegland, a kinesiology major, is a star on the ice and the field.



John Cahoy, who likes the fast lane, maintains a 4.0 GPA while majoring in chemistry and biochemistry.

John Cahoy | Good Chemistry

John Cahoy likes his H₂O with a little Cl.

That's just what you'd expect from a chemist who's also a swimmer. But the symbol most associated with him is A—as in the letter grade, or as in academic all-American.

A senior from River Falls, Wisconsin, Cahoy was recently named all-Big Ten, one of nine members of the 12th-ranked Gopher team so honored. He then earned first-team all-America honors in a relay at the NCAA Championships, along with three honorable mention all-America citations—in the 100-yard butterfly and two other relays.

And did we mention the 4.0 grade-point average he has while majoring in chemistry and biochemistry? Or that he was a first-team academic all-American last year and a cinch to repeat after this season?

"Flexibility is the key to everything," Cahoy says. "Sometimes people say, 'He's going to have a heart attack—he's too busy.' But I don't have time to worry about them."

Indeed. Talent, dedication, organizational skills—Cahoy's got all those. Time? Well, that's tougher to come by. "He compartmentalizes very well," says Gopher men's swim coach Denis Dale. "When he's in the pool, he's swimming. That's kind of a break for him from the anxiety of it all. And when he leaves the pool, swimming is over with. He does that as well as anyone I've ever known."

Chemistry professor William Tolman, Cahoy's academic "coach," concurs. "There's no question that the key is his ability to organize his time," says Tolman, who supervises Cahoy's summer research. "There's hardly a wasted moment for him. Sometimes I have to make an appointment with him!"

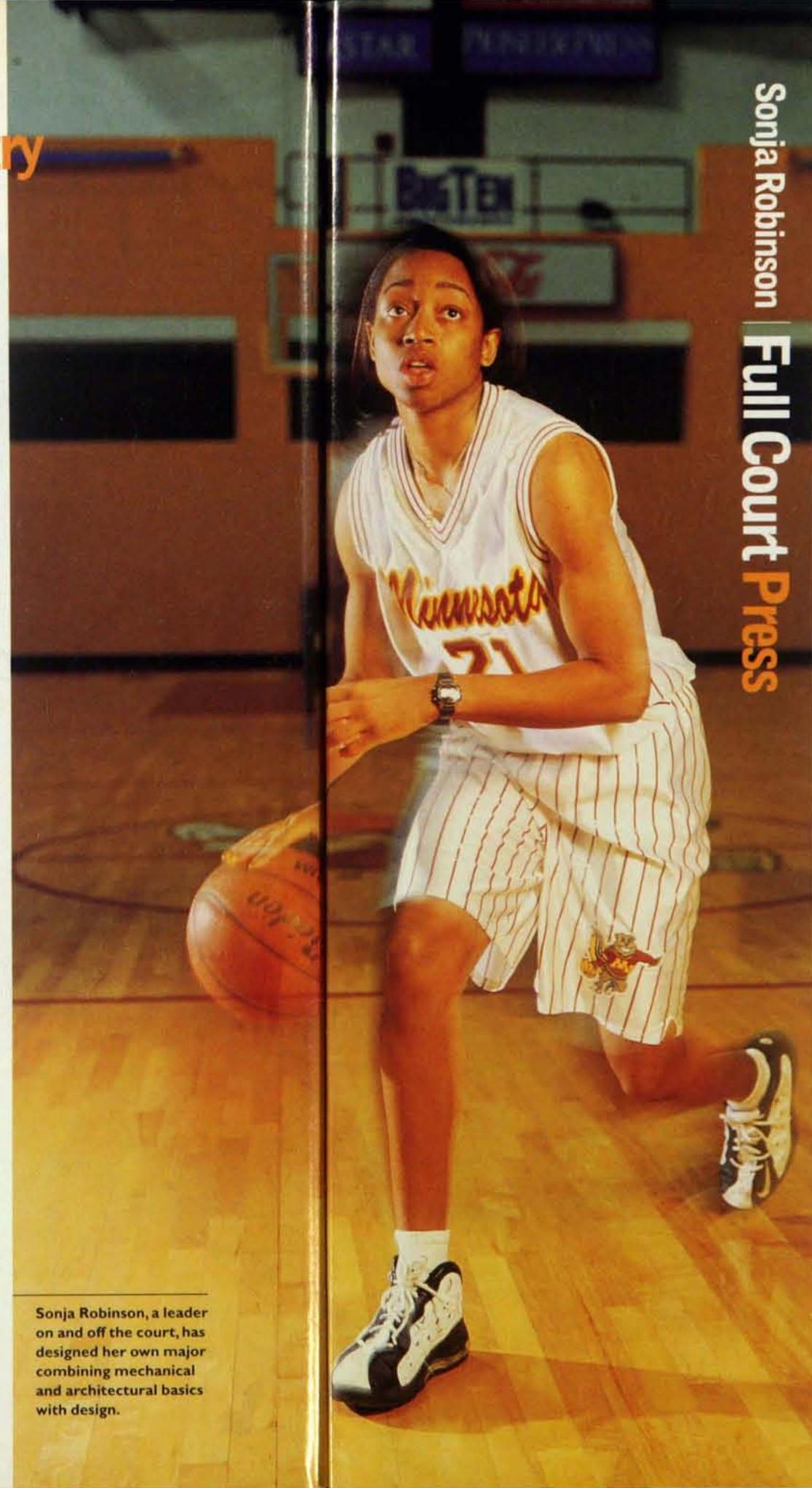
The two are publishing a paper together. "That's going fabulously," says the proud professor. "Certainly, with a little extra time he probably could learn more, but what does he have—a 4.0? So his grades aren't suffering. Sure he could get more research done, but I'd rather he was well-rounded and happy."

Cahoy started swimming competitively at age 8. By the time he was 15, the sport had begun to demand huge chunks of time. That's when Cahoy perfected his juggling act with academics and athletics. "I learned on my own—after staying up real late in high school a few times—that I couldn't procrastinate," Cahoy says. "I figured out that when you're going to class, you pay attention. That's when I can learn most of my stuff. Some people use that time to mess around, but I try to use every moment of my time wisely."

Cahoy says the pool is where he gets away from it all. "Then, it's just you and the water. The distractions are limited. You feel the support of your teammates around you. But when the pain starts to hit, that's a chance to just be alone. It's my chance to escape. Sometimes, when it's been a hectic week, on Sunday, when we don't have practice, I'm thinking, 'Boy, I wish I could go to the pool and relax.' I think the two [academics and athletics] work well together."

Cahoy will close out his competitive swimming career in July at the World University Games in Spain.

But that might not be his last European experience, at least not if Professor Tolman has his way. "He may be nominated for a Rhodes Scholarship," Tolman says. "It means going to Oxford, which is not the best place for chemistry, but he deserves the honor." —J.J.



Sonja Robinson

Full Court Press

Sonja Robinson, a leader on and off the court, has designed her own major combining mechanical and architectural basics with design.

Sonja Robinson attacks life from two sides at once. Honors have piled up both for basketball and academics. And she has designed a major to satisfy both her analytical and creative sides. "Soni is a perfectionist in the true form," says Mindy Hansen, a women's basketball teammate for four years who shared team-captain duties with Robinson this season. "She won't do anything halfway."

On the basketball court, she earned honorable mention all-Big Ten honors while leading the Gophers in scoring, rebounding, games started, and minutes played. And that was despite playing forward against opponents who were often three to six inches taller and at least a few dozen pounds heavier. "I got knocked around some," she admits. "But I just got back up and got in position."

Robinson, who lived in Minnesota as a child but now calls Arizona home, has earned academic all-Big Ten honors and several of the women's athletics department's highest scholastic awards. As a sophomore, she earned the highest grade-point average among minority students in mechanical engineering, a department considered the finest in the country.

But Robinson found that mechanical engineering wasn't enough. "I wanted something that satisfied both my intellect and my creativity," she says. "To do that, I had to design my own major." She came up with something she calls "theme design." It involves studying mechanical and architectural basics and the design concepts behind amusement parks, hotels, and other venues built around a coherent motif.

Kate Solomonson, an assistant professor of architecture who was acting director of undergraduate studies in winter, worked with Robinson on her program. "She put together a major that struck me as really creative and interesting," she says. "I'm a big believer in interdisciplinary studies, so it's exciting to be able to work with students like her. She comes in with such a strong technical background and a very well-focused and well-designed program."

The coach who recruited Robinson was replaced two years ago. "When I came in," coach Cheryl Littlejohn recalls, "I saw right away that Soni had a passion for the game and would be one of the great leaders. I just saw the type of work ethic and character she had. This is the kind of young person any coach in the county would want."

Although the team has yet to show much progress in the wins column, Robinson never admitted disappointment. "If she ever got discouraged, you would never know it," Hansen says. "At practice she was always focused on the coaches, on the drills. In two or three hours you would never see her attention wander. That started to rub off on the younger players this year, just like her incredible time-management skills did."

Littlejohn saw that too. "When the younger players see her working so hard day after day, that's planting seeds, building our foundation," she says. "She is one of the great leaders on and off the court."

Robinson recognizes that pushing for excellence on two fronts can be stressful. "You have to find the breaking point, the point where things will fall apart," she says. "You have to be sure you stay on the right side of it." But at the same time, she doesn't think she has even approached that point. "I'm one to say, 'Bring it on,'" she says. "I keep pushing that bar higher. I plan to keep pushing it." —C.C.S.



Staffan Strand, the fifth-best high jumper in the world, will earn a computer engineering degree in three and a half years.

Staffan Strand | Reaching New Heights

If you lined up the University's computer engineering majors, it might be hard to tell which one is the fifth-best high jumper in the world. But ask them to take a few steps, and in an instant you'd point to Staffan Strand. To say he has spring in his step would be an understatement. He is tall and thin, and his legs, which have carried him over seven-feet, seven-inches, appear to be winning the fight with gravity.

But Strand stands out for another reason. He not only plans to graduate in three and a half years, he always stays a week ahead in his coursework, turns in homework and takes tests early, and maintains a 3.8 grade-point average. "Yes, it's a lot of work," says the academic and athletic all-American. "But I've been able to combine it in a good way. I haven't been doing too shabby in school so far."

Gopher men's track coach Phil Lundin is more ardent. "There are very few people who can combine these at even close to the level he does," he says. "He's a very, very rare bird."

Strand's desire to combine athletics and academics brought him to Minnesota from Sweden, where he was the world's top teenage high jumper in his final year of high school. "Back home,

there's no interaction between school and sports at all. We don't even have high-school sports; it's all club sports," he explains. "If my only concern would have been great athletics, I probably would have stayed in Sweden. If my only concern would have been great academics, I probably would have stayed in Sweden. But I want-

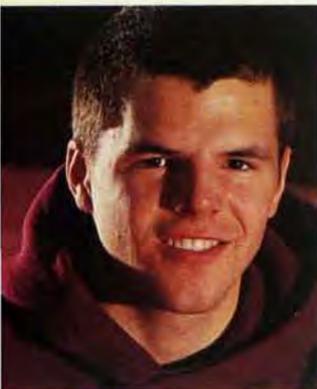
ed to combine the two, which made me look to America. I looked into the various options I had, and my choice came down to Minnesota or Harvard."

Lundin was recruiting Strand even before he realized his academic potential. "But then he scored about 1300 on the SAT"—in the top 5 or 10 percent—he says. "And that was in English, his second or third language." After that, Lundin made sure Strand received information about Minnesota's top-ranked engineering departments.

Entering the 1999 outdoor track season, Strand has won both Big Ten outdoor titles and all three indoor titles he has contested. He's also earned four all-America honors by placing in NCAA indoor and outdoor meets his freshman and sophomore seasons. His consistently high level of jumping, however, cost the Gophers his service for the 1999 NCAA Indoor Championships. He opted instead to turn in homework and take tests early and jump in the World Indoor Championships, a meet with tougher qualifying standards than the Olympics. He finished fifth.

Strand will complete the spring season but plans to graduate in December and give up his final college season. He also plans to continue his education for several years, maybe in Sweden. And he's looking ahead to the 2000 Olympic Games. "It's something that I've always wanted to do and the dream is still there."

His only regret is not being able to dedicate himself to both pursuits full-time. "If you look at other students who are performing at the same type of [academic] level that I am, they are doing all sorts of research programs and have good jobs or internships on the side," he says. "I don't really have that option. There is just no way that I would be able to cram in another 15 hours of research a week. . . . But I won't complain about it. I'm getting to do both things. Both are number one with me." —C.C.S.



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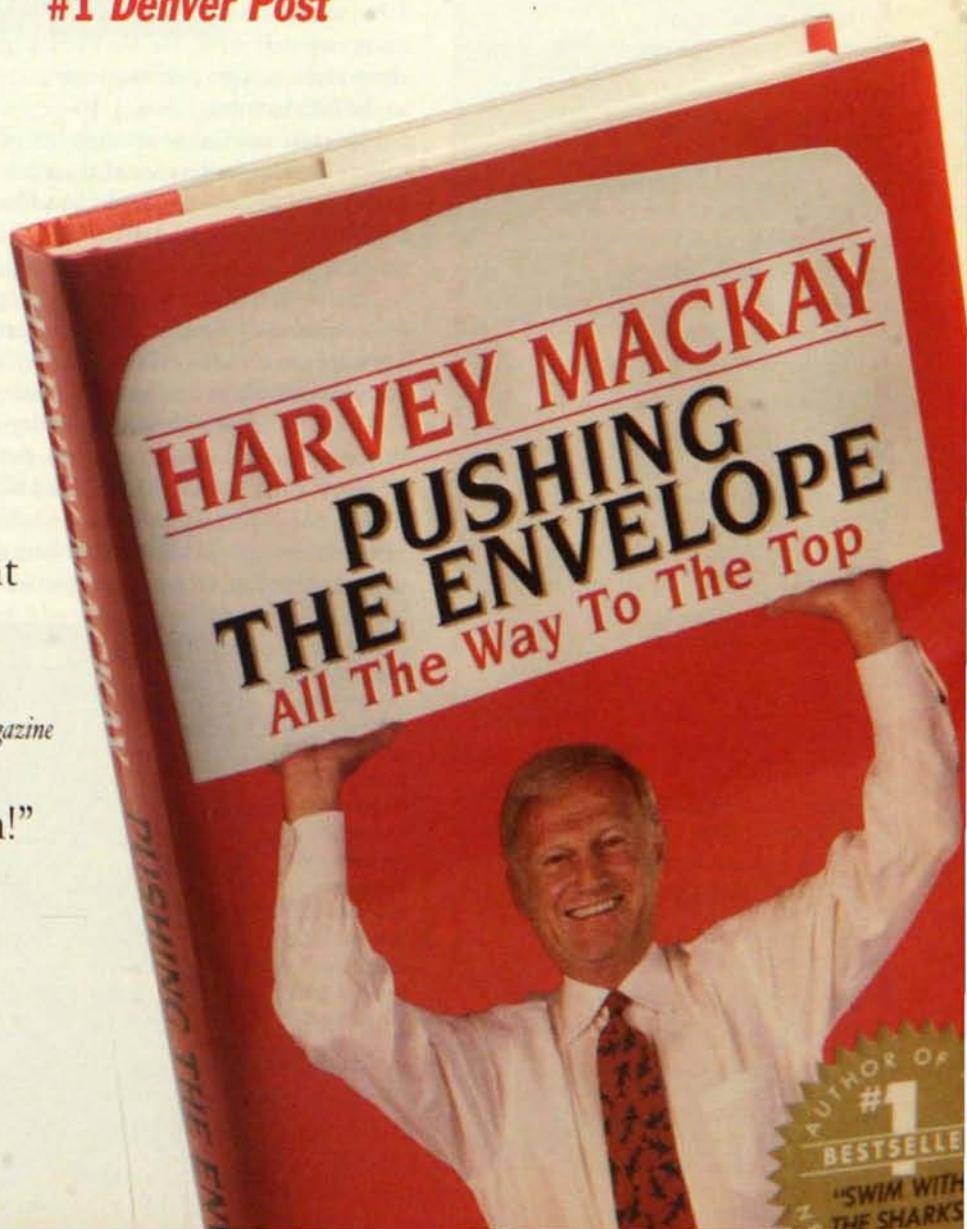
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Team Effort

Men's Swimming and Diving

The men's swimming and diving team is not just the top academic team on campus, it might be the best in the country. "Last year, we had five academic all-Americans," says coach Dennis Dale. "We've led the nation the last two years. These are not only great athletes, but athletes who understand why they are here."

Leading the academic stars is John Cahoy, profiled on page 34. But right behind Cahoy is Martin Zielinski, a returning academic all-America selection. "This summer and fall he backed off swimming a little to study for his medical school boards," Dale explains. "He got the kind of score that, combined with his academics and athletics, gives him the chance to get into any medical school around."

Zielinski, as Dale notes, "is also no slouch in the pool." He won the Big Ten title in the 100-yard butterfly in 1997 and 1999 and won the same event at the 1998 USA Swimming national meet. He has earned individual all-America honors in the 100 fly four times and has taken part in numerous relay teams that have won Big Ten titles and placed in the NCAA meet.

Zielinski and Cahoy are only two of the team's outstanding academic seniors. Three others have earned national academic honors: Luis Lopez, an industrial engineering major from Aurora, Colorado; Jono McLeod of Regina, Saskatchewan, who is pursuing a self-designed major; and Yoav Meiri, a design communications major from Jerusalem. Each has been an all-conference and honorable mention all-America swimmer.

Seniors Jeff Miller, an aerospace engineering and mechanics major from Brookfield, Wisconsin, and Jeremy Wittiko, a materials science engineering major from Hastings, Minnesota, have earned academic all-Big Ten citations. Miller also has been recognized for carrying one of the five best GPAs among male athletes.

While the academic well is not dry—juniors Oscar Godoi, an international business major from Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil, and Brian Howard, a journalism major from Roeland Park, Kansas, have earned all-conference academic honors—Dale recognizes that he has a special group. "I don't think the team will recognize their value until they have left," he says. "Although they have shown their teammates not to be afraid to put effort into your studies, they are going to leave a huge void when they graduate." —C.C.S.

The athletes on the men's swimming and diving team keep their heads above water: five seniors are academic stars, and a pack of studious juniors aren't far behind.



Women's Golf



The women's golf team tops the leader board in highest overall GPA. An impressive honor, given that the department's athletes have compiled a 3.0 GPA over three years.

Each year, the women's athletic department gives an award for the team with the highest overall grade-point average. The competition is tough, considering that the department's athletes have compiled a GPA of over 3.0 for 21 consecutive quarters (seven years).

Although the tennis team won the award for five consecutive years in the mid-1990s and the cross-country team placed an impressive seven runners on the 1998 academic all-Big Ten team, the women's golf team has risen above. They earned the team GPA honor for both the 1996-97 and 1997-98 school years and placed four golfers on the National Golf Coaches Association All-Scholar Team.

The team is led both on the course and in the classroom by four seniors who grew up in Minnesota—Melanie Lepp of Easton, Michelle Ballou of Chaska, Donna Boom of Albert Lea, and Kristi Weichert of Caledonia. All four have earned the coaches' scholar award at least once and won the department's Patty Berg Academic Award. "Their classroom ability really does carry over to the golf course," coach Kathy Williams says. "I don't have to tell them twice about anything. It's a coach's dream."

Lepp, a geography major, is the team's most consistently competitive golfer, having placed in the top 10 three times in four fall tournaments. In the first spring tournament, the 13-team Midwest Classic, she took third and helped the Gophers win the team title. She averaged 78.1 per round in the fall. Weichert, a business major, also competed in all four fall tournaments and averaged 81.1 strokes per round, then finished second in an early spring tournament. Ballou, a speech communications major, finished second at the Midwest Classic and had a fall average of 80.4, while Boom, an engineering major, averaged 82.0 in the fall.

The team's other top golfers, Jenny Bruun, a sophomore from Crookston, Minnesota, who is undecided on a major, and Katie Bakken, a sophomore from Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, majoring in business, both have potential to become academic all-Americans, Williams adds.

"I almost have to tell the freshmen, 'Just relax to do your best in the classroom,'" she says. "The academic standards we've set are pretty high, but if they follow our program, they'll do fine." The program includes study sessions at least three times a week and keeping up with work and tests even during competitions.

"They'll usually try to take tests early," Williams says. "But four times now I've had a test faxed to me, administered it at the team hotel, and then faxed it back that night. The professors are very understanding. Of course, it helps that the students show that they are serious about their studies."

—C.C.S.



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Gopher Men Honorable Mention Academic All-Stars

Ben Birk, junior from St. Paul

ACADEMICS: Finance major; 1998 academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Baseball; 1999 Preseason Big Ten pitcher of the year; went 8-2 with a 2.65 ERA in 1998, Big Ten all-Tournament team

Brandon Eggum, junior from Sidney, Montana

ACADEMICS: Applied economics major; three-time academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Wrestling; 34-2 in 1998-99, second in NCAA and Big Ten champion at 184 pounds

Tim Hartung, senior from Durand, Wisconsin

ACADEMICS: Kinesiology major; wrestling coaches' academic all-America team; three-time academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Wrestling; 39-0 record in 1998-99, NCAA and Big Ten champ at 197 pounds; 1997-98, NCAA and Big Ten champ at 190 with a 36-1 record; 34-2, Big Ten champ at 190 in 1996-97

Jason Krob, senior from St. Charles, Missouri

ACADEMICS: Finance major; two-time academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Gymnastics; ranked in national top 10 in pommel horse in 1999; reached 1997 NCAA Championships

Martin LeMesurier, junior from South Hampton, England

ACADEMICS: Individualized major; 1997-98 academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Golf; shot final round 68 in 1998 NCAA Championships to finish 20th; 1996-97 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, fourth in Big Ten Championships

Dan McGrath, junior from Victoria, Australia

ACADEMICS: Psychology major; 1998 academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Baseball; 1998 second-team all-Big Ten pitcher, 6-2 with a 2.63 ERA in conference play

Fred Rodgers, junior from Hamilton, Ohio

ACADEMICS: Education major; academic all-Big Ten in football

ATHLETICS: Track; school record holder in indoor 60-meter dash; 1998 Big Ten champion at 100 meters (outdoor) and runner-up at 55 meters (indoor); defensive back on football team

Parc Williams, senior from Zumbrota, Minnesota

ACADEMICS: Kinesiology major; three-time academic all-District V; four-time academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Football; 1998 team captain; top 10 in career tackles, solo tackles, and sacks

Gopher Women Honorable Mention Academic All-Stars

Shannon Beeler, senior from Shelton, Washington

ACADEMICS: Sociology major; academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Softball; school single-season and career record holder for home runs and runs batted in; 1998 first-team all-America shortstop

Judy Cavazos, junior from Monterrey, Mexico

ACADEMICS: Psychology major; academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Gymnastics; set school record in uneven bars in 1998, finishing second in Big Ten; 1997 all-America in uneven bars and set school records in floor exercise and all-around

Katy Christofferson, sophomore from Burnsville, Minnesota

ACADEMICS: Pre-med major; Student-Athlete Award winner

ATHLETICS: Swimming; 1999 Big Ten 400-yard individual medley runner-up, honorable mention all-America in three relay events; won 1998 Big Ten 400-yard individual medley title, honorable mention all-America in 800 freestyle relay

Elaine Eggelston, sophomore from Roseville, Minnesota

ACADEMICS: Pre-veterinary medicine/biology major; coaches' association academic all-America, academic all-Big Ten with a 3.79 GPA

ATHLETICS: Cross country; 1998 second-team all-Big Ten, all-Midwest Region with eighth in NCAA Midwest Regional

Christine Gulbrandsen, junior from Kristiansand, Norway

ACADEMICS: German and women's studies major; academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Track and field; school record holder in triple jump and pole vault; 1999 Big Ten indoor champion in triple jump; six-time all-Big Ten in three events

Steph Klaviter, senior from New Ulm, Minnesota

ACADEMICS: Kinesiology major; academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Softball; U record holder for career pitching victories; two-time second-team all-Big Ten and all-Region

Rasa Michniovaite, junior from Pabrade, Lithuania

ACADEMICS: Biology major; coaches' association academic all-America with a 4.0 GPA

ATHLETICS: Cross country; 1998 all-America, NCAA Midwest Regional champion; third in Big Ten Championship

Sitinee Rangsithienchai, senior from Flossmoor, Illinois

ACADEMICS: Finance and pre-med major; two-time academic all-Big Ten; Patty Berg Award winner for academics

ATHLETICS: Tennis; won 18 matches at No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles in 1998; 1996 Big Ten Newcomer of the Year, all-Big Ten team

Aubrey Schmitt, sophomore from Hastings, Minnesota

ACADEMICS: Biology major; academic all-Big Ten in 1998

ATHLETICS: Track and field; 1999 Big Ten indoor shot put champion; 1998 Big Ten outdoor shot put champion; 11th in shot put at 1998 NCAA Indoor Championships

Laurie Siedl, sophomore from St. Charles, Illinois

ACADEMICS: Undecided major; academic all-Big Ten

ATHLETICS: Soccer; 1998 first-team all-Big Ten, second in Big Ten with 15 goals; 1997 Big Ten Newcomer of the Year

Julie Jensen wrote about the women's gymnastics team in the January-February issue of Minnesota. Chris-Coughlan Smith is associate editor for Minnesota.

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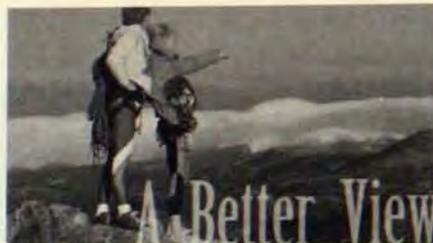
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SCANDAL!

Professor Shoots Student, President's Job in Jeopardy

A little-known incident in the University's early years involving prankster students and a discipline-embracing president shows how far we've all come.

By Tim Brady • Illustration by Michael Witte

IN THE WEE HOURS of the morning on May 16, 1882, a group of University of Minnesota debate students and their fans—a little tetchy from having just suffered an upset defeat at the hands of the Clayonian Club of St. Paul—decided to vent their frustrations at the home of William Watts Folwell, president of the University. The plan was to hijack the front gates leading up to Folwell's house and . . . do something with them. It was a symbolic gesture meant to suggest that the president ought to open the doors of the campus to a little more personal freedom—to cut these students some slack.

It wasn't the first time that Folwell had been cho-

sen as the target of pent-up student emotions. Several months prior to this May evening, to protest a demerit system imposed by Folwell, a group of University students had kidnapped the president's horse—a high crime in 1882. They clipped the poor animal's tail and mane, and wrapped its hooves in burlap sacks to quiet a trip up to the tower of Old Main, the central and nearly only structure standing on the campus at the time. Again, history fails to say exactly what the students were going to do with the horse once they got him up there. At any rate, they were apprehended in the midst of the act, and the protest of the demerit system prompted Folwell to use it once again.

Sources: *The University of Minnesota, 1851-1951*, by James Gray, Minnesota Press, 1951; *Recollections of Early Minnesota Days*, by Elmer E. Adams, Class of '84, 1949; *The Emergence of the American University*, by Laurence Vesey, University of Chicago Press, 1965; *University Archives*; and the Ariel student publication.

Rambunctious students weren't Folwell's only problem in the spring of 1882. Hired in 1869 as the first president of the University of Minnesota, William Folwell was a visionary educator, a man in the forefront of the college reform movement that swept the nation in the second half of the 19th century. In a speech given to the state legislature soon after he was hired, Folwell outlined an ambitious plan for the University that anticipated the school's 20th-century status in the state. The University would not only serve as the higher educational center of a statewide system of education, it would be a resource for the entire population, providing know-how to business and government and feeding talent to the arts and science communities.

Trouble was, when Folwell gave this speech, the University of Minnesota campus consisted of Old Main, a bare-bones budget, and a penny-pinching board of regents. Folwell had no staff beyond the faculty and served as college president, secretary, librarian, and chief janitor. The faculty itself was a hidebound lot dominated by a group of ministers more interested in drumming the classics into their scholars than any grand vision of what the University could be. And the student body was a quintessentially 19th-century mix of would-be Victorian gentlemen and -women and young frontier yahoos.

By 1882, Folwell had brought in a largely new faculty, including the redoubtable Maria Sanford, whose likeness would one day represent the state of Minnesota in the halls of Congress (which houses statues of one or two people from every state). He also helped get the moribund College of Agriculture off the ground.

But at the same time, the University wasn't growing. There were fewer students enrolled in 1882 than there had been a dozen years earlier, and for both Folwell and the regents, the bloom was off the rose. Word was that he was not quite the stout fellow needed to build the grand state university of his own envisioning.

It is safe to say that on the night of the debate (the topic of the evening: "Resolved, that the United States should have tariff for revenue only"), William Folwell was in no mood to see his gates ripped off by a gang of rowdy students. Somehow he got wind of their plans and called a couple of faculty members over to his house to stand guard with him and foil the plot. The professors were John G. "Dutchy" Moore, a teacher of German, and William A. Pike, the sole member of the engineering department at the University. Pike, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a recent addition to the faculty, made the mistake of sticking a pistol in his pocket before heading to his lookout in Folwell's parlor.

Across campus, his head full of the wrongs of both Folwell's demerit system and the U.S. tariff, Asa Paine, the sophomore son of a piney woods lumberman from northern Minnesota, came galumphing toward destiny. He, too, was packing heat.

IN MEASURING the long heartbeat of the University of Minnesota, what happened next would, in time, appear to be just an excited blip on the monitor. But few anecdotes serve as a better indicator of just how far the university has come since its beginning in the middle of the 19th century.

To picture a university president and esteemed members of his faculty brawling in the dark with a group of students, the two groups pulling guns on each other, suggests a wilder day and age. And it's true that Minnesota, in 1882, was a volatile place. Hordes of immigrants and newcomers were streaming through the Twin Cities on their way to the wheat fields of the Dakotas and the western portions of Minnesota. The populations of Minneapolis and St. Paul were likewise exploding, and the mills of Minneapolis were starting to grind so much wheat into flour that they might as well have been minting money.

The front pages of the St. Paul papers were periodically filled with promotions for would-be towns to the west: Endless land! The railroad's a-coming! Winters: Not so bad!

But inside the paper, the news was often darker. Local police departments were being asked to round up "bummers" hanging out by the railroad yards. In the same month as the incident at Folwell's gate, a "tramp" was accused of "outraging" a little girl in Le Sueur, Minnesota, and the story of the ensuing man-hunt filled columns for days. A recent lynching of a man referred to in the paper simply as "the rogue McManus" served as backdrop to the search and ominous warning to the fugitive if he were ever caught.

While the air of frontier violence might have wafted over the campus, by itself it can't quite explain the free-for-all that ensued.

It was two o'clock in the morning. From their vantage at Folwell's house at 1020 Fifth Street Southeast in Minneapolis, the professors and the president saw the gang of students in front of his home. They had already swiped the gates and were making off with them when Folwell and company gave chase.

According to an account two days later in the *New York Times*, Folwell pursued the main body of boys while Moore and Pike lit after Asa Paine. As Paine raced away, Pike pulled out his .22-caliber pistol and hollered something like, "Halt! You gate thief!" This, according to the *Times*, "invited [Paine] to greater speed."

Moore finally caught up with the boy and thrashed him with a cane until Paine fell to the ground in front of Professor Pike's residence, just down the street from Folwell's home. At this point Paine pulled his



John G. "Dutchy" Moore, professor of German, ca. 1888



Former University President William Folwell, ca. 1888



William A. Pike, professor of engineering, ca. 1888

own revolver from beneath his coat and leveled it at the cane-wielding Moore. According to the *Times*, Paine said, "I can't stand this; stop or I will shoot!"

Then Pike arrived with his own pistol drawn. Seeing his colleague with a gun pointed at his midsection, and assuming that the German department was about to have a huge hole in it, Pike plugged Asa Paine in the leg. "I am shot," the young man said with simple drama.

They hauled him back to Folwell's house, where a doctor soon tended to his wound. It would turn out to be minor. In fact, he probably felt no greater pain than University President William Folwell and his two faculty members as they stood, the next day, arraigned in the docket of a Minneapolis courtroom, charged with assault and battery against one of their own students.

The May 18 *Minneapolis Evening Journal* gives a sense of the ignominy: "Yesterday morning after the usual grist of plain drunks and vagrants had been disposed of in the municipal court the names of W.W. Folwell, W.A. Pike and J.G. Moore were called by the clerk."

WA. PIKE was hardly a brute. He would, in the end, serve for more than 20 years with distinction at the University, founding the school's College of Mechanical Arts and serving as its first dean.

W.W. Folwell was one of the most cultivated men in Minnesota, "interested in everything from Plato to hog cholera," according to one colleague. He was on a first-name basis with some of the leading academic and cultural figures of the day, including Charles Eliot, esteemed president of Yale University, and the renowned cultural critic Matthew Arnold. At a later time, he would write the first comprehensive history of the state of Minnesota and serve, after his presidency, more than 40 years as a professor of political science on the University faculty.

And the students weren't exactly Billy the Kids. Days after the event, the student journal, the *Ariel*, was at pains in defending the student body against charges of hooliganism: "We feel justified in declaring that in respect to scholarly deportment and high-minded, manly character, the students of this institution are not excelled by any other student body in the land. It is not true that we have among us an excepted few who are specimens of depravity, or sheep of a very dark color."

None of which mattered much to local public opinion. The *Evening Journal* suggested that the culprits at the U might be better served by "an education in the penitentiary at Stillwater instead of the State University."

"Folwell must go!" screamed the *St. Paul Daily Dispatch* in a column that mixed pithy editorial comments and tidbits of news from around the country:

"Minnesota should change her University, so-called, into a school of gunnery." "New York is going to have a new railroad to Coney Island." "Cincinnati has its May music this week." "The State University, so-called, should engage a professor of rifle practice."

For all of the sound and fury, there was a curious lack of sustained outrage at the incident. The general criticism leveled at Folwell and company had more to do with their inability to maintain discipline than the fact that they wound up trying to restore it with canes and guns.

And as for the students, the *Ariel* offered a kind of boys-will-be-boys defense: "It is a sorrowful fact that many educational institutions are unfortunate enough to number among their members some persons who continually engage in disgraceful proceedings from a pure love of devilry." Never mind that there is devilry, and devilry with a pistol in your pocket. Guns, as we all know, were often brandished on the frontier.

In contrast to the volatile times—or perhaps in conjunction with it—the student body at the University of Minnesota, as elsewhere across the country, was cloaked in the sort of paternalism that might make any testosterone-driven young man a little funky. College students were generally considered as existing in that netherworld between child- and adulthood and were treated with a firm and guiding hand that they often rebelled against. The University was not the only American campus to experience an occasional outbreak of violence in the 19th century. In Madison, at the University of Wisconsin, brawls between "townies" and "gownies" were frequent, as was internecine warfare between students in the university's various colleges, like law and engineering. The occasional riot or "rush" was seen all over the nation. One of the reasons for the advent and popularity of intercollegiate sports like football in the late 19th century was to channel student aggression into constructive mayhem.

Like virtually all academic administrators in his day, Folwell ran a tight ship. Every morning at 8:30 sharp, students were expected to be in chapel—no ifs, ands, or buts. No alcohol, no tobacco, no gambling anywhere on campus. Classes were crammed into five periods in the forenoon, and the rest of the day students were expected to study and work. Folwell frowned on fraternities, and the only dorm rooms were found in the all-purpose Old Main—and even those were confiscated after 1870 to make room for more classes.

The student body of 1882 consisted of a little over 200 young men and women, ranging in age from their midteens to their mid-20s. Because the state had so few secondary schools (the city of Minneapolis had built its first high school, Central High, in 1880), the University served the dual function of prepping students for higher education and then giving them one. Students typically spent about six years on campus getting their degrees.



Professor Moore was fined \$25 for assault—thrashing a student with a cane. (Date of photograph unknown.)



He Put His Stamp On Everything

Curt Carlson, '37 BA, left a lasting impression on the University of Minnesota and the school that carries his name. His generosity opened educational opportunities for many students and ensured excellence in teaching and learning. Curt's vision endures at the University he loved and through the people whose lives he touched.

CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Tuition was free, but most students had to work long hours to pay their living expenses. Books for a year of study cost about \$15. Weekly expenses were in the neighborhood of five bucks, including room and board at one of the various boardinghouses in the campus area that catered to a campus clientele. The University offered the following advice to incoming students, to help alleviate economic problems:

"1. If possible learn a good trade before coming to the University.

"2. Bring some money, \$50 at least, on which to live until you find work.

"3. If you want to work you must look for it. It will not come to you at first. Be active, resolute and enterprising.

"4. If you have to pay your way through college resolve to take enough time to do it without ruining your health."

No mention was made of having your health ruined by a faculty member.

Not that Asa Paine's wound was debilitating. Indeed, it healed in a matter of days—a fact that helped calm frayed nerves on campus. Still, the student body was up-in-arms enough to vote, by a wide majority a few days after the incident, for Folwell to tender his resignation.

He didn't, and the board of regents failed to ask for it. But as indicated by the *New York Times*' interest ("The Extraordinary Shooting Affray at the Minnesota State University," read the subhead of its May 18 front-page story), newspapers elsewhere in the nation picked up the embarrassing tale. And locally, sentiment remained strongly skeptical about Folwell's abilities to run the University. His many friends in

the academic community both in Minnesota and across the country, however, rallied to his support and sent endorsements that helped save his job.

In the immediate aftermath of the shooting, Folwell pled guilty to technical assault, but the court assessed no punishment.

John G. "Dutchy" Moore also pled guilty to assault and was fined \$25.

W.A. Pike's case was bound over to a grand jury, which in the fall of 1882 found no bill of indictment against him. While Pike's legal trials had ended, the ordeal apparently strained his health and, according to the *Ariel* that fall, he took a leave of absence from the University and "is currently at the seashore." He would return to the University the next term.

There is no record of Asa Paine ever graduating from the University. In the same issue that it announces Pike's leave, the *Ariel* provides a rather glib coda to the shooting victim's collegiate career: "Asa Paine, '84, who was wounded in the famous 'Schutzenfest' last spring, is at the Northern Pacific Junction and probably will not return to school."

Folwell's tenure as president lasted two more years, but he lived for another 50, all of which he spent on or near the University of Minnesota campus. He lived to see the construction of New Main, later renamed Folwell Hall, and witnessed the fulfillment of his dream of a statewide educational system headed by an esteemed University. Perhaps, too, he lived long enough to forget the days of Old Main and chasing gate-snatching students in the middle of the night. ■

Tim Brady is a freelance writer who lives in St. Paul.

Folwell (seated second from left), Moore (seated fourth from left), and Pike (standing far left, third row), served on the University faculty for years following the shooting. This faculty photograph was taken in 1890.



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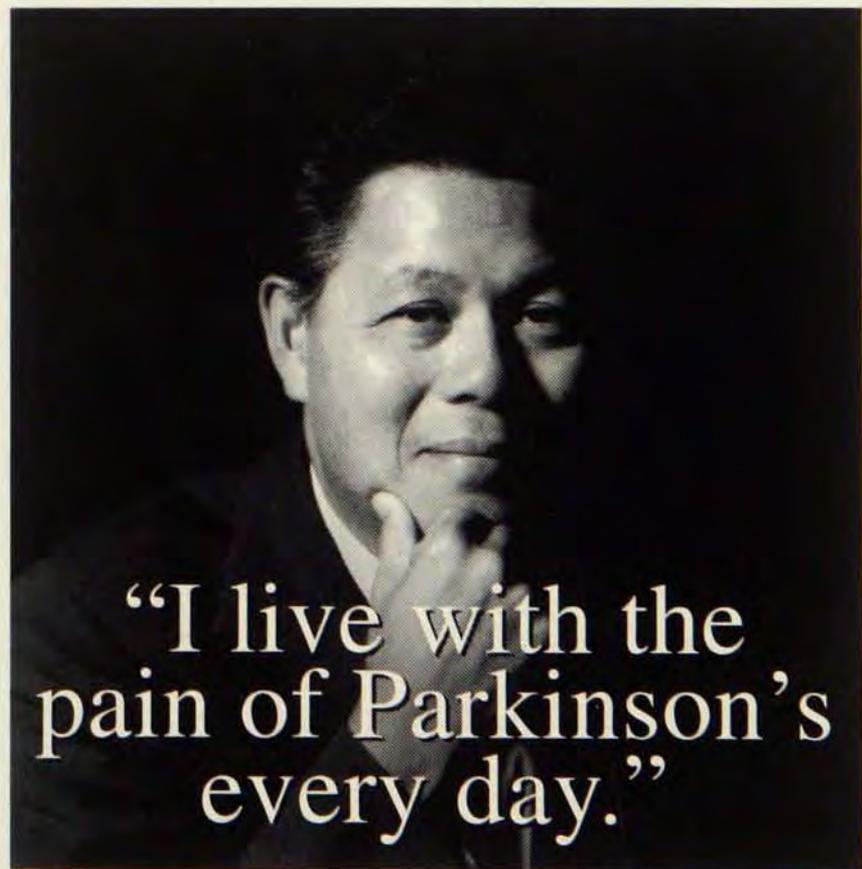
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MINNESOTA

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at the University of Minnesota

Curious Gorge

My imagination was baptized at 13, when my father took me deep into a river gorge in the Sierra Madre in northwestern Mexico. We traveled with Tarahumara Indian guides and explored old caves and ruins in a big canyon called Barranca del Cobre. Since then, I've been fascinated by deep river gorges and have traveled extensively in Mexico and to wild places around the globe. I'm interested in the history of exploration, and that's been my focus, using travels of other explorers as a basis for my own travels.

Last November, I was a member of an American expedition to southeastern Tibet that "discovered" what is being called one of the last great natural wonders of the world: a 100-foot waterfall in a river gorge that is three times deeper than the Grand Canyon and filled with a tropical rain forest. The area, called Pemako, is a hidden land, a place of refuge and prayer for Tibetans, and was one of the last areas on the planet unknown to westerners.

The Tsangpo River comes off the Tibetan plateau there, then disappears in a great mass of mountains—one is 26,000 feet high, another is 23,000 feet—before emerging as the Brahmaputra River. It was obvious that something was happening there; the thought in geographic circles was that maybe there was a large waterfall there to rival one of the great wonders of the world. The last expedition of the area was in 1924, when Francis Kingdon-Ward, a British explorer, closed the gap to within five miles of the unexplored area. He discovered a waterfall that he named Rainbow Falls and estimated its height at about 30 feet.

I made my first Himalayan journey in 1979 to a Tibetan region



Ken Storm Jr. (right) with Ian Baker (left) and their Tibetan guide, whose grandfather had guided British explorer Francis Kingdon-Ward to the area in 1924.

Explorer Ken Storm Jr. ('75), who was among the first westerners to find one of the planet's last great natural wonders, never forgets to pack his sense of awe and mystery.

As told to Vicki Stavig

We had made an agreement that we would be silent and mount a return expedition at the first opportunity—we had to go back. Meanwhile, the National Geographic Society had sponsored a kayak expedition to make an attempted first ascent of the Tsangpo River and we knew that, if it were successful, they would find the waterfall. But one member of that party was killed, and they

called Ladakh in the western Himalayas. I returned in the early '80s and again in the mid-'80s and co-authored two books on the area, *Ladakh: Between Earth and Sky* and *Ladakh: Secret Land Beyond the Himalayas*.

In 1993, I had an opportunity to take part in the first American expedition in the area, which the Chinese government had closed to westerners from the 1950s until then. On that trip, I met Ian Baker, an American Buddhist, scholar, and writer, and we formed a team and went back in 1997. Tibetan hunters said, "We've seen you here for many years, and we want to tell you about our waterfalls," and then guided us to the edge of the area near Rainbow Falls. We were higher up on the wall of the gorge than Kingdon-Ward had been, and even though the big falls was hidden behind a bend in the river, we could see part of it. Kingdon-Ward's view had been blocked by a ridge. We didn't continue on because we were at the end of our journey, were low on food, and had no ropes to get down the cliffs. We also had no means to measure the falls.

I went home and lived with this for a year.

never got close to the waterfall.

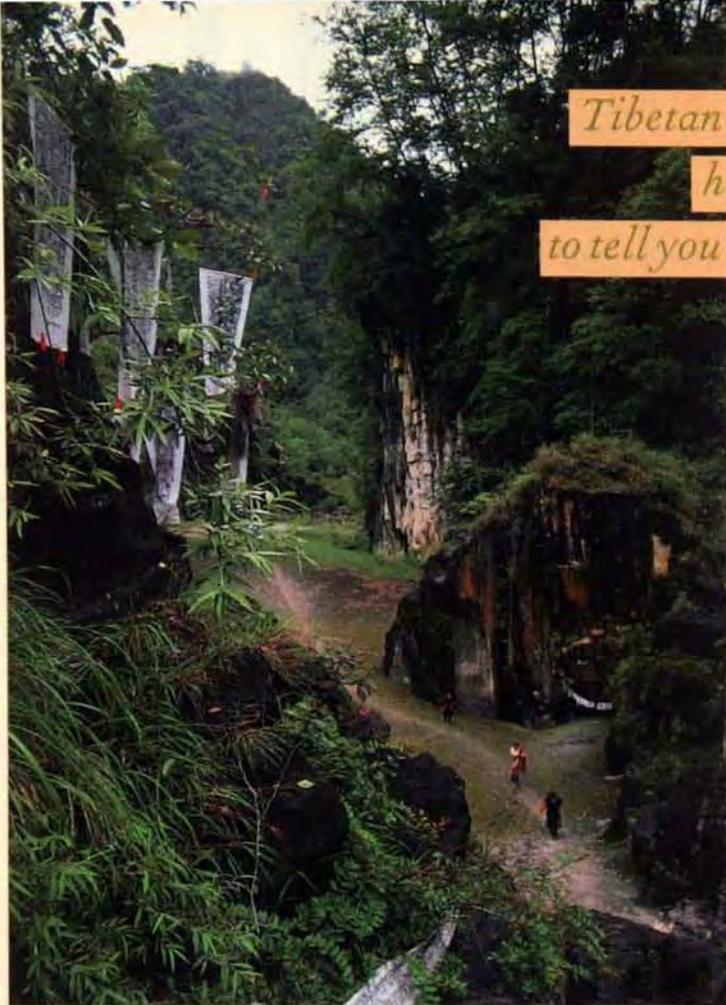
We went to National Geographic and said we had been to Tibet five times and told them what we had found. They immediately sponsored us. Last November, we returned to the area for five weeks and were the first westerners to reach the falls. There were four Americans in our party: me; Ian; Hamid Sardar, a Buddhist who has a Ph.D. from Harvard; and Bryan Harvey, a National Geographic videographer. We also had a team of Tibetan hunters, Sherpa guides from Nepal, and local porters.

We flew into Lhasa and journeyed 300 miles by Land Rover to a point north of the Tsangpo Gorge. Then we began on foot, hiking trails into the gorge for 14 days. The cliffs rise thousands of feet above the river, so sometimes we went no more than half a mile or a mile a day, but we knew we were going to find something. We saw Rainbow Falls, which turned out to be 70 feet high, more than twice what Kingdon-Ward had estimated.

We arrived late in the afternoon, and the big falls were still hidden by a ridge. The place was a tropical paradise, filled with



Tibetan hunters said, "We've seen you here for many years, and we want to tell you about our waterfalls."



every kind of vegetation you could imagine: weeping pine, alder, and rhododendron with a grassy understory. There were all kinds of animals, including takins—large animals related to goats that weigh 800 pounds.

When we got to the new waterfall, we strung prayer flags just above it. They're pieces of cloth printed with Tibetan prayers. Tibetans believe that, as the flags flap in the breeze, the prayers are sent to the wind and permeate the landscape. We camped on a ridge about 300 or 400 feet above the falls for two nights.

The first morning, I woke up at dawn and the full moon was just setting. It was an enchanting time that probably will never fade as long as I live. I looked up the gorge to where I had been in 1993 and 1997 and felt a connection with my previous journeys. Standing at the brink and feeling the power of the place was incredible. The river, which drains the entire Himalayan Range, starts at 9,000 feet and comes out at 1,000 feet, where it's a tropical jungle. We stood there, feeling the rocks tremble and being bathed in the spray of the falls. Then we went down below and stayed at the bottom of the falls for a day. We should have stayed for a week; you could never stay long enough.

We had to get measurements of the waterfall. That was crucial, because Kingdon-Ward had gone looking for a waterfall in the vicinity of 100 feet high. If this weren't 100 feet, it wasn't the waterfall he had been looking for.

Niagara Falls is only about 162 feet high, so this isn't even close to being the tallest waterfall in the world. But previously, the highest recorded waterfall on a Himalayan river was 30 to 40 feet. To find this late in the 20th century was quite remarkable.

We named it Hidden Falls of Dorje Pagmo to combine two elements, two worlds: it was hidden from westerners, and the goddess the Tibetans call Dorje Pagmo resides there.

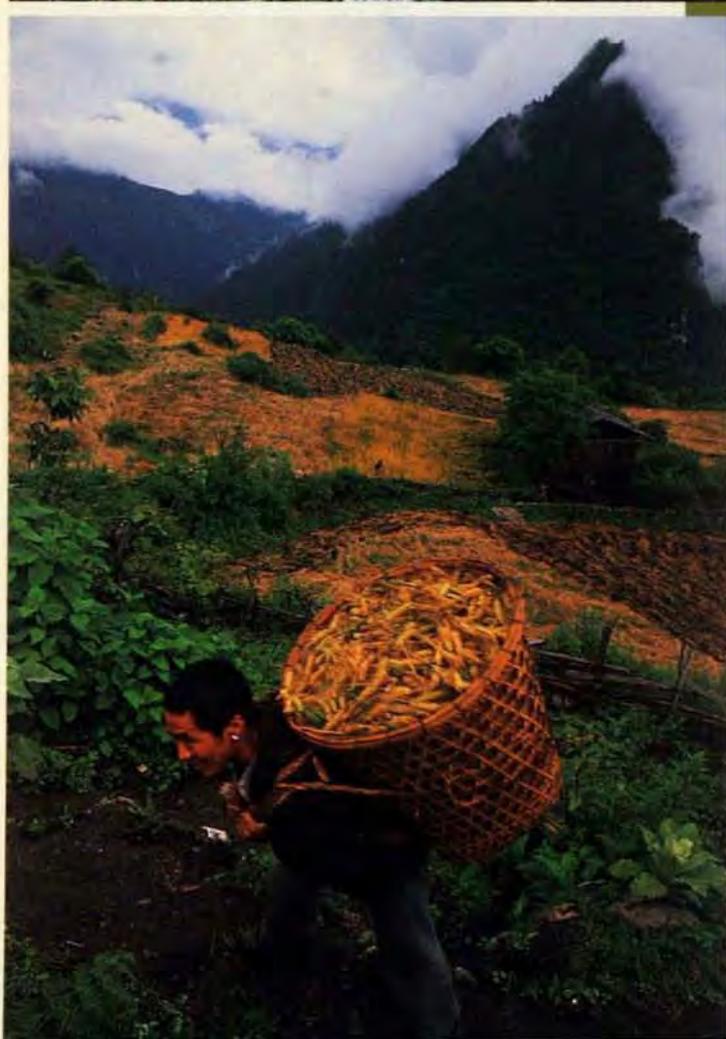
I had a hard time pulling myself away when we left. This place has become a part of my life. I feel a bond with it unlike anything I've ever experienced. This wasn't a place that we had conquered, it was more a sense of being a participant in a sacred landscape. The falls are mystical places that provide mystical connections to the sacred landscape.

The one thing I wasn't prepared for was the response of the world to this. National Geographic issued a news release in January, and it was carried on the front pages of newspapers around the world. It's been disturbing. There are now eight expeditions lined up to conquer the Tsangpo River.

Will I go back? Probably within a year, maybe not to the falls, but to the place. There are other horizons there. Maybe I'll carve out another portion of the gorge. Right now I'm living in the enchanted aura of the place. I see my world with a little more depth now, and I think about returning to the local landscape with the same kind of understanding. There are fascinating places here to explore, like the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Lake

Top: Prayer flags over the Great Bend in the Tsangpo River. Tibetans believe that the wind carries the prayers over the land.

Bottom: A man from Tsachu village near the Tsangpo River hauls a basket of grain.

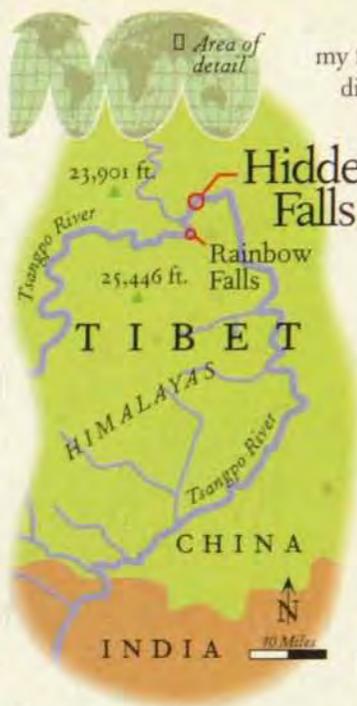


Superior. You don't have to go to the far ends of the earth.

I earned my B.A. degree, with a double major in anthropology and photojournalism, from the University of Minnesota in 1975. My father had attended the University and has always had an adventurous spirit. Years ago, he built a 36-foot ocean-going sailboat on some land under the Washington Avenue Bridge. His dream was to sail it around the world, but the family came along so he never did. I think he now enjoys living vicariously through my travels.

The University gave me an exposure to a broad education that has become a springboard for my self-education, an ongoing personal education. While I was a student, I did some studies in Mexico of cave dwellings in the Sierra Madre. It was an independent study project under Dennis Puleston, a professor in the anthropology department, who was my adviser.

After I left the University, I traveled through Mexico for a year, following the footsteps of an old explorer. I did it alone so I could learn the language and immerse myself in the area. I probably hiked close to 1,200 miles down the crest of the Sierra Madre and stayed with Mexican and Indian families who took me into the ruins there.



When I returned to Minnesota, I went to work in my family's business, Aladdin, a game, book, and hobby distributor in Burnsville that my father had started in the '50s. It allows me to lead dual lives and to keep both these lives going. I'm 46 and single. There's been a sacrifice made, but it wouldn't have been fair to get married as long as I pursue this with the seriousness and intensity I am.

What I find most rewarding and enriching from these expeditions is that, unlike a two-week vacation, I immerse myself in a wild landscape for four to six weeks, so it becomes more a part of my life than a diversion. I reflect my life back in civilization off that. I think there's a tendency to travel too much. If you make it a full-time endeavor, it can dull your sense of wonder, awe, and mystery. I become immersed in the elements of a landscape and let that world flow into me. Then I come back home, reflect on it, write about it, and understand it before getting ready to take the next trip. If you stay in a place too long, you lose that passion, that fire.

I'm grateful to my father for planting this seed in me. It's a great gift, the gift of wonder. You just have to look around that bend because you never know what's there. It's not something to claim, but something to treasure. ■

Vicki Stavig is a freelance writer and regular contributor to Minnesota. She lives in Bloomington.

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Reporter Rick Sanchez used his media position to organize disaster relief for victims of Hurricane Andrew in 1992. He was criticized by some journalists for becoming part of the story.



EYE OF THE STORM

Rick Sanchez ('82), who earned his journalism degree from the University, is now the main anchor at a south Florida TV station. When it comes to news coverage, he puts himself in the thick of it.

By Robert Levitz • Photographs by Bud Lee

At first, Andrew didn't seem like much to worry about. It was the kind of tropical blow that develops off the coast of West Africa and sweeps across the Atlantic Ocean several times during a typical storm season.

Then the outlook changed. Andrew ran into a strong high-pressure area flowing down the eastern seaboard and was pushed west, keeping it over the warm waters that give storms their strength. On Saturday, August 21, 1992, with winds just over 75 miles per hour, Andrew became a

hurricane—aimed directly at heavily populated south Florida.

Andrew hit land on August 24 with awesome force. It was the big one that hurricane experts had feared for years. The death toll was remarkably low—20 people killed directly by the storm. But in terms of damage, Andrew destroyed \$20 billion in property and was the worst natural disaster in U.S. history.

Help was slow in coming. Rescue and relief agencies were caught off guard by the enormity of the problem—25,000 homes destroyed, another 50,000 seriously damaged, and 175,000 people left homeless.

Among the first reporters on the scene was University of Minnesota alumnus Rick Sanchez ('82) of Miami's channel 7, Fox affiliate WSVN-TV. A helicopter put him in the heart of the devastated area in Homestead, Florida. "Half the town was gone, wiped out by the hurricane. It was a whole week before federal help arrived," Sanchez recalls. "We were on our own. I took an interest and got involved. I wanted to not just show misery, but to relieve misery."

Sanchez appealed for clothes, milk, food, and other goods. He

asked viewers to drop off donations at checkpoints operated by his father and stepfather. He directed traffic on camera, and he put his arms around the victims, consoling them in front of viewers—and in many cases for listeners. (Those who had no electricity listened to channel 7's audio on the radio.)

Sanchez kept at it for nearly a month, sleeping on the bare ground if at all. When the Sanchez-organized relief effort wound down, 60,000 tons of supplies had been moved and the newsman received a letter of thanks from President George Bush. "It was the best thing I've done in this business," Sanchez says. "I used my microphone to relieve suffering."

But not everyone saw it that way. Sanchez's critics, especially those at rival TV stations, accused him of violating the principles of journalism. "Rick Sanchez made himself part of the story," a competing news director said at the time. "That's ludicrous and irresponsible."

Sanchez still disputes such charges of grandstanding. "I know the tenets of journalism—I went to the University of Minnesota," he says. "We were helping people. Why can't journalism be like that?"

After the hurricane, Sanchez was undeterred by the criticism and continued to help the disaster victims. "There were so many people without roofs, I got some roofers to pitch in," he says. "That's how I got involved with Habitat for Humanity." Sanchez, now 40 years old and the head anchor for Miami's top-rated newscast, is still active in Habitat for Humanity, which builds houses for families in need, and has swung a hammer alongside former President Jimmy Carter.

Sanchez is a familiar face in south Florida. But as the only Hispanic main anchor in the region, he is much more than a recog-

nizable personality to many Cuban American TV viewers. "To most people, I'm the guy on TV," he says. "But to Hispanics, it's different. I'm a source of pride. It's a big deal that one of them is the top anchorman at an American station. They think, 'Look at what one of us has done.' They put me in a special place."

Born in Havana, Sanchez and his family left Cuba in 1960, when he was 2 years old and Fidel Castro was tightening his grip on the island. They left everything behind to come to the United States. "We moved into a roach-infested house in Miami's inner city and ate 'refugee meat,'" he says. "I grew up with few material things, but everything else. My mother and stepfather [Sanchez's parents divorced soon after immigrating] went without so they

er. "That's how I learned. And when I was done working in Alexandria, I had a tape. That's how you get a job," he says. "Every news director in south Florida wanted me. Here's this Cuban kid—I wasn't bad looking then—with a Midwestern education. There was actually a bidding war for me. And those tapes from Alexandria did it."

Sanchez accepted a reporter position at WSVN-TV. His parents came to Minneapolis for his graduation on a Saturday, and the following Tuesday he was on the air. "It's unusual for a kid right out of college to break into a top-20 market," he says.

"I liked to roll up my sleeves and get out there," Sanchez adds. "I liked cops and robbers, breaking news, getting dirty. But I was

"To most people, I'm the guy on TV. But to Hispanics . . . I'm a source of pride. It's a big deal that one of them is the top anchorman at an American station. They think, 'Look at what one of us has done.'" —Rick Sanchez



After two years at a Houston station, Sanchez returned to Miami more driven than ever, reporting at night and anchoring days and weekends.

could put food on the table. . . . There are some advantages to being an immigrant: you don't take things for granted."

According to Sanchez, in contrast to the well-established Hispanic Miami of today, when he landed in Miami few spoke Spanish. "I failed first grade because my English was poor," he says. "They didn't have English as a second language then. They just threw you in. The teacher said I was mentally retarded. It took me a year or so, then I restarted first grade on equal footing and went on to win every honor that school had."

Sanchez excelled academically, became an all-state football player at Hialeah High School, and then accepted an athletic scholarship to Moorhead State University in Minnesota. "After two years there, some faculty members encouraged me to apply for the University of Minnesota WCCO Minorities in Broadcasting Scholarship," he says. "Back then, I thought TV news was for rich kids—and it was."

Sanchez traveled to the Twin Cities campus and was tested at Murphy Hall. He was awarded the scholarship from a national pool of applicants and traded his football scholarship for an academic one. "I consider the University of Minnesota the best journalism school in the country," he says. "Professor Irving Fang taught me everything I know about broadcast writing. He gave me an edge."

While a student, Sanchez interned at WCCO-TV, where he met late news anchor Dave Moore ('49), another influential person in his life. "Dave Moore was my mentor. From him I learned that [being an anchorman] is about sharing your soul—otherwise go hire a computer."

Sanchez also spent a semester as an intern at KCMT-TV in Alexandria, Minnesota, where he traveled the state as a reporter and was put behind the desk as a weekend anchor and sportscast-

basically too young. There's a reason people are groomed for jobs like that."

Sanchez's soaring career nearly crashed in the mid-1980s when his voice turned up on an FBI wiretap connected to an investigation of corruption in Miami politics. "I used bad judgment," he says. "I was in my 20s, the champagne was flowing, it was the *Miami Vice* era. I shouldn't have been hanging around with this one person. He was a neighborhood guy I grew up with—and he was also a great source—but I got too close."

Sanchez says he was not trying to interfere with the investigation, but stepped down from his job at WSVN in 1985 and worked in Houston until things cooled off in Miami. Two years in Houston proved a wise career move. He tripled his salary and became an anchorman. After the FBI cleared him of any wrongdoing and he received an apology from the office of Janet Reno, then a Miami prosecutor, WSVN wanted him back.

When Sanchez returned in 1988, he says he was hungry and driven. "I was a reporter at night and an anchor days and weekends. I did a lot of live reports. I felt like I was one of the new breed of reporters—live, reaction, breaking news. . . . Channel 7 became a Fox station and the top-rated newscast. They were climbing. Soon we were doing all live shots, walking and talking, graphics, music, investigative reports."

Sanchez's career hit another bump in 1990, when he was charged with a misdemeanor for driving while intoxicated on the way home from a Miami Dolphins football game. "It was a horrible mistake on my part. I should've let my dad drive," he says. "I could have fought it and probably won, but it wouldn't have been the honorable thing to do."

"I found out that once you become a public figure, no one's going to cut you a break or go out of their way to be nice to you. The press gave me a bad time. One person makes a mistake and skates. Another person makes a mistake and gets 25 articles written about him. Why is that? It's not right."

Sanchez's life is on more of an even keel these days. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Pembroke Pines, Florida, with their three young sons. He says he gets job offers from around the country but

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that he would find it hard to walk away from the name recognition he has in south Florida. "I want to be the next Dave Moore," he says. "I want to do it right."

But there are two possible scenarios that Sanchez says could tear him away from his Miami anchor desk. The first is a return to his native Cuba, which Sanchez has visited twice as a correspondent. A third visit may have to wait until the demise of Castro, who has banned any channel 7 personnel from Cuba as long as Sanchez is on staff. The *Miami Herald* newspaper and Spanish-language TV channel 23 are also unwelcome on the island.

"We find a way to get in anyway," says Sanchez, who won an Emmy for a six-part series he did on Cuban immigration that was picked up by NBC and broadcast around the world. "Cuba's a mess. Castro made it a mess. . . . I've told the truth about Cuba. Education has improved, there have been good social reforms, lower mortality. But at what expense? How can I as a journalist go someplace where there is no free speech?"

"I'd like to be involved in broadcast journalism in post-Castro Cuba," he continues. "I've had some discussions with Cuban exile leaders about that. It would be like starting from scratch. There's nothing left there. I won't put my kids there if things aren't right, but I'll go there trying to make it right."

The other possibility for Sanchez is to head north again.

"Minnesota is where I bloomed," he says. "I learned everything there. I've had offers from the biggest markets in the country, and I've turned them down. One offer I'd consider would be going back to Minnesota. It's a little piece of home." ■

Robert Levitz ('77) is a writer and editor who lives in Boca Raton, Florida.

South Florida Chapter Heats Up

Florida is home to nearly 600 University of Minnesota Alumni Association members, and Rick Sanchez is among the 85 members in the Gold Coast Chapter. This revitalized chapter covers the East Coast of Florida from Palm Beach to Miami and is planning its second event, a picnic, May 15. A Minnesota Day event, open to all Minnesota snowbirds (not just alumni), is in the works for next winter. For more information, call chapter president Sharon Mastoon ('77) at (561) 276-2521.

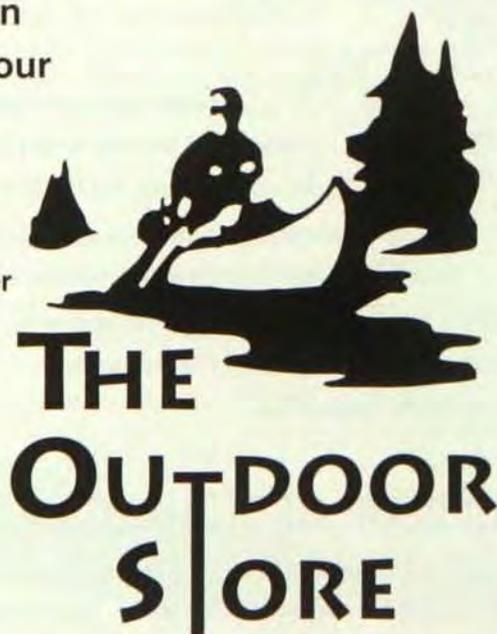
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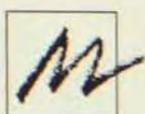
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Geode Geometry

Building the Gateway's distinguishing feature is taking time, talent, and cooperation. By Chris Coughlan-Smith

As the University Gateway alumni-visitors center rises on the last remaining piece of the old Memorial Stadium site, it has frequently amazed observers. Last fall, it was the sloping roof and sheer size of the 230,000-square-foot, six-story office block. Then it was the copper panels covering the entire exterior. But the astonishment has turned to fascinated curiosity, says Kendall Griffith, a project manager with Mortenson Construction, the Gateway's general contractor. "I sometimes have lunch at Bruegger's," he says, referring to the bagel shop commanding a view of the building's southern face. "There are always people looking out, saying, 'What is that thing?'"

They're intrigued by what is being called the "geode," an enormous asymmetrical structure taking shape on the building's south side. The exterior of colliding granite

planes cut by glass fissures and irregular windows will enclose the 85-foot-tall, wood- and copper-lined Memorial Hall, the Gateway's entry point and most prominent public space. What provoked wonder this winter and spring were the first phases of its creation—the intricate web of steel beams, supporting steel, roofing and insulation, metal cleats, and horizontal pipes that will support the 2,200 blocks of granite weighing up to 1,000 pounds each.

The Gateway builds on architect Antoine Predock's reputation as a designer of buildings rooted in their environment and tradition. The fractal granite evokes North Shore cliffs and "an upheaval of the land," Predock says. "There's a timeless quality about [Minnesota] that I tried to extract. To start with the land seemed appropriate." The glass fissures will project light at night onto an adjacent plaza, like the Northern Star or "beacon bright and clear" from *Hail! Minnesota*.

The Gateway design also reflects the program needs of the building—a fairly conventional, albeit copper-cov-

ered, office block capped with a grand public space that will incorporate the reconstructed Memorial Stadium Arch. "I decided to bring it inside this space rather than trivialize it as part of some new edifice," Predock says. "Here, it is treated almost as a sacred icon. . . . It will bear witness to what goes on in Memorial Hall."

Larry Laukka ('58) is a builder who was part of the committee that selected Predock as design architect and local firm Korsunsky Krank Erickson (KKE) as executive architect. "We wanted to truly make the public space memorable and iconic," he says. "Then Predock proceeded to design a space that will end up being just what we hoped it would be—a memorable space to come to and feel an aura of excitement. It will make a brilliant statement. When the geode was first presented it was 'wow.' No one has ever seen this before. It's a stroke of genius."

It's also a unique architectural, engineering, and construction challenge. Predock says he has taken the realities of constructibility and budget "right to the edge" in his design to create as exciting and singular a hall as possible. Dave Broesder is senior project architect with KKE. "It's just incredibly complex. I don't know how else to describe it," he says. "[But] it has captured our imaginations as well. Even during the construction you can feel what a grand and inspiring space the geode will create."

Broesder says the geode has two obvious complications. "There are very few 90-degree angles or walls that are straight up and down," he says. "Because of the geometry, you have challenges with things that otherwise would be matter of fact."

One of the first steps was bringing together the dozen or more parties that would engineer, manufacture, and construct the geode's exterior elements. Meetings of up to 25 people were necessary to go over broad design plans, while the structural steel partners gathered weekly for more than six months "to hash over every detail," says Jerod Hoffman ('93, '94) of Meyer, Borgman and Johnson, Inc., the Gateway's Minneapolis-based structural engineers. Hoffman took the lead in analyzing the steel supporting structure needed to take the geode from the artistic vision of a world-renowned architect to a cost-effective reality that preserves that vision. "The steel comes together in some very unusual angles, so we had to design every joint individually," he says.

The parties then reviewed the ideas to make sure they were sound, constructible, and cost-effective. "The amount of collaboration across a broad range of players has been really remark-

able," says Dan Murphy ('74), project principal for Meyer, Borgman and Johnson. "Close and cooperative partners were absolutely vital in choosing the right systems for the building."

The complex geometry meant that each of the 800 to 900 nodes (where steel elements join) and 1,400 to 1,500 beam "segments" between the nodes required analysis. Hoffman's computer models for the structure had to take into account construction sequences, the finished weight, and snow and wind. Each changed calculation can have ripple effects throughout the structure.

Each of the more than 500 beams—and eventually each bolt hole, flange, stiffener, and every other element—had to be individually designed, work that was done by a steel detailer, N.C. Engineering. Those plans ran through all the parties, including Minneapolis-based LeJeune Steel, which actually milled the beams. "I don't know if there are any two beams that are alike on the geode," Griffith says. Each party involved in the exterior construction—including granite and glass designers, makers, and installers—had to check the plans, since every change potentially affected every part of the exterior system.

The geode's angled faces mean weight pressure in ways other than straight down. As a starting point, wide and deep foundation concrete was designed for the base edges of the geode. Then pilings were driven down into bedrock, sometimes at angles to absorb the direction of force. "I wanted a foundation system that would not expose the structure to any settling," Murphy says. Other factors in choosing the foundation system included unstable soil on the site, a midwinter construction start, and the delicate nature of the exterior "skin." Holding the granite skin and its precisely sealed joints stable under its own weight and weather factors also meant designing for double the normal stiffness in the steel frame.

In the end, to accommodate the needs of the framing system—and venting, waterproofing, drainage, electrical, acoustic, and other elements—there will be a uniform five feet between the granite exterior and the wood strips that will panel the interior. "These are systems that are used in other places, but usually on horizontal or vertical surfaces," says Broesder. "There is a lot of unusual and creative application of existing technologies."

Although some interior elements are still being planned, the exterior work has gone smoothly. "From my standpoint, it's kind of unfortunate that all the steel has to be covered up," Hoffman says. "But it's going to be a great building for the University." ■



Behind the geode, the copper-covered office block is the Gateway's signature aspect.

Help Build the Gateway and Become a Member for Life

The University Gateway alumni-visitors center is a gift to the University from its alumni and friends. The three owners—the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Minnesota Medical Foundation—are raising funds to cover construction costs. No tax money, tuition, or student fees will be used. Many alumni and friends have already stepped forward to help build the Gateway and make it a place to preserve the past and look to the future.

Now the Gateway owners have provided a new incentive: donors of \$2,500 or more will become life members of the alumni association and their names will be engraved on the donor wall in Memorial Hall. All donors will have their names recorded in the building's time capsule, on an electronic kiosk, and in *Minnesota*. To find out more about making the Gateway an alumni legacy, call Mark Baumgartner at the University Foundation, (612) 624-1397, or Bob Burgett at the alumni association, (612) 625-9173.



Stillwater Goes "Back to the U"



Three honored guests at the St. Croix Valley Chapter's first event were, from left, University student Meghan Laidig, who spoke on today's University experience; University President Mark Yudof; and state senator Gary Laidig, who earned the UMAA's 1998 Legislator of the Year Award for his ongoing support of University efforts.

The UMAA's newest chapter is also one of its biggest and most enthusiastic. At its first official event February 16, the St. Croix Valley Chapter attracted more than 130 alumni and friends of the University to the Grand Hotel in Stillwater, Minnesota, to hear from President Mark Yudof, UMAA President Dave Mona, and several others with U ties. Thirty-six new members joined the UMAA that night.

University music, art, and spirit was evident at the "Back to the U" night. "There is a lot of University connection in this community," says Libby Hupf, the UMAA's director of Minnesota chapters. "Many business and community leaders are U graduates and are very interested in being connected with the school. They were just waiting for something like this to help them show their pride."

Member Spotlight: Kent Horsager

When Kent Horsager ('84) was a University of Minnesota undergraduate studying agricultural economics, a class trip took him to the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. "I was fascinated by it," he recalls. "The environment and the economics were very interesting." With its classic wood and marble furnishings layered with electronic boards, computers, and cell phones, the exchange floor is both a frenetic and tradition-soaked place. To the side, pans of grain representing entire boxcars get looked over, bought, and sold. It is nothing if not intriguing.

A dozen years after becoming a trader on the exchange, Horsager, owner of Horsager Trading Company, now serves as chairman of the exchange's board. That volunteer position, voted on by exchange members, helps set policy to support the grain exchange's 118-year-old mission of helping farmers focus on farming. "We provide what we call price discovery and risk transfer," he says. "Price discovery means that through the trading process, everybody knows what prices are." Risk transfer means that by offering guaranteed prices for future product, traders take some of the risk off of farmers.

Horsager also has helped the exchange into new futures areas: energy and two kinds of shrimp. "Shrimp is now becoming very much a farmed commodity," he explains. "We're trading the futures here, not shipping it through Minneapolis." The growing deregulation of the energy industry led to that market. "If deregulation continues, there will be a lot more price variation," he says. "Futures



trading will help producers and large consumers look ahead and know what to expect."

Coming to the University from a Verndale, Minnesota, farm was an easy choice for Horsager. The family traces University graduates back four generations to 1894. Five of Clarence ('60) and Mary ('58) Horsager's six children attended the University. "It's not that there was pressure to go to the U," Kent Horsager says. "I just never thought of going anywhere else." He joined the alumni association in 1987 to stay connected to an institution he says he appreciates more now than when he was a student. He and his children love to visit the campus for sports events and Minn Royal, the annual farm family celebration. "My kids love to see the animals. It gives them a little taste of how we grew up."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith



Al Benson ('70), past president of the Puget Sound Chapter, held Othello during a group bird-watching trip. Othello accompanied experts from the Raptor Center to the Pacific Northwest for the chapter event and other presentations.

A Fine Feathered Outing

The UMAA's top chapter of 1997-98 just keeps on putting together great events. The Puget Sound Chapter, based in the Seattle area, brought together bird watchers, a University-trained naturalist, and birds of the Raptor Center for a unique day trip in January.

The "Wild Birds of the Skagit" bus trip took U of M alumni and friends to the Skagit Delta, one of the most fertile wildlife areas in the Pacific Northwest. The trip was organized and guided by John Munn ('57), an extension naturalist for Washington State University. The group visited nesting areas and nature centers on one of the region's rare sunny winter days.

Other experts on hand were Mary Beth Garrigan and Matt Solensky of the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center. Garrigan and Solensky brought Othello, a bald eagle and permanent resident of the Raptor Center, with them for presentations around the area.

HOMEcomings AND GOLDEN REUNION SET

Homecoming weekend is Friday, October 29, and Saturday, October 30. Events include the Golden Reunion activities for alumni from 1949 and earlier, collegiate reunion events, and the homecoming parade and football game versus the Purdue Boilermakers. For more information on homecoming events, or if you would like to be a part of the Golden Reunion volunteer committee, please call (612) 625-9180 or 800-UM-ALUMS

National President

Where We Stand

In the nearly two months that have gone by since the first newspaper report of the alleged academic misconduct in the University of Minnesota men's basketball program, the alumni association office remarkably has received only a dozen calls and letters from alumni regarding our position on the issue.

Contrast this with past crises when the UMAA had to dedicate a full-time person, as well as considerable executive hours, just to handle the necessary crisis communication.

And this was before the widespread availability of e-mail.

Why so few calls and letters this time? Surely our members are aware of what's going on; newspapers, radio, and television have covered the story virtually nonstop since it broke. And we know alumni care deeply about the reputation of the U.



Dave Mona, '65, chairman, Shandwick

The reason, I believe, that there has not been greater outcry is the exceptional leadership of President Mark Yudof in meeting the controversy head-on. Within days of the story breaking, the UMAA advised President Yudof to hire strong, independent outside investigators. This he did, not because of our advice, but because of his own good instincts and because it was the right thing to do.

Further, President Yudof immediately reaffirmed the institution's core commitment to academic integrity. But to those who would rush to judgment, he also reminded us that people remain innocent until proven guilty. And finally, he has said that the independent investigation must run its course and that he will take decisive action once the facts are in. This is leadership.

Like President Yudof, we at the alumni association do not take these allegations lightly. We believe strongly that we must speak out on issues that affect the reputation and quality of this University.

A few weeks after the academic misconduct allegations broke, I met a long-time friend and great supporter of the University. She was upset and looking for a target. "This is terrible," she said. "I can't understand why the alumni association isn't doing anything."

In truth, we have been diligently following a set of principles that has served the alumni association well over the years. It has three elements:

- Know the facts before we speak.
- Withhold comment on personnel issues.
- Provide advice and counsel behind the scenes, commenting publicly if we do not believe the administration or regents are taking responsibility for an issue.

In this decade alone, the alumni association has taken stands on regent selection and faculty tenure. With previous administrations, the UMAA worked in public and in private to improve relationships between the regents and the University president. And as in the past, several units within and outside the University have sought our opinion concerning this current issue.

While we have resisted an urge to jump in early and will speak out when we have a full idea of what really happened, whatever the outcome of the men's basketball investigation, we will uphold two core values of the alumni association. First, the alumni association's mission is to advocate for a strong University that preserves the value of your degree and, second, to support the University by building pride, spirit, and enthusiasm. In this instance, that means we support the administration's call for the facts to come out fully, fairly, and expeditiously.

Because the investigation will take several more months, I caution all alumni and friends of the University not to let the current swarm of criticism cloud the truly outstanding accomplishments the University has achieved in the past 18 months. Having pride in those successes and support for our president only furthers our commitment to academic integrity and accountability.

Doris Kearns Goodwin Appearance a Hot Ticket

If you haven't got tickets yet to hear best-selling presidential biographer and political commentator Doris Kearns Goodwin at the 1999 UMAA Annual Meeting and Celebration, you'd better hurry. Early demand for the June 2 event has been brisk, and tickets are being sold on a first-come, best-seats basis.

"Shared Memories: The Lessons of History" will touch on her experiences writing biographies of presidents Lyndon Johnson, John F. Kennedy, and Franklin Roosevelt, as well as the process involved in writing her own memoir on growing up in the 1950s and her love of the

Brooklyn Dodgers. Her insights bring alive the past, allowing listeners to learn from the talents, skills, and human failings of some of our most fascinating leaders. Her stories provide a window on the world of writing and research, including her work on a forthcoming biography of Abraham Lincoln.

Tickets for the show and a pre-celebration dinner can be purchased by calling the Northrop Ticket Office, (612) 624-2345, or by mailing in the form on page 9. Details and text from an interview with Goodwin can be found on the UMAA Web site at www.umaa.umn.edu.

Student Spotlight: John Cary

John Cary has a natural talent for building solid bridges—especially ones between people in the architecture community.

Cary, who graduates this June from the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) Honors Division, took his passion for architecture and his desire to learn from others and poured them into the CALA Mentor Program. The program, launched by two graduate students in winter 1997, matches architecture professionals with students at the University.

Since Cary got involved the following fall, the program has doubled in size. This year, 100 students were paired with mentors at a winter quarter kickoff party. The CALA program is the second largest and only student-run mentor program at the University.

With assistance from the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and CALA, Cary published the program's brochures and surveys. "The UMAA has been extremely helpful," Cary says.

Although their mentor relationship formally ended last year, Cary and his mentor, Chuck Sullivan, of the Sullivan Group Architects in Minneapolis, still keep in touch.



"He's an incredible role model and someone I know I'll be talking to far, far down the road," Cary says. "We learn a lot from each other. He makes me feel like I teach him a lot, and he teaches me a lot."

In February, Cary received an honorable mention in the *USA Today* All-USA College Academic Team. Thomas Fisher, dean of the College of Architecture, nominated Cary for the award for his research on combining community service with architecture. The *USA Today* award salutes the best and brightest based on grades, activities, leadership, and public service.

In addition to several student-activity positions Cary holds on campus, he also serves as president of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS). Following graduation, he will spend a year in Washington, D.C., as the national vice president for the AIAS.

Earning recognition as one of the best and brightest gave Cary the chance to see what other students nationwide were doing to build their own bridges. "There are so many incredible things going on, not only within our school, but throughout the country and the world," he says.

—Stacy Herrmann

Career Connection Kicks Off

Which organization has more than 40,000 college-educated members spanning every imaginable profession? It's the UMAA, of course. Now a collection of career, job, and industry information is available on the UMAA Web site, allowing employers and workers to use the power of the Internet to find each other and create on-line networks.

The UMAA Career Connections site includes a UMAA JobTrak section, a link to the BranchOut professional and social network, and details on the UMAA's Twin Cities Business and Community program, an effort that brings University programs to area employers.

Visit the Career Connections page at www.umaa.umn.edu/careerconnections to find out how you can post an opening for your company, put your résumé on-line, search job openings, and learn about networking opportunities on-line and off.



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Volumes of Volumes

The *Endearment* by Lavyrlle Spencer, *Radiation Heat Transfer* by Ephraim Sparrow, *Pushing the Envelope: All the Way to the Top* by Harvey Mackay, *The University of Minnesota, 1851-1951* by James Gray, *You Don't Look 35, Charlie Brown!* by Charles Schulz, *Lake Wobegon Days* by Garrison Keillor, *Savage Justice* by Ron Handberg, *Cabato Santora* by Ray Gonzalez, *The Education of a Public Man: My Life and Politics* by Hubert H. Humphrey, *Poisoned Ivy: Lesbian and Gay Academics Confronting*



Margaret Sughrue Carlson, '83 Ph.D.

Homophobia by Toni McNaron, *Hot Flashes* by Barbara Raskin, *UMD Comes of Age: The First One Hundred Years* by Ken Moran and Neil Storch, *A Cup of Christmas Tea* by Tom Hegg, *The American Journey of Eric Sevareid* by Raymond Schroth, *A Romantic Education* by Patricia Hampl, *Home in the Heartland* by Fred Peterson, "The Red River Valley" series by Lauraine Snelling, *Meaning and Void* by Eric Klinger, and *Educational Policy and the Law* by Mark Yudof, David Kirp, and Betsy Levin.

What do these books have in common? They would make perfect additions to the Wall of Books in the Heritage Gallery inside the University Gateway alumni-visitors center, under construction on University Avenue and Oak Street. The 2,600-square-foot Heritage Gallery will feature the people and products of our great institution in dramatic and interesting ways. And a tug-at-your-heart feature of the gallery will be the Wall of Books, 60 feet long and 35 feet high at its peak. Well-used, well-respected, and well-loved books will line the wall to a height of eight feet (faux books will reach to the ceiling).

The Gateway's tenants will move into the complex in the fall, tentatively scheduled for October 1, 1999, but the Heritage Gallery will stay under wraps until the grand opening in early winter 2000.

The race is on to assemble the books for the display. We have sought the assistance of the departments and units on all four campuses, but we still need alumni to help reach our goal of 5,000 books. As Doug Armato, director of the University Press, advised me, "That's a heck of a lot of books."

Indeed it is. Nonetheless, we're seeking books with a University of Minnesota connection that were written by or about alumni, faculty, staff, or students. We'll also feature books about the University's history, products, accomplishments, or challenges. And since the University is nearly synonymous with Minnesota itself (our University hymn is the state song), we are seeking books about the state that have a University connection.

Do you have such books on your shelves? Consider submitting fiction, nonfiction, textbooks, dissertations, and technical manuals. The books should be hardbound with lettering on the spine and in good condition (book jackets will be removed). We'll

embrace books with margin notes, underlining, and highlighting inside, as well as books straight from a publishing house that have never been opened.

For this display, please do not submit rare or one-of-a-kind books. If you have such items to share, however, you may contact Judy Swanson, at the University Libraries, (612) 624-4183 or j-swanson@tc.umn.edu.

We are fortunate to have as our partners for this project the libraries of all the University of Minnesota campuses and the University Press. Armato has agreed to jump-start the effort by pledging to donate one copy of every book written by a University faculty member that is still in publication by the University Press. Judy Hedin, development director at the University Libraries, calls it a "terrific idea" and is contacting the libraries' donors about participating.

Marlene Bantari ('59) has committed eight boxes of books, collected by the Phi Upsilon Omicron honorary society. Lovingly assembled by one of their late members, Juliette Myren ('34), these books have been stored in a closet in McNeal Hall for over a decade.

We'll celebrate with a Heritage Gallery Book-a-Thon Drop-off on Friday, June 4, 1999, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can drop off your books at the Gateway site, on the corner of University and Oak on the East Bank of the Twin Cities campus. Look for the semitrailer truck and a sign that reads "5,000 Books or Bust." Paul Luxem, at Berger Transport, has donated a truck to move the books from campus to Deaton Museum Services, which is building the display.

If you are unable to drop off books on campus, mail them by June 4 to the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, 501 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

While we hope to use as many of the donated books as possible, we cannot guarantee that your books will be used. None of the books will be returned, nor will gift receipts or acknowledgment be provided.

We will have a team of librarians—chaired by Andrea Hinding, a guiding light in helping us with the Heritage Gallery from day one—decide which books to include in the display. If any of the books are not used in the gallery, the Libraries staff will find an appropriate home for them.

If you have questions about the Heritage Gallery Book-a-Thon, please contact Elizabeth Patty, assistant director of alumni programs, at (612) 625-9180, via fax at (612) 626-8167, or via e-mail at Elizabeth.W.Patty-1@tc.umn.edu.

"Let people know that they are entering a place of greatness, and they themselves have an opportunity to achieve greatness," said Vincent Ciulla, the Heritage Gallery designer, when describing the effect the Heritage Gallery will have on our visitors. We hope that you will want to take part in this historical Heritage Gallery Book-a-Thon and help us collect our 5,000 books. ■

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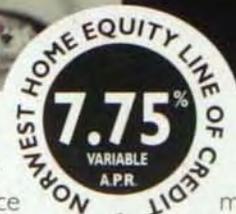
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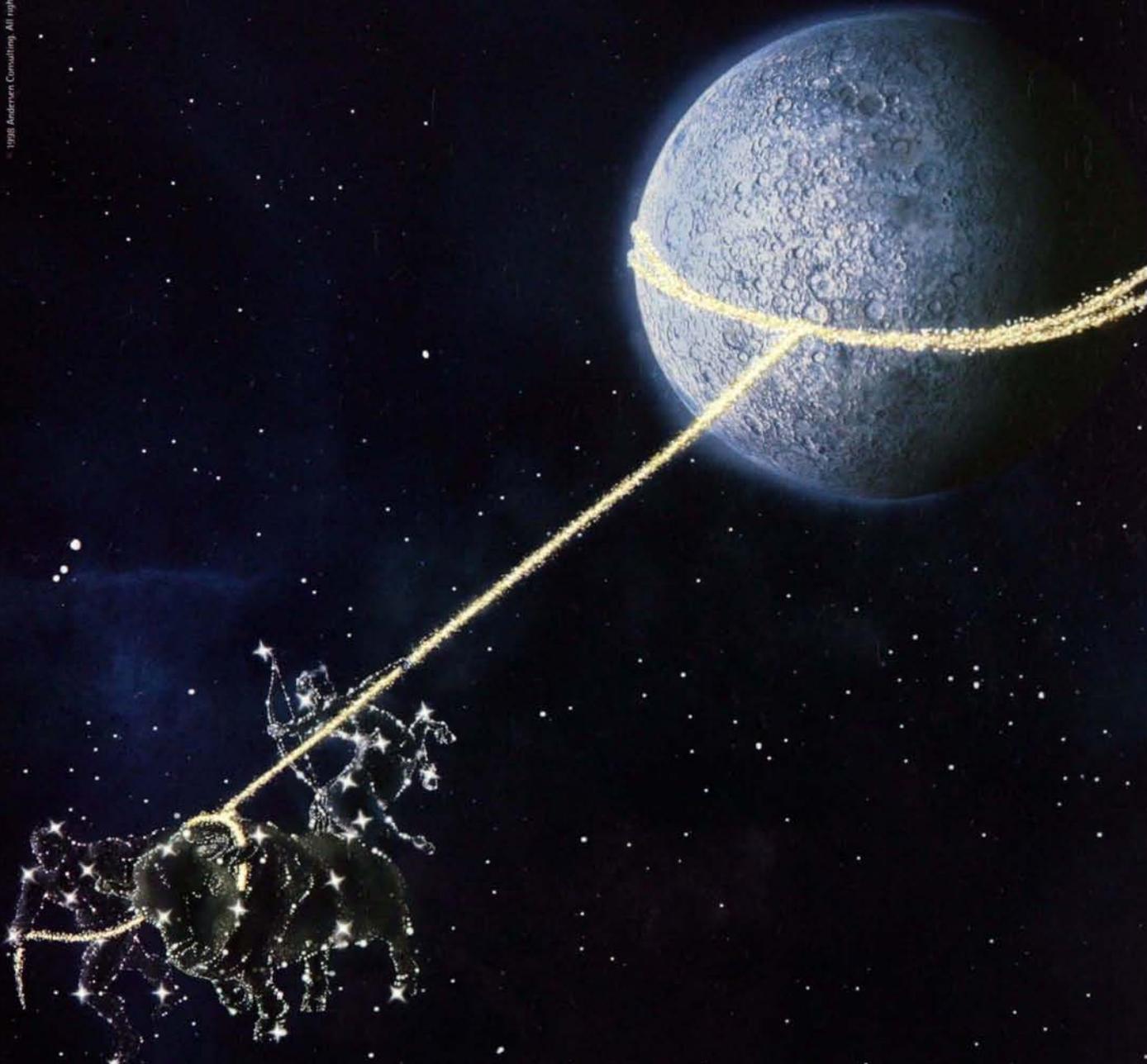
Minding Their Own Business

Six alumni who've turned ideas into profits

Summer Reading:
The Annual Books Roundup

Grid Expectations:
Gopher Football Preview

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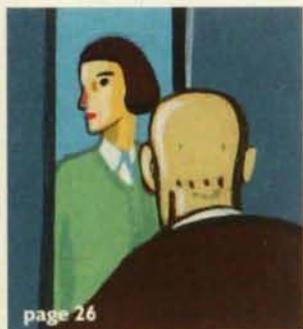
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Features

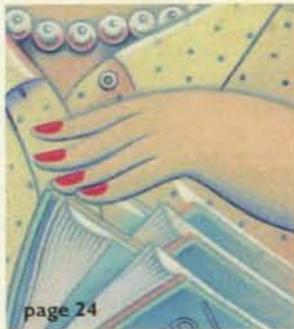
18 Minding Their Own Business

Meet six alumni who weeded through business ideas, teed up their assets, logged on to success, and relish the freedom of running their own companies. Clockwise from top: TeeMaster's Michael Hsu, Bob Arnold, and Jay Adams; Jennifer Alstad of B-Swing; Michael Miller of Hound Dog Products; and Lisa Nicholson of Salsa Lisa.
By Diane Richard and Andy Steiner



24 Books

A roundup of books—fiction, nonfiction, memoirs, poetry, and children's literature—by University faculty and alumni published in the past year, plus excerpts from five favorites.
Edited by Shelly Fling



32 Keeping Up Appearances

As the University renovates historic structures, builds anew, and works toward fulfilling its master plan, University gardeners, arborists, and other crews quietly tend to the grounds—planting trees and flowers, maintaining plazas and parks, and preserving a sense of the U's pride and history.
By Sharon Parker

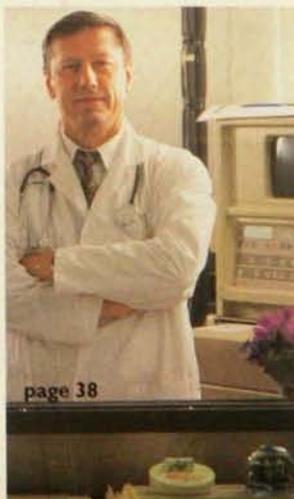


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A fond look back at some of the events that mark the University's history.
By Tim Brady

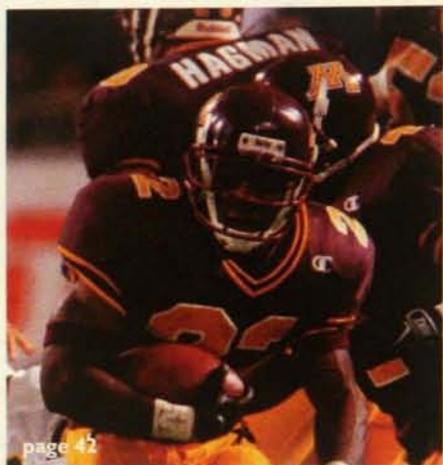
38 VOICES: When Disaster Strikes

Dr. Victor Koscheyev, who helped organize triage after the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, dreams of creating a health protection center at the University to prepare for other large-scale catastrophes.
As told to Vicki Stavig



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Fans expect something big from Gopher football in 1999, and they just might get it. Plus, highlights from the 1998–99 sports seasons.
By Chris Coughlan-Smith



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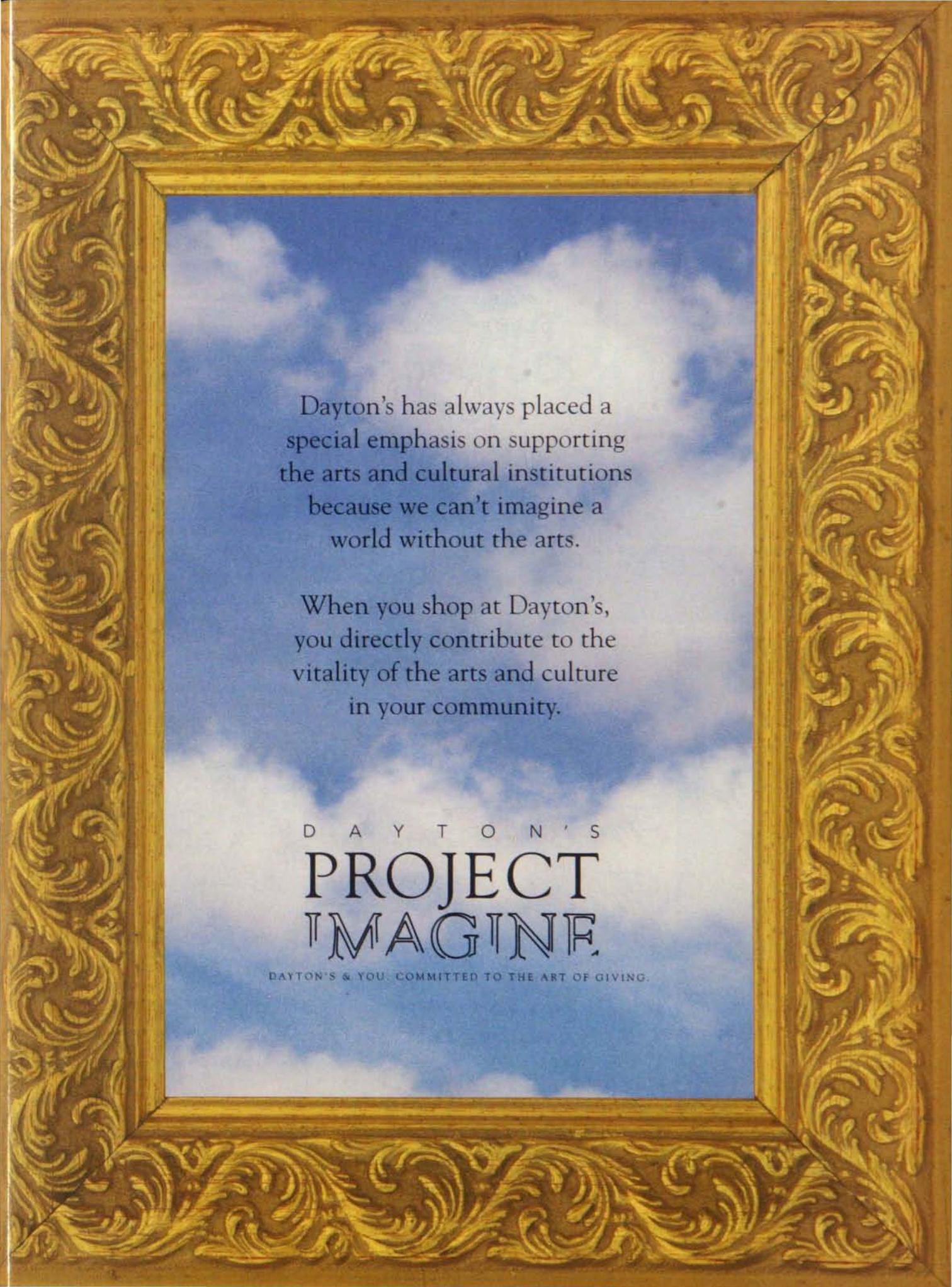
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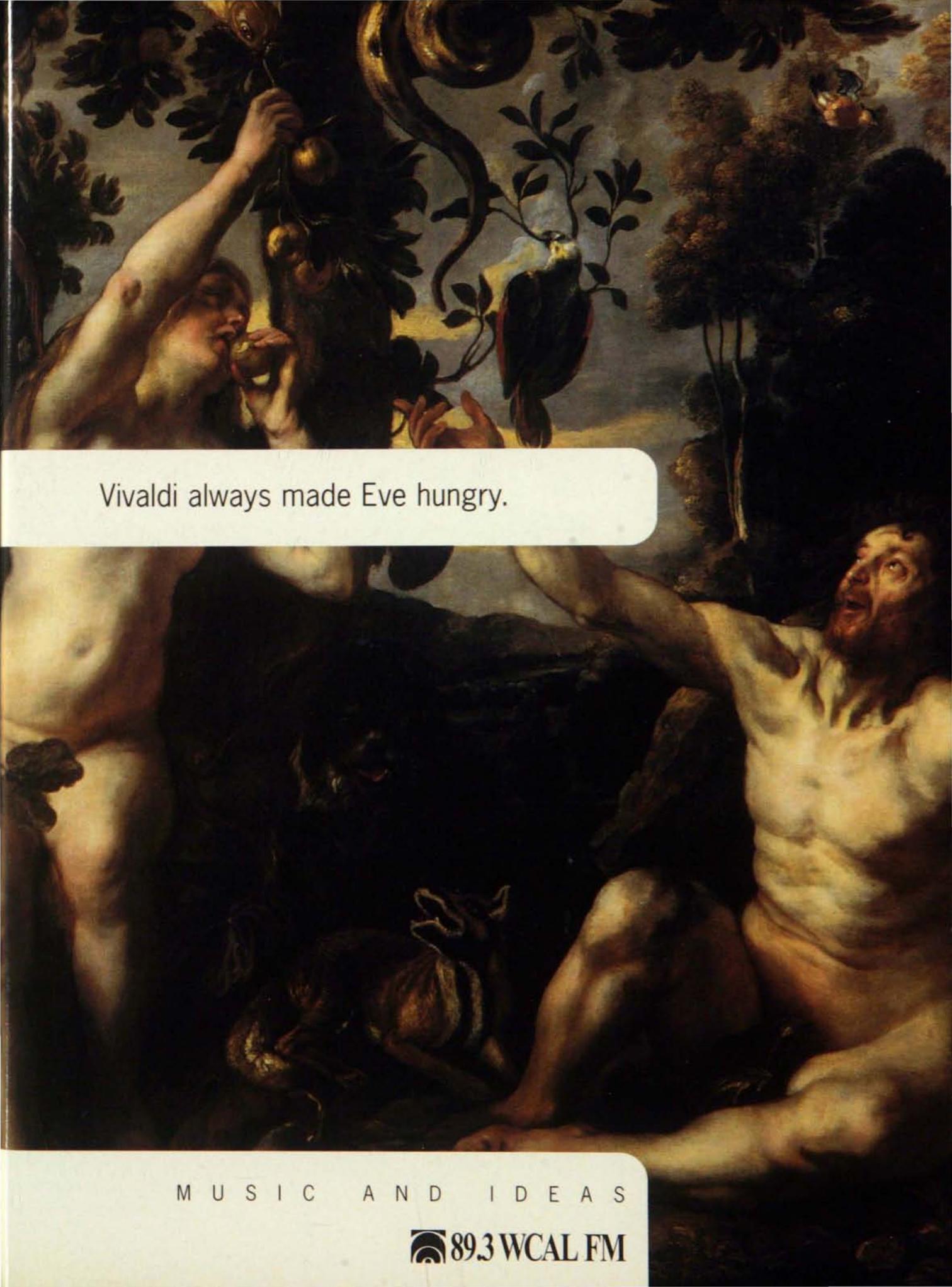
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In Focus

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Ernest Hemingway once remarked that one of the best things about books is the personal experience each reader has. "It all belongs to you," he said.

Yet whether you read fine fiction or romance novels, biographies or business books, or even a lengthy research tome, there is something inherently democratic about the encounter. "Books are true levelers," said 19th century writer and religious leader William Ellery Channing. "They give to all who will faithfully use them."

Nineteen ninety-nine marks the seventh year *Minnesota* has featured some of the most interesting books written by University faculty and alumni in the past year. The tradition began under my predecessor, Jean Marie Hamilton. Editor Shelly Fling has wonderfully edited this year's selections, beginning on page 24, with excerpts of five books followed by a listing of many more, giving readers a tasting of numerous books they will want to savor on their summer reading lists.



Tom Garrison

Another way in which books can be shared is through libraries. I was astounded to read recently that the University of Minnesota Library loans more books through interlibrary loan than any other library in North America.

The University library's job—handling a total of 5.6 million volumes—is getting more difficult, however. Consider that journals cost 100 percent more and books 40 percent more to acquire than they did just five years ago. With the amount of published information now doubling every five years, the University Library faces incredible demands to stay current—not just with book acquisitions, but with digital technology as well.

Acquiring, maintaining, and enhancing the University Library's superb collections is costly too. Did you know that the Archie Givens Sr. Collection of African American literature contains more than 8,000 books, pamphlets, and manuscripts spanning some 200 years, including the first book published by an African American? The University also has the world's largest collection of material relating to Sherlock Holmes and his creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

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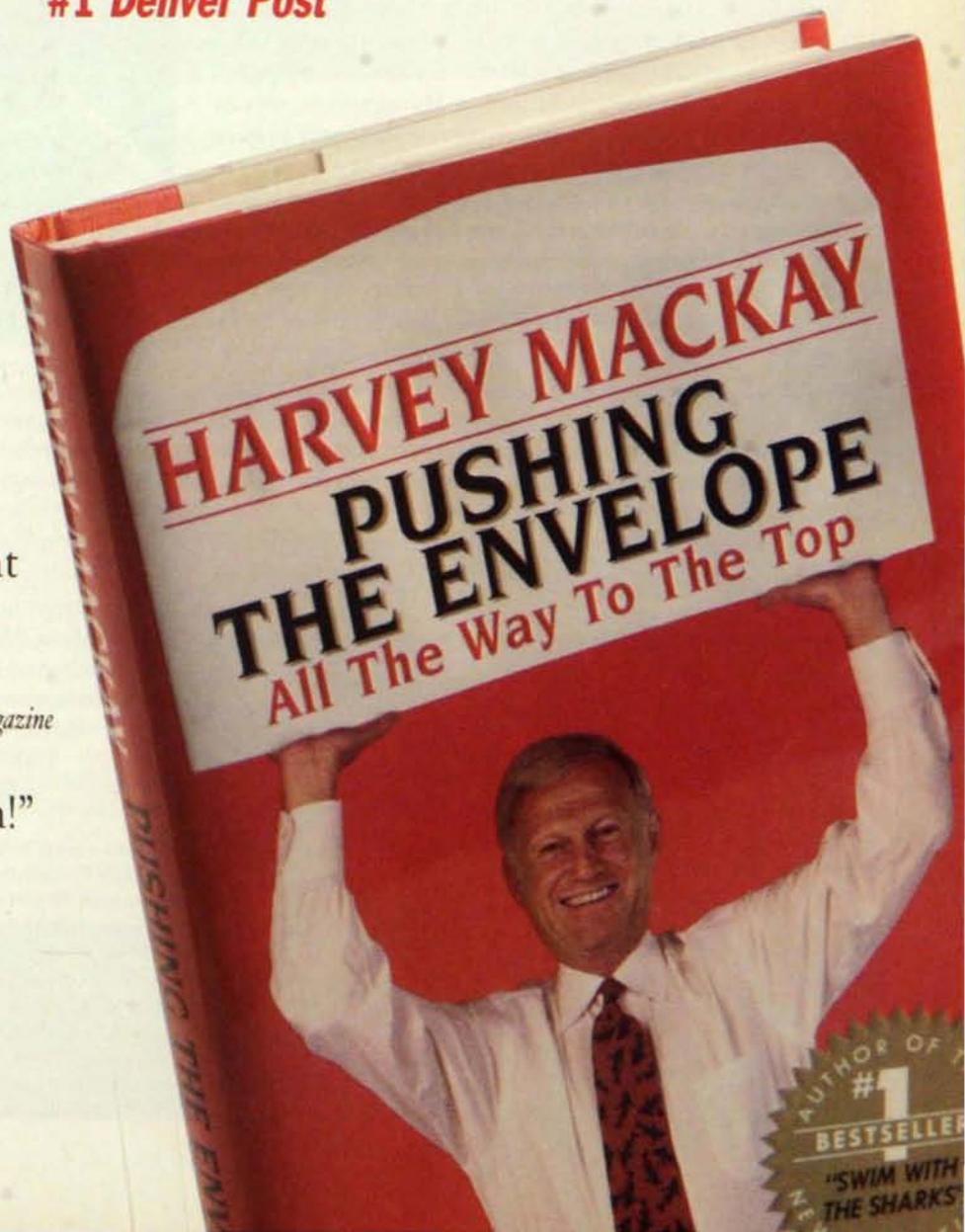
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A compendium of news from around the University—research, promotions, program developments, faculty honors

By Chris Coughlan-Smith, Jerry Flattum, Stacy Herrmann, and Shelly Fling

Campus Digest

Carlson School to Offer E-Commerce Courses

Electronic commerce—transactions among businesses and consumers over the Internet—is growing so rapidly that several schools across the country, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Carnegie Mellon University, are implementing e-commerce courses into their curricula. The University of Minnesota is no exception.

According to some analysts, e-commerce transactions worldwide could reach over \$3 trillion within five years. Lester Wanninger, coordinator in the Department of Information and Decision Sciences at the Carlson School of Management, says he regularly receives e-mail inquiries from students hungry to learn about the new digital market. His department is now working to develop an e-commerce emphasis for M.I.S. and M.B.A. students. "Once we get that done and actually teach those courses, it's likely that we will adapt some of those courses for undergraduates," he says.

E-commerce courses—on such topics as data mining, Website design, marketing, and finance—for M.I.S. and M.B.A. students at the Carlson School will be offered beginning in the fall of 1999. But that will be only the beginning. The Carlson School will likely help develop an e-commerce emphasis in other schools, such as the Institute of Technology and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Wanninger says.

The University Law School has already incorporated a mix of business and technology into its curriculum. Professor Joan How-

land, the director of Information and Technology at the school, says that in addition to courses on intellectual property and copyright law, the law school now offers cyberlaw and e-commerce courses.

"We are very much striving to incorporate the intellectual property, patent, business law, First Amendment concerns, and many other issues that are evolving as a result of the evolution of technology into the curriculum," she says.



E-commerce has been on Wanninger's mind for years. He chaired the e-commerce track at the 1997 Digital Summit—a consortium of academic, technology, and business leaders dedicated to helping Minnesota become a leader in high technology—co-sponsored by the University. He is head of a National Science Foundation-funded research project titled "The Role of Customer Relationships in Electronic Commerce." Other investigators in the project include journalism, marketing, and engineering professors. Industry partners include Fingerhut, 3M, General Mills, Unisys, Periscope Marketing, and Custom Research. And he's spearheading the Information Industry Initiative, an outgrowth of the Digital Summit intended to merge industries, technologies, and disciplines to help both the University and Minnesota become major forces in the information industry.

—Jerry Flattum

A Day in the Sun



A little rain didn't stop the University of Minnesota Solar Vehicle Project from unveiling Aurora 4, the entrant for Sunrayce 99 and the 1999 World Solar Challenge, on May 5 on Northrop Mall. Aurora 4 and the project team then headed to Milford, Michigan, where—after undergoing inspection and running laps at the GM Proving Grounds—the vehicle qualified for starting at the fourth position for Sunrayce 99. Sunrayce began in Washington, D.C., on June 20 and ended at Epcot in Orlando, Florida, on June 29, press time for the magazine. The World Solar Challenge—from Darwin to Adelaide, Australia—is a 1,880-mile race that begins October 17.

Faculty Research

A look at recent University of Minnesota studies, research, discoveries, and rankings



Cave Gives Clues to Climate

Studying past climate cycles is a valuable way to examine how variations can affect a region's vegetation. But the most popular method of studying these cycles—looking at pollen in lake-bottom sediment—can trace Midwestern conditions back only about 15,000 years, when most of the region's lakes were formed at the end of the last ice age. Now, thanks to the efforts of a geology graduate student at the University of Minnesota, data dates back about 75,000 years. Jeffrey Dorale and two University professors studied stalagmites (the deposits that grow up from a cave floor) from a cave near St. Louis. Minerals deposit in layers much like tree rings. Using techniques developed at the University, the team determined temperatures and vegetation at the times various layers were deposited. They found that the area had shifted from forest to savanna and prairie and back to forest from 55,000 to 75,000 years ago. The changes resulted from only a few degrees variation, showing how sensitive these biosystems are to small shifts in temperature and moisture. The study appeared in the journal *Science* in December. The full text can be found at www.sciencemag.org (you must be a subscriber or pay for individual articles).

Successful Cancer Screenings

A simple annual test can cut colorectal cancer deaths by up to 33 percent, according to a University of Minnesota study. Yet only 40 percent of Americans in the target group—those 50 years old and older—are tested. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 56,000 people in the United States die from colorectal cancer each year, making it the second most deadly group of cancers, after lung cancer. The test touted by the University study involves checking for blood in the stool and costs between \$5 and \$20. The long-term study of 46,500 Minnesotans over age 50 helps clear up controversy surrounding the tests. According to the researchers, the value of catching and treating the cancer early is clear, despite criticism of the tests for false positives and missing some cancers. The results were printed in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in March. The report can be found at <http://jnci.oupjournals.org>.

Not Just a Hole in the Ground

A \$146 million experiment on subatomic elements will result in a half-mile deep hole in the ground in Minnesota's Iron Range. At the bottom will be a particle-catching lab sitting beside a smaller lab built more than 15 years ago. Both labs are designed to catch beams of neutrinos (uncharged elementary particles) sent out of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago. About \$60 million will be spent to build and outfit the lab, located in the Soudan Mine and run by a group led by University of Minnesota physicists. The new lab, to be 90 feet wide and 50 feet tall, will allow for more complex experiments with a new, larger neutrino detector. Researchers are trying to determine whether neutrinos have mass, which would then provide clues as to the total mass of the universe and the workings of gravity, electromagnetism, and the forces in the nucleus of an atom. Excavation began in April, and the lab will take about four years to complete. Money for the facilities is coming from the U.S. Department of Energy, the United Kingdom, and the state of Minnesota.

"I think everyone who came into the office today had a pleasant experience."

—Sue Van Voorhis, of the registrar's office, after computer overload on the first day of the University's new Web-based registration system forced students to stand in line at Fraser Hall to register in person—something most alumni claim to want to forget.

Overheard on Campus



Don't Touch!

Artists from colleges and universities around the country participated in the 30th annual Minnesota Iron Pour May 14 at the foundry near the Art Building on the West Bank. Produced by University professor Wayne Potratz and his metalcasting students, "The Iron Circus" included fire acts—fire eaters and flaming hoop dances—a group exhibition, and a mini-symposium on the future of cast-iron art. Artists and students melted and cast approximately 3,000 pounds of iron into sculptures during the iron pour.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAYNE HALBRITTER

On the Move During construction and renovation projects on campus, 1,900 people in 105 units will be relocated—some temporarily, others long-term. Many programs and departments from the North Mall and the Jackson-Owre-Millard-Lyon Complex have completed their initial moves. If all goes well, the remainder will move between this summer and January 2000. Here is a list of where various units have moved or where they're headed. For move updates, call 612-626-7777, or visit www.umn.edu/construction.

COMPLETED:

Department	Location	Duration
Anthropology	Heller, Blegen	Long-term
Art Histor	Heller	Long-term
Biochemistry Research	Moos	Temporary
Building Code Official	1425 University	Long-term
CLA Student Board	Norris	Temporary
Digital Media Ctr	Norris	Temporary
Facilities Management Zone 6	Modular Building	Temporary
Geology Labs	Northrop	Temporary
Grievance/Stud Judic Affairs	Heller	Long-term
History of Science	Social Science	Long-term
Industrial Relations Library	CSOM	Long-term
Institute of Technology Dean	Newman Ctr	Temporary
Interdisc Archeological Studies	Heller	Long-term
International Studies and Prog	Heller, HHH, Blegen	Long-term
Journalism	Heller, HHH	Temporary
Kinesiology	Cooke	Long-term
Lab Medicine & Pathology	Mayo, Lions, Basic Sci	Long-term
Learning Resource Ctr	Norris	Temporary
Mathematics	Vincent	Long-term
Media Resources	Rarig	Long-term
Medical School Admin	Mayo	Long-term
Medieval Studies	Norris	Temporary
Mortuary Science	Jackson	Long-term
Multicultural Affairs	Science Classrooms	Long-term
Office of University Women	Nicholson	Temporary
Philosophy	Heller	Long-term
Psychiatry	Fairview Riverside	Long-term
Psychology and Ed Library	Wilson Library	Long-term
Public Health Ctr	Mayo	Temporary
Social Work	Vo Tech Ed	Temporary
Speech Communication	Rarig	Long-term
Statistics	Heller	Temporary
Student Computer Ctr	Phillips-Wangenstein	Long-term
Theatre Arts	Rarig	Long-term
Women's Studies	Jones	Temporary

MOVING SOON:

Department (month of move)	Destination	Duration
Adapted Technology (8/99)	Elliott	Long-term
Architecture (1/00)	Nicholson	Temporary
Assessment & Achievement (1/00)	1901 University	Long-term
Biochemistry Offices (7/99)	Jackson	Long-term
Cell Biology/NeuroAnatomy (7/99)	Jackson	Long-term
General Purpose Classrooms (8/99)	Newman Ctr	Temporary
Gross Anatomy (8/99)	Jackson	Long-term
Pharmacology Offices (7/99)	Jackson	Long-term
Physiology (7/99)	Jackson	Long-term
Public Computer Lab (8/99)	Elliott	Temporary
Science & Engineering Library (12/99)	Norris, Library Ac Ctr	Temporary



Goldy's Long-Lost Cousin

Just like the University of Minnesota, Goucher College, in Baltimore, is fond of gophers. One in particular—donning blue and gold—routinely makes an appearance at athletic events.

Goucher and the University are the only schools in the NCAA known to have gophers for their mascot. Goucher began as a private women's college in 1885 and turned co-educational in 1986. Shortly after its transition, the college joined the NCAA as a Division III school. As the student population began to grow, so did the athletics department. Today Goucher's strongest athletic programs are women's lacrosse, field hockey, and the

equestrian team and men's basketball.

According to Geoff Miller, director of athletics at Goucher College, the well-known phrase "Go for It" had been used on campus for years to instill team spirit in students. The words eventually became contracted into "gopher," and the mascot was born. Sketches were drawn up in 1980, and Goucher College officially adopted a gopher named Mortimer as its mascot in 1983.

There's just one problem. "We don't have any gophers," Miller says. "If we were to name ourselves after an animal that's running all over campus, then we'd be called the Squirrels."

—Stacy Herrmann

U to Receive Gay and Lesbian Collection

The charred cover of the book in Jean-Nickolaus Tretter's hands tells a story not contained within the volume's pages. "It's from the Hirschfeld library," the amateur historian explains, referring to a collection of gay and lesbian books, documents, and photographs established in Berlin in 1919. Named after Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, a pioneering sex researcher and father of the modern gay-rights movement, the collection existed until 1933, when Hitler youth gangs plundered the library and torched its contents, sending priceless artifacts—and the hopes of Europe's increasingly visible homosexual community—up in smoke.

Someone snatched this volume from the flames, however—and thanks to Tretter and the booksellers who have handled it in the intervening years, the 500-page tome may soon become part of the University of Minnesota libraries. It's just one of nearly 3,000 items pertaining to the gay and lesbian movement that Tretter, a St. Paul resident and long-time Twin Cities community activist, has collected over the years. At an event in April at Coffman Memorial Union, Tretter, 52, announced his plans to donate the entire collection to the University.

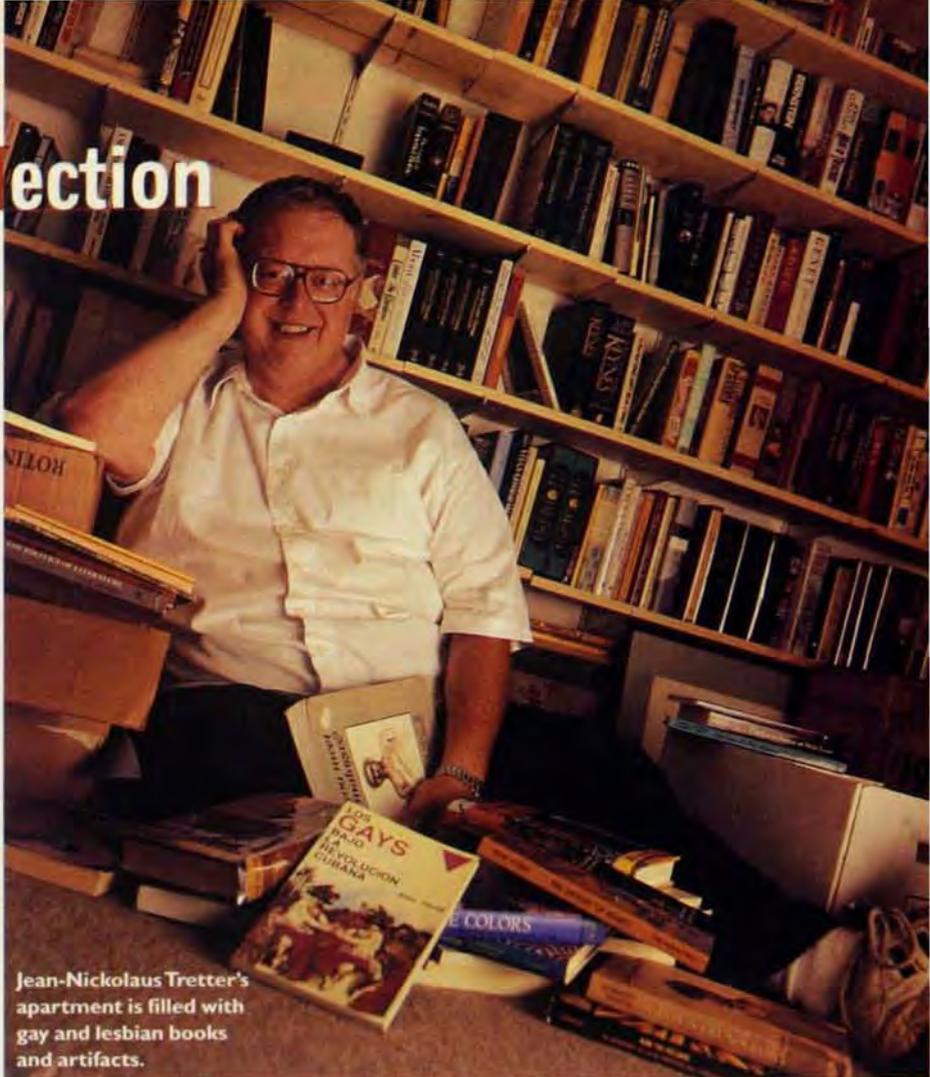
"Now is the perfect time to be collecting gay and lesbian artifacts," says Tretter, who started amassing his collection of bar fliers, books, T-shirts, videos, sound recordings, posters, and even matchboxes in the early '80s. "To buy gay and lesbian things is still quite cheap. We're in the halcyon days of collecting gay memorabilia."

University history professor Sara Evans says the collection would bring national visibility to the University and, much like special collections on immigration and social welfare, would augment the U's archives significantly. GLBT Programs Office director Beth Zemsky says Tretter's donation would establish an ever-growing repository of gay and lesbian resources that would draw students and scholars from around the country.

Additionally, the breadth and depth of the collection lends itself well to studies across the academic disciplines, Zemsky says. From anthropology and music to geology and religion, the books and objects gathered by Tretter show gay and lesbian achievements and influences in nearly every field of study. Among the items are:

- Egyptian sculptures. Nearly 4,000 years old, these fertility objects were molded in shapes ranging from baboons to scribes, but their enlarged phalluses set them apart from other art. "Phallic items from other cultures are usually of great interest to men," Tretter says. "Certainly, at least, more gay men are collectors of phallic items than other people."

- Dime-store paperbacks. Among the pulp fiction produced in post-war America were novels depicting gays and lesbians as sexual perverts who, in the end, always suffered some supposedly well-deserved fate. Sporting such titillating titles as *The Mask*



Jean-Nickolaus Tretter's apartment is filled with gay and lesbian books and artifacts.

of Lesbos and Sappho of Lesbos, the lesbian-themed novels in particular have become hot collectors items in recent years, fetching average prices of \$350 to \$1,000 each, according to Tretter. "They've become particularly popular with older, wealthy lesbians," he says. "They're so collectible—now they're largely out of the market for most people."

- Green carnations. Popularized by British playwright Oscar Wilde, green carnations worn on the lapel are just one of a number of objects gays and lesbians have used over the years to identify each other in mainstream culture. In addition to several artificial corsages, Tretter has collected Wilde paraphernalia ranging from published works to tourist tchotchkes from the gift shop at the author's London home.

- Delft figurines. The 16th-century Dutchmen who first produced the traditional blue-and-white pottery of the Netherlands might blanch at Tretter's small statute of two boys kissing, but the otherwise unremarkable piece might well symbolize the country's reputation for social tolerance. Tretter purchased the pair at a tourist shop in Amsterdam.

- Fairy stones. Known to geologists as Minnesota starolite orthorhombic prisms, these crystalline rocks are found near Little Falls in Morrison County. "Most people don't think of the geological aspects of being gay or lesbian," Tretter says. But the dark gray pebbles, known to many locals as fairy stones, became collectors items for many gay and lesbian Minnesotans well before the state's first gay pride parade.

—Joel Hoekstra

PHOTOGRAPH BY GAYLA ELLIS



At the Weisman

Twenty-five years of In the Heart of the Beast's May Day parades are celebrated in an exhibit at the Weisman Art Museum through August 15. "Gorgeous Fever of Consciousness," a puppet from the 1995 parade, is included.

of New York during a period of great change, Abbott created her portrait for the Federal Art Project from 1935 to 1939.

Bell Museum of Natural History

10 Church St., Minneapolis, 612-624-7083
 Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Sunday, 12-5 p.m.
 Admission: \$3 adults; \$2 seniors and children

"Wings of Paradise": Moth Paintings of John Cody

Through August 29
 Paintings of some of the world's most beautiful silk moths. Living less than a week, silk moths can be an unfamiliar species to people. Cody raises many of his subjects in his home and through his work has revealed the secret lives of these moths.

MORPHIN! The Science of Biological Change

Through November 2000
 Based on moth research conducted by University of Minnesota entomology professor Susan Weller, "MORPHIN!" explores how common physical traits—such as the ability to roll your tongue, wiggle your ears, and write with your left hand—are all controlled by genetics. The exhibit features live caterpillars, a replica of Weller's research campsite in Itasca State Park, and a display of butterflies.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9494
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
 Admission is free

Theatre of Wonder: 25 Years In the Heart of the Beast

Through August 15
 In celebration of the 25th annual May Day parade, a retrospective exhibit displays the work of In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre. Masks, puppets, and other examples from parades and theater activities are shown. The exhibit presents and examines the history of this arts organization—one of the premiere companies of its kind in the United States.

Berenice Abbott's Changing New York

Through September 12
 Photographs from the Weisman's permanent collection of Abbott's documentary portrait of New York. Captivated by the dynamism

On Northrop Mall



The Summit Hill Brass Quintet performs on Northrop Mall July 19 as part of the Summer at Northrop outdoor concert series.

MUSIC

University of Minnesota Bands and School of Music

Ferguson Recital Hall (unless otherwise noted), 2106 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis, 612-624-5093. Adjacent to the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

• Bravo! Student Recital

July 14, 12 p.m.
 Weisman Art Museum, 333 East River Road, Minneapolis

• Bravo! Student Recital

July 15, 7:30 p.m.

• Bravo! Student Recital

July 16, 7:30 p.m.

Summer at Northrop Outdoor Concerts

On the Northrop Auditorium Plaza, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, 612-624-2345
 All concerts are free and take place from noon to 1 p.m. In case of rain, events will be moved inside.

• Franco Marone

July 14
 Guitar with Celtic and Mediterranean flair

• Happy Apple

July 16
 Minnesota's 1999 "Jazz Group of the Year"

• Summit Hill Brass Quintet

July 19
 Sparkling Americana fare

• Minneapolis Pops Orchestra

July 22
 Light classical favorites

• Pure Joy

July 26
 Improvisational jazz with vocalist Connie Olson

• Ellington Echoes

July 28
 Percy Hughes conducts Duke Ellington standards

• Slim Hippos

August 4
 Original plus traditional blues, R&B

• Bluebeat

August 11
 Acoustic and African blues with Indian tabla drums

• Butch Thompson

August 12
 Traditional jazz and ragtime piano

• Bomba

August 13
 An explosion of salsa/Latin jazz

• Ellen Lease/Pat Moriarty Quintet

August 16
 Original contemporary jazz

• Brasileirada Trio

August 18
 Authentic Brazilian instrumental music

SPECIAL EVENTS

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

3675 Arboretum Drive, Chanhassen, 612-443-2460

• An Evening of Mime

July 15, 7 p.m.
 Mime artist Michael Rudolph's perception of the world helps us expand on our own appreciation of the "small things" in life.

• Auxiliary Garden Tour

July 20 and 21
 A tour of several private gardens in the Twin Cities area. Cost is \$20; \$30 with lunch.

• Ballet Arts, Maypole

July 22, 6 p.m.
 An interactive evening of fun. Professionals and students of Ballet Arts teach a variety of dances and patterns in this seasonal celebration of dance.

• Dew Drop Jugglers

August 5
 Watch the award-winning skill of international champion jugglers as they provide an evening of entertainment and instruction.

• 15th Annual Herb Symposium

August 5 and 6
 Features local and national speakers, authors, chefs, and teachers. Cooking and decorating demonstrations and workshops.



At the Bell Museum

The female diopline moth is part of "MORPHIN! The Science of Biological Change," an exhibit about traits and genetics at the Bell Museum of Natural History based on moth research by University entomologist Susan Weller. Through November 2000.

• Homestead Night at the Arb

August 12
 Acoustical musicians gather for a night of music.

• Minnesota Prairie Day

August 14
 Tours of the Arboretum's restored native prairie and lectures on topics related to prairies and prairie management.

• Chris Ward, Harpist/Lyricist

August 19
 Listen to the lyrics and harp music of the classically trained musician and vocalist.

• Morava Serbian Folk Dancers

August 26
 Costumed dancers re-create the excitement and beauty of traditional dances.

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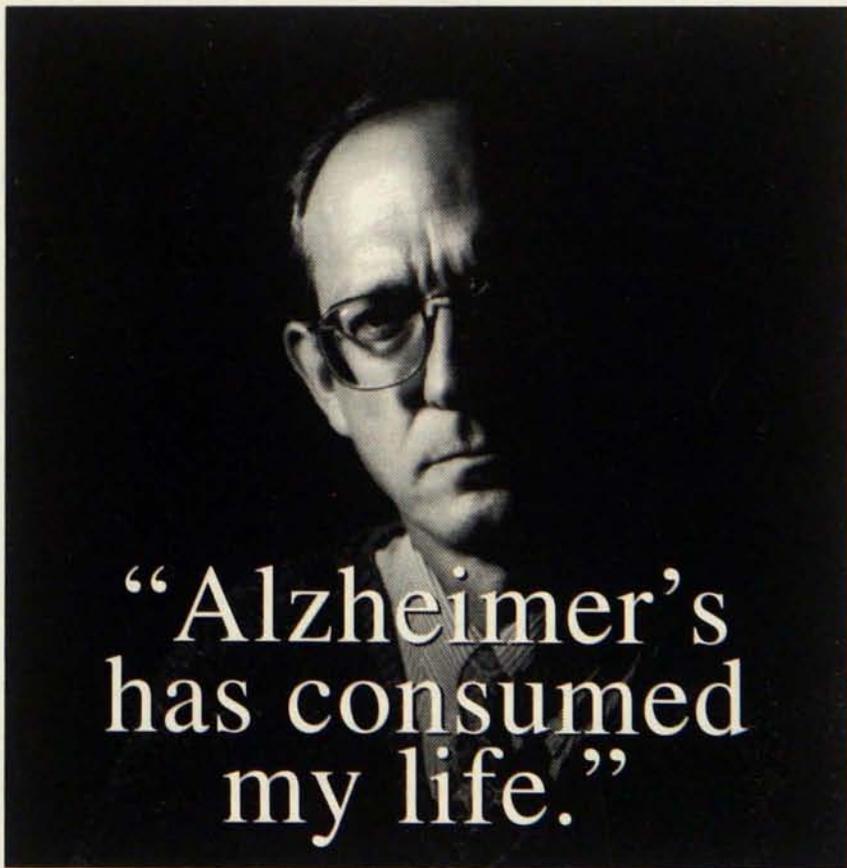
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MINNESOTA

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at the University of Minnesota

in Brief

The University of Minnesota and Gopher men's basketball coach Clem Haskins reached an agreement that Haskins would resign effective June 30. The agreement follows allegations of academic misconduct in the basketball program. Both parties agreed that for the good of the program and the University a new head coach should be appointed. The University will pay Haskins approximately \$1.5 million, pursuant to the terms of his contract. The settlement will be paid by the University men's athletic program.

According to University President Mark Yudof, the University's outside investigators have found no evidence linking Haskins to academic misconduct, nor any evidence that his denials of involvement are untrue. However, Yudof stated, "It is clear that public confidence in the academic integrity of the University has been eroded by the allegations. In light of this issue, a change in leadership is warranted."

Haskins was hired in 1986 to rebuild a program that had been demoralized following sexual assault charges against several players (all later acquitted). Under Haskins, the Gophers went on to win two NIT titles and the 1996-97 Big Ten title and to make six

trips to the NCAA tournament, including a Final Four appearance in 1997, the year Haskins garnered nine awards, including Coach of the Year.

Following a May 21 *Star Tribune* article reporting that University athletic officials may have intervened on behalf of football and basketball players

who were accused of criminal sexual conduct, Yudof announced that the investigation in the men's athletic program has been expanded to include the new allegations. The investigation is expected to take several more months.

The Minnesota legislature approved a total package of **\$119.9 million in additional funding for the University for the next biennium**. New funding includes \$15 million for undergraduate education initiatives and \$69.4 million for faculty and staff salary increases.

The Academic Health Center will receive \$8 million a year through 2014 from the \$377 million medical education endowment created with tobacco settlement funds. In addition, graduate health professional programs will be supported through Medical Education Research Costs funds: \$3.4 million in 2000, \$8.3 million in 2001, and a minimum of \$10.7 million annually from 2002 to '14.

Three new Regents' Professors have been named: Thomas Clayton, professor of English and classical and Near Eastern studies; Ashley Haase, M.D., professor and head of the Department of Microbiology; and John Sullivan, professor of political science. "The appointment of these individuals will continue the proud tradition of excellence embodied in this august group of outstanding scholars," President Yudof said. Once designated Regents' Professors, faculty members hold the title for as long as they remain at the University and receive an annual stipend from the University Foundation.

Five faculty members have been awarded \$100,000 "genius" grants as Distinguished McKnight University Professors. They are Anne Fallon, entomology; Hung-Wen Liu, chemistry; David Pui, mechanical engineering; Anne Pusey, ecology, evolution, and behavior; and Michael Ward, chemical engineering and materials science.

A long-term strategic plan for Gopher athletics was announced at a news conference May 7. A women's rowing team will be added in 2000-01. No men's sports will be dropped. Revenue streams of men's and women's athletics will be combined, and \$1.2 million in centrally allocated funds will be added. President Yudof said the U will be first in the Big Ten in women's participation. The plan goes beyond anything required by the National Collegiate Athletic Association or any court, he said. "We just decided to do this right." Vice President McKinley Boston and athletic directors Mark Dienhart and Chris Voelz voiced their support of the plan. "I simply think this is a great plan," Voelz said.

Otto and Helen Silha presented the University with a \$1 million gift for the journalism school's Silha Center for the Study of Media Ethics and Law. President Yudof and Dean Steven Rosenstone have put journalism in the limelight, Otto Silha told regents. "This is going to be not just the greatest journalism school in the United States, but in the whole world." ■

Nobel Laureate Returns to Campus

Dr. Louis Ignarro's return to the University of Minnesota May 27 had a twofold purpose. The 1998 Nobel laureate (right), who earned his Ph.D. in pharmacology from the U in 1966, came back to receive the F.E. Shideman Distinguished Alumnus Award from the pharmacology department and to visit his former roommate, Dr. Norman Sladek, now a professor of pharmacology at the University. Ignarro is one of three scientists awarded the Nobel

prize for medicine last year. His discoveries were the foundation for the development of the anti-impotency drug Viagra. Following his acceptance of the Shideman award, Ignarro delivered the same speech he gave in Stockholm, Sweden. Ignarro, now a professor at UCLA, is the 15th Nobel prize winner to be affiliated with the University of Minnesota. Five other alumni and nine faculty are also Nobel laureates.





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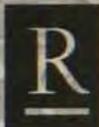
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Minding Their Own B us ine sses

MEET SIX ALUMNI who weeded through business ideas, teed up their assets, logged on to success, and relish the freedom of running their own companies.
By Andy Steiner and Diane Richard
Photographs by Dan Marshall

SOMETIMES THE CLOCK READS 8 P.M. before Jennifer Alstad is able to return the voice-mail messages left for her earlier in the day.

The message she in turn leaves might sound something like this: Tap, tap, tap, tap, tap. (The staccato sound of fingertips on a keyboard. Lasts about three seconds. Then a voice.) "Hi. This is Jennifer. I just want you to know that it's been a really, really crazy week here and—yeah, [laughs]—that it's probably going to get a little chaotic."

Alstad is president and co-founder of B-Swing, Inc., and the distracted manner and offhand humor of her late-night phone message is typical of the improvisational spirit of a new entrepreneur.

Alstad's company, which develops Web pages for clients such as Piper Jaffray Companies, Room & Board, and the University of Minnesota, has turned such improvisation into both an art and a serious business. Operating in a field that didn't even exist a decade ago, B-Swing takes traditional marketing to a whole new medium, complete with plenty of riffs. (Indeed, the firm's name is short for "Bemsha Swing," a song by Thelonius Monk.)

Jennifer Alstad
B-Swing

"A lot of firms that do interactive work aren't interactive firms. They're design firms that do Web pages," says Alstad. "We're extremely focused on what we do. We only do Web-based applications." The company's motto is simply "We build Web sites for people."

B-Swing's Web site for specialty retailer Department 56, for example, informs visitors on the latest ceramic collectibles, holds the entire product catalog and a geographic database of more than 12,000 dealers, offers an interactive trivia quiz, maintains an on-line gift registry, and can handle as many as 1 million viewers a day—which it did last November. "It's stuff that lets people interact with the product and set off ideas," Alstad says. The result is an experience that develops rapport between customer and client, instead of a linear "flat file" like so many static pages found on the Web.

Alstad's career has been anything but linear either. Upon graduating from the University with a degree in political science, the Granite Falls, Minnesota, native went to work as a research associate for the Kettering Foundation in Dayton, Ohio, after which she joined the Institute for National Policy Research in Taiwan.

She returned to Minnesota and the University, this time as an employee—working as an executive assistant to the dean of the College of Liberal Arts. There, she was asked to coordinate the development of the college's Web site.

What she found was an opportunity. "The problem-solving aspects of interactive work were very intriguing, not to mention the strategy around how you interact with people on a regular basis on-line," she says.

So she assembled a team of peers, each with different backgrounds—programming, analysis, and design—and together they conjured up B-Swing. In May 1997, she left the University; a year later, B-Swing completed the College of Liberal Arts' Web site. CLA remains a client, along with several other University departments.

Today, Alstad and her co-founders—Eric Freeberg,



"THE PROBLEM-SOLVING ASPECTS

of interactive work were very intriguing, not to mention the strategy around how you interact with people on a regular basis on-line."

Matt Borland, and Thomas Walsh—are forced to turn down work, despite a staff

that has grown to 15. "A lot of people are driven by revenue goals," she says. "We're driven by work we want to do."

Credit cards and loans from parents financed the start-up, located in an old warehouse on Washington Avenue in Minneapolis, in spacious, sherbet-toned digs. A rarity, the business turned a profit within its first six months. The company is set to make \$1 million in revenues this year.

Still, B-Swing's main challenge is finding a balance. A newly instituted "use it or lose it" vacation policy is one way Alstad is trying to make sure her colleagues, in her own words, "have a

life." (Were Alstad to have more free time, she'd be cooking.)

For now, though, it's meals on the fly. And that's OK with Alstad. "We feel really fortunate," she says. "Not that many people can make the world the way they want it to be." —D.R.

ONE THING ANNOYS GOLFERS more than hunting for a brand-new ball in knee-high, mosquito-infested rough: reserving a tee time.

The clubhouse phone is busy for hours, and, when you finally ring through, the prime times are gone. Then you hang up and call another course, and another.

TeeMaster makes reserving a tee time seem like a one-foot putt. Founded in 1996 by four University of Minnesota graduates, the Minnetonka, Minnesota, company runs a centralized

Internet-based reservation system. Golfers reach TeeMaster either by phone, its Web site at www.teemaster.com, or by contacting participating golf courses whose systems automatically roll inquiries to TeeMaster's database. Just like that, golfers can check availability and book tee times in real time, 24 hours a day.

"The Internet supplies a more efficient system of supply and demand," explains Michael Hsu ('88), TeeMaster's chairman and co-founder, along with Jay Adams ('88), and Bob Arnold ('89, '96). The fourth founder, Jay Cornica, is no longer with the company.

Besides offering convenience for golfers, the electronic system benefits golf course operators as well. Course fees per player per round range approximately from \$18 to \$100. Courses try to fill all their slots each day, but when golfers can't get through by phone or don't show at their reserved time, the courses lose money.

"Before, golfers had incentive to abuse the golf course, making a number of reservations with the intention of using just one," Hsu says. With TeeMaster, not only can courses fill slots around the clock, the credit-card reservation system guarantees they don't lose money if a party doesn't show.

Working in golf hasn't helped the founders' game any, however. With 70- to 80-hour workweeks, they rarely have time to amble to the tee box. The idea of TeeMaster didn't come about

during an inspired putt, either. Dispersed throughout the Midwest in careers in technology consulting, management, strategic planning, and sales and marketing, the founders (former Sigma Chi fraternity brothers) reunited over martinis at South Beach, a club in the Minneapolis warehouse district, one night in 1996. There, after years of tossing business ideas around, Hsu introduced the notion of an Internet-based golf service. It caught on. The men quit their jobs and pulled up stakes, incorporating the company later that year.

Although the company has more irons, woods, and putters propped in corners and on shelves than it has office plants, the headquarters befit a start-up. Far from the verdant velvet of a fairway, TeeMaster and 20 full- and part-time employees are housed in a nondescript building on Interstate 394. Arnold's office looks into a dentist's.

The business faces two main challenges, the partners say, the first of which is staying focused. The founders have big dreams. After exploiting golf courses, they imagine pursuing other reservation-intensive industries, such as hair salons, clinics, and restaurants. Moreover, Hsu says TeeMaster "would be a really fun pub-

lic company." To help the company keep focused, Peter Hitch, a seasoned entrepreneur in sports and technology, became TeeMaster's president last October.

The second challenge lies in swaying a conservative, low-tech industry to go high tech. "It's a radical change from paper to Internet technology," says Adams, head of sales and customer relations.

So far, their proselytizing has proved successful. Since 1997, TeeMaster's golf-course customers have tripled to 52 in four mar-



Jay
Adams
Michael
Hsu
Bob
Arnold
TeeMaster

kets: Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, and Florida. That makes TeeMaster the second largest golf service in the country, according to Arnold. Still, it's a puddle compared with the pool of more than 11,000 public courses nationwide.

Yet growth, for a company that expects to make \$2 million in revenues this year, means capital. In March, the company completed its first round of private financing, an undisclosed amount to the tune of seven figures, Arnold says, and plans another round in the summer.

"We think in the next couple years we can be number one," Arnold says. "You've got to move fast and grow fast if you want to be the big player."
—D.R.

IT ALL STARTED WITH THE TOMATOES. Back in the spring of 1989, Lisa Nicholson ('89, '93) planted a garden, and by that summer she was facing a bumper crop of the red beauties—more tomatoes than she could possibly eat, and even more than she could foist off on her friends and family.

So she set to making salsa. First, Nicholson brought her savory blend of tomatoes, peppers, herbs, and onions to parties or gave

it away as gifts. As the rave reviews mounted, she decided to try to sell it. So in 1990, Nicholson, then a law student at the University of Minnesota, set up a mini-salsa factory in her kitchen and made heaping piles of the stuff.

"That summer, instead of getting an internship, I went down to the Farmers' Market and sold salsa out of the back of my truck," Nicholson recalls. "The first day, five cases sold out within an hour and a half. I've been making salsa ever since."

After a successful introduction at the Farmers' Market, Nicholson's product, aptly named Salsa Lisa, was ripe for expansion. She kept up her summer-salsa/winter-school regime for a few more years, and in 1993 completed her law degree (she earned her undergraduate degree from the Carlson School of Management). But instead of pursuing a legal career, Nicholson followed her passion, and turned her salsa business into a year-round venture.

"By then I was married to a lawyer, and I decided that he did enough law for the both of us," Nicholson says. "I'd always dreamed of having my own business, and this seemed like the perfect opportunity."

Nicholson first called several Twin Cities co-ops, and nearly everyone she contacted eventually signed up to carry her product. One of her first customers was Wedge Natural Foods Co-op in Minneapolis. "Probably what helped was that I guaranteed that if it didn't sell, I'd buy it back. That way they had nothing to lose," she says.

Nicholson's determination to succeed, combined with healthy demand for her product, helped make Salsa Lisa a thriving company in just a few years—no small feat for a small start-up venture. At first, Nicholson kept her overhead low, making all the salsa herself and renting space in a caterer's kitchen.

By her second year, however, sales were strong enough that Nicholson took on investors and built her own \$40,000 kitchen in Columbia Heights. Now she employs eight part-time kitchen workers who help her make huge batches of fresh salsa every week. Business is still booming, and the company is expanding: Salsa Lisa is now available in 120 stores in the Twin Cities, as well as in Rochester, St. Cloud, Mankato, and Brainerd, Minnesota, and in Madison, Wisconsin. While she prefers not to disclose revenues, Nicholson does note that her sales have doubled every year and plans to have Salsa Lisa in stores across the Upper Midwest.

While she's overjoyed by her company's rapid success, Nichol-

son says her goal is to keep the work fun. She still manages to put in just 25 hours a week, freeing up time to spend with her three children, who range in age from 10 months to 5 years. She works hard, she says, to maintain the quality of her product, remembering the raves that inspired her to start the business in the first place.

"Every week so far, it's still the same thing," Nicholson says. "We make the salsa, and I taste it, and I say, 'Ooh, that's good salsa.' If I ever stop saying that, then I'll know it's time to quit." —A.S



IT'S AFTER HOURS ON A TUESDAY, and Michael Miller is staying late. Although he's busy with a visitor, he stops midsentence when the phone rings.

"Excuse me. This'll just take a moment," he whispers and picks up the receiver. "Hello. Hound Dog Products," he says.

Later, Miller ('91) explains that he hates to miss a single phone call. "They're *all* important," he says. "I hope this company never gets so big that we forget to give our customers the attention they deserve. If that means I have to answer the phone by myself, then I'm happy to do it."

Miller's Bloomington, Minnesota, company, Hound Dog Prod-

ucts, makes low-tech gardening tools—including the Turf Hound (a lawn aerating tool) and the Weed Hound (a weed remover)—sold around the country. Acting on his stepfather's advice, Miller started the company in 1994, not long after his 30th birthday. Ever since, it's been his vocation and avocation, a much loved pas-

time that occupies most of his waking hours. "My stepfather always told me to spend my 20s earning money, and my 30s running my own business," says Miller, 36, list-

few calls, Miller says, including one from a man who said he had land for sale.

After Miller told the caller he wasn't interested in buying his land, the man said, "I've got something else I'd like you to see." It was a strange meeting, but a fateful one. The man took Miller out to his garage, where he showed him an invention he'd been perfecting, a tool designed to pull dandelions and other weeds without the user having to bend over to reach the ground.

"He needed a tool like that because he'd injured his back in a construction accident," Miller says. "I remember that first time like it was yesterday, standing in his back yard watching him pull those weeds up. . . . I knew this was the thing I was looking for. Ever since, I've never seen a product that's gotten more *words* than this one. It was right on the money."

Miller quickly negotiated rights to the invention, which eventually became the Weed Hound, the company's keystone product. He quit his day job, betting on the chance that he could make the Weed Hound—and similar products—fly off the shelves.

"If you really have the bug to start your own business, then you've just gotta do it," he says, adding that the skills he developed during the M.B.A. program bolstered his confidence. "You don't want to be 100 years old some day, sitting on your porch whittling, saying, 'I wish I would have done that thing back then.'"

As it turns out, Hound Dog Products was a no-risk venture. Since its first year, the company has grown by leaps and bounds—to five gardening-tool products, seven full-time employees, and projected 1999 revenues of \$6 million. And it's still in expansion mode: by 2000, Miller plans to double his employee roster and offer a line of 20 gardening products.

Owning his own company has been hard work, but Miller loves it. He wouldn't trade the freedom, creativity, and independence for anything else. "I'd rather clean toilets in my own company than work for somebody else again," Miller says. "From here on out, I'm on my own."

—A.S.

Michael Miller Hound Dog Products



"I REMEMBER THAT FIRST TIME

like it was yesterday,
standing in his back yard
watching him pull those weeds up. . . .
I knew this was the thing
I was looking for."

ing his impressive résumé, including an M.B.A. from the Carlson School of Management and stints at Procter & Gamble and Pillsbury. "I counted the days until I turned 30, and then I flew down to see him in Florida and said, 'Let's do something about your suggestion.' He said OK, and that's how it got started."

Miller had his stepfather's support—and even a little financial backing—but he still didn't have a business idea. He placed an ad in the paper (another suggestion from his stepfather) saying he was willing to invest in new business ventures. The ad garnered a

anything else. "I'd rather clean toilets in my own company than work for somebody else again," Miller says. "From here on out, I'm on my own."

Andy Steiner is assistant editor for the Utne Reader and lives in St. Paul. Diane Richard is a freelance writer who lives in Minneapolis.

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BOOKS

EDITED BY SHELLY FLING

Compiling *Minnesota* magazine's annual roundup of books is both a joy and a job. It is a pleasure to collect dozens of books written by University alumni and faculty and read the essays, stories, novels, and poems inside. It's like being forced to eat truffles.

Then it becomes work. From the books stacked on the office floor, desks, and chairs, we begin sifting and sorting. We are able to highlight just a handful of books in the magazine, and so we painstakingly choose this one over that until we end up with a diverse mix of voices and genres (although all nonscholarly). Then we read and reread select passages in each book to find a scant page or two that, when plucked out of context and plunked on a magazine page, will stand up unsupported and yet be enticing enough to make the reader want more.

We hope that is the result. The following pages contain five such excerpts—from a novel, a book of short stories, a collection of poems, and two memoirs—followed by a list of other noteworthy books. *Minnesota* magazine is proud to recognize these authors in its pages.

I Could Tell You Stories: Sojourns in the Land of Memory

BY PATRICIA HAMPL, '68

W.W. NORTON & COMPANY, 1999



knocked around a jumble of jobs for ten years, working on the copy desk of the Saint Paul newspaper, recording oral histories in nursing homes around town—Jewish, Catholic, Presbyterian. I edited a magazine for the local public radio station. I lived in a rural commune on nothing at all, eating spaghetti and parsley with others as poetry-besotted as I, squealing like the city girl I was when a field mouse scurried across the farmhouse floor. I went to graduate school for two years—two more years of reading

poetry. A decade of this and that.

Then, when I was thirty-two, my first book was accepted for publication, a collection of poems. My mother was ecstatic. She wrote in her calendar for that June day—practically crowing—"First Book Accepted!!" as if she were signing a contract of her own, one which committed her to overseeing an imaginary multiple-book deal she had negotiated with the future on my behalf.

She asked to see the manuscript out of sheer delight and pride. My first reader.

And here began my career of betrayal. The opening poem in the manuscript, called "Mother/Daughter Dance," was agreeably imagistic, the predictable struggle of the suffocated daughter and the protean mother padded with nicely opaque figurative language. No problem. Only at the end, rising to a crescendo of impacted meaning, had the poem, seemingly of its own volition, reached out of its complacent obscurity to filch a plain and serviceable fact—my mother's epilepsy. There it was, the *grand mal* seizure as the finishing touch, a personal fact that morphed into a symbol, opening the poem, I knew, wide, wide, wide.

"You cannot publish that poem," she said on the telephone, not for once my stage mother, egging me on. The voice of the betrayed, I heard for the first time, is not sad. It is coldly outraged.



"Why not?" I said with brazen innocence.

Just who did I think I was?

A writer, of course. We get to do this—tell secrets and get away with it. It's called, in book reviews and graduate seminars, courage. *She displays remarkable courage in exploring the family's. . . the book is sustained by his exemplary courage in revealing. . .*

I am trying now to remember if I cared about her feelings at all. I know I did not approve of the secrecy in which for years she had wrapped the dark jewel of her condition. I did not feel she *deserved* to be so upset about something that should be seen in purely practical terms. I hated—feared, really—the freight she loaded on the idea of epilepsy, her belief that she would lose her job if anyone "found out," her baleful stories of people having to cross the border into Iowa to get married because "not so long ago" Minnesota refused to issue marriage licenses to epileptics. The idea of Iowa being "across the border" was itself absurd.

She had always said she was a feminist before there was feminism, but where was that buoyant *Our Bodies, Ourselves* spirit? Vanished. When it came to epilepsy, something darkly medieval had bewitched her, making it impossible to appeal to her usually wry common sense. I rebelled against her horror of seizures, though her own had been successfully controlled by medication for years. It was

all, as I told her, no big deal. Couldn't she see that?

Stony silence.

She was outraged by my betrayal. I was furious at her theatrical secrecy. Would you feel this way, I asked sensibly, if you had diabetes?

"This isn't diabetes," she said darkly, the rich unction of her shame refusing my hygienic approach.

Even as we faced off, I felt obscurely how thin my reasonableness was. The gravitas of her disgrace infuriated me partly because it had such natural force. I was a reed easily snapped in the fierce gale of her shame. I sensed obliquely that her loyalty to her secret bespoke a firmer grasp of the world than my poems could imagine. But poetry was everything! I knew that. Her ferocious secrecy made me feel foolish, a lightweight, but for no reason I could articulate. Perhaps I had, as yet, no secret of my own to guard, no humiliation against which I measured myself and the cruelly dispassionate world with its causal, intrusive gaze.

Memoirist Patricia Hampl is also the author of A Romantic Education and Virgin Time; Spillville, a prose mediation on Dvorák in Iowa; and two collections of poetry. She earned her bachelor's degree in English from the University in 1968 and is now a Regents' Professor.

The Self-Made Brain Surgeon and Other Stories

BY MARK HARRIS, '56

BISON BOOKS, 1999

FROM "TOUCHING IDAMAE LOW"

Auerman was a lame duck. His office at Kemperer was no longer the office it had been. Some matters formerly referred to him now bypassed him for consideration elsewhere. He said to his wife, Elizabeth, one night, "Do you realize that I'm no longer an authorized signature?"

Nobody knew where he'd be going, or when, and few people suspected that he himself did not know. Between the Fourth of July and Christmas he'd gone off six times to six corporations, no secret about it, two days here, three days there, for which he had claimed from Kemperer travel expenses three times but paid his way the other three, according to his determination whether he had gone more truly on company business or his own.

To sound out the job he had in mind for himself, Auerman had traveled to Tipex in Seattle, Park Products in Portland (Oregon),

Whitman Tool in Los Angeles, Dennis O'Toole Tool in Denver, Tourtour in Minneapolis, and Toba Steel in Pittsburgh. With his own company, Kemperer, where he was now an unauthorized signature, these were seven of the "big eight" of a not very big industry. Winckton was the eighth. For no particular reason it hadn't entered his head to try Winckton up to this time.

Some people said Auerman was playing his cards close to his chest, but he had never been a card player. His game was golf and his customary opponent was his wife, from whom he had never won a match in his life. Her handicap was twelve, and she knew they'd go nowhere that didn't have a good golf course and a good veterinarian. Their children had dispersed in the friendliest ways to distant parts, leaving dogs and cats behind.

Kemperer's success was partly due to Auerman, who was director of personnel. People knew that he knew what he was doing. He had said yes or no finally to questions of the fate of five thousand persons entering or departing Kemperer's work force over the years, and the older he grew, the shrewder. He never pretended to know things he did not know. If he was doubtful he said, I am doubtful. Whatever he said, it was trustworthy.

He was a little eccentric, but not much. He was consumed by the moral necessity to do the right thing rather than the wrong thing. He had done that morally wrong thing on three or four occasions in the past, and his conscience had troubled him.

On those occasions he had been especially helpful in the way of employment at Kemperer to women to whom he had been attracted on sight. He had affectionately touched them when perhaps he should not have . . . oh, well, he had had a love affair or two or three. Thereafter he had felt obligated to those women. He gave them more positive endorsements than he would have given young men or plain women with equal qualifications.

It was the danger of touching. All religions knew the danger of touching and kept the bride and groom apart beforehand. The three or four women whom Auerman befriended were slender, tall, handsome, long-legged women who carried themselves well. They were upper-middle-management, and therefore sophisticated if not formally educated, and he continued to be helpful to them in their careers at Kemperer long after he had lost his strong desire to touch them: His moral obligation outlived his passion.

Mark Harris ('56) is the author of 12 other novels, including Bang the Drum Slowly, which he wrote while attending the University to earn his doctorate in American studies. The stories in this collection are from 1946 to 1993. He lives in Tempe, Arizona.



Cabato Sentora

POEMS BY RAY GONZALEZ

BOA EDITIONS, LTD., 1999

"THE ANGELS OF JUÁREZ, MEXICO"



Sometimes, they save people from drowning in the river.
Their faces are the color of the water,
wings soaked in the oil of crossing
keeping them from leaving the border.
The oldest angel is a man from the last century
whose white hair hangs to the ground.
He floats above the water each time he saves
a *mojado* who tries to cross in the raft,
falling into the current to be somebody.

The angels of Juárez look over the *colonias*,
nibble on the cardboard shacks like the rats
they never fear because rats have their own angels.
When children fall into the poison waters,
the angels dance above the glowing waves,
pull out the chosen child with a kiss,
toss him on the bank for others to find.

These angels know about revolution and dying,
prefer to hover over the Rio Grande,
where the bodies move at night,
fighting for air some angels mistake
as a grasp toward heaven.

The angels of Juárez sometimes hide
from the desire to cross,
to take a chance and send a chant
over the dirty waters, the latest
drowning victim wondering
why the tired old man he was told
to look for never extended a hand.

The angels appear in the night,
listen to the crush of water as the course
of the border tightens with searchlights
and the hidden green cars of patrol.
They swim over the electricity,
wings humming to create a magnet
that makes it easier to cross.

The angels don't know
something is going to end.
They don't appear near the churches,
the missions, or the kneeling altars.
They are not part of the prayer,
the ritual, or the escape.
They know the river is moving faster,
churning toward the horizon
that accepts fewer souls each year.

The angels hover to make sure
the water keeps flowing,
mud of the barefoot moving
to the other side of the river where
no angels dwell because this side
was cleared of faith long ago,
waiting streets of El Paso never
mistaken for the place of angels.

Ray Gonzalez, an assistant professor of English at the University, is a poet, essayist, and editor born in El Paso, Texas. He is the author of five books of poetry.

Prairie Son

BY DENNIS M. CLAUSEN, '65, '67

MID-LIST PRESS, 1999

I received word that I was to meet with one of my commanding officers. I thought maybe it had something to do with dividing our unit into two groups and sending each to a different location overseas. I thought perhaps my c. o. would tell me where I was going.

I walked over to one of the headquarters buildings and waited on a bench in a hallway for a few minutes before I was ushered into the officer's quarters. The officer gestured for me to sit down in a wooden chair in front of his desk. "Private Clausen," he began solemnly, "I'm sorry to be the one to tell you this, but we received word this morning that your father had a heart attack a few days ago."

"Is he okay?" I asked.

"Yes, his doctor expects him to recover. But he can no longer farm by himself. So this does change our plans for you."

"How?"

"Son," the officer slowly explained, "this war will be fought and won on two fronts—on the battlefield and at home. Since you are the only son of a farmer who can no longer farm his land by himself, we will be sending you back home to help your father grow the crops that we will need to feed our troops. You will, of course, receive an honorable discharge."

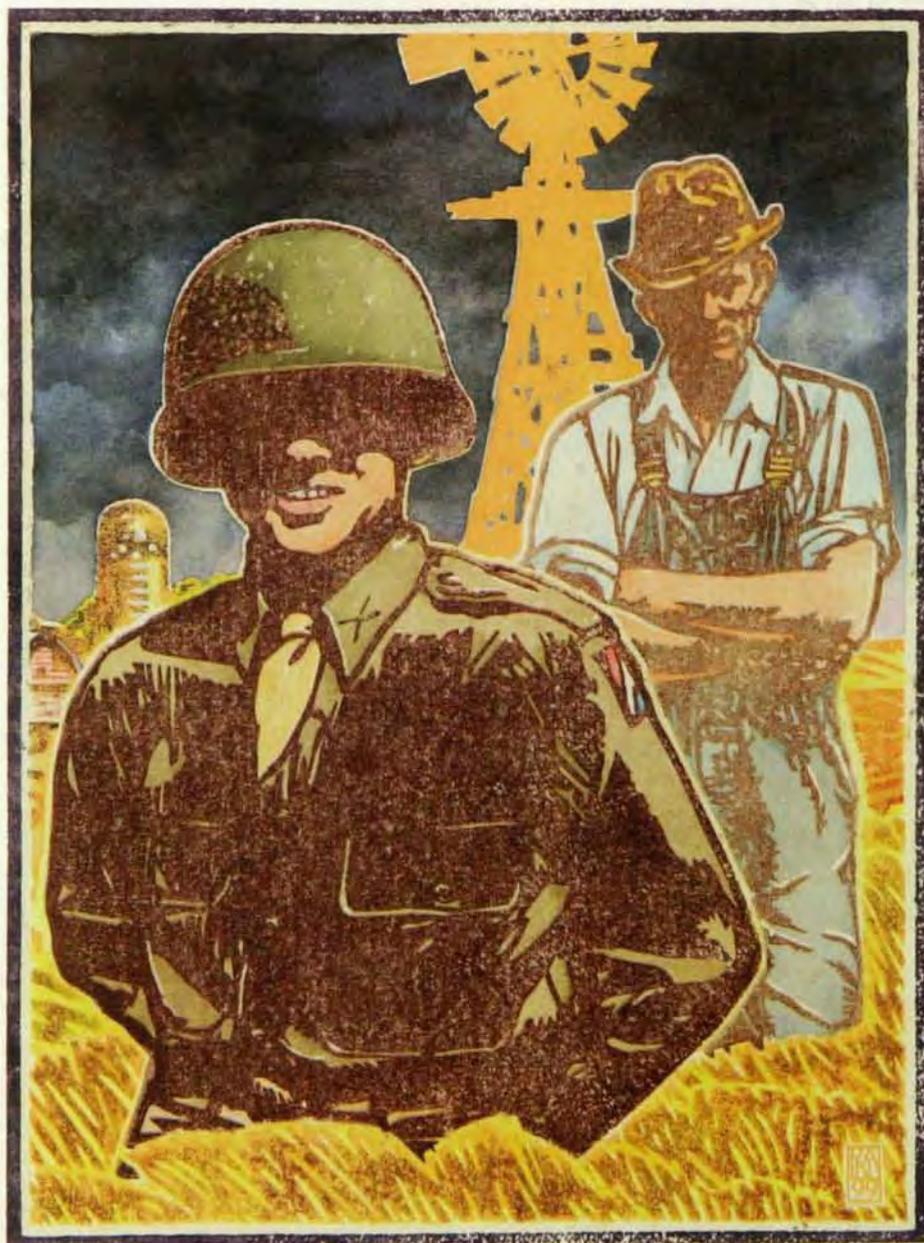
I was too stunned to know what to say at first. A part of me understood that this quirk of fate may very well have saved my life. But I would be leaving behind other men in the Minnesota National Guard unit to whom I had grown incredibly close over the previous months. I would also leave behind my grand adventure in California—and return to my life as Ma and Pa's hired man.

I had a vision of Pa standing in the

open doorway of my classroom in the Alberta High School, telling my teacher that he needed to pull me out of school so I could do chores. Now, he had managed to pull me out of World War II. I half expected him to show up at the open doorway of the officer's quarters and escort me back home. Of all the ways my experiences at Camp Haan might have ended, this was the one I would never had predicted.

"When do I leave?" I asked the officer.

"Tomorrow morning," he replied. "We'll process your discharge papers immediately. Stop by this office and pick them up before you board the train."



Using his father's writings and recollections, Dennis M. Clausen ('65, '67) reconstructed Lloyd Augustine Clausen's life on the Minnesota prairie after being adopted by a farm couple. Clausen earned his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Minnesota, Morris, and his master's degree from the Twin Cities campus. He now lives in Escondido, California, and is an English professor at the University of San Diego.

Our Sometime Sister

BY NORAH LABINER, '96
COFFEE HOUSE PRESS, 1998

I made my way barefoot through the darkness down the stairs to the kitchen. There, sitting in the pearly spotlight, under the dim glow of the track lighting, was Martin Hamlin at the table in his bathrobe eating a bowl of cereal. He was staring out at his lake through the patterned windowpanes. I tried to back out of the room.

"I heard you," he said. "I heard you take each stair one step at a time."

I didn't move.

"Surely you must be hungry," he said. "There is pizza in the refrigerator. Have something and sit down here with me."

He didn't say another word or turn or look at me. He waited by sounds. The opening of the refrigerator door. The brief pause of light. The knife separating the cold pizza into slices. My feet on the tile floor. The plate on the table. Each sound went beyond itself, multiplied, amplified by his patience.

"It is an easy enough thing," he intoned richly, rolling words around on his tongue like chocolate stars. "To say that you don't like something. It is even easy to admit that while you do not like something, you allow that others might. It is far more difficult to turn your understanding inward and question the basis of your fears."

I took a bite of my pizza. Cold cheese and red sauce. Some ancient communion, the blood and body. A symbol could go as far, and then, yes, further than it was forced. The father. The past. Elsinore. Hawks and handsaws. Springes to catch woodcocks. Here sat the dazzling new king at his prie-dieu. He poured more skim milk into his bowl and stirred the cereal carefully, from sides to center.

"Pearl," he said, "do you know what it is that I am asking when I ask you to stay here with us?"

"What does it matter?" I said. I stared at the lights on the docks shining green in the darkness. "I have no place else to go."

"Your place is here with us," he said. "Stay and learn to be happy."

"People can do that?"

"Of course," he said magnanimously. "Don't you understand what it is that I do? I don't just write words or help people work out their problems, or as some of the grateful say *beal*. I give them something no one else can, the power to change their lives and more importantly, their minds."



"Brainwashing?"

"Since I was a child," he said, "I have been, there is no other way to say it, *blessed*. I have had the talent, an ability to move people to change, the gift, if you will, to bring about compromise."

He was glowing young and ancient, impossibly ageless.

"Have you heard the expression," he raised his cereal spoon aloft for emphasis. It cast a silvery light, suddenly less a piece of flatware than a divining rod. "A card fallen is a card played?"

I shook my head, no.

"It means we don't always have a choice. We work with the hand we are dealt. A misdeal, a fallen card, these are things, years, relationships that we cannot reclaim."

"Your point being—?"

"You won't have again the hand you were dealt as a child."

Our Sometime Sister is Norah Labiner's first novel. She earned her master's in English from the University in 1996. She lives in Minneapolis and is at work on her second novel.

recommended reading

More books by University alumni and faculty members published in the past year

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ARCHITECTURE

Ralph Rapson: Sixty Years of Modern Design

By Jane King Hession, '95, Rip Rapson, and Bruce N. Wright, '74, '96
Foreword by William Pedersen, '61
Afton Historical Society Press, 1999

Rapson—architect, artist, furniture designer, and teacher—has been called the most influential Minnesota architect of the 20th century, having played a leading role in the development and practice of modern architecture and design nationally and internationally. In post-war Europe, his designs for nine U.S. embassies established an international model for the American embassy abroad. He became head of the University's School of Architecture in 1954 and stayed there for 30 years, but through it all he never lost sight of architecture's potential for community betterment and enrichment of the human experience. Includes 300 photographs and illustrations.

BIOGRAPHY

Women of Minnesota: Selected Biographical Essays

Edited by Barbara Stuhler, '45, '52, and Gretchen Kreuter
Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1998

Twenty years after it first published *Women of Minnesota*, the Minnesota Historical Society Press has issued a revised version. Reprinted are 16 essays on women from the early days of the Minnesota Territory to the opening days of the feminist movement—including moralist and reformer Harriet E. Bishop, women's college founder Mary Molloy, and Senate candidate Anna Dickie. Stuhler, a University alumnus and retired professor and administrator, and Kreuter have added an essay on women's accomplishments over the past two decades, highlighting the number of judges, business leaders, and sports figures who have risen to prominence. And they've added 105 brief biographies to the original list of noteworthy women, living and dead, of Minnesota.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

I Need a Snake and It's My Birthday, Too!

By Lynne Jonell and Petra Mathers
G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1998 and 1999

Jonell, who attended the University for three years in the mid-1970s, has teamed with illustrator Mathers to create several children's books. The two most recent—*I Need a Snake and It's My Birthday, Too!*, for children ages 4 to 8—deal with the small struggles of childhood that call upon children's imaginations for their solutions. These follow *Mommy Go Away!*, ages 2 to 4, published in 1997.

M Is for Minnesota

By Dori Hillestad Butler
University of Minnesota Press, 1998

Butler, who attended the University in the mid-1980s, handpicked 26 characteristics unique to Minnesota for this children's alphabet book. And a few are unique to the University—for example, "G is for Gopher State" tells how the Gopher moniker evolved, and "O is for Open-Heart Surgery" explains that the first successful open-heart surgery was performed on a 5-year-old girl at the U in 1952. Illustrated by Janice Lee Porter.

FICTION

The River Warren

By Kent Meyers, '77
Hungry Mind Press, 1998

Meyers' novel tells the story of what happens after trucker Two-Speed Crandall crashes his semitrailer in downtown Cloten, Minnesota, killing himself and his wife. The accident sets in motion the rumors, myths, gossip, and memories about town, told in the voices of seven citizens.

Speed

By Mark Harris, '56
Bison Books, 1998

With his characteristic wit and charm, Harris, who earned his doctorate in American studies from the University, tells the funny and sad story of two brothers growing up in Mount Vernon, New York, in the 1920s and '30s.

The narrator is glib and enterprising and favored by his family and everyone else. His brother, Speed, is saintly and the more gifted of the two but has a disabling stutter and is doomed to failure. First published in 1990, the novel tells of the brothers' psychologically complex relationship, especially when something happens to Speed. (See page 26 for an excerpt from Harris's *The Self-Made Brain Surgeon and Other Stories*, published by Bison Books this spring.)

Trip Sheets

By Ellen Hawley, '81
Milkweed Editions, 1998

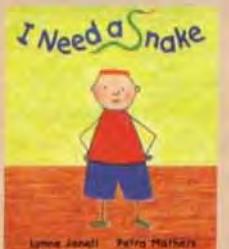
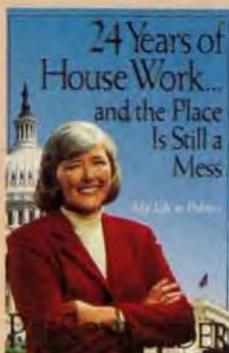
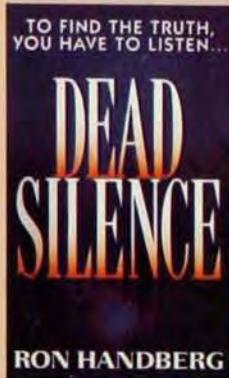
Like many people under 30 in the '90s, the main character of this debut novel is in a transitional job. Cath Rahven is a cab driver who has a perfect sense of direction for getting her fares from point A to point B. But when it comes to the direction of her own life, her compass is out of whack. She decides to take charge of her life, but it won't be easy. It involves taking risks, trusting her instincts, quitting her cab-driving job to pursue a career with her social work degree, and coming out to her family.

MEMOIRS

Barefoot on Crane Island

By Marjorie Myers Douglas, '33, '34
Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1998

In this fond reminiscence, Douglas, the author of *Eggs in the Coffee, Sheep in the Corn: My 17 Years as a Farmwife*, tells of her idyllic childhood summers in the 1920s. Every year, the Myerses left their home near the University as soon as school let out for the summer and headed to their cottage on Crane Island, in the remote western end of Lake Minnetonka. Marjorie—the middle child and only girl in the family—and her two brothers spent long days swimming and exploring. They watched sunsets from canoes. And they slipped out after dark to meet in the icehouse with other children in their "pirate gang." Includes photographs.



Shaping My Feminist Life

By Kathleen C. Ridder, '47, '60
Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1998

Ridder recounts her past and her motivation to pursue a life of community service and personal accomplishment. Born in New York City, she arrived in Duluth in 1943 at the age of 20, newly married into a socially prominent family of newspaper publishers. She earned degrees in English and history from the University of Minnesota, Duluth (later earning a degree in education on the Twin Cities campus), and over the decades became involved in Minnesota Republican politics, the Urban League, alternative education, the civil rights movement, and the women's athletics program at the University of Minnesota. She tells of her marriage, raising four children, nurturing her spiritual life, and her conviction that privilege and position bring with them the obligation to work toward the social good of the community.

24 Years of House Work . . . and the Place Is Still a Mess

By Pat Schroeder, '61
Andrews McMeel Publishing, 1998

Schroeder, who earned her bachelor's degree in history from the University and her law degree from Harvard, ran for the House seat for Colorado's First District in 1972 simply to voice views that weren't being heard. To everyone's surprise, including her own, she won the primary and then beat the Republican incumbent in the general election. With humor and warmth, her memoir tells of her quarter century in politics—including her struggle to be taken seriously by her House colleagues; her assessments of the presidents she served with, from Nixon to Clinton; and her efforts to forward such women's issues as pay equity and breast cancer research. Includes 48 pages of photos.

The Witness of Combines

By Kent Meyers, '77
University of Minnesota Press, 1998

Meyers, who earned his English degree from the University of Minnesota, Morris, won a Minnesota Book Award in the memoir category for this collection of essays. When Meyers was 16, his father died of a stroke. There was corn to plant, cattle to feed, and a farm to keep going. In these essays, Meyers recounts his father's death and what followed and reflects on families, farms, and rural life in the Midwest.

MYSTERY/SUSPENSE

The Beckoning Door and The Chuckling Fingers

By Mabel Seeley, '26
Afton Historical Society Press, 1998 and 1999
Mystery writer Seeley (1903-91) has been called the Agatha Christie of the Midwest. She wrote seven mysteries between 1938 and 1954, and the Afton Historical Society Press is reprinting several. *The Beckoning Door* (1950) concerns Cathy Kingman, resentful that circumstances have kept her trapped in a small midwestern town, and her cousin Sylvia, who callously breaks up Cathy's romance and inherits the estate Cathy believes

should be hers. Suddenly, Sylvia turns up dead and Cathy must find the murderer or stand accused. *The Chuckling Fingers* (1941) takes place at Fiddler's Fingers, a pine-grown estate on Lake Superior, and tells the story of terror and despair that beset the Heaton family, Minnesota lumber tycoons. *The Whistling Shadow*, set in Minneapolis, will be reprinted this fall.

Dead Silence

By Ron Handberg, '60
HarperPaperbacks, 1999

Handberg, who retired as vice president and general manager of WCCO television 10 years ago, has written his fourth book. In this suspense/mystery, three brothers, ages 4 through 8, disappeared along the banks of Mississippi River 15 years earlier. The police ruled that the boys had drowned, but the mother insists they were stolen and are still alive. Alex Collier, investigative journalist and anchor of the Twin Cities' leading late news, is determined to reopen the case. As he hunts for clues, he finds corruption, secrecy, lies, and danger.

NATURAL HISTORY

The Superior North Shore

By Thomas F. Waters
University of Minnesota Press, 1999

Waters, professor emeritus, writes a natural history of the North Shore, giving a detailed account of the region's land, waters, resources, and settlements. He traces the development of the rugged shoreline from Duluth to Thunder Bay to Sault Ste. Marie. He discusses the human history of the area, from the Native Americans to the voyageurs to the modern fishing industry. And he describes the flora and fauna—including the lake's trout and salmon and the towering white and red pines on shore—and the ecological system of the North Shore. Illustrated by Carol Yonker Waters.

POETRY

Aimless Life: Poems 1961-1995

By George T. Wright
North Stone Editions, 1999

Wright, who was a professor of English at the University for 25 years and a Regents' Professor when he retired in 1993, has published a collection of poems that exhibit the depth and breadth of his work. He is a master of numerous poetic forms, and his poems—which cover a variety of themes set across the country and around the world—have been called humorous, ironic, melancholy, critical, and musical.

An Alchemy in the Bones

Poems by William Reichard, '87, '91, '97
New Rivers Press, 1999

Reichard, an alumnus and an academic adviser in University College, has published his first collection of poems—about love, loss, pain, and sickness in the contemporary world. His poems are intelligent, sensual, and lyrical, written to celebrate the life of a contemporary gay man. ■

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Keeping Up Appearances

As the University renovates historic structures, builds anew, and works toward fulfilling its master plan, University gardeners, arborists, and other crews quietly tend to the grounds—planting trees and flowers, maintaining plazas and parks, and preserving a sense of the U’s pride and history. By Sharon Parker



An old postcard shows that the land where Northrop Auditorium now stands was once a medicinal garden for the University Medical School.

Les Potts has cross-sections of tree trunks all around his office—leaning against the walls, behind a round table and a chair, sharing this already small space with maps and plans mounted on foam board.

The grounds superintendent for the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campuses holds court in a double-wide trailer off Como Avenue Southeast in Minneapolis. He picks up one round slice and identifies it as hackberry, another as oak. But the one that is clearly the star of his collection is the 32-inch-diameter slab of bur oak next to the door. It is dotted with little yellow flags marking events in American history: “University Founded, 1851,” reads one; “Minnesota Statehood, 1858,” says another.

The centermost flag reads 1783, when the spiky acorn took

root on the banks of the Mississippi River. A few years ago, the great tree succumbed to a storm, and Potts added a slice of it to his collection. The cross-section of bur oak serves as a library of sorts—a point of reference to aid speculation on the age of various trees on campus.

There’s another massive bur oak, whose branches nearly span the distance between Scott and Wulling halls on Pleasant Avenue. Potts guesses that it’s older than the sample in his trailer. “It’s bigger than 36 inches [in diameter]. I’d hazard a bet it’s got another 75 to 100 years on it,” he says. “The oak with the biggest girth is actually over by Norris Hall,” he adds.

Potts goes back a ways with the University himself, having graduated from the College of Agriculture with a degree in horticulture in 1978 and already an employee at the University’s Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska during his last quarter. In 1981 he returned to the St. Paul campus as a landscape supervisor. In 1986, when the two campuses merged their grounds departments, Potts became grounds superintendent, the position he holds today.

Potts confesses that, despite his more than 20 years at the University, there are some buildings on campus whose interiors he has never seen. But he can tell you about every nook and cranny outside those buildings. Indeed, the vast majority of his and his



Student gardeners Annah Serie (left), a senior, and Kristi Kirwan, who recently graduated but who will work through the summer, tend to flowers planted on the triangular plot in front of Haecker Hall on the St. Paul campus.

crews’ work involves caring for more than 550 acres on the two campuses—creating and maintaining the environment shared by buildings, students, and educators.

Potts’s department has 18 full-time employees, including arborists and gardeners, people who mow the lawns and those who pick up litter. Gardeners also work with crews of part-time student employees, performing a variety of tasks, from planting and weeding to building retaining walls. Some work is contracted out, such as sodding and large-tree planting (the U has a 44-inch tree spade for planting smaller trees). A landscape architect and a full-time mechanic, to maintain the department’s growing fleet of equipment, were added this spring.



Before and after: The grounds crew maintains the plaza garden above the Church Street Garage. The land used to be a parking lot.

“We have good people in grounds; they have the skill level and pride in what they do,” Potts says.

One of them is Jim Weber, who, together with fellow gardener Paul Kline, supervises a crew of four students on various plant installations and special projects. Weber brings 21 years of pro-



Jim Weber plants a tree on the Minneapolis campus. The grounds crew will plant more than the usual number of trees this year and next to replace the nearly 80 trees lost in May 1998 storms.



The University's master plan blends the visions of landscape architect Horace Cleveland and architect Cass Gilbert. Cleveland believed buildings should be placed with careful consideration of the natural lay of the land, such as was done on the northwest corner of campus. Gilbert believed order should be imposed on the landscape, with buildings arranged at right angles, such as those along Northrop Mall.

fessional experience to his job, and those years in the private sector make him appreciate even more the quality standards on campus. "I love working here. It's by far been one of the best working environments that a person can be in. It's much more enjoyable to be in a controlled work environment where people care about how things are done more than how much they cost," he says.

Weber also appreciates how much his input, and that of other gardeners, is welcomed.

"This place is full of microclimates," he says, referring to the way a sheltered corner can sometimes harbor plants that would otherwise not survive our winters, while an open spot may resemble the Alaskan tundra. "It's a fun challenge at times for gardeners to find things that will thrive and look good. . . . The gardeners' input is really valued."

Weber and his student gardeners plant all season long—installing annuals in spring, perennials at various times throughout the season, woody shrubs and trees in the summer. They do "hardscape" work, too, a term landscapers use to describe structures that support and surround gardens. "We enjoy the variety."

Not only does the work vary, but so does the schedule. During spring planting, they began their days at 7:30 a.m. and worked until midafternoon. About now, on hot midsummer days, Weber will be persuading his crew to hit the dirt by 5 a.m. "If we know it's going to be 85 degrees, we'll come in at five in the morning and work until 1:30. . . . Once you get the students to buy into it, they appreciate it. They don't like to get up so early."

But the rewards of the early shift go beyond the early quitting time. Weber appreciates the peacefulness of the campus at dawn. "It's just sweet," he says, recalling the cheerful callings of the birds at the start of their summer work shift.

Contrary to what one might suppose, this crew is not composed of horticulture students. One student will be entering graduate school for landscape architecture this fall, two are psychology majors, and another is working his way through prerequisites for dentistry.

One of the projects Weber has enjoyed developing and watching grow is a perennial planting between Scott and Wulling halls, behind where the huge bur oak stands sentry on Pleasant. In the shade of that grand tree they have planted azaleas, astilbe, wild ginger, daylilies, ligularia, and hostas. In a sunnier spot grow black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and other perennials and shrubs. A stone path winds through the mounded garden, and boulders are placed here and there. It's easy to see why this is a particular point of pride for the gardeners, its mix of attractive foliage and colorful blooms set off by the boulders makes for an inviting spot. Even on a cool day students sat nearby, taking in the garden.

"That's the part I like the most," he says, "when you're working on something and somebody walks by and says 'wow.'"

One of the less satisfying aspects of the job is seeing their gardens upended by the construction and building renovation going on all over campus. "It's very frustrating. You try to make the best of it," Weber says.

But it isn't just construction that undoes the landscape. Severe weather takes its toll as well. University crews are planting more than the usual number of trees this spring and summer as they start to replace the estimated 60 to 80 lost in the violent storms of May 1998. Potts expects they'll continue to plant replacement trees for another year.

The gardeners appreciate the extra attention given to their territory by University President Mark Yudof's "Beautiful U" initiative, begun in the fall of 1997. Come fall 1999, as the annuals grow leggy and begin to fade, the gardeners will replace them with maroon and gold mums, especially in conspicuous places



such as in front of the student unions on both campuses and at the entrance to the Minneapolis campus at 15th and University avenues. There, the golden black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia goldsturm*) and lacy blue-gray Russian sage will complement the mums attractively.

Potts appreciates the initiative, as well. "Yudof is the first president who has recognized the value of an attractive campus. Here you've got the top man saying, 'Hey, let's make this place look good.'" To make the place look good, the grounds crew staff has grown, some gardeners have been assigned "zones" of the campus so they can feel some ownership of their area, and the grounds crew isn't forced to cut corners the way it has sometimes had to do in the past.

Yudof's emphasis on keeping up appearances, as well as involving the campus community in the effort, is not without precedent. Potts remembers a time when a similar initiative took place on the St. Paul campus, which is sometimes regarded as the more attractive of the two Twin Cities campuses.

"When I came to St. Paul, there had been a major concern about the appearance of the campus. I think it was in 1977," he recalls. "Because of cutbacks, they quit mowing the St. Paul campus. It really focused attention on the appearance of the campus. Somebody came up with [the idea of] involving the campus community in taking care of beautifying the campus. People had fund drives, people raised money for tree planting and dressing up and improving maybe a half-dozen different sites."

In the 1980s, then-vice provost David Lilly took an interest in the appearance of the Minneapolis campus. When the parking lot on Church Street next to Morrill Hall was considered for a five-story above-ground parking ramp, "Lilly said, 'Put the parking underground,'" recalls Clint Hewitt, associate vice president for master planning.

Lilly initiated creating the plaza garden that Potts and his crew installed on top of the underground parking garage, a showy late-summer display of liatris and other perennials. Although the plaza is currently in a state of disarray because of construction projects, the grounds crew fully intends to restore what they informally refer to as Lilly Plaza once the construction work is completed.

Hewitt especially appreciates the Church Street plaza gardens for the history they evoke. "This whole area was at one time a garden," he says. "All of the plants that were used by the University Medical School in its research were grown on campus, in this garden. It was beautiful. The laboratory for the school of medicine was part of the landscaping of the campus."

The master plan for the University calls for a return to historic precedent and vision for each campus in the system, according to its own unique character and history. For Minneapolis, that means a blend of two schools of thought active in the late 19th century: what Hewitt describes as a romantic, nature-centered aesthetic, and the "city beautiful" movement, which imposed order on the landscape through a geometric pattern in the placement of buildings.

Landscape architect Horace Cleveland, designer of the Minneapolis and Chicago park systems, designed the earliest phase of the campus in 1892, according to Hewitt. He laid out the area known as the knoll, the grassy lawn south of University between 14th and 15th avenues, and the surrounding buildings. "Cleve-



Grounds superintendent Les Potts and his crew care for 550 acres on the Twin Cities campuses.

land envisioned the campus as set in a park. . . . He loved the landscape, and buildings were not to dominate," Hewitt says.

Cass Gilbert, best known as the architect of the Minnesota State Capitol, was an advocate of the "city beautiful" movement. He envisioned and designed the concept for Northrop Mall. Gilbert's vision had the mall continuing all the way down to the river, with grand amphitheatres flanking either side of a broad plaza on the river flats. Even though Gilbert's grand plan was never completely realized, the University keeps returning to his vision. "The vision for the mall is Cass Gilbert's. It's unique," Hewitt says. "It's one of the great outdoor rooms in the Midwest."

Although Coffman Memorial Union—also a treasured building on campus that is scheduled for renovation—prevents the mall from reaching the river, University planners see a way to recapture the essence of that vision by creating a similar mall behind Coffman that will lead the eye to the river, and possibly by collaborating with the Minneapolis Park Board to open up the view from there. (The City of Minneapolis owns the river flats.) They even propose creating a glass atrium that would allow someone approaching Coffman to see through the building, thus symbolically connecting Northrop to the river.

"I knew this as a most exciting idea, dating back to 1907 [when Gilbert first proposed his design]," Hewitt says. "We had this vision . . . that has influenced development. Some have reinforced it, some have not been sympathetic. People would ask me, why has the University turned its back on the river?"

The master plan will take years to implement, and will, of course, be constructed in phases. One thing is certain, though: as the dust settles after each construction, each renovation, each bold initiative, the grounds crew will be there, planting the trees, the shrubs, the maroon and gold mums. Potts and his gardeners understand, as they divide perennials beneath the canopy of centuries-old oak trees, that visions take time to realize and that the landscape is ever changing. ■

Sharon Parker is a freelance writer who lives in Minneapolis.

Minnesota Milestones

A fond look back at some of the events that mark the University's history. All events took place in summers past. **By Tim Brady**

IN 1873

The University of Minnesota graduated its first two seniors. They were Warren Clark Eustis and Henry Martyn Williamson. The regimental band of the 20th Infantry supplied music, and Professor Jabez Brooks opened the commencement exercises with a prayer. Mr. Williamson gave the salutatory address and Mr. Eustis the valedictory. Eustis went on to practice medicine in Owatonna, Minnesota, while Williamson was "engaged in horticultural and editorial work" in Portland, Oregon, according to an early history of the University.



*Professor
and poet
Arthur
Upson*

IN 1908

On August 14, Arthur Upson drowned in Lake Bemidji. Upson was an assistant professor in the English department, a poet, and well-known figure on campus. He was only 31 years old and had just completed an epic poem in the romantic style when he tipped overboard. Apparently the poem went to the deep with him; it was never found. That fact, plus his generally acknowledged "sensitive" nature and "frail" health, led to suspicions that he had taken his own life. Upson is the author of the second verse of *Hail, Minnesota*, the University of Minnesota hymn.

*Like the stream that bends to sea,
Like the pine that seeks the blue,
Minnesota, still for thee
Thy sons are strong and true.*

But his name might be most familiar to people these days because of the Arthur Upson Room in Walter Library on the Minneapolis campus, which was dedicated to him and his love of reading and literature.

IN 1930

The Board of Regents gave approval to the creation of University College, which in two years' time would be redubbed General College. Minnesota was a national leader in offering educational opportunities for students who might need special assistance in achieving an undergraduate degree. "The road to intellectual opportunity should never be closed to any traveler," University President Lotus Coffman said at the time.

*Trolley
conductor
Ralph Waldo
"Skipper"
Spencer*

IN 1954

On June 18, the Intercampus Trolley made its last run between the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. It was replaced by the bus system currently in place. The trolley had been hauling students back and forth for 40 years. To mark the demise of the line, an old trolley car was burned—with the sanction of University authorities. One notable figure who worked the trolley as a conductor was Ralph Waldo "Skipper" Spencer. Spencer punched tickets and dished philosophy for years. He had legally changed his name to honor his two favorite thinkers: Ralph Waldo Emerson and British philosopher Herbert Spencer.



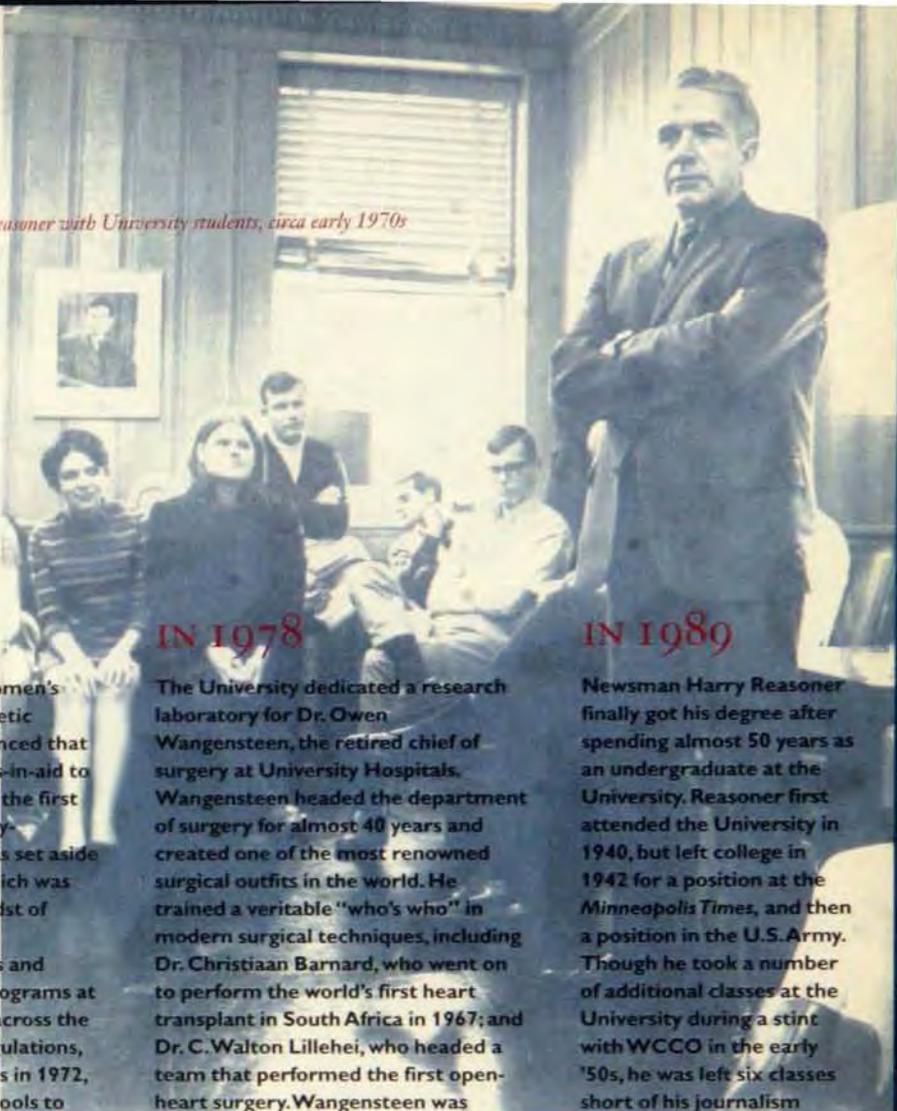
The Intercampus Trolley at the Pillsbury turnaround

Tim Brady wrote about a little-known scandal at the University in 1882 for the May-June issue of Minnesota. He is a freelance writer who lives in St. Paul.

*The
University
Centennial
Showboat*



Harry Reasoner with University students, circa early 1970s



IN 1958

The University Centennial Showboat was launched. Under the direction of longtime University Theater director Frank "Doc" Whiting, the Showboat staged the first of its many summer productions. The play chosen to open the floating stage was a turn-of-the-century romance called *Under the Gaslight*. Among the first players was an 18-year-old student from Farmington, Minnesota, named Bain Boehlke, who played the Signalman. In a later life, Boehlke would found the Jungle Theater in Minneapolis.

Also that year, the University dedicated its brand-new Scientific Computing Laboratory. The centerpiece of the center was a giant computer christened the Univac 1103. This first step for the University into the information age cost \$1 million and was funded in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation. The computer was built in St. Paul by Remington Rand and contained 6,000 vacuum tubes (the average television of the day had 20). Only nine other campuses in the country had similar computing centers, but that didn't prevent one member of the school's advisory committee on computer and tabulation facilities to grouse that "this should have been installed two years ago."

IN 1976

The University's Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Department announced that it would offer grants-in-aid to women athletes for the first time that fall. Twenty-thousand dollars was set aside for the program, which was instituted in the midst of pressures to rectify inequalities in men's and women's athletic programs at the University and across the country. Title IX regulations, enacted by Congress in 1972, were pressuring schools to change the gross disparity in funding between men's and women's programs. In 1971, the total women's athletics budget at the University amounted to \$7,000. By 1976, that figure had risen to \$330,000, which was still a fraction of the men's budget and, at least initially, included no money for grants.

*Dr. Owen
Wangensteen*



IN 1978

The University dedicated a research laboratory for Dr. Owen Wangensteen, the retired chief of surgery at University Hospitals. Wangensteen headed the department of surgery for almost 40 years and created one of the most renowned surgical outfits in the world. He trained a veritable "who's who" in modern surgical techniques, including Dr. Christiaan Barnard, who went on to perform the world's first heart transplant in South Africa in 1967; and Dr. C. Walton Lillehei, who headed a team that performed the first open-heart surgery. Wangensteen was himself a great innovator in the operating room and invented a simple device that saved hundreds of thousands of lives in World War II and beyond. The invention was a suction tube that helped unblock intestines. The tube, which was run through a patient's nose, vacuumed obstructions and helped prevent deadly infections following abdominal wounds. The invention was viewed as a godsend by troops and hospital personnel and became such a pervasive instrument that WWII wags dubbed hospital corridors "Wangensteen alleys" for all of the tubes seen hanging beside soldiers' beds. Wangensteen's invention also inspired this little ditty from Ogden Nash:

May I find my final rest in
Owen Wangensteen's intestine
Knowing that his masterly suction
Will assure my resurrection.

Dr. Wangensteen died in 1981.

IN 1989

Newsman Harry Reasoner finally got his degree after spending almost 50 years as an undergraduate at the University. Reasoner first attended the University in 1940, but left college in 1942 for a position at the *Minneapolis Times*, and then a position in the U.S. Army. Though he took a number of additional classes at the University during a stint with WCCO in the early '50s, he was left six classes short of his journalism degree. His career was apparently unhampered by the lack of a sheepskin—he won a 1967 Peabody Award, had a long stint with *60 Minutes*, and served as an anchor at ABC. Yet in a visit to Minneapolis in 1986, Reasoner expressed an interest in finally receiving that elusive B.A. Not so fast, Harry. The journalism school decided it couldn't grant a degree on the merits of a career alone—no matter how notable. It asked Reasoner to complete some course work through the Office of Special Learning Opportunity, and Reasoner complied. He got five As and a B on that last report card and, in the summer of 1989, was finally handed his diploma. At that same graduation ceremony, Reasoner delivered the commencement address.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES...

DR. VICTOR KOSCHEYEV, WHO HELPED ORGANIZE TRIAGE AFTER THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER IN 1986, DREAMS OF CREATING A HEALTH PROTECTION CENTER AT THE UNIVERSITY TO PREPARE FOR OTHER LARGE-SCALE CATASTROPHES. AS TOLD TO VICKI STAVIG

I came to the University of Minnesota from Russia in 1993 on a National Research Council Fellowship to develop a battery of medical and psychological measures to screen large populations in the case of a natural or human-made disaster. I'm now teaching in the School of Kinesiology, and I'm also studying the effects of extreme environmental conditions on human physiology and looking for ways to better protect people in these conditions.

I earned my medical degree at the Irkutsk State Medical Institute in Russia, and my Ph.D. in disaster medicine from the Moscow Institute of Biophysics. I also earned a doctor of science degree in biophysics. When I was 26, I started my career, studying physiology and human protection in a biophysics lab that I organized at a branch of the Institute of Biophysics. After working in the lab for seven years, I was invited to head a department dealing with extreme environmental and disaster problems in Moscow.

I later organized the Center for Disaster Medicine Protection in Moscow, which included many research laboratories where people worked in the areas of medicine, science, prevention, and

response related to disaster problems. Part of this research included studies of human psychophysiological processes in extreme conditions—such as altitude, temperature, air pressure, and outer space—and developing countermeasures to better protect people in such harsh environments.

I also supervised medical and biological research of the different institutes involved in the Soviet space program. We worked on the preparedness of cosmonauts, their medical management onboard, and their period of recovery back on earth. My professional interest was the medical-technical management of the cosmonauts' activities outside the spaceship. We needed to prepare everything inside and outside the spaceship for their safety and best work performance.

Before I came to Minnesota, I supervised a large number of



clinics, research institutes, advanced training centers for physicians, schools of nursing, and enterprises for manufacturing medical equipment and supplies. Occupational health in various industries was also a major concern. As a Ministry of Health specialist, immediately following the Chernobyl [nuclear] catastrophe in 1986, I worked with other colleagues to organize the effort to provide services to the power plant workers and the population near the power station.

It was a very complicated job. Because everything in the area was contaminated, we needed to bring in special equipment and mobile hospitals to organize triage and treatment for the people affected by the radiation. Many specialists were involved in those efforts, which also involved dealing with the psychological effects, dose monitoring, protection, and evaluations of the health consequences of experiencing such a terrible disaster. What kind of stress were people suffering? What kinds of medical problems

would they develop over the short and long term: leukemia, cancer, chronic diseases?

About 660,000 people from the Soviet Union and a large number from around the world—including 8,000 doctors and about 12,000 nurses—provided help for the power station personnel, the cleanup workers, and the 2 million people living near Chernobyl. Everything was covered by radioactive fallout, so we also needed a lot of plant operators, cleanup workers, and service people to help clean up the area. We couldn't use a nearby 300-bed clinic, because it was entirely contaminated, so we had to transport people out of the area.

Contamination was spread over a large territory, and it was constantly moving because of the wind and rain. We needed to organize a system to decontaminate people, cars, and machines. It looked like war, with huge contamination and broken buildings. People were working under extreme conditions, and we needed to constantly shift workers and equipment because of the high level of contamination. For example, in one minute, a man shoveling radioactive debris from a roof could receive 25 rems of

and walking between two buildings. Fun for me here is my spring-time performance of digging up dandelions in my lawn. I dig today, and I dig again tomorrow. So many!

There are different customs and traditions here. In Russia, we support each other by hugging and pushing. If I did that here, people would look at me strangely.

Besides teaching graduate courses, I am also working on several projects for NASA to design a new spacesuit that will be more comfortable and provide more protection for astronauts working outside the spaceship. I'm looking for more effective ways to transport heat through blood circulation. The new suit would use highly effective zones for heat absorption and transfer through biological tissues to the bloodstream and to body areas that are more susceptible to cold. The suit would be lighter and use less energy than those now being used, which are bulky and cumbersome.

I am also trying to organize at the University an intellectual epicenter with top specialists joining together to plan for large-scale disasters that are now occurring throughout the world, such as the violent exodus of refugees in Yugoslavia and the massacres in

WE HAVE EMERGENCY ROOMS IN HOSPITALS THAT CAN TREAT SEVERAL PEOPLE AT ONCE, BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE NEED TREATMENT?

radiation, the total lifetime permitted dose level. He would then have to be replaced by another worker.

Chernobyl gave us a new view of the problems in handling large-scale disasters, especially with a combination of factors such as a harsh environment, contamination, high stress, and the need to move large masses of people to safer areas, while at the same time moving in personnel to deal with the disaster. Chernobyl provided a unique perspective on medical management of disasters and raised concerns about response planning for the possibility of future large-scale calamities. It is clear that we need to work hard in the areas of research and field medical services and to have more centers with experienced specialists to provide long-term disaster management.

My relationship with the University of Minnesota began in 1989. I worked with faculty from the University's Department of Psychology to conduct research on the Soviet-U.S. Bering Bridge expedition, whose members included [Arctic explorer and Minnesota resident] Paul Schurke. We studied the psychological and physical health of the expedition members before they left and when they returned. In principle, we can do some of these studies in environmental chambers that simulate real weather conditions, but then the participants know I'm there if they get into trouble. If they actually go to the Arctic, they know they're on their own, and it's a very different psychological situation.

I also worked with the University's Department of Psychology on the Russian translation of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory [MMPI] psychological test. All people involved in activities in extreme environments need psychological research and support. Therefore, we adapted the MMPI to the Russian members of the international expedition.

My wife, Margaret, and daughter, Inna, who were both trained as doctors in Russia, are with me in Minnesota. I like it here, but it is very cold. It feels like Siberia but is much more windy. Here in winter, I try to protect myself by different tactics, such as using additional heavy protection equipment—like the astronauts use—

Rwanda and Somalia. We need to identify how we can help people more effectively, how we can treat them in field conditions, and how we can provide better safety to rescue workers. We need to have a global network with emergency telecommunications, a telemedical system to provide distant consultation and care, and a unification of disaster centers to help each other.

Weapons under storage are decaying. The possibility of making a technological mistake is growing, which increases the probability for a large-scale disaster. We need to be prepared. This is an interdisciplinary problem. What do we do? Who supervises? We can organize the police, firefighters, and medical people, but who will teach them how to handle a large-scale disaster?

We have emergency rooms in hospitals that can treat several people at once, but what happens when thousands of people need treatment? How can equipment work effectively, for example, in a cold environment such as Minnesota or under extreme heat in Texas? In the United States, efforts are scattered. Agencies at the federal, state, and local levels usually work independently in daily practice. It's not possible to imagine how they can work effectively if they suddenly need to join together in the case of an emergency.

Table-top and field training have not been enough to solve the huge array of problems that appear at every moment in a disaster. It is important to have a constant, stable, working unit that can review previous experience and that has the perspective for improvement of medical technologies in the disaster period.

I'm looking for allies to support me in developing a health protection center at the University of Minnesota . . . but the process is going slowly, which disappoints me. A few serious activities related to disaster preparedness are going on throughout the country, including in Minnesota. I hope that the University will be more actively involved in these efforts and will take a leadership role in developing innovative directions. We should be working hard and more actively on this issue. ■

Vicki Stavig is a regular contributor to Minnesota magazine.

Hey, Gopher Fans

Join the UMAA on the road in support of the U of M

Minnesota

Minnesota vs. University of Northern Iowa Volleyball game in Rochester, MN

September 15, 1999

Pre-match pepfest: 6:15 pm at the Century High School Cafeteria

Tipoff: 7:05 pm

Where: Century High School, 2525 Viola Road NE, Rochester MN

Cost: \$5 for UMAA members, \$7 for nonmembers

RSVP: August 15, 1999

Northwestern

Minnesota @ Northwestern

October 2, 1999

Pre-game breakfast/rally:

3 hours prior to game time

Kickoff: TBA

Cost: \$42 (includes breakfast buffet, prizes, a visit from the Gopher cheerleaders, University of Minnesota speakers, and game ticket) *Limit 4 game tickets—must be a UMAA member*

RSVP: *Is Required* by August 15, 1999

Information regarding parking and shuttles to the game will be sent with tickets

For more information:

Contact Mark Allen at UMAA, (800)862-5867

Iowa

Minnesota @ Iowa Football Game

November 20, 1999

Pre-game rally: 10:00 am (or 3 hours before game time if game time is changed)

Kickoff: 1:07 pm

Cost: \$44 for UMAA members (includes buffet, prizes, beverages and a ticket to the game)

\$49 for nonmembers

Where: Iowa Baseball Complex, just northwest of the Kinnick Stadium

RSVP: September 20, 1999

Tickets/Reservations

To reserve your spot at any of these events, **send your check to:**

University of Minnesota Alumni Association
501 Coffman Memorial Union
300 Washington Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Credit Card orders call:

(800) 862-5867

Hurry! Space is limited. Tickets are available only through these offers on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information on these or other UMAA events, visit us online at:
www.umaa.umn.edu

For information on other Gopher football games, call (800) 862-5867 or check out the alumni discounted home games on page 37 of this issue.

Grid Expectations

Fans expect something big from Gopher football in 1999, and they just might get it.

BY CHRIS
COUGHLAN-SMITH

All-America safety Tyrone Carter returns a kickoff against Michigan last year. In addition to having the two best kick-return seasons in school history, Carter leads the Gophers in season and career solo tackles.



Two-and-a-half years ago, Glen Mason arrived on the University of Minnesota campus with a reputation and a nickname. "Mr. Fixit" had turned around ailing football programs at Kent State University in Ohio and at the University of Kansas. Now approaching his third season at the head of a Gopher football program that has not had a bowl berth in a dozen years or a winning season in eight, he's on the verge of earning his nickname again—the Gophers are positioned to break through in 1999.

"We welcome expectations because it means

people care," Mason says. "The worst thing that can happen to a program is apathy, not frustration. I look forward to the day when we win and people are upset because we didn't play as well as we should have."

The expectations come for several reasons: last season's performance, a more favorable conference schedule, the return of most starters, a strong spring practice and game, and a standout recruiting year. "It's a big day when you go from being a loser to being a winner, [and] I think we're poised to do that this year," Mason says. "In the Big Ten

when you do that it usually means you're also a bowl team."

Last year the Gophers made a surprising bowl run after hanging close with powerful Penn State and Michigan and beating Michigan State at homecoming. Then, as Mason says, "we blinked." The Gophers had a chance to open a big lead against Indiana in the second-to-last game of the year, but missed three kicks in the first quarter and allowed Indiana to get in the game with turnovers, eventually losing 20-19. But the team responded with a 49-7 thumping of Iowa to finish 5-6 and send hopes soaring for the coming season.

"That was great to win that game for the seniors," says senior-to-be Tyrone Carter, a returning all-America strong safety from Pompano Beach, Florida. "The way we played the Iowa game has carried over [into spring practice]. Everyone has been real eager to get back out there and compete."

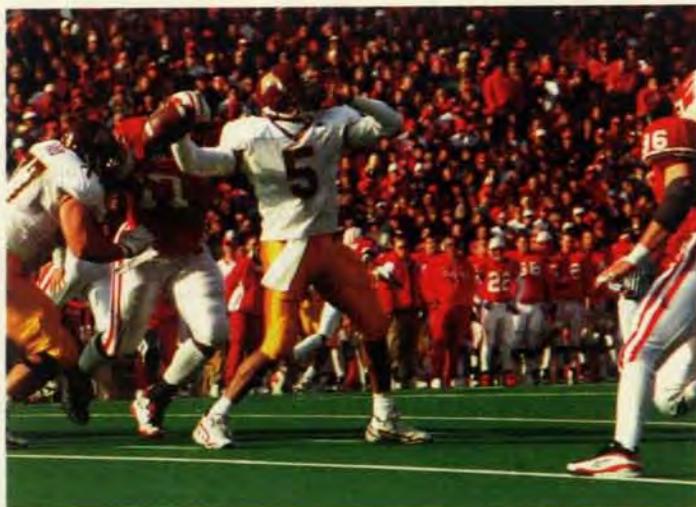
This year's schedule is relatively more favorable for the Gophers. Last year, they faced each of the Big Ten's big three—Ohio State, Michigan, and Penn State—plus had road games at Wisconsin and against emerging powerhouse Purdue. This year, Michigan and Michigan State fall off the schedule, replaced by Northwestern and Illinois, teams that were arguably the conference's two worst in 1998. Also, the Purdue and Wisconsin games will be played at the Metrodome.

The Gophers will open with three beatable nonconference opponents: Ohio University, Northeast Louisiana, and Illinois State. This year the Gophers have their best chance in years to get off to a good conference start too. Games at Northwestern and Illinois sandwich a home game against Wisconsin.

Eighteen of 22 starters return, beginning with Carter. The team's all-time and single-season leading tackler, Carter anchors a defense that has greatly improved each of the last two years, rising from 11th in the Big Ten in 1996 to fifth and sixth the last two years. Carter says he's ready to step up and lead. "This spring practice I was really trying to influence my teammates to raise their level of play," he says. "When you come together the way we have, it's easy to practice and play your hardest for each other."

The defensive backfield is deep. Carter is joined at safety by sophomore Delvin Jones of Miami, who played in 10 games with one start last year, and sophomore Jack Brewer of Grapevine, Texas, who switches from wide receiver. Experienced cornerbacks include sophomore Willie Middlebrooks of Florida City, Florida; junior Trevis Graham of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; senior Fred Rodgers of Hamilton, Ohio; and two players overcoming injuries: Clorenzo Griffin, a junior from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and senior Jimmy Wyrick of De Soto, Texas.

Three returning starters will make the linebacker position a



Quarterback Billy Cockerham gets ready to throw down field at Wisconsin last year. Cockerham solidified his role as starting quarterback during spring practice, despite good showings from junior Andy Persby and freshman Asad Abdul-Khaliq.

key to the defense, starting with junior Sean Hoffman of Fargo, North Dakota, who has started 23 consecutive games and will play middle linebacker. Junior Ben Mezera of Waupaca, Wisconsin, returns at another linebacker spot, while junior Curtese Poole of Columbus, Ohio, will move to linebacker after starting at defensive end last season.

Defensive line play has been a big factor in the improved defense the last two years. This year, senior Jon Michals of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, returns at defensive end and junior John Schlecht of White Bear Lake, Minnesota, returns at defensive tackle. Poole was able to move to linebacker because junior Karon Riley of Detroit has become eligible after transferring from Southern Methodist University. Riley showed his stuff in the Gophers' spring game with two sacks and an interception.

On offense, all 11 starters return. Many observers thought last year's two-way quarterback controversy might turn into a three-man battle this spring. Starter Billy Cockerham, a senior from Clayton, California, is back, along with junior Andy Persby

of North St. Paul, Minnesota, who started three games last year. Joining them is freshman Asad Abdul-Khaliq of Elizabeth, New Jersey, who became eligible to attend the University in spring after spending part of the year at a prep school. Mason, however, is quick to defend Cockerham. "If you look at what he did last year when we used him the way we should use him, he had a pretty good year," Mason said before spring practice. While Persby showed strong improvement and poise in spring and Abdul-Khaliq showed the talent that landed him on high school all-America teams, Cockerham had the best spring. "Billy really established himself as number one," Mason said.

Senior wide receiver Luke Levenson of Miami quietly had one of the greatest seasons ever by a Gopher receiver in 1998. His 60 catches for 854 yards and nine touchdowns all rank among the five best season marks in team history. Lining up across from him will be Ron Johnson of Detroit, a big receiver who set school freshman records with 38 catches and four touchdowns last year.

With both Thomas Hamner of Hamilton, Ohio, and Byron Evans of Texas City, Texas, returning for their senior seasons, the Gophers look set at running back. Hamner was named to the all-Big Ten second team last year, while Evans averaged a healthy 6.4 yards per carry as his backup. But Mason has been unhappy with third-down efficiency, and a fullback will have to emerge.

The entire offensive line returns and will seek to continue the



Coach Glen Mason, entering his third season as head of the football program, believes the Gophers are poised to be a bowl team.

improvement they showed through last season. They are led by junior center Ben Hamilton of Plymouth, Minnesota, a two-time Big Ten honorable mention. Senior Pat Hau of Edina, Minnesota, returns at left guard and sophomore Ryan Roth of Kansas City, Missouri, at right guard. Junior Adam Haayer of Wyoming, Minnesota, returns to start at left tackle, while part-time starter Erik Larson, a junior from Cambridge, Minnesota, will back him up. Senior Josh Rawlings of Fort Gratoit, Michigan, moves across from defensive tackle to give the offensive line three 300-pound starters. (Hamilton and Haayer weighed in this spring at "just" 271 and 292, respectively.)

Carter, Luke Levenson, and Antoine Henderson will return to make the Gophers one of the most dangerous kick-return teams in the country. Redshirt freshman Preston Gruening of Schofield, Wis-

consin, likely will step in at placekicker and will battle senior Ryan Rindels of Coon Rapids, Minnesota, for punting duties.

When spring practice opened for three weeks in April, Mason had a list of things he wanted to work on—among them, defining the basic offense, improving pass blocking, getting better at converting on third downs and scoring from inside the 20, and improving zone pass defense and overall team tackling. "We worked extremely hard and improved in almost every one of those areas," Mason says. "The work ethic and the attitude was great. I was impressed with the number of players who did not miss a single minute of a single practice."

The work showed in the spring game, which the defense "won" under Mason's scoring system that awards points for various kinds of offensive and defensive success. Still, the offense was much steadier than last year. Mason extended the length of the game to give each of the three top quarterbacks a chance to play, and each looked impressive for stretches. "There is no doubt that we're a better team compared with this point last year," he said after the game. "I think [the players] think the same as I do, that we are poised to make that leap to a winning program."

Mason was still unhappy with how the offense performed in third-and-short yardage situations. That might mean playing time for the hottest local prospect to play for the Gophers in some time—running back Thomas Tapeh of St. Paul. He was named

to several high school all-America teams last year, despite having switched to football from soccer only two years ago. The National Honor Society member is big and fast; he's 220 pounds and holds the St. Paul Johnson High School record in the 100-meter dash at 10.63, just 0.19 seconds off the time cornerback Fred Rodgers ran to win the Big Ten track title in 1998.

Quarterback Abdul-Khaliq is the other highly touted offensive freshman. On defense, the freshman with the best chance to make an impact is Chris Smith of New York City, a 290-pound lineman with great speed. Two junior college players may also have an impact: Tevita Moala of Hawthorne, California, a second-team junior college all-American at linebacker, and Andre Brown of Dallas, voted the best cover cornerback in his conference.

The optimism around the program is trickling down to the state's high schoolers as well. Mason signed six highly recruited Minnesotans for 1999, reversing a trend that had seen the state's best go elsewhere for most of this decade. "Closing our borders is one of our highest priorities," Mason says. "These are our guys. Now we need to reward their faith in us with results."

With fan and media expectations as high as they have been in a decade, the players and coaches don't feel extra pressure. "I don't need any external motivation," Carter says. "I hold a lot of high expectations for myself and my team. We're not at the level yet where we could be, but we're getting there."

As always, Mason holds just one expectation: "I always say we don't expect any more than everyone doing their very best. That means both players and coaches. It means total focus, playing every play like it will be one of the big plays that decide the game."

Mason usually adds that while winning is important, if the team plays its best and still loses, he won't complain. But Carter, with his high expectations, wants more. "When I first came here, we didn't do a lot of things very well," he says. "There has been a lot of positive change in my four years. I'd love to end my senior season with a bowl game." ■

Chris Coughlan-Smith is associate editor for Minnesota.

1999 Minnesota Golden Gopher Football Schedule

September 4	OHIO
September 11	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
September 18	ILLINOIS STATE
October 2	at Northwestern
October 9	WISCONSIN
October 16	at Illinois (11:10 a.m.)
October 23	OHIO STATE
October 30	PURDUE (homecoming; 11:10 a.m.)
November 6	at Penn State (11:10 a.m.)
November 13	INDIANA
November 20	at Iowa

Starting times for homecoming games are noted. All other game times to be announced. For tickets, call 612-624-8080 or 1-800-UGOPHER. Alumni association members qualify for discounts on tickets, including three-game packages and on season tickets; call 612-624-7308. For more information, visit www.gophersports.com.

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For more information
or to order by phone
call Marc Rood at
(612) 624-7308 or
1-800-U-GOPHER

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All credit card orders must be signed.

Athletic Ticket Sales Office
Alumni Offer
4 Oak St SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455

(612)624-7308 OR 1-800-U GOPHER

ALUMNI DISCOUNTS

	Qty.	Price*	Amt.
Sept. 4 OHIO		\$	\$
Sept. 11 N.E. LOUISIANA		\$	\$
Sept. 18 ILLINOIS ST.		\$	\$
Oct. 9 WISCONSIN		\$30.00	\$
Oct. 23 OHIO STATE		\$	\$
Oct. 30 PURDUE (Homecoming)		\$	\$
Nov. 13 INDIANA		\$	\$

\$18.00 Lower Deck Corner/Upper Deck Side Line
\$12.00 Lower Deck End Zone
\$7.50 Upper Deck End Zone

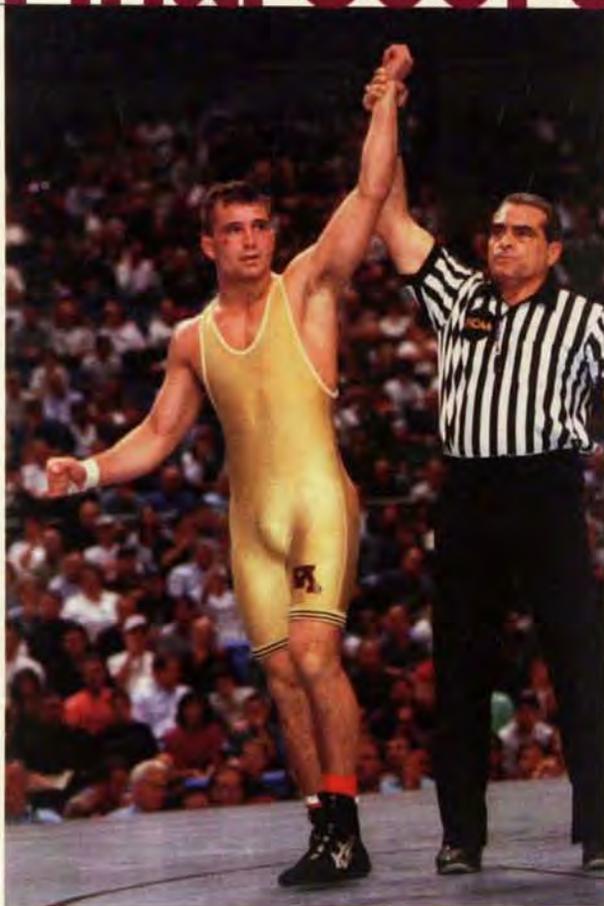
Handling (\$1.75 per ticket to \$7.00 maximum)	\$
Williams Fund Contribution	\$
TOTAL REMITTANCE ENCLOSED (Checks Payable to U of Minnesota)	\$

The Final Score

End-of-the-season highlights of Gopher sports.

BY CHRIS COUGHLAN-SMITH

Senior Tim Hartung won his second national title at 197 pounds, capping a perfect 34-0 season and earning his third Big Ten title in three years.



Maybe it was the warm spring, or the example of the wrestling team, but something got into Gopher sports teams. Ordinarily a slow-starting group because of poor early-spring weather, teams such as golf, track, tennis, softball, and baseball barreled into the final part of the year setting records and earning honors. In all, four Gopher teams won conference titles, seven more finished second or third, and the women's hockey team finished third in the nation.

Spring sports—often the Achilles' heel of Gopher all-sports rankings—actually powered the men's athletics department to the overall Big Ten title in 1998-99. The women's athletics department finished

fourth, and the combined departments ranked second in the Big Ten, behind first-ranked Michigan.

It was the **wrestling** team that garnered the greatest glory in 1998-99. The Gophers finally wrestled the Big Ten championship away from Iowa after 25 consecutive Hawkeye titles. The team went on to take second in the nation for the second consecutive year and earn six all-America honors. Senior Tim Hartung of Durand, Wisconsin, won his second national title at 197 pounds, capping a perfect 34-0 season and earning his third Big Ten title in three years. In April he was named academic all-America.

Junior Brandon Eggum of Sidney, Montana, took second in the nation at 184 pounds, while senior Chad Kraft earned his fourth all-America honor by finishing

third at 157 pounds. Junior heavyweight Brock Lesnar of Webster, South Dakota, senior 149-pounder Troy Marr of Wyoming, Minnesota, and freshman 123-pounder Leroy Vega of Portage, Indiana, all earned their first all-America honors. Eggum, Hartung, and Lesnar all were Big Ten champions.

The year got started with the best **football** season in eight years, when the Gophers finished 5-6 and came within a point of beating Indiana for a winning record and possible bowl berth. A season-ending whipping of Iowa and a strong group of returning players give hope for a bowl bid in 1999 (see story on page 42.)

The **women's soccer** team earned its fourth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance after going 13-5-1 in the regular season. The Gophers topped Kentucky 6-0 in the NCAA first round before falling to the University of Portland. Senior defender Vanessa Tousset of Woodbridge, Virginia, was named first team all-Big Ten for the second time. Fellow all-conference first-teamers were junior Nicole Lee of Champlin, Minnesota, who finished first in the Big Ten in scoring, and sophomore Laurie Siedl of St. Charles, Illinois, who was second in Big Ten goals scored.

Women's cross country also continued its strong recent showings, taking third in the Big Ten and reaching the NCAA meet. Junior Rasa Michniovaite of Pabrade, Lithuania, took third in the Big Ten, won the Midwest regional meet, and finished 16th in the NCAA race to earn all-America honors, the Gophers' first since 1985. She was later named academic all-America.

Men's cross country, led by juniors Eric Pierce of Forest Lake, Minnesota, and Jeremy Polson of Duluth, took fourth in the Big Ten and reached the NCAA meet for the second consecutive year.

For the first time in Mike Hebert's three years as Minnesota coach, the **women's**

volleyball team failed to make the NCAA tournament. The young team finished 17-14 overall and 7-13 in the Big Ten, the nation's top-rated conference. Sophomore outside hitter Nicole Branagh of Orinda, California, was named to the all-conference and all-district teams.

The winter sports season included mixed results for the major teams. The **women's hockey** team had another great year, finishing 29-4-3. For the second year the team also was awarded a spot in the unofficial national final four, taking third this year. Sophomores Nadine Muzerall, of Mississauga, Ontario, and Courtney Kennedy of Woburn, Massachusetts, and freshman Jenny Schmidgall of Edina, Minnesota, were named second-team all-Americans. Sophomore goalie Erica Killewald of Troy, Michigan, was named to the all-tournament first team at the final four.

The **men's hockey** team suffered a second losing season at 15-19-9 after 12 consecutive NCAA appearances under Coach Doug Woog. Woog later resigned to take an assistant athletic director position and clear the way for new coach Don Lucia. Golden Gopher freshman defender Jordan Leopold of Robbinsdale, Minnesota, and senior forward Wyatt Smith of Warroad, Minnesota,



Senior defender **Vanessa Touset** was named first team all-Big Ten for the second time.

team in scoring and rebounding and was named honorable mention all-Big Ten.

The **men's basketball** team had its season suddenly derailed by well-publicized accusations of academic misconduct that led to the suspension of two starters and two others for their NCAA tournament first-round game. An investigation into those charges is expected to continue through the summer. The Gophers ended the year 17-11 and 8-8 in the Big Ten. Senior forward Quincy Lewis of Little Rock, Arkansas, led the conference in scoring and was named first-team all-Big Ten.

Other winter sports teams excelled, led by **women's swimming and diving**. The Gophers used great depth to knock Michigan out of the Big Ten title for the first time in 12 years. Junior Terri Jashinsky of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, won the Big Ten title and earned honorable mention all-America in the 100-yard butterfly. Junior Jenny Hennen of Anoka, Minnesota, won the Big Ten title in the 200 freestyle. Senior T.D. Rowe of Issaquah, Washington, took second in both the one- and three-meter diving events.

After trading Big Ten **men's swimming and diving** titles with Michigan for more than a decade, the Gophers finished second to the surprising Penn State this year, then took 14th at the NCAA swim meet. Sophomore Alex Massura of Sao Paulo, Brazil, shared Big Ten Swimmer of the Year honors by winning the 100-yard backstroke and



Junior **Jenny Hennen** won the Big Ten title in the 200-yard freestyle.

were named to the all-conference third team. In a sweep of Alaska-Anchorage, freshman Adam Hauser of Bovey, Minnesota, became the first WCHA goaltender in more than a decade to post back-to-back shutouts in the first round of a playoff series.

The **women's basketball** team began to emerge from the doldrums in 1998 but then fell back to the bottom of the Big Ten. They finished the year 7-20, after three consecutive four-win seasons. They also won two Big Ten games, equaling their total for the last three years combined. Senior Sonja Robinson of Scottsdale, Arizona, led the

UMAA Group Travel

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1999 Tours

August

- Magnificent Passage/France, Italy
- Alumni College in Norway
- Alumni College in Great Britain

September

- Bordeaux
- Greek Isles and the Aegean
- China and Yangtze-SOLD OUT
call for info
- Waterways of Russia

October

- Pacific Coast Explorer
- Alumni College in Tuscany
- Lost Cities by private jet

November

- Alumni College in Provence

December

- Roma Millennium

Tentative Trips for 2000

January

- Yachtsman's Caribbean
- Amazon Exploration

February

- Cruise the Cape Horn

March

- Antebellum South
- Vienna Winter Escapade

April

- China and Central Asia

May

- Alumni College in Holland
- Majestic Passage/Rhine river
- Springtime in Burgandy/Provence

June

- Village Life in Wales
- Riviervas of the Mediterranean
- Russia's White Sea

July

- Alaska
- Cruise the Danube

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

swimming on three winning relay teams. He later earned all-America honors by taking fourth in the NCAA meet in the 100 backstroke. Senior Martin Zielinski of Bloomington, Minnesota, won the Big Ten 100 fly and two relay titles and was later named to the academic all-America team along with senior John Cahoy of Hudson, Wisconsin, who earned all-conference honors on four relay teams. Sophomore Dan Croaston of Champlin, Minnesota, won the Big Ten three-meter diving competition and freshman Ricardo Dornelas of Jacaraipe Serra Es, Brazil, won the 50 freestyle.

The **men's gymnastics** team suffered another injury-filled season, but senior Jason Krob of St. Charles, Missouri, made the year worthwhile when he came up big in the final weekends of the season. He won the regional pommel horse title and took second in the NCAA meet. He is the Gophers' highest national finisher since John Rothlisberger won two NCAA titles in 1993.

The **women's gymnastics** team took fourth at the Big Ten and regional meets. Freshman Megan Beuckens of Brandon, South Dakota, tied for second on the floor exercise and for fifth on the balance beam to lead the Gophers at the conference meet.

Four teams that carry seasons throughout the year hold their championships in spring, and each had strong seasons. The **men's golf** team, coming off a seventh-place national finish last year, ended up second in the Big Ten in 1999, then won the regional qualifying meet and took 11th in the NCAA tournament, held in Minnesota. Last year's NCAA champ, James McLean, a sophomore from Wawajunga, Australia, was 23rd in the nation this year, won the regional meet, and was sixth in the Big Ten. Senior Adam Doolley of Albany, Minnesota, took sixth in the Big Ten and led the Gophers with a 12th-place finish. Senior Martin LeMesurier of South Hampton, England, led the Gophers with a fourth-place conference finish.

The **women's golf** team had a strong early spring but faltered to finish eighth in the Big Ten. Senior Melanie Lepp of Easton, Minnesota, finished fifth in the conference after leading the team for most of the season.

The **men's tennis** team took fourth in the conference with a 7-3 record and then reached the conference semifinals and the NCAA tournament. Senior Tom Chicoine



Left to right: Sophomore James McLean, last year's NCAA champ, won the regional meet and was sixth in the Big Ten. Senior Robb Quinlan was 1999 Big Ten Player of the Year. Senior Steph Klaviter is the winningest pitcher in school history.

of Neenah, Wisconsin, and sophomore Tyson Parry of Chatham, Ontario, were named to the all-conference team and freshman Thomas Haug of Zurich, Switzerland, won Freshman of the Year honors.

The **women's tennis** team tied for second in the Big Ten at 8-2, its best finish ever, and reached the NCAA tournament for the third time in four years. Junior Nora Sauska of Budapest, Hungary, was named to the all-Big Ten team. Senior Sitinee Rangsihienchai of Flossmoor, Illinois, ended her career with 89 singles victories, fifth most in school history.

The **softball** team earned the conference tournament title after finishing second in the Big Ten regular season standings. They advanced to the final three teams in NCAA regional competition. Senior shortstop Shannon Beeler of Shelton, Washington, set Big Ten career records with 43 home runs and 239 RBI, the fifth most in NCAA history. She also earned the Big Ten Medal of Honor for combined community service, academic excellence, and athletic accomplishments. Senior pitcher Steph Klaviter of New Ulm, Minnesota, was named first-team all-Big Ten and ends her Gopher career with 85 victories—the winningest pitcher in school history.

The **baseball** team took second in both the Big Ten tournament and the regular season standings. They advanced to the NCAA subregional final. Senior Robb Quinlan of Maplewood, Minnesota, finished his Gopher career as the school's all-time leader in hits, home runs, runs batted in, and four other offensive categories, while committing just one error in his final two years at first base. He was named 1999 Big Ten Player of the Year. Also named first-team all-conference were fellow seniors Aron Amundson, an outfielder from Mandan,

North Dakota, who was second to Quinlan in conference batting average, and pitcher Brad Pautz of Reedsville, Wisconsin.

The **men's track and field** team repeated as Big Ten outdoor champions after taking third in the shorter indoor season. Junior Staffan Strand of Upplands-Vasby, Sweden, won the high jump at both the conference indoor and outdoor meets for the third consecutive year and then took second in the NCAA outdoor meet, earning his fifth all-America citation. Other track champs were sophomore Thomas Gerding of Waconia, Minnesota, in the outdoor 400 meters; junior Eric Pierce of Forest Lake, Minnesota, in the outdoor 3,000-meter steeplechase; senior Benjamin Jensen of Mandal, Norway, in the outdoor decathlon and indoor pentathlon; and senior Adam Reed of Milwaukee in the outdoor discus throw.

The **women's track and field** team took third in the conference outdoor meet, its best finish ever. The team was seventh indoors. Senior Yvette White of Washington, D.C., won the 400-meter hurdles and placed in the 100-meter hurdles, setting a Minnesota school record. Sophomore Aubrey Schmitt of Hastings, Minnesota, won the indoor and outdoor shot put titles and placed second in the nation in the indoor shot put. Junior Nicole Chimko of Aldersyde, Alberta, was a discus all-American and won the outdoor discus title with a school-record throw and placed in the shot put and javelin outdoors and the shot put indoors. Freshman Linda Lindqvist of Harmavagen, Finland, won the outdoor javelin title and then took third in the nation; and junior Christine Gulbrandsen of Kristiansand, Norway, won the indoor triple jump and placed in three events in the outdoor meet, setting school records in the triple jump and pole vault. ■



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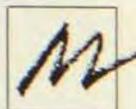


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Member Profile: Dubem Okafor

Many people write checks or volunteer time when they find a cause that moves them. For Dubem Okafor ('94), nothing short of starting a publishing company would do.

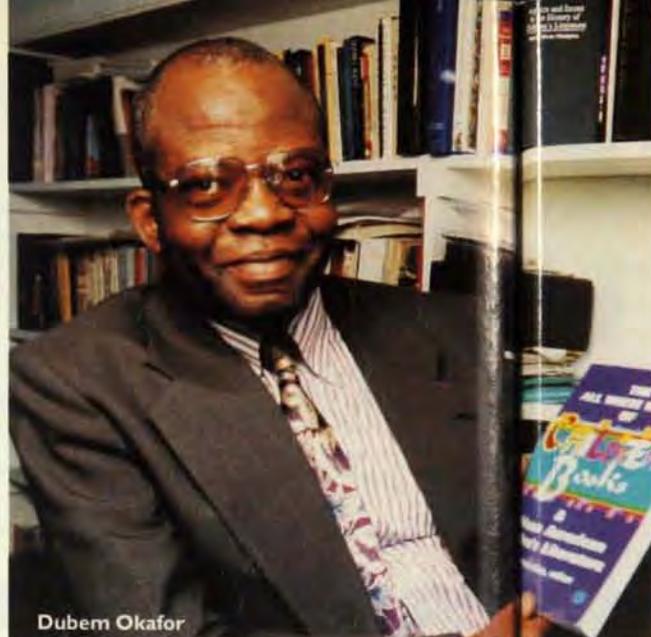
"All 30 years of my working life I've been in higher education," says Okafor, who earned his doctorate in comparative studies in discourse and society from the University. "But I wanted to make a broader contribution. I decided the area of our greatest need is our children, especially black children. So I conceived the company not just as a business, but as a mission for our children's future."

From this sense of commitment, Books for Black Children, Inc., in Reading, Pennsylvania, was born in January 1998. With little prodding, over a hundred manuscripts poured in from as far afield as India and Africa. Okafor asked children's literature experts to help select appro-

priate proposals and released the initial 12 titles in the series "Books for Black and Other Children" this spring.

The fiction, nonfiction, and poetry offerings seek to entertain as they educate, spanning subjects from African American fairy tales to coming of age in contemporary South Africa. Each book is categorized both by K-12 grade level and subject material.

To date, the father of three teenagers has received hundreds of inquiries. "People are interested across the ethnic spectrum," Okafor says. "They recognize the need for the kind of intercultural understanding our series provides. They also recognize the need for increased literacy as well as the development of self-confidence and self-reliance. That is



Dubem Okafor

why we are also appealing to the school districts to include the books in their curriculum."

While his endeavor seems ambitious, for Okafor it's familiar turf. A native Nigerian, the 11-year U.S. resident and literature professor at Pennsylvania's Kutztown University once co-founded the Alternative Press in Enugu, Nigeria, in addition

to editing numerous publications in Canada and the United States.

The University of Minnesota also played a developmental role in Okafor's career. "I remember Minnesota with pride and gratitude because they gave me the opportunity to study in a unique program. The University really opened my eyes and whipped me to perform in a broad range of areas and competencies. I had wonderful, distinguished professors who also served as committed mentors. I'm still in very close contact with some of those same people today."

Okafor hopes other alumni will also join his mission. "You'll not only be supporting an alumnus, but also supporting a mission that clearly involves all of us," he says.

Books for Black Children can be found at www.booksforblackchildren.com
—Anne Rawland Gabriel

Member Profile: Wendy Williams Blackshaw



Wendy Williams Blackshaw

Overseeing a photography shoot on Tuesday, hosting a celebrity-studded black-tie fundraiser for University of Minnesota Women's Athletics on Wednesday, and supervising rock group 'N Sync's performance for 20,000 swooning teens on Thursday is a pretty typical week for Wendy Williams Blackshaw ('82).

But only a fraction of Blackshaw's time is spent on the 325 events the Mall of America sponsors each year to entice 12 million to 14 million visitors from outside the Twin Cities to the "largest fully enclosed retail and family entertainment complex in the United States."

"The reason I've stayed here six years is that I handle so many things," says the mall's director of marketing. "It's not like I have specific duties and I have to stay within my own compartment. Instead, I face a different challenge every day. For instance, if

I can think of a way to fund a great idea like a TV show, then I just do it," Blackshaw says, referring to *Mall of America, The Show*, which airs Saturday mornings on KMSP-TV, the mall's recently launched weekly talk show that was long wished for by management but unsupported by its budget.

"Although we're not Disney in terms of the amount of funds we have in comparison to how many people we attract, tourism is still one of my favorite parts of my job," Blackshaw says. "So I've learned to accomplish goals by working with lots of different partners, which brings more people into the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and the mall."

Originally aspiring to broadcast journalism as a student, Blackshaw soon discovered that the University offered "many other opportunities." Eventually she switched to a speech

communications major and supplemented her studies with psychology and business courses.

But the classroom wasn't where Blackshaw learned to shine. "People tease me about it, but I was a cheerleader and it was fantastic for me at the time. Through cheerleading I met a lot of people and gained a sense of self-esteem.

"Remember, when I was in college, women's sports weren't that advanced. If I had a daughter today and she were athletically inclined, I'd encourage her to funnel her energy into athletics."

And that's where "Texas Tuxedo," the recent fundraiser for University Women's Intercollegiate Athletics that raised more than \$200,000, fit in. "I love my job, but as I get older, it has become important for me to give something back as a part of doing what's right for the mall," Blackshaw says. "Texas Tuxedo was one way for me to do just that."

—Anne Rawland Gabriel

UMAA Supports Distinguished Teaching Awards

This year marked the debut of the Distinguished Teaching Awards, combining the new Graduate-Professional Education Awards and the now 36-year-old Morse-Alumni Awards for outstanding undergraduate teaching. Recipients join the

Academy of Distinguished Teachers, a body whose members provide leadership to the University community, serving as mentors, advisers, and spokespersons for the University's teaching mission.

The UMAA has long supported the Morse-Alumni Awards by helping fund, with the University, the salary augmentation and departmental stipend each recipient earns. The UMAA has stepped forward to help fund the new awards as well.

The 1998-99 Distinguished Teaching Awards ceremony took place May 10 at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome.

Morse-Alumni Recipients

Bart D. Finzel, Associate Professor

Economics and Management
University of Minnesota, Morris

"UMM students rarely disappoint. . . . Any success I have had with students is the result of my having high expectations for their work, my trusting in their ability to present that work to others, and their desire and talent to rise to the challenge."

Jill B. Gidmark, Professor

Literature and Writing
General College

"I am lucky to teach a discipline that matters so much, one that has as its most enduring value the ability of showing us who we are. I tell my students that they need to be very careful about what they read because they 'become' that literature in some tangible way."

Ann Masten, Professor

Institute of Child Development
College of Education and Human Development

"When I teach in the classroom, I think of the students as scholars, parents of the present or future, constituents, and potential professionals who may be making policies and designing the laws and programs that affect the lives of many children and adolescents."

Jim Perry, Professor

Forest Resources
College of Natural Resources

"My mission is to dispel the notion of an external source of wisdom, to instill a sense of confidence and curiosity, and to empower people to develop a new understanding of the world, while they discover their strengths and weaknesses, refine their values, and clarify future directions."

Jeffrey Ratliff-Crain, Associate Professor

Psychology
University of Minnesota, Morris

"I visualize [teaching] as a picture mosaic—multiple pieces, each with its own meaning and worth, meaning more when stepped away from in order to see how they work together to present the image of a larger picture."



Bart D. Finzel



Jill B. Gidmark



Ann Masten



Jim Perry



Jeffrey Ratliff-Crain

Report

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Karl A. Smith

Karl A. Smith, Associate Professor
Civil Engineering
Institute of Technology

"As I look ahead to the opportunities and challenges facing undergraduate education, I am convinced that we must treat students as emerging scholars and professionals and not as receptacles. We must invite them to the intellectual table and help them learn to participate fully."



Joel Weinsheimer

Joel Weinsheimer, Professor
English
College of Liberal Arts

"Insofar as I have any special claim to fame, it is that I have transposed the discussion mode typical of the seminar into the big class format. Simply put, I have learned to hold a conversation with an entire auditorium of students."



John S. Wright

John S. Wright, Associate Professor
English, Afro-American Studies
and African Studies
College of Liberal Arts

"Humor . . . is one of the homelier virtues I increasingly find essential to the learning process, both in my own classroom style and in my goals for students. I find the customary classroom pieties much more tenable when leavened with appropriate doses of mother wit and laughter."



Thomas Clayton

Graduate and Professional Education Teaching Awards

Thomas Clayton, Professor
English
College of Liberal Arts

"My . . . aims are to promote clarity of thought and expression, independence of perspective, disinterested exercise of critical judgment, intellectual integrity, a sense of obligation to the discipline and of its importance in academic study and in real life."



Margaret Davis

Margaret Davis, Regents Professor
Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior
College of Biological Sciences

"I believe [graduate students] should know about my own self-doubt as a young scientist, about opportunities I may have failed to exploit, as well as those that opened up new fields for me. They need to know I didn't just walk into a professorship at Minnesota, but encountered obstacles to professional success, as they will."

Robert M. Hardy, Professor
Department of Small
Animal Clinical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine

"I try to instill . . . a sense of enjoyment about this complex profession, a willingness to work hard, and an appreciation for the challenges and rewards that work as a veterinary clinician can bring."

Thomas R. Hoye, Professor
Chemistry
Institute of Technology

"If I had never published a paper, the world might not be any worse off; if I had never trained a student in my laboratory, it definitely would be."

Allen Isaacman, Professor
History
College of Liberal Arts

"I am particularly proud of the ways my scholarship and graduate teaching have been inextricably intertwined. The graduate programs that I have helped to shape reflect my deep commitment to promote interdisciplinary as well as cross-cultural teaching and research."

Thomas B. Mackenzie, M.D.,
Professor
Psychiatry
Medical School

"I encourage medical students and residents to participate in research. . . . Few have gone on to a research career; however, I believe the experience of trying to create knowledge was an invaluable part of their education."

Ephraim Sparrow, Professor
Mechanical Engineering
Institute of Technology

"Students have always known where they stood in my list of priorities: at the very top. . . . More important to me than any [other awards] is my selection as Best Professor of the Year by the students of my department."

Richard A. Weinberg,
Professor and Director
Institute of Child Development
College of Education
and Human Development

"I am truly committed to a scientist-practitioner model of graduate training. . . . This means balancing an understanding of human behavior and development through scientific study with real life clinical experiences that provide one opportunities to rehearse new knowledge."



Robert M. Hardy



Thomas R. Hoye



Allen Isaacman



Thomas B. MacKenzie



Ephraim Sparrow



Richard A. Weinberg

Thank Your Legislators

It was easy to get used to exciting results after two years of unprecedented legislative funding increases for the University of Minnesota. "This year's results were not as dramatic, but they were still a strong indication of legislative and alumni support," says Les Heen, UMAA Legislative Network coordinator. "The session started with a lot of new faces and some uncertainty, but it ended with some good results for the U. To get any increase was a major victory. To get more than \$100 million was really remarkable." (For details on legislative funding figures, see inBrief, on page 16.)

"Legislative Network volunteers helped to deliver the University's message," Heen continues. "I heard from one legislative aide that his computer had been clogged with more than 100 e-mails after we had sent out an action alert. But he added that at least they were thoughtful and well-written e-mails."

Now that the session has ended, Heen adds, it is time for alumni to thank the elected officials who supported the University. "Alumni are known for being effective in communicating with their legislators and the governor, and for remembering to show appreciation when the session is over."

For more information on the 3,000-volunteer strong Legislative Network, visit the UMAA Web site at www.umaa.umn.edu or call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS.

Membership Blooms in Spring

UMAA membership kept hitting record levels in spring of 1999. The official count of members topped 42,000 for the first time in June, as University of Minnesota colleges staged a friendly rivalry to sign up the highest percentage of new graduates as UMAA members. "More and more people are finding that the best way to create a lifelong connection to the University is through membership in the alumni association," says Elise Schadauer, UMAA director of marketing and membership. "Our programs and benefits help alumni and friends make that connection and show their support."

National President

Why Students Choose the U

I slipped into the West Bank classroom about as unobtrusive as someone 30 years older than everyone else can. The first thing that struck me was the room itself: comfortable chairs, great acoustics, and a fully integrated audiovisual system that moves from slide to overhead projection seamlessly.

The students, who filled all 350 seats—a dozen more took seats on the floor—sipped pop or bottled water and pulled pens and pads from backpacks, preparing for history professor Sara Evans to sweep them through America's move from crafts to mass production and the rise of the American labor movement.



Dave Mona, '65,
chairman, Shandwick

With 10 minutes remaining in the class, Sara explained that many parts of history need to be "experienced" and that the birth of the labor movement was well documented in American folk songs, which the class was about to sing.

Say what? The syllabus didn't say anything about singing!

Despite their reluctance, she prodded them to sing the words to "The Preacher and the Slave" clearly spelled out on the screen—"work and play, live on hay, you'll get pie in the sky when you die"—to the tune of the old hymn "In the Sweet By and By."

As the class progressed, the students sang "The Farmer Is the Man," "Over There," and Woody Guthrie's "Grand Coulee Dam," which told of the belief that technology could solve everything: "Your power is turning our night into dawn / So roll on, Columbia, roll on." Some of the braver students ventured into boisterous harmony, and students who at first hesitated to sing now asked for more.

What is happening in Sara Evans's classroom is happening in various ways across campus. While it's important to erect buildings, to honor our alumni, and to field competitive sports teams, the real business of this University is to educate students—and the U is doing a remarkable job.

This fall's incoming freshmen will be the most academically prepared in school history. In 1998, some 90 percent arrived having satisfied the University's preparation requirements. Thirteen years ago that number was 17 percent. One reason these students are choosing the U is the chance to be taught by full professors at the undergraduate level.

Under many of President Mark Yudof's initiatives, the faculty is being recognized, appreciated, and rewarded, and it's having an impact that reaches far beyond our campuses. In April, the *Star Tribune* covered the changes going on in the history department, where a number of key players have retired and more are retiring this year. The College of Liberal Arts, the story reported, "is moving to fill as many as five history positions this year and one next year not by subject area, but with the most brilliant historians it can find."

Thirteen hundred history teachers applied for those five spots. "People want to be at a place that's hot and at a place where other interesting people are," explained Steven Rosenstone, dean of CLA.

The word is out, and as alumni we need to nurture the University as the place to be for scholars and students alike. We can do this by providing mentorships and internships, by recommending the U to the best students in our communities, and by supporting the faculty through programs such as the Morse-Alumni Awards and by making our voices heard at the legislature.

• • •

With this column, I end my year as your president. It has been a great pleasure and honor to hold this position. The future of the alumni association is in excellent hands with President Nancy Lindahl.

Me? I think I'll head back to that history class to find out how things turn out. ■



Doris Kearns Goodwin Speaks to Alumni and Students

Before Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Doris Kearns Goodwin spoke to about 1,500 alumni and friends at the 1999 UMAA Annual Celebration, 15 lucky liberal arts students had the chance to talk with her for an hour.

The dialogue between Goodwin and the students took place on campus Wednesday, June 2, before she signed books, mingled with guests, and spoke about writing her three best-selling presidential biographies and her memoir of growing up in New York in love with the Brooklyn Dodgers. "You really do learn from [researching the lives of presidents]," she told students. "You learn how they handled crises, how they handled disappointment. You feel enlarged by knowing them."

Goodwin took questions on comparisons between Eleanor Roosevelt and Hillary Clinton, on the dangers of comparing historical events with current ones, on handling her growing renown as a television commentator, and on the state of baseball today. She said she has transferred her baseball love to the Boston Red Sox. "When they are doing well, like this year, I'm a much worse political commentator," she admitted to the students. "If they win, I spend an hour reading the sports page in the morning."

After signing books for almost an hour on Northrop Mall, she shared her insights with the larger crowd on how baseball and history have intertwined in her life.

During her book signing at the UMAA annual meeting, presidential biographer Doris Kearns Goodwin met up with an old classmate from Colby College, Stephen Weeks, now associate professor of architecture at the University.



She spoke about learning to tell stories from scoring baseball games so she could re-create them for her father when he returned home from work, shared stories about researching the presidents, and talked about coming full circle, like history itself, in researching her own childhood.

Before Goodwin spoke, UMAA president Dave Mona passed the ceremonial gavel to incoming president Nancy Lindahl ('68). The rest of the 1999-2000 UMAA officers are president-elect Jean Fountain ('74); vice presidents John Bergstrom ('86), Dan Erkkila ('77, '82, '91), and Deborah Hopp ('75); secretary-treasurer Bruce Nelson ('80, '84); and past president Dave Mona ('65).

Ag Alumni Show Off

The 83rd annual Minnesota Royal activities May 7 drew students, faculty, staff, and alumni to the animal arena on the St. Paul campus. Many alumni association members got into the act. Regent Dallas Bohnsack ('60), a farmer from New Prague, Minnesota, competed in the showmanship contest (right) in which participants were judged on showing sheep, swine, dairy, and beef. Jeff Balcom ('91), who farms and owns an auctioneering company in Fairmont, Minnesota, did swine calls (below right) in the animal-calling contest. And Jodi Schwantz (left), of Plainview, Minnesota, and who graduates this fall, did imitations of a bull and a chicken as well as of a birthing cow. Minnesota Royal activities—including a barbecue, an ag issues forum, and a quiz bowl—are sponsored by the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences; student organizations; and the ag alumni society.



of Books

Building a Great Wall

Planners of the University Gateway alumni and visitors center hope thousands of book donations this month will turn into a stunning monument: the Great Wall of Books. Hundreds of books were donated at the Great Book Drop kickoff event June 4.

Five-thousand books by and about University faculty, staff, and alumni will create a wall 60 feet wide and 35 feet high inside the Heritage Gallery, honoring and complementing the knowledge, research, and creativity those works represent. "When people see the statement this wall of books will make, they truly will be moved," says Margaret S. Carlson, UMAA executive director. "It will be a powerful and wordless complement to the millions of words the volumes contain."

To donate books, call 612-626-4864.

The UMAA will move into Gateway offices this fall, while the Heritage Gallery and other public spaces will formally open during a grand-opening week in mid-February 2000. Watch for details on the building in the Fall Preview issue of *Minnesota*.



Harvey Mackay ('54) stopped by the Great Book Drop trailer June 4 to donate his five books and to visit with other author donors, including Roger E.A. Arndt, professor of civil engineering, who brought by three.



University of Minnesota
CLASS OF 1949

50th

REUNION

**GOLDEN REUNION
CLASS OF 1949 AND EARLIER YEARS
HOMECOMING WEEKEND OCTOBER 29 - 30, 1999**

UMAA and College reunion activities include:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

- ◆ University of Minnesota Alumni Association Golden Reunion, including a University historical presentation, campus tour, and reunion lunch at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome
- ◆ College of Education and Human Development Breakfast with the Dean
- ◆ Institute of Technology Class of '49 Reunion - tours of IT departments, IT reception and dinner at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome
- ◆ College of Liberal Arts Golden Reunion dinner
- ◆ College of Human Ecology Reunion with speaker Judy Johnson and special recognition for the Class of '49 and earlier years, and '74 at 5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Homecoming Pepfest and Bonfire at St. Paul Campus

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

- ◆ St. Paul Campus Farmer's Share Breakfast with special recognition for the Class of '49 and '74 and recognition during the Little Red Oil Can program
- ◆ Homecoming parade along University Avenue at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ Homecoming football game vs. Purdue Boilermakers at 11:10 a.m with pre-game activities on the Metrodome Plaza
- ◆ U of M Band Alumni 50th Anniversary Celebration events
- ◆ Coffman Union Homecoming Ball (evening)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER ON THE GOLDEN REUNION COMMITTEE CONTACT ELIZABETH PATTY VIA E-MAIL AT elizabeth.w.patty-1@tc.umn.edu OR CALL 1-800/UM-ALUMS OR 612/625-9180.

TO RESERVE HOTEL SPACE, PLEASE CALL THE RADISSON HOTEL METRODOME (615 WASHINGTON AVENUE, S.E., MINNEAPOLIS) AT 1-800/333-3333 AND ASK FOR THE UMAA HOMECOMING BLOCK.

Dates and times are subject to change.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
<http://www.umaa.umn.edu>



Executive Director

Behind the Blueprints

Strobe lights will dance across the night sky, school hymns will fill the air, and legions of dignitaries will crowd the stage for the grand opening of the University of Minnesota Gateway on February 12, 2000. Although Tom LaSalle and Lew Moran will be somewhere in the throng below, they may very well be the two people standing the tallest.

LaSalle and Moran have been the key people behind the new alumni and visitors center, an innovative and complex architecture project befitting a new millennium. Their duties cover everything the blueprints do not. As the construction entered its final months, I asked them to share some of their behind-the-blueprints Gateway stories.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,
'83 Ph.D.

Lew Moran ('78, '82), who earned his undergraduate and master's degrees in architecture from the University, is the project liaison. He walks the tightrope between Antoine Predock, the design architect from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Minnesota firm Korsunsky Krank Erickson.

To prepare for the interview with the architect-selection committee in May 1996, Moran flew to New Mexico to meet Predock. "I didn't know what to expect," Moran recalls. "I was dressed in a tie and sport coat. Antoine met me in black jeans and a T-shirt. . . . The office was cluttered with models of past and current projects, and the walls were full of photographs and collages."

Predock gave Moran a tour of his studio and explained his work process: They would create a collage as the keystone of their presentation. A collage, for Predock, is the start of the design of any project. It illustrates the multitude of forces—geological, geographical, and cultural—that affect a client and building project.

Moran and Predock worked throughout the day assembling the collage. Pictures of people leaning into the great north wind, fish, farmhouses, Alan Page, Garrison Keillor, Judy Garland. Photos of buildings that surround the Gateway site found themselves adjacent to an image of Father Hennepin and a photograph of a steamboat dinner plate that belonged to Predock's grandfather.

"When I left for the airport, the collage was done," Moran says. "We had developed a kind of 'mind map' of the issues that we needed to discuss at the interview—issues that focused on the importance of the physical environment as well as the cultural community in which the Gateway would be built."

Following the committee's decision to hire Predock as the Gateway architect, the collage became a means of introducing the project to a wide variety of University staff and volunteers.

Before the interview, however, Predock visited Minneapolis to talk with members of the design team, tour the site, and get a better feel for the local geography. He suggested that the team

members in-line skate around the city.

"We started off from the Radisson Metrodome heading south along the Mississippi River, then across the Franklin Avenue Bridge and south along West River Road," Moran says. "We stopped often along the way to talk about the river gorge, the layers of limestone atop sandstone deposits, the development of the Minneapolis area, and the river-based commerce that supported its growth. . . . Every time Antoine comes to town, we skate somewhere—for exercise and to work out issues that face the design of the Gateway."

LaSalle ('72), a graduate of the University's College of Liberal Arts, is the owners' representative for the Gateway. He has his own tightrope to walk since it is his job to serve as advocate for all three owners—the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Minnesota Medical Foundation—creating both boundaries and opportunities despite a tangle of bureaucracy.

Preserving the unique aspects of the architecture while trying to stay on budget might best describe what keeps an owners' rep awake at night. Says LaSalle: "One day we were working on 'value engineering,' which is a shorthand way to say 'deciding what we can cut from the project.' Looking rather pale, Predock said, 'What you are asking me to do is like cutting off the arms or legs of my child. I can't do it.' And he left the room. We hunkered in and looked for other solutions that would not damage the integrity of the design."

LaSalle has two other strong personalities to please—although he has high praise for their experience and skills. Larry Laukka ('58), CEO of the Gateway Corporation, and Fred Friswold ('58), its chairman, are described by LaSalle as "tough as nails." But, he adds, that makes his job easier.

"Laukka is a developer. He understands construction; he's an expediter with a stellar reputation. You don't mess with Larry," LaSalle says.

"Fred is high profile. He ran a major corporation for decades; he understands both process and people; he's a detail and finance guy," LaSalle continues. "I usually know more than clients. But it's hard to keep up with these two. Larry roams the site, and Fred keeps the list. They are an unbelievable combination."

Friswold understands the challenge LaSalle faces in his role. "Larry and I are both like Oscar in *The Odd Couple*," he says. "Tom LaSalle assumes the role of Felix—but working for two Oscars. He always has the facts, he always knows the specifics, and he can execute with precision. Larry and I conceive and envision, but LaSalle knows how to get it done."

Pressed for more stories, LaSalle opts to leave the rest untold. "The key to being a good owners' rep is to keep stories secret," he says with a smile.

When the Gateway finally opens its doors, however, new stories and memories will begin to take shape, part of the foundation of the lifelong relationships built again and again between alumni and this great University. ■



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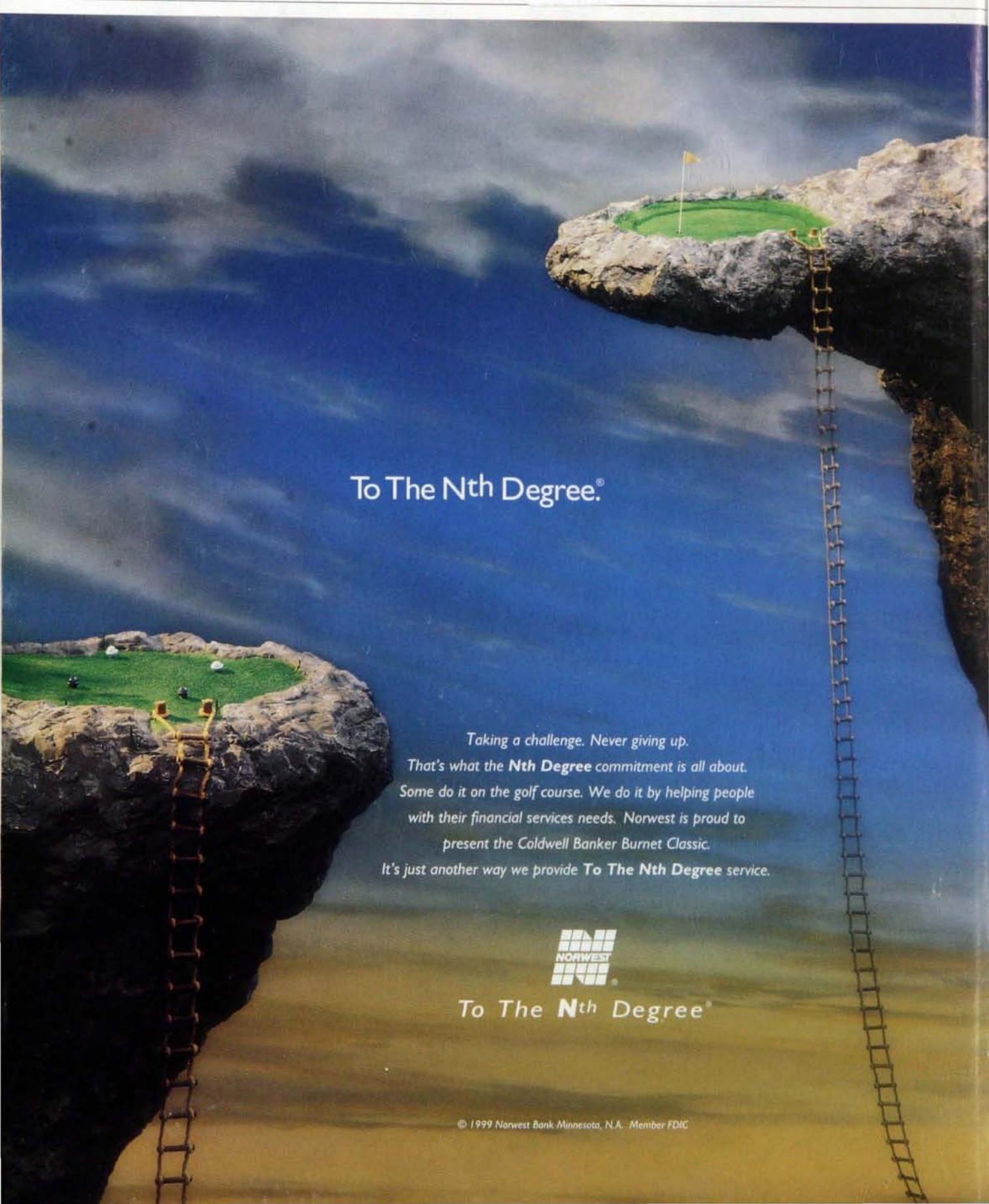
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